

SOCIETY OCCUPIED WITH RELIEF WORK



NEVER has Portland "society" shown itself in a light so much to be admired as during the past week. What the women of this fair city have accomplished, not only in furnishing material comforts to those in sore distress, but in bringing encouragement and cheer through the gentle ministrations of their sympathy to the crushed hearts of men and women whose lives have been blighted by agonizing bereavement, can never be measured. Doubtless the Good Angel who keeps the recording book somewhere above has set it down, but in human accounting this unrivaled expression of great-hearted womanhood cannot be overstated. Nor are encomiums of praise sought by the women of Portland. They have counted it a privilege to assist in the relief work being carried on, and not even recognition, but content to do whatever fell to their hands.

Mistakes may have been made, and there may have been differences of opinion as to what was the best method of work in some cases, but no one can be found to criticize minor mistakes when the total results have been so splendid. It should not seem out of place for The Oregonian to trench upon its "society" columns for space in which to portray the work of the women's relief committee for California sufferers. For almost all social life of the city during the past week has centered either at the Armory, where the central committee is at work; at the rooms of the Ladies' Aid Society, at the Cathedral, where about 50 women have been busy during the week; at the Irvington Clubhouse, where the Governor's wife is in charge of a corps of workers, or at the various sewing circles and other aid organizations, where the women of the city have congregated. While the response to the cry for help has been universal, coming from all classes, from men, women and youths, from organizations and from individuals, the work of Portland women is here specially commended.

Practically all the work of the women's relief organizations has focused at the Armory, though there have been other centers of activity. It has been an evolution from day to day, new departments being added as the occasion for them arose. At first it was a question of collecting supplies and rushing them to San Francisco, and prompt and efficient was the service that met this emergency. With the arrival of the first refugees came the bewildering problem of how best to find out, and supply them as speedily as possible.

Those who have not been to the railroad depot and seen a trainload of several hundred persons from San Francisco disembark can scarcely realize the magnitude of this undertaking. At first the refugees were either dazed or hysterical, and it was difficult to get them in line and find out the condition of each. Various organizations of the city co-operated to make the work at the station as systematic and efficient as possible. Portland women contributed a generous share of effort. Mrs. Holt Wilson was placed in charge of a permanent committee to train all trains. She was assisted by Miss Pritchard, Mrs. Trumbull, Mrs. Wm. Honeyman, Mrs. Mather, Mrs. Wm. Alvord, Mrs. Riley, Mrs. Lola Baldwin, Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett, Mrs. Fletcher Linn and Mrs. Frank, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. C. E. S. Wood, Mrs. Patterson, Mrs. Blumauer, Miss May Felling, Miss Gilsan, Miss Germaine Samuels, Miss White and Miss Susie Stott. These ladies were appointed from various societies and organizations, as it was desired to have a general representation of the People's Institute, the Women's Club, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Travelers' Aid Society, Catholic and Jewish organizations are all sending their representatives to meet the incoming refugees.

At the People's Institute and the Y. W. C. A. special services were required by the women and children and sick persons who came, and at once the ladies in charge of the People's Institute and of the Young Women's Christian Association came forward to meet such needs. The former arranged to throw open the upper rooms of the People's Institute for a dispensary and for rest rooms for women and children. Mrs. Theodore Wilcox, Mrs. Helen Ladd Corbett, Mrs. Fletcher Linn and other ladies of this management took an active part in making these plans. The girls' gymnasium was fitted up as a temporary nursery, with numerous cots where women could rest and put their babies to sleep. The physical condition of nearly every woman who came was most deplorable, the nervous shock and terror of their frightful experience having caused all sorts of physical as well as mental disturbances. Many were hysterical. But, for the timely ministrations they received at the People's Institute, serious results must have followed. A pe-

LADIES PROMINENT IN RELIEF WORK

The group shows Mrs. Mary Phelps MacIntyre, and her assistant board Reading-From left to right the four at the back are: Mrs. J. B. Hamilton, Mrs. A. E. Rockey, Mrs. Louise Tarpley and Mrs. W. B. Ayer. The three in the foreground, reading from left to right, are: Mrs. A. J. Meier, Mrs. William Alvord, Mrs. Montgomery. The single pictures are numbered as follows:

1. Mrs. P. J. Cronin, president Cathedral Ladies' Aid Society.
2. Mrs. J. C. Bennett, secretary Cathedral Ladies' Aid.
3. Miss M. McKay, treasurer Cathedral Ladies' Aid.
4. Mrs. George Chamberlain, in charge at Irvington Clubhouse.
5. Mrs. J. C. Bennett, president Taylor-Street M. E. Church Ladies' Aid Society. —Photo by Anna.

cial committee was placed in charge at the institute, under the direction of Miss Pritchard, who has shown herself a most capable executive. Those assisting were Miss Virginia Wilson, Miss Emma Felling and Miss George Chamberlain.

