

# ON CHRISTMAS, REMEMBER THESE NEEDIEST

A Splendid Chapter in the History of Giving Has Already Been Written, but There Are Still Others to Whom Help Must Be Given Without Delay

## 14,000 PERSONS AIDED

THE report of the receipts, up to date, of the Hundred Neediest Cases will be found on Page 1 of the Second News Section. Contributions are still needed if the fund is to follow precedent and exceed that of last year. There were 12,890 contributors last year, and 399 cases were aided—299 cases more than the original hundred. If the contributions for the 1927 fund exceed those of 1926, at least 1,700 individuals will find relief, and, in many instances, life itself. This would bring the number of those helped since the first appeal was made in 1912 to a total of about 14,000 persons.

THIS Christmas Day finds many a family happier because it has received help or given it through the fund for the Hundred Neediest Cases. For those who have been helped, the aid has meant the difference between despair and hope—in some instances, between life and death. For those who have helped, contributions have meant the difference between the coldness of unconcern and the joy of having held out a helping hand.

But much remains to be done. The contributions of the last two weeks have provided funds sufficient to care for the first hundred and a second hundred besides. Yet there are hundreds of others in the shadows and so today the appeal goes out for the third hundred of those in New York who are in the greatest distress.

Each year the number of those who have found salvation through the fund has increased, and the total of contributions has grown. Last year, in addition to the first hundred cases, 299 others were aided and the gifts reached a total of \$280,802.28. And this year there is not only precedent but actual need for the fund to go beyond the total of 1927.

How compelling is that need is indicated on this and the following page, where are given glimpses into the plight of some of the third hundred of the neediest cases of New York City. These cases, too, have been investigated and are vouched for by the six organizations cooperating in the appeal. The distress is just as keen, the handicaps just as great and the need just as urgent in these as in the first hundred cases. They must not be passed by.

### Partners of Distress.

Among the third hundred are the stories of babies abandoned by their mothers; of children mistreated and driven out by step-parents; of youth deprived of its schooling to lift the burdens of invalid fathers and mothers; of frail wives with the three-fold task of nurse, housekeeper and breadwinner; of once prosperous households now penniless, and of friendless old age. There are stories, too, of fathers in prison whose innocent families are the keenest sufferers.

Contributions to these neediest will not carry toys and luxuries into dark and stricken homes. They are more vital than that. They abolish worry and hunger; they put an end to cold and dread and neglect and physical misery; they avert impending tragedies. They mean restored health for many an invalid. They mean a happy family life in the future for fathers, mothers and children who have been tragic victims of circumstances.

These are gifts which can be appreciated most fully perhaps by mothers who have lost or have been in danger of losing their children; or by fathers whose sickness has forced them to see their family in want; or by men and women who know from childhood experience what it is to have sickness or accident or some other calamity plunge a family suddenly into destitution.

### Gifts of Unknown Friends.

To the needy these contributions are the gifts of unknown friends. The family does not know to whom thanks are due. Aid comes as if in answer to prayer. The privacy of the neediest families is respected. They are subjected to no publicity and to no invasion of their personal rights.

The appeal on their behalf is made only through the publication of the cases and the description of their needs. It is not sought in any other way. There is no personal solicitation, no canvassing by letter.

When this appeal has once reached a heart it is rarely forgotten. The sympathy and interest that are once inspired do not die away.

Contributions have been received this year from Austria, Switzerland, France, England, Canada, Cuba and a ship in mid-ocean. Several contributions have been received from as far West as California. Most of the other States of the Union are represented among contributors.

Two of the checks for the Neediest Cases this year have come from trust funds established by the wills of deceased contributors. Scores of other contributions have been accompanied by letters stating that the gift was made in fulfillment of one of the last requests of old contributors.

Thousands and thousands of dollars have come from school pupils who have taken up collections for the Neediest Cases or voted contributions from their treasuries. The children of a Hoboken school sent a substantial amount that came from the sale of tin-foil which they had gathered for months. For many years the children of the same school have done this.

### Of Many Unusual Origins.

Many of the contributions are of unusual origins. A controversy over money matters between two business men involving a considerable sum was settled by turning the whole amount at issue over to the Hundred Neediest Cases. Many lost bets and many disputed bets have been turned over to the Neediest Cases.

