

SAMARITAN'S PROGRESS



Published by: THE SAMARITAN FUND
FOR QUAKER RELIEF IN GERMANY



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JANUARY, 1948

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Teachers Get Needed Shoes

An A.F.S.C. worker reports about the distribution of shoes to school teachers in Ludwigshafen as follows:

"We had only a very small supply of shoes. After some thought, we decided it might be a real morale-booster (as well as dire necessity) to give them to the school teachers of Ludwigshafen. There are about 80 women teachers and 60 men teachers.

"The hours were set from 4 to 6 to give the teachers of afternoon classes a chance to come. The superintendent of schools shrugged his shoulders when I suggested giving the shoes to the teachers. There is a great deal of professional dignity here, and he felt that they would feel it beneath them to come and get shoes. But they came through about 100 per cent; there were about 5 women teachers and 10 men teachers who could not be fitted and will have to come back later on.

"They were self-respecting and dignified—but so driven by desperate need that pride was put aside, reluctantly. It seemed almost unreal that purveyors of education, morals, and religion should not even have decent footwear. One teacher whom we couldn't even fit, particularly pulled at my heart strings, for she had on a pair of bedroom slippers, very much worn-out—and she would have slipped by on her way out without a word, had I not been watching her. She will get a pair as soon as I can get at another box of shoes. Because of the feeling of the Stadtschulrat, we put a box for voluntary contributions at the door—and found 185 marks in the box!

"Teachers have been asked to do so much in getting children lined up for food, clothing, etc., that we felt we should at least once do something for them. Their lot is a hard one, most of them not having enough to eat, salaries are low, there's no equipment, not even books, and they have classes which sometimes go up to 68 or 70. All of the schools are to a great extent in ruins so that the few rooms left partially intact, are overworked—the lighting, heating (practically none) and the paneless windows make a shambles of any school system."

If civilization cannot destroy armaments, armaments will destroy civilization.—Lord Grey

Five Dollars May Save The Life Of A Hungry Child In Germany

Dear Samaritans: This will be a severe winter in Germany. The food sent over in the next few months by the Quakers will not be just a pleasant, warm meal in the stomachs of the people; but will save lives. We have it in our power to save the lives of thousands of people, and I should like to explain how this can be done.

The Quakers have adopted two hundred and fifty thousand children in the four zones of Germany. These are the most neglected; cases of great need—children with no relatives in America, and with no chance of getting help which the government may send.

Because we spend only seven cents out of every dollar on administration, leaving ninety-three cents to go directly overseas, we are able to feed these children on \$1.25 per month. We buy in bulk, in hundreds of tons, three ingredients—a special Ralston relief cereal with minerals added, sugar, and powdered whole milk.

This is shipped by free freight as relief goods across the Atlantic to Bremerhaven, put in sealed trains, and shipped then to our various distributions points where volunteer Quaker workers check on the incoming supplies and supervise the distribution to the mouth. The food does not go on the black market, and we know that every pound is distributed to needy children.

The death months during the coming winter will be February, March, April and May of 1948. Four months at \$1.25 equals \$5. *If anyone in America wishes to keep a child alive, he can do so for \$5, and I think that there are few Americans who are unable to do this.* We need two million dollars in the next three months, and we hope that there will also be individual Americans who can adopt 100 or 1,000 children.

We are asking this support, not for ourselves, but for children who are hungry, and for whom we can do something if we open our hearts. We have learned that this expression of the voluntary good will and concern of Americans helps tremendously to heal the spirit of despairing people.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN S. HOLLISTER

American Friends Service Committee

Who Sent This Postal Note?

The office of the "Samaritan Fund for Quaker Relief in Germany", 350 West 31st Street, New York 1, N. Y., (Tel. LOngacre 3-4825) announces the following:

"We received a Postal Note No. 12,538,049 for \$6.00 made out by the Vanderveer Station, Brooklyn, N. Y., on December 29, 1947. As this Postal Note does not give the sender, we cannot give him credit. Whoever sent us this payment is requested to communicate with the office immediately"

Thank You, Christa!

A young girl in Tenafly, New Jersey, who is eleven years old, read the story of Heidi on the little leaflet recently sent to the Samaritans and printed in the December issue of 'Samaritan Progress'. She has sent us three dollars "for a girl like Heidi". We wish to thank Christa Mayr for her generous gift.

