

**Bibliography**

Wicks, Perry S., for The Town of Islip, *War Record of the Town of Islip, Long Island, New York, World War 1917—1918*, Bay Shore, November, 1921. (Shown below as **TOI**)

All Posters from the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division, World War I Collection of War Posters, Washington, DC, USA, <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/pp.print> (Shown below as **LOC**)

**Sources for the Pages**

- Page 1—Cover, TOI.
- Page 3— “Financing the War,” Posters left LC-USZC4-960 and right LC-USZC4-6234, both LOC.
- Pages 4-5—“Bay Shore in the Liberty Loans,” is from pages 170-171, TOI.
- Pages 6-7—“The Four Minute Men,” on page 7 is from page 176, TOI, posters left LC-DIG-ppmsca-50983 and right LC-DIG-ppmsca-53577, LOC.
- Pages 8-16—“The Draft,” poster page 8 LC-DIG-ppmsca-40035, LOC. Pages 9-16 are from pages 146-153, TOI. Posters left LC-DIG-ppmsc-03521, center LC-USZC4-10224 , right LC-USZC4-9459, LOC. Chart on page 11 was compiled from material developed for the TOI World War I display by the Islip Town Historian.
- Page17—“Civilian Service Agencies,” poster left LC-DIG-ppmsca 40831 and right LC-DIG-ppmsca-40830, LOC.
- Page 18—“War Camp Community Service,” poster left LC-USZC4-10656 and right LC-USZC4-9658, LOC.
- Pages 19-20—“Red Cross Record of Islip Township,” is from pages 166-167, TOI.
- Page 21—“The Patriotic Gardeners,” is from page 165, TOI, posters left LC-DIG-ppmsca-50984 and right LC-USZC4-10136 , LOC.
- Pages 22-23—“The Knights of Columbus,” is from pages 172-173, TOI and poster on page 23 is from LC-USZC4-10131, LOC.
- Page 24—“The YWCA Hostess Houses,” is from page 174, TOI and poster left LC-USZC4-7922 and right LC-USZC4-9573, LOC.
- Pages 25-28—“The Influenza Epidemic,” is from pages 184-187, TOI, poster on page 28 is from LC-USZC4-9867, LOC.
- Pages 29-31-“War’s Effect on the Cost of Living,” is from pages 191-193, TOI, poster on page is from LC-USZC4-8125, LOC.
- Page 31– Picture at bottom of page used at various places in TOI.



**Excerpts from the**

WAR RECORD

OF THE

TOWN OF ISLIP

Long Island, New York

**Volume One: The Homefront**



WORLD WAR

1917-1918





## Office of the Town Historian Town of Islip, New York

### Forward

November 2018

In this second booklet of the 335<sup>th</sup> Anniversary series we will look at the activities on the homefront of Islip Town during World War I. In the Spring of 1917 one of the liveliest discussions in the Town of Islip was the coming revote on women getting the right to vote in New York State. If that passed, it would be the largest victory for the Suffrage Movement to date and Islip women were involved in the effort on both sides. President Wilson had just been reelected on a platform of "he kept us out of the war." The events of April changed the focus to overseas with President Woodrow Wilson calling for Congress to declare war against Germany on April 6, 1917. The Town of Islip suddenly found that the war was on the doorstep and the citizens of the Town pulled together to face the crisis and support the national war effort. The Town had already been caught up in world events as the German radio station at West Sayville was handling diplomatic and other messages that helped the German war effort. By the time the war was over the Town of Islip would have three military installations within her borders and a large training camp nearby in Yaphank. Volunteers and draftees answered the call to the colors supported by civilian organizations both local and national. One hundred years ago on the eleventh minute of the eleventh hour of the eleventh month an armistice was reached but it would take until early 1920 for a peace treaty to be signed to end the war.

At the end of the War, the Town of Islip decided to honor its veterans and the efforts in support of the war by its citizens with a book that documented the efforts of its citizens in what would eventually be called World War I as it was not as hoped, "The War to End All Wars." This pamphlet will cover some of the information and writing found in that book to will give today's residents a picture of what life was like in that time when the Town came together to support the nation in its hour of need. In the future it is hoped that the complete book will be able to be scanned and placed on line to make this document available to all of those interested in the history of this unique Town. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice on a day formerly known as Armistice Day, now Veteran's Day and also the 335<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Town of Islip, which itself was founded by a veteran of European wars. This first volume covers some of the articles describing the war on the homefront.

George J. Munkenbeck  
Historian, Town of Islip, New York



time era of free spending and the demand for luxuries afforded an almost unlimited market for these flowers, which sometimes brought returns of 25 cents each; as much or more than a dozen sold for before the war. There was another side to the picture, however, for coal, a prime essential for heating the greenhouses, was exceedingly difficult to obtain and the carnation growers and others were often compelled to pay \$15 per ton and glad to get it at that.

As previously stated, many staple articles sold during the war and the two years immediately thereafter at just about double the pre-war prices; a few were affected to a lesser extent and very many to a far greater degree.

Wheat flour sold here as high as \$16.50 per barrel; sugar was almost impossible to obtain for considerable periods of time, and was often of a very inferior quality. Local grocers, when they had any at all, doled it out in pound and half-pound packages to customers who waited in line for the privilege of paying 25 cents to 28 cents per pound for it.

Shoes and leather goods doubled and quadrupled in cost and the value of cotton and woolen goods advanced in about the

same ratio. Paper became scarce and increasingly expensive, and even the cheaper grades, such as wrapping and news paper, formerly procurable at 2½ to 4 cents per pound, were sold as high as 15 cents and 20 cents for a very inferior quality of a muddy yellow color, due to the scarcity of chlorine and other bleaching agencies.

Not until the closing months of 1920, practically two years after the cessation of hostilities, did the production of manufactured goods begin to catch up with the demand, to a degree warranting a general lowering of prices. Even now, at the beginning of 1921, many luxuries and not a few staple articles are still held at prices three or four times their cost before the war; generally, moreover, the article is inferior.

As time goes on, it becomes more and more apparent that aside from the loss of life, the sickness and wounds suffered by those directly involved in the conflict, the general lowering of the morale of the nation and the heavy burden of taxation which must be shared by our children, the malign influence of the great war will be felt in many ways by generations yet unborn.





millions of tons of supplies for them, and of munitions with which to carry on the war, taxed the facilities of our railroads and steamboat lines as they had never been taxed before. All systems of communication, mail, telegraph, telephone and wireless felt the strain of the overload and fell far below their usual standards of efficiency. Not infrequently letters outstripped the telegraph, and on the other hand it often took a week for a letter to go from one Long Island village to another. Telephone equipment was poor and the service worse. The demands made upon the system were heavier than ever before and the service was in the hands of inexperienced operators, linemen and others hastily broken in for the emergency.

Prices of drugs and chemicals, because of the urgent war needs, and especially because of the blockade of German ports early in the war, advanced by leaps and bounds. Such as were obtainable at all were often priced at from ten to twenty times their former cost. Much of the dyestuff could not be duplicated by American manufacturers. Potash, most of which had been supplied by Germany, prior to the war, could not be obtained in sufficient quantities until great plants had been erected in this country to produce it for home consumption. Fertilizers increased tremendously in cost, and the prices of farm products jumped proportionately. Suffolk County farmers, who a few years ago had sold their potatoes for 25 cents per bushel, were able to dispose of that staple for as much as \$3 per bushel; in many instances the farmer cleaned up the price of a good farm on one season's crop, despite the greatly increased cost of labor, fertilizer and other materials. Butter sold for 80 cents per pound and fresh eggs have quite recently been selling for \$1.20 per dozen.

Meats of all kinds sold during the war and for almost two years after the armistice at inordinately high prices. Steaks and chops often retailed at a dollar a pound, roasts at from 60 cents to 80 cents, and even soup meat cost as much as 40 cents. Long Island dairy and poultry farmers, few of whom grow their own grain and feed, were badly handicapped by the high cost of the latter. Not a few of them were forced out of business. Milk retailed at from 12 to 18 cents per quart; chicken sold at 55 cents per pound.

Long Island duck farmers who had sufficient capital to continue in business through the period when feed was highest

made money during the war and in the years immediately following it, because of the high prices of dressed beef and other products controlled by the packers.

Fish, for the same reason, went to unheard of prices and though the commission men in the cities took a heavy and unreasonable toll, the local fishermen obtained good returns. Blue fish brought in local market as high as 45 cents per pound; weak fish brought 35 cents, and eels as much as 30 cents.

Prices of oysters and clams had the same general tendency, though the former in lesser degree than most other food products, owing to the fact that the European markets were closed during the war because of blockaded ports and the inability to obtain space on board ships. Freight embargos restricted the trade in this country and greatly increased freight, cartage and express rates. Increased labor costs and the high price of barrels and other containers, all combined to raise the price of Blue Point Oysters, practically all of which are shipped from the eastern end of Islip Township. Oysters which formerly sold locally for 25 cents for a quart, very liberally measured, retailed hereabouts during 1919 and 1920 at from 60 cents to \$1.00 per quart. The price to the wholesale trade have been from \$2.50 to \$2.75 per gallon and Blue Points in the shell, which before the war sold at from \$4 to \$5 per barrel have brought \$10.

Clams have been scarce and high and experienced clammers had no difficulty in making from \$10 to \$12 for a day's work on the bay, and many did much better than that. Clams sold as high as \$20 to \$25 per barrel.

Market gardeners and fruit growers on Long Island experienced the same difficulty as others in obtaining fertilizers and other supplies. They were handicapped in getting labor, for which the average price was from \$5 to \$6 per day, but they were rewarded with big prices and have shared in the general prosperity.

An important and rapidly advancing industry in the eastern end of the Town of Islip and western Brookhaven, is the growing of cut flowers, especially carnations, for New York market, an industry which has netted wonderful returns. Greenhouses covering many acres are devoted to this business and many thousands of these blooms are shipped by express every morning from Blue Point, Bayport and Sayville to New York and other cities within a radius of a few hundred miles. The war

## Financing the War

To finance world war one, the government established a war chest and pushed purchases of Liberty Bonds and Stamps. They also issued paper signs to display in windows to show that a family or business had contributed to the Liberty Bond Drive. Payroll deduction was one way that a person could contribute to the War Chest. The drives to sell stamps and bonds were conducted in theaters, banks and schools. These War Bonds eventually led to the modern United States Savings Bonds.





# BAY SHORE IN THE LIBERTY LOANS

By ACOSTA NICHOLS

WHEN the United States entered the Great War and started to mobilize its resources, the question of financial preparation came immediately to the front. The nation was inexperienced in the flotation of large Government loans, and the method of procedure had to be carefully felt out.

Fortunately, our Federal Reserve banking system had been well established, and the Treasury Department decided that the appeal to the country should be made through this agency. The First Loan seemed simple, but it was early recognized that the amount was so large that the usual banking and investment channels would not supply the sum needed, and the banking institutions in the various communities were asked to help.

