

# How Children Have Responded to Call of War

**Special Correspondence**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
WHEN President Wilson said in his April proclamation: "The supreme test of a nation has come; we must all speak, act and serve together," he did not realize perhaps how great a response his words would elicit from the children of the country. Boys and girls of America have proved themselves worthy to be included in his word "we." The children have taken advantage of every possibility for service.

The war, in its biggest significance, is being fought by the United States and the allies for the benefit of the boys and girls of these countries. An English writer, in a book recently published on this idea and addressed to the children, said: "In all your study of the war, make this your first and foremost thought, that the war is for you. It is you who will enjoy the new order of things when the war is done. Your countrymen are giving their lives for their country; it is your country and it is you who will pass your life. Our dead have died for you. It is you who will find this world better than the one you found. You will live in peace because they died in war; you will go to school and grow up because they were killed; you will have a good time because they suffered; you will be able to enjoy your life because they laid down their lives in defense of yours." The English writer goes on to say that the war is being fought for the benefit of the boys and girls of these countries and from all the unmarked graves of the sea, is it nothing to you?



**STATE AND LOCAL LEADER TRAINING CANNING CLUB MEMBERS OF A COUNTY SCHOOL IN FOOD CONSERVATION.**

"Why, the war is for you. You will enter into all that it achieves and inherit all that it earns, and all the miseries of it will be the making of your happiness. There are many good reasons why a man should fight for his country, but he is fighting for the future of his country. And you are the future."

900,000 boys and girls of school age in the United States. In discussing the launching of this junior movement, Dr. Henry M. MacCracken, who has been president of Vassar College since 1915, and who, because of his qualifications as an educator, was chosen for the position of director of the Junior Red Cross, exhibited a rumpled letter, written in pencil, which he says, is responsible for the new work. Here is the letter:

"Dear Sir: I was very glad to see your letter. I am sending my family two or three weeks. We have had no red cross meeting here. I want to see you. I have been going to school, then I cannot go so I do the work at home when I have time. I like to work on it. I work on it when I am home from school and my teachers name is Miss Mrs. D. I read all the letters you have sent and sometimes I read them over when I have time so I will try to get all I can. I have three pennies and buy some towels and send them to the boys and get letters and read them and then answer back to them. I think this is all for this time. My friend truly, From Miss Delcort. Answer back."

**DR. HENRY M. MACCRACKEN,**  
Director of the Junior Red Cross.  
(Photo by Harris & Ewing.)

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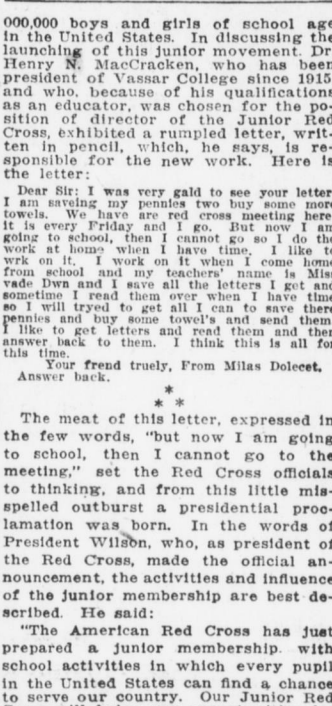
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The meat of this letter, expressed in the few words, "but now I am going to school, then I cannot go so I do the work at home when I have time. I like to work on it. I work on it when I am home from school and my teachers name is Miss Mrs. D. I read all the letters you have sent and sometimes I read them over when I have time so I will try to get all I can. I have three pennies and buy some towels and send them to the boys and get letters and read them and then answer back to them. I think this is all for this time. My friend truly, From Miss Delcort. Answer back."

"The American Red Cross has just prepared a junior membership with school activities in which every pupil in the United States can find a chance to serve our country. Our Junior Red Cross will bring you opportunities to serve to your community and to other communities all over the world and send you a copy of our Junior membership. It will teach you how to save in order that suffering children elsewhere may have the chance to live. It will teach you how to prepare some of the supplies which wounded soldiers and sailors need. It will give you a sense of the thrill of service which we have in our country. It will give you a sense of the thrill of service which we have in our country. It will give you a sense of the thrill of service which we have in our country."

