

American Aid To Central Europe Urged by Davison

Congress Should Make \$500,000,000 Grant, Banker Says—Southeastern Europe Scene of "One of the Most Terrible Tragedies of Human Race."

Speaking before the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in Des Moines, Iowa, the other day, Henry P. Davison, chairman of the board of governors of the League of Red Cross Societies, said that "one of the most terrible tragedies in the history of the human race is being enacted within the broad belt of territory lying between the Baltic and the Black and Adriatic Seas." In this area are the new Baltic states, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Ukraine, Austria, Albania and Serbia. Mr. Davison asked that Congress immediately appropriate not exceeding \$500,000,000 for the use of the countries of central and eastern Europe. He requests that Congress call upon the president to appoint a non-political commission of three Americans, distinguished for their character and executive ability, which should proceed at once to survey the conditions in these countries and to allocate materials to them without interference and by executive order. He suggested that members of the commission men of the type of Gen. Pershing, Herbert Hoover, and former Secretary Franklin K. Lane. He said he had no doubt that the obligation would be repaid and suggested it should run for fifteen years. He urged also that the United States invite other governments in a position to assist and participate in the undertaking.

Following is the text of Mr. Davison's address:

Text of Mr. Davison's Address.

As chairman of the convention of Red Cross Societies, composed of representatives of twenty-seven nations, that met recently in Geneva, I am custodian of authoritative reports recording appalling conditions among millions of people living in eastern Europe.

Whatever our attitude towards the League of Nations or our apprehensions regarding foreign entanglements, I feel it is essential that the people of the United States realize that one of the most terrible tragedies in the history of the human race is being enacted within the broad belt of territory lying between the Baltic and the Black and Adriatic Seas.

The area includes the new Baltic states—Poland, Czechoslovakia, Ukraine, Austria, Hungary, Roumania, Montenegro, Albania, and Serbia. The reports which come to me make it clear that in these war-ravaged lands civilization has broken down. Disease, bereavement and suffering are present in practically every village. The food and clothing are insufficient to make life tolerable.

Men, women and children are dying by thousands and tens of thousands. Areas there are to be found neither medical appliances nor medical skill sufficient to cope with the devastating plagues.

According to reports of the American Red Cross and the Commissioner of the League of Red Cross Societies made in a signed statement to the American government, wholesale starvation is threatened in Poland this summer unless she can procure food supplies in large quantities. A telegram to the League of Red Cross Societies, March 20, stated that there are now approximately 250,000 cases of typhus in Poland and in the area occupied by Polish troops.

Worst of Typhoid Epidemics.

This is already one of the worst typhoid epidemics in the world's history. In Galicia, whole towns are crippled and business suspended. In some districts there is but one doctor to each 100,000 people. During the year 1919 about 2,400,000 refugees and prisoners entered Poland.

In the Ukraine, we are told, typhus and influenza have affected most of the population. In villages of two to three thousand half the people were ill at the same time and there was almost no medical care. In many cases a territory forty miles in diameter had but one physician. Some doctors who had twenty to thirty thousand patients could get no medical supplies whatever and had nothing better to give the sick than oral instructions. Pauperism is intensified every day.

A report from Vienna dated February 22 said: "There are ration cards for three weeks. People are dying of starvation. One hundred thousand school children in Vienna are reported as undernourished and diseased because of food shortage and lack of fuel. At least twenty-five thousand hospital beds have become useless owing to lack of medical supplies. Death stalks through the streets of Vienna and takes unhindered toll. The general death rate has risen 46 per cent. since 1918 and the mortality for tuberculosis 250 per cent."

Budgets, according to our information, is one vast city of misery and suffering. The number of deaths is double that of births. Of 10,000 children in the schools, 100,000 are dependent on public charity. There are 150,000 workers idle.

In Roumania, tuberculosis is spreading in an alarming and unprecedented manner. All energies are devoted to keeping the typhus epidemic at bay, and a military cordon along the Danube River prevents the entrance of 20,000 Russian refugees on the other side whose infection is feared.

Typhus and smallpox have invaded the four countries composing Czechoslovakia, and there is lack of medicines, soap and physicians. The shelves of their pharmacies and their hospitals are bare.

