

'MOVE ON,' IS NATION'S ORDER TO WANDERERS

'We Can't Care for Our Own Needy,' Is Plaintiff of Most Towns.

BY RUTH FINNEY

Times Staff Writer
WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—Move on! Sometimes the order is accompanied with a bowl of soup or a piece of bread.

Sometimes the order is stayed from dusk till dawn, or a little longer, but in city after city, state after state, it greets the weary ears of destitute jobless boys and men, who have set out alone, or with their families, in search of some relief from extreme poverty.

The Senate manufactures committee sent questionnaires to small and medium sized cities in every state in the Union recently, attempting to get detailed information as to how the transient relief problem is being met.

Some 600 cities and towns answered. Ninety-five of them said they were giving no help at all, and though they did not specify, it is a fair inference to suppose that local police are forcing the destitute out of their jurisdiction in these towns in order to prevent crime.

Keep Them Moving On

One hundred seventy-four cities sent word that they are taking definite steps to have transients passed on to some other community.

Some of them permit the wanderers to remain over-night, and give them one or more meals, some of them fix two nights as the limit.

Some of them supply gasoline to families on the road in a car of their own. A few of them provide other transportation on to the next town or county.

Some of them don't let the destitute stop at all, but order them on, as soon as they appear.

None of the towns answered the committee's questions the same way. In addition to the figures already given 134 other cities reported that they are giving temporary aid or a little help."

Though no limit on their charity is specifically fixed, these cities apparently are not prepared to deal indefinitely with those who come to them from some place else.

"Can't Care for Own"

City after city answered, "We can't care for our own."

Behind the sketchy answers given was evident a determination that the principle of local charity insisted upon Washington throughout the depression, shall be insisted upon now in another sense by communities unwilling to make their own people suffer to care for wanderers. Nor do they permit the wanderer to establish residence and become an added burden any place.

Forty of the cities provide nothing for transients but a shelter where they may sleep one night. Some of these permit begging from door to door for the food necessary to carry weary bodies on.

Nine other cities say they give food or medicine in extreme emergency.

Forty-four permit transient men to sleep in the jail.

Few Criticisms of Wanderers

Most of the help that is being given is given through private charity. The Salvation Army is bearing the burden in seventy cities, and in many others is doing the relief work with funds provided by local government or by public subscription.

Forty-seven of the cities make applicants for help work for the food given them, a few giving cash payment and others giving meal tickets. California cities still are using work relief more than others.

The letters are almost entirely free of criticism of the wandering men. Cincinnati reports that 60 per cent of them are college men or high school graduates.

DIPLOMAT IS SPEAKER

Diplomats Hear Frenchman Explain Nation's Need for Security.

The desire for peace must be genuine before the conferences of diplomats in Geneva to formulate treaties and peace pacts mean anything," Count Serge Fleury, French diplomat, told Rotary Club members Tuesday. He urged closer co-operation between America, England and France.

"The United States does not understand the French desire for security, because she has friendly neighbors north and south, and her capitol is not within easy striking distance of an enemy," he said.

An ad costing but 54 cents rented a house costing to Fred Custer, 218 Castle Hall. If your house is vacant, call Riley 5551.

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Each Week-End
CHICAGO
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Good going on all trains Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays; also early morning trains Mondays. Return limit Monday night. Coach service.

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Good going on all trains from 10:35 a.m. Fridays until 10:35 a.m. train Sundays. Return limit Monday night following. Good going on all trains Saturday morning in full.

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