

# SAMARITAN'S PROGRESS



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FOR QUAKER RELIEF IN GERMANY



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NEW YORK, N. Y.

## New Helpers For The Fund

The Samaritan Fund for Quaker Relief in Germany spread to Washington and Philadelphia on March 10 and 11, as a result of meetings at which Quaker relief in the four zones of the Reich was described.

In Washington, sixty Samaritans enrolled immediately, following the showing of a film made by the Quakers in the British Zone of Occupation.

The meeting was held in the Washington Quaker Meeting House under the chairmanship of Dr. Fred Reissig, Executive Secretary of the Washington Federation of Churches. Included on the program were John S. Hollister, speaking for the American Friends Service Committee; Hans E. Wirsing, of New York who described the Samaritan Fund and how it works; and Hermann G. Winkler, Chairman of the Washington, D. C. Committee for Relief in Germany.

### Meeting in Philadelphia

The following night, a similar program was given to a large audience in the Old Custom House in Philadelphia. This historic building is owned by the Federal Government and leased to the Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation.

The chairman of the evening was Alfred G. Scattergood, distinguished Philadelphia Quaker banker who was in charge of the Quaker feeding program for German children after the first World War. He now serves as chairman of the Quaker Committee administering relief in Germany. Mr. Hollister and Mr. Wirsing again spoke.

The program also included selections by the Franklinville Quartet Club and the Harmony Club, Philadelphia singing societies.

As a result of the latter meeting forty-one Samaritans were enrolled.

The Red and Black Star of the Quakers, designed in 1870 to symbolize non-military service, was first used by the British Friends who were bringing help to the victims of the Franco-German War of 1870-71. Today it stands for Friends' service all over the world.

Quaker relief supplies for Germany and Finland have been transported by the Swedish Railroads free of charge.

In Madrid, the AFSC is one of five agencies that maintain an office which helps stateless refugees in Spain.

## Open Meeting In Yorkville

*The American Friends Service Committee will hold an open meeting at the Yorkville Casino, 210 East 86th Street, New York City, on Tuesday, April 15th, 1947, at 8:15 P.M. There will be no admission charge; everybody is invited.*

*In the course of that meeting, the Quakers will report on their relief work in Germany. Dr. Harry N. Wright, president of the College of the City of New York, will be the chairman.*

*At 8:15 sharp, a film on conditions in the Reich will be shown which was taken by the British Quakers and which will last approximately twenty minutes. A distinguished official of the United States Government who is familiar with conditions abroad will address the meeting and discuss the problems of the hour in Germany. Sumner A. Mills and John S. Hollister of the American Friends Service Committee will report on the details of the Quaker relief work in the Reich.*

*It is expected that a large number of Samaritans will attend the meeting and it is suggested that those who did not yet succeed in soliciting their five new members bring their receipt books and assist in signing up those people in the audience who wish to become Samaritans.*

*Please, invite your own friends and all others who want to help the victims of the war in Germany!*

## "A Drop Of Water On A Hot Stone..."

The Bavarian Red Cross Branches of Miesbach, Gemünden, Hindelheim, Kaufbeuren, and Aschaffenburg-Alzenau, all in the American Zone, have sent in a folder to the American Friends Service Committee, full of clever pen-and-ink drawings and warm thank-you notes in appreciation of AFSC clothing and shoe shipments.

Expressions of gratitude and need speak for themselves in the following phrases:

"Pregnant women received diapers, vests, woolen covers and jackets for their babies."

"Children and adolescents who had nothing left except the clothes they were wearing were given at least enough to enable them to change their clothing."

"Women and mothers who lost their last possessions in the flight received the most urgent clothes from this generous donation."

"We were able to give a few items to a small number of men who had lost everything through the war and imprisonment."

"These beautiful things were distributed to refugees without means, mothers in need, and the most needy of the population."

"Of course not all the 2,200 refugees from the Sudetenland and Silesia who are under our care, could benefit by the 46 pairs of shoes received, but the joy of those who did get a pair, was that much greater. We have really distributed them among the most needy refugees from Fellen, Mittelsinn, and Obersinn."

"We received 30 pairs of shoes for the refugees who work in our factories."

"Shoes were distributed to returnees from Russia. The boys' shoes were given to boys who for some time have been unable to attend school for lack of shoes."

