

THE IROQUOIS FALLS FIELD KITCHEN FUND

Under Discussion---A Patriotic Association Formed and Fund Allocated to Its Use

IROQUOIS FALLS

Following are the minutes of a meeting held in Iroquois Falls Public School on Tuesday evening, the 16th day of November, 1915, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of deciding on final allocation of fund subscribed for Field Kitchen purposes on August 31st last. The Mayor, Mr. S. G. McCoubrey was in the chair.

The chairman in his opening remarks stated that all those present were familiar with the object of that meeting. Just at the time the collections were made an order came out from the Militia Department at Ottawa that no more money would be accepted for that particular purpose, and whilst legal advice was being sought as to the legal aspect of the case, another order came from the Government that no money would be accepted for the purpose of Machine Guns; which of course effectively closed this outlet. In fact, so far as he could gather there was no definite object to which this money could be devoted through the Government.

They had collected altogether—

Through the Abitibi Power and Paper Co., Ltd.	\$1,131.83
Through Morrow & Beatty.	202.17
Through Mr. Bruce Mitchell.	60.50
Through Mr. McCoubrey.	48.80
making a total of \$1,446.30. Out of this amount there would be roughly speaking about forty-six dollars for advertising the meeting held last July, stationery, etc., which would leave approximately \$1,400 for disposal.	

Mr. Mac Lang, M.P.P., had informed him that the money subscribed through Messrs. Morrow & Beatty, Ltd. Whether this would meet with the approval of the meeting or not he did not know, because as far as his recollection served the minutes of the July meeting read that all monies collected were to be lodged in the bank in trust. However, with this two hundred and two dollars disposed of, it would leave some twelve hundred dollars to be disposed of tonight.

South Porcupine, who also went in with this town, were placed in a similar predicament, but they had overcome their difficulty by allocating their fund to the Red Cross, supplemented by the collection made on Trafalgar Day, October 21, 1915.

During his absence the Acting Mayor, Councillor Robertson, had taken up a collection in the town for the Red Cross purposes on October 21st, which had realized some \$200, but this was of course outside the money which they had for disposal tonight.

Before the meeting arrived at any decision in the matter, the chairman said he would like to hear what Mr. H. H. Davis, the Abitibi Power and Paper Company's lawyer had to say regarding the legal aspects of the

subject.

Mr. H. H. Davis, remembering that this matter had been brought up at a meeting of the Town Council some time previous, said that he saw no reason to change the opinion that he expressed then, viz., that money collected for a specific purpose must either be devoted to that purpose, or the authority of a majority of the subscribers obtained for devoting the money to something else. As far as the legal question was concerned, money donated to some special purpose must be devoted to that purpose and handed over to a committee, this committee to act as trustees only of the money, and should not the money be devoted for the purpose for which it was collected, the trustees were bound by a very stringent law to return the money to the subscribers. The only parallel instance which he knew of was at Porcupine, when, following the great fire of 1911, a fund was opened for the relief of the sufferers, which fund was very largely subscribed to. After the suffering had been relieved, it was found that there was quite a sum of money left over, the final disposition of which could not be agreed on between the trustees and the subscribers. The matter had gone through the courts several times since then, but the judges would not give a decision, rather leaving it to be settled between the subscribers and the trustees. Before giving any opinion regarding the allocation of the money, he would first like to hear from some of the subscribers to the fund.

An extract from one of the weekly magazines regarding subscriptions to the Government for Field Kitchen and Machine Gun purposes was then read by the Chairman.

Councillor Robertson asked whether the meeting could be considered as a representative one of the subscribers.

Capt. W. H. Young remarked that he understood that Iroquois Falls was going in with two or three other towns and they were merely going to pay their share of the cost and not to sustain the whole cost of a Field Kitchen themselves. Any balance that was left over would be subscribed over to some other patriotic purpose. He thought that this was also the view of most of the other subscribers to the fund.

Mr. Robt. Little said that he agreed with Capt. Young regarding the understanding at the July meeting and suggested that the minutes of that meeting, which had been taken away by Mr. W. D. Bab, the clerk of that meeting, be obtained.

The Chairman said that according to his views, the idea of going in with the other towns was correct.

Councillor W. J. Tierney said that he had been talking the matter over with Councillor Robertson within the past few days and he suggested that the money be kept right here in the town and form the nucleus of a fund to be established for providing for the boys who had enlisted from this locality, who might return from the front unable to make their own living.

Councillor Robertson said that something like thirty boys had left the town within the last few months to his knowledge, and quite a number had gone previously, and it was to be assumed that five per cent of these would some day return unable to earn their own living. He suggested that if they could get three hundred people on the voter's list to subscribe two and a half dollars per month, this would bring them in about nine thousand dollars in twelve months. This would form a very substantial fund for assisting those of our boys who should return from the front permanently disabled.

In reply to the Rev. W. A. Morrison, the chairman said that about fifty per cent of the original subscribers were still in town.

Mr. E. D. Layfield stated that he took up the contributions on behalf of Messrs. Morrow & Beatty, Ltd., and it was certainly the understanding of their men that the money was for the specific purpose of a Field Kitchen.

Capt. Young said that he did not think any of the subscribers would object to the money being devoted to the Red Cross or any other patriotic purpose, or to the fund which Councillor Robertson had suggested.