At the Young Women's Christian Association rest, meals and baths have been provided for women and girls and a dozen or more have been sheltered until they secure employment. The business girls of the city, through the association, met early in the week and made a list of the most needy for shipment to California. The generous spirit which this evidenced and which is evidenced everywhere among the women of the city, is the most admirable feature of the relief work. There is an entire absence of seeking for self-promotion or self-praise. Women who stand first in social prominence have counted it a privilege to sew on buttons, black shoes, patch clothing or serve in any capacity. They have done this as willingly as they would have served on committees or given instructions to other people. It is the elimination of self which has brought about the total splendid results. Mrs. Mary Montgomery, chairman of the relief committee, said on Friday: "The best thing about all this to me is that there has not been a whisper, even in all my committee, of friction."

The Executive Committee. Mrs. Montgomery herself has been doing the work of several persons ever since she was chosen to stand at the head of the women's relief work. Her task has been an arduous one. Though she had had much experience on public boards, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. W. B. Ayer and Mrs. Edward H. Ehrman, the remaining members of the committee, have been present every day at the Armory to render personal service. One of the most important committees has been the purchasing committee, of which Mrs. J. N. Teal is chairman. The women's relief department was given \$2500 to spend, and every day the purchasing committee has made trips to various stores in town. Mrs. Teal has supplied many an emergency demand, personally bringing large packages from the stores to the Armory to supply articles for waiting refugees. Mrs. Henrietta Felling, Mrs. Isom White and Mrs. Richard Koehler have assisted her in this. Mrs. A. J. Meier and Her Committee. All the practical, immediate supply work has been done under the direction of Mrs. A. J. Meier, who has shown remarkable efficiency in the system which she has inaugurated. Several hundred women have assisted Mrs.

Meier and Mrs. A. E. Rockey, who is her first lieutenant. Here follows a list of ladies who are in charge of the different supply tables in Mrs. Meier's great "department store," as the Armory is now called. This is not a complete list of all the volunteer women workers, but it contains the names of all who have registered in the women's relief register. First and foremost must be mentioned Mrs. Clarence Nichols, who is conceded by every worker at the Armory to be invaluable in her place. She has charge of the "offices" and the telephone, but this has been only a small part of her work. She has been so fertile in suggestions everywhere that she is called on whenever anything outside of routine work is needed, and her resourcefulness and executive ability are matters of general admiration. Miss Frances Warren, Miss Florence Wolf, Miss Alta Rush and Miss Fay Nichols have all assisted Mrs. Nichols.

Mrs. H. M. Prager, at the men's outfitting table, has had the largest share of supply work. She has found scope for the clear head which she "will not let her heart run away with" in deciding just what is best to be done for each and every man who comes for clothing supplies. Mrs. Prager has been on hand every day, and all day, since the relief work started. Her assistants have been Mrs. A. L. Dieker, Miss May and Mrs. Norris. She has had, moreover, several men assisting of whose loyal service she speaks in the highest terms. F. J. McCormick, the armorer, is one of these. Then there are Messrs. D. J. Byrne, Charles H. Grover and Elmer E. Kimberlin. Young Mr. T. T. Barrett has rendered valuable service in wrapping bundles. R. M. Stuart, as special police, has shown notable fitness for this place. Messrs. Ike Harris, Simonson, Van Houton and Cutworth have been present every day, and Mr. Gowdy, one of the refugees, who plans to settle in Portland, has also aided. Yesterday two fine ladies, Miss Lamm, driver of engine No. 7, and W. H. Maas, from Engine House No. 1, who had an off day, went to offer services and helped all day at Mrs. Prager's counter.

A Roll of Honor. Other tables are officered as follows: Men's shirts and underwear—Mrs. A. F. Biles, Mrs. I. Hirsch, Mrs. I. Lipman, Mrs. J. A. Hasehine, Mrs. G. W. Brown, Miss Frances Jacobs. Shirts—Mrs. Robert Luitke, Mrs. H. J. Jackson. Millinery—Mrs. Charles E. Brown, Mrs. William H. Mankin, Mrs. George Hazen, Mrs. Frank Bruhn. Women's underwear—Mrs. L. McMorris, Mrs. C. E. Hyakitt, Miss Helen Barstow, Mrs. Z. Ploeger, Mrs. Erickson, Mrs. Lydia Wood. Meal and car tickets—Miss Germaine Samuel, Miss Dorothy Morrison. Employment—Mrs. Gustave Simon, Mrs. Max Hirsch, Miss Sylvia Salomon. Ladies' waists, reserve stock—Mrs. J. W. Casey, Miss Cora Marx, Miss Thurlow. Needlework Guild—Mrs. J. S. Reed, Miss Anna Cremen, treasurer; Miss Katherine Cronin, secretary; Mrs. Alex Bernstein, Miss Isabelle Duffies. Notions—Mrs. J. F. Moffett, Mrs. Charles Basy, Mrs. T. T. Strain, Mrs. R. F. Prast. Maternity supplies—Mrs. Hugh Hume, Mrs. C. E. Hyakitt, Miss Helen Barstow, Mrs. Edgar Courson. Infants' clothing—Mrs. John McCracken, Miss Edith Rothchild, Miss Estelle Goldsmith. Misses—Mrs. McKibben—Mrs. Lewis Russell, Mrs. W. P. McKibben—Mrs. Frances Warren, Mrs. Wm Van Schuyver, Mrs. May Dearborn, Mrs. Frank G. Warren, Mrs. R. M. Moore. Boys' underwear—Mrs. L. A. Frank,