I had the good fortune to be placed in charge of Long Island at the outset, and my first duty was to make a tour of the banks of the Long Island cities and towns in order to see if they were putting forth proper efforts to secure local subscriptions in response to the circular of instructions that had been sent out by the Federal Reserve Bank. For the most part surprising apathy was shown in the First Loan. There was the general opinion that all that was needed was for the banks to advertise that they would receive subscriptions and the rest of the work would take care of itself. Not so with Bayshore!

Late on a beautiful afternoon in April an attempt to find the President of the South Side Bank resulted in my being directed to the Harbor, where Mr. Wicks was busily engaged in repairing his boat after the ravages of winter. A short talk with him soon proved that nothing was needed to stimulate the general activities of Bayshore in aid of the First Liberty Loan. Already the matter had been taken up with various prominent citizens; the co-operation of the Home Defence had been requested and obtained, and plans had been discussed whereby the beginning of that public interest which was so soon to turn into a mighty, irresistible force was made manifest.

Various plans were talked over and the

interview closed with the feeling of assurance that whatever other town in Long Island might fall behind, Bay Shore at least was awake to its full sense of responsibility.

No quotas were assigned for the First Loan, but gradually as the importance of the financial task was realized, it was determined that plans must be formulated in a comprehensive way whereby each community should do its full duty. In all subsequent loans quotas were assigned proportioned to the banking resources of each district.

Developments proceeded at a rapid rate and afforded a highly interesting psychological experiment. While the banks continued to handle subscriptions, committees were formed in the various centres quite without regard to the banks as such. The leading members of the community were pressed into service, and with each successive loan the committee organization became more intensive.

Patriotic feeling alone would not have sufficed to bring results. It was necessary to have a machine working at top speed, and this machine had to be built from the ground up. The keynote of the committee work was Personal Service, and this slogan was used throughout the island with constantly increasing effect. More and more the importance of individual effort was impressed upon the workers, with the effect that districts were gradually plotted out, a house to house canvass instituted, and all men and women in the community had brought home to them their direct share of personal responsibility for the success of the Loan.

Bay Shore responded patriotically to every suggestion that was made along the line of increasing the efficiency of their organization. Under the capable leadership of Mr. Wicks a committee of splendid energy and ability directed the efforts of the community, and in each loan carried their work to a triumphant conclusion. Mr. Wicks gave his time and energy with untiring devotion to the cause and proved to be a tower of resourcefulness and strength.

The actual figures of each campaign will be shown in a separate statement, but there

# WAR'S EFFECT ON THE COST OF LIVING

By FRANCIS HOAG

THE horrors of war, the suffering, devastation and distress, are not all of the battlefield. While the people of America, because of their remoteness from the scene of actual conflict, suffered in lesser degree than those of any of the other allied nations involved in the World War, there was no village nor hamlet so isolated, nor man, woman nor child in all this broad land so remotely situated, but was made to feel the war's blighting affect.

Because of the nation-wide and impartial operation of the selective draft, every little community sent its quota of men, the flower of the nation. Indeed, thousands of brave, adventurous spirits volunteered for service in the British and Canadian armies long before the culmination of events forced us into the conflict; of these latter the Town of Islip sent a notable contingent, especially for enlistment with the Canadian Flying Corps, later known as the Royal Air Force. But without distinction as to rank or branch of the service, the boys of Long Island bore well their part, and were the envy of thousands who because of sex, age or other limitations were ineligible for service.

For those who stayed at home, fathers, mothers, wives and sweethearts of the men at the front or at sea, there was dread uncertainty, anxiety and suffering, greater at times than the privations of actual warfare.

Bent upon doing their share, the stay-at-home contingent organized for relief work and enrolled under the banner of the Red Cross and allied organizations. While the devoted women sewed or knitted, made surgical dressings or prepared delicacies for camp and hospital use, the men organized "drives" for the various funds, and by systematic canvasses, through elaborate organization, mass meetings, etc., secured contributions of many thousands of dollars for relief work. Later on, by similar methods of organization, they were able to make a glorious record in subscriptions for the various issues of government bonds needed to finance the war. Every man and woman and even the child was made to feel individual responsibility for the success of this work.

The absence of the men who had been

drawn into the conflict, comprising a large proportion of the young, active and progressive element in every community, was for two years a serious drawback to the prosperity of Long Island and of course to the whole country. This was especially apparent in social affairs of all kinds, in athletic sports, in the fire departments and in fraternal and church organizations everywhere. Business was handicapped by the loss of skilled mechanics, farmers, boatmen, railroad men, experienced salesmen and leaders and highly essential employees in every industry. The prosperity of rural Long Island, which has comparatively few manufacturing industries, was still further affected by the removal of hundreds of workmen, lured to the metropolis, to the great manufacturing centres of New England and to more remote points, where wages of \$5 to \$8 per day for unskilled, and \$10 per day and upward for skilled mechanics were offered for work in munitions factories.

Work came almost to a standstill in the building trades here, except for government work in the camps and shipyards. Large numbers of men from the Eastern end of Islip Town found emergency employment at Camp Upton, where structures to house and care for a city of 40,000 men were erected in four months' time in the summer of 1917. Carpenters, and indeed almost anyone who could swing a hammer or push a saw, found ready employment there at from \$6 to \$8 per day. Later on many of the same men were employed in the government shipyards at Port Jefferson.

The resultant scarcity of labor in other industries seriously crippled many of them and staple articles of foodstuffs and wearing apparel became scarce and in some cases almost impossible to obtain. Prices in certain lines advanced sharply; in other cases there was a slower rise, but in a short time practically everything was being sold at a figure at least double the pre-war price.

The transaction of all business was badly hampered by extraordinary loads placed upon all transportation lines and the war-time priorities accorded by the government. The movement of millions of men and of



a few minutes after admission. Owing to the public character of that ward, men passing would see a vacant bunk and lie down in it without applying to a medical officer at all. Records were impossible and even identification of patients was extremely difficult, because hundreds of men had blank tags tied about their necks. Many were either delirious or too ill to know their own names. Nine hundred and sixty-six patients were removed by the army hospital authorities in France.

DEATHS

Ninety-one deaths occurred among the

army personnel, of whom one was an officer, as follows:

October 2	.....	1 death
October 3	.....	3 deaths
October 4	.....	7 deaths
October 5	.....	10 deaths
October 6	.....	24 deaths
October 7	.....	31 deaths
October 8	.....	14 deaths
October 10	.....	1 death

The sick officer was treated in the open air on B deck, had a special army nurse during the day and a navy hospital corpsman at night.



was no case where the necessary quotas were not far exceeded both in Bay Shore and in the surrounding towns.

The immediate direction of the southern part of Suffolk County was under the supervision of Mr. Harry B. Hollins, Jr., and too much credit cannot be given to him for his untiring and patriotic zeal.

The whole community contributed to the Loans so generally that it is difficult to single out individuals, but a special word must be said in behalf of the work and the self-sacrificing patriotism of the women. I think I am not putting it too strongly to say that the most important instrument in the development of the psychology that brought success was the part that the women played in influencing public sentiment.

The days of the war have passed into history, but the memories of the experiences of those days of effort and of tribulation are still strong. Never was there a better illustration of what can be accomplished by united effort than the Liberty Loan campaigns. It would be a pity if the lessons we learned then cannot be turned to good account and if we cannot remember what they taught to us in our time of emergency. Surely there are many directions in which our communities can be helped and many directions in which our public life can be benefited by the force that comes through organization and a common determination to triumph over difficulties. May we not forget!

\* \* \*

FIGURES OF THE LIBERTY LOANS, TOWN OF ISLIP

The total subscriptions of the Bay Shore District, which included Brightwaters and Brentwood, in the five Liberty Loan drives amounted to \$1,185,250. I could not get an accurate statement of all the loans in the Islip and Sayville districts.

As I have the final figure from the Federal Reserve Bank of the Fourth Loan, I have given below statistics which will prove that every section of the town exceeded its quota.

	Quota	Subscription	Per Cent
Bay Shore	\$226,300	\$426,850	189
Brightwaters	56,600	110,350	195
Brentwood	11,300	37,000	327

	Quota	Subscription	Per Cent
Islip	\$171,000	\$385,200	225
Central Islip	15,400	33,950	220
East Islip	37,600	105,650	281
Great River	3,400	9,750	287
Sayville	133,400	234,950	176
Bayport	25,300	55,950	221
West Sayville	20,000	26,850	134
Oakdale	8,000	32,950	412
Bohemia and Holbrook	16,000	9,900	62

PERRY S. WICKS,  
*Chairman, Bay Shore District.*

\* \* \*

Bay Shore, N. Y., Oct. 30, 1917.

Mr. Acosta Nichols,  
Chairman of L. L. Com.,  
120 Broadway, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Of the total amount subscribed for this loan, the women's committee, under the efficient management of Mrs. Henry A. Nickel (Miss Virginia Norden) turned in about \$60,000, but this is only a part of what they did. A large amount of the subscriptions that came to the banks were the direct result of their advertising. Last spring when the call was to agriculture, Miss Norden organized "the Patriotic Gardeners," composed of young ladies and school girls of Bay Shore and Brightwaters. They raised and sold a quantity of potatoes and beans, devoting the proceeds to war charities. This organization assisted in the sale of the bonds. They had a booth in the center of the village, which was open every day as soon as the banks closed and kept open until 9 o'clock. They as well as other committees of ladies made a thorough canvass of all our district. I do not think a better plan could be devised for a country village.

The officers and employees of the banks did all they could, loaning money on the security of the bonds at 4 per cent wherever it would help. As to expense, we had none. Used our own automobiles. The carpenter who put up the booth loaned the lumber and donated the work.

I can give no figures of what the school children did, as the girls worked with the women's committee.

The Boy Scouts sold 56 bonds, amounting to \$2,800.

Very truly yours,  
P. S. WICKS,  
Chairman.

