

MINUTES OF A MEETING.

Held in the Wideman Mennonite Church Eighth Line Markham Nov, 17 1917.

The following persons were present. Elders L. J. Burkholder, Isaac Wambold, Christian Gayman, Levi Grove, Thomas Reesor, Samuel Goudie, E. Sievenpiper, Milton Bricker, representing three branches of the Mennonite church, and Fred Elliott, and D. W. Heise, representing the Tunker Church.

These brethren were called together unofficially by Eld L. J. Burkholder for the purpose of considering ways and means by which the Non-resistant bodies which they represent as officials might be able to express in some practical way to the Military representatives of Canada, their profound gratitude, and appreciation for the enjoyment of exemption privileges them from the performance of any class of military service.

After considerable informal discussion, the meeting was called to order by calling L. J. Burkholder to the chair, and D. W. Heise to act as secretary.

The position of the various bodies represented, relative to total exemption was considered at some length, after which the following preamble and resolution was proposed, vis.

Whereas it appears from the official documents and correspondence in the hands of those present, that the Government of Canada through the Militia department has endeavored to make ample provision for the various bodies represented, and yet, there seems to be room for suspicion at least that their security after all is not absolute.

Therefore be it Resolved the Eld S. Goudie as chairman, L. J. Burkholder, E. Seivenpiper, Thos Reesor, and Fred Elliott be a committee to investigate the present situation, and if possible learn definitely what the status of the said bodies really are relative to the said exemption matter, And call a meeting in the near future, and provide for the meeting so called an official name.

The Resolution was sustained.

Meeting was voted to adjourn.

L. J. Burkholder

Chairman.

D. W. Heise.

Secy.

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED MEETING

Held in the Wideman Mennonite Church, 8 th, Con Markham, Dec, 11 th, 1917.

As authorized by resolution adopted by meeting of the 17 th, Nov in the same place. Eld S. Goudie, called a meeting for the purpose of further considering exemption privileges for the Mennonite, and other Noneresistant Bodies.

There were present. Elds S. Goudie, E. Sievenpiper, Milton Bricker, L. J. Burkholder, Thos. Ressor, and D. W. Heise.----- Eld, L.J. Burkholder in the chair.

- (1)  
The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and on motion aproved.
- (2)  
Eld S. Goudie gave a verbal report of the finding of the committee Re Exemption matters, which was accepted as satisfactory, and which indicated that no anxiety need be entertained that exemption has not been fully provided for the members of the Bodies under consideration. Legal information was also submitted as Follows:-

The following is a copy of instruction given by Mulock, Miller&c a legal firm, in the City of Toronto, to the late Bish Samuel Baker of Gormley Ont.

Vis-: " I have endeavored to ascertain the earliest Laws exempting members of Mennonites, Tunkers, and Quakers, from Military service. The earliest one I can find is one passed in the 48 th year of GEORGE 3 rd. and I inclose three copies of Sect 27, which is the only affecting the matter. This Act was ammended by an Act passed in the 50 th year of GEORGE 3 rd. Chap, 11, which gives privilege to MINOR children of the Bodies referred to. The Act at present in force exempting from Military service, is contained in Revised Stetues of Canada, Chap 40.

signed---- W. N. Miller.

- (3) The report of the Committee was on motion aproved.
- (4) It was moved and seconded, and carried; that this meeting call for the appointment of three or more representatives of the various branches of the Mennonite, and the Tunker churches, with the request that delegates so appointed shall meet at a time, and place to be fixed by the chairman, and Secretary, of this meeting, thgether with Eld, S. Goudie. for the purpose of fully organizing, and if possible arrive at some definite plan by which the various churches mentioned may co-opperate by a systamatic method in carrying into effect the worthy object as set forth in the minutes of the previous meeting of Nov 17 th.
- (5)  
It was moved and seconded , that since two of the Mennonite branches already had their representatives available, Eld, S. Goudie, Eld Thos Ressor, and D. W. Heise attend to appointment of delegates for the Bodies which they represent, at as early a date as possible, and notify the chairman of this meeting, as to the names, and addresses of the appointees. Carried.
- (6)  
On Motion it was unanimously decided that this enterprise shall be known as:-  
" THE NONE-RESISTANT RELIEF MOVEMENT OF ONTARIO".

L. J. Burkholder \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman.

D. W. Heise,----- Secy.

MINUTES OF THE NONE/RESISTANT RELIEF MOVEMENT OF ONTARIO.

