

WHAT RED CROSS DID LAST YEAR

Report of War Council Surely Will Thrill the Hearts of All Americans.

WOMEN GIVEN HIGH TRIBUTE

Contributions of Materials and Time Have Been Practically Unending—Figures Tell of Work Done by the Various Chapters.

October 23 the 3,854 chapters of the Red Cross held their annual meetings to elect officers and make reports. To be read at all these meetings throughout the United States, the Red Cross War Council sent the following annual message covering the work of the Red Cross for the past year: To the Chapters of the American Red Cross:

The War Council sends greetings to the chapters of the American Red Cross on the occasion of their annual meetings for 1918.

With these greetings go congratulations on the great work of the chapters during the past year and, above all things, on the wonderful spirit of sacrifice and patriotism which has pervaded that work.

The strength of the Red Cross rests upon its chapters. They are its bone and sinew. They supply its funds, they supply its men and women, they supply its enthusiasm. Let us, then, review together the Red Cross story of the past year.

Some idea of the size to which your Red Cross family has grown may be gathered from the following facts:

On May 1, 1917, just before the appointment of the War Council, the American Red Cross had 488,194 members working through 562 chapters.

On July 31, 1918, the organization numbered 20,648,103 annual members, besides 8,000,000 members of the Junior Red Cross—a total enrollment of over one-fourth the population of the United States.

Since the beginning of the war you of the chapters have co-operated with the War Council in conducting two war fund drives and one membership drive, in addition to the campaign on behalf of the Junior Red Cross.

The total actual collections to date from the first war fund have amounted to more than \$115,000,000. The subscriptions to the second war fund amounted to upwards of \$176,000,000. From membership dues the collections have amounted to approximately \$24,500,000.

Splendid Work Done by Women.

To the foregoing must be added that very large contribution of materials and time given by the millions of women throughout the country in surgical dressings, in knitted articles, in hospital and refugee garments, in canteen work, and the other activities the chapters have been called upon to perform.

It is estimated that approximately 8,000,000 women are engaged in canteen work and the production of relief supplies through the chapters.

For the period up to July 1, 1918, American Red Cross chapters, through their workrooms, had produced:

- 400,120 refugee garments.
- 7,123,621 hospital supplies.
- 10,786,489 hospital garments.
- 10,134,501 knitted articles.
- 192,748,107 surgical dressings.

A total of 221,282,838 articles—of an estimated aggregate value of at least \$44,000,000.

These articles were largely the product of women's hands, and, by the same token, infinitely more precious than could have been the output of factories or machines. These articles going to the operating room of the hospitals, to homeless or needy refugees, and carrying comfort to our own boys in the field, convey a message of love from the women of this country entirely distinct from the great money value attaching to their handiwork.

Money Spent in Work.

By the terms under which the first Red Cross war fund was raised, the chapters were entitled to retain 25 per cent of the amount collected, in order to defray local expenses, to carry on their home service work, to purchase materials to be utilized in chapter production and otherwise to meet the numerous calls made upon them. The chapters were thus entitled to retain nearly \$29,000,000. As a matter of fact, their actual retentions amounted to only about \$22,000,000.

Out of collections from annual memberships, the chapters have retained about \$11,000,000.

From this total sum, therefore, of \$33,000,000 retained by the chapters, they have met all the oftentimes very heavy local demands upon them, and in addition have provided for use by national headquarters products valued, as stated above, at upwards of \$44,000,000.

The chapters have in effect returned to the War Council, not alone the \$33,000,000 retained out of the war fund membership dues but, in value of actual product, an additional contribution of at least \$11,000,000.

It will thus be seen that during the eighteen months which have elapsed since the United States entered the war, the American people will have either paid in or pledged to the American Red Cross for its work of relief throughout the world, in money or in material values, a net total of at least \$325,000,000.

This outpouring of generosity in material things has been accompanied by a spontaneity in the giving, by an enthusiasm and a devotion in the doing, which, after all, are greater and bigger than could be anything measured in terms of time or dollars.

It has been because of this spirit which has pervaded all American Red Cross effort in this war that the aged governor of one of the stricken and battered provinces of France stated not long since that, though France had long known of America's greatness, strength and enterprise, it remained for the American Red Cross in this war to reveal America's heart.

In this country, at this moment, the workers of the Red Cross, through its chapters, are helping to add to the comfort and health of the millions of our soldiers in 102 camps and cantonments, as well as of those traveling on railroad trains or embarking on ships for duty overseas.