Do a good turn to anyone who does you a bad one—Joseph F. Newton

Bitter Is The Need In Reich

The following report was received from Mrs. Magdalene Nie-moeller, a public school teacher in Wuppertal-Elberfeld:

"I would like to use another word instead of 'need.' During these last years, we have passed through so much 'need' of every description and the word has been used so often that, it seems to me, it has no longer the power to touch human hearts. But it is my ardent desire to touch human hearts when talking of the need of German children and to obtain help for our poor suffering youngsters, help for their bodies and help for their souls.

"Need is suffered by German children in every respect. I want to talk of the need only which I, as a teacher of a public school in a big city, must witness every day. There is the lack of living quarters. For more than a year, some boys of my class live in a subterranean bunker in the midst of the ruins of our city without any daylight. It is a long way to school and even a longer one out of the ruins.

"A little girl, who is very shy, lives with her mother and brothers and a large number of other families in the gymnasium of a public school. The women complain of the steady unrest in such a place. A boy in my class cannot find a little space to sleep in the small room inhabited by his mother and a younger child, so he stays with strangers. 56 per cent of my children do not have a bed of their own and sleep with parents or brothers and sisters. Such conditions favor the spread of diseases. Tuberculosis has increased frightfully. And just imagine the things the children must see and hear under such crowded conditions and how their tender souls will be burdened or even poisoned.

Lack of Clothing

"There is the lack of clothing. Every day I am amazed how most of the mothers succeed in sending their children to school, properly dressed, in spite of all difficulties. They mend and darn and work several old pieces into one new one. And I know from my own experience how often sewing and darning material is lacking! It is therefore not possible to mend all the holes in the pants of the boys. Recently

(Continued on Page 4)

SAMARITAN'S PROGRESS

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JANUARY, 1948

GIVE . . . That They May Live!

Winter Of Dire Need

This is a winter of dire need for the German people. Conditions were very bad last year. Today, they are much worse, if we, in rich and well-nourished America, can visualize such a situation.

The drought of many months has all but wiped out the meager surplus stocks in the German economy. There is a scarcity in seed and fertilizer; consequently, the Good Earth cannot produce as freely as in former days. What good are all the ration coupons in the world if you are unable to buy food in the stores? The stories which one hears, are heart-rending. Empty larders, no coal, no milk for the children, overcrowded homes or bunkers—and the light of hope often dying, after years of extreme misery.

This lack of hope in the future, this growing apathy of millions of once industrious and active people is the saddest feature of life in today's Germany.

Here is a task for all Americans of good will: to give from their riches to those who are poor in body and in spirit. It is not just a question of a few dollars donated, of some dresses or shoes sent abroad. They will help to clothe the nakedness of these miserable people.

But, much more important than this physical act will be the spiritual effect on those whom we are privileged to help.

Have you ever listened to the joyous words of thanks

from the mouth of a poor child?

Have you ever seen the look of heartfelt gratitude in a harried mother's eyes?

Do you know what it means to rekindle the flame of hope in a fellow human being?

This feeling alone is worth all the so-called sacrifices which we make in money, in goods and in time to help those who have so little.

Who would want to miss such an opportunity to accept in a humble spirit the blessings of a good deed—to make one's inner life richer and more complete, in the service of the Brotherhood of Man?

Help The Children

We believe that the report of Mrs. Magdalene Niemoeller, a school teacher in Elberfeld, which we print in this issue, is very impressive.

It may not supply many new facts. Our readers already know that thousands of German children go to school without breakfast; they know that thousands must stay away from school just because they have no shoes; and they also know that many thousands still live in dark and overcrowded bunkers where diseases breed and where growing children suffer harm to their bodies and their souls.

Small wonder that the school teacher must fight her tears when these undernourished children stand before her lacking the bare necessities of life and secretly pining for something that would make their lives a little more bearable.

What has impressed us deeply, is the *dignity* which every word of the teacher breathes.

We are certain that she too is lacking in food, in clothing, and other necessities. But she does not complain, nor does she ask for herself. She asks us to help her charges. She wants us to keep more suffering from their bodies and more harm from their souls.

Do not refuse your aid!