"The small quantity of working shoes distributed was like a drop of water on a hot stone."

"We thank the donors with a cordial 'Vergelts Gott' (God bless you)."

## Samaritan Fund Tops \$112,000

Less than five months after its inception, the "Samaritan Fund for Quaker Relief in Germany" reached the \$100,000 mark, and on March 31, 1947, the amount of \$112,144.15 had been paid or pledged by 1,951 Samaritans and 634 Contributors.

This entire sum will be used for relief work by the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) in Philadelphia. The expenses for the upkeep of the Samaritan Office, at 350 West 31st St., New York 1, N. Y., are paid out of a special fund, donated by friends for this very purpose.

In addition to their monthly contributions, the Samaritans have collected clothing, food, shoes and medical supplies which were speedily sent to Germany from the warehouses of the AFSC.

It is self-understood that, aside from some needed clerical help, all work is rendered on a voluntary basis. The chairmen and members of the various committees meet at the Samaritan Office or at the Liederkrantz Clubhouse in New York to lay plans for concerted action, to administer the finances, to publicize the work of the Samaritan Fund and to delegate members of the speakers' committee to do missionary work among clubs, societies and other interested groups.

### Other Cities Join

From New York, the Samaritan Fund has "invaded" other cities, with the invaluable help always rendered by the American Friends' Service Committee.

Washington and Philadelphia have joined the ranks recently and done

(Continued on Page 2)

## War and Peace

*Were half the power that fills the world with terror,  
Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts  
Given to redeem the human mind from error,  
There were no need for arsenal or forts.  
The warrior's name would be a name abhorred;  
And every nation that should lift again  
Its hand against its brother on its forehead  
Would wear forevermore the curse of Cain!*

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## SAMARITAN'S PROGRESS

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APRIL, 1947

GIVE . . . That They May Live!

### Joining The Ranks

It is good and heartening news that numerous new members have joined the ranks of the Samaritans during the past few weeks.

Branches of the "Samaritan Fund for Quaker Relief in Germany" could be established in Washington, Philadelphia, Poughkeepsie; organizational work is under way in numerous other communities.

In the course of less than five months, more than 2,600 Samaritans were enrolled who are busily engaged in the manifold activities of relief work for Germany. Their contributions, paid or pledged, exceed the \$100,000 mark substantially; in addition, they have sent clothing, food and medical supplies to the warehouses of the Quakers and done a great deal of missionary work among those who are still unable to realize that the fate of Western Civilization depends upon the speedy rehabilitation of seventy million Germans.

The Samaritans can be proud of their accomplishments. They have been true to the spirit which has led America and her people to greatness. In ever increasing numbers, they will be joined by all those other Americans who are anxious to heal the wounds of this most disastrous of all wars.

Much more, however, must be done in order to forestall a complete breakdown in Europe. The need for help is more urgent than ever. Yes, Spring is nearly here, but fearful floods already have followed the icy terror of the past winter. Moreover, the next three, four months will be the most difficult as far as

the available food supplies are concerned.

Only when the new crop has been harvested in the Reich, will it be possible to take stock of the food situation and to allocate supplies where the need is especially great.

Until that time, we must give to the utmost of our abilities, always true to our watchword: GIVE . . . THAT THEY MAY LIVE!

### The Hoover Plan

Recently, Herbert Hoover returned from his mission to Germany with a report and a plan. The report described the housing situation as the worst which modern civilization has ever seen and called attention to "the deplorable condition of more than half of the children under six, the adolescents, and a considerable part of the normal consumer group."

Hoover found particularly the children and young people from 6 to 20 years in danger. Their condition showed signs of improvement wherever school feeding took place, but he pointed out that only a small part of that group can be reached at this time by the feeding program. Of six and a half million children in the group, three and a half million were found undernourished, many of them to a dangerous extent.

Hoover's plan would provide (1) for soup kitchens to give these children hot meals, (2) for additional supplies to the 18 million normal consumers, and (3) for a shipment of 400,000 tons of United States surplus potatoes, including sufficient seed potatoes to build up the 1947 harvest to 5,000,000 tons. The cost of this plan, to be shared by the United States and Great Britain, would be \$567,000,000. Hoover proposes however that money spent for this relief work in Germany would be treated as a debt to be repaid by a recovered Germany before reparation payments and other foreign obligations.

