

RED CROSS WAR CAKE

2 cups brown sugar
 2 cups hot water
 2 tablespoons lard
 1 teaspoon salt
 1 teaspoon cloves
 1 teaspoon cinnamon
 1 package (8 ounces)
 raisins, chopped
 1 teaspoon baking soda
 3 cups flour

Preheat oven to 350° F.
 Put everything but soda
 and flour into a 2-quart
 pot. Bring to a boil over
 medium heat, stirring
 frequently. Boil 5 minutes
 after it bubbles, then cool.
 Stir in soda and flour.
 Put batter into 2 lightly
 greased mini-loaf pans.
 Bake 45 minutes. Cake
 keeps fresh for a long time
 and can be sent to men at
 the front. (*Conservation
 Recipes* [Minneapolis:
 Women's Committee of
 Minnesota Commission
 of Public Safety, 1917],
 Minnesota Historical
 Society)

conservation dinners and sales. Some combined food conservation with fund-raising by selling their own conservation cookies. Eleanor Nutchell of St. Cloud described their work: "We have sold these for fifty cents, forty cents going to Red Cross.... 'High Five' I call that, but I think too that people are more likely to remember

this department. As yet no one has been found who will make us the much demanded baked bean!"

There were causes to support at every turn. In addition to regular fund-raising efforts on behalf of the YMCA and the Red Cross, all the cost of the war was financed by a series of five Liberty Loan bond issues, sold by volunteers in campaigns managed by the Federal Reserve Bank. Their efforts raised a billion. Individuals could purchase these 30-year bonds in denominations between \$50 and \$1000. The bonds paid interest of between 3.5 and 4.75 percent, varying with the campaign. A Thrift and War Stamp campaign encouraged regular savings in small amounts between 25 cents and \$4.25.²⁹

The 27 boys in St. Paul Boy Scout troop #76 sold more Second Liberty bonds than any other troop in the United States. They raised \$10,000 from 785 donors.³⁰

Social events across the country went to war, too, as the local Red Cross chapters in Minnesota tried novel fund-raising methods. They put on plays or concerts and



The cost of the war was financed by the sale of bonds, rallies, and direct appeals to the battlefield and in the treasury.