

The Salvage of Human Lives

ARTICLE SEVEN
(Prepared by the Association of the Children's Aid Societies of the Province of Ontario.)

We have traced during the course of this series just what are the statutory duties, responsibilities and day-to-day work of your Children's Aid Society. The Society has very definite obligations to fulfill under the Children's Protection Act, the Unmarried-Parents Act and the Adoption Act. Neither must it be forgotten that the Society has a very close relationship to a Juvenile or Family Court. Unfortunately, such courts for the hearing and disposition of cases of juvenile delinquency are not widely established in Ontario and we can generally find that where these have been established it has been the Children's Aid Society that has created the public opinion which has brought them into being and thereafter cooperated in developing and maintaining them. As in Norfolk and Oxford Counties, where such courts have been established comparatively recently, it has been the strong body of public opinion interested in and informed of the work of the Children's Aid Society that has won the need and proved it home. Many other areas are awaiting similar action and we may be sure this will not come until groups of men and women bristled themselves.

Where there is a close relationship between the Society and the Juvenile Court many a youthful offender who otherwise would be committed to the care of the Society, while on probation. The results of this policy are inspiring. The boy or girl comes under the sympathetic and trained care of social workers trained in child psychology. A specially selected foster home, experienced in handling wayward adolescents, is provided and hundreds of cases testify to the justification of this humane policy and the need for its extended application in Ontario. As Mr. E. W. Heise, Superintendent of the Children's Aid Branch at Queen's Park and now acting Deputy Minister of Welfare said recently: "It is astounding that the type of boys committed to Bowmanville (the Boy's reformatory which was closed shortly after the outbreak of war) varied as greatly as it did. It was also astounding that the authorities were able to empty Bowmanville and place its boys in foster homes when it had to do so. The percentage of success presented me immediately with the question: "Why were some of these

boys sent to Bowmanville, if when placed in foster homes — many of them after only a few days stay in the institution — the change met with such success?"

There can only be one answer to Mr. Heise's question. There were not sufficient communities with a strong enough body of thoughtful, concerned public opinion interested in this phase of the work of their Children's Aid Society. This is a challenge to every Society in the Province. And let us never forget that no Society can be as strong as it should be unless it has sympathetic, active, progressive-minded men and women on its board and committees and among its membership.

Within the past few years The Norfolk County Society extended in a direction which might well be followed by other Societies in communities lacking a Family Service Bureau. The Norfolk County Society established its own Family Welfare Committee, realizing, as it did, that behind the problem of the child is always the problem of the home and family. Someone once asked: "When should the training of the child begin?" And the answer came back: "A hundred years before it is born." Which is one way of saying that it should begin with his grandparents. Many a home is salvaged, many a low family standard is raised, many family problems are solved which otherwise would land children in juvenile court, or in wards of the Children's Aid Society because a sympathetic, trained and experienced social worker has become guide, philosopher and friend.

Mr. Heise must be quoted again: "If the Children's Aid Society is to be a living, vital organization, it must look ahead and plan and be prepared to experiment. We can only do this if large groups of individuals in every community are interested and support every phase of our child work. We cannot have a complete organization otherwise. The day has long passed when the Children's Aid Society can be looked on as that charitable organization that gives the poor child something — not much more, sometimes — than it can get in its own home. It must now fulfil its function as a community child-welfare organization and as an over-all community project. It should have the interest of every organized group in the community and if there is one group not interested it behooves someone to see it is represented."

There are fifty-two Children's Aid Societies in Ontario. There is one in your community. How much do you know about it? Have you helped it in its work? Has your club or church group indicated a desire to do something to make it a stronger Society, fulfilling every function that would

help to get at the roots of the entangled social problems which lead to blighted, impoverished unhappy lives of children?

In the next and concluding article will be shown what one Children's Aid Society did to re-establish and bring happiness and security to one family that might have seemed, at first sight, an impossible problem. Seven future Canadian citizens' lives were rescued because a community through its Society, provided the help.

Canada Approved Bread Lacks Sufficient Riboflavin

In a feeding experiment on white rats, in which the bread given the animals was the only source of B vitamins, it was found that "Canada Approved" white bread was more valuable than ordinary white bread and that whole wheat bread was markedly superior to either of the other two types.