A meeting of the representatives of the none-Resistant Churches of Ontario was held at the home of Rev. C. N. Good, Kitchener, Ont., Jan. 16, 1918.

Meeting was called to order at 5 P. M. by L. J. Burkholder, Markham, Ont.

After stating the purpose of the meeting, Eld. S. Goudie was asked to lead in prayer.

Organization of the meeting was effected by electing L. J. Burkholder as Chairman, and S. F. Coffman Secretary.

Minutes of the previous preliminary meetings held at Wideman's Church, Markham, Ont., Nov. 7, and Dec. 11th, 1917, were read by S. Goudie, in the absence of the Secretary David Heise.

A discussion <sup>of</sup> the objects of relief was engaged in, in order to define a definite line of work that could be supported by all.

An extract of the Laws of Canada relative to the Military Service of None-Resistant people in Canada, was read by Thomas Reesor. The extracts covered the Laws enacted in 1808 and 1810.

*Thos.* J. Reesor, S. F. Coffman and C. N. Good were appointed a Committee on Resolutions.

Meeting Adjourned.

EVENING MEETING

The meeting opened with prayer by Christian Gasho.

Each <sup>member present</sup> ~~delegate~~ then expressed their personal views, and the views of their Society, regarding the objects of the meeting, and the undertaking of relief for the suffering under War Conditions.

E. Sievenpiper, S. Goudie, C. N. Good, S. F. Coffman, L. B. Heise, C. Gasho, Abr. Gängerich, Thos. Reesor, J. R. ~~Sinder~~, Mr. Martin, were the <sup>members</sup> ~~delegates~~ present at this meeting. *BE*

Adjourned to meet at 8.30 A. M. Thursday forenoon.

THURSDAY FORENOON MEETING

The meeting was opened in the usual manner. The following lead in earnest prayer, Thos. Reesor and Levi Heise.

Whereas the secretary S. F. Coffman was obliged to leave the meeting, on account of other duties, C. N. Good was elected secretary pro-tem.

The following Resolution was unanimously accepted.

Whereas a number of the Mennonites and Tunkers of Markham Town-

ship were led to call a meeting on Nov. 17th 1917, for the purpose of considering ways and means by which the None-Resistant bodies might be able to express in some practical manner, their profound gratitude, and appreciation for the enjoyment of Exemption from the performance of any class of Military Service, and,

Whereas a second meeting of the said representatives was called on Dec. 11th 1917, at which meeting the above subject was further considered, and representatives called for from several of the None-Resistant Churches, and to meet at time and place appointed. And that said movement be recognized as the None-Resistant Relief Movement of Ont.

Therefore we the Representatives of Mennonites and Tunkers assembled Jan. 16th., 1918 at the call of the said preliminary Organization.

Resolved. That we approve of the steps taken at the former meetings and do hereby form ourselves into an Organization, assuming the name, "None-Resistant Relief Organization."

Whereas we are Mennonites and Tunkers, whose tenants of Faith forbid any form of Military Service in time of peace or war, and desirous of help in bearing the burden due to the conditions of war. Therefore,

Resolved. That as the None-Resistant Relief Organization recommend, that a generous Fund be raised among the Churches interested, which shall be donated to the Government, as a memorial of appreciation for the privilege of religious liberty, and our freedom from Military Service, which fund shall be used for relief and charitable purposes. And that a committee be appointed which shall interview the Government for suggestions, as to the disposal of the said donations according to our faith.

We also recommend that an Executive Committee be appointed at this meeting, whose duty it shall be to dispose of the funds contributed.

We further recommend that we encourage a continued support of relief and charitable work during the continuance of the War, and so long thereafter as deemed advisable by this organization.

Resolved. That we request the Executive Committee to write up a circular letter in which is explained the Nature and Purpose of this Organization and that an urgent appeal be made for said purpose, and this letter to be distributed among the bodies represented.

Resolved. That the different representatives appointed by the several None-Resistant bodies, with two additional representatives from Bro. Thos. Reesor's branch of the Church, or their successors in office as may be appointed from time to time, constitute this organization.

Resolved. That the officers of the organization be elected by open vote. Louis J. Burkholder was elected Chairman, and S. Goudie vice Chairman.

Resolved. That one representative from each society represented constitute the Executive Committee.

The following were appointed: L. J. Burkholder, S. Goudie, D. W. Heise, Thos. Reesor, C. Gasho.

The following were elected as a Committee to interview the Government, L. J. Burkholder, S. Goudie, D. W. Heise, Thos. Reesor, C. Gasho, S. F. Coffman.

