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NEAR EAST RELIEF

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS
(FORMERLY AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR ARMENIAN AND SYRIAN RELIEF)

OREGON HEADQUARTERS
606 STOCK EXCHANGE BLDG.

PORTLAND, OREGON

TELEPHONE MAIN 2178

OREGON COMMITTEE

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March 1, 1921

Mayor Geo. L. Baker,
C I T Y

Dear Mayor:

Permit me to make the following suggestions as to our meeting today at the Portland Hotel at noon. So far as I know no other speaker plans to cover the following points and I should like to suggest that these might be added to whatever other message you care to bring.

Three years ago Portland was the first city and Oregon the first state to launch systematic campaigns for Near East Relief. The rest of the nation has since followed Oregon's lead and it is the testimony of the Near East Relief that Oregon's example has been worth hundreds of thousands of dollars in the raising of funds for the succor of our sorely tried allies in the Near East. Portland still tries to maintain this leadership and the energies of the Near East Relief released by Portland have permitted it to undertake the China-campaign. On the authority of the state Director, Mr. Handsaker, I can state that had it not been for Portland's Community Chest, which releases much of the energy of the Near East Relief organization, it would have been impossible to undertake this larger work. Portland will make its generous contributions to both funds through the Community Chest. Funds may or may not be designated for the China-Near East campaign at the option of the giver.

I see that I have not only sent you the suggested ideas but also have even suggested the phraseology. I am sure you will forgive any seeming officiousness on my part.

At our last report the Community Chest had not yet decided on the amount to be given to the two funds but I have said to the state at large that Portland would do her part through the Community Chest and I am sure that is the understanding.

enabling Oregon to be the first for Chinese relief

Mayor Baker #2.

You will be introduced by a little Chinese or Armenian girl who will approach you with a speech something like the following:

More Chinese and Armenians live in your city than in all the rest of Oregon put together. Sometimes some of us give your policemen trouble. We are slow to learn your ways. But in China and Armenia, America is known and is loved as no other nation is known and loved. You come to help, they come to take away. We love you for this and some day the mouse of China and Armenia may be able to help the great lion of America. Will Portland help?

Sincerely yours,

JJ Handsaker,
State Director.

JJH:AB