

Administered by and for the profit of the European Children's Fund

FOOD DRAFT

AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

HERBERT HOOVER, *Chairman*

115 Broadway

New York

December 27, 1919.

To the Bankers of America:

Owing to the slow economic recovery of Europe, the depreciation and exhaustion of its securities and the shortage of export commodity production, due to the lack of raw material, the only hope of large sections passing the winter without going into sheer anarchy lies in their again obtaining food supplies on some basis of support from America.

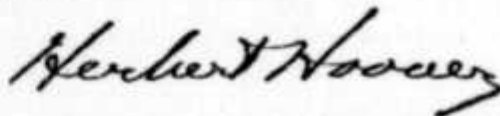
Throughout the whole of Central and Eastern Europe the food supply of the people falls into two classes: First, the ration issued by the government; second, illicit circulation of food available to those who have a sufficient amount of money. The government ration is necessarily meagre and nowhere sufficient to properly maintain life, and must be supplemented. Under these circumstances, the scramble for such supplementary margin has placed the price of the illicit food supplies entirely beyond the reach of the great bulk of the population. To illustrate: A single ham outside the ration system sells for as high as one hundred and fifty dollars.

In groping for a solution of this problem we have decided to undertake a measure on the following basis, as we believe it will contribute largely to relieve the situation:

There are three to four million families in the United States with family affiliations in Eastern and Central Europe. Many of them are desirous of giving direct personal assistance to these relatives and friends. Some are endeavoring to perform this service by preparing or purchasing packages of food for overseas shipment. In some cases the packing and extra freight involved adds one hundred per cent to the cost. We are proposing to solve this difficulty by establishing warehouses to carry stocks of staple foodstuffs in European cities where distress is particularly acute. We propose to sell, in America, orders upon these warehouses in the form of **Food Drafts** which can be transmitted to friends or relatives in Europe. We propose to charge the buyer of the **Food Draft** the factory cost of the food plus a reasonable margin to cover cost of transportation and insurance. Profits, if any accrue, will be turned over to the European Children's Fund.

The object of this plan is to add to the total stock of available food supplies in Central and Eastern European countries. Under an arrangement set up with the Governments of these countries, this food will be allowed to revolve outside the rationing system, with the hope that enough food will be injected to reduce the pressure on the narrow marginal supplies. The officials of these new governments are endeavoring to impress upon the American people that it is useless to remit money to a family in Central or Eastern Europe with the hope of improving its food situation. The sum total of food now available in Central Europe is insufficient to keep the population alive, and under these circumstances money thus becomes that much paper so far as nutrition is concerned. A hungry man wants food, not money, and under the arrangement outlined above, we can meet his need. I feel that you will agree that such an enterprise, organized on a thoroughly business basis, will effect a considerable amount of actual relief abroad. I am informed that the President of the American Bankers' Association states that the Association will cooperate in all possible ways in the plan as above outlined. I do not believe, under the system which we have devised, that this will entail any great effort on the part of the banks, and the plan is one of such sympathetic character that the banks can well entertain it to aid the distressed people of Europe.

Faithfully,



The **Food Draft** relief measure outlined above is endorsed by the Governments of Poland, Austria, Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia and Germany.

FOOD DRAFT
STUB OF ISSUING BANK

No. _____ Date _____

Drawn on American Relief Administration
at _____

In favor of _____

Address _____

For _____ Packages designated

As Letter _____ Being the
equivalent of \$ _____

Sold to _____

Address _____

FOOD DRAFT
RECEIPT FOR PURCHASER

No. _____ Date _____

Draft Drawn on American Relief Administration
at _____

In favor of _____

Address _____

For _____ Packages designated

As Letter _____ Being the equivalent
of \$ _____

Issuing Bank _____

Signature _____

FOOD DRAFT
SEND THIS ADVICE TO
AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION
115 BROADWAY NEW YORK

Date _____

We have issued Draft No. _____

In favor of _____

Address _____

On your Warehouse _____

For _____ Packages designated

As Letter _____ Being the equivalent
of \$ _____ for which we

send you herewith our Draft on New York

Issuing Bank _____

Signature _____

FOOD DRAFT
SEND THIS ADVICE TO
AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION
115 BROADWAY NEW YORK

Date _____

We have issued Draft No. _____

In favor of _____

Address _____

On your Warehouse _____

For _____ Packages designated

As Letter _____ Being the equivalent
of \$ _____ for which we

send you herewith our Draft on New York

Issuing Bank _____

Signature _____

ORIGINAL NOT TRANSFERABLE - GOOD ONLY IF PRESENTED WITHIN 90 DAYS FROM DATE OF ISSUE

FOOD DRAFT

ADMINISTERED BY AND FOR THE PROFIT OF THE EUROPEAN CHILDREN'S FUND

No. _____
To American Relief Administration Warehouse
at _____

Please deliver on presentation to _____
Or his properly constituted representative _____ Packages

