



AMERICA WE THANK YOU

An Armenian Tribute to Near East Relief

TENNESSEE FACT SHEET

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



- Tennessee facilitated its relief efforts from Nashville headquarters of NER located at 304 Eve Building.

- Miss M. L. Caldwell from Bristol, Tennessee eagerly distributed bales and bales of warm clothes donated by the citizens of Tennessee to the children overseas who had found shelter in the NER orphanages.

- Year after year, daily papers in Tennessee made appeals for help and encouraged the citizens to donate to NER to save and sustain the refugees and orphan children. However, in later years the reports got dimmer asking to save the children. As one paper described it: "The prospect for the future of the adult population seems almost desperate as they are carried off by disease and starvation."

- The same article noted that the need to care for orphans are more than what NER orphanages could take. However, the number of orphans needing care had decreased from prior years due to starvation and

disease, causing mass deaths.

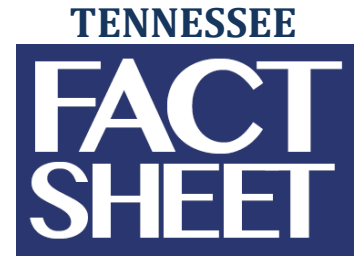
- Sunday, December 7th, 1924 had been designated as Golden Rule Sunday as an international relief effort by representatives from twenty nations including the United States. This effort was endorsed by Austin Peay, the Governor of Tennessee from 1923 to 1927. Calling the State to action, he proclaimed, "The plan of Sunday is sacrifice - it is a simple method of securing the needed funds to save the winter's distressed which is inevitable without this relief."



An ANCA WR Initiative



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Tennessee, 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, Tennessee, We Thank You!



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