The steady growth of the fund year by year for fifteen years without a single backward step is due in large part to the regular annual contributors, the unfailing supporters of the Hundred Neediest Cases. Each year the majority of contributors' names was in the list of the preceding year. New friends of the Neediest Cases make their appearance in the lists each year, and a large proportion of them become steady contributors. Many write that they wait impatiently for the printing of the Hundred Cases each December, and scores send their contributions in advance. Even when in foreign countries regular contributors remember the Neediest Fund. More than a score of contributions came last year from outside of the United States, three of them being from the Orient.

All this indicates a personal and sentimental feeling toward the Neediest Cases and that men and women who have once been powerfully stirred by the appeal for the Neediest Cases usually remain friends and supporters of the cause. Each year officials of the charitable organizations report that men and women whose sympathies

have been caught by the Neediest Cases appeal have become year-round students and workers in various fields of philanthropy, but especially in the rehabilitation of afflicted families.

One hundred per cent. of every contribution to the Hundred Neediest Cases is used for food, shelter, clothing, fuel, medicine or some other urgent necessity. There is no deduction from any contribution for administrative expenses.

This has been the rule ever since the first appeal was made in 1912. Every contribution has been accepted with that understanding. This compact has been exactly carried out by the societies cooperating with THE NEW YORK TIMES and is proved annually by the reports of expert accountants on the expenditures.

There are administrative costs in connection with the appeal, but they are contributed by THE NEW YORK TIMES and by the six cooperating organizations. The handling and the acknowledgment of contributions received by THE TIMES require the work of a growing staff. In

addition the six charitable organizations furnish personal services of various kinds throughout the year. The cost of this is borne by revenue from endowment and other sources. The pledge to give the Neediest Cases the direct benefit of every cent contributed for them is never infringed.

This personal service furnished by the cooperating organizations is of great importance. It involves, for instance, the planning of the budget of a needy family. It involves a medical survey of the family and clinical treatment for those who need it. In many of the needy families want and exposure have left children dangerously undernourished. Bad eyesight, decayed teeth, adenoids, diseased tonsils and sometimes heart and lung trouble are beginning to develop in children, chiefly because of their neglect and their hard experiences at tender years. These defects are carefully watched and treated. The children are put on good diets with plenty of milk. Teeth and eye troubles are attended to. Proper shoes or braces are

fitted to crippled children and every effort is made to straighten their limbs and restore them to normal condition.

Children nearing manhood or womanhood are studied as to their capabilities and given training for the occupations for which they are best fitted. Similar service is performed for fathers who have become blind, or cripples or semi-invalids. The blind are taught weaving and broom-making, and other occupations where they can earn and keep cheerful in the feeling that they are usefully employed. Cripples and invalids are taught trades which involve no severe strain.

Whole Families Equipped. Mothers and the older girls are trained to economical and sensible housekeeping. Some families are vastly improved in their equipment for a healthy and happy family life through the accident which threw them among the Neediest Cases.

This careful consideration of the needs of the individual and of his family requires the visits of trained and devoted workers. These are

members of the regular staffs of the six organizations. They teach the families to make money go a long way. They provide medical, nursing and hospital attendance free or at a nominal figure. It might be said without exaggeration that every dollar contributed buys considerably more than a dollar's worth of the necessities of life for the Neediest Cases.

One of the chief things that the fund provides in such a case is freedom from worry. Knowing his family to be provided for, the invalid father is able to maintain a cheerful state of mind and recover rapidly. When a family becomes self-supporting before a year has elapsed the remainder of the fund is used for some other case where great hardship and suffering exist. The spirit and courage of the family are sustained, not only by the regular money assistance from unknown benefactors, but by the help and counsel of the friends who visit them regularly and assist them with their problems.

Last year contributions of \$280,802.28 made it possible to provide for 399 neediest families. Had this fund not been raised, the six organizations would have rendered what assistance was possible in those 399 cases, but limited funds would have made that assistance inadequate. As it is, they were relieved of the necessity of providing food, shelter and other necessities for those cases. Because this burden was lifted from their resources they were able to render greater assistance in the thousands of other cases of destitution and suffering which come to their attention.

Contributions to the Hundred Neediest Cases therefore produce indirect benefit for many others. According to officials in the organizations, administering the funds, the appeal also serves an important end in increasing public interest in the problem of dealing with poverty and in arousing men and women to a sense of community responsibility in such matters.

