



The Acorne

Vol. II—N° 16

Edited by Near East Relief, 13, rue des Petits-Champs

Constantinople, 17 and 24 April, 1920

ORPHANAGE STATISTICS OF CONSTANTINOPLE AREA

Data from February and March Material.

The following statistics were compiled from answers sent out from the Constantinople office to the different stations and from monthly reports. Dr. Norton supplied the data we lacked for Trebizond. Harpoot and Sivas have not replied on account of difficulty of sending mail. We consider, therefore, that 25,770 is the minimum number of orphans aided in the Anatolia area. We would ask that each station send in up-to-date data and make corrections, if necessary, in the following statistics. We also wish statistics concerning the number of children still uncared for by any organization in each district.

Concerning cost of child for one year: a great deal depends upon the co-operation of the natives, the cost of food, and physical condition of children. We shall be glad to have corrections if our estimates are too high or too low at the present time.

C. E. MILLS.

	Number children aided or supported	Cost per year one child paper lira	Wholly supported by Near East
Adana District	1630	120	430
Adabazar	83		NER aid 4200 lira per month
Angora	400		NER aid 100 lira per month
Bardizag	335	100	252
Broussa	440	90	52
Cesarea	2692	72	252
Constantinople	9500	72-120	NER aids native committees with bread, milk, clothes, etc.
Harpoot	4400	about 80 lira per month including original equipment	4400 NER bears practically whole expense
Ismidt (including Armash)	420	75	NER 2800 liras monthly for five months from January 1920.
Konia	584	52	584
Marsovan	300	65	300
Samsoun orphanage soup kitchen	1100	150	NER spent 11,850 aid in cash to Feb 1920 in addition to supplies. NER aids native committees.
Sivas about	1000	(no report)	1000
Smyrna	530	200	130
Trebizond	1556	72	NER aids native committees
	25770		

DIARBEEKIR

We have just received the following statistical report from the Diarbekir Station, from which we had not heard for two and a half months.

	January	February
No. American personnel	4	3
» native administrative employees	15	16
» buildings occupied	4	3
» employed in industrial department	323	275
» garments made	4685	3600
» knitted articles	339	709
» quilts and mattresses	224	95
» pieces lace	60	
» Total articles made	5308	4404
» persons given clothing and blankets	1265	1022
» garments and blankets distributed	5771	3977
» different persons treated in clinic	532	950
» treatments given	1180	1782
Total number different persons helped	2135	2363

Not included in the above is the aid given to orphanages. There is one small orphanage for thirty-four boys entirely supported by the A. C. R. N. E., and three other orphanages to which we are giving help in the matter of clothing and bedding. The largest of these is the Armenian orphanage, in which there are 400 children. The other two have been started by the Chaldeans and Syrians. I quote the following from the Director of the station in a letter dated January 3 but just received.

« Careful observation has emphasized what I wrote you in my first report, namely, that the crying need here is for clothes first, shelter second and food third. For some reason most of the refugees seem well fed, though with the weather becoming increasingly cold, a soup kitchen may be advisable later. We are concentrating on the clothing. The output from the industrial department is being increased, and one of our workers is devoting all of her time to investigation and distribution. Our only male member of the personnel is engaged principally in relief work, which is greatly needed. Perhaps the finest thing done thus far is the rebuilding of a village called Kuturbal. In doing this, employment was given to a number of people, thus accomplishing a double service. He hopes to do similar work at two other villages.

There are many people in Diarbekir itself need-



ing shelter. I wish we had money enough to open a big khan such as was done in Aintab. Many people are living in the crevices of the city or in ruined houses. Some have not that much shelter. The Christians are not the only needy ones. There are many Moslems who were driven out of the villages by the Russian advance, and it is said that the Russians are largely responsible for the wrecking of the city. The Valli tells me that he has tried to get the wealthy Turks to help in the rebuilding, but they do not seem interested. We have tried to be non-sectarian in relief, but as a matter of fact, the Armenians, being so much the more numerous among the needy, have received the larger share.