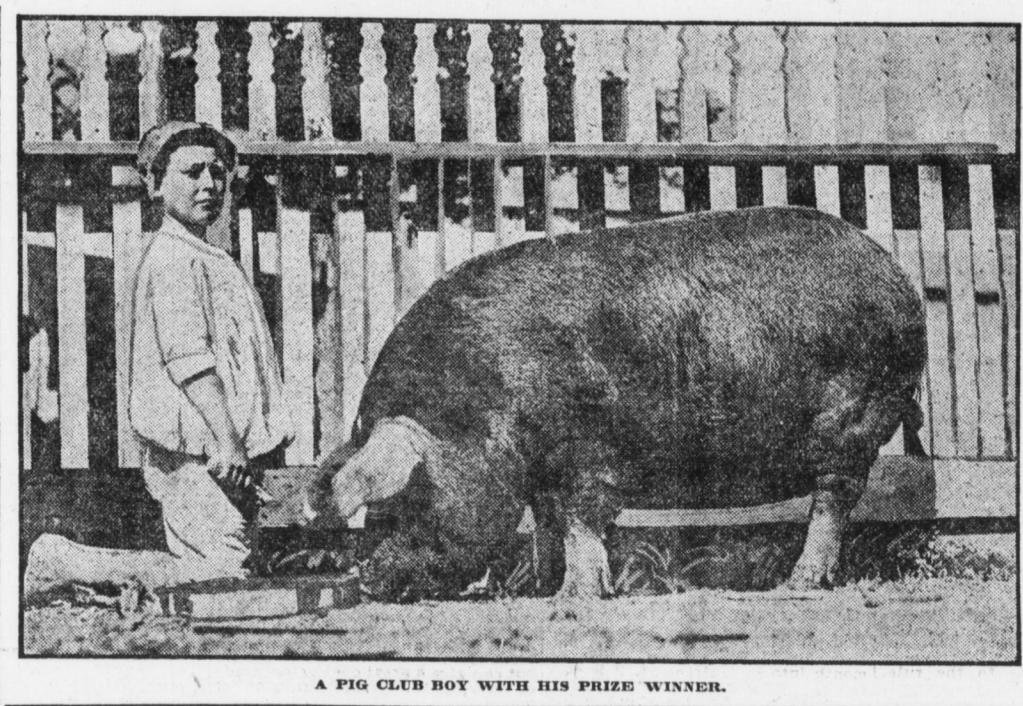


**A PIG CLUB BOY WITH HIS PRIZE WINNER.**

The price of pork products soared skyward during the past season, and the Department of Agriculture thought that it was the psychological time for arousing the boys to see the opportunities afforded by pig raising. The result was that 40,000 boys and girls of an average age of thirteen years in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon and Texas have become active hog-raising members.

The usual work of instructing the boys in the club to understand swine production and the raising of pigs was intensified. The additional motive of giving the boys a means of adding to the meat production of the country and providing a substitute for expensive beef served to excite unusual enthusiasm. Bankers were induced to lend money to the children for a lengthy period on their own promise. A note, a departure from ordinary financial methods, to be used for the purchase of hogs, and the state pig club agents were instructed to give all possible assistance to the young stock raisers.

While it is too early for the returns to have been reported from all the states, owing to the fact that the southern states hold their fairs late in the autumn, a report from Kentucky is typical of the work. Thirty-five pigs were on exhibition by boy owners at the recent state fair. In the spirited contest which took place the members of the club not only competed among themselves, but showed their stock in competition with adult stockmen. The boys carried off one first prize, two second, three thirds and a fourth prize.



**BOY SCOUTS AND THEIR GARDEN NEAR WASHINGTON.**

Forty boys competed in the judging contest. Analogous to these pig clubs are the poultry clubs, which are more attractive to the girls than the pig clubs. This work extends over eight states, with a membership of 12,000 children. Their work record is worth noting. The stock of all the members is valued at about \$40,000. During the poultry season the club members gathered \$4,000 eggs, hatched 58,000 chicks and sold or consumed \$8,000 worth of poultry products. At a fair, poultry shows and contests they won prizes that amount in the aggregate to \$4,685.

All of this work was under federal direction. But the government was by no means the only agency at work during the summer to show young America how to serve its country best. The Boy Scouts—258,000 of them in this country—have done, and are still on the job doing their bit. One of their greatest achievements was the farming of a 120-acre tract near Washington to provide food for the soldiers. Two thousand boys worked on this plot, which overlooks the Potomac, and raised potatoes, beans, cabbages and other vegetables. The work of harvesting this corn will be undertaken by the boys.

In the liberty bond drive the Boy Scouts have been useful assistants. On the last day of the second drive in Washington they went about the city selling bonds, each troop trying to outdo its fellow troop. Order to give all possible assistance to the young stock raisers.