Resolved. That the secretary supply each member of this Organization with a copy of the minutes of this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned, Eld. S. Cressman, leading in prayer and benediction.

L. J. Burkholder, Chairman.  
C. N. Good, Secretary.

NON RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION

The Executive Committee of the above Organization met in the Wideman Church 8 th line Markham Feby, 11 th, 1918.

Members present, J. L. Burkholder, Saml Goudie, D. W. Heise, and Thos Reesor.

1" The fact was disclosed that the organization of this Committee had not been properly effected, it was therefore moved by Saml Goudie, seconded by Thos Reesor, that J. L. Burkholder be CHAIRMAN, and D. W. Heise Secretary. The motion carried.

2" The Minutes of the organization meeting held in Kitchiner Ont Jany 16 th, were read, and it was discovered that two of the officers names of the organization had been omitted. It was therefore moved and seconded that the name of D. W. Heise be added as Secretary, and that of Thomas Reesor as Treasurer. This motion was sustained.

It was further discovered that the names of the persons representing the different nonresistant bodies which constitute the Organization did not appear in the minutes. To correct this omission, Saml Goudie Moves, seconded by Thos Reesor that the following names with address be entered upon these Minutes. @@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

Omish Brance of Mennonits. CHRISTIAN GASHO, Baden Ont. J. R. Bender, Tavistock, Ont. Christian Shultz, Milverton, Ont.

J. L. Burkholder, s Branch. J. L. Burkholder, Markham, Ont. S. F. Coffman, Vineland, Ont. David Bergey, New Dundee, Ont.

Thomas Reesor, s Branch. Thomas Reesor. others to be added M. B. C. Branch. Saml Goudie, E. Sievenpiper. and C. N. Good.

The Tunker bodie. Fred Elliott, L. B. Heise, and D. W. Heise.

The Motion was carried.

3" In consideration of the Interview had with W. G. Weichle, Ex M.P. As reported to this Committee by S.F. Coffman, and Saml Goudie, two members of the Committee appointed at the Kitchiner meeting already reffered to, for the purpose of interviewing the Dominion Government, Re the objects of this Organization, the distribution of funds etc. RESOLVED

That ~~this~~ we the Executive Committee express our appreciation for the information submitted. And in connection therewith deem it adviseable to instruct the Secretary, S. F. Coffman to approach the Government, by letter, either in a direct manner, or through any MEMBER, or Ex MEMBER, of the Dominion Parliament, with the object receiving suggestions, or open chanel, by and through which the objects, and purposes of this Organization may be carried into effect according to the tenets of faith of the religious bodies represented in this Organization. And report the result to each member of the Executive Committee, with the request that each memner of the Execytive report their individual views to the CHAIRMAN. when further action may be taken as may be deemed adviseable.

4" Saml Goudie, seconded by Thos Reesor moves that the letter submitted by

Meeting of the Committee to Interview the Government  
with a Committee of the Cabinet, at Ottawa, Mar 27, 1918.

Our Committee, Thomas Reesor, David Heise, and S. F. Coffman, met with Hon. F. S. Scott, M.P. for South Waterloo, and arranged for a meeting with the Cabinet Committee at the temporary House of Parliament, at 11:30 AM, but this appointment was changed to 2:45 P.M. The Committee of the Cabinet was to have included Hon. J. A. Calder, Sask. - Minister of Immigration and Colonization; Hon. Arthur Meighan, Manitoba, Sec. of Interior; Hon. Col. McCreburn, Minister of Militia; and Hon. D. W. Rowell, Chairman of the Council. This being the last day of the session previous to the Easter Recess, the members of the Government were very busy and we met with only Hon. J. A. Calder, and Mr. F. S. Scott.

These members of the Government gave your Committee a very attentive hearing, and are much interested in the purposes of your organization. We presented our petition, a copy of which is enclosed, requesting them to advise a method of procedure, and a proper application of the funds donated, and stating the conditions which at present interfere with the carrying out of our purposes. We also presented to them a statement, as per second enclosed copy, showing how there seems to be a conflict between our non-resistance faith and the provisions of the Military Service Act, requesting that we desire some statement or action on the part of the Government which may clear up our standing with the Government regarding the Military Service Act.

