

1916: ROTHSAY RED CROSS SOCIETY

Report on Work given at Annual Meeting
FOUR BEDS TO BE ENDOWED
In Convalescent Hospital at Ramsgate-The Record of a Busy Year

The Rothesay Red Cross Branch had its annual meeting on Tuesday last.

The secretary-treasurer's report, as printed here, was read and adopted.

Mrs. John H. Thomson was re-elected president, and Miss Muriel Robertson secretary-treasurer.

Three appeals from the Provincial Branch were read. Two were placed aside for later consideration, and the third, an appeal to endow beds in the new convalescent hospital at Ramsgate, "The Princess Patricia," was voted on. The members decided to endow four beds, at a cost of \$200.

REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER

The annual meeting of this Branch was held last year on Oct. 4th. Reports of the work and finances were read and approved, and the officers elected.

Two meetings a week have been held regularly, with the exception of Christmas Eve, which fell on a Friday.

Teas have been held weekly, and the tea committee is to be congratulated on the very substantial sum added to the funds as a result of their efforts.

Seven life members have been added to the roll during the year: Mrs Bell, Mrs. Thomson, Mrs. John Calhoun (Baltimore), Miss Dorothy Purdy, Mrs. Frink, Mrs. McKee.

The monthly subscription started in September last now numbers 180 subscribers.

We are indebted to Mrs. J. W. Davidson, Mrs. John McIntyre, Miss Domville and Mrs. Harold Brock for eight boxes of surgical dressings. Two of these boxes were a donation from these ladies, and the members were unanimous in voting them funds to continue their work, which they did until July, when word was received from headquarters that no more dressings were required at present. Contents of the eight boxes were:

1,200 large pads.
1,100 small dressings.
1,596 compressors.
6,620 sponges
81 kit dressings

10,597

3-6 Rothesay

List of garments made and sent out from August 23rd, 1915 to Aug. 31st, 1916: 1,800 pairs of socks

2,087 hospital garments

751 miscellaneous garments

450 personal property bags

3,221 hankiechiefs and towels

56 comfort bags

67 scarves and wristlets

8,432 articles

In April last a committee was appointed to collect waste paper. Miss Allison, Miss Robertson, Miss A. L. Fairweather, Miss Purdy, and Miss Agnes MacKeen have been ably assisted by many of the new members, some of whom kindly gave a bale and many hours' work, with the result that a carload will soon be shipped.

At the semi-annual meeting the branch decided to devote their surplus funds to the purchase of a motor ambulance. So many generous donations were received that by May 1st, the ambulance was entirely paid for. By the advice of headquarters a McLaughlin car was purchased at a cost of \$1,700, inscribed with the words: "Gift of Rothesay N.B.", and present to the Canadian red Cross and shipped on May 12th. It has since been seen by an officer of the 131st battery conveying wounded to the hospitals at Maidenhead.

At the May meeting it was decided to "adopt" six prisoners of war, devoting \$15.00 a month of the funds to this purpose. Owing to the increased cost of maintaining a prisoner, weekly instead of fortnightly food parcels being now necessary, the following names were assigned to us:

Per
Month.
Pte. Newm,an Betts. \$2.50
Pte. Biddulph.
2.50
Pte. Blackie
5.00
Pte. Conlon
5.00

Parcels of small comforts and letters have been sent to these men, and acknowledgement of the food parcels from London have been received from two of them.

The Fairvale Circle has also adopted a prisoner at a cost of \$60 a year, and I have besides 14 adoptees on the books.

The Branch has sent:
15 kits to No. 1 Canadian General Hospital.
10 dozen articles to the French at Dinan, per Mlle. LeCocq.
50 pairs of socks to the Soldiers' Comfor-
pts, per Miss Brock.

25 pairs of socks, knitted by Fairvale mebers to King Edward's Horse.

250 pots of jam to Moore Barraks Hospital and Shorneville Military.

3 barrels of empty medicine bottles in response to Rev. Mr. Kuhring's appeal.

