

15,000,000  
STARVING

*What will you give?*

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AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE  
(Quakers)  
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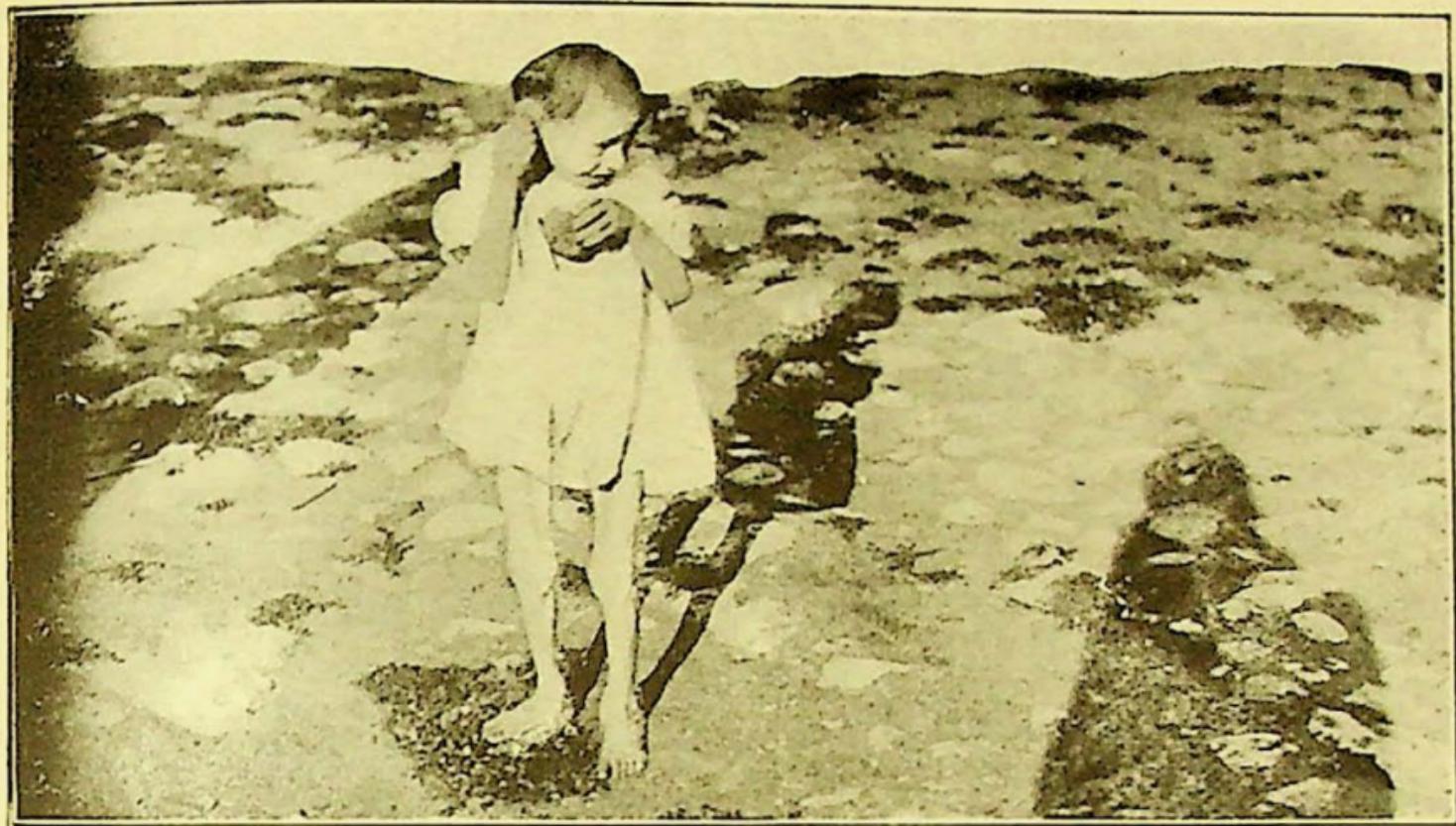
SPECIAL CAMPAIGN FOR  
RUSSIAN FAMINE SUFFERERS

## *15,000,000 Starving*

Famine in Russia today holds in its grip 15,000,000 people. There is suffering and hardship in other parts of Russia, but nowhere does starvation stalk through the land embracing a whole people, rich and poor alike, as in the Valley of the Volga.