A report of the experiment has been published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal by Alma T. Owens, B.Sc.H.E., and E. W. McHenry, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.C., of the School of Hygiene, University of Toronto.

The scientists used 16 rats for each type of bread, and the bread was purchased retail from a delivery truck of a large Toronto bakery, without the knowledge of the bakery. The rats of the young albino variety, were also fed protein, fat, and carbohydrates in a proportion fairly close to that found in human dietaries in Canada.

Significant differences in the weights of the three groups of rats were noted on the 21st day of the experiment. It was concluded that the whole wheat bread supplied four important vitamins in sufficient quantities. "Canada Approved" white bread furnished nearly sufficient quantities of these vitamins but was deficient in one—riboflavin; whereas ordinary white bread was deficient in all four vitamins. The scientists acknowledged that there might be wide variations in the composition of bread, and said that similar experiments on a number of samples would be advantageous.

The experiment was helped by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation's Division of Natural Sciences.

NAIROBI (CP)—The Kenya Agricultural Authorities have asked for 12,000 tons of ground phosphate rock from the deposits newly discovered in Uganda. The rock will be used as a fertilizer.

Why a Minimum Bill for Electric Service?

In our previous message, we indicated the two parts of the cost of supplying electric power to the Rural User. Let us consider the part covering distribution cost, and its relation to the MINIMUM BILL.

Electricity cannot be bought at a store and taken home for use. It has to be delivered to your home or farm over distribution lines built of poles, wires, insulators, transformers, meters, etc. These lines must be ready to deliver electricity day in and day out, when you turn the switch.

These pole lines, with related equipment, cost money to construct, and on this cost must be paid each year, interest and repayment of capital. In addition, these lines must be properly maintained, replaced when necessary, and kept in good operating condition, including costs of billing and collecting and superintendence. All of these distribution costs must be met each year, in addition to the actual cost of electricity at the substation.

Let us see what this distribution cost amounts to:

Cost to construct 20,000 miles of distribution lines to serve 135,000 rural users	\$39,000,000.00
Yearly cost (1942) of operation, maintenance, interest, renewals, etc.	\$ 2,991,400.00
Average cost per customer	\$22.20 per year 1.85 per month

In hamlets where customers can be grouped and lines are shorter, this average cost per user is slightly less. In the case of farms where the users are spread along the line, the cost is somewhat greater.

Whether or not you use power in any month, the cost of this equipment to serve you still carries on. If you use less electricity than is covered by the minimum cost (on standard farms, 56 kilowatt hours a month), then you have a MINIMUM BILL to meet this distribution cost. If your use of electricity is greater, your bill at the Uniform Rate covers both distribution cost, plus the cost of electricity at the station. The Minimum Bill for a 2-wire Hamlet user is \$1.50 net per month; for a standard farm, it is \$2.02 net per month.

These explanations are given to help you understand the new rates. In our next message, we will discuss, for your benefit, "Installing Services under War Conditions". In the meantime, if you need further information, please ask your Rural District Superintendent.

THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

In order to have a complete understanding of the new regulations, we suggest you clip and keep these explanations.

"COMBINED OPERATIONS INCLUDE YOU"



● Invasion demands more action from every fighting service... combined operations. Combined operations include you, too.

Despite the shortage of help and equipment, Canadian farmers have responded nobly to demands for increased production of foods.

But there is one thing on which a better job can still be done.

MORE MONEY is needed to fight a more intensive war.

All Canadians will be asked to furnish this money. It's a duty that we who are at home owe to the men on the fighting fronts.

In these days most farmers have higher incomes... money to save. And that is the job that they are asked to do... save money and lend it to Canada.

You are not asked to give money... just to lend it. When the war is over you'll have this money to "plough back" into your farm. So save now to lend to your country. Save to have money to improve your farm; money for new stock and implements; money for more land or new buildings... for a new car... for new furnishings and conveniences for your home.

All you can lend is little enough for a cause so vital for a need so urgent. And the more that you can save and lend to your country now, the more you will have for your own use when the war ends.



Be Ready to Buy MORE VICTORY BONDS

6-40
British War Finance Committee