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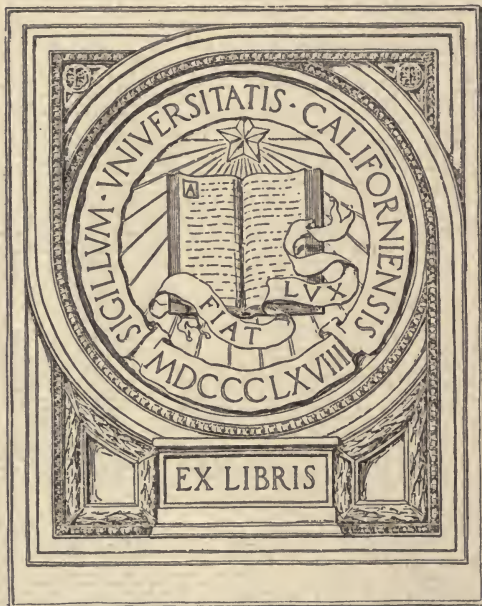
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THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

COMMISSION TO GREECE

RELIEF WORK AMONG THE VILLAGES  
OF MOUNT PANGAEON

BY FIRST-LIEUTENANT G. C. BARRY

*Athens*

*June 1, 1919*

ATHENS

PRINTED BY P. D. SAKELLARIOS

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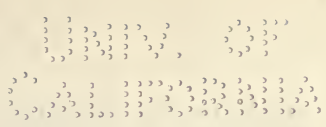
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# RELIEF WORK AMONG THE VILLAGES OF MOUNT PANGAEON

## THE EARLY STAGE

On November 6, 1918, a party consisting of Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Capps, Commissioner to Greece, Major Carl E. Black, Major Clifford W. Barnes, Mr. B. H. Hill and Mr. C. W. Blegen left Athens by rail on a mission of investigation in Eastern Macedonia. The Greek Commission had arrived in Athens only two weeks before this date. At that time it controlled not one pound of supplies, and had only the hope of coming shipments with which to organize relief work. In Salonica much information was gathered as to conditions prevailing in Eastern Macedonia, and it was ascertained that Greece was at that moment faced with the serious problem of repatriating many thousands of refugees who had been, during the war, held as prisoners in Bulgaria.

These refugees were then straggling back toward their homes in the different parts of Eastern Macedonia. The attention of Colonel Capps and the other members of the party was called particularly to the mountainous region of the Pangaeon, where the country had been most severely devastated, inasmuch as the villages of this district lay within the limits of the second and third Bulgarian lines of defense, and almost the total population had been deported from their homes. It was obvious that here was a field of special need, and immediate action was necessary.

In order to make provision for the campaign of relief

work in the Pangaeon district, as well as in other needy parts of Eastern Macedonia, a supply of food was taken from Salonica amounting in all to thirty-five tons, thirty tons of which was contributed by the Serbian Commission of the American Red Cross and five tons by Governor-General Adossides. It was foreseen that the question of transport into the Pangaeon district would be a serious one; consequently Governor-General Adossides commandeered six ox-teams and put them at our disposal in order that our workers might be equipped to send supplies from Kavalla westward into the Pangaeon towns.

The party left Salonica November 10th and reached Kavalla on November 12th, sailing on the ship «Hellespontos», commandeered for their use. All the supplies mentioned above, together with the six ox-teams and one Sunbeam car provided by Governor-General Adossides, were transported on the same ship.

Upon arriving at Kavalla, which had been selected as a base of operations for Eastern Macedonia and Bulgaria, the reports already received in Salonica as to the Pangaeon district were amply confirmed. Mr. Leroy Steele and Mr. James Arrington, American tobacco merchants, were particularly eager in urging that the work of relief be undertaken for the Pangaeon towns, and were able to contribute valuable suggestions and, furthermore, volunteered active co-operation in getting the work organized.

On the Thursday following the arrival of the party in Kavalla, Mr. Andreas Djimou, a resident of Drama and Kormista, one of the Pangaeon towns, came in to Kavalla and gave confirmation to the reports already received, urging that relief be sent at the earliest possible moment.

It was realized fully that the situation was indeed a difficult one and apparently one which the Greek Government was unable at the moment to meet. The difficulty of transportation from Kavalla to the Pangaeon



towns was enormous, and the task would have appeared hopeless except to the stoutest souls.

It was decided immediately to launch forth on the enterprise, Mr. Blegen being designated to take charge of the Pangaeon district, and the six ox-teams brought from Salonica were loaded and instructed to proceed one day's journey westward to the town of Kormista, where the first distribution was to be made. Meanwhile Mr. Blegen, accompanied by Mr. Steele, proceeded to Drama by British Army automobile, and from there traveled on horseback in company with Mr. Djimou and Mr. Steele on Sunday to Kormista. There living quarters were provided by Mr. Djimou, and warehouse facilities for the goods were put at the disposal of Mr. Blegen.

Mr. Blegen then proceeded to an inspection of the situation, endeavoring to estimate the degree of need and to secure such information as would enable him to make an intelligent distribution. In making this inspection and in the subsequent distribution Mr. Blegen instituted the admirable method which was followed constantly through all the stages of the Pangaeon work—the method described in detail by Lieutenant Barry in the following report.

Three days later the six ox-carts arrived from Kavalla, bringing the first shipment of supplies, and distribution was immediately commenced and continued for about three days. In this first distribution eleven towns were served, the recipients of food and clothing being limited to the lowest possible number in view of the small quantity of supplies.

