

Great National Societies Convince in Achievement

This is the second in the series on women's war work.

By MARY E. JAMES

The value of the war work of the I.O.D.E., as reported by 926 chapters in Canada, was \$935,681 last year. This was accomplished at an outlay of \$13,656, for rent, packing, etc., actual work being the volunteer effort of officers and members.

One of the Order's outstanding projects was for seamen stationed in Canada and overseas; \$156,163 being expended on this. More than 200,000 books and 3,600,000 magazines were distributed to camps and ships and more than \$26,000 was spent on games. Approximately \$251,000 worth of clothing and bedding went to Britain and over \$100,000 worth to Poland.

At the request of the Department of Naval Services 129 vessels of the Canadian Navy have been adopted. Development of a scheme for providing home hospitality for service men and women, establishment of canteens and recreational centres are other new projects.

Y.W.C.A. Services.

War services of the National Council, Y.W.C.A., include establishment of 38 hostess houses at camps from Victoria to Halifax, for the use, primarily, of relatives and friends of men in uniform. Already 31 recreation centres have been established in barracks for women of the armed forces. Eighteen rooms registry secretaries have been carrying on the work of inspecting and listing the accommodation available in their communities, and of fitting landlords and tenants. Blue Triangle service women's centres are established at St. John's, Newfoundland; Halifax and Vancouver. In these women in uniform find overnight accommodation and relaxation at reasonable prices. Recreation facilities are arranged by branches to suit the varying shifts of munitions and industrial workers.

F.W.I.C. Victory Gardens.

The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada with 75,000 members ran the gamut from care of shipwrecked sailors by the coastal Provinces to Ontario's sending seeds for 4,600 British gardens. Hundreds of tons of jam and honey were sent to Britain, the F.W.I. providing most of that sent in 1942. Miles of quilts and mountains of sewn and knitted garments were contributed and several Provinces sent mobile canteens and kitchens. In British Columbia a Women's Land Army did valiant service and garden brigades and Victory shops were Nova Scotia's pride. Blood donors were enrolled in Quebec and elsewhere.

The Junior League six branches across Canada make a valuable con-

tribution to the war effort. Members serve in the armed forces, in Red Cross blood donors clinics, transport service, packing parcels for prisoners of war, as nurses' aids and in canteens. There are about 30 League members in England in the mechanized transport service, the Auxilliary Territorial Service, the Navy and First Aid Nursing Yeomanry service. One member is a hostess at Maple Leaf House, London.

Toronto League gave \$5,000 toward sending workers to the Garrison Lane Nursery School. The Vancouver branch donated \$3,000 to it and evacuated children of Britain. Winnipeg members work as hostesses at the recreational centre for the forces. They play the piano and man the information bureau. A book drive brought in 10,000 books for soldiers. The "treasure ship" (salvage) is in aid of merchant seamen. Halifax members aid merchant seamen rescued from torpedoes and are on call for ambulance work at all hours. Others do highly technical work at H.M.C.S. Stadacona and the eastern air command. In Montreal many do V.A.D. work, and help in the blood clinics.

Busy Girl Guides.

Everywhere Girl Guides are contributing to the war effort, every Province has its quota. Eight shipments, totalling 11,773 garments, were sent last year to Britain. Some Provinces specialize in girls' and boys' clothing; others, boots and shoes purchased with money made by Guides and Brownies. One Province made shelter bags for air raid victims.

Featured is war emergency training — first aid, A.R.P., life-saving, home nursing, etc. The money raising campaign for the Baden-Powell Memorial resulted in purchase of several Victory bonds.

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