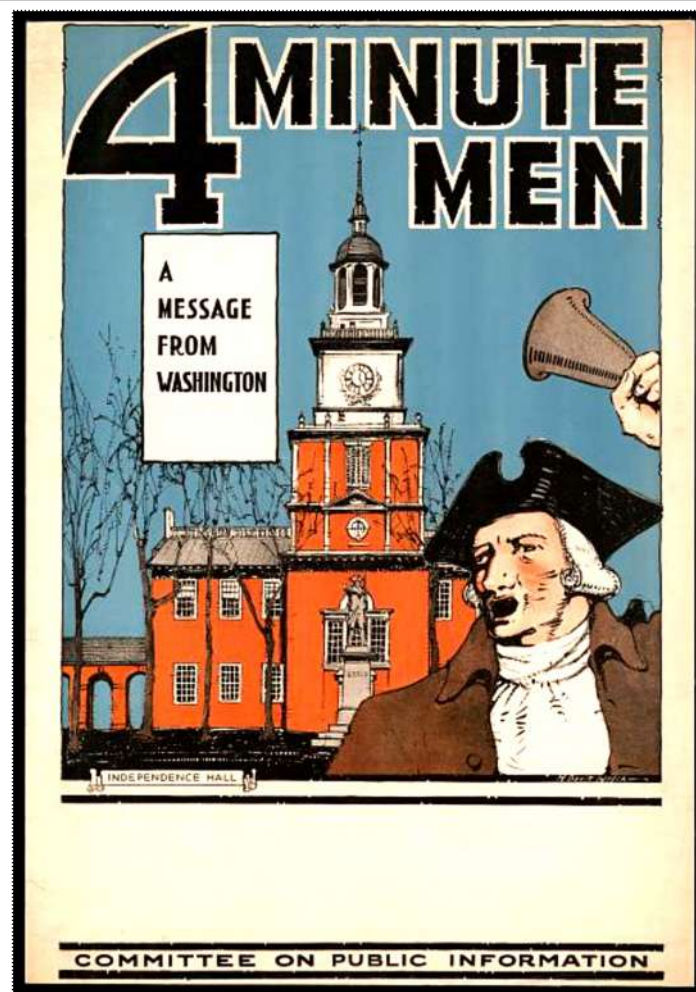
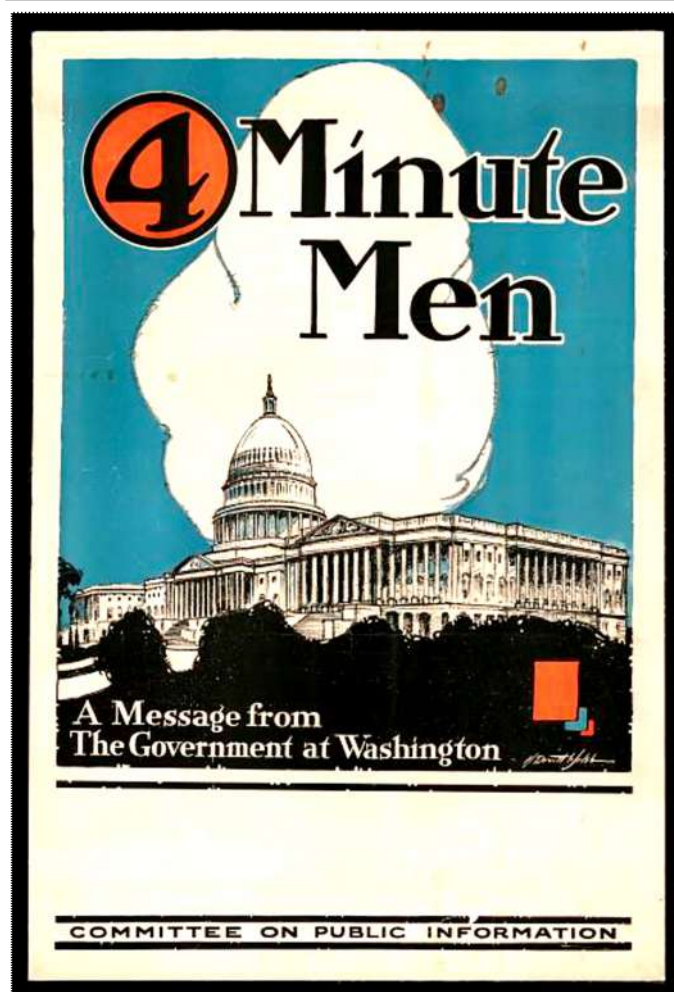


## The Four Minute Men

Woodrow Wilson had worked hard to steer a course of diplomatic neutrality so as to keep America out of the war in Europe. Pressured by both Allied and Central Powers to enter the war since it broke out in August 1914, he instead made it a campaign issue in the 1916 election with posters that proclaimed "He kept us out of war." When he was sworn in for a second term in March of 1917, world events overwhelmed the nation and the mood shifted as the news of the sinking of RMS Lusitania and the Zimmerman Telegram (sent by Germany to induce Mexico to attack the United States with German support) finally forced the President to request a declaration of war against Germany on April 7, 1917. The Declaration of War left the government with three issues to solve:

- There was little popular support for America's entry into the war.
- There was a significant portion of the population that was of German origins and ancestry.
- America was totally unprepared for war on this scale and there would need to be a great deal of sacrifice on the part of the population in building up the armed forces and shifting to a war economy.

The government instituted many special agencies to organize and rally the efforts of the country. Among these was the Committee on Public Information and a group was formed under this umbrella organization named the Four Minute Men. These men were to go out and give four minute speeches to fire up public support at any public gathering such as in theaters, churches and schools. The persons who delivered these messages and the messages themselves were all approved by Washington and were designed to portray Woodrow Wilson larger than life and the Kaiser and Germany as sub-human and barbaric.



and remained in their rooms to the end of the voyage.

Late in the evening of this day the E deck ward was opened on the starboard side and was filled before morning. Twenty army nurses were detailed for duty during the night. When patients were brought up, their mates carefully left their blankets and clothing below and scouting parties sent through the compartments to gather up all loose blankets for use of the sick. Fortunately we had about 100 army blankets in the medical storeroom which had been salvaged on other voyages. These were used while they lasted.

### HORRORS OF WAR

The conditions during this night cannot be visualized by anyone who has not actually seen them.

The morning of October 2 brought no relief. Things seemed to grow worse instead of better. Cleaning details were demanded of the army, but few men responded. Those who came would stay a while and wander away, never to be seen again. No N. C. O.'s were sent, and there was no organization for control. The nurses made a valiant effort to clean up and the navy hospital corpsmen did marvels of work, but always against tremendous odds. Only by constant patrolling between the bunks could any impression be made upon the litter, and finally our own sailors were put on the job. They took hold like veterans and the place was kept respectably clean thereafter.

The first death from pneumonia occurred on this day, and the body was promptly embalmed and encased in a navy standard casket.

When evening came no impression had been made upon the great number of sick men about the decks and in their own bunks. So arrangements were made to enlarge the hospital space by including the port side of E R S 2. On October 3 this was accomplished and from that time on to the end of the voyage, we had enough bunks to accommodate practically all the worst cases. Three deaths occurred this day, and all were embalmed and encased. After going through the hospital and troop spaces that night, it was estimated that there were about 900 cases of influenza on the ship. In the wards we sent back to the bunks below all men whose temperature reached 99 and kept all bunks filled with cases of higher fever.

On October 4, seven deaths during the

day. The sea was rough and the ship rolled heavily. Hundreds of men were thoroughly miserable from seasickness and other hundreds who had been off the farm but a few weeks were miserable from terror of the strange surroundings and the ravages of the epidemics. Dozens of these men applied at the wards for treatment and the inexperience of army doctors in the recognition of seasickness caused a great many needless admissions to the hospital.

Many officers and nurses were ill in their rooms, and required the constant attention of a corps of well nurses, and an army medical officer to attend them.

Each succeeding day of the voyage was like those preceding, a nightmare of weariness and anxiety on the part of nurses, doctors and hospital corpsmen. No one thought of bed for himself, and all hands worked night and day. On the 5th there were 10 deaths, on the 6th there were 24, and on the 7th, the day of arrival at our destination, the toll was 31. The army ambulance boat was promptly alongside, and debarkation of the sick began about noon. The sick bay was cleared first and we at once began to clean up in preparation for the wounded to be carried westbound. E-deck was then evacuated, but all the sick could not be handled before night, about 200 remaining on board.

On the 8th these were taken off by the army, but not before fourteen more deaths had occurred. Although on this day almost the entire personnel (army) had gone, the nurses remained until the last sick man was taken off.

### PNEUMONIA

It is the opinion of myself and the other medical officers attached to the ship that there were full 2,000 cases of influenza on board. How many developed pneumonia there are no means of knowing. Over seventy-five (75) cases of the latter disease were admitted to the sick bay, most of them moribund. Of these, 3 improved so much that they went back to their compartments, 29 were transferred to hospital ashore, and about 40 died. As the records required to transfer patients from the army to the navy medical officers were furnished in but few cases, and as my records embrace all the dead, I had no means of knowing how many died in the sick bay and how many in the E deck ward. Cases of pneumonia were found dying in various parts of the ship and many died in the E deck ward



guard, those sick in F H S 3 were moved up to E R S 2 and the guard sent below to be scattered wherever they could find space. Thus, on the night of October 3, there was, beside the sick bay, a ward on E deck capable of bunking 878 men. As the bunks are arranged four in a tier, one above the other, the top bunk could not be used for the sick, except in emergencies, because nurses could not climb up to them nor could sick men climb down to go to toilets.

The navy medical officers confined their efforts mostly to those in the sick bay spaces, while all the sick quarters below were turned over to the army medical officers. The army chief surgeon, Colonel Decker, and two of his juniors became ill on October 1st, leaving but eleven army doctors to hold sick call, treat patients below, and care for about thirty nurses and twenty officers who were ill in rooms. The navy medical officers stood watches in E R S 3 at such times as they could be spared from the sick bay work, and relays of army nurses were assigned to duty below, with the pneumonia cases in the isolation ward, with sick officers in the officers' ward, and with sick nurses and officers in staterooms. In fact, every available medical officer, nurse and hospital corpsman was utilized to the extreme of endurance. Below in the E deck ward, every possible appliance for the care of the sick was furnished to the army surgeons on duty. The commissary officer placed at our disposal stewards, cooks and mess men and furnished just the kind of food required in the best possible fashion. The medical department of the ship owes, and I wish here to acknowledge, a great debt of gratitude to the Commissary Department, and to Paymaster Farwell and Chief Commissary Steward Flowers, especially, for their co-operation in this matter, the success with which they gave comfort and aid to the sick, and removed from our shoulders the always worrisome burden of feeding men unable to eat regular diet.

#### COURSE OF THE EPIDEMIC

This was influenced materially by these main factors:

*First:* The widespread infection of several organizations before they embarked, and their assignment to many different parts of the ship.

*Second:* The type of men comprising the most heavily infected groups. These men were particularly liable to infection.

*Third:* The absolute lassitude of those becoming ill caused them to lie in their bunks without complaint until their infections had become profound and pneumonia had begun. The severe epistaxis which ushered in the disease in a very large proportion of the cases caused a lowering of resisting powers which was added to by fright, by the confined space, and the motion of the ship. Where pneumonia set in, not one man was in condition to make a fight for life.

As noted above, the sick bay was filled in a few hours after leaving Hoboken. All pneumonia cases were placed in one isolation ward at the beginning, and another isolation unit was set aside for measles and mumps, both of which diseases were present among the troops. The other isolation units were first filled with influenza cases and later with pneumonias. Until the fifth day of the voyage few patients could be sent to duty because of great weakness following the drop in temperature as they grew better. Only the worst cases in E deck ward were sent to sick bay at any time, and all were potentially pneumonias. The E deck ward was more than full all the time and there were many ill men in various troop spaces in other parts of the ship.

There are no means of knowing the actual number of sick at any one time, but it is estimated that fully 700 cases had developed by the night of September 30. They were brought to the sick bay from all parts of the ship in a continuous stream, only to be turned away because all beds were occupied. Most of them then lay down on the deck, inside and out, and made no effort to reach the compartments where they belonged. In fact, practically no one had the slightest idea where he did belong, and he left his blankets, clothing, kit and all his possessions to be salvaged at the end of the voyage.

