

HUNGER RELIEF VOTE IS UP IN SENATE TODAY

Labor Makes Ringing Plea
for Millions in Need
of Food.

BY RUTH FINNEY
Times Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The
Senate expects to begin voting today
on the question of federal hunger
relief.

A warning that "there will be no
end to federal relief" if unemployed
aid is voted now was given the Senate
by Senator Simeon D. Fess
(Rep., O.).

Fess, Republican national chair-
man, made the first administration
speech against the La Follette-Costigan
\$375,000,000 bill as the project
and several substitute proposals
received note.

Senator J. Hamilton Lewis (Dem., Ill.) introduced a new substitute
plan, to provide a \$560,000,000 fund
for merchants and manufacturers
to permit sales of produce on long-
term credits.

Fess said federal relief was not
proper "at best until it is quite ob-
vious that there is no other way."

Time Not Here, He Says
"I do not think the stage has been
reached where starvation will set in
unless the government takes a
hand," he said.

It will do so with an impressive
memorial from organized labor be-
fore it, asking that it take steps at
once to cure "this uncivilized, in-
human condition, reflected in the
fact that millions of children are
suffering from hunger and cold, men
and women are hungry, cold, and
undernourished," he said.

One hundred six international
presidents of the American Federa-
tion of Labor presented the
memorial late Tuesday to President
Hoover, to Vice-President Curtis,
and to Speaker Garner. Curtis and
Garner expressed their sympathy
with the purpose of the federation,
and promised to present it to their
legislative bodies.

Indorse Relief Bill

The labor chiefs not only asked
for federal relief, but specifically
indorsed the La Follette-Costigan
bill which both Democratic and
Republican members of the Senate
are seeking to displace with sub-
stitute measures.

"Adequate relief can not be and
is not being supplied," said labor's
memorial.

The entire resources of the na-
tion must be brought into action
and must be utilized to meet and
deal adequately with this emer-
gency. Those who are hungry can
not draw the fine line of distinction
between relief supplied by local and
state agencies and relief supplied by
the federal government.

"They know that every commu-
nity is a part of our national life
and as such all are a part of the
nation's family. This fact was recog-
nized during the great war emer-
gency . . . it is upon this basis that
we appeal to the congress of the
United States for an immediate ap-
propriation to meet the demands of
the existing economic situation."

Appeal for Hungry Millions
"We make this appeal in behalf
of the hungry, suffering men, wom-
en and children whose plight is
directly traceable to unemploy-
ment . . . the billions of dollars
which congress has provided to aid
banks, corporations and business in-
stitutions will stand out in sharp,
deprecating contrast if congress
fails promptly to help the needy
and hungry."

"The huge sums thus appro-
priated to aid capital can not and
will not feed and clothe hungry
people. Human values and human
needs should be given first, rather
than secondary, consideration."

The memorial also asked legis-
lation to increase work opportunities,
establish the five-day week, and
adopt the anti-injunction bill
pending in the Senate.

UTILITY RATE CUT IS
REPORTED PREPARED

Cuthbertson Believed Ready to An-
nounce Findings Friday.

Commissioner Harry K. Cuth-
bertson's solution of the high rate
problem of water and electric util-
ties in Indianapolis is expected to
be laid before members of the pub-
lic service commission this week, it
was learned at the statehouse to-
day.

Cuthbertson is said to be writing
orders cutting the rates, as per-
mitted by the city administration
and South Side Civic clubs. But
just how great the reductions will
be could not be learned.

Orders will be directed to the In-
dianapolis Water Company and the
Indianapolis Power and Light Com-
pany.

Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan and
his special utility rate reduction
committees were to confer this after-
noon.

The committees have held several
conferences with utility representa-
tives without satisfactory results
thus far.

COLE TO DISTRIBUTE
AWARDS IN CONTEST

Union City Pupil, First in State,
Will Be Given \$15 Prize.