Further distribution required further shipments, and in order to get these shipments out it was necessary for Mr. Blegen to return to Kavalla. The only person left in Kavalla was Miss Gladwyn, of the Serbian Commission, who had accompanied the party from Salonica; but she was not able unaided to attend to the details of shipments,

The other members of the party had proceeded to Bulgaria and were organizing work there.

The ox-carts which had carried out the first shipment vanished entirely during the return trip from Kormista. They never appeared again and nothing was ever heard of them. The drivers, it would appear, had come unwillingly, and only waited for an opportunity to disengage themselves from an assignment which was not to their liking. They did not even return for their pay for the one trip they had made.



*Intensive farming in the Pangaeon. An old Turk of Osmanli with cow and donkey hitched to his home-made wooden plow.*

This loss of the ox-carts complicated the transportation problem. In order to replace them Mr. Blegen, with much difficulty, secured four one-horse carts and three ox-carts. These carts were loaded with supplies and dispatched immediately to Kormista. Later ten military carts were added to the «fleet» of Red Cross transport.

Once more Mr. Blegen, accompanied by Mr. Steele, went to Kormista, this time by way of Pravi. Between Pravi and Kormista Mr. Blegen and Mr. Steele were lost on the mountain-side, owing to the lack of information of their guide, and did not reach their destination until midnight.

A second distribution was made during the first week

in December, and the lists of beneficiaries were enlarged in view of the increased quantity of supplies now available.

The transport for the next shipment was provided entirely by the Greek Army through the courtesy of General Joannou. Mr. Blegen, who had meanwhile returned from Kormista, went for the third distribution by way of Drama, accompanied by Mr. Miller and Mr. Taylor, who had recently arrived from Athens. After the completion of the third distribution Mr. Blegen left Mr. Miller and Mr. Taylor at Kormista, having made proper arrangements for supplies for further distributions, and having secured an interpreter from Pravi. The fourth distribution took place under the direction of Mr. Miller during the last days of December. The food dispensed in these first distributions amounted to 39,384 rations; 5,263 garments and 228 blankets were issued. The lists of beneficiaries contained the names of 3,550 persons.

The station at Kormista remained under command of Mr. Miller until the appointment of Lieutenant Barry as head of the Pangaeon district, on January 27th. During the period of January 1st to 27th three distributions were made on the following dates: January 1st, 16th and 25th. The number of persons served was increased to 4,641.

After the month of January increased amounts of supplies for Eastern Macedonia made possible a greatly extended program of distribution in the Pangaeon towns. The work which began for a few villages on one side of the mountain, and for a very limited number of the population of those villages, grew to embrace fifty-seven villages and seventy-six per cent of the total population of the whole region. This period of expansion is fully treated in the following report.

*Major Henry B. Dewing,*  
Commanding Macedonian District.

*Athens, June 1, 1919.*

## THE PERIOD OF EXPANSION

*Kavalla, May 26, 1919.*

*From: First-Lieutenant G. C. Barry.*

*To: Major Henry B. Dewing.*

*Subject: Pangaeon Relief Activities.*

The Pangaeon region is a mountainous area of some three hundred square miles in the eastern part of Macedonia. It is bounded on the west by the well-known Struma Valley, within recent years referred to by the British as the «white man's grave»; on the northeast by the Plain of Philippi; on the southeast by the fertile Musthenie Valley, and on the south by the sea, beyond which rises Mount Athos about forty miles distant. This section of the country is generally referred to as the Pangaeon Mountain. It is in reality a range about thirty miles long, unequally divided by the Musthenie Valley. At its highest point Mt. Pangaeon is some six thousand feet above the sea and up to the present time the top has been covered with snow.

The climate is moderate, although during the past winter there have been several snow storms and a great deal of rain. The country, other than the cultivated portions, which are used exclusively for the growing of the finer grades of Macedonian tobacco, is wild and rocky, covered in part with a spare growth of brush. This brush

is filled with a dozen or more species of wild birds, some exquisitely colored, which always proved a source of enjoyment during the long rides around the mountain. This spring the wild flowers were the most beautiful I have ever seen and grew in rank profusion. There are also large numbers of hare, foxes and some boar which infest



*A group of Turks from the devastated Musthenie Valley, ready to carry away their generous share of Red Cross supplies, the whole family assisting.*



*Greek school children at Rodolivos, changing, in the street, their old clothes for the new garments just given them by the American Red Cross.*

the mountain and which are caught occasionally by the inhabitants.

The fifty-seven villages in which the population of this section lives are grouped in a rather oval formation around the base of the range. The number of inhabitants, according to a census which we took as of April 1, 1919, is 30, 208.

In 1917, at the time of the enemy invasion, this country was entirely occupied by the Bulgarian troops, later reinforced by a division of Turkish troops. All that the people of Belgium suffered, which has been given a great deal of publicity, has been endured by these people in

Macedonia, perhaps even to a greater extent. All books, schools, churches and monasteries were destroyed, and the first of the population actually murdered on the scene were the priests and school-teachers, the idea being to stamp out the Greek language and substitute Bulgarian. I have heard that posters were placed advising the remaining population to begin immediately the study of the Bulgarian language.

