

PROBLEM OF CARE OF WAR DEPENDENTS

U. S. Seeking to Profit by Experience of Europe in Supporting Soldiers' Families.

DIRECT PAY IS FAVORED

New York, April 13.—Leading manufacturers in the United States are seeking to discover the wisest and most patriotic way of dealing with the problem of industrial payrolls during war time and making provision for dependent families of men who enlist in any branch of the national service.

A definite effort is to be made, it was learned today, to urge the government to provide "subsistence allowances in the United States to dependent families of men who enlist, on a similar basis to that adopted by the governments of Great Britain and Canada, and the creation of a national patriotic fund will be urged to be handled by the American Red Cross, assisted by the Charity Organization Society and local commercial organizations in the matter of necessary investigation.

An enormous fund would have to be raised in this country, it is said. Even if only 1,000,000 families should be involved, it would mean \$20,000,000 a month, or \$240,000,000 a year, for "separation allowances" alone. Most of this, it is calculated, would be an additional tax on American business. It is understood everybody would be asked to contribute to this fund.

Confusion and Chaos. Information obtained from authoritative sources in Great Britain and Canada as to how the problem was handled there disclosed what are described as the "most staggering kind of experience."

It appeared that because the war was sudden prominent firms and corporations in a burst of patriotism publicly announced they would give full pay during the war to every man who bore arms. This was intended, it was explained, to encourage enlistment.

Something like ruinous confusion and chaos threatened many of the important industries of Great Britain and Canada after a year or more of this drain upon business, the American manufacturers were informed. The generous offers made at the beginning of the war set a pace which public sentiment fostered and encouraged, but which business was unable to keep up. The result has been, the investigation showed, that undertakings made by heads of firms throughout the industries to their employees had to be cancelled and the entire method of dealing with the problem in Great Britain and Canada has to be readjusted.

First Move Undemocratic. Among Canada's chief difficulties was the system by which individual firms permitted their employees to go to the front on full or part pay, thereby establishing an "undemocratic order of things" in the trenches. The Canadian employers concluded that a condition where men fought side by side with a different ratio of remuneration for their patriotism naturally bred discontent and in their opinion was morally wrong. Enlistments, moreover, were encouraged without regard to skilled or unskilled labor, with the result that production was severely handicapped.

Employers who had promised their employees to give them back their own jobs found it impossible to fulfill their promises. Many came back maimed and injured and after two years of war a vast army of temporary help had been created in the factories. The problem of getting rid of this temporary help on the return of the soldiers proved a difficult one.

The employer in Great Britain and Canada would, first of all, it was explained, provide for "selective conscription," taking young unmarried men and even from this first draft send back to the factories every man who was a skilled workman.

Three Classes of Allowances. "The British and Canadian governments have decided, the American manufacturers are being informed, to pay a "subsistence allowance" to each dependent family, representing a figure sufficient for food and rent alone. That has been figured out to be \$51.68 a month for a family of two adults and three children, paid by

the government direct to the dependent family.

Then there is the "separation allowance of \$20 a month per family for moderate comforts, clothes, etc." and the "compassionate allowance" made at the discretion of a central agency distributing the fund in exceptional cases.

These "separate" and "compassionate" allowances are not paid by the government, but come out of a national patriotic fund raised by voluntary public subscriptions and distributed through some central agency. It is understood that in this country a very definite analysis would have to be made for the adjustment of these allowances in accordance with varying cost of living and different standards of living existing in various parts of the country.

Legislature Will Remain In Session Next Week

(From a Staff Correspondent.) Lincoln, April 13.—(Special.)—When the legislature will adjourn is still undetermined, although it is admitted generally it will be some time about the middle or last of next week. Some of the senators say that had it not been for the ruling of the lieutenant governor, that all bills must be read in full in the senate adjournment would have come at least two days sooner. It is probable that it will be Friday evening before the finish.

Secretary Baker Asks For Council of Defense

(From a Staff Correspondent.) Lincoln, April 13.—(Special Telegram.)—The governor this afternoon sent to the house a request from Secretary of War Baker asking that the state provide for a state council of defense to co-operate with the federal authorities so long as the war shall continue. He recommended that House Roll No. 463, now in conference, be amended to include the needs of the council.

Greeley News Notes.

Greeley, Neb., April 13.—(Special.)—An unofficial report in Greeley says the southbound morning passenger on the Burlington will leave here two hours later after May 1. The proposed change is said to be due to the eight-hour law. County Judge Scott and Miss Catherine Harrahill, both of Greeley, were married at Central City yesterday.

Jerry Murphy, who fought at Fort Sumpter, celebrated his eighty-sixth birthday anniversary yesterday by entertaining several members of the Grand Army of the Republic and Woman's Relief Corps.

