

## LaGrange County Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 134  
LaGrange, In 46761  
[lagrange\\_history.com](http://lagrange_history.com)

### **"The War History: LaGrange County, Indiana Chapter The American Red Cross"**

With thankfulness to God for giving us a share in his great work of mercy, we make this brief record of what many loyal hearts and willing hands have done in the name of the Red Cross.

LaGrange County with its 384 square miles of territory, has been active in Red Cross work from the very entrance of the United States of America into the great war. In a fine spirit of harmony and cooperation, the work has progressed in the agricultural community which has thriving villages, active towns, and about 16,000 patriotic people.

On April 7, 1917, in accordance with instructions received from the Governor of Indiana, a county meeting was held in the LaGrange Courthouse to organize committees to stimulate production of grain, vegetables, fruits, live stock, and dairy products. Robert M. Waddell of the LaGrange Standard, the chosen President, appointed Miss Jane Porter Williams of Howe to organize the Red Cross throughout the county. Assisted by Miss Hilda Timmis and Miss Rose Cowl, Miss Williams spoke at production meetings throughout the county, secured scores of members for the Red Cross turning them into the Fort Wayne Chapter. She promptly visited the Fort Wayne Chapter conferring with E. C. Miller, the chairman. On April 21, Jane and Katherine Williams brought from the Chicago chapter models of hospital garments and soon had materials for them distributed to work rooms in LaGrange, Wolcottville, Howe, and Brighton. An informal county organization was effected with Miss Jane Williams, Chairman; Mrs. Frank J. Dunten, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Foss S. Trimble, Secretary; Mrs. R. L. Porterfield, Treasurer. These officers took many an auto trip to assist in organizing new working centers. Bethel in Clay township; Topeka; Brushy Chapel; South Milford; Stroh; Ontario; Valentine; Shpshewana; and Scott, thus began work in knitting and sewing. Resolved to use the utmost economy in transporting work to and from Fort Wayne, the county officers had no hesitation in asking the service of train and auto travelers. Howe School automobiles kindly carried loads, Samuel B. Nichols was especially helpful in this way and the Misses Williams joined in the service, also H. M. Cooper and others.

In June, 1917, E. C. Miller of Fort Wayne called a county meeting at LaGrange and offered to organize the county as an independent chapter, but our pleasant relations with Fort Wayne led us to prefer remaining as a branch of that chapter. However, on October 12, 1917, A. F. Bentley of Indianapolis, assistant manager of the Lake division American Red Cross came to LaGrange, called another county meeting and recommended Chapter Organization. An executive committee was formed with Frank J. Smith, a leading hardware merchant and a man of sterling character, chairman of the board; Frank J. Dunten, an attorney and chairman of the

County Council of Defense, ready for any service that might help win the war; Clyde A. Walb, a big contractor, widely known, also president of the LaGrange County Trust Company; Levi I. Miller, a banker of Shipshewana; and the chapter officers ex officio, these were Miss Jane Williams, chairman; Rev. Charles De Bow, Vice Chairman; V. D. Weaver, cashier of the National Bank of LaGrange, Treasurer; Mrs. R. L. Porterfield, an experienced club woman with plenty of public spirit and patriotism, Secretary; while Mrs. F. S. Trimble became director of Woman's Work, ordering materials, receiving, distributing, and collecting, being right in the heart of the chapter's work. Mrs. Frank J. Dunten became superintendent of the knitting department. Dr. A. J. Hostetler was appointed chairman of Home Service and Civilian Relief in the chapter, with a committee as follow: Dr. Frank C. Wade and Dr. A. A. Wade of Howe; Dr. J. E. Rarick. Wolcottville; Dr. Iris Vaughn and Dr. W. O. Hilderbrant, Topeka; Dr. S. W. Dancer, Stroh; Dr. M. F. Hunn and Dr. S. M. Eash, Shipshewana; Dr. Dale C. Weir, Mongo; and Dr. Stewart H. Shrock, LaGrange. New units or auxiliaries, Brushy Prairie, Mongo and Plato made the chapter a strong working force. Older units were reorganized as branches, viz: LaGrange, Wolcottville, Howe, Topeka, Shipshewana, South Milford and Stroh. Of these LaGrange, Wolcottville and Howe began to divide between the heavy work of distributing, receiving and packing for their nearest neighbors. Work that had formerly been a competent head worker assisted by Mrs. Charles H. Smith, Mrs. James K. Duff, Mrs. O. C. Elderkin and Mrs. L. H. Wade, accomplishing a vast amount of work all done according to exact Red Cross standards. Many a word of high praise came to the chapter for its excellent output.