During October 1, every effort was made to increase hospital space below, as noted above. The heretofore satisfactory arrangements for army sick call were not adhered to by the army medical officers, and hundreds of men applied for treatment at the E deck ward instead of going to the twelve (12) outlying sick call stations. On this day, Colonel Decker, Chief Army Surgeon, became ill. As he was the only army medical officer who had had army experience in administrative matters, there was now no competent head to the army organization. Two other medical officers also became ill

## FOUR MINUTE MEN

By H. M. BREWSTER

THROUGHOUT the war Bay Shore had an organization of Four Minute Men operating under the Committee of Public Information. The members were Roy B. Davis, Rev. Henry W. Medd, Dr. Edwin S. Moore, Rev. C. S. MacDowell, Sheridan Linn, Rhey T. Snodgrass, Rev. William R. Watson, and Harry M. Brewster, chairman. These men were appointed because of their unquestioned loyalty, patriotism and ability as public speakers. The chairman was commissioned by the Government.

When on April 6, 1917, the Congress recognized the existence of a state of war between the Imperial German Government and the people of the United States, it became necessary immediately to mobilize not only the physical, but also the mental and spiritual powers of America.

Following closely upon the declaration of war the advisability of passing a selective-service law was taken under consideration by the Congress. This was a radical change for the people of the United States, and it was necessary that the public be educated to these questions.

The selective-service law was enacted by Congress on May 18, 1917, and was unequivocal in its terms. It boldly recited the military obligations of citizenship, and, made absolutely necessary by the exigency of the situation, was presented to the people of America practically without preparation at a time when many of them were still debating the necessity for joining in the

struggle at all. And both before and after the law passed the need for a nation-wide campaign of war education became apparent.

It was at this point in the affairs of the nation that the Four Minute Men began their work for the Government. The men were authorized to speak in theatres, churches and other meetings, the addresses not to exceed four minutes, upon topics announced by Government bulletins issued as often as need be, which was about every two weeks.

It was a very effective work, presenting as it did the Government's various propaganda before audiences of all kinds of people. The several speakers soon became experts in making a finished address in four minutes, and these speeches were popular and instructive features of many entertainments.

Quoting from a letter of President Wilson, dated November 29, 1918, he pays this tribute to the Four Minute Men: "It is a remarkable record of patriotic accomplishment that an organization of seventy-five thousand speakers should have carried on so extensive a work at a cost to the Government of little more than one hundred thousand dollars for the eighteen months' period—less than one dollar yearly on an individual basis."

Their activities continued for a few months after war ceased, helping in the readjustment, and they were finally discharged with certificates of honorable service.



## The Draft

The guidelines set down by the Selective Service Act required all males aged 21 to 30 to register to possibly be selected for military service. At the request of the War Department, Congress amended the law in August 1918 and expanded the age range to include all men 18 to 45, and to bar further volunteering. By the end of World War I, some two million men volunteered for various branches of the armed services, and some 2.8 million had been drafted. This meant that more than half of the almost 4.8 million Americans who served in the armed forces were drafted. Due to the effort to incite a patriotic attitude, the World War I draft had a high success rate, with fewer than 350,000 men "dodging the draft." During the war there were three registrations.

**The first on June 5, 1917**, was for all men for all men between the ages of 21 and 30.

**The second, on June 5, 1918**, registered those who attained age 21 after June 5, 1917. A supplemental registration, included in the second registration, was held on August 24, 1918, for those becoming 21 years old after June 5, 1918.

**The third registration was held on September 12, 1918**, for men age 18 through 45.

Note: There was some resistance to the draft—please see The Selective Service Act was upheld by the United States Supreme Court in the Selective Draft Law cases, 234 U.S. 366 (1918) for more information. The Solicitor General's argument, and the court's opinion, were based primarily on *Kneeder v. Lane*, 45 Pa. 238, 2532 (1863), and Vattel's 1758 treatise *The Law of Nations*.

After the signing of the armistice of November 11, 1918, the activities of the Selective Service System were rapidly curtailed. On March 31, 1919, all local, district, and medical advisory boards were closed, and on May 21, 1919, the last state headquarters closed operations. The Provost Marshall General was relieved from duty on July 15, 1919, thereby finally terminating the activities of the Selective Service System of World War I.



**First Call**

I Need You in the Navy this Minute!

Our Country will always be proudest of those who answered the **FIRST CALL**

Navy Recruiting Stations:

34 East 23rd Street New York      115 Flatbush Ave. Brooklyn

## THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

**T**HE year of 1918 was remarkably sad, not alone on account of the war, but because of an epidemic of influenza of a very virulent type which was a cause of anxiety to our soldiers, for their loved ones at home. While the actual facts were very alarming, they reached our boys through delayed correspondence and distorted rumors which made it appear much worse than it really was. At home the relatives and friends of those who were there in service were saddened for fear of this scourge which seemed to choose its victims among those in early manhood and womanhood.

In an office in Bay Shore, employing five, two, a brother and sister, died of this dread disease. At the Naval Air Station, there were many deaths. Three times in one day the band of this station, with an escort, marched to the railroad station with bodies to be sent home. There were 56 deaths from this disease in 1918 in Islip township.

All the men at the station were required to wear a muslin mask over their nose and mouths when assembled indoors—to prevent contagion.

An account of one voyage of the transport *Leviathan* will be of interest in this connection.

### THE LEVIATHAN

As the *Leviathan* transported nearly one hundred and twenty thousand men to Europe during the war, and has brought back nearly as many since, it requires no active imagination to realize that the medical department has had its hands full. The percentage of sickness bound to occur among thirteen thousand men was enough to keep nine doctors busy, and this was only a small part of their work. Sanitation on such a huge ship was in itself a problem. Samples of food and water had to be examined and accepted or rejected. Troop compartments and every nook and corner of the ship were inspected daily and a high sanitary standard maintained. Qualitative examinations of the air in the troop spaces were made at different hours of both day and night to determine the temperature, humidity and amount of carbon dioxide in these places. These observations were made the subjects of various reports and resulted in the installation of new ventilating systems and

correction of those already in operation. During threatened epidemics of infectious diseases, it was often necessary to take cultures and do other laboratory work among hundreds of men. In July, 1918, the *Leviathan* began transporting wounded men and has carried a large number of them to date. The wounded required much attention and the manner in which they have been cared for on board this vessel reflects great credit upon the medical department.

A new departure for ships of war was the Nurse Corps—the first nurses who ever did duty on a man-of-war. Their duties have been supervisory over the hospital corps and their training and experience as nurses have made them of invaluable assistance.

### THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

The following are extracts from reports of the influenza epidemic submitted to the commanding officer by Lieutenant Commander H. A. May, M. C., October 11, 1918:

There were 260 officers and 8,873 enlisted men of all grades reported as present when the ship left the dock in Hoboken. These made up the personnel of several organizations: the 323d Field Signal Corps; the 401st, 467th and 468th Engineers; the 302nd Water Tank Train, a September Automatic Replacement Draft, the 57th Pioneer Infantry, and the 73rd Medical Replacement Section. In addition there were 191 members of the 60th and 62nd Units, Army Nurse Corps.

The ship sailed on September 29. Because troop space H-8 was deemed unfit for occupancy by reason of inadequate ventilation, troops quartered there were moved on the 30th to other compartments, causing congestion in many spaces. All available bunks in the sick bay were filled by army sick before the morning of the 30th. Arrangements were then made to empty F Room, section 3, port side, containing 200 standees. These bunks were filled within a few minutes with sick men, picked up from the decks. When this space was found to be insufficient, E room, section 2, starboard side, 415 bunks, was vacated (on October 1) and the occupants sent down to H-8, regardless of improper ventilation. On October 3, the port side of E room, section 2, 463 bunks, was vacated by the army





## THE Y. W. C. A. HOSTESS HOUSES

THE original Hostess House idea was embodied at Camp Upton in a tent, but the three houses that sprang up that first winter with the mushroom rapidity peculiar to camps were barely adequate to meet the demands put upon them.

Two trains and countless taxis brought a daily flood of visitors to the camp; visitors already discouraged by the long journey from the city, and completely at a loss as to where to go next. Most of these visitors were women, and each was looking for her particular soldier, a hopeless task amid the bewildering sameness of khaki streets, buildings and men.

Here the Y. W. C. A. came to the fore, and the Hostess Houses proved oases in the desert, where information, rest and food were obtainable, and where one might wait in comparative peace while the man was located and sent for.

Sometimes he met her at the train; here again the Hostess House came in as a pleasant place to spend the day together.

Of course the wives, mothers, sweethearts, children and aged fathers were our first care and consideration, but numerous as these visitors were, it was sometimes hard to find them in the mob of soldiers that made the Hostess Houses their own. Some said the comfortable chairs were what "got" them, others were attracted by the

goodness and cheapness of the food, and some frankly admitted that they liked to see the "other fellows' folks." Like all welfare organizations, the Hostess Houses got their share of compliments. Perhaps the most frequent, as it was the most gratifying, was: "This is the nearest thing to home I've struck in—," a varying number of miles, depending on whether it was a "clam-digger" who spoke, or a "prune-picker" from the Pacific Slope.

A local volunteer usually served as a "filler-in," and in such capacity had a chance to try her hand at every sort of hostess house job. There was always plenty to be done. What with answering questions, telephoning telegrams, checking bundles, sewing on buttons, reassuring the anxious, congratulating the reunited, answering more questions, trying to find out from Mrs. Jones the number of her Johnny's regiment (having given up hope of getting the company letter), and generally making one's self agreeable, one was seldom idle. The writer has tried everything, from scooping ice cream in the cafeteria to holding the baby, and knows.

Wars have been won without hostess houses, but if they helped the people who did the winning, they did not work in vain.

E. T. W.



## THE SELECTIVE DRAFT

A Short History of Its Organization,  
Personnel, Duties and Accomplishments

By RALPH S. PULLIS

LET us first note the dates on which Congress passed the laws which governed the work of Local Boards:

On May 18th, 1917, the "Selective Service Law" was approved.

On October 6, 1917, the "War Risk Insurance Law" was approved. Amendments and additions to these laws were made on February 12th—March 8th—March 16th—April 2nd—May 9th—May 20th—June 3rd—June 25th—July 9th—11th—and August 31st, 1918.

One can readily see that the task of keeping pace with the changes in the "Rules and Regulations" was not an easy one, but one which demanded constant study and close attention.

The first Registration under this law took place on June 5th, 1917, and covered the ages from twenty-one to thirty-one (21 to 31) years.

The second, a year later, was held on two days, June 5th and August 24th, 1918—and included those who had become twenty-one years of age since the first registration.

The third one on September 12th, 1918, extended the age limits downwards to eighteen (18) years and upward to forty-five (45) years.

The task laid out by the Selective Service Law was as tremendous as it was important. Scattered throughout the breadth of the land there were organized four thousand six hundred and forty-eight (4,648) Local Boards, one hundred and fifty-five (155) District Boards and fifty-two (52) State Headquarters. These headquarters were under the guidance of the Governor through the Adjutant General.