The decision not to open a hospital here was wise, I am sure. Since cooler weather began sickness has decreased and the hospital can well yield to other more necessary forms of relief. It is true there ought to be a good hospital here, but it should be a permanent, not a temporary thing.

A second letter, dated February 11th, says:

"I am sure we have clothed the greater number of needy orphans and refugees, but we should carry the work on for a month. It is bitter cold and there are many out of the way places which I am sure have been overlooked. We have supplied the Syrian orphanage with bedding and clothes. We have also given clothing to four or five villages and to a number of Turkish refugees. If the station is to be continued after March 1st we shall need not only personnel but supplies.

The Turkish officials are very friendly. We are sure of nothing except that the trains are not running. We shall be glad when we can hear again from the outside world."

March 27, 1920 R. A. LAMBERT, DIRECTOR, ALEPPO

INDUSTRIAL WORK AT ALEPPO.

In closing the industrial work at Aleppo Miss Mac Neill has submitted a report showing the year's activities.

On April 26, 1919, there were seven women and a watchman employed. The department grew until as many as 450 women were given employment some weeks. During the year 80,781 garments were made, and in addition several hundred cut garments were given out to the people to make up for themselves. This clothing was distributed to the refugees in and about Aleppo.

A large number of the women were employed in doing needlework and drawnwork which was sold in the retail stores in Aleppo and Constantinople. This work included 60 luncheon sets, 56 voile and lace collars, 98 handkerchiefs, 60 knitted sweaters, 118 yards of lace, 89 doilies.

When the materials on hand have been disposed of it is expected that their sale will cover all outstanding obligations which will mean that the work has been conducted on an absolutely self-supporting basis.

MARASH.

Practically all of the 10,000 Armenians now in Marash are being fed by the Near East Relief, and it is probable that we shall have to continue to care for these people for some time. Normal conditions of safety that will enable the Armenians to become self-supporting, can hardly be expected for a month or two yet.

The feeding is done from four distributing centers, with an Armenian committee to handle the distribution at each center. The daily ration consists of one balman (7 pounds) of rice for each thirty persons. For part of this, peas are substituted when obtainable. The bread supply is limited, so that only one loaf a week is given each person. Green vegetables are being added to the diet as rapidly as they can be secured. Bread is supplied by two bakeries which we are operating. One of these is kept going day and night. The output is 5,000 loaves a day, the larger part of which is used in orphanages and hospitals. About three cantars (2,000 pounds) of rice are used daily.

The total daily cost of food for refugees and orphans is approximately 75 gold pounds.

KILLIS.

Killis, the most southern of the Turkish-speaking cities, is situated halfway between Aleppo and Aintab, and has a population of about twenty thousand. Its importance has recently increased, because it has been made the headquarters of the French forces which are operating in the district that includes Aintab, Biridjik and Urfa. The political situation in the town is very much the same as in Aintab. There has been no fighting but the people are very nervous. There has been a boycott against the Armenians, making it difficult for them to buy food and other necessaries, and on account of the presence of the Chetes (nationalistes) around the city, the Armenians have been afraid to go out into their vineyards and gardens. The result is a considerable number of Armenians, who form about one-fourth of the population, are becoming very needy.

A soup kitchen has been opened and is managed by the Armenians themselves. The French are paying for food sufficient for one hundred persons, but since the number to be fed has already reached five hundred, they have appealed to us for help and

we have sent rice and wheat. If the conditions grow no worse, the Armenians can provide half the necessary food, with the aid of the French, and the Near East Relief will contribute the remaining half.

March 27, 1920.

R. A. LAMBERT, Director, Aleppo.

NEWS NOTES.

Miss Sarah Corning, Miss Mary Kifer and Dr. Louise Mason arrived in Constantinople on April 10th. Miss Kifer and Dr. Mason will return to America, but after a vacation Miss Corning will re-enlist for a continued term of service in the Caucasus.

