

'SAVE SMALL COINS FOR THE ARMENIANS' SAYS OPEN LETTER

Mrs. J. L. Washburn Begg School Children of Duluth to Continue Sending Help

Mrs. J. L. Washburn has addressed the following to Duluth school children:

"The holidays are over and you are back in school. I am writing you again about the Armenian children. You gave most generous gifts for their relief during the two weeks that your schools were in session during December. I am only afraid that you will feel that you are entitled to a rest after the unusual effort that you made before vacation. But if I remind you again of the cold and hunger of thousands of little Armenian children just as innocent of wrong and just as deserving as are little American children, I am sure you will continue to save your pennies, your nickels and your dimes even if you have to deny yourselves something that you want very badly, in order that you may keep a few of these children from starvation.

"The report which I sent to the newspaper last week shows that in December you children gave \$302.06—enough to care for 60 children for the month, and that during the first three months of the school year you gave \$570.63—enough to care for 38 children for the three months. Do you think you can keep up to that amount right along? To care for 38 children requires \$190 per month. If you can make it 40 children that is easier to multiply and makes only \$200. I am sure that you children by the sale of old papers and tin-foil and through self-denying generosity on the part of all, will be sure to send me that much every month.

"There are only 18 schools that have contributed to the fund this year up to this time. These are the Jackson, Washburn, Endlon, Irving, Franklin, Merritt, Bryant, Webster, Monroe, Longfellow, Whittier, Nettleton, Oneota, Fairmount, Lincoln Jr. high, Salter, Munger and normal. Will not you children from the 18 or 20 schools not yet heard from take up this work of helping to save children like yourselves from starvation? Some of you saw the picture of Shushan, a little Armenian girl. In the picture she looks very pretty, plump and happy. But this was taken before the war. Now she says she does not look like that. Under the picture is this sentence: 'You won't let me starve, will you?' Before the war she lived in Turkey with her father and mother. She was happy. Her father was butchered. Her mother was driven naked from home and starved in the desert. And now little Shushan herself is gradually starving. Maybe some of the money that you children have sent has gone to buy food for her. A consul who has just returned from Turkey tells this story: 'I was eating a piece of melon and tossed aside the rind, when instantly a man pounced upon it like a hungry wolf. He chewed it for a few moments and then he in turn tossed it aside. Another man who had been watching him with the eyes of a hawk picked it up and devoured the rest.' An American doctor tells this story: As he was coming down the mountain side he noticed in the distance a throng of children and wondered why so many were gathered in one place. Upon coming near he discovered that a camel had died by the roadside and these famished children were in desperation picking the last shreds of flesh from the

skeleton of the fallen beast and were devouring it raw.

"The missionaries tell us that they have a hard task, one that wrings their hearts. They must deny food to hundreds of children who are dying of hunger, simply because there is not enough for all. In one case there were 430 children with funds sufficient for only 70. The missionaries were forced to select 70 and say no to the other 360 who were just as destitute. Isn't it terrible to think that while we are eating our Christmas turkey and other 'goodies' while we were in many cases eating more than was good for us, there were these thousands of children who could not have even a crust of bread or a melon rind. Without home, without parents, without decent clothing, without food! Dying of cold, neglect and hunger! If every one of us could only share our unnecessary food and warm clothing with some Armenian child how much suffering we might relieve! But the next best thing is to save every penny that might be spent for unnecessary things and send them to the committee who will buy food and clothing for them and save as many children as possible.

"Two members of the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief, Mr. Ellis and Mr. Beury, last fall went over at their own expense to investigate conditions among the Armenians. A long cablegram was received from them in October. They say that the condition of the people is beyond description. 'Human beings in the state of oriental street dogs, with whom they compete for offal.' Picking up as any dog would or as the birds do every seed that can be found in the offal of animals in the streets? Can you imagine such a condition? But one sentence in the cablegram is reassuring. 'Work already done by Americans for Armenians, Syrians and Assyrians is national triumph, but vastness of continuing need is overwhelming.'

"And so we can be sure that the money which we send through our American committee does get to the people in the shape of food and clothing. Let us see how much we in Duluth can do during the coming months. Will you all help?

"Your friend and co-worker

"MRS. J. L. WASHBURN."

The marriage of Miss Adeline Ruth Colby to John Arnold Nelson of Duluth took place yesterday at Bessemer, Minn. Mr. and Mrs. Colby will make their home at Duluth.

Miss Isabel Blum was honor guest at a linen shower given Sunday by Mrs. Henry Lavick and Miss Alena Sosnovsky at the home of Mrs. Lavick, 109 East Third street. Covers were laid for 16.

Miss Isabel Jacobi and her guest, Miss Helen Allmen, will return today to St. Mary's hall.

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