The home service of the Red Cross, with its now more than 40,000 workers, is extending its ministrations of sympathy and counsel each month to upwards of 100,000 families left behind by soldiers at the front—a number ever growing with the increase of our men under arms.

But, of course, the heart of the Red Cross and its money and attention always move toward and focus themselves in Europe where the American Red Cross, as truly "the greatest mother in the world," is seeking to draw "a vast net of mercy through an ocean of unpeppable pain."

Red Cross Worth Recognized.

Nothing is withheld that can be given over there to supplement the efforts of our army and navy in caring for our own boys. The Red Cross does not pretend to do the work of the medical corps of the army or the navy; its purpose is to help and to supplement.

Nor does the Red Cross seek to glorify what it does or those who do it; our satisfaction is in the result, which, we are assured by Secretary Baker, General Pershing, General Ireland and all our leaders, is of incalculable value and of indispensable importance.

By the first of January your Red Cross will have working in France upwards of 5,000 Americans—a vivid contrast to the little group of eighteen men and women which, as the first Red Cross commission to France, sailed about June 1, 1917, to initiate our efforts in Europe.

Under your commission to France the work has been carefully organized, facilities have been provided, and effective efforts made to co-operate with the army as to carry out the determination of the American people, and especially of the members of the Red Cross, that our boys "over there" shall lack for nothing which may add to their safety, comfort and happiness.

Your Red Cross now has active, operating commissions in France, in England, in Italy, in Belgium, in Switzerland, in Palestine and in Greece. You have sent a shipload of relief supplies and a group of devoted workers to northern Russia; you have dispatched a commission to work behind our armies in eastern Siberia; you have sent special representatives to Denmark, to Serbia and to the island of Madeira.

Carries Message of Hope.

Your Red Cross is thus extending relief to the armies and navies of our allies; and you are carrying a practical message of hope and relief to the friendly peoples of afflicted Europe and Asia.

Indeed, we are told by those best informed in the countries of our allies that the efforts of your Red Cross to aid the soldiers and to sustain the morale of the civilian populations left at home, especially in France and Italy, have constituted a very real factor in winning the war.

The veil has already begun to lift. The defection of Bulgaria, which by the time this message can be read may have been followed by events still more portentous, may point the way to yet greater Red Cross opportunity and obligation. "The cry from Macedonia" to come and help will probably prove one of the most appealing messages to which the world has ever listened.

What the Red Cross may be called upon to do in the further course of the war, or with the coming of victory, peace and reconstruction, it would be idle to attempt to prophesy.

But your great organization, in very truth "the mobilized heart and spirit of the whole American people," has shown itself equal to any call, ready to respond to any emergency.

Spirit of All Best and Highest.

The American Red Cross has become not so much an organization as a great movement, seeking to embody in organized form the spirit of service, the spirit of sacrifice—in short, all that is best and highest in the ideals and aspirations of our country.

Indeed we cannot but believe that this wonderful spirit which service in and for the Red Cross has evoked in this war, is destined to become in our national life an element of permanent value.

At Christmas time we shall ask the whole American people to answer the Red Cross Christmas roll call. It will constitute a unique appeal to every man, woman and child in this great land of ours to become enrolled in our army of mercy.

It is the hope of the War Council that this Christmas membership roll call shall constitute a reconsecration of the whole American people, an inspiring reassertion to mankind that in this hour of world tragedy, not to conquer but to serve is America's supreme aim.

THE WAR COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

Henry P. Davison, Chairman, Washington, D. C., Oct. 10, 1918.

DOCTORS CALLED WITHOUT CAUSE

Imperative That Physicians and Nurses Not Be Summoned Unless Necessary.

PROPER CARE OF PATIENTS

Surgeon General Blue Tells What to Do for Persons Sick With Spanish Influenza—Use of Gauze Masks Recommended.

Washington.—In an effort to reduce unnecessary calls on the over-worked physicians throughout the country because of the present epidemic of influenza, Surgeon General Blue of the United States public health service calls upon the people of the country to learn something about the home care of patients ill with influenza. Physicians everywhere have complained about the large number of unnecessary calls they have had to make because of the inability of many people to distinguish between the cases requiring expert medical care and those which could readily be cared for without a physician. With influenza continuing to spread in many parts of the country, and with an acute shortage of doctors and nurses everywhere, every unnecessary call on either physicians or nurses makes it so much harder to meet the urgent needs of the patients who are seriously ill.

