

# AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF IN THE NEAR EAST

(FORMERLY ARMENIAN-SYRIAN RELIEF)

## OREGON HEADQUARTERS

613 STOCK EXCHANGE BLDG.

PHONE MAIN 2178

PORTLAND

GOVERNOR JAMES WITHYCOMBE, HONORARY CHAIRMAN

BEN SELLING, STATE TREASURER

J. J. HANDSAKER, STATE DIRECTOR

MRS. W. P. STRANDBORG, PUBLICITY DIRECTOR



"I AM VARTAN,

ONE OF THE 400,000 ORPHANS"

Portland, Oregon, Feb. 27, 1919.

### TO ALL THE PUPILS IN THE OREGON PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

This week, your parents have been asked to give liberally to save the lives of starving children and women in Armenia and Syria. If they understood that little children and mothers are actually starving, they would give generously.

Last year, many school children sent us nickels, dimes and thrift stamps, and because the need is so much greater this year than last, I believe that every one of you will want to help. I know, if there were one hungry child in your school, any one of you would be glad to share your food with him. These children are not hungry--they are starving, and there are more than twice as many of them as there are in all the grade and high schools in the state of Oregon. I repeat, these children are not only hungry--they are starving; many so hungry that they cannot eat, others so hungry they have gone blind, others cannot speak. They never laugh nor play. Every one is a homeless orphan, and there are 400,000 of them.

While I write this letter to you, three ships loaded with food and clothing are hurrying across the ocean, but we must load many ships or these children must die. Tell your parents, tonight, that these starving children are at our doors. Then bring the little envelope back to your teacher, tomorrow, with just as large an offering as possible. Twenty children giving the value of a thrift stamp each would care for one child for a month.

I am,

Your friend,

Ben Selling,

State Treasurer.

# WHICH ONES WOULD YOU PICK OUT TO DIE?



These orphans trudged over miles and miles of desert until they found their way to an orphanage and we took them in. The end of the war gave us four million refugees which reduced our appropriations to this orphanage to save other children. Our relief workers cable: "Conditions too appalling to contemplate. Children turned from orphanages, left to fight alone for life—inevitably to perish."

Cabled messages received since Christmas report:

"150,000 refugees on the hills of Bagdad, dying by hundreds daily."

"Over 6,000 destitute children in immediate region Beirut."

"Famine conditions prevailing in Teheran with hundreds dying daily."

"10,000 refugees, women and children, naked and destitute at Mosul."

**FIVE DOLLARS A MONTH SAVES A LIFE.**

## SHALL WE FEAST WHILE OTHERS STARVE?