The American Friends Service Committee is greatly encouraged by these plans. However, the organization feels that, even if they mature rapidly, they cannot relieve the AFSC from its child feeding responsibility for the next

## Samaritan Fund Tops \$112,000

(Continued from Page 1)

splendid work in a few short weeks. They clear their contributions through the Samaritan Office in New York, while Samaritan groups in such cities as Detroit and Poughkeepsie, N. Y., work with the Philadelphia office of the Quakers, directly. All these groups receive the "Samaritan's Progress" as their official publication. In a short time, the formation of additional local groups to strengthen the "Samaritan Fund", will be announced in these columns.

The financial statement as of March 31, 1947, reads as follows:

### SAMARITAN FUND — NEW YORK

(March 31, 1947)

Number of Samaritans.....	1836
Number of Contributors.....	597
Good Samaritans .....	151
Amount received .....	\$ 72,239.08
Total Amount pledged .....	66,408.00
Pledges paid .....	31,638.93
Pledges to be paid .....	34,769.07
Single Contributions .....	40,600.15

Samaritan Fund Total ..... \$107,008.15

### SAMARITAN FUND — PHILADELPHIA

(March 31, 1947)

Number of Samaritans.....	42
Number of Contributors.....	24
Good Samaritans .....	4
Amount received .....	\$ 333.00
Total Amount pledged .....	1,296.00
Pledges paid .....	144.00
Pledges to be paid .....	1,152.00
Single Contributions .....	189.00

Samaritan Fund Total ..... \$ 1,485.00

### SAMARITAN FUND — WASHINGTON

(March 31, 1947)

Number of Samaritans.....	73
Number of Contributors.....	13
Good Samaritans .....	4
Amount Received .....	\$ 584.00
Total Amount pledged .....	3,366.00
Pledges paid .....	299.00
Pledges to be paid .....	3,067.00
Single Contributions .....	285.00

Samaritan Fund Total ..... \$ 3,651.00

\* \* \*

### TOTAL SAMARITAN FUND

(March 31, 1947)

Number of Samaritans.....	1,951
Number of Contributors.....	634
Good Samaritans .....	155
Amount Received .....	\$ 73,156.08
Total Amount pledged .....	71,070.00
Pledges paid .....	32,081.93
Pledges to be paid .....	38,988.07
Single Contributions .....	41,074.15

TOTAL SAMARITAN FUND... \$112,144.15

### Detroit and Poughkeepsie

According to a report from Detroit, 225 members have enrolled and paid \$1,500.00.

The Samaritan Fund in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., announces that the number of Samaritans has grown to 151. There are 10 Good Samaritans. The total amount paid in, is \$2,100, of which \$262.00 are in donations.

three or four months, or even longer.

In order to continue the child feeding program, a steady and increasing flow of contributions is essential. These contributions have to come from the Samaritans and similar relief organizations.

## Now They Can Walk Again

It's not so far from Koblenz, Germany, to Minneapolis, U.S.A.!

One of the Quaker workers in Koblenz, French zone, decided to do something herself about the tragic shoe shortage in that city. Below is her account of the letter she sent to a friend in Minneapolis and the unexpected and happy results:

"I wrote to her some time ago about the disastrous shoe situation here, and since she is in the advertising business, I added a bit facetiously that she should look around for some shoe manufacturer who had a big heart, and persuade him to donate a lot of shoes to the AFSC for distribution in Germany.

"Now she writes that she went out and bought a small lot and later her mother went to the same place and bought another lot. Mother told them what she wanted them for and that she wanted as many as she could get for \$10. The manager was called, and he said he would look over his stock and give her what he could and would deliver them to the house.

"This morning the phone rang and it was the same man, saying he was coming out with the shoes. About an hour later he arrived by truck, with two other men to help unload. Altogether there were 3 packing cases of shoes . . . good shoes, all new, with good soles, plus button overshoes, men's rubbers, and slippers!

"Not only that, but he said he would have more, and would bring them out when they got around to getting them all together after inventory. We were overwhelmed, to say the least, so we served them some refreshments and they stayed for an hour.

"The manager had been all through the war—England, France, Germany, and was only too glad to help as soon as we whispered the magic work 'Quakers'. . . We will send them to Philadelphia.