The members of the Government whom we met have promised to take up these matters with their fellow-members, at the earliest possible moment after the Easter Recess, and forward to your Committee a report thereupon. They were glad for our explanation of our situation and felt to give us the fullest assurance that our interests would not be disregarded, and that our complete exemption from Military Service would be allowed. Asking that you may continue to pray for your Committee and their work, and for the Government and its efforts to deal righteously with all its citizens, We are,  
yours in the Service of the Master,

S. F. Coffman, Secretary

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE OF N. R. R. O.

Held in the Wideman Mennonite Church 8 th Line Markham March 29 th 1918.

Mambers all present as follows-: L. J. Burkholder, Thomas Ressor, Samuel Goudie, Christian Gasho, and D. W. Heise.

L. J. BURkholder in the chair.

( 2 ) The minutes of Feby, 11 th meeting were read and on motion aproved.

( 3 ) Whereas the decision of the Kitchiner meeting of jany 16 th. relative to having a deputation composed of six members wait upon the Dominion Government with the pbject of securing further data with refference to the purposes of this organization. And whereas, this number was later, by the advice of W. G. Weichle Ex M. P. reduced to "three". And whereas , the personal of the deputation composed of S. F. Coffman, THos Ressor, and D. W. Heise, was selec- ted, and appointed by correspondence, Therefore S. Goudie Sacd by C. Gasho, moves that the a. pointment so made be, and is hereby confirmed. Carried.

( 4 ) The deputation mentioned in clayse (3) presented their report as follows-: "See Report on file"

( 5 ) With the possibility of their being occasion in the near future of further interviews with the members of the Government at Ottawa, relative to exem- ption, and other matters. Therefore S. Goudie, sed by C. Gasho. moves , that in the event of this being found necessary, that S. F. Coffman and D. W. Heise, compose the deputation, with power to add Thos Ressor to their Number. Carried.

( 6 ) The meenting was moved to adjourn to meet again at the call of the Chair.

L. J. Burkholder Chan.

D. W. Heise Secy.



REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Meeting of the committee to interview the government with a committee of the Cabinet ##### at Ottawa, Mar 27 th 1918.

Your Committee composed of Thos Ressor, S. F. Coffman, and D. W. Heise, met with the Hon S. F. Scott of South Waterloo and arranged for a meeting with the Cabinet Committee at the temporary House of Parliament at 11-30 A. M. But this appointment was later changed to 2-45 P.M. The Committee of the Cabinet was to be composed of HON J. A. Caulder, Sask, Minister of Immigration and colonization, Arthur Meighan, Minister of Interior, Col Mewburn, Minister of Militia, and N. W. Rowell President of the Council. <sup>this being</sup> The last day of the session previous to the easter recess, the members of the Government were very buisy, and we were able to meet with Mr Caulder and Mr Scott only.

The members of the government gave your committee a very attentive hearing, and are much interested in the purpose of our organization. We presented our petition ~~of our petition~~, (a copy of which is hereto attached) requesting them to advise a method of procedure, and a proper application of the funds donated, and stating the conditions which at present interfere with the carrying our of our purposes. We also presented to them a statement (as per copy also attached hereto) showing how there seems to be a conflict between our none-resistant faith, and the provisions of the Military service act. Requesting that we desire some statement, or action on the part of the Government which may clear up our standing, ~~with the Government~~ regarding the Military Service Act. The Members of the Cabinet whome we meet have promised to take up this matter with their fellow members, and with the proper officials of the Government, at the earliest possible moment after the Easter recess, and promised to your committee a report thereupon. They were glad for our explanation of our situation, and felt to give us the fullest assurance that our interest would not be disregarded, and that our complete exemption from Military service would be allowed. Asking that you may continue to pray for your Committee and their work, and for the members of the Government in their effort to deal righteously with all of its Citizens, we are yours in the service of the Master.

S. F. Coffman.  
Thos Ressor.  
D. W. Heise.



## To The Various Branches Of The Mennonite, and Tunker Churches in Canada

“Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these”

---

The Non-Resistant Relief Organization was formed in the Month of January, 1918, having for its object the raising of a MEMORIAL FUND, to present to the Government of Canada in recognition of our religious liberty, and for the purpose of relief work made necessary by the present war conditions. The fund is to be used by the Government in whatever way may be found necessary while at the same time using it in harmony with the faith and practice of the religious bodies constituting this organization.

The objects of the organization have considerably delayed on account of uncertainties which obtained relative to the legal status of the churches represented in this movement, under the Military Service Act of 1917, and the Order in Council of April 20th, 1918.