and evening. The Young Women's Sodality of the church has assisted, and on Tuesday and again yesterday the girls from the academic department of St. Mary's Academy worked all day long, under the direction of the cathedral ladies. All supplies from this point are new, and the material used is of extra quality. Mrs. P. J. Cronin is president of the Cathedral Ladies' Aid Society. Mrs. J. Murphy is vice-president, Mrs. Frank Barrett secretary and Miss M. McKay treasurer. Luncheon has been furnished every day for the workers. Among the Catholic ladies who have done valuable relief work are those of St. Francis, on the East Side, and St. Mary's, in Williams avenue.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Taylor-Street Methodist Church was among the first to respond to the emergency call. Mrs. J. E. Bennett, the president, gathered her ladies, and on Tuesday, with 75 willing workers and 18 sewing machines, the hundred dollars they had appropriated for new material was quickly transformed into new clothing and sent off that evening to San Francisco. Sunnyside M. E. Church ladies met at the parsonage and made 15 new comforters and quantities of new sheets and pillow slips. Three large cases were sent by them to the Armory store. Centenary Methodist Church, Mrs. F. Cozens, president of the Aid Society, has made generous contributions, and still has in reserve a store of underwear and other supplies. The ladies of the Relief Corps of Ben Butler Post, Sunnyside, have made 13 new comforters. The ladies of Dr. Wiese's church, delegated the entire stock of the Jewish Ladies' Sewing Society to the California relief supply. The Portland Women's Club has appropriated \$50, to be used in assisting individuals who come to the city from California, and they hope, by solicitation, to swell this amount to several hundred dollars. The Needlework Guild of America has contributed no far 2000 new garments, all of which have been sent to San Francisco.

This list by no means covers the organized work, but it indicates the spirit of the city, and merely to glance over it is enough to make one feel proud of the women of Portland and of the splendidly effective work that is being accomplished through their united efforts. The marriage of Miss Lucy Girard Sitton on Tuesday evening to George Kelsey Wentworth, Jr., must be numbered among the prettiest and most carefully arranged of the season. In decorative effect it was a "fluffy" wedding throughout. The First Unitarian Church was decorated with most artistic simplicity, quantities of palms and Easter lilies being used. A basket of lilies lay on the top of the altar and a shaft of the same beautiful flowers, mingled gracefully with white tulle, extended above, gleaming against the background of green. Every seat in the church was filled when the wedding party arrived. With the first triumphant notes of the Loebengrip "Bridal Chorus," the door at the main entrance swung open heralding the approach of the bride. Simultaneously the groom and his best man, Howard Hollander, appeared in the chancel, entrance to the altar where Rev. W. G. Elliot was waiting. The maid of honor, Miss Grace Wentworth, sister of the groom, who, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Wentworth, came from Chicago for the wedding, was gowned in a very rich lace dress made Princess fashion and of very elegant texture. She carried an arm bouquet of lilies of the valley was one of the handsomest seen this season. Mrs. Wentworth, his best man, and the ushers wore chiffon cloth richly ornamented with hand-wrought lace. The skirt was heavily paneled with this above the flounces. The bodice was done with yoke effect. Her only ornament was a handsome diamond, the gift of her husband, which she wore as a pendant. Her shower bouquet of lilies of the valley was one of the handsomest seen this season. Mrs. Wentworth, his best man, and the ushers wore chiffon cloth richly ornamented with hand-wrought lace. The skirt was heavily paneled with this above the flounces. The bodice was done with yoke effect. Her only ornament was a handsome diamond, the gift of her husband, which she wore as a pendant. Her shower bouquet of lilies of the valley was one of the handsomest seen this season.

The ladies of Trinity Guild will open the "household" bazaar, for which they have been preparing for several months, on Wednesday evening next. It promises to be a delightful social event and an agreeable relaxation from the stress which has been in the atmosphere of late ever efforts to aid the earthquake sufferers. There will be two sessions of the bazaar, on Wednesday evening and on Thursday afternoon. All during the Lenten season the ladies of the guild were busy appearing for the bazaar, and it

is understood that a very complete collection of household articles will be on the various tables. Mrs. E. D. Floury will be in charge of the Monday table, Mrs. D. C. Burnett of the Tuesday table, Mrs. J. B. Reed and Mrs. H. H. Hewitt of the Wednesday table, Mrs. B. G. Whitcomb of Thursday, Mrs. James Muecke

of Friday and Mrs. James Cook of the Saturday table. Each of these ladies will have five assistants. The candy table will be in charge of Mrs. O. Mattern. In the tearoom Mrs. Morrison will be assisted by Mrs. William Birrell, Mrs. Robert Hewitt and Mrs. George Tucker. The bazaar has been postponed a number of

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