In charge of the operations of the Selective draft was E. H. Crowder, Provost Marshal General—at Washington.

In order to save time and divide the labor, all orders went from Washington to the State Headquarters and from there were relayed to the several Boards within the state. Only in specified cases or under special conditions did the Local Board have di-

rect communication with the Provost Marshal's Office.

The district covered by our own Local Board No. 2, was a large and difficult one to handle, taking in all that territory from the Babylon Town line on the west to a line running through the village of Eastport and Manerville on the East—and from Ocean to Sound.

In many cases it was a hardship for our registrants to respond to our orders; however, it is to their credit that very few failed to respond cheerfully and willingly.

The number registering within this district was as follows: First registration, 2,698; second registration, 195; third registration, 5,423; a grand total of 8,317.

The table following shows the number of men called—rejected, accepted, etc., from this district:

Called into service.....	724
Total inducted.....	781
Accepted at camps.....	743
Rejected at camps.....	30
Rejected by cancellation of draft.	40

The apparent confliction in these figures is accounted for by inductions under "Competent Orders" where the individual made application and was allowed immediate induction, these not being included in the number "Called."

The net expenses for the Local Board during its existence were \$7,842.97, or \$10.55 for each man accepted. The per capita cost per man accepted, covering the entire country, was \$11.34. The cost per man under the Civil War Enrollment Act was \$227.71.

So much for the work accomplished and its cost. Now, let us see how this was done and by whom. But, first, the writer wants to state that he is not trying to vindicate any action taken by the Board or any of the many decisions which it made. These are all of the past, but we sincerely hope that they were right and just to all.

The original Board members for this district as appointed by Governor Whitman



were John J. Gibson, Bay Shore; Isaac G. Terry, Sayville, and Dr. B. C. Andrews of Islip, Long Island. As organized they assumed positions as Chairman, Secretary and Physician, respectively.

The Registration having taken place the real work began, numbering these 2,698 names. This meant much tedious work and volunteers, as well as the board members and their paid helpers were kept busy for some days before this was finished.

It was during this time that the writer became engaged in the work.

Our registration cards had been given their Serial number, just numbered without regard to special arrangement.

Next came the real work of assigning the Order Numbers from the Master List. The Order Number was to control and determine the order in which the persons whose registration cards were in the possession of the Local Board were liable to be called for service. But few understood how this work was done and although the principle was easy the task was a tedious and trying one.

This "Master List" was made in Washington under the direction of the Secretary of War and prepared in the following manner: Numbers from one to 10,500 were placed in a jar and drawn, one at a time. The first number drawn was placed at the top of the column, the second drawn was placed next below and this order was followed until all numbers were drawn and so placed on the list.

To properly begin our work, we took our Master List and crossed out each number which was higher than the highest Serial number on any of our registration cards.

Having 2,698 registrants, this must be our highest Serial number, so our revised Master List now contained no higher number than that.

The first number on the Master List was 258.

The second number on the Master List was 2,522.

The third number on the Master List was 9,613.

The fourth number on the Master List was 4,532.

The fifth number on the Master List was 10,218.

The sixth number on the Master List was 458.

We had no numbers 9,613, 4,532 or 10,218 and consequently these were crossed off. Our cards being filed in the order of their

Serial number we first found Serial No. 258. This number was No. 1 on the Master List, and so was assigned Serial "Order No. 1." Serial No. 2,522 being the second, was assigned Order No. 2. Having crossed out the 9,613, 4,532 and 10,218, No. 458 became Order No. 3, and so on down the list.

This sounds so easy now that it is over, but we remember well how persistently those figures would lose themselves or get into the wrong place.

And then the typewriting of our lists—Registration List—Alphabetical List—Serial List and Order List 2,698—names on each one and four (4) full copies of each!

You may be sure that this meant tired backs and eyes for the loyal girls who spent so many days at our machines. Dorothy Long, Amy King Frieman and Christine Hubbard surely did their part from early until late. It made no difference how hot or cold or how hard it rained, they were always to be depended upon.

Then came orders to begin the physical examinations and consideration of claims for exemptions. We set a date, ordering seventy-five (75) men to appear at nine o'clock in the morning and seventy-five (75) others to appear at 1.30 P. M. of the same date. Six or seven physicians having volunteered to help examine, we proceeded.

If, under the prescribed rules, the registrant was found to be physically unfit for Military Service, he was given a discharge. But, if found fit for service, he was held and then allowed to file a claim for exemption or a deferred classification. Claims were allowed under several heads, such as dependent wife—children or parents—Sailors and Mariners; Necessary workers in the Government employ; Minister; Agricultural claims as Farmers or Farm helpers, etc. All agricultural claims went to the District Board with the opinion of the Local Board, but the final decision rested with the District Board. All other claims were decided by the Local Board except in case of appeal from their decision. Our decision as to physical fitness was also subject to appeal in which case the registrant was re-examined by the Medical Advisory Board covering this district.

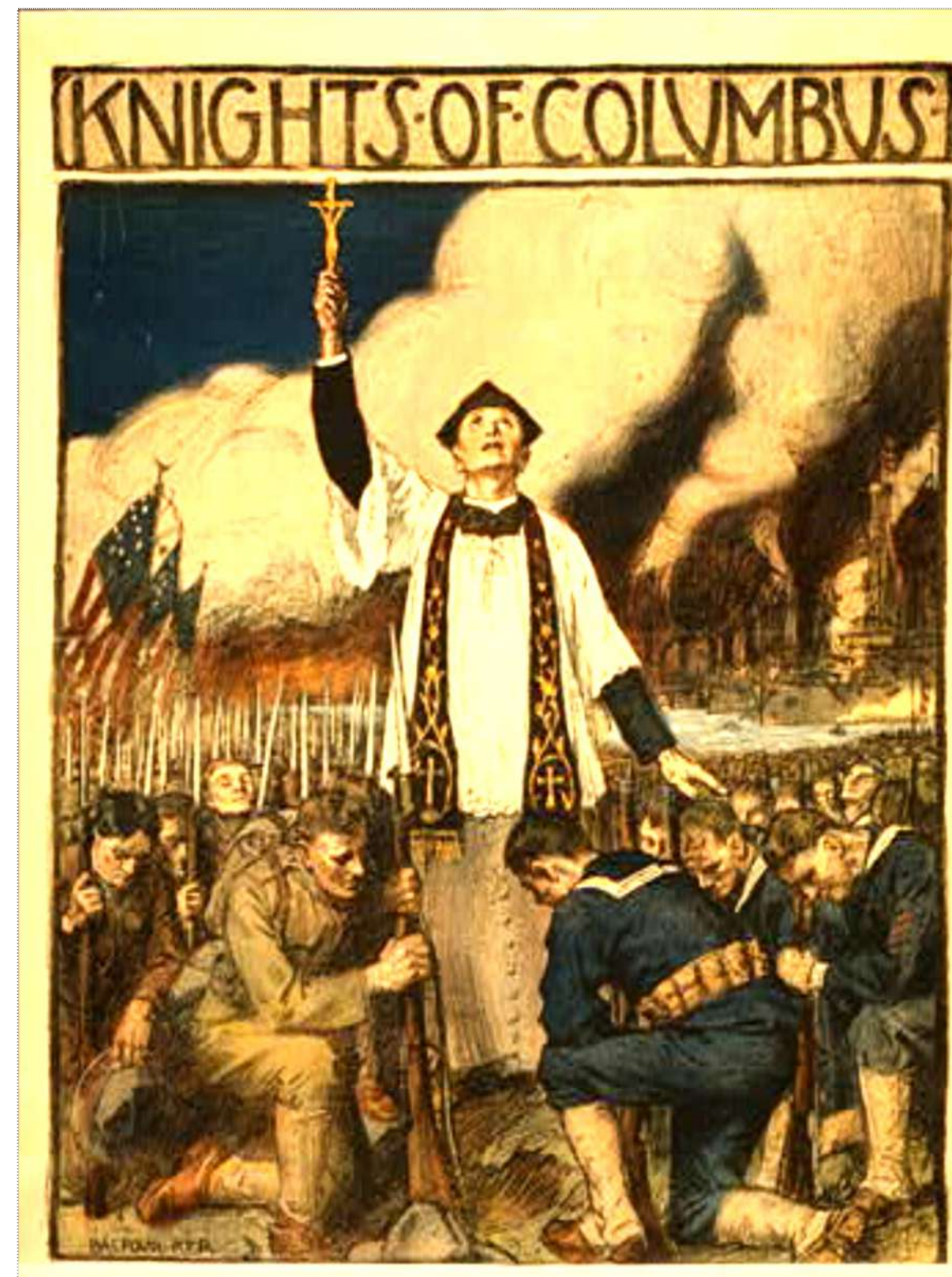
The days following these examinations were spent in considering the claims for exemption or discharge, and this was by far the most serious part of the work of the Local Board Members, a duty that could not be approached lightly or listlessly. Their decisions were to be too far reaching, for they meant the breaking up of home ties,

received highly commendatory letters from the Government's representative, also Red Cross officials, as being the one organization "on the job" and for doing everything without pay.

The recreation center was maintained until May, 1919, the activities having been brought to a close with a reception given by the Knights to the ladies of the Canteen

Service, in recognition of their untiring efforts, as unquestionably many of them had made great sacrifices in their devotion to the cause.

Penataquit Council carries thirty-one names on its Honor Roll, and the Council's work and deeds are part of the history of the activities of this great organization in the World War.





# THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

By R. A. BACHIA

IN the month of December, 1917, some 300 men, mostly from New England States, arrived at Bay Shore, to take up their required occupations at the aviation camp. The camp and barracks being in course of completion, the necessary housing quarters for such a number of sailors had not been provided for.

Realizing the peculiar situation, Penataquit Council No. 564 called at once an impromptu meeting, and appointed a committee of five to act with instructions to do everything possible to provide for the material wants of the men. In less than fourteen hours living accommodations were secured for all, a large number being lodged at the Council rooms on Second Avenue.

To provide for their recreation and enjoyment, two adjoining stores on Main Street were rented, made into one large room by the removal of partitions, and by the installation of billiard and pool tables, card tables, piano, victrola, and a full supply of writing material, the headquarters at once became a popular meeting place of the "boys," owing to the friendly atmosphere and the hearty greeting of the Knights' "everybody welcome!"

In a few months these quarters proved inadequate to the demand, and on May 1, 1918, the property of the Community Club was leased, and a secretary placed in charge. Here the Council's forces were joined for mutual co-operation by a number of ladies, prominent in Bay Shore's best social circles, who assumed the difficult task of conducting a canteen service, and furnishing food and refreshments at a nominal price. This additional service, in connection with the superior accommodations afforded by the new quarters, so attractively situated on the main thoroughfare of Long Island's south shore, added greatly to its popularity, and the generous treatment accorded all made the recreation center quickly known from coast to coast, and many a soldier and sailor found there a homelike atmosphere that greatly helped to soften their absence from their own firesides, until the query: "Have you visited the recreation center in Bay Shore?" be-

came a greeting question afterward with many in the service of Uncle Sam.

