

PREHISTORIC AND MODERN

A little lamp used by prehistoric man to light his home is here contrasted with a modern 175,000-candlepower airport lighting lamp, both part of the collection to be shown in the New York World's Fair. Modern man gets from this airport lamp 250,000 times as much light as prehistoric man got from his. Shown in the picture are Dr. Charles F. Brown, archaeologist, discoverer of the ancient lamp, Miss Helen V. Ademek, photometrist, and Preston F. Millar of the Electrical Testing Laboratories.

SOCIOLOGY

Europe's Disaster Not Yet Realized by Americans

Red Cross Officials Face Problem of Dozen Countries In Desperate Plight at Once; Few Able To Contribute

WAR spreading in Europe is creating a disaster so huge and unbelievable that Americans hardly grasp it yet. "It is hell turned loose—and no precedents!"

So declares quiet-spoken Malcolm W. Davis, Associate Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies, on a flying visit from Geneva to this country. If any one knows what it means to secure food, clothing, medicines for a dozen countries in desperate plight at once, with transportation and red tape and war dogging every move, that official is Mr. Davis.

Each new country overrun by war makes the relief of homeless and injured people harder, more complicated.

Belgium and the Netherlands were among 21 countries of the world that gave money, clothing, food, and first aid via Red Cross societies to Finland. Now Belgium and the Netherlands are crossed off the credit side of the relief ledger, and entered on the debit side—urgently needing help for themselves.

Not merely will they be out of the list of giving nations, for a while, at least, but the relief supplies that they could spare for sale are cut off. Glycerine products used in medical work, for example, have been one of the Netherlands supplies, now to be sought elsewhere.

Expending Red Cross money for supplies to be shuttled to Poland, to Hungary, France, or other countries sheltering refugees and evacuees becomes a nightmare of shopping, it would seem from Mr. Davis' methodical telling of how the purchasing must be done. In Switzerland, it has been possible to purchase anesthetics and milk products. In

Italy the Red Cross societies have found it possible to get important medicines and chemicals, notably anesthetics and narcotic drugs. Spain is the one place to buy mercury, for hospital use. Arranging such shipments, the relief organizers buy from day to day not knowing what market will be shut off next.

To keep supplies moving where needed, the League of Red Cross Societies, with its headquarters in Geneva, has had to expand its staff of 20 regular employees and add volunteer aids.

So short are stocks of supplies purchased for the injured, hungry and homeless, that money is less and less useful for urgent purchases by the Red Cross on the spot, he explained. Money contributed in Brazil may be expended in France, though the supplies are destined to help Polish refugees in Hungary.

When people asking for food or other emergency aid are within the ring of the war, it requires the red tape of an agreement with both warring sides before shipments can pass the Allied blockade and enter the distressed area. To reach neutral countries outside fighting zones, on the other hand, only Allied permission to pass the blockade is required.

Repeatedly, coordinating officials of relief in Europe must give assurance that shipments can be speeded straight to relief use, as the military powers watchfully eye any chance of supplies being diverted to military purposes.

Civilians fleeing the world's greatest battle in northeastern France and Belgium have flooded central France with 5,000,000 refugees. Some Dutch and Belgians have reached England. Earlier, on May 1, the American Red Cross had assembled these "latest" reports on Europe's refugees and evacuees:

England, 500,000; France, 500,000; Finland, 470,000; Hungary, 40,000, all Polish; Latvia, 1,450 Polish; Lithuania, 39,000 Polish, also 80,000 destitute residents in Vilna; Sweden, at least 18,000; Rumania, 22,000; Yugoslavia, 1,000.

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