In April, 1918, Miss Isable Williams Cooper opened, in Howe, a work-room for surgical dressings where, from first to last, seventy enrolled workers made cotton and gauze into shape for our wounded soldiers. War mothers were among the seventy and 5426 dressings were shipped.

In February, 1919, Mrs. Curtis E. Miller instructed a class in home nursing in Howe, using a room in the Missionary Furlough for her practical and interesting lessons.

Miss Hilda Hughes devoted a week to attending lectures in Fort Wayne during a chapter course in Civilian Relief and Home Service.

Mrs. Trimble was our delegate to Fort Wayne when Mrs. Belmont-Tiffany spoke there in the name of the Red Cross.

Miss Hilda Timmis represented LaGrange county chapter in Evansville, at the 1918 state conference of charities.

On November 11, 1917, Jane and Katherine Williams went to Indianapolis to attend a Red Cross conference called by James R. Garfield, a most inspiring gathering of workers. Later Russell G. Sanders of Wolcottville and R. L. Porterfield of LaGrange went to Indianapolis in response to a called meeting to plan the Red Cross membership campaign. A similar meeting in Fort Wayne, addressed by Charles Coffin of Indianapolis, was attended by R. L. Porterfield and Miss Jane Williams. A later Fort Wayne conference in preparation for the war fund drive of 1918 was attended by Charles E. McClaskey, Frank J. Smith, V. D. Weaver, and Miss Jane Williams. Most of the traveling expenses were paid from private purses of the travelers.

The chapter chairman visited the Noble County chapter, also Goshen and Gary chapters. Her Red Cross Buick was kept busy on tours across the country to work-rooms which finally numbered seventeen. By motor, with the chapter officers, Mrs. A. E. Fauve visited Howe, LaGrange, South Milford, and Stroh, inspecting methods of work. Later Mrs. Norton Barker of Michigan City, field inspector, twice visited the chapter.

### Auction Sales

Wolcottville led in a successful War Chest auction netting \$890.00. South Milford also had one of these popular sales amounting to \$223.00. But the mammoth Red Cross auction was planned by Robert M. Waddell, president of Corn School Week, to occupy three afternoons during Corn School in LaGrange in October, 1918. Rascelus Gushwa, well known throughout the county spent time and energy in visiting every one of the eleven townships, working up an immense number of gifts for the sale which netted \$2049.91m a grand gift to the Red Cross.

Edward H. Curtis of Howe offered the LaGrange Standard ten bushels of seed wheat for sale to the highest bidder for the benefit of the Red Cross. E. W. Gnash secured the wheat for \$50.00.

The press of LaGrange County has been patriotic and generous in giving publicity to the Red Cross. Mrs. Frank J. Roop served as press chairman, assisted, for a short time, by Mrs. William C. Ballou, finally succeeded by Robert M. Waddell.

The LaGrange Standard, the LaGrange Democrat-Call, the Wolcottville herald, the Topeka Journal, and the Shipshewana Chronicle all have hearty thanks form the chapter.

Collections of worn clothing have thrice been made for the people in the invaded countries resulting in five thousand pounds.

Nut shells, fruit pits, and tin foil were diligently gathered and shipped until came from headquarters the word "enough".

A linen shower for overseas hospitals was conducted by Mrs. Frank J. Smith, who packed and shipped an excellent assortment of linen, mostly new.

Hand Towels	306
Bath Towels	229
Sheets	83
Napkins	405
Handkerchiefs	287
Miscellaneous	<u>18</u>
Total	1328

### Drives

The first drive for a Red Cross war fund was directed by Rev. Charles L. DeBow of LaGrange, the Methodist Episcopal pastor, with fine executive ability. In June, 1917, \$3,362.28 was collected.

