

WAR DRAFT: (Continued)

A new plan was decided upon by the War Department late in the year and a Questionnaire was sent out by the Government which required a great deal of work to properly fill out. This questionnaire was for the purpose of dividing the men into different groups according to the order in which they would be called into service, at the present time the men all being taken from Class I. This plan provided for a Deferred Classification for men engaged in certain industrial pursuits necessary to the maintenance of the war and within this class were our miners and skilled men.

The questionnaires were of such a nature that it required much time in filling them out properly and a meeting of the mine clerks was held at which Mr. Berg was present and the matters of the questionnaire fully gone into and the mine clerks were requested to devote their time to the assistance of the men at the different mines so far as their services were required. This work was largely done in the evenings and on Sundays. Affidavits were made out by the superintendents in those cases in which our men came under the Deferred Classification.

The members of the Local Draft Board did not act upon any matters of Deferred Classification except to make recommendation to the District Board meeting at Houghton, which had entire charge. In almost all of our cases the District Board granted the Deferred Classification. In this way we shall practically lose very few of our miners for if a man was experienced as a miner he was put in Class 4 if married and in Class 2 if single. Married men, or men with dependents recognized by the Local Board, were put by the Local Board in Class 4 even if a Deferred Classification Claim had been made.

RED CROSS:

The sale of Red Cross seals was undertaken for the county by the women of the Visiting Nurse Association of Marquette and we co-operated with them and assisted the Ishpeming women who had charge of it for this city.

The organization of Red Cross work was effected in May of 1917, and as the ruling of the National Red Cross Association is that counties should usually have only one chapter, Ishpeming was organized as a branch of the Marquette County Chapter with

Mr. Wm. P. Belden, President
Mrs. V. H. Vandevanter, Vice-President
Mr. Carl Brewer, Secretary
Mr. C. H. Moss, Treasurer.

The work has been continued in a very successful manner and the women of the city have very generally been interested in the work. On Mr. Belden's leaving the city for Cleveland Judge W. T. Potter was elected President in his place.

At the annual election the officers as above noted were elected with the exception that Mr. John G. Welsh was made treasurer. Members for the directors of the County Chapter were nominated at this meeting and elected at the meeting of the Chapter held in October at Marquette.

We have also assisted in the organization of branches of the chapter at Negaunee, Palmer, Republic and Champion.

EMPLOYMENT:

Applications of all men seeking positions have been carefully investigated on account of the general agitation of I. W. W. men. Careful watch has been kept of the men at our different mines. There has been no abundance of men looking for work but a considerable number of new men, some of them coming from mines that were shutting down, have been put at work at our mines during the year.

INCAPACITED EMPLOYEES:

During the year payments have been made to various men whose term of service did not fully bring them under the provisions of the pension system, but who were badly in need of assistance. The following table shows the

INCAPACITATED EMPLOYEES: (Continued)

men in this class and the amounts paid to them during the year:

Donations to Incapacitated employees.

August Larson	\$ 171.48
Chas. Fagerberg	90.00
John Trembath	180.00
John Beale	130.00
Thomas Dawe	125.00
Fred Fredette	300.00
Wm. Holman	180.00
John Salson	250.00
Andrew Lerlie	<u>45.00</u>
Total	\$ 1471.48

August Larson died May 3rd, 1917. Funeral expenses of \$100.00 paid in July 1917.

Chas. Fagerberg died June 28th, 1917.

Thos. Dawe returned to work in June 1917.

One item of interest in connection with incapacitated employees is the case of Julius Larson who has, since his injury at the Cliffs Shaft Mine, been paid a considerable amount by us up to this year. He was quite early in the war draft and had expected that his condition would prevent him from being called to serve but he was accepted by the physicians and on a furlough from Camp Custer this fall stated that he was now getting along very nicely and thought he was going to be all right again.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

We are, from time to time, finding some cases under the Workmen's Compensation Law which have indicated previous defects of which we did not have any knowledge and which undoubtedly contributed in some degree to their liability to injury. We have kept close watch of the men employed so far as possible, and especially so at Gwinn where we are keeping some records of any physical ailments or defects discovered.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: (Continued)

As the provisions of the Compensation Law become more liberal it certainly will be necessary to introduce physical examinations of the men. These examinations need not be so extensive as have been adopted by some of the manufacturing establishments but should cover the matter of heart, eye-sight, hearing, hernia, and special injuries or diseases or defects that would make them liable to injury.

HOME GARDENING:

Our usual plan of home gardening work was changed somewhat on account of the need of food products and, therefore, this year the prizes were divided equally between Food Products and the Best Kept Premises; Vine Planting and Window Box Gardening being considered a part of the Best Kept Premises effort. The work was very satisfactory for the year, although we had very early frosts in the fall.

The following is the list of the awards.