## *The Drought*

In the fall of 1920, as usual, the peasant farmers of Russia planted their wheat and rye. Then came the drought. From October until June no rain fell. The wheat germinated poorly in the fall, then the hot, dry winds of summer shriveled and burnt the struggling fields until they were seared almost as if by fire. Seventy per cent of the land produced nothing, the balance only one-twentieth of the normal crop.

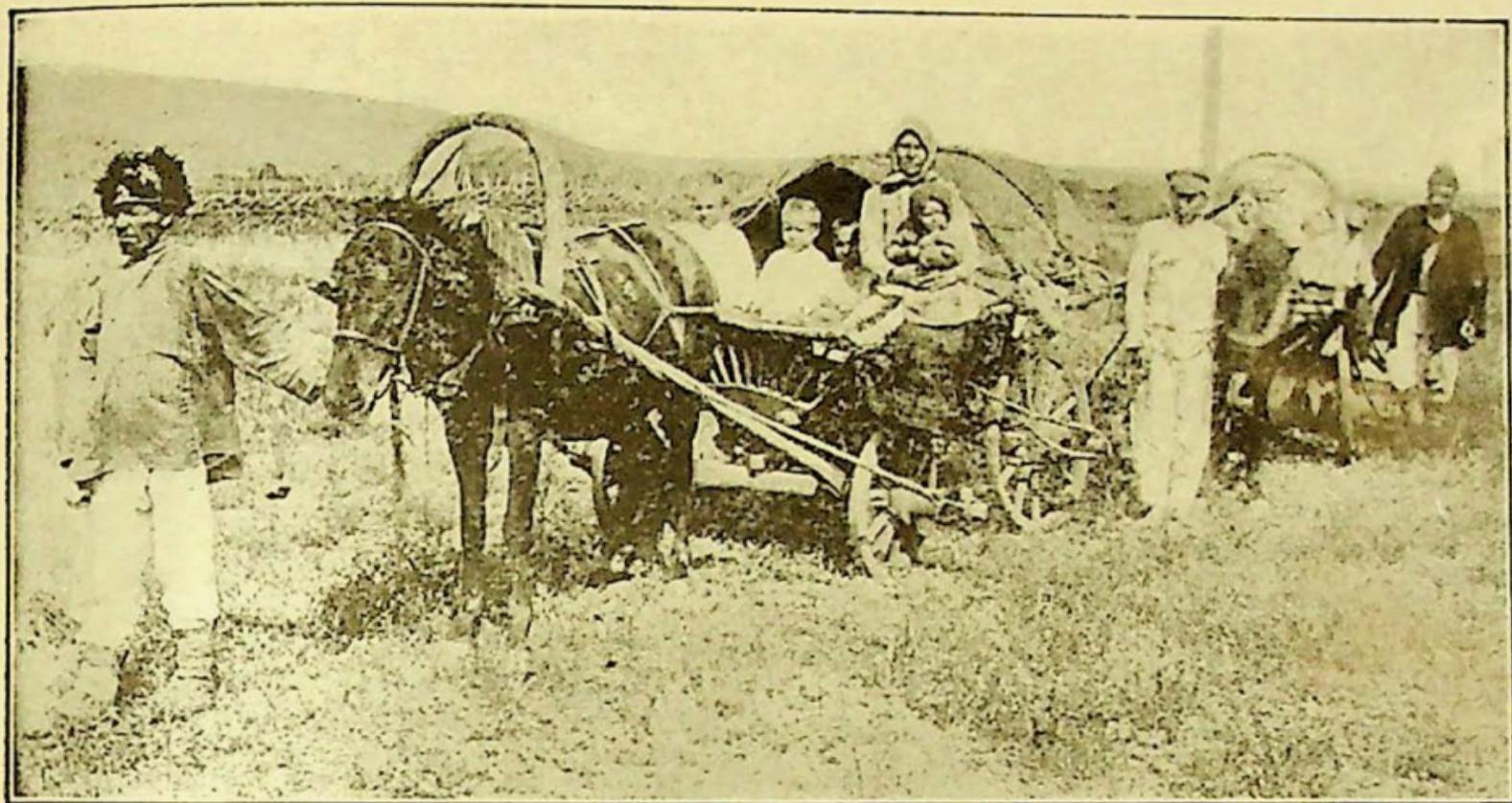


## *The Volga Valley*

An area 800 by 500 miles, with a population of 30,000,000 people, is affected by this disaster; 15,000,000 face starvation.