The second war fund drive in May of 1918 organized by Charles E. McClaskey, brought the sum of \$10, \$323.60, and the chapter went over the top the first day of the drive. LaGrange doubled its allotment. All this is proof of splendid preparation. A motor tour under the discretion of Dr. James K. Duff and Clarence L Robinson carried speakers and singers in seven automobiles to various parts of the county. An overseas soldier addressed a crowd in the park at Howe. Almost every church and school house was visited. Among the speakers, who served then, and during the war campaign were V. D. Weaver, Professor O. A. Fleming, LeRoy A. Foster, Robert m. Waddell, Frank J. Dunten, Rev. C. L. DeBow, Rev. T. A. Estell, Rev. Julius R. Bardelmeier, Clyde A. Walb, and Herman Haskins. C. A. Sparling from the Great Lakes Naval Station lent his aid while home on a furlough, also Blaine L. Munger from Fort Hamilton. Rev. Earl W. Dietrich of the Progressive Brethren church at Brighton marshaled the forces of Greenfield township and, before sunrise on the first day of the drive, led the solicitors so that by nine o'clock and ten minutes their quota was raised and they were the winners of the large wool bunting Red Cross Flag offered by James Williams, chapter chairman.

The membership drive of December, 1917, was in the hands of R. L. Porterfield and was so ably planned and carried out, in spite of the intense cold that prevailed, that the result was a membership of 3,509. LaGrange High School distinguished itself by becoming one hundred percent Red Cross, each class having its full quota of membership.

The Christmas Roll call of 1918, conducted by Miss Rose Crowl, but greatly hampered by the prevailing influenza, gave the chapter a membership of 3,200.

The Red Cross headquarters room, by the courtesy of the county council of defense was rent free. By the generous patriotism of the two telephone companies phones were installed without charge.

As or soldiers assembled in LaGrange to train for r camp, bouquets were given them in the Methodist Episcopal church dining room. The Red Cross Ladies of LaGrange, How, and Shipshewana, presented various gifts to the boys, trench mirrors, comfort bags, laundry bags, pocket gospels, etc.

A Red Cross flag made and presented by Mrs. William H. Kauffman was raised over Detroit street in LaGrange in June of 1917 at the close of a band concert and an effective canvas for Red Cross memberships was made. The same month in Howe and in Bethel unit flags with names embroidered on them brought in handsome sums of money. Greenfield township won a Red Cross flag offered by the chapter chairman to the township first going over the top in the War Fund of 1918.

Mrs. F. C. Wade, wife of Dr. Wade of Howe, chairman of the chapter nursing department, with the assistance of the chapter chairman made a survey of the county in October and November of 1918 winning a place upon the Lake division roll of honor for prompt and effective work.

October 26, 1918, appointment of an emergency committee on influenza was made by the chapter chairman, consisting of Robert M. Waddell; Rev. T. H. Estell, pastor of the Lutheran Church; and Rev. Julius E. Bardelmeier, pastor of the Presbyterian Church. Offer was made to

county physicians to provide Red Cross centers where soups and other invalid foods should be prepared and delivered to the physicians for patients. The chapter chairman made repeated relief trips to Ontario distributing soup, milk, bread, fruit, and cooked rice to families with influenza.

The Chapter lost it's efficient secretary, Mrs. R. L. Porterfield, May 28, 1918, because of her change of residence from LaGrange to Fort Wayne. Miss Hilda Timmis became chapter secretary and Miss Rose Crowl became membership secretary and both have worked with energy and success.

The chapter chairman being ill from influenza, and going to Georgia for recuperation, Mrs. Alta McClaskey, vice chairman, took over the varied and never ceasing duties of the chairman, for four months, keeping up the activities of the chapter with an experienced hand.

November 21, 1919, the annual meeting of the chapter for election of the executive committee and reports of officers took form of a supper served in the basement of the LaGrange Methodist Episcopal Church. THE new executive board was as follows: Frank J. Smith, chairman; Frank J. Dunten, C. A. Walb, George Timmis, and Rev. T. A. Estell, the executive board appointed Jane Porter Williams, chapter chairman, Mrs. Alta McClaskey, vice chairman, Hilda Timmis, chapter secretary, ROse Crowl, membership secretary; chairman civilian relief, Dr. A. J. Hostetler; chairman home nursing, Dr. A. G. Grubb; chairman Junior Red Cross, A. B. Cookerly; director of knitting, Mrs. Frank J. Dunten; Mrs. F. S. Trimble resigned her office of directing the chapter work on hospital garments. Her enthusiastic leadership was invaluable to the women of LaGrange County. Mrs. Clayton B. Hinkley resigned her work of packing.

On January 13, 1919, by instructions from head-quarters a chapter committee on awards was appointed by the chairman, with Mrs. Alta McClaskey, chairman; Mrs. Frank J. Dunten and Mrs. F. S. Trimble, as its members.