"Now I really am inspired!"

### Prisoners-of-War Get Books from A.F.S.C.

Although it is still impossible to send printed material to German civilians, arrangements have been made by the AFSC with Military Government to ship books through Information Centers in Germany.

Part of the 50,000 pounds of books and magazines in the warehouse are being sent to German prisoners of war in France, England, Germany, Holland, and North Africa. In the American zone, books are being sent to the State and City Departments of Education; to the Public Welfare Department in Frankfurt for homes for the aged, hospitals, and day-care centers; a medical school; Social Work Library for the American zone; and to the neighborhood centers.

A similar apportionment of books is being made to both the British and French zones.

## Needy In Reich Get Clothing

AFSC clothing in Germany is distributed through several channels—CRALOG (Council for Relief Agencies licensed to Operate in Germany) and the agencies represented in the German Central Committee, the British Red Cross, and the Quaker relief teams.

The most complete records come to the AFSC from reports on the distribution through its own team. These reports indicate that clothing has gone to individuals in the American, British, and French Zones whose need has been verified by official committees.

Among the persons known to have received clothing are German prisoners of war in France, returned prisoners of war from Russia, refugees from the East (Sudetenland and Silesia, etc.); displaced persons; persons in old people's and children's homes; and in hospitals; pregnant women; victims of national-socialism, the bombed out and the generally needy and destitute.

A typical means of distribution follows this pattern. AFSC clothing is consigned to the German Central Committee, which allocates the clothing on the basis of verified need to the various Laender (or States). The neediest cities within the Laender set up a distribution system that endeavors to give clothing to individuals of greatest need, irrespective of race or creed. The need is vouched for by a special agency, consisting of representatives of public and private welfare agencies, assisted by volunteers.

A welfare official of the city issues a special pass to the individual requesting clothing at the distribution center. In order to prevent duplication of gifts, the article received is entered on the pass.

## Lord Beveridge Describes Conditions

Lord Beveridge described conditions as he saw them in Germany recently.

"There is," he says, "at the moment in practically every town in the British zone (and it is largely an urban zone) desperate material want, deficiency in all the necessities of healthy life, and almost total absence of all its comforts. . . . There is high absenteeism in practically all industries, partly through hunger and partly through the workers spending some days each week foraging for additional food in the country. There was no domestic coal ration last year and on present plans there will be none next winter.

"As to clothing, practically nothing new is being made and the old clothes are wearing out; it is only necessary to look at the feet of the children coming to a school meal, barefoot or with every variety of damaged makeshift, to realize the horrible prospect that lies ahead."

## Refugees From Sudeten Lost All; Tale Of Misery Demands Action

Among the many needy persons in Germany whose suffering is alleviated by the Quakers, the "Expellees" from Eastern Europe have probably suffered most.

Their plight was described in the January issue of this publication. The Report No. 4 on Conditions in Central Europe, issued by the American Friends Service Committee in September 1946, was concerned with the problems created by this mass expulsions of millions of people from the Sudetenland, from Silesia and elsewhere.

The following three letters were taken from a pamphlet, "The Sudetens — a Moral Question," written by Joseph Fetter and printed by the William Frederick Press, 313 West 35th Street, New York.

The letters which speak a language of unbelievable misery, read as follows:

### Age No Protection

Dear Uncle:

We were obliged to bid farewell to our homeland. Your dear mother was fortunate to die in voluntary exile before she would have been expelled. Her age of 89 years would not have protected her.

All that we have built up, all that we ever owned, we had to leave behind us. We were sent away with 50 kg. per family. No distinction is made, all have to vacate. You know that, like you, we were never pro-Nazi or anti-Jewish. In fact not even against the Czechs. What we have to go through now, is indescribable.

### Prepared to Die

We are prepared to die of hunger. We subsist on dried peas and potatoes plus one kg. bread weekly. No flour and ¼ pound meat only. Once only we got one powdered egg. Never did I dream to come to such a low level of existence.

Not even the possibility to earn a living. In vain we wait for some charitable support, but fail to get any. (Much has been done by the Quakers meanwhile—Editor.) We are here since May 1946. The only pot to cook in, we secured at the cost of 22 Rm. For the past two years I am without news from my two sons.