The financial statement is as follows:

Receipts.
Balance on hand., 1915 \$ 468.33
Life members' fee 150.00
Teas 708.13
August Tea, 1915 72.25
Refunds 49.97
Sale of Red Cross pins 11.75
Dr. Travis's lecture 21.00
Interest on bank account 19.19
Monthly subscriptions 2,075.00
Garden Fete 1,275.00
Donations. 2,395.13

\$7,406.21

Expenses.

Materials	\$1,615.44
Wool	538.57
Red Cross pins.	7.20
Sexton.	47.00
Express, postage, printing and stationary.	47.02
Prisoners of war, 4 weeks	60.00
Surgical dressings	100.00
Ambulance.	1,700.00
Cash donations as per list	
Below.	2,895.66

	\$7,010.89

Balance for year, \$395.32

Cash Donations	
To British Red Cross	
\$ 320.00\	
To Miss Warner	100.00
To Cliveden	45.50
To Nursing Sisters	192.16
To Prisoners of War, General	
Fund £50	238.00
To one ambulance	1,700.00
To Canadian Headquarters	
for supplies	2,000.00

	\$4,595.66

The work of the branch shows as marked increase, the work having grown from 5,320 garments last year to 8,432 this year. The funds have more than doubled, the total income being \$7,406 this year against \$2,867 last year.

The interest has been unfailing not only throughout Rothesay parish, but in the neighboring parishes of Hammond River and Kingston.

This is, I think, entirely due to the cause, carrying as it does an appeal to everyone to give care, comfort, and ease, as far as humanly possible, to the service of their King and country and to whom we owe a debt, that with all our best endeavors we can never hope to pay.

Respectfully submitted,

MURIEL ROBERTSON,
Secretary-Treasurer

ANNUAL MEETING OF ROTHESAY RED CROSS

The sum of \$700 was voted to the British Empire War Relief for the care of the vast number of starving children in Europe by the Rothesay Red Cross Society at its annual meeting held yesterday afternoon in the Consolidated School with the president, Mrs. John H. Thomson, presiding. Satisfactory reports of the year were given. The society has confined its peace-time efforts to the relief of special and emergency cases up to the present time. One of the ambulances, which is presented to the C.A.M.C., having been used in England only, was returned and a considerable sum of money was realized from its sale. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. J. H. Thomson; first vice-president, Miss Allison; second vice-president, Miss Mabel Gilbert; secretary, Miss A. M. Puddington; treasurer, Miss Muriel Robertson. Additional members of the executive, Mrs. W. M. Mackay, Mrs. J. H. Henderson, Mrs. A. W. McMackin, Mrs. T. Bell, Mrs. O. R. Peters and Miss Dorothy Purdy.

PORT OF ST. JOHN, N.B.

At the Red Cross nursery in the Dominion immigration building, West St. John, on Sunday, the V.A.D.'s and Red Cross nurses were kept for several hours.

A scene in the Government immigration headquarters at St. John, N.B. The children belong to a quota of 200 sturdy Hebridean farmers just arrived on Canadian soil. The nurse on duty is seen in the picture, is Miss Tremain, who nursed H.M. the king when he met with a serious accident in France in 1916. Since leaving the army this nurse has devoted her life to the comfort and care of children arriving at the ports of Quebec and St. John, N.B.

May 30, 1921
CHINESE SET GOOD EXAMPLE TO
OTHERS
Fifty of Their Race in St. John Have
Joined Red Cross
Campaign Progressing Satisfactorily

The Chinese are said to have known everything worth knowing and done everything worth doing many centuries before western civilization thought of them. The Chinese still are leaders in a worthy cause. Of the Chinamen in the city of St. John fifty have already joined the Red Cross and it is expected that there will be 100 St. John Chinamen enrolled as Red Cross members by the time the campaign is completed in the city. When approached by a member of the society and asked if his fellow countrymen would not be willing to support the cause of public health as undertaken by the Red Cross Society, one of the leading Chinese looked at society's poster and said: "Thirty-one nations join in the cause; that means we join." He has been as good as his word and has been responsible for the enrollment of the fifty already joined. Through their consuls the people of foreign nationality in the city are being invited to join the Red Cross Society and so far the response has been very gratifying.

