Mobile Canteens

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cooker for tea, coffee, eggs and sausages; and, in cases of heavy bombing and evacuation from towns, they can be used as soup kitchens for civilians. Only yesterday I had mine inspected and listed for just such a contingency. They will feed the children when towns are so heavily bombed that they can not get food in normal places.

The Mobile Canteens are also like country stores, selling every sort of thing at cost like soap, chewing gum, cigarettes, bootlaces, ink, batchelor buttons, tooth raste, razor blades, combs, stamps. We give away writing paper and carry a mobile library and magazines to the outposts. We post their letters, do any shopping, mend their socks and take away washing if necessary.

I run my canteens under the Y. M. C. A., charging only enough to cover expenses. A large cup of coffee or tea is 1d. Home made sandwiches 1½d., cakes 1d. each; egg, toast, margarine and a helping of beans with tea or coffee for 6d. My drivers and helpers are all voluntary and I put the canteens out where they are most needed.

The Y. M. C. A. lost thousands of pounds of equipment at Dunkirk and it is like starting all over again with increased calls upon them. The advantage of sending the money for these Mobile Canteens to me is that, regardless of red tape of organizations, I see that the vans are put where they are most required.

I use the Woman's Voluntary Service Organization to get my helpers and drivers, who know the rambling roads where all sign posts are down. I hope I've given you a picture of what the work is. The emergency is stupendous.

To have these canteens marked "Gift of Charlotte", or "Winsston-Salem," or "Asheville," or "Tryon, North Carolina"; or "Mrs. of "will not only bless the givers by bringing those little comforts that some-

how seem more important than the big essentials, but will be a vital factor in helping Britain win the war; because, I do not need to tell you, it is the spirit of good cheer and faith in the dogged courage of these thousands of simple people that is of all things important.

I know you will not fail me,

(Signed) Nancy Perkins Tree. Each Mobile Canteen, completely equipped, with the placque of good cheer from the donor costs \$1,500. Community organizations and individuals should make checks payable to the Al'ied Relief Fund, Inc., care of Winthrop Aldrich The Chase National Bank, New York City, and send them with an accompanying letter directing that each gift for a Mobile Canteen should be sent to Mrs. Ronald Tree, Ditchley Park, Enstone, Oxford, England.

Building Service

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W. M. Hester, Manager

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