Present Generation Spoiled. "The present generation," said the surgeon general, "has been spoiled by having had expert medical and nursing care readily available. It was not so in the days of our grandmothers, when every good housewife was expected to know a good deal about the care of the sick.

"Every person who feels sick and appears to be developing an attack of influenza should at once be put to bed in a well-ventilated room. If his bowels have moved regularly, it is not necessary to give a physic; where a physic is needed, a dose of castor oil or Rochelle salts should be given.

"The room should be cleared of all unnecessary furniture, bric-a-brac, and rugs. A wash basin, pitcher, and slop bowl, soap and towel should be at hand, preferably in the room or just outside the door.

"If the patient is feverish a doctor should be called, and this should be done in any case if the patient appears very sick, or coughs up pinkish (blood-stained) sputum, or breathes rapidly and painfully.

"Most of the patients cough up considerable mucus; in some, there is much mucus discharged from the nose and throat. This material should not be collected in handkerchiefs, but rather in bits of old rags, or toilet paper, or on paper napkins. As soon as used, these rags or papers should be placed in a paper bag kept beside the bed. Pocket handkerchiefs are out of place in the sick room and should not be used by patients. The rags or papers in the paper bag should be burned.

"The patients will not be hungry, and the diet should therefore be light. Milk, a soft-boiled egg, some toast or crackers, a bit of jelly or jam, stewed fruit, some cooked cereal like oatmeal, hominy or rice—these will suffice in most cases.

Comfort of Patient. "The comfort of the patient depends on a number of little things, and these should not be overlooked. Among these may be mentioned a well-ventilated room; a thoroughly clean bed with fresh, smooth sheets and pillowcases; quiet, so that refreshing sleep may be had; cool drinking water conveniently placed; a cool compress to the forehead if there is headache; keeping the patient's hands and face clean, and the hair combed; keeping his mouth clean, preferably with some pleasant mouth wash; letting the patient know that someone is within call, but not annoying him with too much fussing; giving the patient plenty of opportunity to rest and sleep.

"It is advisable to give the sick room a good airing several times a day. "So much for the patient. It is equally important to consider the person who is caring for him. It is important to remember that the disease is spread by breathing germ-laden matter sprayed into the air by the patient in coughing or even in ordinary breathing. The attendant should therefore wear a gauze mask over her mouth and nose while she is in the sick room. Such a mask is easily made by folding a piece of gauze four fold, sewing a piece of tape at the four corners, and tying the upper set of tapes over the ears, the lower set around the neck. If the folded piece of gauze is about six inches square it will nicely cover both mouth and nose. Such a mask can be worn without discomfort for several hours, after which it can be boiled in water, dried and used over.

Observe Cleanliness. "The attendant should, if possible, wear a washable gown or an apron which covers the dress. This will make it much simpler to avoid infection.

"It is desirable that all attendants learn how to use a fever thermometer. This is not at all a difficult matter, and the use of such a thermometer is a great help in caring for the patients. The druggist who sells these thermometers will be glad to show how they are used.

"In closing, and lest I be misunderstood, I wish to leave one word of caution: If in doubt, call the doctor."

DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

BY MARY GRAHAM BONNER

MISS BAA BAA.

"They think," said Miss Baa Baa Sheep, "that sheep can't do much of anything except follow the leader."

"What's that?" asked one of the other sheep. "It's when I lead and you all follow me," said Miss Baa Baa Sheep.

"Are you the leader?" they bleated.

"I imagine I am," said Miss Baa Baa. "You all follow me."

"That's so, we do," said the sheep. They were in a big park. Around them was grass, and there were trees, but not far away were city streets and cars and automobiles and wagons and trucks running this way and that. The sheep never left the park. They had never seen the city streets, but once one of them had gone near enough to hear the noise and had come, frightened indeed, back to the sheepfold.

But all around their park home they wandered, and many children came to see them. There were boys and girls who came, and grownups, too. And Baa Baa was always shown off as the prize sheep of the park.

"Miss Baa Baa," the keeper would say, "can you give a concert today? Can't you, Miss Baa Baa?"

And Miss Baa Baa would bleat as best she could, "Yes, b-l-e-a-t, I will give you a concert today."

So all the children would gather from far and near. How many children did seem to turn up when they heard that Miss Baa Baa was going to give a concert!