Checks should be made payable to the "Hundred Neediest Cases Fund." Contributions may be sent to THE NEW YORK TIMES, Times Square, New York City; to any of THE TIMES branch offices or to any of the organizations which present the cases:

The New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, 105 East Twenty-second Street.  
The State Charities Aid Association, 105 East Twenty-second Street.  
The Brooklyn Bureau of Charities, 285 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn.  
The Charity Organization Society, 105 East Twenty-second Street.  
The Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies, 114 Fifth Avenue.  
The Catholic Charities, 477 Madison Avenue.

No agents or solicitors are authorized to seek contributions for the Hundred Neediest Cases.

Contributions to the Neediest Cases are exempt from the Federal and State income tax.

The six charity organizations which administer the Hundred Neediest Cases do so free of cost. There is no deduction of any kind, administrative or executive. Every dollar goes to the neediest.

## THE THIRD HUNDRED

FOR the third hundred of New York's neediest cases the appeal is made today. On these pages are presented thirty-one cases typical of that hundred. They differ only in detail from the first hundred; they present the same strong claim upon the sympathies of the prosperous and the generous. They, too, must have help without delay. Last year the fund was large enough to take care of 399 cases. It is hoped this year to minister to a still larger number, for the history of the fund for the neediest has been a record of increasing good.

### CASE 243.

An Abandoned Baby in Need of Food, Shelter and Clothing.

Annette may never know whether she is an orphan or not. A woman who cares for babies before they are placed in foster homes tucked one of her charges in his carriage on the porch for his morning nap. When she looked again there was not one, but two babies in the carriage. There was no clue as to where Annette might have come from. No one saw her put in the carriage. No note was pinned to the little dress and there was no label on the tiny shirt. The doctors say that she is about five months old, and since there is no way of determining the exact date a birthday will have to be chosen for her. Annette has medium brown hair, gray eyes, a snub nose and a dimple in her diminutive chin. Money for food, shelter and clothing is needed.

Amount needed, \$375.

Case attested and administered free of cost by the State Charities Aid Association, 105 East Twenty-second Street. (Telephone Gramercy 144.)

### CASE 244.

Husband in Prison, Wife Has Care of Four Small Children.

Young, bewildered, hopeless, a mother asked for assistance. Only 24, she is left to support four children because her husband has been sent to prison for complicity in a robbery. The mother has not been well since the baby, Elizabeth, was born a month ago, worried as she was for the months previous by her husband's trouble. Jennie, 7, Sammie, 4, and Helen, 2, show the good care their mother has given them. She is eager to support her children, but cannot now. She must have help.

Amount needed, \$900.

Case attested and administered free of cost by the Charity Organization Society, 105 East Twenty-second Street. (Telephone Triang 910.)

### CASE 207.

A Wife Unable to Support a Invalid Her Invalid Husband.

From a hospital clinic came an appeal for help for the family of William Phelps. He was suffering from a bad heart condition, the wife who had been working was temporarily ill and there was no income. Debts and no money to meet or to pay for current needs cast a deep gloom over the home. Fortunately 3-year-old Billy was too young to feel this. The father worked or until compelled to consult a doctor, then did everything advised by nurses and physicians. In spite of months of convalescent care in the country he is still thin and gaunt. He finds it difficult to adjust himself to the fact that he may never be able to do more for his family than help with a housework and care for Billy, and the jolly, healthy little son saves him from total discouragement. The wife works hard, but some days, when her husband is particularly weak, must remain at home. Never can she earn enough for the full support. Hers is a valiant spirit, but financial assistance must be given to keep this wife from breaking under her burden.

Amount needed, \$400.

Case attested and administered free of cost by the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, 105 East Twenty-second Street. (Telephone Gramercy 7040.)

### CASE 285.

Eighty-five, Friendless, Penniless, Incurable and Unemployed.

John, 85 years old, found himself without employment and without money. He wrote to a newspaper and asked for help. The charity worker found him alone in two poorly furnished little rooms. A meagre meal of rice was on the table. His wife is dead and he has no friends to whom he can turn in his hour of need. He lives alone with the memories of happier days. Sick with an incurable disease, his only recreation is reading his Bible. He feels that the Lord will answer his prayer that he may remain until the end in his little home filled with the memories of his dead wife.