After considerable enquiry and effort these uncertainties have in a large measure been cleared up, and with gratitude to our God, and grateful appreciation to the Government of Canada, we rejoice to be able to say, that we, as a Non-resistant people, shall be permitted the continuance of the privilege of honoring God, and His Gospel principles, and our personal convictions, by being relieved of the duty of taking up arms, and engaging in military service.

While many of our people have been sharing in the works of charity and relief of suffering, giving generously of their labor and means, as far as consistent with their peace-loving principles, the movement in connection with this organization is a special effort, and affords a favorable opportunity to do more work along the same lines, and to share more fully in the privations and burdens of our fellow citizens, and to support the charitable work of the Government.

The Government of Canada has been earnestly solicited to devise for us some plan by which such a donation could be expended for the benefit of the worthy poor, either at home or abroad who are in actual need of relief (preferably widows and orphans) and who are not pledged to support, as war dependants.

In view of the foregoing facts, this letter comes as an earnest appeal to every member of the churches forming this organization. for a generous financial contribution, in the name of Him whose word says, “But to communicate, and to do good forget not, for with such sacrifice the Lord is well pleased”. We should show in a very practical manner, that while we as a people are averse to the bearing of arms, or engaging in carnal warfare in any form, we nevertheless are not a selfish, and unsympathetic people in the matter of our duty towards suffering humanity, fulfilling such duties in harmony with the principles which we profess and by which we live.

We therefore bespeak for all of our people, a large heartedness, and a liberal response to this most worthy cause.

The methods of raising this fund will be left to the choice of each individual congregation, or district, but care should be taken that any method chosen is in full keeping with the principles and practices of those churches, and that it may be done in as private a manner as possible.

Formulated by—D. W. Heise, S. F. Coffman

Approved by—S. Goudie

Executive Committee—I. J. Burkholder, S. Goudie, D. W. Heise, Thos. Reesor, C. Gasho.

P. S.—All contributons should be forwarded to Eld. Thomas Reesor, Treasurer, R. R. No. 2., Pickering, Ont.

NON/RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION.  
A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE TO INTERVIEW THE  
GOVERNMENT.

Waterloo Ont., October 22, 1918.

Your Committee, at the request of the Executive Committee held a meeting at the store of M.C. Cressman, Kitchener, and then waited upon Mr. W.G. Weichel in Waterloo, for the purpose of securing advice concerning certain matters relative to our dealing with the Government. We humbly submit the following as our conclusions upon the subjects considered at our meeting:-

1. We express gratitude for the interest already manifested in and for the response to the appeal for funds for the objects of this Organization.
2. The matter of supporting the Merchant Sailor's Relief was encouraged, and it was considered to be advisable to include money collected for this special object with the other funds placed in the hands of our Treasurer as a part of the Memorial Fund for the Government. Money collected for the Sailor's Relief should be especially specified as such and sent to the Treasurer.
3. The Minister of Finance has had correspondence with some of our people regarding the purchase of Victory Bonds. Understanding the attitude of our people concerning military matters, he recommends the setting apart of any bonds purchased by our people for the sole use of purchasing foodstuffs in Canada. We recommend that this proposition be considered as a special request from the Government for a loan from our people, and, if possible to arrange that money thus loaned to the government be used only for such and other domestic uses, that it may be left optional with our people to purchase bonds of this issue.
4. We also recommend that the possible purchasing of bonds be not considered as a part of the Memorial donation, and should not be allowed to interfere with liberally contributing to the Memorial Fund. The Memorial Fund being a gift of gratitude, the Bonds should be considered a purely business transaction which should lend itself as a means toward larger giving rather than to detract from it.
5. Owing to the present agitation concerning the special exemption enjoyed by our people, both in the press and in public, conditions are such that it is incumbent upon our people to make some special effort to show that we are assuming some larger responsibility in ministering to the needy and suffering. We advise that some special effort be made or plan devised to lay before our people the actual conditions in order that they may be aided in giving largely of the means with which we are endowed by our Heavenly Father and at the same time give freely and gladly.
6. It is the opinion of Mr. Scott, M.P., and of Mr. Weichel that pressure will be brought to bear upon the Government to take away the exceptional privileges granted to us by the Government, and that it might be advisable to petition the Government to restore the special taxation formerly levied upon our people in times of war in lieu of Military Service. They feel, however, that if our people rise to the present occasion in making a liberal donation and supporting the Government in the manner that is specially provided with the present bond issue that the present favors of the Government may be safeguarded for our people and their children for the future. We recommend the consideration of this matter.

