

### AMERICANS DOING BIG RELIEF JOB

#### TRIBUTE TO THEIR AID

Remarkable Success Attendant on Efforts in Greece Told By Director; Significance Notable

The remarkable success which has attended the settlement of 1,000,000 refugees in Greece since the Smyrna disaster, is a tribute to the stimulus of American energy and leadership, declared Barclay Acheson, overseas director of the Near East Relief, in an interview on his arrival here for the annual meeting of the national board of trustees of his organization.

Although public imagination was stirred by the unprecedented migration of more than a million Greeks from Asia Minor four years ago, and later by the manner in which they were welcomed and absorbed by a Greek population not five times their number, the full significance of these events, unprecedented in history, is only shown by the definite record of the refugee settlement activities of the past three years. Mr. Acheson, in his interview, summed up in a comprehensive and detailed way the task involved in the settlement on the land and in towns of such a large aggregation of homeless, destitute and impoverished people. He explained:

**First Invasion**  
"In the autumn of 1922 Greece experienced the first invasion of those who fled from the catastrophe in Asia Minor—a tide of human wreckage thrown up in her ports in complete disorder. The second and third invasions followed at intervals of a few months. American relief workers decided that this refugee problem could not be left to the unaided efforts of the Greek government for solution.

"It was accordingly arranged that, in addition to the voluntary efforts of the various relief organizations, Greece should be provided with funds by means of an international loan. The Greek government agreed to assign certain lands for the refugees, and an international commission was appointed under the chairmanship of Henry Morgenthau, founder of the Near East Relief, to administer the whole problem.

"At the last report, 147,000 families had been established on the land, representing 551,000 individuals, and the commission had spent nearly \$40,000,000 of the \$50,000,000 secured for its use through the international loan. It was estimated that only about 10,000 rural families were still awaiting settlement, but the balance of the funds was required to finish the program of the commission."

#### Tribute to Government

Mr. Acheson paid a tribute to the Greek government and people for the way in which they had joined forces with the Morgenthau commission in the work of reconstruction. "Weak spots manifested themselves, of course," said Mr. Acheson, "but the story of three years' work reflects great credit on all concerned. Today the great majority of the refugees are settled, working and producing. Success in the future seems assured.

"There is still much to be done. In many areas there is overcrowding which requires adjustment. Difficulties regarding title have caused friction among the settlers, which will tax the good will and resourcefulness of the Greek officials to adjust.

**American Leadership**  
"But the fact remains, as a living commentary on the enormous value of American leadership, that the refugee settlement in Greece has had a profound and lasting effect on the whole political, social and economic life of the country. Greece has found room within her borders for a virile section of her people who previously lived abroad and made no contribution to the fatherland.

#### IMPORTANT EXHIBIT OF PAINTINGS SOON

Will Begin at Art Institute In Chicago Feb. 3; Lasts Until March 8

The most important exhibition of the year so far as local interest in painting and sculpture is concerned will open at the Art Institute on February 3 and continue until March 8. This will be the thirty-first annual exhibition by artists of Chicago and vicinity. This is peculiarly the home show, the one holding the greatest interest for the people of the midwest, for it reveals the best work of our own artists and shows from year to year the progress they have made. And the history of these exhibitions will also reveal the fact that many of the painters and sculptors, who showed their maiden efforts at the Chicago exhibition, have since become nationally famous, with their work hanging in the most important museums in America. The coming exhibition, therefore, will be welcomed with interest and the works exhibited, both in painting and sculpture, eagerly scanned for evidence of blossoming genius. The jury to select the entries are men of national reputation, all being directors of important art museums. They are: Edward W. Forbes, director of Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, Mass.; L. Earle Rowe, director Rhode Island School of Design; and Samuel L. Sherer, director City Art Museum, St. Louis.