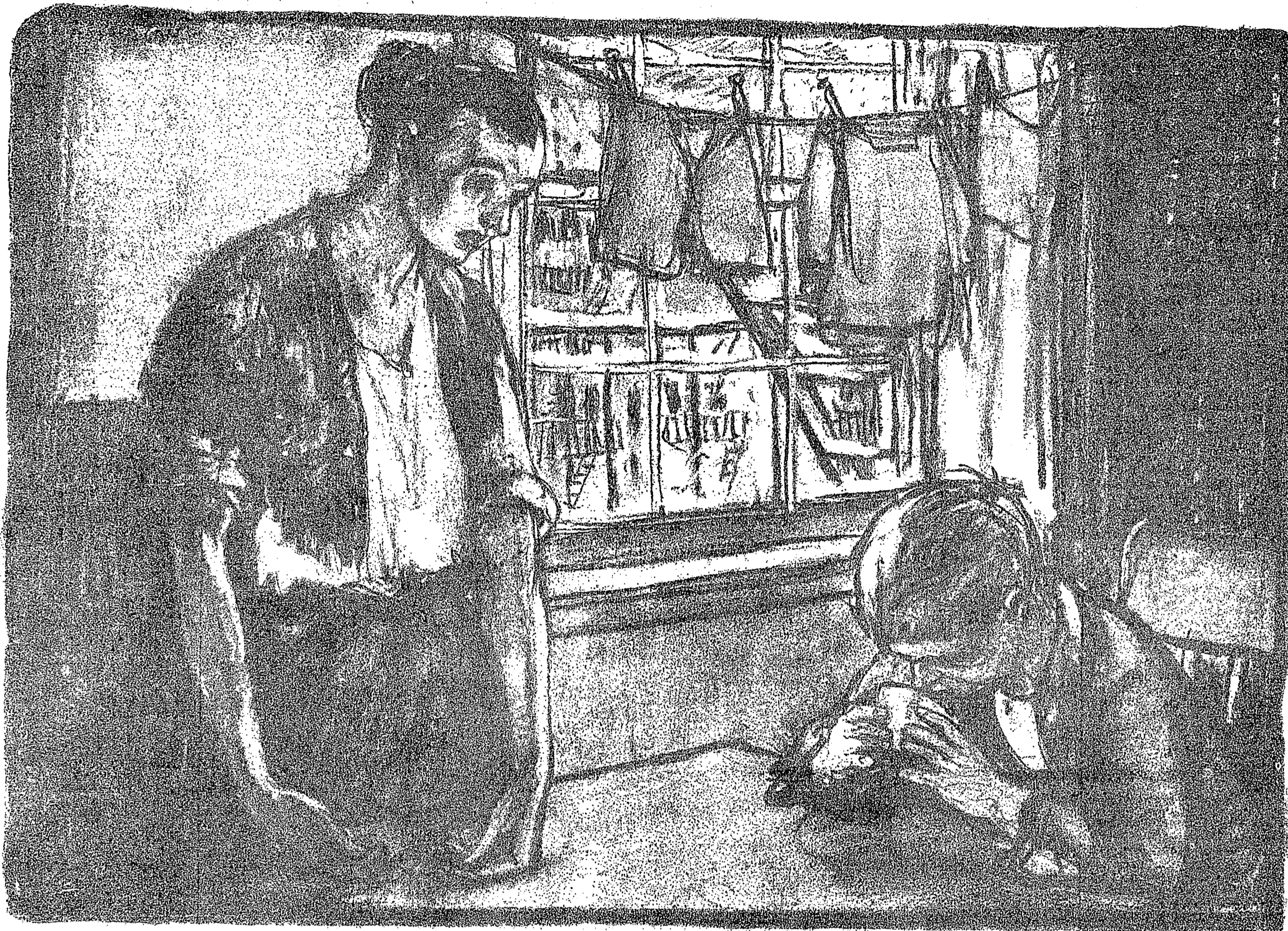
Amount needed, \$400.

Case attested and administered free of cost by the Catholic Charities, 477 Madison Avenue. (Telephone Plaza 6513.)

### CASE 201.

A Family of Nine Which Would Have Starved but for the Neighbors.

Ben, 15 years old, left school and looked for work, but was so small, thin and pale that nobody wanted him. He kept up the search and finally found work at \$10 a week in a printing shop. His sister Goldie, 17, is earning \$12 a week as a stenographer. But there are nine in the family, and they would have starved except for help from neighbors. The father, in a tubercular condition, is greatly improved by convalescent



This Picture Is Given by Wallace Morgan as His Contribution to the Hundred Neediest Cases.

# TO THESE NEEDIEST ALSO HELP MUST BE GIVEN

## HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEEDIEST

Checks should be made payable to THE ONE HUNDRED NEEDIEST CASES FUND and mailed to THE NEW YORK TIMES, TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK to any of The Times branch offices, or to any one of the six organizations from whose lists these cases are selected. No personal solicitation for the fund is authorized.