GIVE THAT THEY MAY LIVE!

Love sought is good, but given unsought is better.—Shakespeare

They All Are Very Happy...

From Pirmasens, in the Rheinland, the Quakers have received the following letter, written by a child:

"Dear donors:

"Because Mummie is sick in bed, she cannot write. So she said, I should write because I am already old enough. But I thought the people in America who have sent us the beautiful clothes for the children could not read German. But Mummie said that does not matter, I should go ahead and write, our teacher or the pastor or someone else will translate the letter into American.

"So I am writing you now. My name is Hilde and I am nine years old. I live in Pirmasens, a city which is totally destroyed. The airmen have bombed it during the war, and our apartment has burned. Everything in the rooms burned, even my doll by the name of Renate and all my toys. But we could move into the apartment of Aunt Anneliese, there nothing has been destroyed by the many bombs. But now eight people live in two rooms, and I must sleep with Hannelore in one bed, and Mummie and Aunt Anneliese sleep in the other bed.

"Mummie asks me if I have written about the baby clothes. Oh

yes, that was fine. When the man came with the socks and panties and with the sweet dress for Ingelein, Mummie cried, but she said that was only for joy, and I was also very happy and at once told it to Aunt Anneliese when she came home. She had again not received any potatoes, but that day we were not unhappy about it, because we had the beautiful baby clothes. Aunt Anneliese at once dressed Ingelein with all the clothes. She looks so sweet. Mummie said Aunt Anneliese should write a letter right away, so that you may know in America that everything fits and that we are so happy about it.

"But Auntie was so tired and this morning she has gone again because she wants to try to get some flour in the country. Mummie says I should write that Ingelein is three years old and she does not know our Daddy, because Daddy has been a prisoner-of-war so long. I remember Daddy, his picture is on Mummie's bedside table. He is tall and used to call me "Haeschen," when he was with us. But he has been away so long. Now you know everything I know, and I finish my letter and I am very happy and Mummie and Ingelein and Aunt Anneliese are very happy. "Greetings to all of you from "Hilde"

Elka-Arion Concert Jan. 23rd

The joint concert of the Liederkranz of the City of New York and the Arion Singing Society of Brooklyn, at the auditorium of Hunter College, Park Avenue and 68th Street, New York, on Friday evening, January 23rd, has aroused lively interest among the friends of choral music.

The soloist will be the famous tenor, Lauritz Melchior, who has graciously donated his services for the good cause—relief for the German people. As the event takes place under the auspices of the Samaritan Fund for Quaker Relief in Germany, it is to be hoped that many Samaritans will attend the concert.

Tickets are obtainable at the Samaritan Fund office, 350 West

31st Street, and at the Liederkranz Clubhouse, 111 East 58th Street, both in Manhattan; also at the Arion Clubhouse, 1002 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. The admission scale is from \$1.80 to \$3.60.

The combined choruses of the two singing societies will be directed by Peter Boergemann and Willy Reske. The Liederkranz Orchestra will also participate.

Mr. Melchior will sing excerpts from Wagner's music dramas and appear with the chorus in a scene from "The Flying Dutchman" and in Grieg's "Die Weisse Schar." The chorus will be heard in Robert Pracht's "Haralda" and in numerous other works, both English and German.

Worm Medicine Sent To German Hospitals

One of our friends had sent some *Oleum Chenopodii* to Germany which is badly needed over there for worm medicine. The following is an excerpt from a letter acknowledging the gift:

"Welch grosse Freude und Wohltat mit diesem Oel erzielt wurde, erkenne Sie aus zwei Briefen, die ich Ihnen anbei uebersende, und zwar der eine vom Karl-Olga-Krankenhaus und der andere vom Robert-Bosch-Krankenhaus, der Stuttgarter homoeopathischen Klinik. Der Chefarzt der Kinderklinik Olga-Heilanstalt schreibt mir, dass nach Wiedereroeffnung der Klinik mit 220 Betten (gegenueber 400 Betten vor der Zerstoeerung) mit dem Wurmoel eine Luecke ge-

schlossen sei, die seit langem schwer klappte. Die Anzahl Patienten mit Wurmern, die wir unbehandelt nach Hause schicken mussten, war sehr gross.