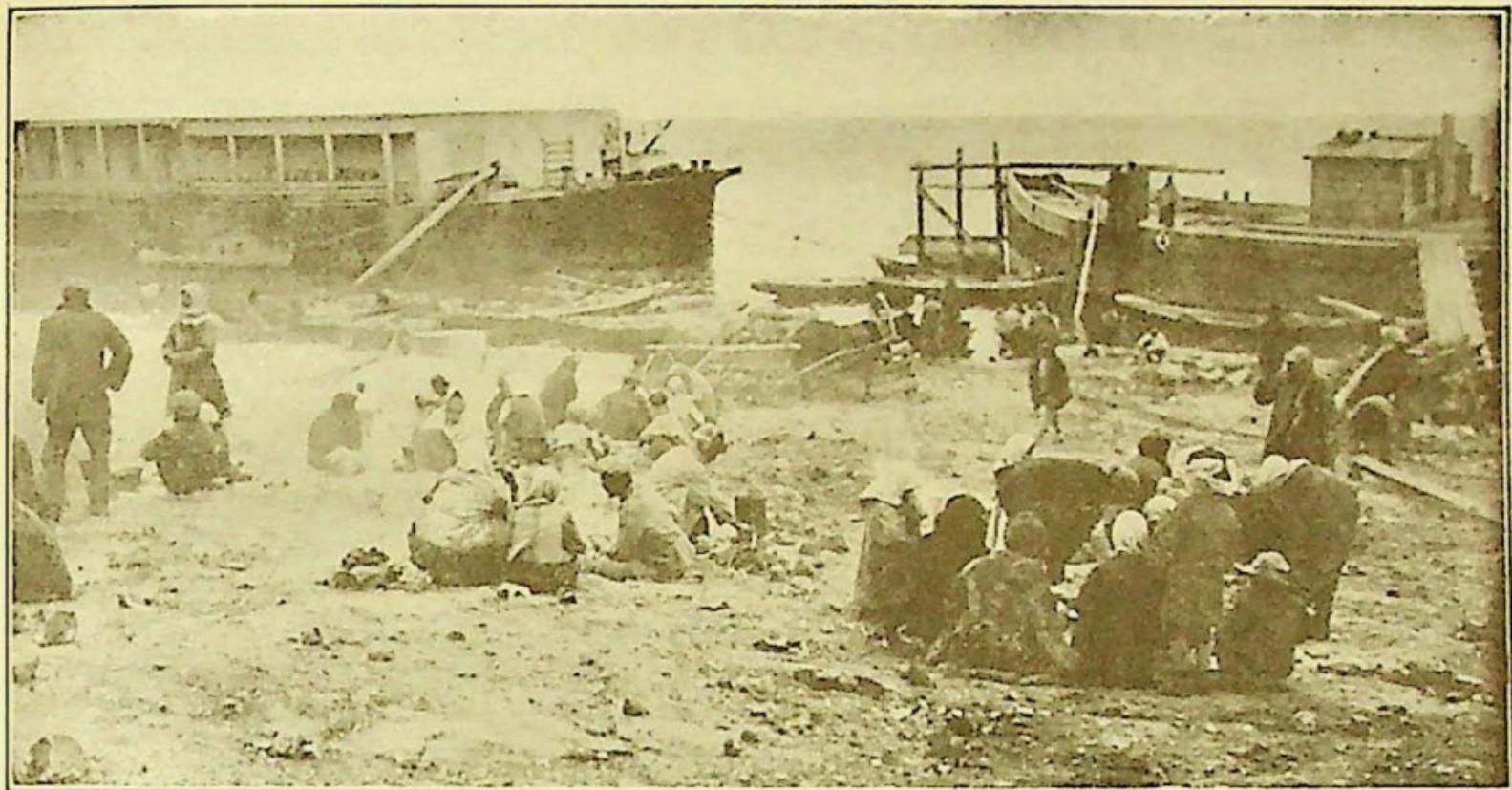
## *Refugees*

Panic-stricken with fear, literally hundreds of thousands of peasants fled to escape the trap of hunger and approaching winter. Piling a few belongings onto their wagons, they traveled as far as their horses could go, then killed and ate them.



