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Africare aids starving Africans

Africare, a private, non-profit organization concerned with health improvement in rural Africa, has launched a Famine Relief Fund Drive to raise emergency funds for the drought-stricken "Sahel" Region of West and Central Africa.

The Drive's goal is "6 for 6": \$6,000,000 for the 6 afflicted nations where up to 6 million people will die of famine and drought-related disease unless they get help within weeks.

Africare intends to send volunteers with expertise in rural Africa to buy and distribute food, medicine and crop seed throughout the stricken area in cooperation with the countries' ongoing relief programs.

The Drive is staffed predominantly by volunteers based in Washington. They are recruiting an expanding network of volunteer workers around the nation. From its D.C. headquarters at 2204 R Street N.W., the volunteers now work day and night on a joint "communications and contributions campaign", to generate the publicity, the concern and the urgently needed relief before it becomes too late to save many of the people.

Speaking at a press conference to inaugurate the Drive, Africare President C. Payne Lucas stressed that only massive public response could help avert the staggering human tragedy facing the Sahelian nations. He said "We must remember that these countries have agriculturally-based economies. That means they're doubly jeopardized by natural disasters. The people can't feed themselves if the crops fail or the livestock dies, and the governments lose revenues on which their economies significantly depend."

Drought is not uncommon to the Sahel Region, as Mr. Lucas noted. But neither the governments nor the nomadic herdsman and small farmers involved in this crisis could have predicted its 5-year duration nor prepared themselves for its devastating effects.

In addition to the poor and unseasonal rainfall, overgrazing by herds newly-enlarged through immunization and well-digging projects helped upset the ecological balance of this vast desert bordering region, stretching for nearly a million square miles through Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Chad, and Upper Volta.

Today there is hardly anything left to eat or even to plant if the rains do come to the Sahel, and they are already late. Life-sustaining cattle, sheep and camels have been dying by the millions. Already, some areas may have lost as much as 80% of their livestock, their primary source of protein. Now, its natural resistance broken down after years of undernourishment, the human population is succumbing to diseases normally taken in its stride. The weakest - and the most pathetic - are the first to die: The elders, the sick, and the children.

Meanwhile, Reverend Ralph D. Abernathy, who has announced his resignation as head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in a Buffalo speech last week called for Nixon's impeachment. Abernathy said the President "is totally insensitive to the needs of poor people. He has turned a deaf ear to the pleas and cries of ordinary people, both Black and white."

Impeach

(Continued from page 1)

West Point apps due

Senator Mark O. Hatfield, R-Oregon, announced recently that he is accepting applications for nomination for appointment in the 1974 entering class of Cadets in the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

To qualify for the competition, an applicant must be unmarried and must have reached his 17th but not his 22nd birthday by June 30, 1974. The minimum educational requirement is a high school diploma; however, high school seniors assured of graduation by June 30, 1974, are eligible to compete.

Senator Hatfield emphasized that the competitive

nomination method is employed in the selection of nominees. Using this method, ten nominations are submitted to each academy based on the applicant's high school scholastic and extracurricular activities as well as employment record (and preparatory school or college record, if applicable), letters of recommendation, and the results of the College Entrance Examination Board tests. This method, Hatfield continued, is the fairest possible means of selecting Oregon's finest young men.

Applications and additional information may be obtained by writing to: Senator Mark O. Hatfield, Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Full employment

(Continued from page 1)

What about those who aren't lucky enough to find a job? The government says there are 4.3 million of them. But that is only because the government counts only people actively looking for work who can't find it.

The fact is that there are millions of people who are not officially counted as being unemployed because they have given up looking for work, or because they are working part-time, even though they may prefer to hold full-time jobs. If you add these discouraged job-seekers and under-employed, you'll find that there are actually about ten million unemployed people, over two million of them Black.

Instead of the official rate of 4.8 percent unemployed, a more accurate picture shows ten percent of the labor force out of work, with a twenty percent rate for Black workers.

This grim reality has been hidden behind doctored statistics, misleading rhetoric

THE FAMILY LAWYER

Rights of Unwed Father

Does an unwed father have any right to the custody of his child? As a rule, in case of dispute, the law gives preference to the mother. Two arguments are generally cited in her favor:

- 1) that mother's love is a more powerful emotional tie than father's love; and
- 2) that the mother's kinship to the child is more certain than the father's.



But suppose the mother is out of the picture - perhaps unwittingly in the child, perhaps unfit, perhaps dead. Then, may the unwed father insist on custody if he so chooses?

The question arises in conflicts with the mother's relatives or with a community agency. The tendency in recent years - perhaps reflecting greater attention to the role of the unwed father - has been for the courts to rule in his favor.

For example: In a custody fight between an unwed father and the maternal grandmother, the court awarded the child to the father. The court felt that, other things being equal, the closer relationship should make the difference.

Of course, the father himself may be disqualified by his own failings. In another case, an unwed father filed suit to gain custody of his two young daughters. They had been entrusted by their mother to her aunt.

However, the court decided that the children were better off where they were, with the aunt. The court pointed to evidence that, on several occasions, the father had been guilty of "cruelty and depravity" - hence, was not likely to provide a proper home for the girls.

As one judge put it: "The polar star for determining the custody of children is what serves the best interests of the children."

A public service feature of the American Bar Association and the Oregon State Bar Association. Written by Will Bernard.

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Save energy

Energy Crisis! Gasoline Shortage! Black-outs! Brown-outs!

Headlines like these have made most Americans aware of the energy problem. It can be frightening to think about, but you can help.

The Department of the Interior has published a pamphlet called **Energy, America and You** which offers some steps you can take to help cut the use of electricity, natural gas and gasoline. Free single copies may be obtained by writing to Consumer Product Information, Pueblo, Colorado 81009.

Some helpful tips to conserve energy at home, at work and in between are:

- Make sure your cooling and heating equipment is clean and well lubricated. If possible, add insulation to your house where needed.
- Use your stove efficiently. Make one-pot meals or cook more than one food at a time in the oven.
- Cut the number of times you open the refrigerator storing or removing several items at a time.
- Save water. A dripping faucet wastes water that has to be pumped to your house, and if it is hot water, energy to heat it.
- Use clothes washers, dryers and dishwashers only with full loads. And use them in the evening, early morning or on weekends when energy requirements are not as great.
- Stop and think before you turn on light switches. Do you really need the extra light, or is it just habit? If you do need the light, turn it off when you leave the room.

Applications available for education grants

Oregon students who need money for their education after high school may now apply for Basic Educational Opportunity Grants, according to William E. McLaughlin, Region X Commissioner, Office of Education, Seattle.

Approximately \$500,000 is available this year under this new program administered by HEW's Office of Education, for some 8,000 State students.

"Although limited this year to first-year, full-time post-secondary students, the program is expected to benefit an estimated one-half million students who might otherwise be unable to continue their education," McLaughlin said. "Along with other Federal programs of student financial aid, it marks significant progress toward the ultimate goal of making post-secondary education available to all young people who desire it."

Under the Basic Grant program, students in financial need may obtain funds to help pay their educational expenses at any approved college, university, vocational school, technical institute, or hospital school of nursing. How much a student or his family can contribute affects the amount of his Basic Grant and is determined according to a formula established by the U.S. Office of Education.

of the Basic Grant to which he is entitled.

Application forms are now available at student financial aid offices at postsecondary institutions, high school guidance offices, post offices, State employment offices, county agricultural extension agents, and Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Student Special Services projects. If unavailable in your area, write to Box G, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.

For further information on Basic Grants and other student financial aid programs, students should contact their high school counselor or the financial aid officer at the school in which they expect to enroll.

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