(signed)

Miss Hilda Timmis, Secretary

Frank J. Smith, Chairman Executive Branch

Mrs. Alta McClaskey, Vice Chairman

Jane Porter Williams, Chapter Chairman and Historian

### **Received and Disbursed by LaGrange Co. Branch**

From April 7, 1917 to Sept. 4, 1917

<i>For memberships A.R.C.</i>	\$1,179.00
<i>(To Mrs. A. E. Fauve, Ft. Wayne Chapter)</i>	

<i>For yarn, materials for hospital garments and soldiers' supplies</i>	\$133.90
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Account of Treasurer of LaGrange County, Indiana, Chapter American Red Cross:

From October 12, 1917, to May 1, 1919, Received - \$12, 848.82

Expended - \$12, 471.44

Balance - \$ 377.38

"Officers - Past and Present - of Branches and Auxiliaries"

	Chairman	Secretary	Treasurer	Vice Chairman
LaGrange	Mrs. O. W. Seeb	Mrs. N. A. Balch	Miss Hilda Timmis Mrs. Glenn Dutter	
Howe	Mrs. N. A. Parham Mrs. Rachel Nichols	Miss Marion Cooper Mrs. Walter Crandell	Mrs. Curtis Miller	
Wolcottville	Mrs. H. M. Cooper Mrs. Jennie Phillips	Mrs. I. H. Lawson	Mrs. I. H. Lawson	
Brighton	Miss Margaret Horner Mrs. Fred Smeltzly	Miss Fannie Plank	Miss Fannie Plank	
Topeka	Mrs. G. A. Keller Mrs. Nathan Kent	Miss Irma Vaughn	Mrs. I. W. Vaughn Mrs. I. W. Vaughn	
Brushy Chapel	Mrs. Will Deal	Mrs. Lyman Babcock	Mrs. Wallace Beldon	
South Milford	Miss Kate Newman Mrs. Luther Nesbitt	Mrs. G. Wible Mrs. Clemma Walter	Miss Mabel Lovett	
Stroh	Miss Mino Camp Mrs. Jacob Miller	Miss Thelma Perkins Mrs. E. Wagner	Mrs. Jenny Menely	
Valentine	Mrs. A. E. Lambright	Mrs. Bertha Beach	Mrs. Henry Miller	
Bethel	Mrs. Harry Bogue	Mrs. Latta Mrs. Bowan	Mrs. R. Gushwa	Mrs. L. F. Anderson
Scott	Mrs. Emmett Hagerty	Miss Erma Crampton	Miss Caroline Eppel	
Ontario	Mrs. W. Cookingham Mrs. Delvin Young	Miss Pansy Crose	Mrs. Ross Scott	
Shipshewana				
Mongo	Mrs. Claud Smith	Mrs. A. G. Grubb	Miss Minnie LaRue	
Plato	Mrs. Lewis Deal	Miss Esther Elliott	Mrs. Fred Deal	
Brushy Prairie	Mrs. Don Smith	Mrs. Clare Milliman	Mrs. Tasso Smith	

\* Note - This graph has been transcribed as is. The list doesn't state if the second name on the Treasurer column is the V. Chairman or not. I think it is given that the second name is the Vice Chairman of the branches as the book page could not hold 5 columns. This is a guess, not a stated fact.

"Sewing Hospital Garments"

	Bathrobes	Pajamas	Shirts	Shoulder Wraps	Bed socks	Comfort Bags	Property Bags	Sewing Kits	Surgical Dressings
LaGrange	23	314	180	145	320	220	475	65	
Howe	60	30	61	38	35	50	80	62	5426

Wolcottville		25				25	180		
Brighton		63	58	26	27		25	28	
Topeka	22	50	76		6		184		
South Milford		140	65		30	32	155	84	
Stroh		45			63	34	62		
Shipshewana		38	44	3	5	13	93		85
Scott	8	18		12	24		44		
Valentine		31	5		12	4			
Bethel	36	102	67	12	37		99		
Brushy Chapel		20					50		
Mongo	12	24		12	12		132		
Brushy Prairie		45			63	34	62		
Plato		5	12		32		50		
Ontario		26		6	14		83		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>1774</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>5511</b>