### No Stove in Camp

Dear Aunt Monie:

We are at the above camp now. We must eat in the camp kitchen, 340 of us. We have no stove. Sometimes when we have a chance we cook outdoors like the gypsies. We put up a few stones, make a fire and put the pot on top of it. What food we get is very little. Two pounds of bread weekly per person. I wish we had a stove so we could cook tasty potatoe soup instead of warm water.

Aunt Anna had to leave her home on one day's notice. They could take along only 50 kg. All else they had to leave behind.

Our business was taken from us in July, 1945. Those were sad days for us. All that we worked for for a whole lifetime, the Czechs took



Food for German Boys

from us. Simply everything! Even the preserves mother put up for the winter they took from us. Our entire savings of 42,000 Rm. they confiscated. It was terrible what we had to suffer from these vandals before they quieted down somewhat. The men were subjected to frequent beatings, worse than dogs. Many a one crippled by them for lifetime; some were killed by them. The atrociousness we experienced was such that we never thought that humans can behave so abominably. This, in the 20th century.

### His Share of Beatings

Uncle Menta had his full share of the beatings. I think he will never recover. Karl is still a P. W. in France.

Dear Auntie, if at all possible, please send us a few pounds of flour, because we cannot get any here, and sometimes we would like to make some soup. Please excuse me for asking you, but it hurts me so much to hear mother say, "If we only had a little flour we could cook soup. Please, Auntie, just some flour, so we can manage somehow."

### Begging Their Way!

Dear Uncle:

I found my family a week ago. They are now in the Russian zone, in great distress. They were expelled in September, 1945. Everything was taken away from them. They went on foot to Thuringen, begging their way as they had no funds or property. All our relatives are now beggars living in Germany. Brother Eduard, a discharged P. W., is also in great distress. Weakened as he is, his condition is pitiful. As the Germans here have nothing themselves, our condition is helpless. My weight has dropped from 70 kg. to 40 kg.

## CRALOG In Many Cities

The A.F.S.C. office in Philadelphia has had reports that CRALOG food or clothing, or both, have been distributed in the following German cities. The starred items indicate cities in which Quaker food or clothing, or both, have been distributed:

\*Offenbach, Frankfurt, \*Kassel, \*Giessen, \*Hanau, Wiesbaden, Neu-Isenburg, \*Pforzheim, Pforzheim-Land, Ulm, \*Stuttgart, Mannheim, Bruchsal, \*Heilbronn, Karlsruhe-Land, Northeim, Lauda, Mosbach, Bretten, Heidelberg, Neckargemund, Eberbach, Weinheim, Herrenalb, Neusatz, Konstanz, Adelsheim, Villingen, Boxberg, Sickingen, Lorrach, Neckarbischofsheim, Millheim, Neckargemund, \*Freiburg i./B., Emmendingen, Oberheidelberg, Rheinbischofsheim, Sinsheim, Lahr, Baden-Baden, Durlach, \*Hof, \*Bremen, Nuernberg, \*Munich, \*Dortmund, \*Frankfurt a. M., \*Darmstadt, \*Wesermuende, \*Siegburg, \*Ludwigshafen, \*Cologne, \*Koblenz, \*Hanover, Wuerzburg, \*Regensburg, \*Oberfinningen, \*Amhof.

These cities have been proposed for CRALOG child feeding:

Marburg, Fulda, Bad Homburg, Eschwege, Hersfeld, Wetzlar, Bensheim, Russelsheim, Oberursel, Viernheim, Limburg, Langen, Hephenheim.

## AFSC To Send Clothing To Germans In Denmark

The AFSC has agreed to send a shipment of 6,000 lbs. of clothing to German refugees in Denmark.

These camp-interred Germans were evacuated to Denmark ahead of the incoming Allied armies. Many of the German men in this group, particularly Nazi members, have been sent back to Germany, leaving largely a residue of women and children. Because the forced evacuation of expellees from the East has swollen the population of German towns and cities, these Danish Germans have a very low repatriation priority and may remain in Denmark for quite a while.

According to reports, the Danes maintain a minimum food subsistence for the Germans, but especially need clothing and books.