The Pangaeon Range itself acted as a «bumper» between the Bulgarian troops and the Greek and British troops assembled on the southern side of the Struma River. Numerous supply roads were laid down throughout the mountain, over which ammunition and guns were brought to the fighting forces on the southeast. Nearly all of the towns suffered from destruction, some from actual shelling, both from the sea and from the British aeroplanes which flew over this territory at very frequent intervals. However, the greatest amount of damage was pure wanton destruction, as the houses were torn down for wood, which the enemy troops used for firewood.

At the time of the Bulgarian occupation all males between the ages of fifteen years and seventy years were rounded up and sent either to Drama or Kavalla, and thence into Bulgaria. This left the old men, women and children entirely unprotected and at the mercy of the invading troops. Those who were left were forced to work on the roads, which were excellently built and are evidently the work of qualified engineers; but during the past winter many of them have been washed out in so many places that they are impassable to wheeled traffic.

There is but little food-stuff raised in this district, all the arable land being given over to the raising of tobacco. There being no tobacco this year, the population was unable to buy foods of any kind, the usual sources of supplies having been stopped, and simply lived on the Bul-

garian allowance, which consisted principally of a small portion of bread and weak soup. During the occupation 5,196 people died of starvation in this region. Dozens of cases of actual atrocities committed upon the civilian population have been brought to my attention, and incidentally I have heard of a great many more. It is interesting to note that a great many of these atrocities perpetrated on the people are laid at the door of the Turkish rather than of the Bulgarian troops.

On January 27 the district was assigned to me by Major Oakley, who had been advised from various sources that immediate relief was needed in this section, with instructions to include all the towns around Mt. Pangaeon, since, owing to the great difficulty of securing transportation and the shortage of food supplies, the Greek Government was not in a position to offer relief to the people at that time, and the American Red Cross seemed to be the only possible source of help. On that day I started a canvass of the Pangaeon villages, going to Drama by camion from Kavalla, and thence on horseback to many of the towns which comprise this group, accompanied by a Greek interpreter. Prior to this time, that is, late in November of 1918, Mr. C. W. Blegen, with the aid of Mr. Leroy Steele, an American tobacco buyer, had gone over the Pangaeon situation and established headquarters with Mr. Djimou, a Greek tobacco buyer, at Kormista. This is not the logical point of distribution for many of the Pangaeon towns, as it is too far away from the majority of them, and causes an unnecessary amount of walking on the part of the inhabitants. Just as soon, therefore, as a regular program of distribution was laid out, this station at Kormista was immediately abandoned, and has not been used since that time. This earlier period is fully covered in the preface to this report.

After obtaining an approximate estimate of the number

of needy people in the Pangaeon, it was decided that at least three stations would be necessary in order to feed these people regularly, and at the same time have a distributing center within a reasonable distance from the towns to be fed. After careful surveys of the British government maps, which we were fortunate in securing, and personally visiting a large number of villages, it was decided to establish these three stations in the towns of Rodolivos, Pravi and Musthenie. This gave us a base for the north Pangaeon towns, the towns to the northeast and east at the end of the mountain, and a station taking care of the villages at the south end of the mountain. The first station actually to begin operation was at Rodolivos. Arrangements had been previously made whereby a good magazine was secured for our supplies, suitable also for a distributing center. Also, a building was made ready for a dispensary, and two good rooms secured, with the help of the Mayor, for our personnel. Mr. Taylor was put in charge of this station, assisted by a Greek soldier as interpreter, who, by the way, deserves a great deal of credit for his good work and the interest which he took during the time of our stay there. The superintending of the food and clothing distributions, as well as the keeping of the record-book, was done by him in a most intelligent and efficient manner. Shortly after commencing operations, the need of opening the dispensary strongly presented itself, and we were fortunate in securing the services of Miss Porter, who, despite the handicap of not knowing the language, seemed to understand the people and was able to minister to their wants. Unfortunately, Mr. Taylor was taken ill with typhoid fever, and, as Miss Porter had to give up a great deal of her time in taking care of him, the dispensary work naturally suffered. Lieutenant Thomas was sent to us from Kavalla to take over Taylor's work, and performed his duties creditably until the closing of the station.



Miss Mingane was also sent up to relieve Miss Porter, who, toward the end of our stay, was able to get back to the dispensary work. Besides the dispensary, which was operated on an average of four hours a day, Miss Porter also superintended the sewing-room, where we employed six women, a cutter and forewoman.

Three days later the distributing station at Pravi was opened, similar arrangements having been made there



*Street scene in Pravi with bazaar in background; showing group of villagers, some in native costume.*



*Types of Greek refugees from Kieup-Kioy; awaiting their turn at the distributing station at Rodolivos.*

with regard to living quarters for the personnel, a magazine and a suitable location for our dispensary. Lieutenant Lemon was placed in charge of this station, while Miss Zacca took over the dispensary and *ouvroir* activities. After Lemon's motorcycle accident, Lieutenant Schmunck was assigned to this station and carried the work on with unflinching interest. Our first distribution from Pravi was made on February 6, while our last one took place on May 3. During that time we made regular daily distributions six days a week, and with the exception of Sundays

the personnel did not have a single minute of play-time.

The need of another station further south than Pravi hastened the execution of the plans already formulated, and a distributing point at Musthenie was opened on February 13th; tickets for supplies were immediately issued to the towns of the Musthenie Valley, and in two days' time after the arrival of our supplies, the station was in full swing with a work-room, all in charge of Lieutenant Stoughton. After Lieutenant Stoughton was removed from Musthenie for other work, we were very fortunate in securing the services of Lieutenant Reirden, who completed the work already begun and closed up the station in a very commendable manner.