Care, but it will be a long time before he can earn anything. The mother, threatened with eviction and worried over her children and her husband, is greatly overworked. The five younger children are Abe, 10; Rose, 8, and the two babies, Willie and Sam. Amount needed, \$722.

**CASE 54. Friendless, Penniless and Legless, He Needs a New Start.** George, 21, limped in to ask for help until he could take care of himself once more. When 7 years old he was run down by a trolley car and his left leg was amputated. Damages to the extent of \$1,500 were awarded. Shortly afterward both his parents died and George was put in an orphan home, his money being used to pay his board. When he was 16 he left, and by special training at the State Rehabilitation Bureau became a telephone switchboard operator. He worked hard and saved enough to get an artificial leg. Necessity prompted him to go to the cheapest manufacturer, with the result that his artificial leg constantly caused pain in the stump, making him nervous and generally run down. Then a tumor developed, that required an operation and the last of his savings. Now, penniless, unable to work until his strength returns, he needs help. If help comes, it will mean a new start in life for him. If not, he is permanently out of the race. Amount needed, \$350.

**CASE 55. Four Months Old, Weighs but Eight Pounds, a 50-50 Chance of Life.** It was closing time at the nursery. All the babies had been called for but Michael, the smallest baby of them all and in the most need of a mother's care. Seven o'clock, 8 o'clock, and still no mother came. A nurse left to take Michael home, but the address his mother had given proved to be a vacant lot, and no traces have been found of the woman.

Michael is a pathetic baby—four months old. He weighs only eight pounds. His little legs are no thicker than a grown person's thumb. His brown eyes are the biggest things about him, set in a white little wizened face. He has had two blood transfusions, and it is a fifty-fifty chance whether Michael will get well. His case calls for generous aid. Amount needed, \$400.

**CASE 56. Chronic Illness Threatens the Break-up of Home of a Family of Six.** Reported by a social settlement because of the chronic illness of the parents, his family of six must separate unless outside help is found. The father is crippled by erysipelas of the leg, and his wife, 35, has heart trouble. Although she cannot be a wage-earner she takes excellent care of the children and the home. Mark, 7, and William, 2, show her care in their good health. Grace, 12, is her capable helper. Clarence, 14, will in a few months be able to procure his working certificate and get a job. After a period of intensive medical care, the father expects to be able to get back to work and with Clarence's help to support his family adequately. Meanwhile help is needed. Amount needed, \$300.

**CASE 57. A Widow, Supporting Two Bright Children, Must Have an Operation.** A hospital worker phoned that it was an emergency case. The father was ill with tuberculosis and his wife and two children were in distress. All of their jewelry and the father's best suit of clothes had been pawned. He knew he must go to a sanatorium and the word "tuberculosis" doomed him to at least a long period of idleness. After months in the sanatorium the father died. The widow, only 34, and her children, Caroline, 14, and Ernest, 13, were left. The mother does cleaning two days a week and earns about \$30 a month. She is not strong and an operation may be necessary. Caroline is a bright girl and Ernest's vacation camp record reads: "Honors, track and swimming, dominant traits, alert, reliable, helpful, neat, good mixer, persevering. The kind of a boy who will be a good citizen." Help must be given to save this home. Amount needed, \$300.

**CASE 58. Husband Tubercular, a Mother and Two Boys Need Help.** The father suffered from tuberculosis. He had worked well as a car-repairer and had provided a comfortable four-room tenement flat for his family, but now he was unable to walk only a short distance, was nervous and his sight was poor. The mother had been doing some days' work, taking the youngest child with her. Hoping that he might regain his health and his family be saved from infection, arrangements were made for the father to go away. Somehow things didn't go well with Tom. 12. He was a problem to family and teachers, played truant two

often and then a day came when the Children's Court Judge sent him to a corrective institution. Fourteen-year-old Edward was left to help his mother care for the home and 4-year-old Roger. He is a reliable boy, doing well at home and school. With all her problems and heartaches, the mother works hard, is ambitious for her family and grateful for the help that has made her home possible. Only continued relief will keep her home for the mother and her two sons and an open door for the father and Tom. Amount needed, \$675.

**CASE 59. Widow of Sea Captain Killed in the War Needs Operation.** A social worker at a hospital, investigating Ada Miller's complaint that she could no longer come for

experience, she is counted out as a breadwinner. If this family is helped for a year it will again be independent. Amount needed, \$1,030.