In Serbia typhus has broken out again and there are but 200 physicians to minister to the needs of that entire country.

In Montenegro, where food is running short, there are but five physicians for an estimated population of 450,000.

In a letter to the Red Cross convention appearing in aid, Alex. Balfour, chairman of the council of the League of Nations, speaks of "the catastrophe as one of unexampled magnitude. The calamity following hard on war seems almost worse than the war itself."

These are but a few of the top notes of the tragedy. There is nothing here about Russia, whose population is mentioned, or of Germany, whose problems are acute, or of Armenia, where the distress and destruction are beyond description. Hunger and disease and death are the lot of these fellow humans of ours. Powerless to help themselves, they are slowly perishing before our eyes.

Only Three Ways to Get Supplies.

There are only three ways by which these stricken lands can secure supplies from the outside world. One is by payment, one by credit, and the third is by exchange of commodities. If these people tried to buy materials and supplies in America at the present market value of their currencies, Austria would have to pay forty times the original cost, Germany thirteen times, Greece twelve, Czechoslovakia fourteen times, and Poland fifty times. These figures are official and are a true index of the economic plight of these countries.

It is clear, therefore, that they cannot give us gold for the things they need, nor have they either products or securities to offer in return for credit. If only they could obtain raw material which these idle millions of theirs could convert into manufactured products they would have something to trade for the world in return for its raw material, food and medicine. But if they have neither money nor credit, how can they take this first great step towards redemption?

Yes, I admit that those people speak truth who tell us in answer to all that we say, "We are sorry, but we did not cause it. It is not our affair and we have given all we can afford to Europe. Has not our Red Cross Society sent four hundred millions of our money? It is about time we attended to our own troubles."

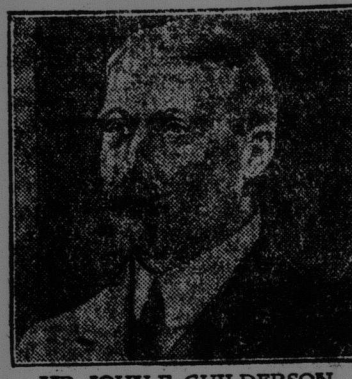
Tribulations Not to Be Renounced.

But I assert in reply to all that: You can no more renounce the tribulations of these stricken people than you could escape the consequences of the war. One half of the world may not eat while the other half starves. How long do you believe the plague of typhus that is taking a hideous toll in Eastern Europe, Poland and the Ukraine and eating along the fringes of Germany and Czechoslovakia will confine itself to these remote lands? It is a parasitic disease and if not throttled will spill into the western countries of Europe and creep to our own shores.

Only last Saturday our health commissioner of New York, Dr. Copeland, called for the other side just to measure the danger and take precautions against such an invasion.

HAD RHEUMATISM FOR FIVE YEARS

No Return of the Trouble Since Taking "FRUIT-A-TIVES"



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P. O. Box 123, Parrissboro, N. S.

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I tried different medicines I saw advertised and was treated by doctors in Amherst, also in my home town, but the Rheumatism came back.

In 1916, I saw in an advertisement that "Fruit-a-tives" would stop Rheumatism, and I took them right along for about six months and the Rheumatism was all gone and I have never felt it since.

Anyone who would care to write me as regards "Fruit-a-tives" I would be glad to tell them what "Fruit-a-tives" did for me.

JOHN E. GUILDERSON,
Contractor and Mason.
50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

As I am as proud as we are. They are as eager to work out their own destiny as we are to work out ours. In the face of an almost overwhelming catastrophe, they seek only the opportunity to regain their own economic strength.

I have supreme confidence in the ultimate good judgment of the American people and they realize that this is the nobility and generosity of their response when they are asked to do so. I believe that the apathy and indifference which prevail today are due alone to the fact that the American people have not grasped the dreadful facts.

When once the true bearings of the situation have been laid before their consciousness and they realize that this is the only country possessed of many of the supplies of food and medicine, clothing and transport that these suffering lands must have, I believe they will arise and act.

It is not for me perhaps to give in detail a formula for solution of the world's ills, but as I have been asked many times, "What would you do?" I am glad to give my own answer.