### *Reaching Their Destination*

Many died on the weary journey from hunger and exposure. Those who at last reached the railway stations were again doomed to disappointment. No food was there, and very meagre means of transportation to more favored parts of Russia. So here they await food or death. Which will come first?



### ***Children Suffer Most***

Some hope of relief came with the late rains, which produced certain quick-growing vegetables, especially melons. These they ate, rinds and all. Impossible as was this diet for adults, its effect upon children proved most pitiable. Many parents, in despair, deserted their children, leaving them on the doorsteps of private homes, or in railway stations, or at the doors of the Government orphanages. Seeing no escape from death for themselves, they pursued this last hope for saving their children.



### *Pathetic Scenes in Orphanages*

These deserted children, placed in already overcrowded orphanages, fared little better. The small stores of food here were soon exhausted. The attendants daily separate those who have yet a chance from those doomed to die that day. Each morning now a creaking cart drives up, to carry the little cold bodies off to a common grave, while the hungry wails of those still living can be heard two blocks away.



### *Food Trains*

Attempts have been made by the Russian Soviet Government to give relief by sending food trains into the famine areas, but the supplies are so inadequate that they have made no perceptible difference in conditions.



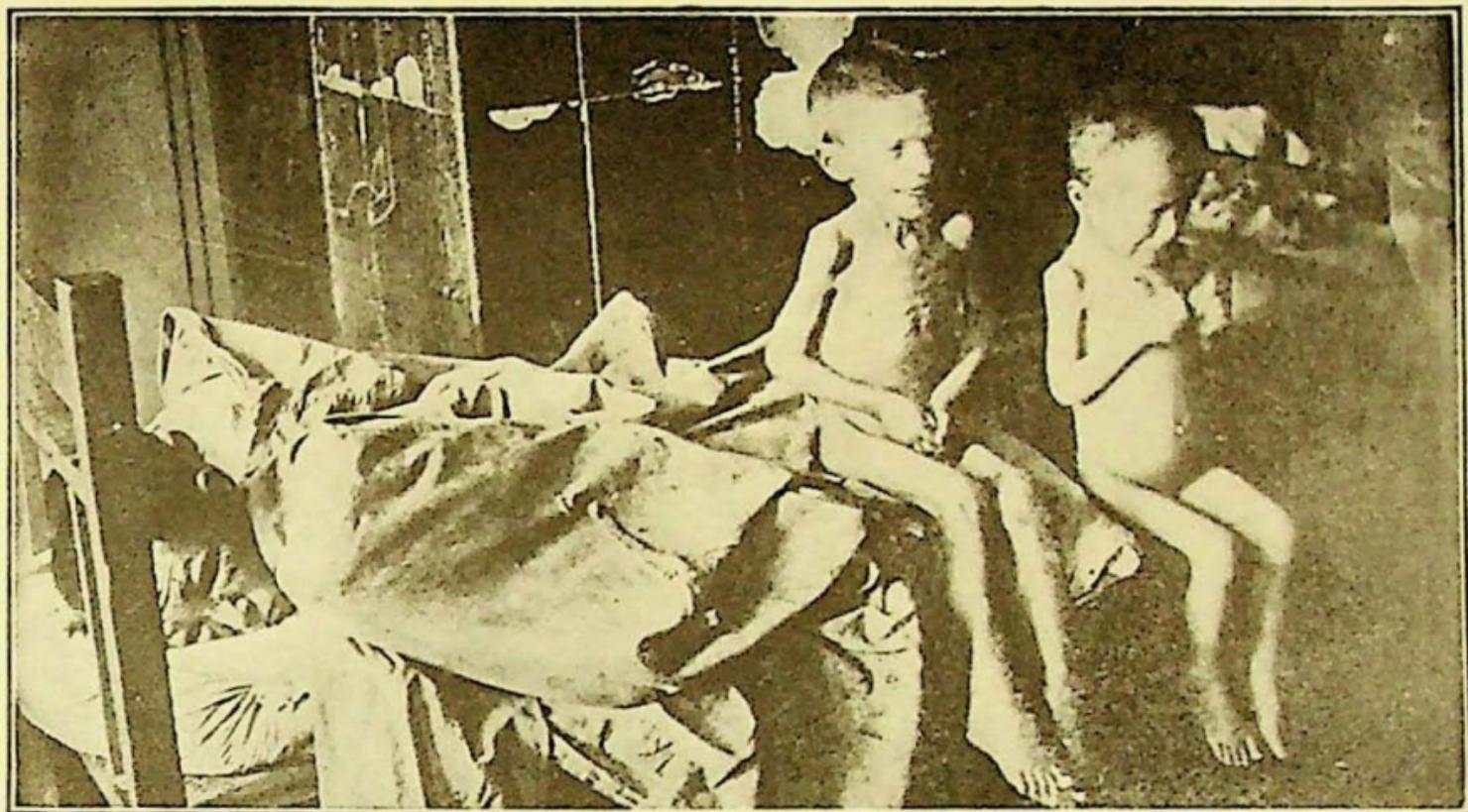
### *What Happened at Home*

For those who stayed at home there is even less hope. Gathering the grass and roots from their fields and pastures, they grind them up and cook them with the soup from dead horses' bones and hoofs. This forms their one and only diet. Physicians declare that life cannot be sustained in this way more than two months; in cases of small children not even two months.



### *The Cry of Little Children*

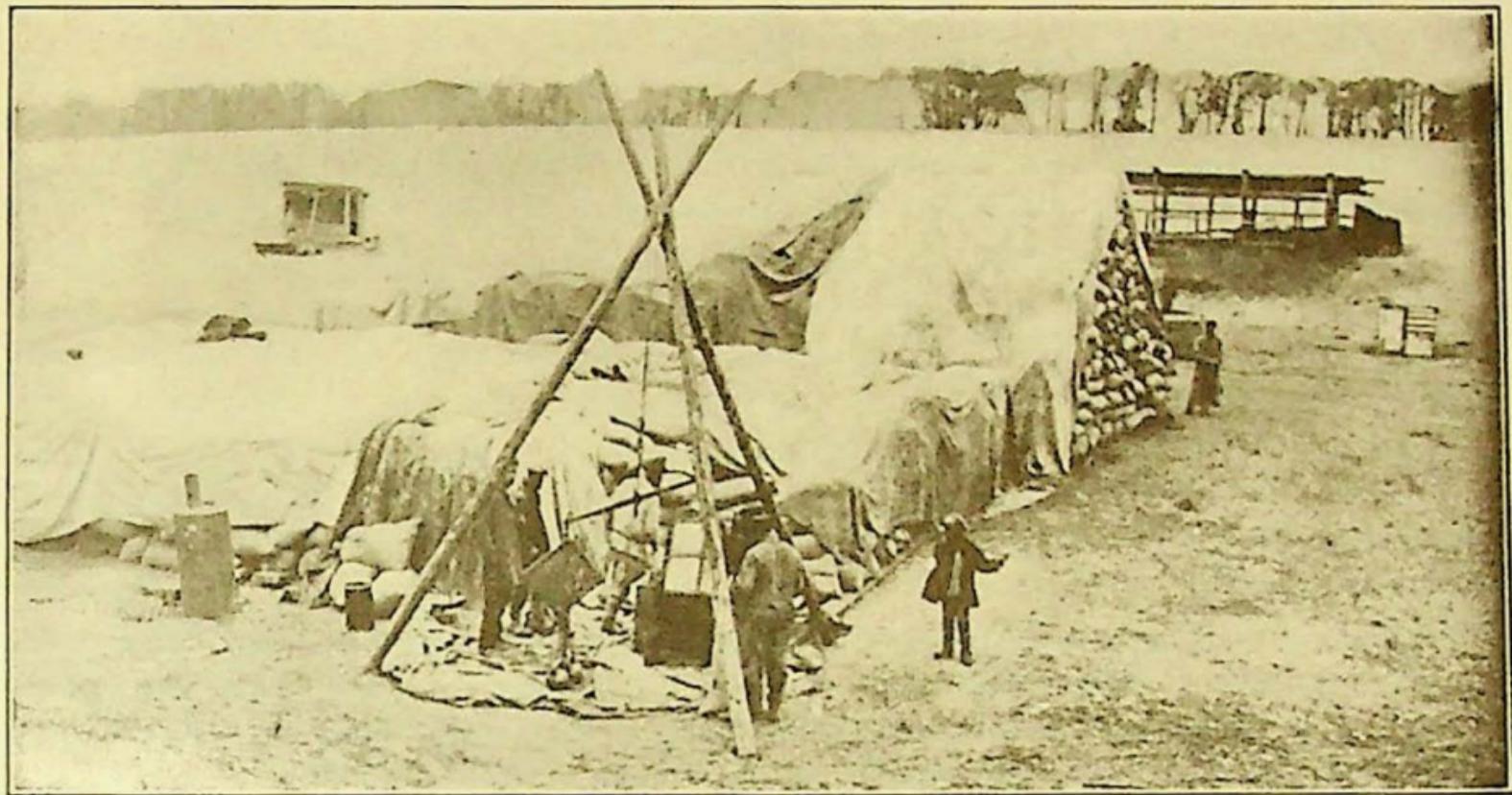
It is difficult to imagine the effect on the parents, when, after a heroic struggle to keep their little family together, safe from the clutches of starvation, they can now only sit hopelessly by and hear the last feeble cries of their helpless children.



