

Efficient Administration

The Save the Children Fund, by the terms of an agreement which Dr. Kennedy negotiated with the Greek Government, undertakes to provide only foodstuffs and administrative personnel. Buildings and equipment for kitchens and warehouses, fuel, local transport, and the necessary office accommodation are provided by the Greek authorities. All supplies for the Fund's relief work are admitted free of duty.

The administration is efficient: no stores whatever have been lost throughout operations in Greece; money is handled by the British staff only; and rigid inspection insures that the food is actually consumed by those whose need is greatest. It is also economical: all overhead charges amount to less than eight per cent.

BUT MORE HELP IS NEEDED. The coming months will be the most critical period, and the need will remain appallingly acute till the next harvest. Dr. Kennedy cabled recently: "All our administrators telegraph for authority to distribute extra rations, but we cannot extend our activities further without additional funds."

The Problem

The problem is on a scale far beyond the resources of Greece alone. No country could feed, house, and absorb an addition of one-fourth to its population in the course of a few months; least of all can Greece, exhausted as she is by ten years of almost continuous warfare.

Greece alone is not to blame for the existence of the problem. The responsibility is shared by all the Powers which originally authorized and encouraged the fatal ambitions of former Greek Governments.

Moreover, the presence of these hordes of helpless, homeless, hungry refugees in Greece is a menace which spreads beyond the Greek frontiers. They render Greece a prey to political and economic chaos. Thus enfeebled, Greece becomes a tempting bait to the ambitions of her neighbors. In other words, the refugee problem in Greece is a menace to peace in the Balkans, which, as we learnt in 1914, is also a menace to the peace of the world.



Waiting for their one meal a day