Mr. H. H. Davis said that as the fund was composed mainly of small subscriptions only, if any of the subscribers were mean enough to ask for their money back, it would only be a small matter to return it. He, however, suggested that as the war might last for quite a few years yet, the money should be devoted to present needs and not for future events.

Dr. C. F. Dorsey said that the men who had left this locality would require quite a number of things this winter, which the Government would not supply, and he suggested that the money be devoted to supplying winter comforts for the men.

The Chairman stated that he had three methods to put before the meeting, upon which he would like a discussion, and these were

1. To devote the money to the Red Cross Society.
2. To provide winter comforts for the men who had left the town in the various units.
3. To invest the money to make a permanent fund for the use of any of the men who came back to town and would be in such circumstances as to require assistance until such time as they were fit to follow some employment.

Mr. E. D. Layfield stated that some of the men who were returning had been home for three months and had not yet received their pension from the Government.

After the matter had been thoroughly discussed the Chairman asked if any of those present had any resolution to put to the meeting.

Mr. H. H. Davis stated that the Council, as a Council, could have nothing to do with the fund, except that they were elected as trustees of same. If they wanted the money to be kept here, the subscribers must elect a committee and hand the money over to the gentlemen appointed as trustees only. They would then give them instructions as to how they wanted the money handled and disbursed. They would meet from time to time and periodically call a general meeting of the subscribers and submit to the meeting their plans, and ask for instructions.

He thought Councillor Robertson's scheme was a very good one and very carefully worked out, but he did not think the time was yet ripe for putting such a scheme into operation.

The Rev. W. A. Morrison then moved that "This meeting resolves itself into a local Patriotic Association to hold and distribute this fund which has been collected in Iroquois Falls, for the best interests of the soldiers who have gone from our midst, and any other money collected at a later date shall also go towards the same fund."

Mr. R. Little suggested that whilst we had Mr. Davis with us we should make use of his services to draw up a resolution after Mr. Morrison's ideas, which would conform to the legal side of the question.

The Rev. W. A. Morrison then asked leave to withdraw his former resolution.

Moved by the Rev. W. A. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Robert Little:

"That this meeting do hereby resolve itself into a local patriotic organization, to be known as the 'Iroquois Falls Patriotic Association' with power to hold and distribute the fund raised by the citizens of Iroquois Falls on the thirty-first day of August, nineteen hundred and fifteen, and such other funds as the said Association may from time to time raise. The said funds to be used for patriotic purposes, and more particularly for the support and relief of all soldiers who have or may enlist from this locality, or their dependants, and that for the carrying out of the purpose of this resolution, that the President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two others to be elected, do constitute a committee for the proper distribution of all funds of such Association."

The above resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then announced that nominations were in order for the

positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two committeemen of the Iroquois Falls Patriotic Association.

Nominations
President.—Dr. C. F. Dorsey, proposed by A. C. Robertson, seconded by R. Little; Coun. A. C. Robertson, proposed by G. Wilson, seconded by F. DerKindren; S. G. McCoubrey, proposed by Dr. Dorsey, seconded by Rev. Morrison.

Secretary.—R. J. Hart, proposed by Rev. Morrison, seconded by R. Little; J. E. Patterson, proposed by E. D. Layfield, seconded by W. J. Tierney; Coun. Thompson, proposed by G. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Dorsey; Rev. Morrison, proposed by S. G. McCoubrey, seconded by Councillor Gwinn.

Treasurer.—Coun. R. Stuart, proposed by Coun. Robertson, seconded by Coun. Tierney; Coun. Robertson, proposed by A. H. Mellowes, seconded by Dr. Dorsey; R. Little, proposed by Coun. Tierney, seconded by F. DerKindren.

Committee.—Capt. W. H. Young, proposed by R. J. Hart, seconded by E. D. Layfield; Coun. J. Gwinn, proposed by E. D. Layfield, seconded by F. DerKindren; E. D. Layfield, proposed by W. H. Young; Coun. Tierney, proposed by E. D. Layfield, seconded by G. Wilson; Coun. Robertson, proposed by R. Stuart, seconded by J. Gwinn; F. K. Ebbitt, proposed by R. Little, seconded by Dr. Dorsey; W. McLeod, proposed by A. C. Robertson, seconded by A. H. Mellowes; H. L. Sanborn, proposed by J. Gwinn, seconded by R. J. Hart; E. Sheahan, proposed by Dr. Dorsey, seconded by F. DerKindren; E. L. McCormick, proposed by A. C. Robertson, seconded by T. Mills.

Moved by Capt. W. H. Young, seconded by Rev. W. A. Morrison, that nominations now close. Carried.

On the motion of Rev. W. A. Morrison, seconded by E. D. Layfield, Messrs. H. H. Davies and T. Mills were appointed Tellers.

After balloting, Mr. Davies announced that the results were as follows:

President, Coun. A. C. Robertson.
Secretary, Mr. R. J. Hart.
Treasurer, Mr. R. Little.
Committee, Capt. W. H. Young and Councillor W. J. Tierney.

Moved by Mr. E. D. Layfield, seconded by Mr. A. H. Mellowes, that the annual subscription to this Association be Two Dollars (\$2.00) per annum. Carried unanimously.

The President, Councillor A. C. Robertson, then took the chair and made a few remarks after which the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m. with the singing of the National Anthem.

S. G. MCCOUBREY,
Mayor—Chairman.
J. E. PATTERSON,
Clerk of the Meeting.

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