Ishpeming:

Best Kept Premises	\$ 100.00
Vegetable Gardens	<u>100.00</u>
	200.00

Negaunee:

Best Kept Premises	32.00
Vegetable Gardens	<u>50.00</u>
	82.00

Gwinn, Austin & Princeton:

Best Kept Premises	50.00
Vegetable Gardens	<u>50.00</u>
	100.00

North Lake:

Best Kept Premises	50.00
Vegetable Gardens	<u>50.00</u>
	100.00

Republic :

Best Kept Premises	50.00
Vegetable Gardens	<u>50.00</u>
	100.00

Ishpeming Schools: 72.50

Munising : 52.50

A special effort was made through out the whole county for the raising of all food products, especially potatoes, and this plan aroused a great deal of interest at our different properties.

Men working for the Company were encouraged to plant potatoes and lots were assigned to those who previously had no garden plots for this purpose. The new land was plowed for these men and in addition the

HOME GARDENING: (Continued)

lots were fenced in a few cases necessary. It was very difficult to secure seed potatoes and in order to assist them the Company purchased potatoes and sold them at cost to the employees, the price being \$3.10 per bushel.

The following list shows the amount of new lots cultivated and the bushels of potatoes furnished for seed to our employees:

	No. of Lots	Acres	Bushels Potatoes
Republic	50	6	147
Ishpeming	147	25	479
North Lake	30	10.3	61
Negaunee	166	59.6	494
Gwinn	<u>43</u>	<u>16.7</u>	<u>391</u>
	436	117.6	1572

Before the usual time of harvest we had a long spell of cold rainy weather and many people expected that this would be followed by pleasant weather during which time the potatoes could be dug, but the bad weather was immediately followed by a very severe freeze, the ground being frozen perhaps to a depth of 2 inches, and no potatoes could readily be dug, and following this time there was no period but what the ground was somewhat frozen. When dug, many were found spoiled and a great many were left in the ground.

We have reports of the following quantities of potatoes raised by our employees from seed furnished by us:

	No. Bu.
Ishpeming	5213
North Lake	1544
Republic	786
Negaunee	7737
Gwinn	<u>2970</u>
Total Bushels raised	18250

IMPROVEMENT WORK:

On Mr. Warren H. Manning's visits we have accompanied him on his inspections and co-operated with Mr. Cotter during the season.

It was with the greatest regret that we had to report the serious illness of Mr. Cotter which was followed by his death.

Mr. Cotter's work has been very satisfactory and he will be greatly missed here in succeeding years and it will be exceedingly difficult to find a man who can take care of this work with the satisfaction and general helpfulness which has always been so pronounced with Mr. Cotter.

CLUBS:

The Mining Club has continued its meetings throughout the year with Mr. James H. Rough, President and Mr. James Stephens, Secretary. The annual outing was held in August, going by autos to the camp of Joseph Richards at Little Lake. It was the largest attendance and the best picnic ever held by the Mining Club.

OUT-OF-DOOR SPORTS:

The Ski Tournament on February 22nd, though somewhat local in character, was open to anyone and we had some very good riding and a good number of contestants, not only from this locality but from outside cities. The Wm. G. Mather gold, silver, and bronze medals were awarded to the best amateur contestants of Michigan.

MEETINGS:

During the year I was present at several important meetings. With Mr. Belden I attended the hearing before the Legislative Committee at Lansing for the consideration of the different proposed amendments to the Compensation Law.

In May I attended a meeting of the State Y. M. C. A. held at Detroit to discuss with Dr. Mott the matter of a canvass for funds for taking care of the Y. M. C. A. work among the troops, both in this country and across the water.

MEETINGS (Continued)

With Mr. C. B. Randall I attended a hearing before the Leigslative Committee at Madison, Wisconsin. This was on account of the Pickands Mather Company.

In July I visited the Calumet & Hecla Company looking into the matter of their hospital management and employment department work.

FOOD CONSERVATION:

There has been a very active campaign throughout the whole season by the Food Conservation Committee of the County.

The Committee canvassed all the homes in the county asking the women to sign the food conservation cards, and this was done very thoroughly and with very satisfactory results. In July public meetings were held in the different cities, towns, and townships. Talks were given on the matter of food substitutes for the saving of wheat, meat, sugar and fats. We assisted in meetings at Ishpeming, Palmer, Whitbeck, and Witch Lake.

WAR FUNDS:

The year 1917 has been an exceedingly busy one in the raising of funds for various organizations to assist in war service. These campaigns were undertaken in Ishpeming through the organization of a War Council made up of ten teams consisting of eight men each, with Mr. J. S. Wahlman, mayor of the city, chairman, and Mr. C. J. Shaddick, secretary. The men in this organization did very excellent work in the campaigns.

Red cross Membership:

May 14th to May 21st.

Y. M. C. A. War Fund:

May 21st to May 28th.

Red Cross War Fund:

June 18th to June 25th.

Y. M. C. A. War Fund:

November 12th to November 17th.

Red Cross Membership:

December 16th to December 24th.

1st Liberty Loan:

May 10th to June 15th.

2nd Liberty Loan:

Oct. 15th to October 29th.

General Welfare:

The following sheets show the contributions that have been made by the Land, Furnace, Lumbering, and Railroad Departments for special work during the year and a comparison for a period of five years.

There is also attached the comparative statement of the expenses of the Pension Department for the period of five years from 1913 to 1917 inclusive.