### *Seed for Next Year's Crop*

In the face of such hunger, the peasants realize that they must plant if they are to reap. They have therefore eagerly accepted the limited supply of seed wheat issued to them by the Government, and have planted it in hope.

It is America's privilege to share with these Russian sufferers, even at a sacrifice, until their next harvest comes.



## *The Plan and Your Part in It*

The need of Russia today is appalling. The greatest amount of relief which may be secured in America, both Government and private, will be inadequate. During a famine in this same area in 1891 the Russian Government spent \$79,000,000 for food.

The American Friends Service Committee has appealed to the American millers to give a contribution of flour which is to serve as a nucleus in their communities. We now appeal to individuals and organizations to add flour to the mill contributions. Together these gifts of flour will represent the community's contribution to Russian relief.

Will you indicate on the blank herewith the quantity of flour you will give? Pin your check or money to it and turn it over to your local committee or send it direct to American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, Pa. The money will be spent, wherever possible, in the place where contributed.

When all of the contributions of flour have been received, the American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, will furnish instructions for forwarding your community's gift. The Friends will pay all of the cost of transportation and distribution. Every pound of flour given will actually reach Russia.

## *The Corn Campaign*

Realizing that many who want to give, and in the past have given generously, can more conveniently contribute this year in the form of corn, we also invite gifts of corn for the starving Russians.

We have appealed to the country elevators to receive gift corn for us and when a carload has been secured to load it out and ship it to our agent, Mr. Howard B. Jackson, Postal Telegraph Building, Chicago.

Any person wishing to contribute corn, call upon your elevator man and find whether he is co-operating. Call upon your neighbors to join with you and make a community gift of corn to the starving farmers of the Volga.

Every pound of corn given will reach the famine district, transported and distributed by the Quakers.

## ***Congress Gives \$20,000,000***

At the suggestion of President Harding, Congress has appropriated \$20,000,000 for Russian relief. Every man and woman should support this measure and future measures for governmental aid. The need is desperate.

**What effect will this appropriation have on the Quakers' campaign for flour and corn?** Absolutely none.

This is the situation: The minimum cost of the food to keep a person alive with one meal a day is four cents, or one dollar a month. There are 15,000,000 people starving in Russia. In other words, it will take a minimum of \$15,000,000 a month to feed them for at least five months, probably six, until their ground can yield food.

It would be useless to feed all the people for one month and then let them die. Consequently with the funds now available only one-fifth or one-sixth of the starving can be cared for on a program covering the full period. The remaining four-fifths or five-sixths will be just as dead in two months if no other than governmental aid is sent in as they would had no money been appropriated by Congress.

The \$20,000,000 given from Washington means an involuntary contribution, by taxation, of twenty cents per person. Surely with death staring a whole people in the face no American should feel satisfied that he has done his duty until he has made a personal gift and sacrifice.

The Relief Campaign of the American Friends Service Committee will go on. Your help is needed.



City.....

Date.....

Local Address.....

I want to help save the lives of the Russian  
Famine Sufferers. As my contribution I will  
give..... barrels of flour and herewith  
is <sup>check</sup> <sub>cash</sub> for \$.....

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