"Umsomehr sind wir dem Spender zu ganz besonderem Dank verpflichtet, da hier nun endlich wieder diese Kuren durchgefuehrt werden koennen. Vielen Kindern haben die Wuermmer in koerperlicher wie auch in nervlicher Hinsicht ganz schwer zugesetzt. Und da ist es fuer einen Arzt immer eine betruerbliche Angelegenheit, wenn er nicht helfen kann."

The only way to have a friend is to be one.—Emerson

Tragic Fate Of Expellees

A British Red Cross worker in Hagen (Westfalia) reports the following story of the fate of a Sudeten family:

"A forest worker's family has had a very bad time. They were forced to leave their home in the Sudetenland where they owned a small estate in the middle of a large forest. After their forced evacuation the wife was taken to one camp and their child aged four to another.

"For over a year, they tried to get news of each other and finally managed to do so and the child joined her mother. After his discharge from a P.O.W. camp, the husband naturally could not return to his former home and came to his sister in Hagen in the hope of finding his wife and child there. His sole possession was his soldier's uniform which he had to wear as he had no other clothes.

"After a year had gone by, news came first of his wife from a Refugee Camp in Bavaria and then his oldest son returned from a P.W. camp. After a time the family were united once again.

"The Health Office in the town was able to help them to find a room, but there were other things to be done before a home could be gotten together. First an old table and a small stove had to be brought in, then some Bunker (Air Raid Shelter) beds.

"How tired they were and how sad when I met them at their work. At the beginning it seemed hopeless. They were used to the freedom of living in the forest; living in a small room in a tenement house was to them like living in jail.

The Child Falls Sick

"At first the four-year-old child suffered from the complete change of living conditions. Physically, she rapidly deteriorated so much that she was given some of the extra nourishment provided by the British Red Cross for such cases. Now she is slowly recovering due partly to the extra nourishment and partly to the more settled state of the parents.

"This unpretentious household has already a homely touch—iron bedsteads have now taken the place of the former 'Bunker' beds. The man, who does heavy work felling trees has sufficient rest on a decent bed. His wife and child also have a bed.

"The wife was able to sew very well and was particularly good at making bedroom slippers out of old materials so that with the money she earned or by the process of exchanging she was able to get some furniture. She also managed to get some old material with which she made suitable clothing for her husband so that he no longer had to stay at home on Sundays because of his disreputable clothes.

"This family has not lost its sense of orderliness, cleanliness and decency in spite of their present

A.F.S.C. Fosters Lasting Contacts Between Schools Here And Abroad

The schools of Europe have suffered greatly during the war and many of them are still operating under almost unbelievable conditions. School buildings have been destroyed; books, supplies, and equipment have disappeared and are impossible to replace; in many cases there is not enough fuel to heat the schools. Many of the younger teachers have been killed or have not returned to their pre-war jobs. And, probably the greatest problem of all, students and teachers alike are forced to carry on with insufficient food, clothing and housing. Obviously the physical difficulties faced by European schools are tremendous.

In many cases teachers and students feel even more acutely the need for contact with other countries. There is a great hunger for some sort of friendly exchange of ideas which is a result of the war years and the consequent separation between Europe and the rest of the world. European schools want to know what is happening in the United States, for instance, and what individual Americans are thinking and doing. This is a most important need that cannot be met by sending material aid to Europe.

Program Began In 1946

In the Spring of 1946, a program was started in an attempt to establish lasting contacts between schools in America and schools in Europe. This program, 'School Affiliation Service' is operated jointly by the American Friends Service Committee and the Overseas Schools Committee of Boston. AFSC is responsible for contacts with schools overseas and schools were visited in France, Holland and Italy.

Approximately 140 European schools have been affiliated with elementary and secondary schools in the United States. More than one hundred of these schools are in France.

Reich In School Program

Since the beginning of the program there has been a rising interest in expanding this program to include Germany and other countries in Europe. Because of the limited personnel and finances, this expansion has not been possible until this school year. During the last winter, however, affiliations were made between two schools in this country and three German schools. These contacts were the result of an especially active interest on the part of the American schools and helped the two operating agencies to explore the possi-

poverty. But the insufficient nourishment makes life difficult for them. The man no longer feels that he can do hard work in the forest with only dry bread to eat. He has already had such severe indigestion that he was unable to work at all. They had few potatoes as severe frost damaged them. "But, they too, hope for a better future."

bilities of extending the program to Germany.

