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ELKS RECEIVE LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Near East Relief Thanks Local Lodge for Contribution to Fund for Starving Children.

Mr. Paul L. Udell, The Highland Park Press, Highland Park, Illinois. My dear Mr. Udell:

Several days ago we received your letter dated January 18th, indicating that at the regular meeting of Highland Park Lodge, No. 1362, B. P. O. E., it was unanimously decided to contribute \$50.00 to be used exclusively for the relief of the starving people of Europe or the Near East and indicating further that the Exalted Ruler, John O'Keefe had appointed you to see that the \$50.00 was sent to the proper place.

It seems to me that this decision is proper inasmuch as the Near East Relief has during the past year given assistance to more than a million persons, largely refugees, women and children and without which assistance the majority of these would have perished.

We have 270 American relief workers in the field exclusive of approximately a similar number of Americans engaged in educational work and who are voluntarily co-operating in relief activities. The work begun among the orphans and refugees immediately after the massacres of 1915 has continued practically without interruption and doubtless will be continued until under some stable government these people can be restored to their lands and self-support.

Repeated massacres and deportations have occurred during the last year. Several thousands in this way met death in Marash and Hadjin with the result that these winter months bring an ever increasing number of refugees fleeing for safety to the centers occupied by relief workers.

While it is the purpose of the Committee to confine its work as largely as possible to those children who have lost both mother and father and for whom no relatives can be found, it continues to be necessary to provide emergency relief for the large number of helpless refugees who have again this winter been dispossessed from their former homes by the Turkish Nationalists and Bolsheviks. These people without this assistance during the winter months would inevitably perish.

Therefore it seems to me that your decision to send your money to the support of starving children has been most proper. At no time has there been given to the great Order of the Elks a more worthy field in which to give expression of this great fraternal feeling and in saying this I am not unmindful of the many and wonderful accomplishments of your great Order. Permit me therefore on behalf of these little children to thank you.

Very truly yours, P. J. Byrne, State Secretary.

RISKS LIFE TO SAVE VALUABLE POLICE DOG

Assistant Caretaker at Pumping Station Takes Icy Swim But Rescues "Pepper"

Roderick Basting, 3, son of Louis O. Basting, Ravine avenue, is happy through the heroism of Fred Botker, Jr., assistant caretaker at the pumping station. Mr. Botker excelled all "Way Down East" records on Lake ice floes, and brought back, after a trip, which included a freezing swim "Pepper" valuable police dog, owned by Roderick. The dog had gone too far out on the ice, and had broken off a small floe, which moved rapidly off shore. Mr. Botker, taking a circuitous route on the treacherous ice, tried to head off the floating floe, and finally was adrift on a floe. Nearing the dog, he jumped into the water, seized "Pepper" and swam back, nearly fifty yards.

SEEK TO EXPLAIN RAILROAD ACCIDENT

Railroad Trammens Tell How Unidentified Man Stood in the Way of Locomotive

Death by being struck by a Chicago and Northwestern train, was the verdict returned last Thursday night by a coroner's jury in the case of the unidentified man who met death near the state line about seven o'clock the preceding night. The authorities still are seeking to learn the man's identity but are not having much success.

The engineer of the fast Milwaukee train which reaches Waukegan about 7 p. m., testified at the coroner's inquest at the Wetzel and Peterson undertaking rooms that it was his train which struck the stranger.

He said he saw the fellow walking on the track in front of his train when he was fully seven hundred feet away. He sounded a warning on his

whistle. At the sound of this the stranger turned around and looked at the train which was bearing down on him at a speed of fifty miles an hour.

Then, according to the engineer, he made a move as if to get off the tracks. The engineer already had applied the emergency brakes but it was impossible to stop the train in time. The fireman who was standing on top of the tender saw the engine strike the victim and saw his body hurled through the air a distance of fifteen feet or more. The train was stopped and the body of the man picked up and brought to Waukegan where it was removed to the morgue.

The jury in their verdict completely exonerated the railroad of blame for they were convinced that the engineer had done all in his power to avoid the fatal accident. They could not understand however, why the victim did not get off the track when he had time. There was the possibility of suicide but there was nothing to prove this.

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