## "Refugee Garments - Sewing"

	<b>Boy's Shirts</b>	<b>Petticoats</b>	<b>Layettes</b>	<b>Chemises</b>	<b>Dresses</b>	<b>Quilts</b>	<b>Misc.</b>
LaGrange	149	55	10	102		3	
Howe	74	69	21	50	29	11	173
Wolcottville	67	25					
Brighton	38						
Topeka	30	52	5				
South Milford	25	55					
Stroh		35					
Shipshewana	47			40	1	3	42
Scott	12	2	6	30	4	1	
Valentine				12			
Bethel	55						
Brushy Chapel		14					
Mongo		32		20			
Brushy Prairie		35					
Plato		15			15		
Ontario	15						
Woodard							
<i>Grand Total</i>	<b>512</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>215</b>

Total: 1479

### Knitting

	Socks	Sweaters	Helmets	Wristlets	Scarfs	Refugee	Wash Cloths
LaGrange	171	172	85	41	45	5	14
Howe	187	140	52	89	19		200
Wolcottville	33	142	16	7	10	63	13
Brighton	33	25					25
Topeka	121	84	9	17	4		
South Milford	59	56	3		6		
Stroh	15	21					
Shipshewana	18	29		1		6	
Scott	23	25		1			10
Valentine		16					
Bethel	48	44					
Brushy Chapel	30	30		10			
Mongo	18	14	4	2			
Brushy Prairie	15	21					
Plato		16	1				
Ontario	20	10					
Woodard							
<b>Grand Total</b>	791	845	170	168	84	74	262

Total: 2,384

"Report of Work Done By The Home Service Department:  
LaGrange County American Red Cross"

January 1989 - May 1, 1919

Money used for the poor	\$466.97
Money used for printing, advertising and help	\$505.07
Returned soldiers visited	8
Families visited	7
Discharges sent in for \$60.00 bonus	76 or \$4,560.00
Letters written	614
Information given	319
Serviced rendered	690
Compensation, applied for by soldiers	3
Vocational education, applied	10

Distributed American Red Cross posters in every town, public building in the county.

Attended American Red Cross conferences at Fort Wayne in February 1918, and Evansville in 1918.

Signed: Dr. A. J. Hostetler

Chairman Civilian Relief American Red Cross, LaGrange County Chapter

### "LaGrange County Junior Red Cross"

The Junior Red Cross was organized as a separate branch of the American Red Cross in order to provide for the cooperation of the school children of the United States in the great work of service to our country, as well as to all the world, furnishing supplies for the wounded soldiers of the Great War, and alleviating the suffering brought on by the terrible conflict. Its purpose is to provide comfort and shelter to the homeless families, and destitute, starving children everywhere. The junior work was directed along several different lines. The story of the Red Cross was told and studied by the school children; they were directed in their work along the lines of community relief and betterment, as well as in the care of the sick and wounded. Course in first aid, home nursing, and dietetics were given to the older children. Besides this, much direct assistance was given the senior Red Cross organization by preparing and making surgical supplies, refugee garments, kit-bags for the soldiers, etc. Then there was a general line of work such as distribution posters, circulars, gathering magazines and stories for the soldiers, packing supplies, and in the home service section where the Health Crusade for themselves and their families followed.

On February 15, 1918, a meeting of the heads of all the commissioned high schools of the county and the county superintendent was called by the efficient and earnest president of the LaGrange county chapter of the Red Cross, Miss Jane Williams, f Howe, Indiana. This meeting was held at the LaGrange hotel at a luncheon given by the president. The junior work was explained as discussed and the following committee was named as the chapter school committee:

County superintendent A. B. Cookerly, chairman,  
Miss Hilda Hughes, South Milford school,  
O. A. Fleming, LaGrange school,  
John M. Amiss, Lima school,  
Mrs. G. A. Keller, Topeka school,  
O. E. Cassady, Wolcottville school,  
E. E. Miller, Shishewana school.

This committee directed the chairman, A. B. Cookerly, to administer the affairs of the junior society in the absence of the other members. The chairman sent to each school the rules for joining the organization, which are that a sum of money equivalent to twenty-five cents per pupil must be collected and application made to the chapter school committee for membership, together with a pledge to perform whatever duties are required by the committee in Red Cross work. The following schools became members for the year 1917-1918: LaGrange, South Milford, Lima, Shishewana, Ontario, Scott, Topeka, and Crampton. These schools did much work in conjunction with the Chapter organization in sewing and making small articles for the soldiers, and the children in Europe.