Beside the personnel above mentioned at each station, we were assisted by an interpreter for each of the officers in charge, and a staff of five Greek soldiers who worked in the magazines at the food and clothing distributions. These soldiers were attached to our service through the courtesy of the Greek Army. Beside these helpers we also had the necessary personal servants at our living quarters, and at one time, in the whole Pangaeon district, there were 24 Greek-speaking persons in our service. This, of course, does not include the workshop employees.

The towns tributary to the several stations, and the number of people fed from each, are as follows. In the case of Gorgani and Dranich, the number of persons fed exceeds the population as shown by census. This is due to the number of refugees from destroyed villages living there; they are not included in the census of these towns, but are assigned to the villages from which they originally came.

<i>Pravi</i>		<i>Rodolivos</i>		<i>Musthenie</i>	
Name of town	Number of persons fed	Name of town	Number of persons fed	Name of town	Number of persons fed
Pravi.....	2.281	Rodolivos....	2.398	Musthenie ...	851
Ilejik.....	102	Provista.....	547	Sarli .....	142
Avli .....	324	Kioup-Kioy ..	1.483	Boblen .....	264
Kotsani.....	104	Chepelge.....	337	Fteri .....	33
Tosliani ....	143	Straviki.....	246	Veliojler ...	77
Meseli .....	57	Anghista.....	347	Devekli.....	92
Nikisiani....	1.896	Vitasta .....	858	Demerli ....	134
Gorgani .....	561	Vulchista ....	133	Kargani .....	89
Dranich .....	521	Drachova....	60	Kuleli .....	113
Dranova .....	150	Neochori ....	17	Podogoriani..	616
Dresna .....	183	Doxombus ..	113	Dranli .....	65
Devekeran...	61	Kormista ....	592	Mousalou....	71
Leftera .....	934	Chereplian...	473	Tsiflik .....	87
Kotskari.....	216	Lokovikia ...	830	Ahartlar .....	122
Paleochori...	1.070	Semaltus ....	697	Osmanli .....	115
Bostanjili....	515	Banitsa.....	211	Isirli .....	285
Tourmoslou..	184	Kochoki .....	239	Mesoropi ....	1.009
				Tsitakli... ..	109
				Samokovo....	217
				Rahimli .....	83
				Dedebali.....	119
				Mentesili ....	25
				Mousourtseli.	41
	9.302		9.581		4.759

The next question to decide was that of the actual distribution. Two ways seemed possible. We could procure from the mayors of the different villages lists of the number of people who were worthy subjects for Red Cross help; an allotment of staple foods, based on the number of people in each village, could have been turned over to each mayor for distribution within his jurisdiction. This method had been employed with some success in other sections of the Macedonian work. The second plan which presented itself was that of making small individual donations directly to the people themselves from Red Cross magazines rather than through the medium of any of the town officials. This second method entailed a far greater

amount of work than the first, but to make the people feel that the gift was personal, and also to spread the Red Cross propaganda in as highly efficient a way as possible, this latter method of personal distribution was finally adopted.

After adopting this plan, the next step was to procure a list of those to be helped, and the method followed in procuring such a list was somewhat as



*Loading mules at Rodolivos with the gifts of the Red Cross. One little animal carries the burdens of several families.*



*Street scene outside the Red Cross distributing station at Rodolivos. Refugees packing up supplies before starting on the homeward journey.*

follows: From our headquarters at the distributing stations the mayors of certain villages were asked to report, at which time they were requested to prepare lists of the most worthy and needy inhabitants of their towns, particularly those who had suffered as a result of the war. Usually the next day these lists were brought to us, and with the mayor and an interpreter each list was gone over and questions asked with reference to each name. Some of these questions no doubt seemed rather person-

al; but we were there, not simply to give away what we had in the magazines, but to distribute it to those who were in greatest need of it. The first question asked of the mayor, and of the worthy deputies who usually accompanied him on such visits, was how much money the proposed subject for help was supposed to have. The second question was whether there was any tobacco in his house, and if so in what quantities. Similar questions followed with regard to live-stock and personal property. If the subject in question was engaged in any business, if for example he were a coffee-house keeper, storekeeper, boot-maker or tailor, his name was immediately cut from the list. However, if it seemed evident that the person in question needed help, a ticket was issued with the name of the village and a number marked thereon.

These tickets were given to the mayor and the list marked with a corresponding number, so that he distributed the tickets to the proper families. A record of the name and of the number in the family was then entered in our record-books, and upon presentation of this ticket the proper allowance was meted out to the holder, the date of receipt being marked on the face of the ticket and a record of the disbursement in okes entered in our record-book.