Designated as letter _____ However, being the equivalent of \$ _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO
SUBSTITUTE COMMODITIES OF EQUAL FOOD VALUE

A	B	C	D
24 1/2 lbs. Flour	40 lbs. Flour	14 1/2 lbs. Flour	45 lbs. Flour
10 lbs. Beans	50 lbs. Beans	10 lbs. Beans	50 lbs. Beans
3 lbs. Bacon	10 lbs. Corn	7 1/2 lbs. Canned Oil	4 1/2 lbs. Canned Oil
8 cans Milk	12 lbs. Corned Beef	12 cans Milk	40 cans Milk
	40 cans Milk		
\$10	\$50	\$10	\$50

The Gift of _____
Address _____

American Relief Administration
Harbert Hoover
Clyde Tolson

COUNTERSIGNING BANK _____
AT _____
Signature _____

THE COST OF THIS FOOD DRAFT AS SHOWN ABOVE COVERS ALL EXPENSE TO PURCHASER INCLUDING BANKING CHARGES

O. S. American
Relief Administration

ENDORSEMENT

This FOOD DRAFT must be mailed to the person to whom you wish to give the food. The receiver must present the Draft at the warehouse on which it is drawn within ninety days of the date of issue. If the receiver cannot present it personally delivery will be made to his properly constituted representative.

Kvíta na živnost musí být přeaslána osobě, do kteréj se živnost přešla. Odhláska na tento kvita musí se představit v skladě American Relief Warehouse v pravecku dleševy/děševce dně. Jestli odhláskva kvita nle může sít stavět osoběle po pokarm, to vlnisť upovastnit osobě, kvita osobělele mols otraynat preeaslacne artzkuľy spotyveně.

Эта ЗАПИСКА НА ПОЛУЧЕНИЕ ПИЩЕВЫХ ПРОДУКТОВ должна быть отправлена лицу для которого эти продукты вами предназначены. Получатель должен представить эту записку в течение девяноста дней со дня ее издания, в склад, адрес которого указан на записке. Если получатель не может представить записку лично, то продукты будут доставлены уполномоченному им лицу.

Küldje ezen ÉLELMISZER UTALVÁNYT annak, akinek az élelmiszer adományozni óhajlja. Ezen utalványt a tulajdonosának — a keltetés napjától számolva legkésőbb kilencven napon belül — be kell mutatni a meghatározott élelmiszer raktárnál. Ha az utalvány tulajdonosa nem jelentkezik személyesen, kiutalások csak egy törvényes megbízottinak eszközhetők.

Diese Nahrungsmittelanweisung ist an die Person zu schicken, der Sie die Nahrung zu geben wünschen. Der Empfänger muß die Anweisung innerhalb neunzig Tagen vom Datum der Ausstellung in dem Warenhaus vorzeigen, auf welches Sie ausgestellt ist. Wenn der Empfänger die Anweisung nicht persönlich vorzeigen, so erfolgt die Beauftragung an einen gesetzlich bevollmächtigten Vertreter.

Táto poukázka na potravu musí sa poslať poštou tej osobe, ktorej chceť potravu dať. Ten, kto ju obdrží, musí túto poukážku priniesť do toho skladišťa, na ktoré je vystavená, do deväťdesiat (90) dní od dňa, keď bola vydaná. Jestli ten, kto obdrží poukážku, nemôže osobne sa prihlásiť, potravu bude odovzdať jeho pravidelne ustanovenému zástupcovi.

הודעה זו היא להודיע על כך שאתם רוצים לתת מזון לאדם מסוים. עליכם לשלוח את ההודעה בדואר לאדם אליו אתם רוצים לתת את המזון. האדם הזה חייב להציג את ההודעה במחסן המזון תוך תשעים יום מיום הוצאת ההודעה לאור. אם האדם הזה אינו יכול להציג את ההודעה באופן אישי, יישלח המזון לנציג מוסמך של האדם הזה.