During this winter, AFSC representatives have visited a few schools in the British and American Zones of Germany. Contacts have been made with schools in Berlin, Stuttgart, Oberhausen, Schwerte, Dortmund, Gelsenkirchen, Bielefeld, and a few other towns and cities. Present plans provide for the visiting of some schools in the French Zone in the immediate future. The total number of affiliations made this winter between German and American schools will be between twenty and forty.

All foreign schools are visited by AFSC representatives who explain the purpose of the program. Detailed reports on interested foreign schools are sent back to Dr. Alfred E. Stearns, Chairman of the Overseas School Committee. Dr. Stearns proceeds to find an American School interested in accepting the affiliation.

To Foster Friendship

The primary purpose of the program, the development of international friendship and understanding through lasting contacts, is emphasized in approaching schools here and abroad. Once the affiliation has been made, the main responsibility for its success rests with the two schools involved. However, AFSC and the Overseas Schools Committee keep in touch with the affiliations through correspondence and follow-up visits wherever possible.

Most affiliations begin with an exchange of letters between teachers and students. A natural result of the affiliation is the sending of sorely needed material supplies from schools in this country to their new friends in Europe. The amount of material assistance naturally varies with the size and economic background of the American school. Experience to date has indicated that American schools have been gratifyingly generous in sending needed supplies abroad.

It is unfortunate that School Affiliation Service must remain small as far as numbers of schools affiliated is concerned. However, the success of affiliations to date indicates that such contacts contain great possibilities. Every effort will be made to help these few contacts to develop and to make a contribution to world friendship and understanding far beyond their numerical strength.

Send your children's used clothing to the American Friends Service Committee Warehouse at 23rd and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. They will be shipped directly to children in Central Europe.

YOUR GIFT OF \$1000 will provide one meal daily for three months for 164 children.

YOUR GIFT OF \$500 will give 55 infants their powdered milk requirements for 6 months.

Samaritan Fund Over \$237,000

The "Samaritan Fund for Quaker Relief in Germany", 350 West 31st Street, New York 1, N. Y., announces that on December 31st, 1947, the Fund had reached a total of more than \$237,000.

The report shows that many Samaritans have already renewed their pledges for another year. The officers of the Fund hope that all the other Samaritans will gladly follow suit as soon as their current pledges are paid up.

The latest report includes the figures from New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, representing a total of \$216,402.21. The December 30th, 1947, figures in Detroit come to \$16,290.50. This latter sum, together with the Poughkeepsie, N. Y., figure of \$4,473.13 (November 30th, 1947), account for the remaining \$20,763.63.

The financial statement as per December 31, 1947, reads as follows:

SAMARITAN FUND — NEW YORK

(December 31, 1947)	
Number of Samaritans	2,578
Number of Contributors	1,003
Good Samaritans	213
Amount Received	\$185,301.33
Amount Pledged	87,831.00
1948 Renewals	9,696.00
Total Amount Pledged	97,527.00
Pledges Paid	73,412.12
Pledges to Be Paid	24,114.88
Single Contributions	111,889.21
Samaritan Fund Total	\$209,416.21

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SAMARITAN FUND — PHILADELPHIA

(December 31, 1947)	
Number of Samaritans	72
Number of Contributors	27
Good Samaritans	4
Amount Received	\$ 1,888.52
Total Amount Pledged	2,244.00
Pledges Paid	1,610.52
Pledges to Be Paid	633.48
Single Contributions	278.00
Samaritan Fund Total	\$ 2,522.00

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SAMARITAN FUND — WASHINGTON

(December 31, 1947)	
Number of Samaritans	97
Number of Contributors	23
Good Samaritans	5
Amount Received	\$ 2,552.60
Amount Pledged	3,990.00
1948 Renewals	24.00
Total Amount Pledged	4,014.00
Pledges Paid	2,102.60
Pledges to Be Paid	1,911.40
Single Contributions	450.00
Samaritan Fund Total	\$ 4,464.00