Mr. Byron Mr. Noone has been transferred from the N. E. R. to the Y. M. C. A. He left Constantinople on April 12th for Adana, where he will be stationed.

Miss Florence Harvey, formerly of the Smyrna Unit, is now in charge of the Acorne Shop. Miss Baugh, formerly in charge of the Shop, is now head of the Industrial Department of the Constantinople Unit.

Miss Irene Eldred who has been stationed for a year at Tarsus, in the Adana Unit, is now in Constantinople. She will probably re-enlist with the Committee.

Mrs. Anna E. Rothrock has been transferred to the American Red Cross. She will for the present continue in the work with the Russian Refugees on Proti who has recently been taken over from the N. E. R. by the Red Cross.

Miss Janet McKay has been appointed chief nurse in charge of the Red Cross nurses in the Caucasus.

Miss Miriam K. Dasey has been transferred from Constantinople to Derindje, where she will be in charge of medical supplies.

NOTICE TO ALL DIRECTORS

The following paragraph, in a letter from Miss Adelaide S. Dwight, of the New-York Office, should have the attention of all Directors and orphanage workers:

"I hope that the matter of individual workers on the field getting their people at home to adopt or bring over some particular child, is being stopped. We are just in the midst of a great difficulty in regard to a small boy who was sent over by an American in Smyrna to her mother. The boy has been held a Ellis Island for two weeks, and we are not sure as yet whether he will be shipped back to Smyrna. The Near East Relief cannot be responsible for him as it is absolutely against the law for any corporation or committee to bring over an alien to this country. The matter of Armenians bringing over their relatives is entirely different, and there has been no difficulty, so far, in any case where a man proved his relation ship to and responsibility for a child."

SAMSOUN HOSPITAL.

Dr. Pomeroy's report for March shows that 231 patients were cared for during the month in the hospital, in addition to the 1041 clinic patients.

The cost per patient per day is estimated at 84 piasters.

Dr. Pomeroy says: "This month we have endeavored to strengthen the work in the hospital and have also tried to become better acquainted with the health needs of the city. We are working now to develop enthusiasm for a 'clean up' week sometime in May and will thus hope to ward off several contagious diseases. The malaria mosquito-breeding swamp was remembered when the budget for the city was made, and 30,000 Lira appropriated. We hope to see results."

ADANA

A telegram from Dr. Dodd, dated April sixth informs us that the children of the Harouniye Orphanage have been taken to the refugee camp outside of Adana. When it was considered advisable because of the fighting, to leave Harouniye, the children were lined up about midnight and given marching orders. Each child put on his extra suit of clothing, in addition to the one he was wearing took his bedding roll in his arms and marched down the hill. Only the smallest ones were allowed to ride in the few available carts.

Mr. and Mrs. Rambo, who had charge of the orphans at Harouniye, are continuing their work at Adana.

There are thousands of refugees in Adana who have fled from the neighboring Armenian villages. The French military authorities, the Y. M. C. A., the Lord Mayor's Fund and the Near East Relief are cooperating in caring for these people.

AMERICAN RED CROSS IN THE NEAR EAST.

With the object of making Constantinople a great central supply base for its future activities in Russia and parts of the Near East, the American Red Cross has sent a unit of about thirty members to the Turkish capital and has taken over two large warehouse, a garage, and two buildings in which to accommodate its personnel. The warehouses have a combined capacity of 12,000 tons.

The Red Cross is now cooperating with the N. E. R. in taking care of the 800 Russian refugees on the Island of Proti, and soon will take over that work entirely.

Perhaps at no time before have there been so many Americans in Constantinople. It is estimated

that the combined personnel of the Red Cross, the Near East Committee, the Army and Navy, the Embassy, the faculties of the two American colleges and the representatives of the various commercial organizations make a total of nearly 300 Americans in the Turkish capital.