"Miss Baa Baa is very tame," said the keeper. "She lost her mother when she was a tiny lamb and she was brought up as my own special pet, along with my pet kitten. Baa Baa and Kitty were the best of friends.

"They used to try to do the same things. Poor Baa Baa couldn't purr and poor Kitty couldn't bleat, but otherwise they taught each other their own tricks and they were the best of friends.

"So Baa Baa has always been a pet and now she is the leader of all the sheep in the park.

"There, Baa Baa, I have told all the boys and girls your history; now give your concert."

And Baa Baa would make a little bow and then would bleat and after a little bit of trying out her voice she would begin.

And what do you suppose the concert consisted of? Baa Baa sang a little sheep song first that no one quite knew the name of, and perhaps Baa Baa herself didn't know its name.

Then the keeper would give Baa Baa a mouth organ and she would play "Home, Sweet Home" upon it and beat time with her little tail.

Everyone wasn't so sure that the song was "Home, Sweet Home," but the keeper said so, and when he would ask Miss Baa Baa if that wasn't the name of the tune she was playing upon her mouth organ she would bleat, "Yes, y-e-s, b-l-e-a-t, b-l-e-a-t, it is!"

How delighted the children always were! And so were the grownups who gathered to listen to Miss Baa Baa as she played upon the mouth organ.

"Nice little sheep, eh?" the keeper would say.

And almost every child in the park would ask the keeper:

"Oh, can't I have Baa Baa for a pet? Oh, we could keep Baa Baa in the back yard, or the back porch, or maybe Baa Baa would share my room, and in the daytime I could take her walking, and we could come to the park, too."

But the keeper said he couldn't part with Baa Baa, for she was his own special pet, brought up from a wee lamb, and that he must keep her, even if he did have so many other animals to look after.

And Baa Baa bleated hard and thumped her tail against the keeper, trying with might and main to say: "That's right, Keeper, I'm your pet. And here in the park I can give pleasure to thousands of children instead of to one or two in a city home which I wouldn't like at all, at all."

Wonders of Elements. During the lesson one afternoon a violent thunderstorm arose, and to lessen the fright of the children, the teacher began telling of the wonders of the elements.

"And now, Johnny," she asked, "why is it that lightning never strikes twice in the same place?"

"Because," said Johnny confidentially, "after it hits once the same place it ain't there any more."

Work of Imagination. Imagination is helpful or harmful according to its training. It may teach us to estimate the troubles of others, or to overestimate our own.

Helping the Meat and Milk Supply

(Special Information Service, United States Department of Agriculture.)

SELECT GOOD BREEDING SOWS.



Permanent Pasture and a Little Grain Maintains the Brood Sow Cheaply and Well.

MAKE PROFIT IN SPRING LITTERS

Begin in Fall by Selecting Sows With Plenty of Vitality and Give Them Good Care.

DON'T LOSE VALUABLE TIME

Animals Should Not Be Skipped on Starvation Rations or Half-Feeds—Access to Green Forage is of Big Importance.

Sensible hog management saves only the most desirable sows for permanent use in the breeding herd, according to the specialists of the United States department of agriculture, who are striving to effect maximum pork production under economical methods. The methods of many hog raisers are out of joint with the almanac. That is to say, many farmers waste valuable time, when it is likely to be too late, in trying to cure hog ailments, although they could have readily prevented these troubles by sensible and reasonable management. The skater who sharpens his blades after spring has come in order to enjoy the ice of the past winter is of the same pattern as the hog raiser who in the spring wishes he had practiced timely management during the previous period of cold weather.

The federal department advises that all breeders should exercise conscientious and painstaking care in the selection of sows for permanent maintenance in the breeding herd. The animals should be of good length, full depth, showing plenty of vitality as well as the inclination to take sufficient exercise. They should not be skimmed on starvation rations or half-feeds, but rather should receive a full allowance, which, broadly interpreted, means that the porkers receive about all that they will eat with respect to economical methods of pork production.

Green Foods Essential. It is highly desirable that the sows be bred in the fall should have access to green forage crops as long as there are any such materials available. The sow realizes immeasurable benefit from rustling about for the bulk of her feed. The method insures the female porker of the exercise which is necessary to maintain her in the condition which favors good litters of pigs. As, on many hog farms relatively little green feed is available during the pig-raising periods, it is imperative that the individual farmer provide plenty of food in balanced mixture in addition to making it necessary for the sows to exercise in the procuring of this food. Many successful farmers maintain that during the winter season they feed their brood sows all the corn that the animals will eat. Some fallacy may be apparent in this statement unless the reader is thoroughly familiar with the conditions under which this plentiful use of grain is practiced.

