



AMERICA WE THANK YOU

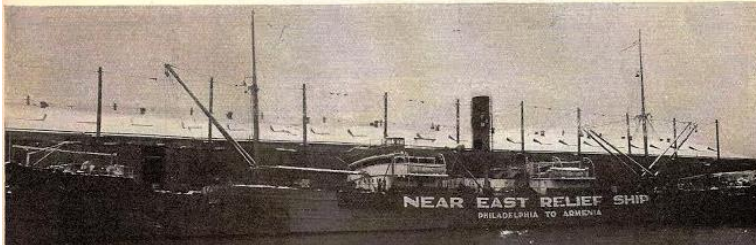
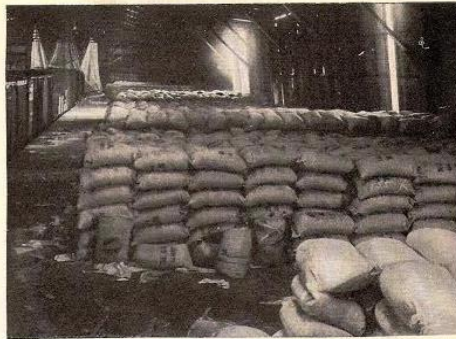
An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief

MISSISSIPPI FACT SHEET

Mississippi was an integral supporter of Near East Relief (NER), the American-led campaign that quickly sparked an international response with its unprecedented humanitarian endeavor, mobilizing all segments of American citizenry including elected officials, celebrities and laypersons alike, to help rescue victims of the Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Turkey from 1915-1930.

Aboard the Allaguash

BELOW is a picture of the S. S. Allaguash; at the right, part of its cargo, just deposited by a freight train at a dock in Philadelphia for loading. The Allaguash, with a cargo of 5,264 tons, composed of corn products, soap, cocoa, 3,300 army cots for 8,000 orphans, canned goods, coal, old clothing and flour, picked up part of its cargo at New Orleans and the rest at Philadelphia, sailing from the latter port on December seventh, bound for Batoum. People of the agricultural areas of the Middle West and of the State of Pennsylvania are chiefly responsible for these splendid gifts to the orphaned children of the Near East.



- Mississippi coordinated its relief efforts from neighboring Alabama's state headquarters located at 2027 Age Herald Building in Birmingham.

- NER's official publication the *New Near East*, which boasted a monthly readership of 100,000 persons a month, published a story in its December 1921 issue about the special Christmas cargo aboard the ship *Allaguash* which was sailing from Philadelphia to Armenia.

- In the spirit of Christmas giving, Americans, whose unprecedented

generosity had already raised tens of millions of dollars, literally saving the lives of 132,000 Armenian orphans, were now earnestly donating to NER's appeal for foodstuffs to feed and nourish the children with donations of flour, corn, canned milk and wheat.

- The generous farmers from the Mississippi Valley donated an impressive and unprecedented two thousand tons of cornmeal and two hundred tons of wheat flour, which was loaded onto the *Allaguash* and reached the orphans who otherwise faced starvation and death.

Mississippi, We Thank You!

Thanks to the generosity of the Near East Relief, its participating organizations and entities, the U.S. Government and State Governments, and especially the American people at large, over 1,000,000 refugees and 132,000 orphans of the Armenian Nation and other Christian minorities were rescued, fed, clothed, and educated. We have survived, thrived, and prospered from the horrors of Genocide at the hands of Ottoman Turkey.

For your unwavering support and unprecedented generosity in donating to Near East Relief's humanitarian efforts, Mississippi, We Thank You!



An ANCA WR Initiative