The event of the flag-raising on Independence Day, 1918, assembled the largest gathering ever held in Bay Shore. Attending was noted, Co. G, Sixth Battalion Infantry, N. Y. Guard; a large delegation of sailors from the aviation camp, in charge of their commanding officer; Red Cross representatives, Boy Scouts, etc. These, combined with over sixty ladies of the Canteen Service, attired in their attractive uniform of blue and white, made an ensemble of beauty and color, and a vivid picture that remained in the memory of all present for months afterward.

The program was arranged and conducted by the chairman of the meeting, the Rev. William J. McKenna, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, Bay Shore, a forceful orator, and addresses appropriate to the occasion were made by citizens of Bay Shore.

That the significant meaning of K. of C. activities is "get busy at once" is exemplified by the following incident: In the month of January, the transport *Northern Pacific* returning from overseas with over three thousand soldiers, a number of them wounded, ran ashore on Fire Island. Immediately after the mishap, the Major in charge asked the Knights for assistance for these men. A special committee was organized in ten minutes and an abundant supply of "smokes," chocolate and cakes sent to the shore where the soldiers were being landed; neither were those forgotten who on account of the rough sea had to remain on board. A special train of Red Cross nurses arrived at nightfall, and the K. of C. recreation center was given over to them for sleeping quarters. The day following the Knights were called on to furnish dry socks for the sick and wounded being brought ashore, and at once all the stock in town of this description was bought and given. During the day the Knights' district deputy visited the soldiers, pencil and pad in hand, taking down telegrams, night letters, and telephone messages that the "boys" desired sent to relatives or friends. Afterward the Knights

	Class	Categories (May 1917-July 1919)
I	Eligible and liable for military service	Unmarried registrants with no dependents. Married registrants with independent spouse or one or more dependent children over 16 with sufficient family income if drafted.
II	Temporarily deferred, but available for military service	Married registrants with dependent spouse or dependent children under 16 with sufficient family income if drafted.
III	Temporarily exempted, but available for military service	Local officials. Registrants who provide sole family income for dependent parents of dependent siblings under 16. Registrants employed in agricultural labor or industrial enterprises essential to the war effort.
IV	Exempted due to extreme hardship	Married registrants with dependent spouse or dependent children with insufficient family income if drafted. Registrants with deceased spouse who provide some family income for dependent children under 16. Registrants with deceased parents who provide sole family income for dependent siblings under 16.
V	Exempted or ineligible for induction into military service	State or Federal officials. Officers and enlisted men in the military or naval service of the United States. Licensed pilots employed in the pursuit of their vocation. Members of the clergy. Students who on or before May 18, 1917 had been preparing for the ministry in a recognized theological or divinity school. Registrants who were deemed either medically disabled (permanently physically or mentally unfit) or "morally unfit" for military service. Registrants shown to have been convicted of any crime designated as treason or felony, or an "infamous" crime. <a href="#">Enemy aliens</a> and <a href="#">resident aliens</a> .



the parting from father, mother, brother, sister, wife or children—or possibly all of these.

These decisions must be fair to all of these; it must be fair to the Government: If John was exempt from service, George would have to take his place; so the decision must also be fair to George.

Before this mass of work was finished, changes were made in "Rules and Regulations." New standards regarding the physical fitness of registrants were issued. This meant a review of the claims and many re-examined where physical discharges had been allowed, and it also caused much misunderstanding and disappointment among the registrants as well as added work for the board.

And now came the first break in the personnel of the board and an increase in the clerical force. Dr. Andrews retired and Dr. F. L. McCrea of Port Jefferson became the physician member and Mr. L. A. Walker of Bay Shore received appointment as clerk. Closely following these changes, Ralph S. Pullis of Bay Shore received the appointment and took the place of Mr. Gibson, resigned. The board as re-organized was now R. S. Pullis, chairman; I. G. Terry, secretary, and Dr. F. L. McCrea, physician. Mr. Walker advanced to chief clerk and Miss Christine Hubbard engaged as clerk, having up to this time been a volunteer worker.

Later, as more help was required, we were authorized to induct into the service a man from the special service list who was qualified to act in a clerical capacity, and have him assigned to duty with the board. Joseph Leek of Islip, Long Island, was chosen for this post and so we had with us a regular soldier—all but the gun. Private Leek proved to be a good soldier and companion. When he said "Positively yes," you were sure that he meant it.

Then came the much talked about "Questionnaire" and the necessary changes in rules. We now started anew by sending one to each registrant, who was required to fill out all data, make such claim as he felt applied to his particular case, make affidavit as to the truthfulness of his statements and return to us within the specified time.

All during the time in which these were being sent out, Volunteer Advisory Boards were sitting daily at specified places, in the several villages, where the registrant was advised to go in order that he might receive proper advice in filling out the answers and

making the necessary affidavits required in the Questionnaire, a Notary Public being present for that purpose.

The preparing, mailing and checking up of this work was a bigger job than one can realize, and even the boys in the postoffice were glad when it was finished. As the Questionnaires were returned they must be classified, checked on the Classification List as to dates mailed, returned, classification claimed, allowed or disallowed, physical qualifications, appeals, etc., and then filed.

Many long tedious days and nights were spent in going over these claims. Some were easy to decide on the facts and figures given, while others would have conflicting statements or lack some essential item. In some cases, the Questionnaire would be returned for further details, in others, the registrant would be ordered to appear in person.

The board was always glad to have an interview with a registrant as it allowed us to clearly show our point of view and in most cases, a registrant would leave satisfied with the final decision.

During this period of our work many amusing instances came before us, and in part counterbalanced the serious ones. It was a continuous study of human nature with its many types. Some were determined to escape service while others were just as determined to enter it, if not in one branch then in another. As an example of the latter type the following is an incident which took place:

A man with a worried expression came in the office. "My name is Guy ———; I heard that you are looking for me." He was told that he should have been examined on a certain date, but failing to appear as ordered he was now recorded as a delinquent. Now that he was there, we would examine him and no harm was done—but should he prove to be physically qualified he would be sent direct to camp. After his examination, he came to the writer, all smiles and his eyes shining. I remarked that I guessed he had been turned down. "Why," he said, "I am the happiest man in the world. The doctor says that I'm in fine shape. Can I go to camp in the morning? If so, I'll be here." Some time after he had been in camp I met him. He said that he liked it fine! "Oh, I put it over on you people." "Why—how?" I asked. "Why, I tried to get into the 73rd but was turned down. Then I registered with you fellows

## THE PATRIOTIC GARDENERS

By MRS. IRVING J. LONG

WITHIN a few weeks after the United States declared war with Germany, under the direction and leadership of Mrs. Henry Nickle (Miss Virginia Norden) of Brightwaters and Mrs. Irving J. Long of Bay Shore, an organization of women and girls, numbering about one hundred, was formed. They ranged in age from middle life down to seven years.

J. Sheridan Linn, then Principal of the Bay Shore Public Schools, suggested the name, Patriotic Gardeners,, which was adopted, because it had been planned to raise potatoes and beans to answer the Government call for all possible production of food.

The activities of this organization included not only the planting, cultivating, digging and gathering of potatoes and beans, giving to families of service men and selling said products at various conditions required, but methods for raising money for many needs were adopted as time went on, such as giving brilliant entertainments by home talent, etc. The Gardeners presented

every man, volunteer or drafted, going from the town of Islip, with small kits of toilet articles and smokes. They took those leaving Exemption Board, No. 2, to Camp Upton in cars loaned by citizens of Bay Shore, Brightwaters and Islip, stopping en route at Roe's Hotel, Patchogue for luncheon, paid for from the Gardeners' fund. They corresponded with the boys when occasion required, even while those boys were in France; when their families needed Red Cross assistance, such cases were properly reported, an office and secretary were kept for such purposes. They helped at the local canteen; marched in parades; took charge of the Women's Committee of all but the first Liberty Bond drive, helping to put Bay Shore's quota over the top each time, maintaining a booth for the purpose.

Finally, through the suggestion of the leaders, the movement was started for the erection of the Memorial building in Bay Shore, and their last \$300 was turned over toward the purchase of the bronze tablet on which are the names of the boys who left all to do their bit.





quota of production"—words applicable not only to the workroom and home output of knitting, sewing, and surgical dressings, but also to its share in all special committee work cheerfully, ably, and self-sacrificingly performed in the war fund campaigns, membership drives, old clothes drives, linen showers, and very especially in the influenza epidemic. To the Committee on Influenza the History of South Suffolk County Chapter, A. R. C., pays this tribute:

"The committee worked most effectively in coöperation with the town health authorities in checking the spread of the dreaded influenza. Motor cars were pressed into service day and night for the transportation of nurses and doctors, and to take the patients to the hospitals. A special food service was inaugurated which provided the sick with broths, fresh eggs, milk, and other necessities, practically all of which was contributed by residents. Very often the acts of those on the committee, or those volunteering their services under its direction, entailed distinct personal sacrifice and, in some instances, dangerous exposure. Too much cannot be said in their praise."

Then there was the many-angled and far-reaching work of the Home Service Department, of whose personnel it likewise may be claimed that "too much cannot be said in their praise." Also Junior Activities made a proud and praiseworthy showing under zealous and patient guidance. But it was in disaster and relief that Islip Township individualized its Red Cross work for a third time—the first rural Chapter in the State of New York, the first District Nursing Service in connection with the American Red Cross, and the first to be appealed to for aid in a marine disaster that made a nation mourn.

In the early morning of New Year's Day, 1919, there came from the U. S. Naval Air Station at Bay Shore to the local branch of the Red Cross this appalling and imperative message: "The United States Transport *Northern Pacific* has gone aground off Fire Island beach with five thousand soldiers, mostly wounded, to be debarked through Bay Shore. Put in motion every relief agency from Babylon to Islip."

Though a later message reduced the number aboard by half, the proportion of wounded and the desperate nature of some of the wounds were perhaps not again equaled on any home-bringing vessel during the remainder of the war.

The response to this appeal was instant and coördinated. The local canteen volun-

teered its quarters and entire working force and equipment. A volunteer motor corps was organized. Volunteer beds and cots in private homes were listed, and food supplies promised. A bureau of information was kept open for long-distance inquiries, sane and otherwise, and shelves of workrooms were emptied of sweaters, socks, and whatever could ameliorate conditions on a blizzard-swept coast, while oil-stoves and hot-water bottles were collected in a bewildering mass.

Unquestionably the community arose to the occasion, but the Red Cross is not a localized organization, and the New York County Chapter rushed out a trainload of experts and professionals, a motor corps intact, and hospital and kitchen with everything but a roof, and thenceforth local preparations were utilized mainly in caring for the visitors and facilitating their work. To quote again from the History of the South Suffolk County Chapter, A. R. C.: "The work of the (local) Red Cross on this occasion was officially recognized by Admiral Usher in a letter to the Chapter, and by Captain R. W. C. Francis, M.C., in his report to the surgeon of the Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, N. J."