**CASE 200. Parents and Eight Children Will Need Help for Many Months.** A neighbor reported that the husband was in the hospital and that his wife and eight children were starving. There was only enough milk left for the baby and Sol. The rest of them had bread and water for supper. They had to sleep in their clothes, for there was no coal in the house and the thin wall of the old tenement could not keep out the bitter damp air from the river. Before the husband became ill with gastric ulcers he had supported his family comfortably on the \$50 a week he

**CASE 201. Father Helpless, Mother Deaf, Three Children Too Young to Work.** The leather goods factory in which the father was an operator before he was stricken with sleeping sickness reported the family. The man's emaciated body lay on the cheap narrow bed as still as a wax image. He had been asleep for two days and had eaten no food. Not that there was much. The family lived on the \$15 a week Ben, 18, earned as a shipping clerk and it was chiefly coffee and bread they ate. The rent of \$26 was overdue and the landlord threatened to put them out. The mother was totally deaf and had all she could do to care for her sick husband and her three children. Before the father became ill they had all managed to get along on the \$30 a week he had earned, but now it is extremely unlikely that he will ever again be able to contribute to the support of his family. Cella, 14, is already studying stenography and in a year will complete her course. Sadie is only 10. Plans have been made for the father to receive special hospital care; and Sadie, who was very much underweight, has been sent to the country. As it will be several years before the children can support the family entirely, they must be helped. Amount needed, \$634.

**CASE 202. Savings Gone, Father With Lung Trouble, Five Sleep in One Room.** Neighbors who had been helping to nurse Mr. and Mrs. Berg saw things getting worse instead of better and came for aid. Mr. Berg, 43, is a fur puller, and the confinement of his work resulted in a lung abscess. His only chance is to go away to a country hospital. It is more than a year since he has been disabled, and in that time the savings they had put aside for their old age have been entirely used up. Mrs. Berg, 35, does an occasional day's work, but she is not strong, and she cannot earn more than three or four dollars a week. The children are Charles, 9, 15 per cent. underweight and with a weak heart; Judie, 6, and Matt, 2. All five sleep in one room, the father on a cot near the window, to get every possible benefit of the air, the mother and three children on a large wooden bedstead. It will require many months to restore the father's health, and in the meantime his family must be cared for. Amount needed, \$625.

**CASE 203. Two Neglected Children Who Should Not Be Separated.** "I'm always sad on Christmas Day. That's the day my father died," said 9-year-old Doris. She was only 4 years old when her father went, but pleasant childhood days ended then. Her mother remarried almost immediately and the stepfather has been anything but kind to Doris and her 6-year-old brother, Douglas. The children were never sent to school, for they had no clothes fit to wear. The stepfather was sentenced to a long term in prison and Doris and Douglas had to be removed from the mother. They are both attractive children with dark brown eyes and low, pleasant voices. Since their removal they have started school and can talk of nothing else. When a dime was given to Doris, she at once wanted to buy something for the woman who is taking care of her temporarily. Money for food, shelter and clothing is needed to keep Douglas and Doris together. Amount needed, \$850.

**CASE 204. Breadwinner Too Ill to Work for His Family of Six.** A mother came to ask for advice—her husband is ill with heart trouble, but he refuses to stop work, as advised by the doctors at the clinic, because he does not know what will happen to her and the five children if he gives up. She asks what can be done to save him, as continuing work will probably mean his total collapse. She makes a home for her children—Frances, 9; Pauline, 7; George, 6; Loretta, 5, and Viola, 2. With these arduous home duties and a complete lack of work training or

and sent to institutions, but timely help will avert this. Amount needed, \$1,130.

**CASE 205. A Family of Ten That Lost Everything in a Tenement House Fire.** The Delane children are lucky to be alive. They have vivid recollections of being roused from sleep by the cry of fire, of being hustled through halls full of smoke and heat and of finally arriving in safety in their nightclothes in a street full of clamor and excited men. The tenement house was destroyed and all their possessions except what they wore were gone. Then the father, a carpenter, became seriously ill and was unable to work to re-establish them. There are ten of them altogether, the parents and eight children—Jennie 14, Teresa 12, John 18,

abuse, and Walter could stand it no longer. He is a slender lad with light blue eyes, light hair and a quick mind. He took highest honors in history in his grammar school. He has never been strong, and for a time he was threatened with tuberculosis. Proper food and a tonsil and adenoid operation have helped some, but he is still weak. Money for food, shelter and clothing is required while he is preparing to become self-supporting. Amount needed, \$500.