These record-books, as above mentioned, will probably prove of interest and bear a further detailed description. We were not supplied from Kavalla with any means of keeping permanent records and were therefore very fortunate in securing three large civil record-books that had been printed for the use of the Government and answered our purpose admirably. All of the catalogues that we received from the mayors of the different villages were written in Greek, and to transcribe the information that was essential for our records the services of an interpreter were necessary. From the catalogues, then, the interpreter would

read the name of the head of each family and the number of persons in the family, and this information would be set down on the pages assigned to each town. Then in the ruled columns to the right of the names would be inserted the amount of foodstuffs which were distributed and the dates of such distributions, under the proper headings, such as Flour, Sugar, Lentils, Raisins, or Milk, whatever the case might be. In this way we were able to keep an exact record of the work done, and one which included the names and addresses of the people helped, as well as the exact number of okes of food, the number of cans of milk, cakes of soap, etc. Regarding clothing, the number of articles that we had to distribute was too varied, and our books too small to allow a column for each article; so we simply used three columns, headed Men, Women and Children. In this way it was possible to keep a record of who received clothing (four pieces were generally given at a time), and this record prevented duplication and made it impossible for any of our people to get more than their share, a thing which is so likely to occur when clothing tickets are issued and no record kept of the names of the recipients. The same ticket that was used for the food ration was used to secure clothing, and only upon presentation of this ticket were any donations made.

After a few weeks the officers in charge of the three stations learned to know the people as they came for their weekly allowance, and whenever a ticket was lost a record of the number was kept, and when it was presented by other than the original holder, it was immediately taken away and returned to the rightful owner. The names of the ticket-holders were not shown on the face of the tickets themselves,—only a number,—but, as before mentioned, the name was set down in our books after the numbers, and, by asking the ticket-holder his or her name, and referring to our records, an absolute check

on the identity of the holder was possible. We therefore feel very sure that only those actually entitled to receive the bounty of the American Red Cross did so; indeed we found very little unfairness or desire to receive more than their share on the part of the Pangaeon people. Some of our lieutenants found the keeping of these books rather irksome at first, but after seeing and realizing their value and finding with what ease a weekly or monthly report could be made up from the information contained therein, they all very gladly kept the records up in splendid shape.

The actual working system employed in a food distribution was as follows. The people of the villages or town which had been previously instructed to report on a certain day each week usually arrived very early in the morning at our distributing center. The magazines were opened at eight-thirty, and the holders of tickets were lined up outside the magazines and passed inside as quickly as we were able to take care of them. Upon entering, the ticket was handed to the Red Cross lieutenant in charge, who referred to the record-book, made the proper entries, and then called off the number of okes of food-stuffs to which the ticket-holder was entitled, addressing the Greek interpreter, who translated the order into Greek; the soldiers who did the actual distribution then gave out the required amounts to the person who had come for the family donation. The people always came for their supplies equipped with bags in which to take away the flour, rice or whatever we happened to be giving, and, as the measures which were used in doling out the food were made to contain just one oke, only a very few moments were required to serve rations to a family. The family representative then passed out by another door, his or her place immediately being taken by the next in line. All this was done in a quiet, orderly manner, and without confusion, the entire distribution

being conducted in a very businesslike manner. Food was generally issued in the mornings; the magazines then closed for an hour at lunch, and clothing was distributed during the afternoon.

Inasmuch as the number of people to be fed from each station amounted to more than could be handled daily, it was so arranged that rations were issued to the individual towns weekly. This had its advantage in the fact



*Refugees from Paleochori, returning from Pravi with Red Cross supplies, being obliged to take a five-hour walk each way.*



*Gypsy women at the Musthenie station; clothed in rags, awaiting a distribution of flannel pajamas—the only available articles of clothing they would wear.*

that the recipient of food donations was only obliged to come to the distributing station once a week. Some of the villages are a considerable distance away from the points of distribution, in some cases necessitating a five-hour walk each way.

In this entire region, among a population of 30,208, there are only ten civilian doctors. For this reason dispensaries seemed doubly wonderful to them, and the fact that they were able to procure free drugs and medical



attention proved a real blessing. The dispensaries, although opened from four to sometimes six or seven hours a day, were not able to take care of all the people who sought admission. Always among an ignorant and poor population there are a good many casualties, and a good many cases of gunshot wounds, toes and fingers severed by knives and axes, and dog-bites, received immediate treatment which, left to the native formulas, would no doubt have proved serious and perhaps fatal.

During the latter part of February a shipment of sewing machines was received at Rodolivos and Pravi, and immediately sewing-rooms were organized at both these stations. At the same time Miss Porter was sent to Rodolivos to open a dispensary, and took charge of the sewing-room there. At Pravi this activity was handled by Miss Zacca, and before the station was closed on May 3rd. we had nineteen sewing machines in operation, with one forewoman and one cutter. Piece-work rates were employed at this station, a plan which we found to be satisfactory, the station turning out an average of some one hundred and fifty garments a day, all sturdy and well made. We were very fortunate in securing a fairly good quality of heavy material for our work-rooms, which made up admirably into boys' suits, women's skirts and children's clothes, all of which will give good service and wear. As we were unable to procure additional sewing machines, we found six women in and around Musthenie who owned sewing machines and who very gladly volunteered to work in a sewing-room. A sewing-room was therefore established at Musthenie and it did very creditable work, its output comparing favorably with that of our two other work-shops equipped with machines owned by the American Red Cross. In closing the *ouvroirs* the sewing machines were not in all cases given to the original operators, but to needier women in some of the other villages. At Pravi we gave away five

machines to the villages of Nikisiani, Paleochori, Leftera, Avli and Mesochori. These machines were turned over to a committee formed by the mayor of each village. The sewing machine is the property of no one particular person, but of the village—a sort of civic possession, which will be used, we feel sure, continuously by the many women who so very gladly use this means of lightening their tasks.