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## This Young Woman Handles Details of a Big Committee

**Special Correspondence**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
MISS HANNAH J. PATTERSON, a young woman who has labored assiduously in one or other of the offices of the woman's committee of the Council of National Defense since that body was created six months ago, and who yielded a definite impression of ability, sincerity and seriousness of purpose, has fulfilled this impression of efficiency, as witnesses her recent appointment to membership in that committee, the latest and youngest member of this important group of women, whose wisdom and understanding are to great extent guiding the war work of the women of the nation.

The young woman is Miss Hannah J. Patterson, and her ability in handling the details of the work of the woman's committee during the six months of its existence led to her appointment as a member, with the distinctive and distinguishing title of "resident director."

Accordingly, Miss Patterson is always to be found at the Washington headquarters of the woman's committee of the Council of National Defense, the little "Playhouse" of old, on N street.

It was on a day very shortly after her appointment to membership on the woman's committee that an interviewer called upon Miss Patterson for a talk

about the new work she has undertaken. It would seem that this young lady who presides over the destinies of things at headquarters is expected to place her hand on the exact location of any of the members of the woman's committee, with an intimate knowledge of the work on which each one is engaged, so that she may either fully and definitely answer every question that is asked regarding the work of the committee or refer it to the authority on the subject. In other words, her desk will be the clearing house for information on all matters concerning the work of the woman's committee. She must know to the last detail what is planned, and what is going on, and she must be able to disseminate that knowledge and information to impart counsel and advice, cheer and encourage with the wisdom and sympathy of a Portia.

But work is heavy with Miss Patterson. "If it will help women and children, so much the better," she says, and she knows that by leading the women to fight their present war of righteousness she is doing her noblest present part in helping the women and children of this and other lands.

This is how Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, the chairwoman of the woman's committee, introduced Miss Patterson: "The woman's committee is very happy to announce the appointment of the Council of National Defense of Miss Hannah J. Patterson as a member of the woman's committee. All correspondents issued by her will have been authorized by the woman's committee and



**MISS HANNAH J. PATTERSON.**

Me, what the woman in San Diego, Cal. is doing, thus to assist and stimulate all the states by the record of help and harmonious activity.

The important subject of food production and home economics came within the scope of the second department and is under the direction of Mrs. Stanley McCormick. That department works largely in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture and looks to encourage production and eliminating

waste wherever it appears in the household. It will encourage an educational propaganda on the subject through schools, settlement centers and in every possible way.

Now here is an idea that may be sent down the line for experiment next season. Some of the women of New Jersey planned a 'cafeteria' method of picking vegetables and fruit. This plan has been under way since November and reached Summit, N. J., that a farmer plowed under a whole field of peas because he could not get pickers. The canning unit of the woman's committee is under the direction of Mrs. G. M. H. Patterson. This unit is not to plow under until the women have a chance to pick. They have outlined a system for next season by which one goes into the field, picks what peas or beans one wants, has her basket plowed under the way out and pays the price less the labor.

The third department is food administration, and Mrs. Ida M. Tarbell is its director. There is no outline for this department, because it will serve as the logical channel for giving the women of the land the plans of the food administration as they are formulated.

The department relating to women in industry is under the direction of Miss Agnes Nestor, who understands the industrial situation in this country as do few women. Her work will connect in large degree with the operations of the Department of Labor. She will investigate standards of work and conditions under which women work in factories. You know that in this industry upheaval and the going away of men to war, the logical channel for giving women to be put in the places of men where the labor is too heavy. Miss Nestor will try to look after that side of the problem as well as that of housing the

women who will be brought in great numbers to the industrial centers by the exigencies of the war.

Mrs. Philip N. Moore's assignment covers two related departments, special work—social service and health and recreation. The department of social service was set up solely to bring to the correct agencies women who are able to give time and effort to social service, especially as it relates to camp life and in preserving the peace time social standards therein. This department endeavor to get in touch with persons who understand the handling of people, or with those who are willing to go under a course of instruction for this work, so that they may give trained assistance to the recognized associations who need help. In every state where camps of soldiers are in training the woman's committee has been grappling with the gnat of problems that they create. In its work Mrs. Moore's departments will co-operate with the commission on training camp activities.

"The letters we receive at committee headquarters are inspiring, and I do not hesitate to say that we receive as much stimulation from them as we can get. The women of the country are doing nobly in their war work, showing great initiative and energy."

The new resident director of the woman's committee is the daughter of John G. Patterson, a prominent coal operator of Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of Washington College, Chambersburg, where she made a distinguished record in economics. She was secretary of the Clitics Club of Allegheny, Pa.; was one of the board of directors of the Juvenile court of Pittsburgh, treasurer of the Soho public bath, and was a member of the board of directors of the People's bath at Pittsburgh. Although a young woman, she has already won a reputation for unusual ability as an organizer.