**CASE 206. Her Husband Inane, a Mother Cannot Provide for Her Five Children.** The threat of immediate eviction came to the 27-year-old mother of five children under 8 years of age—Olga, 7; Margaret, 6; Loretta, 4; Samuel, 2, and Ethel, 1. Since her husband had been sent to a hospital for the insane, the mother had struggled to earn a living for them, while taking care of the five little ones. She left her home a few hours at a

amount needed, \$1,000.

twice a widow, she is now penniless and blind at 61.

**CASE 207. A Neighbor Had Helped Nancy, 61, to Do Her Marketing and by Cooking for Her.** It was all right until Nancy's savings became exhausted, and the neighbor, although willing to give her time and effort, could not afford to use her own money. Nancy is blind. Until two years ago, although her sight was failing, she supported herself by doing day's work. Her first husband served in the marines, and when, in 1902, he was killed in a powder explosion she was left without relatives. After five years of loneliness she married again, this time to a clerical worker. He died in 1912, and her pension having stopped when she remarried, she washed and cleaned for others thirteen years. Toile had left her hands large-boned and stiff and her figure is stooped. Her one comfort in her blindness is to grope among her shabby furnishings, running her hands over the long-familiar pieces. Without friends except the one kind neighbor, she wants to go to a home. It will be a year before she will be admitted and she must be cared for in the meantime. Amount needed, \$520.

**CASE 208. Frederick, Two Years Old, Needs Care Before Adoption.** Two-year-old Frederick has not been with his mother since he was one day old. His father has never seen him. His mother sent money to the nursery where she left him to pay for his care until a short time ago, and now she has disappeared and cannot be traced. The nursery closed and a kindly woman took young Frederick in. Strange to say, the first word Frederick spoke was "mama." He has regular features, a well-shaped head, fair, curly hair and blue eyes. He is rather a backward child and does not walk yet. He has had a skin trouble, but this is gradually clearing up, and then Frederick will be ready for a new home. Money for food, shelter and clothing is needed for the interim. Amount needed, \$375.

**CASE 209. A Father of Seven Who Should Stop Work for Medical Treatment.** The father of seven children came to ask for work. Ill for months, he had to give up his work as machine operator. Not able to afford a private doctor's fee and not worrying about free clinics, he was working along under a fearful strain. Sent at once to a clinic, he was found to have a serious heart condition and was advised by the examining doctor not to work until treatment had improved his condition. But the father cannot see his way clear to take this advice in the face of utter destitution of his large family, and wants work at once, even if it uses up his last bit of reserve strength. The hope ahead is July 14, who will go to work after graduation in January, and Mrs. Palmer, 41, who is trying to get a night cleaning job. Neither solution is immediate nor adequate for so large a family, and unless help is given at once, Michael, 12; Sophie, 10; Frank, 7; Paul, 5, and August, 1, will continue to be without all the ordinary necessities that young children must have to live. Amount needed, \$1,320.

**CASE 210. Plucky, Fatherless, Family Deserving of Being Kept Together.** A social service worker telephoned that a widow with three children was ill and needed assistance. They were found in four rather dark but clean rooms. The mother, intelligent and attractive, had been discharged some months before from a tuberculosis hospital as "able to work." While dressmaking to sup-

plement the pension given by the Board of Child Welfare for her children tuberculosis again became active and with it a serious heart complication. The doctor said she might remain in the home if she could have plenty of good food, rest and freedom from worry. The mother, 9-year-old Nellie, 8-year-old Jack and 4-year-old Bobby are now living in three sunny rooms, kept clean and neat. These small youngsters do their part of the housework to help their mother, but she no longer does the dressmaking for others. In this plucky woman is to keep her little family together she must be helped beyond the margin of worry. Amount needed, \$350.

**CASE 211. Three Sisters and a Mother Who Cannot Go On Without Help.** Jennie, 18, but looking only 14, pale, drawn, suffering serious heart trouble, wrote: "We are three sisters and a mother. Four months ago father died, and since then we have had a terrible time." Jennie's frail little mother is 53, practically an invalid from the combined effects of anemia, overwork, under-nourishment and worry. The oldest girl, Ida, 27, is as badly off as the mother. None of them has the strength to work, and the burden of their support falls on Martha, 20, a punch-press operator in a cork factory. They have a four-room flat, fitted with shabby but sturdy pieces of plush furniture, relics of better days. Deep-rooted faith is evidenced by religious pictures and Biblical quotations on the walls. The family's clothing is almost as old-fashioned and shabby as the furniture. When Martha goes to work she wears the only overcoat in the family, a shiny black, ankle-length garment, belted under the arms. Dresses have been made over and are threadbare. Hunger, want and sorrow are not new to them, but have worn them down to a point where they cannot go on without help. Amount needed, \$675.

