

LEADERS IN RENEWAL OF RELIEF APPEALS

More Than 1,000 Business Leaders in This Vicinity Ask Continued Aid For Armenian Sufferers

Inspired by the appeals of Major General James G. Harbord, Pershing's chief of staff in the World war, Major General Leonard Wood and Brig. Gen. Charles G. Dawes, more than 1000 of Chicago's biggest business men, bankers, officials of the big industries and representatives of the professions have pledged themselves to the support of the Near East Relief in its great task of saving the lives of hundreds of thousands of starving women and children in Armenia and other parts of the Near East who are suffering not only from want of food and clothing, but are still the victims of persecution by the Turks.

The pledge took the form of a resolution passed at a luncheon given in honor of Gen. Harbord, who headed a military commission sent by the United States government to investigate conditions in the Near East. This resolution reads:

Pass Resolution

"While we are weary of appeals, we are conscious of the fact that the weariness of the helpless women and children of the Near East vastly exceeds our own; therefore:

"Be it resolved that we heartily approve the appeal of the Chicago Committee of Near East Relief for its share of the National budget of \$15,000,000, which is \$600,000; that we pledge to co-operate in making an appeal to the employers in the trades and the leaders in the various professional groups for \$200,000; and that we secure as much in addition as possible by securing permission for the members and representatives of the Chicago Committee of Near East Relief to present the cause to the employes in the various trades and industries."

Paints Vivid Picture

Gen. Harbord painted a vivid picture of the suffering of these people, especially in Armenia. There are 250,000 Christian girls, many of refinement and culture, still imprisoned in Moslem harems. They are branded with hideous tattoo marks to prevent their escape. The Moslems also hold in captivity 60,000 orphans. No infants have survived in the last six years. Hundreds of thousands of families have been separated. Industry and agriculture are practically at a standstill. There is so little food, according to Gen. Harbord, that the people eat grass and dig up worms and beetles out of the ground.

"The Armenian people would have long since perished," said Gen. Harbord, "if it had not been for the Near East Relief. Indeed, if American aid were withdrawn today, they could hardly survive a week. The Near East Relief maintains 229 orphanages and is caring for 110,000 children. It maintains 63 hospitals and is giving

food to 561,900 people. Last December there were 12,000 Greek refugees in Batum, 100,000 Armenians, mostly women and children fleeing toward Batum before the advancing Turks, 40,000 refugees near Mosul. There are 120,000 refugee Russians in Constantinople and probably 350,000 refugee Armenians from Turkey still in Armenia. There is no political hope for these people. The world is full of distress but recognizing China, the claims of France and Belgium and other powers, it seems to me that this is the greatest humanitarian opportunity of the ages."

MEXICAN MERCHANTS AGAINST PROHIBITION

Mexico City.—The National Chamber of Commerce of Chihuahua has protested to the Confederated Chambers of Commerce in Mexico City against a prohibition bill now before the state legislature in Chihuahua. A majority of the merchants, it is said, are against the measure which, they declare, will mean ruin to many as a solution of the liquor problem is advocated, but the proposed law is said to be too drastic.

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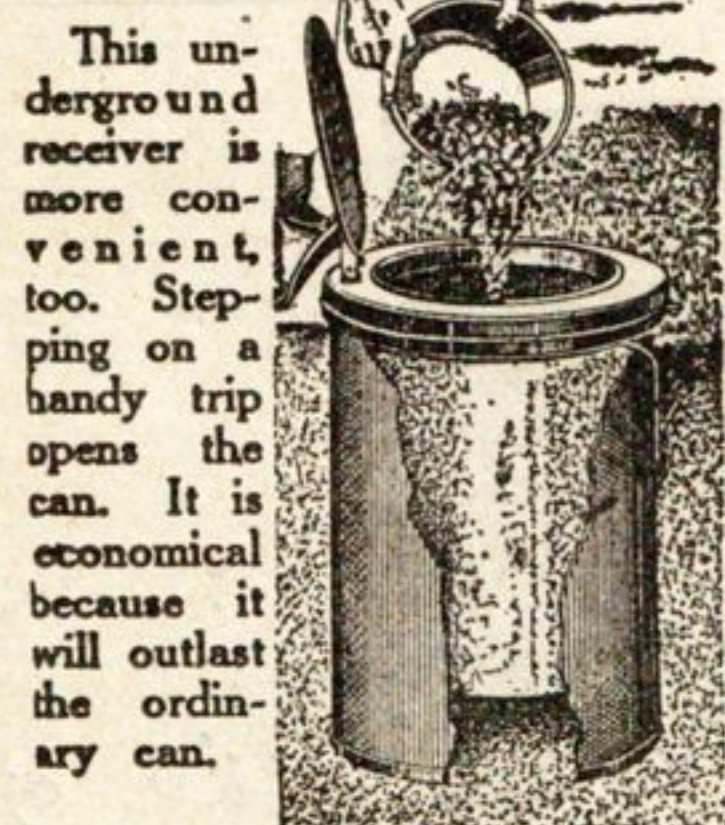
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