George G. Cole, state superin-
tendent of public instruction, today
was to distribute checks to fourteen
pupils in state schools competing
in the annual national safety essay
contest. A total of \$6,500 is award-
ed to pupils in the nation.

First prize of \$15 and a gold
medal will be awarded to Miss
Ruth G. Flint, Union City, and a
second prize of \$10 and a silver
medal will go to Lawrence Carden,
Gary pupil.

Eleven third prizes, consisting of
\$5 and a bronze medal, also will
be distributed.

Teachers receiving honorable
mention in the national "lesson in
safety" contest are Miss Opal D.
French of Gary and Miss Maine
Mac of Elwood.

Financial Status Good

FRANKLIN, Ind., Feb. 10.—Sur-
plus and undivided profits of the
Mutual Building and Loan Associa-
tion total approximately \$20,000. It
was revealed by a report presented
at the annual meeting. H. A. Payne
was re-elected president and A. A.
Blizzard, secretary.

'STEM' RACKETEERS INVADE CITY

New Sob Act Good for Many Dollars in Day's Time

(This is the first of a series about
"stemmers"—big shot beggars—in
Indianapolis, and efforts of authorities to
smash their rackets.)

THE stemmers have arrived
in Indianapolis.

They are young and old, men
and women, both poorly and well
dressed and with a song and
dance act that would put most
salesmen to shame.

They appeal to your sympathy,
and then sell you on the idea that
they must have from \$1 to \$50. Your
money is gone and they are, too,



after another sucker or two con-
tributes their railroad or bus fare
or pays their auto expenses.

"Stemmers," or stem-artists, are
not nickel and dime professional
beggars.

THEY are the racketeers who
have a definite, well-outlined
plan to part their victim and his
money. One dollar is small fry



to them. From \$5 up is their
demanda.

They prey on residents of every
city in the country in these days

of depression. They reap a har-
vest by driving a wedge into the
sympathies of those who try to
realize the plight of the poor.

Indianapolis police continually
are on the lookout for the stem-
mer. Charity agencies have band-
ed their forces to break his game.
But sometimes both police and
charity agencies are victims.

A prominent Indianapolis busi-
ness man is the latest victim of a
stemmer who is known throughout
the nation as a faint artist. His
racket is to faint and he does it
perfectly.

HE spots his victim on Wash-
ington street or another busy
downtown thoroughfare. He picks
the man who looks "money."

He'll spend an hour or two
tracking the victim to his office.
And then the game starts.

The Indianapolis man, whom
we'll call Randolph to save him
further embarrassment, stepped
to the front of his office one day
to be accosted by a young man,
whose drawn face and unkempt
clothes, portrayed misery.

Randolph asked him to relate
his plight.

And here's the story as related
by the victim:

"The fellow leaned on the coun-
ter and tears came to his eyes.
He said he hadn't eaten for days
and he wasn't a regular bum, but
he wanted 'just enough' help to
keep him from dying from star-
vation and cold."

I CALLED a relief agency. They
offered to send some one over,
and I said I'd call them back. As
I turned to the young fellow he
collapsed on the floor. He had
fainted.

"I rushed to the phone again.
The agency again offered to send
some one over, but when the
young man recovered I decided
to take care of him myself. I felt
it was no job for a relief agency."

On recommendation of the
agency, however, Randolph sent
the young man to the Travelers'
Aid Society the following day.

The fainter no longer was poorly
dressed. He had a new suit and
plenty of money—Randolph's
sympathy money—in his pocket.

At the aid agency desk he
paused, smiled, showed the roll of
bills and walked out.

HALF an hour later, the agency
received a telegram from an
eastern police chief to be on the

lookout for a young stemmer, who
fit the description of the faint
man who departed thirty minutes
before.

He traveled to the next stem
on Randolph's money, wore the
suit he had fainted in.

petite appeased by meals the vic-
tim bought him.

This winter in Indianapolis has
been anything but profitable to
the stemmers. The weather has
been so warm they have not had
the "cold weather" foundation to

their pleas.



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