In the meantime debarkation through Bay Shore had been discontinued because of the weather, hardships to the wounded, and the discovery that the transport was a safe refuge till all could be transferred to other steamers and the journey completed by water.

The tragic incident gave a new impetus to Red Cross work, and the Armistice found this community a type of the entire nation which was "carrying on" at a pace that was enough in itself to break the morale of a frugal and efficient enemy. Will any but a dollar-mark posterity cavil at our Government's having made a Niagara of money instead of blood to sweep into its whirlpool the forces of destruction which an outraged world was striving to dam, daze, and exhaust?

Man seems slow and hesitant about beating cannon into ploughshare and pruning-hook, but women have turned the Red Cross apron into a badge of home service varied, unfamiliar, and psychologically ennobled through association with a time when the measure of a "lady" was what she could and not what she could not do.

#### STATISTICS OF PRODUCTION

Hospital Garments	Surgical Dressings	Knitted Articles	Refugee Garments	Miscellaneous Articles
19,807	211,233	11,278	3,165	3,048

and gave my age as thirty. I didn't have to, for I am past thirty-three."

I received a nice letter from him since his return. He is settled in the West and doing well.

There were more of the opposite type, but still not a very great number.

One had lately lost the index finger of his right hand. He was sent to camp but came back in a couple of days with a "physical discharge." But he went back later and stayed.

One claimed the support of a widowed mother who needed him on the farm. He had three or four brothers also on the farm, all older and outside the draft age. We couldn't allow the dependent claim and the District Board denied the agricultural claim. A few days later he came back with an unrecorded deed, dated the previous day. His mother had made out that deed so he could file a claim as "Necessary Farm Owner." He went to camp.

And then the young fellow who claimed a dependent wife and children, paid house rent, etc. Everything seemed straight, so we allowed the claim. A few days after the father-in-law came in and said that he had been supporting his daughter and her children for the past year; that — was living with his people and had given his wife absolutely nothing. Necessarily, we reversed our former decision and William went into the service, assigning one-half of his wages and the allotment to the wife.

One must not think that this constituted the entire work, for all during this time we were sending men to camp under the different calls. The regular calls sent men to Camp Upton in groups of from 15 to 90 or 95 men. Special service calls took smaller groups to Pelham Bay, New York. Competent orders took individuals to various camps in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Florida, Texas, and some of the Western States. And later students were inducted into service and assigned to certain colleges to complete studies in special branches.

In sending these men to camp, the government through the Local Boards provided railroad fare, and where the trip was a long one sleeping cars and meal tickets as well.

And here let us record the thoughtfulness and loyalty shown by those ever ready groups of women and girls, the "Patriotic Gardeners" and the Red Cross. On entertainment days, they were sure to be on hand and with a "kit" for every man. In addition there were enough autos to take the men to Camp Upton—a "Gardener" in

every car, for company, and a stop-over for sandwiches and coffee at Patchogue which helped break the monotony of the trip.

These were gala days and will long be remembered by the boys who went. As our auto train of 25 or 30 cars picked its way into camp, one would frequently hear an officer remark: "Some lucky boys!"

But too much space must not be given to this line of thought.

Later came the second registration, on June 5th and August 24th, 1918. On these days, all who had become twenty-one years of age since June 5th, 1917, were required to register at either the headquarters in Bay Shore or Patchogue or Sayville or Port Jefferson.

The same system of numbering and listing took place for these new ones.

And then came the big registration of September 12th. Plans for this were of necessity made well in advance, and provision was made for a registration place to be opened in every election district within our jurisdiction.

At least two registrars had to be sworn in for each place. Each village and hamlet had to be canvassed for competent people who would volunteer to do this work. Then, too, cards, instructions, etc., had to be distributed.

The big day finally came and we soon found that everywhere the number of registrants would exceed the estimated number for which provision had been made. Soon word came that Islip would need more cards. Then Bellport telephoned that they wouldn't have any cards left by noon. We started off in a mad rush to supply those who were getting short. But it kept getting worse. Babylon headquarters wanted help, and when told of our condition said they were going to call on Supply Headquarters in New York to send a messenger out with some. Then a few minutes later Babylon said that there were plenty of cards in New York, but all messengers were out delivering, for everywhere the same condition existed.

Right on time, as usual, were Amy and Christine. "Give me an order," said Amy. "Christine can take me to Babylon in the car. I can catch the train from there and be back on the 2:30." And she did.

Then we started out on the road again—no limit for speed, except the power of our volunteer car and an able driver.

A stop at each one of the booths from Bay Shore to Eastport and Manorville and up



to Brentwood, Central Islip and Bohemia. Some ride! Hutton was too young for the service but he surely could drive a car!

Then after six o'clock we had to gather up the returns.

This had been a hard day for the Doctor, too, for he had been back and forth over the north and middle sections of the district, but fortunately they had plenty of cards.

At nine o'clock we were back at headquarters with all returns in, and by working until 3 A. M. had everything in shape for our volunteer army to start to work in the morning.

Again came the numbering and listing and a new Master List to be fought with. And more Questionnaires, and more weary days and nights. Always the same old thing—but at times interwoven with something to change the monotony a little.

And so our work went on until suddenly one day an unusual noise and then another, and some more—then a bell started to ring. Someone said that the war was over; then the fire alarm started and work stopped—it just had to.

But you will remember that it was a false report and so the next morning we again started the grind and continued until November 11th, when the noise came again.

Following this date, orders came thick and fast: "From a certain date, stop this or that." "Start with a certain date and do this, completing at the earliest possible moment and report"—etc., etc.

The pride, the sorrow, the sacrifice and the patriotism of the entire nation were contained within the records of the Local Boards. These records must be preserved, for they contain a record of the Nation's man power and a valuable accumulation of data upon the physical, economic and industrial condition of our people which would be of much value to the physicians and historians of the future.

And so we arranged our records in accordance with instructions crated and shipped them to Washington March 31, 1919, and the Local Board No. 2 of Suffolk County ceased to exist, except in memory.

This book is intended to be a record of the accomplishments attained by our local representatives in and during the great emergency—a book that will go into the homes of those who were most vitally interested, our Soldier and our Sailor. But the writer of this section feels that it would not be amiss to add a few of the national accomplishments, figures and records, that have not been available to the general pub-

lic for the reason of their being given out only in the vast government reports.

The following are the official figures of the results of the three registrations:

Registration	Age Limits	Total Registered	Inducted	Per Cent
First and second..	21 to 31	10,679,814	2,666,867	25
Third .....	18 to 20			
Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico ....	32 to 45	13,228,762	120,157	1
	18 to 45	325,445	23,272	7
Totals .....		24,234,021	2,810,296	12

Our total male population was about fifty-four million (54,000,000). The first registration, 18 per cent; the second registration, 2 per cent; the third registration, 25 per cent; in service, not registered, 3 per cent; 48 per cent, or about 26,000,000 of the entire male population in service or registered.

From the total registration of 24,234,021 men, a few more than 2,800,000 were inducted into military service.

When war was declared, there were two hundred thousand (200,000) men in the army, of which two-thirds were regulars and one-third National Guardsmen. When war was ended, this force had increased to twenty times its size and four million (4,000,000) had served.

Of every hundred men in service ten were National Guardsmen, thirteen were Regulars, and seventy-seven belonged to the National Army, or would have if these services had not been consolidated and these distinctions wiped out.

Two out of every three American soldiers who reached France took part in battle. The number who reached France was two million, eighty-four thousand (2,084,000), and of these one million, three hundred and ninety thousand (1,390,000) saw active service at the front.

From the middle of August until the end of the war the American Divisions held during the greater part of the time a front longer than was held by the British. In October, the American divisions held 101 miles of line, or 23 per cent of the entire Western front.

In the Battle of St. Mihiel five hundred and fifty thousand (550,000) Americans were engaged, as compared with about 100,000 on the Northern side in the Battle of Gettysburg. The artillery fired more than one million (1,000,000) shells in four hours, which is the most intense concentration of artillery fire recorded in history.

At the time of signing the armistice, the Signal Corps was operating 282 telephone

# RED CROSS RECORD OF ISLIP TOWNSHIP

From 1905 to 1919

By FRANCES PUSEY GOOCH

THE response of America's women to the call of the Red Cross refutes for all time the amazing declaration that the United States entered the World War from motives of fear and selfishness.

As the maternal pulse reflects embryonic vitality so did this response of American mothers, wives, sisters, daughters and sweethearts foreshadow the heroes and martyrs, military, naval and civilian, to be born in the travail of our country's effort to help save civilization.

Statistics of Islip Township's Red Cross contribution to that stupendous and multi-form effort are commonplace relative in kind and amount, but they serve as a local barometer by which to gage the storm of emotion that brewed and broke over our land from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from Canada to the Gulf, washing from cleansable minds any belief that American manhood and womanhood, in the fateful year of 1917, reacted to other than instincts of righteousness and humanity.

While local work was but an infinitesimal part of a marvelous whole, there were individualizing features in connection with the Red Cross branches of Islip Township that make pages worthy of community history.

In the year 1905 Mrs. L. K. Wilmerding and a few other women of vision organized the Islip Township Chapter of the American Red Cross, thus providing a nucleus for the South Suffolk County Chapter when the needs of 1917 made Red Cross work everybody's "bit" instead of the benevolence of the earnest few. Furthermore, it served as a training camp of preparedness and inspiration for the women who were to officer, in coöperation with patriotic men, the larger organization.

The Islip Township Chapter—embracing the villages of Islip, Bay Shore, Brightwaters, Brentwood, Central Islip, Great River and Sayville, and covering the years 1905-17—had the twofold distinction of being the first rural Chapter formed in the State of New York and of originating the idea of employing a District Visiting Nurse as a Red Cross activity. With commendation and permission from National Headquarters, the Islip Nursing Service

was established in 1909 and four years later served as model for the Town and County Nursing Service of the American Red Cross. Whether or not it subsequently suggested the Department of Nursing and Teaching among the varied and ever-increasing Red Cross activities, it assuredly lighted the way for those who struggled through the dark year of the influenza with whatever of semi- and non-professional service was available.

When, in July of 1917, the smaller Chapter was consolidated with other similar organizations to form the South Suffolk County Chapter, with headquarters at Islip, there was a goodly company of veterans, equipped and uniformed literally cap-a-pie, to "carry on" in rented, donated or commandeered quarters even more zealously and resultfully than they had been doing in church parlors and the beautiful homes of patriotic women. No longer was there a foreign-missionary atmosphere in the workrooms or a feeling of detachment in minds beneath the headdress and hearts beneath the apron of Red Cross insignia. Boys were going out from homes humble and homes palatial, and women were coming together in the workroom from homes running a like gamut from poverty to wealth, hearing in the bugle-call to service a note new to many and to others dimly reminiscent of music that heralded Him who taught the brotherhood and sisterhood of humanity. Statistics of almost incredible magnitude reveal the Martha side of American womanhood during those tense two years, but the Mary side also developed and, appearances all too many to the contrary, retained much of the character-building wrought by the leveling process of universal service in which mountains of false pride were laid low and valleys of false humility uplifted.