The work of enrollment of members has been carried on with increasing success and the membership list is growing daily. It is particularly favorable to the campaign that the class of public health nurses trained at the expense of the Red Cross Society and to be supported for one year by the society is graduating this week from the Victorian Order training school. If the campaign is as successful as it is hoped it will be, the funds will be available to train more nurses to send to the districts, which are so urgently in need of their aid.

The canvas of the business houses and the industrial centres will commence today and will be continued throughout the week. Accredited agents of the society have been appointed to make the canvas.

The enrollment of the children was carried out on Saturday. A tent was loaned by the military authorities and was pitched in Market Square at the foot of King Street. Miss Dorothy Purdy, V. A. D., was in charge in the morning and in the afternoon Mrs. Frank S. White, organizer for St. John city, was in charge.

1941

By CHARLOTTE GOURLAY ROBINSON

In the early autumn of 1899, a group of women met in St. Paul's Church hall at Rothesay in answer to an appeal from the British Red Cross.

The South African War had begun. Canada, unmasked, had sent several thousand soldiers to Britain's aid, and supplies were needed urgently.

A ready response came from the women of the village of Rothesay, and a branch of the British Red Cross was formed.

But it was not until Dec. 29, 1900, after more than a year of faithful endeavour, that this branch received its charter from London, Eng. Today this 40-year-old charter, one of the very few original charters in Canada, hangs on the wall in the same building, where, with others, the grandchildren of the original members, carry on the service of the Red Cross.

Mrs. James Domville was the first president of this newly-organized branch, and Mrs. L. J. Almon carried on the duties of secretary-treasurer.

During the early years the work of supplying comforts for the soldiers and hospital requirements for the sick and wounded went steadily on, under the direction of these officers. Bandages, knitted garments and other supplies were made and packed by the branch and shipped from the port of Saint John.

The steamer "Montport," carrying soldiers as well as freight, took nearly a month to reach Capetown, where General Baden-Powell reviewed the Canadians and gave them great applause.

When the South African war ended and Red Cross work was discontinued, Mrs. James Domville and Miss Edith E. Gilbert, charter members of this branch, received a life membership in the Red Cross in recognition of their services . . .

Then, 1914 . . .

When, on that August day in 1914, the British Empire again took up arms against lawless violation of a peaceful country, the Rothesay branch of the Red Cross at once resumed its service.

From a small balance (\$6) remaining in the bank since Boer War expenditures, Rothesay began its work again. Mrs. Domville presided at this reorganization, when Mrs. John H. Thompson was elected president and Miss Muriel Robertson secretary-treasurer.

For four years devoted officers carried on, inspiring with their enthusiasm. Meetings were held twice a week in St. Paul's Sunday School, committees served energetically, friends contributed generously, and an amazing amount of supplies was made by Rothesay branch and its affiliated circles, packed and shipped from this old hall which had seen workers of another generation packing supplies for our soldiers in South Africa.

More than \$35,000 was collected by this branch during the four years of war service. A drive for funds in 1918 alone netted \$5,000. From this branch were sent two ambulances, at a cost of \$4,700. The Canadian, British and French Red Cross received more than \$13,000. A total of \$2,531 was expended on prisoners of war, and had it not been for parcels of food and clothing, New Brunswick soldiers would have suffered even greater hardships.

Hospitals in Britain, France, and Canada received \$11,192.

Halifax Relief

The Halifax relief fund received some \$533, and many boxes of supplies were forwarded from Rothesay. Among the boxes for this disaster, relief was a box of babies "comfies," of which Mrs. M. E. Lawrence, in her report, said "It was a tired woman who, at the end of a long day, sobbed over the completeness of a box from Rothesay, where, in the carefully folded napkins for the babies, were even the safety pins."

Rothesay's garden fêtes during the first three summers were well patronized. Other sources of income, besides the weekly teas and "shops," were a lending library, summer market, and war garden.

At the close of the war, the resignation of Miss Muriel Robertson was reluctantly accepted, and the absence of Mrs. John H. Thomson for several months necessitated the appointment of a vice-president. Mrs. J. Royden Thompson was appointed to replace Miss Robertson, and Mrs. Walter C. Allison was named vice-president.

And In Peace

Since the Armistice, Rothesay faithfully carried on its service for disabled soldiers. Supplies, comforts and delicacies were distributed in hospitals year after year. Among other things, flowers are sent regularly to the Saint John Tuberculosis Hospital.