### MORE CONGRESSMEN? NOT IF THEY KNOW

#### No Likelihood of Redistribution Before 1930 If Congress Can Avoid It

Congress has been five years trying to reapportion representation of its membership. After every federal census the congress has habitually increased the number of representatives, and consequently the number of congressional districts. This has been done in proportion to the nation's population. In 1911 this process brought the house to the unwieldy size of 435 members. Consequently when it was proposed in 1921 to add another flock of fifty or sixty congressmen there was, "nothing doing." To equalize the representation among the states someone now proposes a plan that would give twelve states a gain while sixteen states would lose.

The chances are that there will be no reapportionment until after the 1930 census is taken.

### ART ARRANGEMENT

#### But Misprint of Criticism of British Expert Causes Amusement

Much praise has been given to the hanging of paintings in the various exhibitions which have been shown at the Art Institute during the past few years. This has been accomplished by the careful selection of pictures that, in color values and in subject matter, not only would not clash with neighboring pictures, but would supplement and accent their charm, thus making a pleasing ensemble of an entire wall. The effect of paintings hanging too close together makes for monotony and greatly lessens the beauty of a gallery. The effort made by Sir Robert Witt, trustee of the British National gallery to point out the defect of too close hanging, lately resulted in a ludicrous blunder. Sir Robert made the statement: "What galleries need is to show less." The enterprising printer made it read: "What galleries need is to show legs." In commenting on this Sir Robert said: "Not only in galleries, but elsewhere, are legs adequately, and more than adequately, displayed."

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### PRESERVING WOOD CUTS TIMBER COST

#### TREATMENT ECONOMICAL

#### Methods Used in U. S. to Prevent Decay Help to Keep Down Costs of Lumber, Says an Expert

Preservative treatment of wood helps to keep down timber costs and to make the national timber supply last longer for all consumers, says George M. Hunt, in charge of wood preservation investigations for the United States department of agriculture. Treatment of wood to prevent decay is no new thing, he says, the first practical means on record having been devised early in the nineteenth century. At that time England's oaken navy seemed doomed to literal annihilation by the ravages of decay—a time when that nation was fighting for its very existence.

**Situation in England**  
This acute situation in England resulted in the development of three processes for impregnating wood with zinc chloride, coal-tar creosote, and mercuric chloride, respectively. In the century that has elapsed since these celebrated processes were patented, their use has spread throughout the world and these three original preservatives are today being applied in enormous quantity. In the meantime improved processes have been developed, new preservatives have been discovered, and treatment of wood to make it last longer has become an important practice in the field of structural material.

The railroads have been the leaders in the use of wood preservatives in this country for the past 50 years, says Mr. Hunt. They have found that decay is the chief cause of early destruction of wood and that treatment is the remedy. In 1925 more than 220,000,000 cubic feet of ties and other railroad timber was treated and the use of preservatives is increasing. Without treatment the life of such timber as is used in bridges, trestles, tanks, marine piling, and other wooden structures would be so short that the railroads would by this time be turning to more expensive and less satisfactory substitutes on account of high timber prices.

**Another Field**  
There is, however, another field for the use of wood preservatives that has not been so adequately covered as

it should be, according to Mr. Hunt. Despite the great quantity of timber used in mines that industry has not generally resorted to preservative processes. A Pennsylvania coal mine, however, has demonstrated that treated loblolly pine will last from 10 to 20 years in places where similar timber, untreated, rots in 2 or 3 years.

### BEGIN PLANS FOR SPRING EXHIBITION

#### High School Committee Starts Work on Annual Display of School Activities

A committee meeting will be called some time next week to consider plans for the annual spring exhibit, at the high school, according to Mr. Peers, chairman of the committee.

The exhibit, which is to be on May 12 and 13, probably will be similar to that of last year, with a special entertainment in the auditorium in the evening after the parents visit the classroom displays.

It is undecided whether or not there will be a Hobby show this year, although Mr. Peers says that he would like it. The Hobby show, for the benefit of the freshmen, is a display of the things the different students especially like. Two years ago, the Hobby show was a mixture ranging from scrap books of movie stars to pet cats under wire waste paper baskets.

There would have been some excuse for dancing the Charleston and the Blackbottom in the days when we wore red flannels.

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