At the beginning of school in the fall of 1918 the chairman started another drive with the intention of making the country schools one hundred percent junior members. The irregularities of the sessions made this task a long one, but a large number responded to this call and these were enrolled in the great cause:

School	Teacher	Date	Amount Raised	No. Members
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Emma	Lois Lampman	Oct. 12, 1918	\$3.00	12
Marshall	Marion Schrock	Oct. 12	4.50	18
New Pennsylvania	Grayce Malone	Oct. 23	1.00	27
Sand Hill	Etha Deter	Oct. 5	7.50	35
Green	Wilma Faust	Nov. 7	2.25	9
Brighton	Frank Barr	Nov. 4	25.00	94
Weaver	Erma Crampton	Nov. 12	3.00	13
Bloomfield	Mrs. Thacker	Nov. 12	12.75	51
Everett	Virginia Babcock	Nov. 13	3.5	14
Valentine	Ruth Norris	Nov. 14	6.60	25
Hoff	Birdena Connely	Nov. 15	4.50	18
Mongo	Homer D. Myers	Nov. 16	8.75	35
Mack	Cloha Simpson	Nov. 12	2.35	12
Beaty	Julia Harding	Nov. 15	2.25	12
Poynter	Ruth Machan	Nov. 13	4.50	18
Woodruff	Hasel Baker	Nov. 18	8.75	35
Fish Lake	Ralph Kline	Nov. 18	5.00	20
Walnut	Edythe Dallas	Nov. 25	3.50	14
Stuckey	Rose Boyd	Nov. 26	2.75	11
Stroh	C. R. Hepler	Nov. 18	14.50	58
Saylor	Ruth Kauffman	Dec. 7	5.00	20
Bethel	Florence Kline	Dec. 7	2.50	14
Schrock	Winnie Kline	Dec. 10	3.00	12
Scripture	Bernice Horner	Dec. 24	4.00	16
Shore	Laura Harding	Dec. 28	3.00	12
Forks	Elizabeth Stahly	Dec. 27	3.75	16
Ontario	Eva Kline	Jan. 6	7.25	29
Thompson	Erma Miller	Jan. 4	3.75	16
Taylor	Fanny Yoder	Jan. 20	4.00	16
South Milford	Margaret Horner	Jan. 30	32.25	57
Topeka	Mrs. G. A. Keller	Feb. 22	16.00	144
Oak Grove	Gladys Parker	Feb. 22	1.25	5
Scott	Hilma Boehmer	Mar. 28	15.50	62
Shipshewana	J. W. Hostetler	Nov. 20	62.20	250
Wolcottville	O. E. Cassady	Sept. 17, 1918	60.00	240

The work during the last year has been under the direction of the Lake division headquarters, the director, Mrs. Harrison Ewing, instructing the juniors in the various fields of endeavor. Liberty loan letters in which the financial affairs of the government were explained and which urged purchases of bonds to assist in meeting the war expenses were distributed over the county by the juniors. The activities were planned and carried out under a system of monthly schedules. Among some of the things accomplished was the collection of stories, pictures and jokes which were formed into small booklets for the soldiers in hospitals. The quota for LaGrange county was two hundred story books monthly. A large number were prepared and sent to headquarters.

Four campaigns were carried on during the year, collections of worn clothing for the destitute refugees of France and Belgium; of fruit pies, nut shells and peach stones to be used in the making of munitions. The tin foil and several barrels of nut shells were turned over to the chemical warfare service, and several bags of the clothing were shipped to the sea-board for European transportation. The juniors were very diligent in this work of collecting this material.

A health campaign was inaugurated in January in which children gave much attention to matters of personal hygiene and community sanitation. Each of the larger schools made a number of kit-bags for the soldiers, supplementing the work of chapter workers.

A number of the auxiliaries are subscribers to the Red Cross Magazine.

All this work was carried on with enthusiasm and eagerness characteristic of a child's natural desire to help those in need. Although our work for the past year has been limited by the closing of the schools during the influenza epidemic and the resulting haste to make up for this lost time in the regular work, yet the amount of service rendered to those in need has been remarkable. But the lessons taught the children through the Red Cross work is one of the greatest lessons that the world has to teach - that of service.