During the peace years, Rothesay has been alert to all appeals made. Everything from layettes for the wee new Canadians to pots and pans for a fire-devastated household. Spectacles and shoes, clothing and cod liver oil, as well as hundreds of jars of jams and jellies for hospital use, food and shelter for the unemployed are recorded in the minutes of the meetings of this branch.

When in September a year ago, the call came again for service, on the very day that Canada declared war against Germany, Rothesay's workers were busy making hospital supplies.

During the last year, under the able leadership of Mrs. Walter C. Allison, president, war work committees have been going at emergency pace. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. E. A. Petrie a total of 30,000 surgical supplies have been completed. Knitted garments, with Mrs. T. C. Macnabb as convenor for the first six months and Mrs. J. Royden Thomson for the second, total 1,721. These include 900 pairs of socks and garments sent from Fair Vale, Clifton, Renforth, Quispamsis, Whitehead, Gondola Point, hampton Road, and the Ever Ready Club.

Mrs. E. A. Kortright, convenor of sewing, reports a total of 3,446 garments completed in the last ten months. Infants' garments total 1,679; refugees' garments, 612; quilts and blankets, 73; shirts, 48; soldiers' supplies, including dressing gowns, pyjamas, hospital shirts, surgeons' caps and gowns, and pneumonia jackets, 1,025.

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. C. J. Markham, the A. P. R. committee is well organized, and has a complete first aid set-up ready for any emergency.

One ambulance has been donated by a member of this branch.

And its due only to the splendid co-operation of every individual member that the Rothesay branch and its auxiliaries have completed such large quantities of supplies.

Service here is a tradition. Three generations have given of their talent, time and funds in the work of the Red Cross. And here the 40-year-old charter hangs on the wall of St. Paul's hall.

\$3,347 Realized Last Year Through Fair At Rothesay
\$4,449 Spent on War Work:
Red Cross Volunteers in Suburban Communities Can Use All The Support Public Can Give
Wide Variety of Projects Fulfilled in 1941

City dwellers are often reminded of the needs of the Red Cross, and ways and means of helping are ready at hand, made convenient by the density of the population and the number of easily available money-making diversions.

Those who live in suburban and rural districts, while equally conscious of the tremendous needs and multitarous good deeds of this far-reaching organization, have to exercise greater ingenuity and travel greater distances to gather the necessary funds.

It was in an endeavour to supplement the sum allotted to them from the national funds, which they found inadequate to keep their workers busy, that the people of the parish of Rothesay last summer evolved the ideas of a "country fair." Although the suggestion was made rather late in the season, it had an enthusiastic reception and on Aug. 19 a highly popular and successful fair was held on the Common. Much hard work and many generous donations went into the effort, with the results that the citizens of the parish of Rotehsay and assisting communities of the Kingston Peninsula turned over to their branch of the Red Cross the handsome sum of \$3,347.26. Of this amount \$735 was made up of cash donations; the remainder was altogether the proceeds of the fair.

[. . .]

Output Was Large

What a scattered population can accomplish in the way of Red Cross work, if they have funds to purchase material, is shown by the 1941 output. They made and shipped 139 quilts (made largely from pieces left over from cutting out garments); 6,420 articles for layettes and 2,293 garments for refugees, including everything from children's underwear to men's dressing gowns and other heavy wearables. They sent 346 articles of hospital supplies and 1,336 surgical articles. Members knitted a total of 2,304 articles. Another pleasant custom of the Rotesa Red Cross members is the weekly collection of blossoms from their beautiful gardens. These are taken by the various hospitals and help to brighten the lives of many sufferers.

ROTHESAY RED CROSS FAIR TODAY: To Raise Additional Funds For War Work of Parent Body

With the object of raising additional funds for the war work being carried on by the Canadian Red Cross, a fair sponsored by the people of Rothesay, assissted by neighboring organizations on the Kingston Peninsula, will be held today in Rothesay beginning at 3p.m. and concluding at 11p.m.

The idea of the Rothesay fair came into being last year and it was so enthusiastically received and patronized that the committee in charge felt that a repetition of the event this year would meet with equal, if not greater, approval.