### Mayor of Freiburg Thanks AFSC

The "Badische Zeitung" in Freiburg reported that the mayor of that city, Dr. Hoffman, addressed a letter to the American Friends Service Committee team in the French zone, expressing his thanks on behalf of the city for their great help. Above all he expressed his gratitude for the blankets which were given by the Quakers to the children's clinic and for the transportation facilities which made it possible to bring badly needed food, wood and cement to the city.



## Army Shoes For DP's

The Bavarian Red Cross, on behalf of its 143 district branches, addressed a letter to the American Friends Service Committee accounting for the distribution of a shipment which contained 500 cans of canned food, 512 cases of beef stew, and 56 cases of reconditioned army shoes.

According to the Bavarian Red Cross, these supplies were distributed to an old-age home, to returned and ill prisoners of war from Russia, to 14,000 refugees, and to sickly children. The Bavarian Red Cross received distribution reports from all 143 district branches, but sent only typical reports from Sonthofen, Kempten, Fuessen, and Wertingen.

The last branch reports:

"With great satisfaction, the district branch received the food gift sent by the AFSC. The misery is immense. The greater is the effect of each work of charitableness. The substantial preserves of meat, of vegetables, and of soups, as well as the evaporated milk, gave many malnourished and sickly children new strength. Also a number of crippled and infirm old people and refugees could be assisted.

"The recipients, most of them refugees, bear the donors abroad in their minds and feel thankful that compassionate human beings do not forget them.

"It means a great deal to the district branch to be allowed to distribute the foreign gifts to the needy who come day after day in big crowds in search of relief from their misery."

## Much Needed Supplies Arrive In French Zone

The first of the French Zone supplies from the AFSC have arrived in Freiburg, and are safe in the warehouse, according to one relief worker in the French Zone. These supplies include lard, chocolate syrup, shoe-repair equipment, canned food, 274 bales of used bedding and clothing, and 98 cases of shoes, remnants, and sewing kits. The shipment left New York harbor on January 8, 1947, and arrived in Freiburg about February 20.

It was especially heartening to hear the workers' description of the shipment:

"I wish that you would tell the members of the Clothing Committee and the workers in the clothing room how very grateful we are for all the work that has been put into the clothing bales. I have never seen clothing arrive in better condition or more perfectly packed.

"The bales are all clearly marked, well sewn, and really look quite beautiful stacked up high in our warehouse. They will look much better, however, when they are out and distributed."

The distribution in Calw, Freiburg, Koblenz and Ludwigshafen began during the latter part of February.

## Juvenile Victims Of Tuberculosis Receive Badly Needed Food From U.S.

Recent reports from Germany stress the increase of tuberculosis and hunger edema everywhere. From the tuberculosis hospitals of Mecklenburg, Saxony, Mark Brandenburg, and Thuringia, all Laender in the Russian Zone, have come many thank-you letters and itemized reports of the distribution of an AFSC gift of 12,445 kg. of bacon by the International Red Cross. Also mentioned were cans of herring from the German prisoners of war in America.

Among the joyful letters from child victims of tuberculosis of the spine was one received from a tuberculosis hospital in Dresden-Klotzsche. It reads as follows:

"You should have been with us when we received your bacon for the first time. We attacked these rolls with bacon like wolves. I gobbled and swallowed and chewed and bit as hard as I could. One bite after another went down half chewed. The food here in Klotzsche is quite good, but American bacon—that is much better. So it is no wonder that after 3 minutes nothing was left of this delicious meal.

A pity that it was such a short one, but it tasted good.

"Your delicious things lasted for more than a week. We lived like the high lords in fairyland. Every afternoon we received a ham sandwich and three times we had fish for supper. It was a real feast!

"Up to now I knew very little about you Quakers. I had no idea about your aims and humanitarian efforts. Through our teacher I found out a little more about you. You have done such wonderful work during the long war years of the past half century and you have taken such kind care of those who suffer. Every human being should act toward his fellow men as you do. This will take a long time to realize; the road is difficult and not everyone has the strength to take it.

"Very many thanks for your delicious gift. I assure you that you have given us great joy. We shall never forget you.

"Cordial greetings to you from Harald Hilde on behalf of the 7th grade of the institute for victims of tuberculosis of the spine."

## Practical Bit Of Brotherly Love From Philadelphia To Germany

When the new Quaker center in Frankfurt, Germany, is finished, it will stand on foundations gouged out of the frozen earth by a 19-year-old Philadelphia boy and a handful of his friends.