Respectfully Submitted,

A.B. Cookerly, Chapter School Committee Chairman

### Officers Past and Present

#### *Sitting (right to left)*

Miss Jane Porter Williams	Chairman	Chapter
Mrs. F. S. Trimble	Secretary	Branch
Miss Hilda Timmis	Secretary	Chapter
Miss Rose Crowl	Membership Secretary	Chapter

#### *Standing*

Mrs. Alta McClaskey	Vice Chairman	Chapter
Mr. V. D. Weaver	Treasurer	Chapter
Mrs. Frank J. Dunten	Vice Chairman	Branch

### LaGrange Co., Indiana Chapter, American Red Cross, Executive Committee

#### *Sitting (right to left)*

Miss Jane Porter Williams	Chapter Chairman
Mr. Frank J. Smith	Chairman Executive Committee
Mrs. Alta McClaskey	Vice Chairman Chapter
Miss Hilda Timmis	Secretary Chapter

#### *Standing*

Mr. Claud Walb  
Mr. Frank J. Dunten

Mr. V.D Weaver                      Chapter Treasurer  
 Rev. Thomas Estell  
 Dr. George Timmis

**LaGrange Co., Indiana Chapter, American Red Cross**  
**Department of Home Service and Civilian Relief**

Dr. A. J. Hostetler, Chairman  
 Miss Elizabeth Stahley, Office Nurse  
 Glancy Russell Caldwell, Soldier

Individual Photographs

**Page 1**

Top Left - Margery Himes Cooper (Mrs. H. M.) First Chairman Wolcottville Branch  
 Top Right - Treasurer LaGrange County Branch, Secretary LaGrange County Indiana Chapter  
 Bottom - Small group, Stroh Branch (note: these women are unnamed)

**Page 2**

Left - Mrs. Frank J. Smith  
 Right - Mrs. Pardon Ballou (note - someone has taken this photo out of this book at some time)

**LaGrange Branch**

**Group of nine - Officers**

Mrs. H. M. Floring  
 Mrs. G. Dutter  
 Mrs. O. W. Seeb, Chairman  
 Mrs. M. O. Stroup  
 Mrs. C. A. Walb  
 Mrs. Omar Elderkin  
 Mrs. J. K. Duff  
 Mrs. C. B. Hinkley  
 Mrs. C. H. Smith

**Group of 23**

Mrs. M. O. Stroup  
 Mrs. G.M. White  
 Mrs. O.W. Seeb  
 Mrs. G.H. Beebe  
 Mrs. C.H. Smith  
 Mrs. C.A. Walb  
 Mrs. George Timmis  
 Mrs. C.B. Hinkley  
 Mrs. C.C. Gillhams  
 Mrs. F.L. Showalter  
 Mrs. J.F. Evans  
 Mrs. M.A. Plyly  
 Mrs. J.D. Clugston  
 Mrs. Glenn Dutter  
 Mrs. J.K. Duff  
 Mrs. W.P. Conkle  
 Mrs. Eugene Fisher

Mrs. E. M. Miller  
 Mrs. D. J. Oliver  
 Mrs. Cynthia Atkinson  
 Mrs. H.M. Floring  
 Mrs. Mary Gravit

### **Howe Branch**

[Group of nine](#) (Standing left to right)

Mrs. Walter Crandall, Secretary; Mrs. Wm. Doll; Mrs. Irving Todd; Mrs. Joseph Kimmel; Miss Marion W. Cooper

(seated left to right)

Miss Isabel W. Cooper; Mrs. Charles Hardiman; Mrs. Raymond Moore; Mrs. O.P. McKee

[Group of seven](#)

Standing left to right

Miss Mary Nichols; Mrs. Frank Wade, Miss Katherine R. Williams

Seated left to right

Mrs. C.D. Kingsbury, Mrs. Alfred A. Wade, Mrs. N.A. Parham, Chairman; Mrs. C.E. Miller, Treasurer

[Group of ten](#)

seated left to right

Mrs. Victor Camp, Mrs. J.A. Duff, Mrs. Arthur Keasey, Mrs. Harley Keasey, Mrs. Lloyd Bricker

Standing left to right

Mrs. Henry Bartel, Miss Marjorie Woodard, Miss Gertrude Keasey, Mrs. Arthur Woodard, Mrs. C. E. Giggy

[Group of ten](#)

Seated left to right

Mrs. Charles Hurst, Mrs. Lewis Taylor, Mrs. Lottie Swilly, Mrs. Belle Graves

Standing

Mrs. William Fair, Mrs. Perry Davidson, Mrs. Samuel B. Nichols, Mrs. William Sweitzer, Mrs. Clyde Harding, Mrs. Gertrude Samson