7. It is the opinion of Mr. Weichel that it would be advisable for a small deputation of our people wait upon the Premier of Canada and again lay before him our plea for the conservation of our privileges under the Government of Canada, and our experiences during these trying times, at the same time presenting the special gift to the Government as an expression of our appreciation of our past privileges and the consideration of the present Government of our position and its favors toward us, asking of him also the favor of placing the funds in the hands of those who would use them in the manner specified by the doners. Mr. Weichel believes that this method would be the most direct way of presenting the gift to the Government and of pressing our requests with the Government.
  
8. We advise that a special meeting of the Executive Committee be called, or, if considered advisable by them, a meeting of the entire Committee be assembled at the most convenient place and these matters be considered and brought before our people at once, since the loan will be placed for subscriptions on the coming Monday.

We are, humbly,

The Committee.

D. W. Heise,

Thos. Reesor,

S. F. Coffman.

Since the Government of Canada has come to our nonresistant people the Mennonites to tender with a special request for financial support and has shown an opportunity appreciation of the faith which we hold dear by arranging for this the loan of funds that will conform as nearly as possible to our faith and since we owe to the Government under which we live and which has so considerately met our former requests and graciously ~~allowed~~ allowed us our religious liberties, our most loyal support therefor

Be it resolved that we show our loyalty and appreciation toward the Government of Canada by giving the financial support asked for by subscribing for the Bonds of the present issue under the special condition moved by the Minister of Finance

1 That the money loaned or its equivalent to be used only for the purchase of foodstuffs in Canada or for relief work

2 That the application forms used by our people shall be stamped stating the uses of the money to be loaned

3 That the Bonds shall bear a stamp indicating the special object for which the money was loaned and be it further resolved that members of the Bodies represented in this organization shall be at liberty to act upon their convictions in this matter and those who subscribe for Bonds shall not be deemed to have renounced their claims for exemption or to have compromised their principles and any who decline the purchase of Bonds shall be deemed to have acted upon their own convictions and not of the bodies represented and shall not be deemed censured for their conduct.

MINUTES

None-Resistant Relief Organization. Committee of the Whole. Held at Merkham Ont, Oct 30 th, 1918.

Members present. L. J. Burkholder. Thos Reesor. Christian Gasho. E. Sievenpiper. D. W. Heise. Reuben Heise. J. R. Bender. L. B. Heise. S. F. Coffman. and David Bergy.

Eld L. J. Burkholder in the chair.

The meeting was opened by song and prayer.

(1) The minutes of the Organization meeting held in Kitchener Jan'y 16th. last. And the Executive meetings held on the 11 th, Feb, 27 & 29 May, and the 20 th, June were read, and after some corrections were made, were on motion approved.

(2) Thos Reesor secd by R Heise, moves that, The Brethern, Urias Martin, Waterloo Ont, and N. M. Berringer, Elmira Ont, be accepted as members of this organization, with the approval of their respective congregations, or other authority. Carried.

(3) S. F. Coffman, secd by E. Sievenpiper, moves. That we recommend to the Executive Committee, that a part of the Memorial Fund, be appropriated to the Merchant Sailors Relief of Canada. Carried.

(4) L. B. Heise, secd by David Bergy, moves. That we recommend to the Executive Committee that a part of the Memorial Fund be expended in connection with some of the organizations already engaged in reconstruction, and relief work in France, Belgium and other countries, which are absolutely None-Combatant in their operations, and which are not in any way under the arm of any military Law. Carried.

(5) In the matter of the present Victory Loan, Thos Reesor, secd by D. Bergy, moves. That S. F. Coffman, D. W. Heise, and E. Sievenpiper be a committee to draw up resolutions dealing with this matter. Card.

Report of Committee.

In as much as the Government of Canada has come to our none-resistant people, "Mennonites and Tunkers", with a special request for financial support, and has shown an appreciation of the faith we hold dear, by arranging conditions for the loan of funds that will conform as nearly as possible to our faith. (And since we owe to our Government under which we live, and which has so considerately met our former requests, and graciously allowed us to enjoy our religious liberty) our loyal support.

Therefore be it Resolved.

That we, in return show our loyalty, and appreciation towards the Government of Canada, by giving the financial support asked for in subscribing for Bonds of the present issue, under the special conditions prescribed by the Finance Minister, according to the following terms.

