

An Appeal to the American People

THREE and one-half million children in Eastern and Central Europe have no alternative to disaster between now and next harvest except American aid. For months, because the needy were so numerous and the available funds so limited, these most helpless sufferers in the track of war have been admitted to American feeding stations only if tragically undernourished, and have received American medical aid only if desperately threatened by death from disease.

Winter is closing down. The money of many nations is valueless outside their own boundaries. Economic and crop conditions, aggravated over considerable areas by actual warfare last summer, make famine, with its terrible train of diseases, a certain visitor until next harvest. Inevitably the helpless children will suffer most. No child can grow to health and sanity on the pitiful makeshifts for food with which millions of European adults must content themselves this winter. It is obvious that the remedy can come only from outside.

America saved 6,000,000 European children winter before last. Normal recuperation cut the need nearly in half last year, but unusual conditions have resulted in scant shrinkage of child destitution during the twelvemonths just past. The response of America must now decide whether 3,500,000 of these charges, in acute distress, shall begin to be turned away from more than 17,000 asylums, hospitals, clinics and feeding-stations dependent on American support. There would be no tragedy in history so sweeping or so destructive of those who can deserve no evil.

Numerous organizations, working among every race and creed, many engaged also in other forms of relief, agree unanimously that the plight of these helpless children should have complete priority in overseas charity until the situation is met. This is an issue without politics and without religious lines. There can be no danger of pauperization, for the \$23,000,000 for child food and the \$10,000,000 for medical service that we seek, will relieve only the critical cases. The medical supplies, of course, must be an unqualified gift, but for every American dollar used in child-feeding, the governments and communities aided furnish two dollars in the form of transportation, rent, labor, clerical help, cash contributions and such food supplies as are locally obtainable.

America has not failed in the past in great-heartedness. She has never had a more poignant call than this.

ARMENIANS and CHINESE

Are Starving by the Thousands

Pendleton, You **MUST HELP!**

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