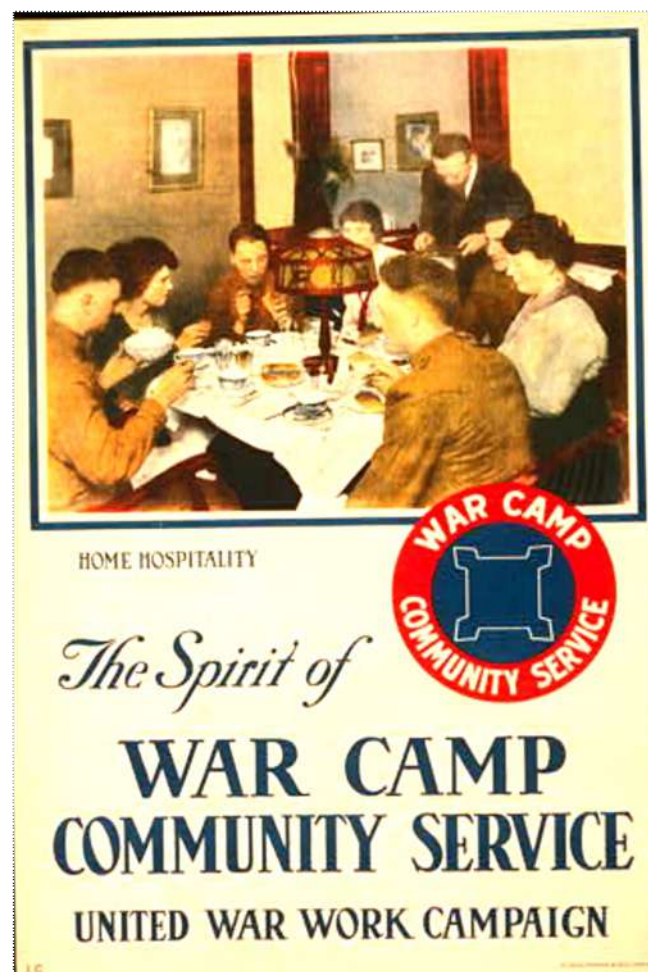
Only approximately can the part Islip Township played in the general war activities of the South Suffolk County Chapter be separated from the massed statistics of a territory covering almost three hundred square miles; but, in the words of the Chapter's historians, the township also "prides itself upon having never failed to meet a call for work or fallen short of its



## War Camp Community Service (WCCS)

This war-time service organization grew out of another pre-war organization. The Playground Association of America (PAA). This group was formed in Washington, D.D., by a group of middle- and upper-class citizens who were active in the progressive movement. The PPA's mission statement was that "inasmuch as play under proper conditions is essential to the health and the physical, social, and moral well-being of the child of the child, playgrounds are a necessity for all children." How in the world did an organization that was dedicated to the establishment of playgrounds for children wind up providing amusements and recreation for adult servicemen? The organization felt that it was just as important to provide similar services for adults.

As camps were established the WCCS set up booths to give off-duty servicemen directions to libraries, gymnasiums, and other "better sources of entertainment." It was the WCCS's goal to better servicemen, "Through recreation and social gathering," was an outgrowth of the liberal culture of the PAA. As they became more organized they worked to hold community dances and dinners for both citizens and soldiers to promote unity and camaraderie. The organization also sponsored citizen and soldier sport leagues, building swimming pools, and patriotic song rallies. They also organized what we could call "mixers," where the soldiers could meet proper young women "without impropriety." According to a leader of the PAA movement, Mr. Joseph Lee, "Our soldiers and sailors will seek and find female society in any case. The War Camp Community Service has provided, for the first time in history, that they shall find it in a form that does them no harm but indefinite good." The main purpose was to provide "wholesome surroundings, relationships and community," and they did just that at Bay Shore, West Sayville and at Yaphank, connecting servicemen and the community – Islip Town was part of the effort!



exchanges and 133 complete telegraph stations. The telephone lines numbered 14,956 reaching 8959 stations. More than 100,000 miles of wire had been strung. The peak load of operation reached was 47,555 telegrams a day, averaging 60 words each.

The highest troop carrying records are those of July, 1918, when 306,000 soldiers were carried to Europe, and June, 1919, when 364,000 were brought home to America.

During our nineteen months of war more than 2,000,000 American soldiers were carried to France. Half a million of these went over in the first thirteen months and a million and a half in the last six months. See table, page 151.

The American cargo fleet reached the size of 2,700,000 dead-weight tons and carried to Europe about 7,500,000 tons of cargo. Included in the cargo shipment were 26,994 standard-gauge freight cars, and 1,791 locomotives of the 100-ton type. Of these, 650 were shipped set up on their own wheels, so that they could be unloaded on the tracks and run off under their own steam. Shipment of set-up locomotives of this size had never been made before. Motor trucks to the number of 47,018, and when fighting ceased were being shipped at the rate of 10,000 a month. There were also shipped 68,694 horses and mules, and at the cessation of hostilities these were being sent over at the rate of 20,000 per month.

Our cargo ships averaged one complete trip every seventy (70) days and our troop ships one complete trip every thirty-five days.

The greatest troop carrier among all the ships was the Leviathan, which landed 12,000 men, or the equivalent of a German Division in France every month.

The fastest transports were the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific, which made complete turn-arounds, taking on new troops and starting back again, in nineteen (19) days.

Of every one hundred American Soldiers and Sailors who served in the war with Germany, two were killed or died of disease during the period of hostilities. For every man killed in battle, six were wounded. Five out of every six men sent to the hospitals on account of wounds were cured and returned to duty.

Pneumonia killed more soldiers than were killed in battle.

The number of American lives lost was 125,500.

Russian battle deaths were thirty-four (34) times as heavy as those of the United States, those of Germany thirty-two (32) times as great, the French twenty-eight (28) times, and the British eighteen (18) times.

The total battle deaths of all nations in the war were greater than all the deaths in all the wars in the previous hundred years.

"The stream of supplies going forward to an army may be likened to the water delivered against a fire by an old-fashioned bucket brigade. For every painful thrown on the fire there must be many that have been taken from the source of supply and are on the way."

The following list is of the total deliveries during the war of some of the common articles of clothing—the total cost of which was more than \$1,000,000,000:

Wool Stockings, pairs.....	131,800,000
Undershirts .....	85,000,000
Underdrawers .....	83,600,000
Shoes .....	30,700,000
Flannel Shirts .....	26,500,000
Blankets .....	21,700,000
Wool Breeches .....	21,700,000
Wool Coats .....	13,900,000
Overcoats .....	8,300,000

The Quartermaster's records show that during the hard fighting from June to November, the enlisted man in the A. E. F. received on the average: Slicker and overcoat every five months; blanket, flannel shirt and breeches every two months; coat every 79 days; shoes and puttees every fifty-one days; drawers and undershirt every thirty-four days; woolen socks every twenty-three days.

The war cost the United States considerably more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) an hour for over two years.

The direct cost was about \$22,000,000,000, or nearly enough to pay the entire cost of running the United States Government from 1791 up to the outbreak of the European war.

Our expenditures in this war were sufficient to have carried on the Revolutionary War continuously for more than 1,000 years



at the rate of expenditure which that war actually cost.

During the first three months our expense was at the rate of \$2,000,000 per day. During the next year, it averaged more than \$22,000,000 a day. For the final ten months of the period from April, 1917, to April, 1919, the daily average was over \$44,000,000.

The army expenditures were less than

two-thirds of our total war costs, but they are nearly equal to the value of all the gold produced in the whole world from the discovery of America up to the outbreak of the European war.

The total war costs of all nations were about \$186,000,000,000 (one hundred and eighty-six billions), of which the Allies and the United States spent two-thirds and the enemy one-third.

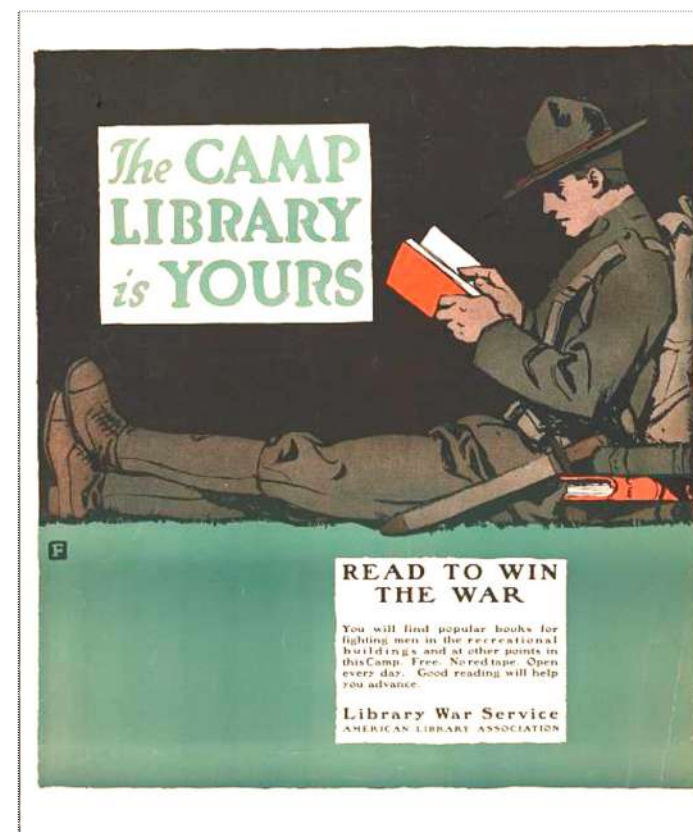


Members of the Board and Examining Physicians Seated. From Left to Right—Isaac G. Terry, John J. Gibson, Chairman; Dr. B. C. Andrews, Dr. Frank C. Overton, Dr. W. P. Kolb, Dr. F. S. Squire, Dr. Guy H. Funell, Examining Physicians. Dr. Charles P. Frieman, Dentist. Ralph S. Pullis, Clerk of the Board Late Succeeding John J. Gibson as Chairman. Clerks Standing.

## Civilian Service Agencies

As in previous times of war, it was civilian organizations that provided comfort, morale boosting activities and touches of home for the service members. Many of these wartime organizations were offshoots of peacetime service organizations and some were offshoots of organizations that would not appear to have a great deal to do with war-related work. These two organizations represented by the two posters are examples of the efforts made by all Americans when war broke out. During this time the citizens of the Town of Islip contributed to the efforts of the two organizations named here as well as those of the more well-known groups such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army, YM & YWCAs.

### United War Work Campaign



### Library War Service

The American Library Association formed an organization named the "Library War Service," immediately upon the entry of the United States into the war in 1917. Headed by the Librarian of Congress, M. Herbert Putnam the service lasted until 1919. The public was asked to contribute money to allow the Library War Service to provide acceptable reading materials to combat the boredom and temptations being away from family and community. These materials and reading rooms were available in camps stateside and overseas.