Above all things, I would say that constructive action in this matter may be regarded as altruistic by those who are so minded; it may be regarded as ordinary decency by those who so desire; or it may be regarded withal as good common sense business, in the interests of commerce and trade and of the American people.

Accordingly, I would ask:

(1) That Congress immediately pass a bill appropriating a sum not to exceed \$500,000,000 for the use of central and eastern Europe.

(2) That Congress call upon the president to appoint a non-political commission of three Americans, distinguished for their character and executive ability and commanding the respect of the American people. Such a commission should include men of the type of Gen. Pershing, Mr. Hoover or ex-Secretary Lane. I would invest that commission with complete power.

(3) I would have the commission instructed to proceed at once, accompanied by proper personnel, to survey conditions in central and eastern Europe and then act for the restoration of those countries under such conditions and upon such terms as the commission itself may decide to be practicable and effective.

Among the conditions should be provided that there should be no local interference with the free and untrammelled exercise by the commission of its own prerogative of allocating materials. Governmental politics should be eliminated; unreasonable and prejudicial barriers should be removed, and such substantial guarantees as may be available should be exacted, in order that the conditions imposed should be fully met.

(4) As to financial terms, I should make them liberal. I would charge no interest for the first three years; for the next three years, 6 per cent, with provision that such interest might be funded if the economic conditions of the country were not approaching normalcy or if its exchange conditions were so adverse as to make payment unduly burdensome. I should make the maturity of the obligation fifteen years from its date and I should have no doubt as to its final payment.

(5) Immediately the plan was adopted, I would have our government invite other governments in a position to assist, to participate in the undertaking.

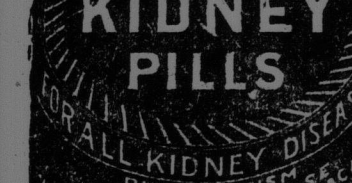
(6) To set forth completely my opinion, I should state that in the final instructions the American people, through their government, should say to the commission:

"We want you to go and do this job in such a manner as, after study, you think it should be done. This is no ordinary undertaking. The American people trust you to see that it is done right."

I would also say to the commission: "Use so much of this money as is needed." Personally, I am confident that with the assistance and co-operation

of the American people, the problems of reconstruction just as those who know her past should have expected her to meet them. With a head erect, a quiet courage and a sturdy common sense she is doing her own day's work and at the same time rendering all the assistance that her resources permit to the countries on the continent.

Neither Belgium nor France nor Italy nor England are asking charity of the United States. The people of these coun-



DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS
ALL KIDNEY DISEASES
BRIGHT'S DISEASE
RHEUMATISM
DIABETES
GRAVEL
PAIN IN THE BACK
PAIN IN THE HEAD
PAIN IN THE STOMACH
PAIN IN THE LUNGS
PAIN IN THE THROAT
PAIN IN THE EYES
PAIN IN THE EARS
PAIN IN THE NOSE
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RUSSIANS CONFIRM RUIN UNDER SOVIET

Representatives of Co-operatives Make Report

Economic System Failure — Traders Defy the Laws — Iron Discipline for the Workmen, With Frequent Strikes.

Washington, May 28.—Deterioration of every branch of economic life in Soviet Russia continues and not even the slightest improvement in any direction is in sight, according to the report of two representatives of the Russian co-operative

organization of London who were delegated to visit Moscow to ascertain whether it is possible to establish trade relations with Bolshevik Russia. Extracts from the reports of these delegates, which have just reached Washington, fully confirm information received through official channels relative to the collapse of the Russian economic system under the Soviet regime.

The two delegates, whose investigation in Soviet Russia lasted from Feb. 10 to March 28, were themselves Russians, F. I. Shmeloff and N. V. Makeff. The principal points made in their report are as follows:

The whole country, according to the delegates' report, is in the power of the Communist Party, which continues to carry through Socialist measures according to its programme. It is stated, however, that there is a notable tendency toward centralization of authority by subordinating the local Soviet and economic bodies to the central organization.

Formerly the heads of three local institutions were always elected. It is now common practice for the central authorities to nominate the presidents and members of the local organizations, and it is stated that in order to obtain majorities in the Soviets the Communist Party resorts to all methods, including force, which it has at its sole command.