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SAMARITAN FUND — TOTAL

(December 31, 1947)	
Number of Samaritans	2,747
Number of Contributors	1,053
Good Samaritans	222
Amount Received	\$189,742.45
Amount Pledged	94,065.00
1948 Renewals	9,720.00
Total Amount Pledged	103,785.00
Pledges Paid	77,125.24
Pledges to Be Paid	26,659.76
Single Contributions	112,617.21

TOTAL SAMARITAN FUND ...\$216,402.21

In Detroit

From Detroit, Mich., comes the following report dated December 30th, 1947:

Number of Samaritans	534
Number of Contributors	57
Good Samaritans	111
Amount Received	\$ 10,855.60
Total Amount Pledged	16,033.00
Pledges Paid	10,598.10
Pledges to Be Paid	5,434.90
Single Contributions	257.50

Samaritan Fund Total

Bitter Is The Need In Reich

(Continued from Page 1)

the children of my class were examined by the doctor and I was shocked at the frightful condition of their underwear.

"How will they go through the winter? The worst is the lack of shoes and stockings. Of 84 children in my class, 50 had really bad footwear. 30 had a pair of shoes of their own, but some of those were close to coming apart. 25 per cent of the children had to miss school because they had nothing to put on their feet; some were absent all last winter. Some came in shoes much too large for them which they had borrowed from some other member of the family. Many children were unable to wear shoes for several days because they had frost-bitten feet.

Serious Skin Diseases

"The immense clothing need is increased by the lack of sufficient cleaning agents. Various kinds of serious skin diseases are another sad consequence of this lack of soap. They became so frequent in our schools that the school administration found it necessary to have the teachers instructed by a physician concerning these disorders, their origin and their treatment. But also against other diseases, the resistance of our children is low. Their nerves suffered from the terror of the air raids.

"Many do not take proper care of their teeth. 40 per cent of the children in my class do not own a tooth brush. Several teeth had to be removed from the mouth of one of our students who is fourteen years old and the dentist believed, she would not have a single tooth left at the age of twenty.

"And now the need of food! I did ascertain that of 84 children in my class 30 came to school without having eaten any breakfast. 30 others had one piece of bread; 24 had two pieces of bread. 22 children had eaten their bread without anything on it. Only six children had had a little milk.

"We are grateful therefore that our children receive half a liter of warm soup every morning. When that soup is distributed, the children show how hungry they are—with such eagerness they receive their portion. Greedily, they scrape the last remnants from the bottom of the large containers.

"Last year, when a doctor and a nurse examined 100 new pupils and when we saw the skinny little naked fellows standing before us, all three of us had to fight against tears. It is hard to see children suffer so terribly without being able to help. And then it is a joy to see the shining faces if sometimes we are able to distribute some chocolate or some cookies. But this joy is often mixed with sadness, and I do not like to tell it: Some of our half starved children cannot resist the temptation to take what is not theirs. It happened in my own class that some boys took

Five Short Stories That Speak Of Misery, Despair And—Hope

A worker for the "Innere Mission," well-known Protestant welfare organization in Germany, has sent the following short stories which describe the heart-rending conditions among the German people who fight a grim battle for survival, but who, despite all the misery and despair, have not given up hope that a better day will dawn for them:

1. "A Welfare Worker from the Innere Mission brought some clothing to a bombed out family in great need. The twelve year old girl got a pullover; this was a gift from America through the British Red Cross.

"Some time later she saw the Welfare Worker in the street and called out: 'That pullover has brought us luck.' An address from America was sewn inside and the girl had written a letter of thanks for the garment and a large food parcel arrived some time later."

2. "A Welfare Worker found an old married couple in a cellar during one of her visits. They were formerly wealthy, having been in the hotel business. Their house had been destroyed by bombing. Their son was until recently in a Russian P. O. W. camp.

"The old couple were too weak to help themselves and too proud to ask for help.

"Now came the time for their Golden Wedding! They could not think of celebrating such an important day without some decent clothes.

"With the help of the British Red Cross, we were able to give them some pleasure by giving them clothes so that they could have a real celebration."

from their schoolmates the chocolate that had just been distributed.

