

THE LADY LUGARD HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Executive Committee:

Lady Lugard,
Hon. Mrs. Rowland Leigh,
Stuart House, Reg.

Secretary:

Miss Cameron.

Visiting Committee:

Her Grace the Duchess of
St. Albans,
Countess of Kingston,
The Lady Cholmondeley,
The Lady Dynevor,
Hon. Mrs. Francis Buxton,
Lady Perley,
Mrs. Stuart Hoag,
Miss Maud Margeson,
Miss V. Cholmondeley,
R. S. Fraser, Esq.

Telephone: 209 KENSINGTON.

51, RUTLAND GATE, S.W.

17th. August, 1915.

All letters to be addressed to
The Secretary, 51, Rutland Gate.

Mrs. W.T. Herridge,
Secretary, Ottawa Women's Canadian Club,
293, Somerset Street,
Ottawa.

Dear Mrs. Herridge,

At a meeting of our Committee on Friday last (13th. inst.) Lady Perley handed to us a cheque for £61. 8. 6. which she told us you had forwarded to her from the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club. I want to thank you and to ask you to convey my thanks to the Ottawa Women's Canadian Club for this extremely generous and most welcome contribution.

Our Committee is engaged in a work in which I feel sure that the Members of your Club would, were they in London, take a great personal interest. The problem of dealing with the working class Refugees is now almost entirely in the hands of the Government, but the large numbers of better class Refugees who cannot be dealt with on the strict lines of Government relief remain to be considered, and it is for them that we are endeavouring to organize such means of living as may be at once economical and

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Her Grace the Duchess of
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Countess of Kinross.
The Lady Cholmondeley.
The Lady Drumvor.
Hon. Mrs. Francis Buxton.
Lady Polley.
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- 2 -

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acceptable. We find that the most satisfactory method of dealing with this class is to organise large houses on the footing of an economical gentleman's establishment. In these houses we are able to use Belgian Refugees of the lower classes as cooks and domestic servants and to organise life on a moderately comfortable and dignified scale for upper class Refugees. The expense of these houses with laundry, electricity, coal, wages, and all other necessary expenses have been made to work out in the summer time at an average of 10/- (£2.50) per head per week, in the winter time when coal and lighting is more expensive the average is somewhat higher. The entertainment which is given for this sum reaches its present standard of comfort only through the help received of houses being lent rent free and contributions of food from Colonial and other funds. We have, however, been obliged to furnish at the expense of the Committee almost all the large houses lent to us and this of course involves a first cost of installation which is considerable.

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The Lady Chelmsford,
The Lady Dymock,
Hon. Mrs. Francis Buxton,
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Mrs. Stuart Hogg,
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-3-

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In addition to these houses we are obliged to maintain also a considerable margin of furnished lodgings in which we place separate families, with separate maintenance allowance, this is necessary because of the many cases which are unsuitable for inclusion in the circle of houses. The expense of the furnished lodgings, although the entertainment given is not so good, is greater per head per week than that of the houses, and we find that the cost of the furnished lodgings works out at 18/6 (£4.62) per head per week. For all the people in our houses we obtain a contribution from the Government at the rate of their working class relief, but we get no contribution for those refugees who we maintain in furnished lodgings. In all of our work, therefore, there is a considerable margin of expense which has to be met by contribution, and we find that we are spending at the rate of £500. per month in excess of the Government grant.

THE LADY LUGARD HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

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Hon. Mrs. Francis Bantam,
Lady Peiley,
Mrs. Stuart Hoag,
Miss Hazel Margeson,
Miss V. Cholmondeley,
H. S. Fraser, Esq.

-4-

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The English public which has contributed most generously to Belgian relief in Belgium is getting tired of contributing to Belgian funds, we are therefore most grateful for every contribution that comes from abroad and we thank you very heartily for the timely help you have sent us.

We shall shortly be issuing a statement of revenue and expenditure and when this is issued we shall be glad to send you a copy, and if you care for any further account of what we are doing I shall be very happy to keep you informed.

Yours sincerely,

Flora L. Lugard