

American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street



Philadelphia, Penna.

BULLETIN ON RELIEF IN FRANCE

Bulletin #22

For the Use of Editorial Comment and Re-publication

January 24, 1941

SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING IN SCHOOLS

"In the name of my comrades, all the boys and girls who eat at the canteen, I want to thank you for your generous present." Thus writes a young student from Grenade.

Children in ten cities are now receiving a noon-day meal as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------|-------|---|----------|
| Marseille | ..... | 10,000 | children |
| Toulouse | ..... | 7,000 | " |
| Montauban | ..... | 1,500 | " |
| Auch | ..... | 2,000 | " |
| Carcassonne | ..... | 639 | " |
| Perpignan | ..... | 530 | " |
| Narbonne | ..... | 1,000 | " |
| Montpellier | ..... | 1,470 | " |
| Nimes | ..... | number of children as yet undetermined | |
| Lyons | ..... | 1,000 | children |

After a visit to Carcassonne, one of the Quaker workers wrote:

"Along with one of the directrices of the schools, we stopped in to see the lunches in actual operation at six different schools. At the first, where some thirty children from three to six years old were lunching, I was greeted by one of the small girls who came forward and made a little speech thanking the Quakers for the lunch. On the wall was a poster decorated with French and American flags, and saying that the supplies for the lunch were furnished by American friends and were a symbol of Franco-American friendship.

"The children had started in on the first course of the meal which consisted of a lentil soup supplied by the city. Then followed a pudding made of rice, cocoa and sugar, the ingredients furnished by the Quakers. I tasted the pudding and found it quite palatable. The children evidently liked it for it disappeared very rapidly. I wished that the ration for each child could be larger. Double the amount would seem to me to have given them more of a meal.

"At the second school visited I was shown the small lunch baskets which each child brings from home. In these are brought food for a late afternoon lunch. Those that I saw contained several pieces of bread or a little fruit. The children at this school in the old city of Carcassonne were all from poor families. A number were the children of refugees from Alsace and Lorraine. The fathers of others are prisoners of war. The school teacher stressed the very needy condition of these children from the point of view of nutrition. At each school a placard on the wall told of the donors of the lunch and brought out the thought of Franco-American friendship."