**CASE 212. Only the One-Month-Old Baby in This Family of Seven Is Well.** A hospital social service department reported that the family was penniless. They had not one cent, nor a bite of food. The father, in violent pain with acute rheumatism and a bad heart, had been laid up so long that all family resources were gone. Mrs. Kent, 32, was weak and ill. Sophie, 8; Fred, 7; Anthony, 4; Lester, 2, are all pale, undernourished children needing special nourishment. Only the one-month-old baby, Arthur, is well. Until Mr. Kent is well enough to work again this home must receive support from the outside. Amount needed, \$900.

**CASE 213. A Widow's First Christmas Alone—and She Earns \$5 a Week.** He worked as a brushmaker for nearly thirty years, his wife as a seamstress. Their savings were small, but many little sacrifices were cheerfully made in order to save for "a rainy day." The rainy day came when the elderly man sickened with the trouble which for ten years kept him suffering and increasingly helpless. For ten years his wife went out in all weather to work at sewing and embroidering. She cared for her sick husband and sacrificed every comfort for her own, but her earnings and the little bank account of the long former years had to be used. For nine years she has worn the same neat but now threadbare suit; her coat lasted for twenty years. Her courage lasted too, and when a friend sent her another coat a little better and newer she wrote gratefully: "I hope I will live to wear it out." But that was while she still had her husband. Peter Collins died a few weeks ago of the cancer which destroyed all the well-laid plans of younger days. These are sad Christmas holidays for the lonely woman. She will still earn a little by sewing, but only \$5 a week. To supplement this during the next twelve months the sum of \$350 is asked. Amount needed, \$350.

**CASE 214. Father in Prison, Mother and Four Children Face Separation.** She came to ask help in getting her husband out of prison. He maintains his innocence of the robbery of a grocery store for which he was convicted and his wife believes in him. Thirty-three years old, a laborer, he just managed to keep his family supplied with the bare necessities of life, and his imprisonment has left them without any funds whatever. His wife, his own age, unable to go out to work because of her six-months-old baby, Edward, foresees hunger and want for her children. Her oldest child is James, 8. The other three are Walter, 5, and Ethel, 5. Their home is in three rooms of a rickety frame house, over a butcher shop. Unless provision is made for them through contributions it will be necessary to separate the mother from her four little ones. The children would be placed in institutions and the mother left to care for herself. Amount needed, \$1,250.

**CASE 215. Plucky, Fatherless, Family Deserving of Being Kept Together.** A social service worker telephoned that a widow with three children was ill and needed assistance. They were found in four rather dark but clean rooms. The mother, intelligent and attractive, had been discharged some months before from a tuberculosis hospital as "able to work." While dressmaking to sup-

plenty of good food, rest and freedom from worry. The mother, 9-year-old Nellie, 8-year-old Jack and 4-year-old Bobby are now living in three sunny rooms, kept clean and neat. These small youngsters do their part of the housework to help their mother, but she no longer does the dressmaking for others. In this plucky woman is to keep her little family together she must be helped beyond the margin of worry. Amount needed, \$350.

**CASE 216. Plucky, Fatherless, Family Deserving of Being Kept Together.** A social service worker telephoned that a widow with three children was ill and needed assistance. They were found in four rather dark but clean rooms. The mother, intelligent and attractive, had been discharged some months before from a tuberculosis hospital as "able to work." While dressmaking to sup-



Gifts are tax exempt. Contributions to the Hundred Neediest Cases are exempt under the law from Federal and State Income Taxes.

THE MOST TRAGIC  
No one is more unfortunate than the one who can read the stories of the unfortunate and old in the Hundred Neediest Cases without being aroused by emotions of humanity and charity.

EVERY CENT GOES TO THE NEEDIEST

THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE SIX CHARITY ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADMINISTER THE HUNDRED NEEDIEST CASES DO SO FREE OF COST. THERE IS NO DEDUCTION OF ANY KIND, ADMINISTRATIVE OR EXECUTIVE. EVERY CENT CONTRIBUTED GOES TO THE NEEDIEST.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.