The general plan of feeding corn is to scatter it in the ear over the fields where the sows may hustle after it. It is hard work to scoop corn from a wagon which is driven through the field. A much easier and more practical plan is to fill the manure spreader with the ear corn and to adjust the machine so that the grain will be well scattered. This process may possibly look wasteful, especially in view of the current price of corn, but if the feeder will be careful and not distribute an excessive quantity, he will find that the hogs will make efficient use of all of this grain.

The department specialists recommend the supplementary use of tankage, shorts or middlings, oil meal and ground alfalfa hay with the corn. It is hoped that fish meal may also become available soon for the use of hog growers, as this material has been demonstrated as useful as tankage for pork production. Under existent freight conditions, it would be impracticable to attempt the distribution of fish meal among the central Western hog producers, although it can be used successfully in the Atlantic and Gulf coast states.

Use of Alfalfa. Careful test by the department of agriculture indicates the value of

grinding alfalfa hay, soaking it for 24 hours in barrels containing hot water, adding a little salt and possibly one-half bushel or more of shorts to a barrel of feed and giving the mixture to the sows in the form of thick slop. It is suggested that the preferable time for feeding this slop is each morning, so that during the balance of the day the animals can rustle about for corn. Good alfalfa hay should also be available in convenient racks so that the sows can eat this roughage as they please.

One of the most important matters, and undoubtedly the one which is most commonly neglected in the proper handling of hogs, is to supply the porkers with an abundance of clean, pure drinking water. For this purpose some automatic watering device or homemade convenience of this nature should provide the hogs constantly with water. Without question, water is the cheapest material used in pork production and the importance of having it supplied in quantity and of proper quality cannot be overestimated. Hogs should not be forced to drink from an icy tank, nor should they be provided with only a limited supply once or twice a day. A tank heater or a properly protected gravity system will control the former evil, while a permanent and dependable supply of water will overcome the latter.

American Farmer's Responsibility. At present the stupendous task of filling the world's pork barrel falls to the lot of the American farmer. To accomplish this result is possible only through a markedly increased production. According to the opinion of the department officials there is no more patriotic duty that the American hog grower can perform than to accord special and undivided attention to every little detail of hog management during the coming winter and spring so that the sows may be properly attended to, favoring maximum litters which may be grown to maturity with a minimum of mortality. By wisely selecting the brood sows for the pig crop of next spring and by properly caring for the animals during the winter and seeing to it that every pig is saved at farrowing time, the American hog raiser will not only be performing valuable service for this country and the allies, but they also will be laying up funds for investment in Liberty loans and War Savings stamps.

LITTLE PIG ESSENTIALS

A little pig loves sunshine and needs it almost as much as he needs food. No piggery is fit for the purpose unless it admits direct sunshine onto the floor of every pen at the time the pigs are farrowed, furnishes plenty of fresh air, and provides for exercise in the open air. Dryness, sunshine, warmth, fresh air, freedom from drafts, and exercise are of primary importance in raising pigs. These secured, the battle is half won. In putting up buildings the six requirements just mentioned must be kept constantly in mind; not one can be neglected.

Begin Feeding Silage Now. Much feed is wasted by failure to finish packing the silo properly after filling. The top should be leveled off, tramped thoroughly, and then well soaked. A layer of dry stalks run through the cutter will also help to keep the top of the silage from spoiling. It is better, perhaps, to commence feeding silage as soon as filling is completed, in which case there is no waste. If that is done the tendency of cows to lessen milk production because of scanty feed is checked. Don't wait until winter to feed silage; do it now.

Wetting Spoils Eggs. More than 5,000,000 dozen eggs spoil needlessly every year in cold storage simply because some one has allowed clean eggs to get wet or has washed dirty eggs before sending them to market, according to specialists of the United States department of agriculture. Investigations have shown that from 17 to 22 per cent of washed eggs become worthless in storage, whereas only 4 to 8 per cent of dirty eggs stored unwashed spoil.

The explanation is simply that water removes from the shell of the egg a gelatinous covering which helps to keep out air and germs.



Would Make a Little Bow.