Music during the afternoon and night will be provided by the Navy Band, the First Battalion Saint John Fusiliers Band and possibly St. Mary's Band. Bruce Holder's orchestra is contributing its services for the even and will render classical and popular melodies. Neal Coleman and Bruce Campbell will fill in the interludes by the playing of records through public address systems.

With the Maritime Farmers' orchestra in attendance, street dancing will commence at 8:30 with Bunny Sparks conducting. Games, lotteries, and drawings will be conducted. Exhibits ranging from home cooking to volumes of valuable books and from antique collections to profusions of seasonal flowers will be on view with so wide a variety as to insure the complete satisfaction of the most curious.

Complete returns will be for the Red Cross. With the widening of the war fronts and with the drain on the financial resources of the Canadian Red Cross now greater than ever, it is the hope of those sponsoring the fair that the gala day will do much to supplement the funds needed for the carrying on of the work of the great organization.

N.B. RED CROSS GIVEN DONATION: Receives \$912.50 From Rothesay Fair Proceeds For Furthering Work

The New Brunswick division of the Canadian Red Cross has received with much gratitude a donation of \$912.50 as part of the proceeds of the recent Rothesay Community Patriotic Fair for which the parishes of Kingston and Rothesay were jointly responsible.

In presenting the tidy sum to the New Brunswick division the Red Cross it was stipulated by the committee of the fair that the money should be used to provide a prisoner of war box fun for each day of the year. Many thousand of these boxes are shipped by the Canadian Red Cross each week and expenditures for prisoner of war boxes represent the largest single item of Canadian Red Cross outlay at the present time.

2 SAINT JOHN YOUNG WOMEN GO TO BRITAIN: Will Serve As Welfar Workers; Basic Training in All Sections Here

To the most recent contingents of Red Cross volunteer workers to leave Canada for Great Britain have included two Saint John women, Miss Constance Mary Harrison and Miss Jacqueline Hazen Grimmer, both of whom will serve overseas as welfare workers.

Among the 20 who sailed were those destined to ast as recreational aides in hospitals, welfare workers, office workers, one transport driver for the Maple Leaf Club in London and one who took along her bicycle for her job as an A.R.P. messenger.

Although Red Cross Corps work in Canada is on an entirely voluntary basis, with no renumeration attached, the women who are chosen for overseas duty receive a uniform allowance and a small living allowance.

Recreational aides serve in England only. They work in the hospitals, helping isntruct teh wounded in occupational therapy. Those who go as welfar workers serce in a theatre of war operation. They meet all troop trains and perform small tasks for the wounded, such as writting letters. At the present time, two Canadian Red Cross Corps members are serving in Sicily and eight in North Africa, under the command of Mrs. W. D. Chambers, national commandant of the transport section.

The local nutrition section is also represented by two members overseas.

August 14, 1944 Rothesay Fair On August 9 and 10 Holds Promise Of Great Attraction: All In Readiness For Big Patriotic Event On Common

Is Third Year for Community Endeavour of Parish

Rothesay Fair is here again.
Time to shar good cheer again.
To come from far and near, again.
Rothesay fair is here again.
Come all, and join in the fun.
There's lots for each and everyone!
Yes, Rotehsay Fair is here again.
Bright and gay, this year again,
Let's hope the weather's clear again,
ROTHESAY FAIR is her AGAIN!

That highly enjoyable event which for two years past has provided a good time for patrons and venfors alike, not to mention a substantial sum for patriotic purposes, is going to take place again on Rothesay Common. The dates - two of them - are August 9 and 10 - Wednesday and Thursday of this week. The times - Wednesday from 3 to 11p.m. and Thursday from 6 to 11p.m.

Who is helping? Practically the entire population of the Parish of Rothesay.

What are they having this year?

Well, in its customary location will be the farm produce booth, heaped with dewy-fresh, vitamin-filled vegetables, plump poultry, pearly-white and breakfast-brown eggs, berries, and, perhaps, a few precious jars of shimmering jelly or glowing ham. Prizes have been offered for the finest vegetables, so that patrons will be assured of the cream of the crop. Mrs. Walter Wright is chariman of this booth.