Blowing on his fingers to keep them warm, Richmond Miller, 6356 Woodbine Avenue, Overbrook, Philadelphia, has spent the last few months operating a pneumatic drill borrowed from the Army.

Sometimes he has wielded a pick and shovel or driven a supply truck along frigid highways with four or five other American Friends Service Committee volunteers and innumerable Germans.

When the door of the new building swings open for business about the middle of April, it will be the first of five similar centers which will operate among the ruins of German cities.

### More Centers Planned

Two other Quaker building projects are now under way at Darmstadt, in the American zone, and at Freiburg in the French zone of occupation. Plans have been drawn for two more at Berlin (British sector) and Cologne in the British zone.

All will follow the same general lines of the Frankfurt headquarters, which has been built largely from two barracks buildings purchased in Sweden. Tools and materials have been shipped from the United States.

The American Friends Service Committee is also furnishing shoe repair machinery and a limited amount of leather, sewing machines and washing machines, radio-phonograph, athletic equip-

ment, children's games and kitchen equipment.

### Question of Self-Help

The idea is to help the Germans help themselves and each other and to provide them with a friendly meeting place.

The new center will include carpentry shop, sewing room, kitchens, showers, reading room, two club rooms and plenty of chairs for lounging.

The Quaker centers will be partially staffed by Americans at the start; there are now about 50 AFSC workers in Germany. But much of the work will be done by a mutual aid society organized by local German Quakers and including representatives of all relief organizations and churches.

Eventually it is hoped the projects will be taken over and run entirely by the Germans.

—Barbara Barnes.

## Concert In Philadelphia Netted \$500 For Relief

On Friday, March 21, a concert was held under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee in the Old Philadelphia Customs House, Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. Alice Howland, mezzo-soprano, Karl and Vally Weigl, duo-pianists, and Robert Grooters, baritone, were heard in works by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Dvorak and Weigl.

It was an event of dignity and high artistic standards. The proceeds of about \$500 will be used for the purchase of "Care"-Packages for special distribution by Quaker relief workers in Germany.

## A.F.S.C. Helps PW's In France

For a number of months now, AFSC workers in France have been going to commandos, to camps, and to hospitals to bring good will, some supplementary food, and a few gift articles to a needy and forgotten group of men, the German prisoners of war in the vicinities of Toulouse and Caen.

During the bleak winter, AFSC workers in France brought blankets, jackets, overcoats, scarfs, shorts, socks, shoes, trousers, soap, tooth paste, razor blades, and a small number of German books to these men. About \$2,500 a month has been set aside by the Committee for supplies for this work. Continuation of this work is dependent on the state of the German budget, at present alarmingly inadequate for the year's relief and rehabilitation plans.

One of the workers writes that "in every one of the commandos visited the reaction to our bringing these small gifts was much the same: the men were naturally thankful to receive some useful article at Christmas, but even more profoundly and heartily expressed was their gratification at not having been entirely forgotten; they were glad that someone had thought about them at this season enough to make the necessary effort to visit them behind the barbed wire."

## "The Walls Are Coming Closer And Closer . . ."

A Quaker worker writes from Freiburg in Germany as follows:

"For the first time since I have been with the Service Committee, I am beginning to get frightened. People are already running out of potatoes, and the markets will only have enough until March. Then no one knows what will happen. Famine oedema is becoming more common, and even the women are beginning to break down.

"Well-dressed mothers come in to say that they have nothing to eat in the house, and that they don't know what they will do to make soup. I have a feeling that the walls are coming closer and closer together, and that there is nothing at all we can do about it."

### Card Party in Brooklyn

As reported last month, a card party for the benefit of the Samaritan Fund will be held at the Rivoli Ball Room, 1095 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, on Friday, April 18, at 8 P.M. Tickets are for sale at Mrs. H. Heinemann, 963 East 46th Street, Brooklyn (Tel. BUCKminster 7-0615) and at the office of the Samaritan Fund, 350 West 31st Street, New York 1, N. Y. (Longacre 3-4825).

For nearly six years, the Friends' Ambulance Unit China Convoy, composed of about 100 to 150 young men and women, has performed a remarkable service of mercy in a war-torn land. Medical teams have worked in field hospitals directly behind the front lines, often under fire.