Constantinople was chosen by the Red Cross as a base of supplies because of its harbor facilities and its accessibility to Southern Russia and the Balkan countries in which the Red Cross is now operating. The organization at present has warehouses in Salonica and Constanza, but these soon will be closed out, and Constantinople will form the main arterial feeding system for the whole of the Balkans, Southern Russia and the Near East.

The future activities of the Red Cross probably will be confined largely to Russia. In that country there is a degree of suffering, misery and helplessness unparalleled in history, but the Red Cross cannot go into Russia on any extended scale until the Allies recognize the Soviet Government, and until some semblance of order and stability is established. Relief is now being administered in the Crimea, the only area in Southern Russia free from the Bolsheviks.

The measure of relief accomplished by the American Red Cross and its big kindred organization, the Near East Relief, cannot easily be estimated. If it can be gauged by the appreciation of governments and the gratitude of people, as well as by the effect on the wellbeing and morale of the civil populations, then the work of the two organizations has been the greatest single act of brotherhood and charity since the coming of Christ. Together these organizations have expended nearly \$300,000,000 for relief among the afflicted peoples of Europe and Asia.

Important as was the material relief which these Americans took to Europe and Asia, it took also something more valuable: an example of straightforward, honest, dealing. By their work they set the people an example of helpfulness, sympathy and courage. They carried the voice and heart of the American people into the remotest hamlets. They lifted the people back to a belief in the goodness of the world, and strengthened their desire to live again. They softened the rancor of century-long race prejudice among the several peoples and thus made strides toward stabilized peace in the world. They tried to demonstrate the principle that every man in this brother's keeper.

April, 1920 James A. Mills, Major, A. R. C.

KONIA ORPHANAGE BLANK LOCATES RELATIVES

There were five in the family of Perouz Doghramadjian — a father, mothers, two brothers and

Perouz. The father was a builder in Eskishehir, but was taken as a Turkish soldier and never returned. Perouz and her mother and brothers were forced to leave their home. For days they tramped over rough roads, winding up the mountains, until the mother died from exhaustion. Then the Kurds took the children to their temple. They forced Perouz to go with them to their village. Many times she tried to escape but the Kurds followed her and brought her back each time. They lived in a tiny village near a salt lake and made their money by selling salt which they packed on camels and sold in nearby cities. Before the war ended they moved to Autakia. Finally she was notified by a gendarme that she could go to Konia, and she found the Armenian Committee there, who put her in Miss Cushman's orphanage.

When Miss Cushman made out her record plank, Perouz told of her uncles and an aunt in Constantinople, but she did not know their names. We advertised her story in the Armenian paper and the uncles read it and came to our office at 13 Petits Champs. They had not heard from the family for over five years and they wish to take care of Perouz and educate her. As soon as traveling is safe she will join them.

WEDDING AT CONSTANTINOPLE

Miss Ruth Whiting of the Wellesley Unit, Constantinople, and Mr. Robert S. Darbyshire, of the Trebizond Unit, were married on Wednesday, April 20th, at three o'clock, at the home of Colonel and Mrs. Coombs in Bebek. Rev. F. F. Goodsell performed the ceremony which took place beneath the trees of the old Bebek garden in a bower of white daisies and other spring flowers. The bride wore a dress of white crepe de chine and a large white lace hat. Her bouquet was yellow and white roses. The bridesmaid, Miss Isabelle H. Carter wore a dress of apricot goergiette crepe, a hat of the same material, and carried pink roses. The flower girl was little Miss Marian Coombs, who carried a huge basket of daisies. Miss Olive A. Smith, of the Wellesley Unit, played the wedding march. After the ceremony, refreshments were served in the garden. Mr. and Mrs. Darbyshire left at five o'clock for Prinkipo amid a shower of confetti.

PRINTERS' STRIKE

During the week of April 11th the Constantinople printers were on strike. It was therefore impossible to issue an *Acorne* for that week and the issues of April 17th and 24th have been combined.

Printed by Zallich Brothers, Constantinople