That mine of choice bric-abrac and collectors' items, the Caledonia Market, will be there for thsoe who are interested in fine furniture, china, silver, rare books, antiques and other oddments. Mrs. G.A.B. Addy is chairman.

SEPTEMBER 20, 1945

ROTHESAY PARISH FAIR MEETING CONDEMNS RAID:

Treasurer's Report Shows \$6,520 Was Raised For Patriotic Purposes

Grest indignation was expressed and further action was planned as a result of the R.C.M.P. raid on the Rothesay Parish Patriotic Fair on the night of Thursday, Aug 23, as members of the executive and committees who were in charge of the event met last night to discuss the matter and to make reports on the success of the three-day attraction which was climaxed when the mounties raided the fair placing several persons under arrest.

J. Thomas Driscoll, chairman of the fair committee, presided at last night's meeting which was held in the Rothesay Consolidated School. On opening the "raid" discussion, Mr. Driscoll asked for an opinion from the meeting on the action taken by the R.C.M.P. This opinion, when summed up indicated that the people of the Rothesay Parish feel that there was a large measure of unfairness on the part of some person or persons in authority for ordering the raid, particularly in view of the fact that the fair was presented for patriotic purposes.

This feeling was given further impetus, when residents of the area considered that other fairs have been operating in an "open" manner, and fairs in general have been operating in most cases with a good portion of the profit going to no other than charitable purposes. This they point out is with possibly few exceptions.

To Forward Letter

[. . .]

A financial report presented by Fred S. Crosby, treasurer for the fair, showed that \$6,520 was raise as a result of this year's effort. Mr. Crosby further reviewed the financial outcome of previous years. This showed that a total of \$27,836 had been raised through the operation of fairs since the fall of 1941. The entire proceeds from these efforts going to patriotic purposes.

The treasurer's report further showed that of this sum the Rothesay Red Cross had received \$15,025.

AUGUST 16, 1946
Canadian Red Cross Praises In Letters
Received In Rothesay:
Great Work of Organization
In Yugoslavia Outlined
By Mrs. E. J. Nathan

How the Canadian Red Cross aided the people in Yugoslavia for whom her sister, Dr. Katherine MacPhail, has given such devoted service, is related in a ltter recently received by Rothesay friends of Mrs. E. J. Nathan. Mrs. Nathan and her two daughters resided in Rothesay during the war while Mr. Nathan was a civilian internee in the Far East. When Mr. Nathan was released and returned to England in November 1945 his wife and daughters joined him.

Dr. MacPhail , a native of Scotland, and a graduate of the Medical College of the University of Glasgow, served with the Scottish women's hospital unit under military direction in Servia throughout the First Great War and the severe typhus epidemic which followed. She contracted typhus and after recovery, being impressed by the serious condition of the health of the children after the war, remained in Servia and established a children's hospital with voluntary subscriptions and volunteer helpers, giving her own services. The work increased util she had a 70-bed hospital in Belgrade. Another group capturing her sympathy, she sold her children's hospital and used the money to erect a hospital on the banks of the Danube for cases of tuberculosis. She was still serving there in 1941 when the bombing of the Danube area made it necessary for her to leave Yugoslavia.

Backed By Fund

The "save the Children Fund" backed her enterprise when she got a hospital unit ready in London to serve in Yugoslavia under UNRRA.

Mrs. Nathan's letter written in March had this to say.

"My sister writes from Yugoslavia that they have received and distributed some 12,000 garments to different organizations and individuals, child welfare centres, baby clinics, T.B. clinics, etc., sent from the Canadian Red Cross and which must have been worth several thousand pounds."

Further word of Dr. MacPhail's work and how the Red Cross aided it came in a letter Mrs. Nathnan wrote in June as follows:

"My sister is home for a short leave. I cannot tell you adequately what praise and thanks she gives you all for the abundance and quality of your gifts. She goes back to 65 more cases to distribute. All her 65 occupied beds are clothed in your padded quilts and are much appreciated by Yugo doctors and patients and that goes for layettes too and all else. The relatives of one old woman told 'Kath' that her dressing gown had beeen her very great comfort and when she died they sold it for 800 dimas to pay for her funeral."