

They rally to hero's widow

RESIDENTS of Keilor Shire are rallying to the aid of the widow and family of Henricus van der Kruys, 41-year-old Dutch migrant, who was drowned in the Maribyrnong River on Sunday, helping to save the child of a friend.

Mr. Bolte, Premier, said last night the family would be offered a Housing Commission home at a weekly rental of 8/.

Cr. J. Eddie, Shire President, said last night he had opened a relief fund to help Mrs. van der Kruys and her eight children with a donation of five guineas from himself and his wife.

He said Cr. and Mrs. Bert Lake, of Keilor East, and Mr. H. Knowles, of St. Albans, had also given five guineas.

"I did not know Mr. van der Kruys personally, but people who did know him have told me that he was a good husband and father, and an excellent citizen," said Cr. Eddie.

"He was a hero, too, a Keilor resident of whom we should be proud."

Mr. Harold Holt, Immigration Minister, sent the following telegram yesterday to Mrs. van der Kruys: "My wife and I send our deep sympathy in the tragic loss of your brave husband."

On Mr. Holt's instructions a social worker of the De-

partment visited the widow and offered immediate assistance and advice on what other help she could obtain.

The Argus has received a cheque from Mrs. M. E. Millett, of Avoca st., South Yarra, which will be forwarded to the Keilor fund.

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At a dinner last night committee members of the Victorian Racehorse Trainers' Association took up a collection and raised £43 10/.