

Little-known fund benefits needy residents

By Gordon B. Seavey
Eagle correspondent

A little-known charitable organization which has been aiding destitute persons for over 70 years received a financial boost last month when Mrs George E Downey, president of the Whitney- Herrick fund, announced a gift of utility stock valued at \$2,500

It is being added to the original fund of \$10,000 established in 1918 through the wills of Mrs Elizabeth Whitney and Miss Eliza Herrick. With two previous lesser additions, returns from invested funds are used for the "relief of the needy and unfortunate citizens of Westford" without further restrictions.

While this new gift will be extremely helpful,

the fund is still pitifully small to make much of an impression, a board member recently stated. Similar donations would be appreciated. Mrs Downey urged

Commentary

Over the years, money has been dispensed to help local people with electric and fuel bills, camp scholarships for children of working mothers and aiding with special nursing and health needs.

Mrs Whitney, one of the original donors whose foresight and money originated the fund, lived on

Leland Street and was also the donor of the Whitney Playground at the Center. Miss Herrick lived in the brick-end house on Main Street, until recently part of the Abiel Abbot estate.

It is obvious that the fund will continue for many years to come, and it is suggested that some might wish to leave a charitable addition, particularly as tax time approaches, or in their wills to boost this very personal undertaking.

It originated with two women's organizations of the First Parish Church, the Ladies Sewing Circle and the Women's Alliance. It is non-sectarian.

Other officers of the trust include Diane Fisher, Barbara Lamson, Gertrude Morton, Norma Treat and Carol Wright.

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