

# The N.A.D. and the Victory Fund

Almost a year has passed since the great National Association of the Deaf Victory Fund Drive closed on Labor Day. Virginia was the third State among the States making largest contributions to the Victory Fund, contributing a total of \$586.69. Only New York and California was ahead of Virginia. The nation-wide drive netted a sum exceeding seven thousand dollars.

The N. A. D. officers promised us an announcement of what kind of gift to our fighting forces would be as soon as possible, but the promise has not been fulfilled to date. This failure has put the editor of the Silent Cavalier in an embarrassing position since he was responsible for soliciting contributions to the Victory Fund throughout the State of Virginia and the District of Columbia. The editor is unable to explain why the N. A. D. officers are so tardy in making any action on the Fund, and it is up to those officers to explain the reason themselves.

The probable reason for such a delay is due to the fact that the N. A. D. officers have devoted much of their time to activities outside of the association. If this is true, they should frankly admit it with clear conscience. We know that anybody who holds a responsible position outside of the N. A. D. can hardly pay much attention to his office in the N. A. D., but we are unable to understand why the action on the Fund has not been accomplished in eleven long months.

The N. A. D. officers are supposed to discharge their duties for the welfare of the deaf as best as they can whatever their outside interests are. Those who feel that they can not serve the deaf well because of too much time being devoted to their other duties should tender in their resignations as N. A. D. officers. In this point of view, the present officers may be able to admit the fact publicly and explain to the American deaf the purposes of the N. A. D. Endowment Fund, one of which is to establish a national headquarters where full-time officers may devote their entire time to the welfare of the deaf. Since the present Endowment Fund committee has done nothing so far, now is the time for the president of the N. A. D. to reorganize the committee in order to speed up the solicitation of funds throughout the nation.

The editor, from his past experience in the work of the State association of the deaf, believes in the need of the N. A. D. as a clearing house for State associations for the deaf. The N. A. D. should belong not only to the deaf individual but to the State Associations for the deaf. In the past the Reorganization Committee, most of whose members never had any experience in State association work, never consulted with officers of State associations for necessary advice before preparing a plan for reorganization. It is believed that the present committee should be replaced by a new one composed of officers of State associations, who will send out questionnaires to officers of all State associations and, upon receipt of answers to the questionnaires, will study ways and means toward the reorganization of the N. A. D. and make its report at the next convention in Louisville, Kentucky, next year.

The N. A. D. should never cease to exist because of its past record which have caused our loss of interest in it. The trouble should be traced to the individual officers of the N. A. D.—not to the association itself. The N. A. D. can be our greatest association if we stick together and elect the right individuals to run our National Association. There is no doubt that the N. A. D. can be revived with full vigor if steps are taken to reorganize the above-mentioned two committees now. By the way the Reorganization Committee CAN find the hidden leadership among the deaf who belong to the State Associations IF they WILL take the trouble to do it, thus exploding the idea that there are not enough leaders found among the deaf.