"That shows again the deep spiritual need of our children. How will they be saved? The old German proverb, 'Need teaches to pray' seems no longer valid. We see every day how need teaches to complain, to fail, to swear, to despair. To steal. How could our undernourished and sick children go through all their suffering and still have resistance against temptation? They lack clothing, food and shelter. They should at least have a good education and regular instruction. Lack of fuel makes that impossible in the winter months, and also during the summer so many necessary things are lacking. For some subjects we have no or not enough books. There is no material for drawing or handicraft. Most of our little ones have no slate and not even a little piece of paper for their first attempts at writing and arithmetic.

"Copybooks are lacking in all classes. All this makes the work very difficult for teacher and students alike.

"At an early age, our children must help to carry the burdens of

3. "Now we meet a doctor's family living in a temporary dwelling. Not even the doctor, who was often called out in the night by patients, had a bed to himself. They are refugees, poor and miserable.

"One of their children died during their forced evacuation. The children have T.B. The doctor was given a coat, underwear and a suit so that he was able to resume his profession properly. His wife and children were also given clothing. Beds were provided and then they received some good warm woolen blankets. They now realize that better times are bound to come."

4. "We visited a 60-year old woman who with her children and grandchildren was living in an attic. For some weeks the old woman had slept on two chairs. She is a refugee and once possessed a big estate.

"What the good new dress we gave her meant to her cannot be described. This family never complains. They have no words but they suffer in silence. Their thanks even can find no words but their eyes shine in thankfulness."

5. "Each day prisoners from a P. O. W. camp return. They are often in rags; their shoes are held together by string. They cannot find their families or their homes and there is no one able to help them. They may no longer wear their uniform—that is forbidden. We can give them a decent suit, underwear and shoes from the gifts which we receive from the British Red Cross. This gives them confidence in themselves. Not everything has been destroyed, perhaps there may be HOPE once again."

the household which are heavy in these troubled times. Many an hour they stand in line for bread or fish or other food. They are taken into the woods or sent there alone to gather fuel and carry it home. They must do many chores at home.

"But they lack every joy children would have in normal times. And their hearts are aching for something more than the barest necessities of life, for something that would make their young lives beautiful.

"May God grant that many Christians who are not living in such need as ours will do what is in their power to help the German children in their need. We are deeply grateful to everyone who wants to help and especially to those who already have helped us with their generous gifts."

Many persons have a wrong idea about what constitutes true happiness. It is not attained through self-gratification, but through fidelity to a worthy purpose.

It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.

U. S. Aid For German Homes

In a move to aid the German people to rebuild the bombed-out areas of housing, community installations, places of worship, institutions for children and the needy, in the American-occupied and controlled zones in Germany, a group of representative citizens from Philadelphia, New Jersey, California, Maryland and the District of Columbia, met recently in Washington, D. C., to lay the groundwork for a permanent organization.

Mrs. Marion Linke, Philadelphia chairman of the Women's International League brought out the fact that in the British zone, now consolidated with the American zone, out of 5,500,000 pre-war dwelling units, 1,600,000 were totally destroyed or irreparably damaged, while in the British sector of Berlin, 27,966 were undamaged out of a total of 298,477, with some people being bombed-out three, four and five times.

Other speakers reported that in Duesseldorf 3,018 people are homeless and 13,000 are living in cellars, bunkers, and the like, and, that it is not uncommon to find as many as 20 people crowded into one room.

It was the consensus of opinion that the German people would be unable to rebuild their destroyed homes and cities without American aid, and that a permanent peace could not be established as long as such deplorable living conditions exist in the Reich.

People In Hessen Express Gratitude

WASHINGTON.—The "most profound gratitude" of the people of Hessen for American food that nourished their school children during 1947 was expressed to President Truman and the American people in a letter received by Mr. Truman and given out by the White House. Christian Stock, Minister President, and Dr. Erwin Stein, Minister of Education of Hessen, wrote from Wiesbaden as follows:

"During the year 1947 320,000 undernourished children in the land of Hessen have, with American means, been provided through the school feeding program with an additional substantial meal.

"The children's parents, and along with them, the teachers and all responsible men and women of our people, are well aware of the greatness of this proof of true neighborly love. The children themselves too, are deeply impressed with the idea that aid and rescue come to them from the good people across the ocean."

No virtue is higher than love to all men, and there is no loftier aim in life than to do good to all men. —Confucius

Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbor, and let every new year find you a better man.—Benjamin Franklin