When the Red Cross arrived at Pravi we found an orphanage of some fifty-four children, housed in a very old and dilapidated building, who were receiving two meals a day consisting of bread and olives. These children were in a deplorable condition, but at that time food at any price was almost unprocurable. During the first week of our stay eight of the children died of malnutrition in this asylum. However, after that date there have been no fatalities and, thanks to the intervention of the American Red Cross, the orphanage has been moved to a new building which is clean and wholesome; beds, mattresses and blankets have been provided and the forty-seven remaining children have been completely reclothed and show marked improvement in both health and ability to play. A committee of the Mayor and Sub-Governor of Pravi, together with the wives of three or four of the influential citizens, has been formed to look after the interests of this asylum, and we have left sufficient food stuff in Pravi to feed the orphanage for a period of about fifteen weeks, allowing the committee to accumulate the government allowance into a little sinking-fund to be used in case of emergency.

My work has consisted of, first, the organization of the system of distribution, and, later, a weekly visit to each station, the deciding of numerous questions which came up from time to time regarding policy, and the ordering of supplies. There were several weeks when we

were considerably handicapped by a shortage of supplies and materials. This was in no way the fault of Kavalla, as their magazine at that time was almost empty. On several occasions we opened our magazines in the morning without a pound of food stuff in them, and were very much relieved when we heard a cry that «the Vlachs are coming!» which meant that more food supplies would be received. All of our supplies were shipped to Musthenie and Rodolivos by the Vlachs, who have done most efficient work in getting our supplies to us on time. They are the owners of herds of small horses, which brought up the supplies—if not very rapidly, at least safely and surely over the rather precarious roads.

The road from Kavalla to Pravi was in comparatively good shape, and, although we were unable to procure motor trucks of any kind for transportation, we were able to use the ox-carts, and by this means nearly all of our food supplies were transported to Pravi. Between the Vlachs and the ox-carts, thirty tons, more or less, of assorted food staples a week were transported for distribution in the Pangaeon.

During the last week of our stay, we were fortunate enough to have sufficient supplies to increase our usual weekly ration per person, and made to each and every one of our Pangaeon people a very substantial farewell donation. For example, during the last fifteen-day period at Pravi, the following quantities were issued, and this also gives an idea of the amount of material which we handled:

40,906	okes of flour
2,124	okes of sugar
13,524	tins of milk
4,149	okes of lard
305	tins of bacon
2,950	cakes of soap

Besides the great quantities of food supplies which have been given away in this district, a great deal of clothing has been distributed — not as much as could have been used, however, for most of the people were particularly needy in this respect, and consequently we had to make our supplies of clothing go as far as possible, so that no one person ever received enough to outfit him completely,—usually four or five pieces, including a pair of socks. There was a rather pitiful aspect to the donation of socks, as they were all size 11 and were issued to even the smallest children. However, they showed great delight in receiving them, and pulled them up over their little bare legs, holding them in place above the knee with string. These socks were all white and were only worn on Sundays.

The work in the Pangaeon district has not been easy, and the personnel at the different stations deserve a great deal of credit for their work and perseverance and their co-operation and willingness to do any and all of the duties assigned to them without complaint. Without this spirit, enthusiasm and courage the work in the Pangaeon would have amounted to naught! Hustling American ways made just as much impression on the people as the actual gifts themselves. The living conditions have been primitive, as the number of workers at the different stations was too small to warrant taking an entire house, as was done at the other Macedonian stations; this, too, because of the destruction of a number of villages and the consequent overcrowding of the others, would have been almost impossible. During the winter there was a good deal of bad weather, rain and snow, and the streets of the towns were always several inches deep in mud. As for traveling, our only means of transportation was by horseback to either of the two stations, Rodolivos or Musthenie. Pravi, as before mentioned, was accessible to wheeled traffic, but from there on we had to depend entirely upon the slower method of com-

munication. The roads were narrow and hard to find, and, in a good many places, amounted to nothing more than the beds of running brooks. In crossing the plain of Philippi from Rodolivos to Drama, as was sometimes necessary, the road was completely under water, and in places the horses were forced to swim. Time and again, after half a day's ride, the personnel have come in, soaking wet and covered with mud; but they were always cheerful. To see



*The Line forming for the early morning distribution of food at the Rodolivos magazine.*

the nurses, some of whom had never before ridden, mount astride and start off on a five-hour journey without trepidation, was most inspiring.

These facts are mentioned simply to show that the work which was carried on and done so well was accomplished in spite of all these difficulties.

The foregoing briefly covers the work we undertook and describes the conditions as we found them. Before closing I want to say a few words about the people and the little rural villages of the Pangaeon, which no doubt are still the same as they were one hundred years ago—

perhaps five hundred. Things don't move very rapidly in the Pangaeon.

It was always possible to look down on these towns from above, as they were generally situated in a natural hollow protected from the winds and weather. They were all the same. The houses were made of gray and brown cobble stones held together with mud and straw and tiled with the moss-covered red tiles of this region. Each man's house was his castle, surrounded by a high stone wall, and such walls made the streets nothing more than little dark alleys which wound in and out, generally diverging from the town square, in which was situated the village well. The coffee shop always occupied the most prominent place, while second to that was the church. A great many of the south Pangaeon towns are Turkish, but their appearance is practically the same as that of the Greek towns, with the exception that a small mosque with one minaret replaces the Greek Orthodox church.