### **Howe Branch - Surgical Dressings Workers**

[Group of eighteen](#)

standing left to right - Mrs. Walter Haybarger, Mrs. Clyde Harding, Mrs. Doll, Mrs. Elias Mateer, Mrs. Willard Sweitzer, Mrs. Bella Graves, Mrs. Frank Smith, James Ebbert, Fred Smeltzly, Miss Marion Cooper, Miss Isabel Cooper

seated left to right - Mrs. Charles Hurst, Mrs. O.P. McKee, Mrs. Sam'l B. Nichols, Mrs. Joseph Kimmel, Mrs. Raymond Moore, Mrs. Charles Hardiman, Miss Mary Nichols

### **[Brushy Prairie Auxiliary or "Unit" Officers](#)**

Mrs. Frank Stead, chairman; Mrs. Warren Iddings, Mrs. Elvie Greenawalt, Miss Birdella Billman

### **[Wolcottville Branch](#)**

Sitting left to right - Mrs. Albert Hamlin, Mrs. F.S. Sanders, Mrs. I.H. Lawson, Secretary and Treasurer; Mrs. Jennie Phillips, Chairman; Miss Viola Smith, Miss Marjorie Haller

Standing left to right - Mrs. Bill Grossman, Mrs. Will Cary, Mrs. M.A. Stewart, Mrs. Harvey Sanders, Mrs. Vinnie Hall, Mrs. Charles Sutton, Mrs. Merritt Pierce, Mrs. C.E. Fulghum, Mrs. Emma Cutler, Miss Venah Hassinger, Mrs. Frank Eshelman, Miss Marjorie Pierce, Mrs. F.P. Sanders, Miss Mae Taylor

## South Milford Branch

### Group of sixteen

Sitting left to right:

Mrs. Vena Swogger

Miss Edna Mory

Miss Harriet Nesbitt

Miss Mabel Lovett

Standing:

Mrs. Ruth Spice

Mrs. Anna Frances

Mrs. Dessie Nesbitt

Mrs. Madge Kline

Mrs. Mary Helmer

Mrs. Emma Cookerly

Mrs. Cinnie Mory

Mrs. Clemma Walter

Miss Ida Walter

Mrs. Emma Perkins

Mrs. Vennie Reed

Mrs. Kate Newman

### Brighton 'Unit' or Auxiliary

Sitting left to right: Mrs. Daniel Kelly, Mrs. Frederick Smeltzly, chairman; Mrs. Denaman; Mrs. William Swihart; Mrs. C.D. Stuke

Standing left to right: Mrs. Frank Swihart; Mrs. Sue Shattuck; Mrs. H. C. Plank; Mrs. John Good; Miss Margaret Troxel; Mrs. Sidney Harris and baby; Mrs. Charles Troxell; Mrs. Elias Horner; Mrs. J.F. Wimmer; Mrs. Samuel Berger; Mrs. Ida Long; Mrs. Myron Long; Miss Margaret Horner

### Bethal Unit - Clay Township

Standing left to right: Mrs. Mary Slack, Miss Olga Arends, Mrs. Ella M. Anderson, Mrs. Neva Feller, Mrs. Tilly Anderson, Mrs. Sabra A. Bogue, chairman; Miss Etta Metager, Mrs. Ella Gushwa, treasurer

Sitting left to right: Mrs. Melissa Norris, Mrs. Elizabeth Metsger, Mrs. Laura Giggy

### Valentine Unit

Standing left to right: Mrs. Emma Beach, Mrs. Emma Lambright, chairman; Mrs. Dora Jackson, Mrs. Vera Van Drew, Mildred Lambright, Mrs. Gertrude Mills, Mrs. Alice Mills, Mrs. Bertha Beach, Mrs. Belle Oliver, Mrs. Carrie Ward

Sitting left to right: Mrs. Cora Price, Mrs. Alice McKibben, Carol McKibben, Mrs. Mina Mills

## Topeka Branch

### Group 1

Mrs. S. Lantz, Mrs. V. Greenwalt, Mrs. C. Sthair, Mrs. L. Gerber, Mrs. E. Coldren, Mrs. A. Greenwalt, Mrs. L. Babcock, Miss Lizzie Yoder, Mrs. F. Barnes, Mrs. Bender, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. N. Kent, Mrs. W.O. Hildebrand

### Group 2

Standing left to right: Mrs. Lantz, Mrs. Sthair, Mrs. Gerber, Mrs. Coldren, Mrs. Greenwalt, Mrs. Barnes,  
Miss Yoder

Seated: Mrs. Bender, Mrs. Greenwalt, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Kent, Mrs. Hildebrand, Mrs. Babcock

## [Military Records & Information](#)

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