(1) That the money lo-



( 2 )

be used for the purchase of food stuffs. or relief only. (2) That that the applications forms used by our people shall be stamped, stating the purpose of the money to be loaned. (3) That the Bonds shall bear a stamp, indicating the special objects for which the money is loaned.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED. That members in the bodies represented in this organization shall be at liberty to act upon their own convictions in this matter. And that those subscribing for bonds shall not be deemed to have in any wise prejudiced their rightful claims for exemption from the performance of military service by so doing, or to have compromised their principles. And that any who decline the purchase of bonds shall be deemed to have acted upon their personal convictions, and not that of the bodies represented, and shall not be censured for their conduct. Carried.

(6) S. F. Coffman, second by C. Gasho, moves. That in order to fully carry out the objects of the foregoing resolutions, the Chairman, and Secretary of this meeting, take immediate steps to place the terms of the said resolution in the hands of the proper authorities, and in the event of meeting with success, that they adopt the expeditious method of communicating the terms and objects to the various congregations represented in this organization. Carried.

(7) D. W. Heise, second by E. Sievenpiper, moves, That S. F. Coffman be authorized by this committee, to compile facts, and submit information, relative to what is expected from the Non-resistant Churches in the matter of donations in return for religious liberty enjoyed. And to urge upon our people the importance of immediate and liberal action as a bounden duty. Carried.

(8) The meeting was moved to adjourn. Carried.

L. J. Burkholder Chairman.

D. W. Heise Secretary.



Bonds of the present Issue, under the special conditions prescribed by the Finance Minister. On the following terms.

(1) That the money loaned, or its equivalent be used for the purchase of food stuffs, or relief work only.

(2) That the application forms used by our people shall be stamped stating the purpose of the money to be loaned.

(3) That the bonds shall bear a stamp indicating the special objects for which the money is loaned.

And, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED.

That,

members ~~represented~~ in the bodies represented in this organization shall be at liberty to act upon their own convictions in this matter, And that those subscribing for bonds, shall not be deemed to have in any wise prejudiced their rightful claims for exemption from the performance of military service by so doing, or to have compromised their principles. And that any who decline the purchase of Bonds, shall be deemed to have acted on their personal convictions, and not that of the bodies represented, and shall not be censured for their action.

Carried.

(7) S. F. Coffman, secd by C. Gasho, moves. That in order to fully carry out the object of the foregoing resolutions. The Chairman, and Secretary of this meeting, take immediate steps to place the terms of these resolutions in the hands of the proper authorities, and in the event of meeting with success, they adopt the most expeditious method of communicating the terms, and objects to the various congregations of the churches represented in this organization. Carried.

(8) D. W. Heise, secd by E. Sievenpiper, moves. That S. F. Coffman be authorized by this committee, to compile facts, and submit information relative to what is expected from the non-resistant churches in the matter of donations, in return for religious liberty enjoyed. And to urge upon our people the importance of immediate, and liberal action as a bounded duty. Carried.

(9) The meeting was moved to adjourn. Carried.

M I N U T E S

---

Of Executive Meeting of the N. R. R. O. held in the Wideman Church Eighth Line Markham Jany, 7 th, 1919.

Members all present, Eld, L. J. Burkholder, in the chair.

(1) Minutes of Oct 30 th , ~~meeting~~ were read and on motion approved.

(2) S. Goudie, secd, by Thos Reesor, moves , that the Secretary take steps to secure information, as to the amount subscribed by members of the Non-resistant bodies; to the Victory Loan of 1918. Card.

(3) The Treasurer submitted a report of receipts to the Memorial Fund, to date amounting to \$ 44.953.00. in Bank. And a further sum in sight amounting to \$ 24.582.00. ~~making~~ making a total of \$ 69.535.00.

C. Gasho, secd, by S. Goudie , moves that the report be received. Card.

(4) D. W. Heise, secd by S. Goudie, moves, that whereas by recommendation of the Committee of the whole of this organization at its last meeting; the Executive Committee were asked to consider the "Merchant Sailors Relief Organization" and also the "Reconstruction, and Relief organizations" who are looking after the interests of Belgium, France, and other countries, when deciding upon the dispensing of the moneys of the Memorial Fund.

And inasmuch as there has already been paid over to the Merchant Sailors Relief, more than \$ 7.000.00, donated by members ~~of~~ represented in this organization, which should have; but did not, pass through the hands of the Treasurer of this organization.

Therefore be it Resolved(A)

That a further sum of \$ 5.000.00, be appropriated to the said Merchant Sailors Relief Fund. \$ 15.000.00, to The Soldiers Aid Commission of Ontario. For the care of, and education of Soldiers Children. And that \$ 40.000.00, of the said Memorial Fund be appropriated as per recommendation(2) of the said Committee of the whole, as follows-: To the Belgium Relief Fund, \$ 15.000.00. To the Relief Work in France, \$ 10.000.00. And to the Armenian Relief Work, \$ 15.000.00.