There was absolutely nothing for these people to do during the winter, due to the fact that they had no livestock, nor were they able to cultivate the fields. In fact, a great many of them were so dazed and broken by the hardships which they had endured during the war that I doubt if they will ever be able to resume their normal occupations. The Greek Government this spring has sent into the Pangaeon a large number of animals, which are to be paid for on a five-year instalment plan, and also loaned the farmers wheat and other grains, which were planted this spring; and a great many of them are once more looking to a future with brighter prospects.

Out of the total population of 30,208, 23,632 have been benefitted through the generosity of the American Red Cross. Out of this number, 9,096 are Turks, who, I am led to believe, do not, up to the present time, fully realize that the supplies and clothing were distributed to them from purely

philanthropic motives, in spite of our assurances. However, as the statistical report on pp. 30,31 shows, these people also suffered heavily during the invasion, and as they are part of the population of Macedonia, we felt that they should share the donations of the Red Cross with the purely Greek inhabitants. Although Mohammedans, some of these Turks have been very friendly to the Greeks, and I have found in the town of Boblen that Greek and Turkish families live together.

Regarding the Macedonian Greeks of this section, they are a simple and backward people, who have been very appreciative of the work which has been done for them. The contrast between the past two years of hardships and the kindness and consideration of the American Red Cross has affected them strongly, and they have been very honest about taking their supplies.

The officials also, at every opportunity presented us with testimonials of the gratitude of themselves and those whom they represented for the work accomplished by the American Red Cross. Below is shown one of these, from the Sub-Governor of Pravi, which is typical:

*«Pravi, April 22 (May 5), 1919.*

*To the Officer in Charge of the Mission of the  
American Red Cross in Pravi.*

*Honored Sir:*

*On the occasion of your prospective departure and the withdrawal of the Mission of the American Red Cross in Pravi, I consider it my duty to invite you to accept my hearty thanks and the expression of gratitude on my part and on the part of the population of the District of Pravi, sorely tried by the Bulgarian invasion; this gratitude we express to you because of the interest and zeal with which you and the personnel associated with*

*you have labored for the relief of the population by distributing food and clothing, a work which contributed so significantly to the relief of the sufferers.*

*I shall be grateful to you if you should be pleased to communicate to the Direction of the American Red Cross to which you belong this expression of thankfulness and of gratitude on our part.*

*Wishing you a favorable return to the fair and noble country which is your Fatherland, **America**, the protectress of the freedom and the rights of nations, I beg you to accept the expression of our conspicuous regard toward you, with which I remain,*

*The Sub-Governor of Pravi.*

*(Signed) M. Sakellarides.»*

As we leave, the food situation is not quite so acute, and the Greek Government is sending in small supplies of flour, which is sold at cost. Other food supplies are being shipped in small quantities into this region, and a large number of the people are securing employment in the tobacco industry. There is absolutely no question of the fact that hundreds of these people would have died of starvation had not the Red Cross entered this field, and from the time of entry until the work was closed, a great improvement could be seen in the general condition of the people. The statistical report (pp. 30, 31) shows the total number of persons who died during the occupation, and I have been told by the mayors of the different villages that but for the Red Cross an equal number would have died during this winter, as even the Bulgarian allowance of soup and bread was not forthcoming. These figures speak for themselves, and show that the necessity of relief here was concrete and not one bit theoretical.



I have seen something of the other Red Cross work in Macedonia, and I cannot refrain from repeating once more that the appreciation shown by these people of the Pangaeon and their desire to help in the work was indeed exceptional. Furthermore, every request which was made upon the Greek Army or the Greek officials was immediately granted wherever possible, and the help and co-operation which we received was all that could be asked. Every courtesy was extended to us in the way of an occasional lunch or dinner, and in one instance the commanding officer of Pravi favored the personnel there with a band concert, the musicians being assembled directly under our own front balcony.

The zeal displayed by all our nurses was wonderful, and only by the utmost interest and whole-souled desire to do the really great work before them could the results which they accomplished have been obtained. One of them, Miss Zacca, has the enviable record of having cared for over one hundred and fifty visitors to her dispensary in a single day.

Personally, I have found the work to be of absorbing interest, and I am very glad that I had the good fortune to receive this assignment.

(Signed) *Grosvenor C. Barry,*

First Lieutenant A. R. C.  
In Command of Pangaeon Stations.

