

OYSTER BAY AIDS BELGIUM.

Citizens' Pledge \$2,000 a Month to Feed Children in Town of Huy.

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OYSTER BAY, L. I., March 4.—At a mass meeting held in the Opera House here this afternoon, under the joint auspices of the Commission for Relief in Belgium and women interested in auxiliaries, \$2,000 a month was subscribed for midday meals of homeless and needy children of Huy, Belgium. The town is about the size of Oyster Bay, and is in the Province of Liège, Belgium. It was announced by members of the commission that in a short time New York State would be organized in the same manner as Oyster Bay, to provide meals for the homeless children of the whole Liège province. To do this, it was said, a fund of more than \$2,000,000 would be needed, and this was being raised by women well known in society.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, George Barr Baker of the commission, and Mrs. Vernon Kellogg were the speakers this afternoon. Colonel Roosevelt made a brief speech, in which he said:

"If we cannot be brave we can be decent, and do what we can to help the suffering little ones of the stricken country and assist Mr. Hoover and his band, who are the sort of Americans we needn't be ashamed of."

Colonel Roosevelt said the United States Government should appropriate money to aid the fight against starvation in Belgium.

"We should give liberally and wholeheartedly," he said, "since at some future date this country may have to depend upon charity for the lives of its children. Seven years ago I was in Brussels. I heard many persons voicing their opinion of Belgium's absolute freedom from danger with the same fatuity that many of our own people now display. What Belgium's men, women and children now are suffering your children and grandchildren may suffer at some future date."

The Colonel said he would contribute to the care of twenty children for the rest of the war.

John F. Bermingham, Vice President of the Lackawanna Coal Company, presided at the meeting.

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