The funeral of Daniel Murray, a pioneer settler of Greeley county, was held here yesterday. He expired unexpectedly on a train near Central City. He was 70 years old and is survived by two sons.

Red Cross Branch at Callaway.

Callaway, Neb., April 13.—(Special.)—An auxiliary branch of the Red Cross society was organized at Callaway Monday evening on the 9th inst. and the following officers were elected: Chairman, H. H. Andrews; secretary, Miss Eliza Belle Young; treasurer, Mrs. R. E. Brega. The Odd Fellows have tendered the use of their hall for meetings.

Will Offer Garden Prizes.

Geneva, Neb., April 13.—(Special.)—The committee on gardening for decorative effect appointed by the Community club met last night and decided on planting flowers on the high school grounds. Arrangements are being made to plant some in public places over the city, and prizes are to be given for the best effects and best cared for lawns.

Name Conference Committee.

Lincoln, April 13.—(Special Telegram.)—The conference committee on the salaries bill appointed by the speaker is Reischick, Reifensath and Peterson. They will confer with the senate committee, which will probably be Adams, Wilson of Dodge and Bushee.

From Our Near Neighbors

Avon. Mrs. W. A. Hollenberger and son, Claude, and Miss Vera Ward left Monday for a visit with relatives at Bird City, Kan. Mrs. I. D. Maseman and children were visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Mohr, at Syracuse Sunday.

Elkhorn. The Kensington met Thursday with Mrs. H. A. Hansen. Mrs. C. F. Peterson was shopping at Omaha Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hay were city visitors Wednesday.

Springfield. Mrs. C. G. Frost with her baby, of Union, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Mueller. Helen Hancock, formerly of Springfield, was married March 29 to Mr. C. C. Thompson of Oklahoma at Los Angeles.

Gretna. Lyman Meyer has enlisted in the navy. He is the first of the Gretna boys to enlist. Frank Reynolds, who is a sophomore at the University of Nebraska, was home for a short visit this week.

Irvington. The Kensington met at the Thomsen home Friday. Mrs. John Hendrickson visited her son at Fremont Tuesday. Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Scanlon were Omaha visitors Tuesday.

Valley. Mrs. Coy of Waterloo visited her daughter, Mrs. Harris, Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hamary are rejoicing over the birth of a daughter April 12.

Waverly. The regular meeting of the Buay Bess was held Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. John Monahan. Mrs. Kline was received as a new member. Mrs. Klan Lemmer assisted Mrs. Monahan in serving the lunch.

Mrs. Sorenson and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Dein, Edwin and Gene Johnson and Elmer and Chris Dein were entertained at the Jacobson home Sunday.

Papillon. The ladies' Aid of the Presbyterian church will hold a box supper at the opera house Saturday evening. Miss Nina Rhode, who teaches at Walnut, Ia., spent a week's vacation at her home here.

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Tuesday. She had been with Mr. Butts at the Nicholas Sun hospital, where he had an operation for appendicitis last week. One hundred pictures, copies from famous pictures, are arranged in the different rooms of the Valley schools for exhibition, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Work done by the pupils in all the grades is also arranged for the inspection of the parents and patrons. Thursday afternoon a program was furnished by the pupils and Friday afternoon the Woman's club gave a program in the assembly room.

Nuckolls County Citizens Have Meeting at Nelson

Nelson, Neb., April 13.—(Special.)—The people of Nuckolls county held a patriotic meeting here last night. It was the largest gathering assembled here since the homecoming of Company H after the Spanish-American war.

The Citizens' band of Nelson led the parade. This was followed by the pupils of the grades, then came the boys of the high school and the Nelson college, the drum corps, composed of a veteran of the civil war and his sons, and these were followed by a number of civil war veterans and Nelson business men. The final section was made up of the Ruskin band and delegations from the other towns throughout the county and farmers from all directions.

At the opera house County Judge E. D. Brown, who served in the civil war, presided, while at the court house meeting Captain William K. Moore, an officer of the Spanish-American war, officiated. There was a series of speeches and the program was presented at both places, being

composed of band music, patriotic songs, singing by the Male quartet and patriotic and stirring speeches. Charles E. Matson of Lincoln was the principal speaker. J. H. Agee of Superior and V. E. Shirley of Nelson spoke along patriotic lines and paid tribute to the loyalty of our citizens of every walk in life, regardless of where they had been born.

Commercial Club of Albion Has a Banquet

Albion, Neb., April 13.—(Special.)—The twelfth annual banquet of the Commercial club was held here Wednesday evening in the opera house. A large attendance was present, including persons from surrounding towns and Omaha and Lincoln. H. M. Bushnell of Lincoln was the principal speaker. He gave a patriotic address, after which resolutions were passed pledging loyal support to the government. The banquet was served by the ladies of the Methodist Episcopal church.

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