# STATISTICAL REPORT FOR PANGAEON TOWNS

*Census of April 1, 1919*

*By the American Red Cross.*

NAME	POPULATION		Number Fed by A. R. C.	NATIONALITY OF INHABITANTS		Number Died of Starvation	*Number of Houses Destroyed	Number Persons Deported Bulgaria	Number Died in Bulgaria	Number of Doctors	NUMBER OF CHURCHES		EDUCATION			LIVESTOCK		
	Prior to 1914	April 1 1919		Greeks	Turks						Greek	Turkish	School Opened	Number of Pupils	Horses and Mules	Cattle	Sheep	
Provista...	1,100	620	547	0	210	all	70	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Rodolivos...	3,565	2,800	2,398	20	382	135	568	115	3	2	0	0	625	160	69	150	0	
Kioup-Kioy...	2,870	2,299	1,483	0	103	25	558	294	1	1	0	0	350	140	82	200	0	
Chepelge...	280	325	337	0	18	25	170	38	0	0	0	0	0	32	6	40	0	
Straviki...	350	250	246	0	72	all	40	15	0	0	0	0	40	90	150	1,000	0	
Anghista...	1,168	897	858	0	95	28	183	69	1	0	0	0	115	96	48	103	0	
Vitasta.....	150	140	133	0	14	8	38	25	0	0	0	0	30	15	12	50	0	
Vulchista...	380	340	60	0	3	0	40	18	0	0	0	0	60	70	25	26	0	
Drachova...	60	25	17	0	16	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	
Neochori...	350	280	113	0	21	all	30	12	0	0	0	0	40	10	0	0	0	
Doxombus...	980	850	592	0	32	15	157	78	0	0	0	0	75	15	40	0	0	
Kormista...	473	480	473	0	9	12	50	15	0	0	0	0	50	40	35	0	0	
Chereplian..	1,800	1,301	830	0	125	all	150	60	0	0	0	0	150	90	0	0	0	
Lokovikia...	1,050	759	697	0	101	all	171	54	0	0	0	0	120	129	17	0	0	
Sematus.....	202	180	211	0	17	40	25	5	0	0	0	0	25	30	15	0	0	
Banitsa.....	350	270	239	0	45	0	75	32	0	0	0	0	75	55	0	0	0	
Kochoki....	400	280	142	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	45	64	0	
Sarli.....	450	340	264	40	48	54	8	0	1	0	0	0	0	11	50	240	0	
Boblen.....	93	38	33	30	50	20	20	10	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	100	0	
Fteri.....	150	130	77	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	7	35	26	0	
Veliojiler...	200	150	92	0	6	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	35	7	45	60	0	
Devekhli...	288	250	134	0	25	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	30	7	40	95	0	
Demerli.....	600	140	89	140	250	all	153	58	0	0	0	0	0	16	25	40	0	

Kuleli .....	180	150	113	0	150	6	8	20	0	0	0	0	1	10/26/18	30	2	25	5
Podogortiani	1,080	650	616	430	220	230	80	153	38	0	0	0	1	11/25/18	97	7	51	44
Dranli .....	120	65	65	0	65	32	all	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0
Mousalou .....	80	85	71	0	85	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10/26/18	15	0	10	0
Musthenie ..	1,650	1,200	851	450	750	117	65	151	46	0	0	0	4	11/21/18	75	64	120	0
Bostanjili ..	710	605	515	0	605	18	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	—	0	2	14	60
Tourmoslou ..	224	198	184	0	198	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	—	0	0	9	24
Ilejik .....	130	137	102	137	0	0	all	17	11	0	0	1	0	9/1/18	45	3	0	0
Avli .....	470	380	324	380	0	201	37	90	35	0	1	1	0	9/1/18	90	29	8	0
Kotsani .....	160	109	104	0	109	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10/1/18	20	21	15	0
Toshani .....	150	197	143	0	147	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10/10/18	17	15	6	50
Meseli .....	185	165	57	0	165	7	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	10/5/18	15	7	2	0
Nikisiani .....	2,037	1,899	1,896	1,899	0	341	0	184	49	2	0	0	0	9/1/18	225	0	0	0
Gorgani .....	635	496	561	267	229	77	0	112	45	0	1	1	1	9/1/18	75	45	25	0
Dranich .....	530	363	521	125	238	26	0	57	21	0	0	0	1	10/1/18	12	16	7	180
Dranova .....	282	262	150	0	262	4	69	20	0	0	0	0	1	2/1/19	61	14	21	0
Dresna .....	650	200	183	200	0	115	40	80	40	0	0	2	0	9/1/18	60	11	0	0
Devekeran ..	300	240	61	0	240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	10/1/18	30	25	10	0
Leftera .....	1,100	899	934	399	500	201	80	150	80	0	1	0	0	9/1/18	85	75	20	80
Kotskari .....	500	230	216	0	230	11	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	9/1/18	15	14	12	60
Paleochori ..	1,545	1,065	1,070	570	495	204	86	106	27	0	2	2	1	9/1/18	140	236	33	0
Pravi .....	4,550	3,680	2,281	2,460	1,220	1,011	131	408	80	5	2	2	2	9/1/18	0	240	53	655
Tsiflik .....	160	93	87	0	93	75	7	2	0	0	0	0	1	—	0	1	0	0
Ahartlar .....	161	155	122	0	155	12	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	—	0	0	10	0
Osmanli .....	280	250	115	0	250	35	3	6	1	0	0	0	1	11/26/18	30	0	16	0
Isiri .....	300	281	265	0	281	35	4	5	1	0	0	0	2	11/26/18	20	0	38	0
Mesoropi .....	1,900	1,145	1,009	1,145	0	550	101	285	106	0	2	0	2	11/25/18	80	60	51	105
Tsitakli .....	330	210	109	0	210	10	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	10/26/18	30	2	33	10
Samokovo .....	929	760	217	0	760	22	13	33	2	0	0	0	3	10/26/18	7	1	117	22
Rahimli .....	120	101	83	0	101	20	3	6	0	0	0	0	1	10/26/18	18	0	20	0
Dedebali .....	250	135	119	0	135	21	30	1	0	0	0	0	1	—	0	0	4	20
Mentesili .....	25	25	25	0	28	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	2	0
Mousour-	55	45	41	0	45	8	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	3	5
tseli	39,737	30,208	23,622	20,954	9,096	5,168	1,200	4,618	1,589	10	33	38	33	—	3,192	1,966	1,509	3,864

\* 8 towns completely destroyed.





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