

**AMBULANCE SERVICE "SAVED"**

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BY SIX WOMEN

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SEELEY'S BAY - WOMEN POWER HAS HELPED SOLVE AN ACUTE VOLUNTEER "MANPOWER" SHORTAGE AT THE EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE HERE.

SIX OF EIGHTEEN RECRUITS ARE FEMALE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE BEEN ENLISTED FOLLOWING WIDESPREAD CONCERNS ABOUT THE SERVICE.

THE VOLUNTEERS HAVE GIVEN A MUCH NEEDED BOOST. MANY OF THE WOMEN ARE AT HOME AND CAN BE ON CALL DURING THE DAY, WHILE MANY OF THE MEN ARE WORKING OUT OF TOWN. THE NEW FORCE IS IN ITS FIRST MONTH OF OPERATION, AND THINGS ARE GOING SMOOTHLY.

THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS HAD DECLINED IN RECENT YEARS. SOME PEOPLE HAD MOVED AWAY, OTHERS WERE GETTING OLD AND WERE TIRED OF BEING ON CALL. MANY VOLUNTEERS HAD JOBS OUT OF TOWN AND HAD TO ARRANGE FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO COVER THEM WHILE THEY WERE AT WORK. WHEN THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS DWINDLED TO EIGHT, THE SITUATION BECAME ACUTE. IT BECAME IMPOSSIBLE TO SCHEDULE SHIFTS OF TWO PEOPLE EACH.

EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY SEEMED TO AGREE THAT THE AMBULANCE SERVICE WAS DESPERATELY NEEDED, ACCORDING TO DR. S. WEBB, ITS DIRECTOR. THEY RECEIVED ABOUT 230 CALLS PER YEAR AND ARE THE ONLY SERVICE ON HIGHWAY 15 BETWEEN SMITHS FALLS AND KINGSTON, IN AN AREA WHERE THERE ARE NUMEROUS AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS.



LARRY GIBSON, PROPRIETOR OF THE CARVETH NURSING HOME, EXPLAINED THAT LETTERS WERE SENT TO APPROXIMATELY 40 LOCAL RESIDENTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO STIMULATE THOSE CONCERNED TO ACT. AN EFFORT WAS MADE TO RECRUIE WOMEN WHO HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN THE AMBULANCE SERVICE.

WHEN A GROUP OF INTERESTED PEOPLE WAS COLLECTED. DR. WEBB REQUESTED THAT THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE SERVICE GIVE THEM A COURSE. TED SLOAMER, FROM KINGSTON'S HOTEL DIEU GAVE THE COURSE FOR SIX MORNINGS. DR. WEBB, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED THESE COURSES, WAS THE EXAMINER.

NO DEMAND WAS MADE OF THOSE TAKING THE COURSE THAT THEY ENLIST, BUT OUT OF 26 TAKING THE COURSE 18 HAVE NOW BECOME VOLUNTEERS.

THEY ARE: LARRY GIBSON, DAVE SIMPSON, JOYCE BASELEY, PAT THOMPSON, LAURIE LANGILLE, BRYAN BURTCHE, ANNE LAVIOLETTE, ALLAN ROANTREE, GORD KENNY, MARILYN HARTLEY, KERRY ARMOUR, MARIAN BASELEY, HARRY MORRIS, MARY BERRY, ED ADAIR, DON GRAY, PENNY McFADDEN AND GEORGE PACE.