

Actual Work Under Way

The Yellowstone County Council of Defense is well under way in its work, which was made possible only through the good offices of the Billings Clearing House association. While it is regarded as highly probable that the government will reimburse all signers to the subscription paper being circulated by the council, no actual results would have been accomplished had not the clearing house stepped into the breach and advanced the necessary funds with which to procure seeds, feed and forage for the needy farmers who have not established a bank credit.

With this fund at its command, the committee has ordered a trainload of hay, two cars of Marquis wheat, two cars of potatoes, one car of corn for feeding purposes a car of oats, a supply of seed corn, and has secured an option on a carload of flax. A carload of beans is en route to this city and they will be tested for germination purposes, and if satisfactory, all requests for beans will be supplied therefrom. The council also has an option on half a ton of red beans, which while not as popular as the whites, are equally rich in food values.

The council received one of the most joyous surprises of its career yesterday, when B. W. How of Kelly, How & Thompson company of Duluth, the well known hardware firm, presented it with a check for \$1,500. Mr. How was informed that this was hardly necessary; that the funds would not be required until fall and after the losses had been ascertained. With a truly patriotic spirit, he insisted that it be retained, remarking that he might not be here this fall, and suggested that the committee deposit the check at interest and give the proceeds to the Red Cross or some other war organization if it could not use it itself. Naturally, this magnanimous act, is highly appreciated by the members of the council, as it will be by the community in general when it is advised thereof.

The council yesterday approved a number of applications, and grain is being supplied farmers daily now. Perhaps 20 orders for seed and feed grain, particularly wheat, were authorized yesterday. The wheat is being delivered from local storehouses, as are potatoes and oats—the committee yesterday having secured a lot of 600 bushels of oats for immediate use. The members of the council are disposed to be as liberal as consistency with a business proposition will permit, and purpose a continuation of this policy so long as it is apparent that additional land can be advantageously seeded to some food crop. In many cases, feed for horses must be furnished as well as seed grains, this being due to the long winter just closed.

Subscriptions now total upwards of \$22,000. The complete list of signers and the amounts follows: Hart-Albin company \$1,500; Billings Hardware company \$1,500; L. C. Babcock \$1,500; T. J. McDonough \$1,000; H. W. Rowley, \$1,500; T. A. Snidow \$1,000; Dywen Clothing company \$1,000; W. H. North \$10; Billings Brewing company \$500; F. L. Chambers \$100; T. C. Armitage \$100; J. M. Sawyer \$500; T. S. Hogan \$500; Thomas Arthur \$500; Stroud Hardware company \$200; Charles E. Verity \$100; W. M. Johnston \$1,000; F. E. Hanley \$100; Brockway Real Estate company \$500; C. W. Fowler \$300; Rockwood Brown \$500; David Roe \$300; Harry A. Snyder \$500; Gazette Publishing company \$100; Montana Fire Insurance company \$500; Matheson-Vredenburgh Realty company \$500; Roy J. Covert \$500; A. J. McIntyre & Co., \$100; H. M. Allen \$500; Lee Simonsen \$500; M. L. Martin \$100; Mallin-Yates company \$1,000; John J. Rogers \$100; Cole-Williams company \$100; Ryan Grocery company \$500; Renwick Implement company \$500; Russell-Miller company \$1,000; Lorin T. Jones \$100; J. W. Vaughn \$100; Jean P. Docker \$50; W. H. McCormick \$25; Ryniker-Winter company \$25; Chasple Drug company \$100; W. D. Mowre \$100; O. King Grimstad \$500; B. W. How \$1,000, and a number of smaller subscriptions.

About Yellowstone County Council of Defense

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