The town population of Soviet Russia is said to be falling in the literal sense of the word, the yearly mortality rate in Moscow having reached 118 per thousand. Typhus is raging in the villages, and to a still greater extent in the towns along the railways. Medical aid in the towns is scarce and is almost nonexistent in the country villages.

There are no drugs at all. Compulsory labor and the collection of products as taxation in kind is reported to be the worst of evils. The peasantry sell agricultural produce very unwillingly, according to the report, and the peasants deliver raw materials to the central organization.

Only the official press of the government or the Communist Party is in existence. The report states that all industry and trade is socialized and nationalized, and is under the control of special central bodies under the direction of the supreme soviet people's economic council. At the mills and factories there are no raw materials, fuel or organized labor; the workers who remain are bound by an iron discipline and every breach of regulations, even of such as are practically impossible of observance is punished by fine or arrest. On these grounds and mainly in matters relating to the food supply strikes occur which are always suppressed in a pitiless manner.

Small industry is under the control of the provincial and district economic councils. The central bodies dealing with special branches of national industry cannot harmonize among themselves the measures adopted by them, nor can they co-ordinate them with those adopted by the local economic councils. As a result of these conditions output in all branches of national industry is continuously declining.

Defy the Laws to Trade.

The distribution of all commodities with the exception of raw materials, should by law, be carried out exclusively through the branches of the provincial supply committees through the co-operative unions. Nevertheless, private trade is practiced extensively and, only in the market, bazaars and open spaces, although continuously at the risk of confiscation and other penalties. Big commercial transactions are carried on, having at their object the sale of goods and of house property, notwithstanding the fact that it involves the risk of trial before a revolutionary tribunal.

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Countless quantities of paper money issued have made the currency of Soviet Russia absolutely worthless.

Productive enterprises and government institutions exist by the issue of paper money. There are no credit operations. The state bank has been abolished. In its place there is being organized a budget clearing office. No serious projects for the improvement of the finances are contemplated. It can only be noted as a fact that paper money is taken very unwillingly and everybody avoids it whenever possible.

Generally speaking, the report states, national industry is ruined, the railways are working very poorly, trains running only twice, or even once a week, and the rolling stock is destroyed.

Close-up View.

Stamford, Ont., May 28.—Members of the Chamber of Commerce who attended a luncheon here had their eyes opened to the nature, aims and menace of Bolshevism, in a manner that left a lasting impression. O. D. Stevenson, B. A., of Toronto, a Stamford old boy, who has seen the Red movement as few men in Canada have witnessed it, gave a gripping address. Rather, he recited typical incidents of Red rule in Russia and the whole Caucasus, which came under his own observation while a captain on the British intelligence staff for the two closing years of the great war.

People Kept Down by Massacres.

"The Bolsheviks, although the word means 'majority,' are not a government majority, but comprise some three million of the lowest type of humanity, who are ruling by blood and fire some one hundred and sixty million of their fellow human beings. The Bolsheviks, having possession of the factories, munition works and supply plants, have the nerve to keep the people in a state of resistance which would be offered cannot make way without external aid," declared Mr. Stevenson, adding, "I once saw the Russian people were freed and allowed to vote, the Bolshevik regime would vanish like smoke, but they are kept down by machine guns and massacres."

Czarism Comparative Paradise.

Every type of Russian, from prince down to storekeeper, farmer and humblest workman, says that the Czar's regime was paradise as compared with the present.

Liver Trouble And Heartburn

All liver diseases of whatever character are diseases of the highest importance and demand close attention.

The liver is the largest and one of the most important organs of the body. Its duty is to prepare and secrete bile, and serve as one of the filters of the body, removing all impurities and poisons. Therefore when the liver gets out of order it is the starting of trouble in nearly every part of the body.

Keep the liver active by using Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills and you will have no heartburn, constipation, biliousness, sick or bilious headaches, dull, yellow eyes, brown blotches, sallow complexion, coated tongue, jaundice, catarrh of the stomach or the painful protruding internal or bleeding piles.

Mrs. John Keady, Chipman, N. B., writes:—"I have used Milburn's Laxa-Liver Pills for some time and can recommend them to any one suffering from heartburn and liver trouble. I tried other remedies, but they only relieved me for a short time. I always recommend Laxa-Liver Pills to all sufferers as I think they are a valuable remedy."

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