

American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street



Philadelphia, Penna.

BULLETIN ON RELIEF IN FRANCE

Bulletin #25

For the Use of Editorial Comment and Re-publication

March 27, 1941

A GLIMPSE INTO THE FILES OF THE MARSEILLE OFFICE

FROM: Ecole de Filles de la Barasse, Par Saint-Marcel, Marseille

TO: The American Quakers in Marseille

"In the name of my little comrades, I am writing to tell you how grateful we are for the meal which you are so generously distributing to thousands of school children. In our school, 75 little girls receive each day a good vegetable soup and rice with chocolate - and every day we like it better than the day before. When our cook asks if we want some more we all say 'YES'!"

"We would be very happy to correspond with a class of little American girls of our age. We would find some way of understanding one another and what we cannot say to our friends we would draw."

"We would like to thank all members of the Committee, which is doing such tremendous work, and from the bottom of our little hearts, cheered by your generosity, we want to say thank you for your gesture which we will never forget.

"For all the Class

(signed) S.J."

FROM: A Mother in Salies-du-Salat (Haute Garonne).

TO: The Quaker Office in Marseille

".....It is not, alas, only supplementary food that I ask for my child, it is his entire nourishment. For six months he has not eaten a single potato - for three months he has not had a drop of milk. Green vegetables are rare and the prices prohibitive. My child is too feeble to go to school regularly....."

FROM: The General Secretary, Service Social Familial,
Infirmieres Visiteuses de l'Enfance, Marseille

TO: The Quaker office, Marseille.

"In the Baby Clinics, in addition to women whose physical condition is such that the doctor has to order them to wean their infants, there are a great number of nursing mothers whose milk is not adequate for the needs of the children. In these cases, supplementary feedings must begin much sooner than would be necessary under normal conditions, or else the babies must be weaned very early. We would suppose that about 700 nursing mothers need further nourishment in order to safeguard their own health or their milk - or sometimes both of these.

"It is obvious that if you could distribute dried vegetables or flour made from vegetables in such cases, you would render an incalculable service to these women and would be ensuring the future of the race."

"Once again may I try to tell you - in behalf of all our social workers and, through them, in behalf of the mothers they visit and whom you help - with what profound gratitude the name of the Quakers is pronounced here. I would like to have you assure the Quakers in America that we will never forget that during our great distress they came to stand beside us and to help protect those most innocent and yet most menaced of our citizens - the little children."

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