And be it further Resolved, (B)

That these sums of money, agregating \$ 60.000.00, shall be handed to Sir Robert Borden, Premier of Canada, with the request that the same be turned over to the proper officals of the various organizations named in the above resolution.

And be it further Resolved(C)

That in the event of the Hon, The Premier of Canada, declining to act in this capacity, that this Committee take indipendant action with the object of carrying

into effect the provisions of these resolutions. Carried.

(5) On motion duely seconded. J. L. Byer, and David Grove were appointed to audit the Treasurers Accounts.

And in the same motion, it was decided that the Treasures shall have a report issued, in printed form for distribution, of the receipts from all sources up to date, in sum total, and of the expenditures in detail, with the Auditors report attached.

(6) Thos Reesor, secd, by, S. Goudie, moves that this executive meeting do now adjourn, to meet again at the call of the chair. And that a meeting of the full organization be called some time in the month of Mar, or Apr, for the purpose of reorganization, and other business, and that the date be fixed by the Chairman, and Secretary. Carried.

D. W. Heise.  
Secy.

L. J. Burkholder.  
Chrmn.

P. S.

At the commencement of the meeting above reported, a conference was held with Mr Banks, and Mr Christie, of Toronto, who represented The Soldiers Aid Commission of Ontario, as hereinbefore referred to.

D. W. H.  
secy.

## *Mennonite Relief Fund*

---

R. R. No. 2, Pickering, March 27, 1919.

To the Brethren who have contributed to the Non-Resistant Relief Fund I beg to submit the following report:

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held at Wideman's Church, January 7th, 1919, the following resolution was duly passed unanimously:—

“That the Treasurer shall have a report issued in printed form for distribution, of the receipts, up to date (in sum total) and expenditures, in detail, with auditors' report attached.”

On motion, duly seconded, J. L. Byer and David Grove were appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

D. W. Heise, seconded by S. Goudie, moved that—

“Whereas, by recommendation of the Committee of the whole of this organization, at its last meeting, the Executive Committee were asked to consider the Merchant Sailors' Organization, and also the Reconstruction and Relief Organizations, which are looking after the interests of Belgium, France and other countries, when deciding upon the dispensing of monies to the memorial fund, and inasmuch as there has been paid over to the Merchant Sailors' Relief more than \$7,000.00, donated by members represented in this organization;

Therefore be it resolved—that a further sum of \$5,000.00 be appropriated to the said Merchant Sailors' Relief Fund; \$15,000.00 to the Soldiers' Aid Commission of Ontario, for the care and education of soldiers' children; and that \$40,000.00 of the said memorial fund be appropriated as per recommendation of the committee of the whole as follows:

To the Belgian Relief Fund,	\$15,000.00
To French Relief Work,	10,000.00
To Armenian Relief Work.	15,000.00

I therefore have endeavored to follow the instructions of the committee, and am able to report as follows:—

#### *Relief Fund*

Mar. 27, 1919, Total receipts	-	\$68,367.62
Total expenditure		60,005.50
Balance in banks		\$8,362.12

#### EXPENDITURES IN DETAIL

Mar. 24 Soldiers, Aid Commission of Ontario for the relief of soldiers' children	- - - -	\$15,000.00
Belgian Relief Fund	-	15,000.00
Secours National, French relief		10,000.00
Armenian and Syrian relief		15,000.00
The Navy League, for merchant sailors' widows and orphans		5,000.00
Exchange at banks	- -	5.50
		\$60,005.50

#### *Expense Fund*

Mar. 27, 1919, Total receipts	- -	\$435.96
Total expenses	- -	303.20
Balance in bank	-	\$132.76

The above expenses were incurred by several of the committee interviewing government officials at Ottawa, and also interviewing members of parliament re the Military Service Act.

It also includes traveling expenses on behalf of our boys who were called up for military service, and in addition incidentals under the heads of stationery, postage, telephoning, etc.

The books will be open for inspection at all times to members of the society who contributed to the fund.

THOMAS REESOR, Treasurer.

#### *Auditors' Report.*

Markham, March 27th, 1919.

We the undersigned have carefully examined the accounts of the Treasurer of the Non-Resistant Relief Organization, and we find report as submitted for your consideration to be correct in every way.

DAVID GROVE,  
J. L. BYER,  
Auditors.