

RED CROSS CALLED ON TO CONTINUE ITS WORK INDEFINITELY

CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES WILL BE CENTERS IN EACH COMMUNITY FOR GIVING AID TO DISTRESSED HUMANITY.

ACTIVITIES NOT CURTAILED

Membership Campaign Each Christmas Will Be Means of Calling Americans Together to Show Spirit of Love.

Henry P. Davison, Chairman of the War Council of the Red Cross, has issued to the 3,854 chapters and the 22,000,000 members of the American Red Cross the following statement outlining the future policy of the American Red Cross:

"The whole American people will be invited in the week preceding Christmas to enroll as members of the Red Cross. It is confidently believed there will be no further campaigns for Red Cross funds, but instead the annual roll call will constitute the foundation of the Red Cross. The people should therefore know as definitely as possible the plans of this their national humanitarian society.

"Since the armistice was signed I have had an opportunity to confer in Paris with the heads of all American Red Cross commissions in Europe, and later, in Washington, with the President of the United States, the War Council of the Red Cross, the managers of the 14 Red Cross divisions of the United States and with the heads of our departments at national headquarters. I am, therefore, able to speak now with knowledge and assurance in saying that the beneficent work of the American Red Cross is to go forward on a great scale—not alone, as heretofore, for purposes of relief of war, but as an agency of peace and permanent human service.

"Since America's entry into war the purpose of our Red Cross has been primarily to aid our army and navy in the care of our own men under arms, and, secondly, to extend relief to the soldiers, sailors and civilians of those nations which were fighting our battles along with their own. With the funds which have been so generously contributed by the American people this war work of the Red Cross will continue and be complete with all possible sympathy and energy.

"Wherever our soldiers and sailors may be, the Red Cross will stay with them until they are demobilized. Nothing which we may do will be left undone, either. For the men in the war zone, for those returning, for those in the camps and hospitals or for their families at home the Red Cross will continue its ministrations. In this latter effort 50,000 trained Red Cross workers are now engaged at 2,500 different places throughout the land.

"The problems of reconstruction, involving feeding and caring for the distressed civilian population of Europe, are of such magnitude that necessarily they must be met very largely by the governments of our allies, with whom our own government will co-operate.

"The great task of fighting tuberculosis, promoting child welfare and caring for refugees, with which the American Red Cross has concerned itself so effectively in France, Italy and Belgium, will at an early date be assumed by the governments, the Red Cross organizations and the relief societies of those countries, which, now that they are released from the terrific burden of waging war, naturally desire to take care, as far as they can, of their own people.

"The war program of the American Red Cross will thus steadily and rapidly merge itself into a peace program. The wake of war will, however, reveal the prevalence of disease and give rise to epidemics and emergencies which in all parts of the world will call for unlimited voluntary effort, the cutting of red tape and the manifestation of those qualities of human sympathy which government action cannot display.

"Here will be the opportunity for the American Red Cross. But even our Red Cross must not and cannot act most effectively alone; we must labor in co-operation with the National Red Cross and relief societies of other nations, to the end that not alone the heart of America but the heart of all mankind may be mobilized on behalf of suffering humanity.

"While, therefore, the plans of the American Red Cross in this direction cannot be formulated specifically, in advance of the general relief program of the Allied governments, the American Red Cross is nevertheless planning to develop its permanent organization in this country upon a scale never before contemplated in time of peace.

"The commissions which are now conducting the activities of the American Red Cross in foreign countries, as well as the temporary war organization in this country, will as a matter of course ultimately merge their energies with those of the permanent organization of the Red Cross.

"With the war has developed the striking and important fact that many men and women, some of whom have met with great success in devoting their lives entirely to business, came into the Red Cross organization at the outset of the war simply that they

might serve their country, but have realized such a satisfaction to themselves in the opportunity to serve mankind that they now desire to become a part of the permanent peace organization of the American Red Cross.

"There may, therefore, be perfect confidence that the peace activities of the Red Cross will be conducted under able and inspiring leadership. The chapters will maintain their organizations upon a scale adequate to the new demands to be made upon them. Local committees will indeed appreciate more and more the value of having in their midst strong and efficient Red Cross Chapters. The divisional organizations, with honorary and permanent staffs, will be maintained, always ready for service, and national headquarters will have a large and efficient personnel to direct the activities of the organization as a whole.

"Study is being given by the national organization not alone to problems of international relief, but to plans in this country for enlarged home service, the promotion of public health education, development of nursing, the care and prevention of accidents, and other correlated lines which may contribute to the health and happiness of men, women and children. Such plans, when developed, will, it is believed, provide both for world relief and for home community service and thus constitute a channel for the continued and useful expression by Red Cross workers and members of those qualities of sympathy and love which our whole people have poured out so unstintedly during this war.

"For the completion of its war work and for the institution of its peace program, the Red Cross is fortunately in a healthy financial condition. Abundant occasion for the use of large funds of money and great quantities of garments and other supplies will continue to arise, but it is believed that there will be no further need for intensive campaigns for funds. The work of supplementing governmental activities which the Red Cross will be called upon to do in all parts of the world will be upon a great scale, but it will call for human service rather than for large expenditures.

"What the American Red Cross needs now is not so much contributions of money as the continued devotion and loyalty of its members. This is peculiarly true at this moment of transition from war to peace. Annual membership involves the payment of only one dollar. The money thus received not only defray all the administrative expenses of the organization, but will leave it a substantial balance which, together with all funds subscribed directly for relief, is devoted solely to that purpose.

"The roll call of the nation is thus to be called at Christmas time, that through enrollment in their Red Cross the American people may send a message to our soldiers still overseas and to the people of the world that we are not merely content with seeing our arms united with our allies in victory, but that our abiding purpose is that the love, the sympathy and the intelligence of all America shall be rededicated to the permanent service of mankind."

RED CROSS IN THIS DIVISION ALWAYS HAS SET THE PACE

Simmons, Pointing to Remarkable Record, Says He Hopes People in This Section Will Maintain Place in Front.

George W. Simmons, manager for the Southwestern Division of the American Red Cross, in a statement given out today said that he hoped the Southwestern Division would continue to set the pace in Red Cross activities.

"In the past we have compelled the other Red Cross divisions to follow us, and I hope we will be able to say that we have an unbroken record as the leading division of the country when the calling of the roll is completed," said Mr. Simmons.

"The people of Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma have in the past nobly responded to all the calls of the Red Cross, and in this membership campaign to be held during the week of Dec. 15-23 I hope the response will be similar to that in the past.

"Will it not be a great achievement if every resident of the division joins the organization? It will mean that for all time we can point to the five states as being 100 per cent loyal to its promises and pledges in both war and peace.

"The Red Cross must continue to give comfort and cheer to the soldiers and sailors overseas and those in the camps in America.

"While the Red Cross will continue to aid the stricken of Europe, we must not neglect preparation for the care of our own people should an emergency arise.

"The women of the five states have given their time to making surgical dressings, refugee garments and to knitting thousands of articles given soldiers and sailors and the poor of Europe by the organization, and to fail to answer the roll call at this time would reflect on their generous efforts.

"It does not appear necessary for me, as manager of this great institution in this great division, to appeal to the people in this division to join, because I feel convinced they will respond. I merely ask that the loyal supporters of the organization—the men, women and children who have made the work of the Red Cross possible—set forth the facts to their friends, so that when the membership campaign period is over we can call to the attention of the world that every resident of Missouri, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma is a member of America's greatest institution."

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1907	135,846.71
1908	142,413.20
1909	553,345.20
1910	607,890.23
1911	785,133.57
1912	1,008,666.37
1913	1,187,604.25
1914	1,287,124.62
1915	1,330,527.87
1916	1,412,686.06
1917	1,667,344.98
June 28, 1918	1,676,749.79

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