# Disaster Relief Report

## Riot June 1921

# REPORT

By Maurice Willows

NARRATIVE REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31ST, 1921.

CHAPTER 1.

# Arrest of Young Negro on Statutory Charge Caused Battle Between the Races

The race rioting that broke out here late Tuesday night grew out of the arrest Tuesday afternoon of Dick Rowland, a negro bootbl.. k, on a charge of assaulting a white elevator girl in the Drexel building on Monday.

There was a movement afoot, it was reported, among white people to go to the county courthouse Tuesday night and lynch the bootblack. This report spread over "Little Africa" and early in the evening crowds of negroes began forming.

Rowland was taken from the city to the county jail Tuesday afternoon and his preliminary trial set for June 7 in municipal court.

Rowland was arrested on South Greenwood avenue early Tuesday morning by Officers Henry Carmichael and H. C. Pach. He was identified by the girl after his capture. The boy did not deny the attack and said he stepped on her foot but did not scratch her in any way.

The girl alleged that the negro entered the elevator and without any provocation attacked her. She screamed for help and a clerk in the Renberg store ran to her assistance. Upon his approach the negro fled and had been in hiding until captured by the police officers yesterday morning.

The girl is an orphan and is attending a local business college and running an elevator on off hours.

Tulsa Daily World
June 1st, 1921.

The real truth regarding the underlying causes of the short-lived civil war which turned Tulsa, Oklahoma, into a bedlam on the morning of June 1st, 1921, may come to the surface in the future. The concensus of opinion, after six months intervening time, places the blame upon "the lack of law enforcement".

"Race Riot" it has been most generally termed, yet whites were killed and wounded by whites in the protection of white property against the violence of the white mob. The

elements of "race rioting" were present, from all evidences, on the night of May 31st, but the wholesale destruction of property - life and limb - in that section of the city occupied by negroes on June 1st between the hours of daylight and noon, testifies to a one-sided battle.

Altho newspaper clipping attached indicates the apparent local cause of the trouble, subsequent developments have proven that the arrest of the negro boy was merely an incident. Both the negro boy and girl have dropped out of the picture, it being shown that there was no grounds for any prosecution of the boy.

Those persons desiring to satisfy themselves as to causes, are respectfully referred to newspaper accounts of the trial of the Chief of Police, which are contained in this volume.

It should be noted, however, that while the original shooting took place at the County Jail on the night of May 31st, the actual burning, pillaging and destruction was consummated during the daylight hours of June 1st in a district nearly a mile from the Court House.

All that fire, rifles, revolvers, shot guns, machine guns and organized inhuman passion could do with thirty-five city blocks with its twelve thousand negro population, was done.

Those interested in details bearing on locations, methods used, and the organization of the mobs, both black and white, should refer to newspaper accounts contained herewith.

DEAD

The number of dead is a matter of conjecture. Some knowing ones estimate the number of killed as high as 300, others estimates being as low as 55. The bodies were hurriedly rushed to burial, and the records of many burials are not to be found. For obvious reasons this report cannot deal with this subject.

INJURED

One hundred and eighty-four negroes and forty-eight whites were in hospitals for surgical care as charges of the Red Cross, within twenty-four hours after the disaster. Five hundred and thirty-one were given First Aid at the Red Cross Stations during the first three days.

An adequate picture of conditions relating to the injured cannot be written. Eye witnesses will long remember the speeding ambulances, the crowded hospitals, drugstores, churches and First Aid Stations. While the records show 763 wounded, this does not include wounded people afterwards found on practically all roads leading out of Tulsa. Wounded people turned up at Muskogee, Sapulpa, and other adjourning towns, and as far north as Kansas City. Neither do records tell of the after-the-riot developments. The Red Cross records show eight definite cases of premature childbirth which resulted in death of the babies.

Subsequent developments also show that, of the maternity cases given attention by Red Cross doctors, practically all have presented complications due to the riot.

Too much credit cannot be given to the white citizens of Tulsa for the care and treatment rendered the wounded. Especially should it be noted that the women and men at the First Aid Stations gave voluntary and gratuitous service. While several hundred were given First Aid at the hospitals free of charge, the hospitals

themselves, which were crowded with patients, ultimately presented bills in full for all services rendered, which bills have been paid out of relief funds. It should also be made clear that the attending surgeons almost without exception have been paid in full for the services rendered in the emergency.

BURNINGS.

Thirty-five city blocks were looted systematically, then burned to a cinder, and the twelve thousand population thereof scattered like chaff before the wind. All evidences show that most of the methods used were, first, to pile bedding, furniture and other burnable material together, then to apply matches. Eye witnesses also claim that many houses were set afire from aeroplanes. (In this connection it should be noted that while many houses and buildings in the Greenwood and Fairview Additions were destroyed, other houses, evidently chosen ones, were allowed to stand untouched. During the months following the disaster the Relief workers have gathered interesting information as to the ownership of the houses left intact.)

PROPERTY LOSSES

Property losses including household goods will easily reach the four million mark. This must be a conservative figure in view of the fact that law suits covering claims of over $4,000,000. were filed up to July 30th. A large number of property owners were not at that time heard from.

Newspaper accounts accompanying this report and statements of eye witnesses, give vivid pictures of what happened.

Where were the police?
Where was the fire department?
Why the temporary breakdown of City and County governments?

The accompanying newspaper reports and editorials will help to answer these questions.

STATE TROOPS

State Troops had arrived and had checked the rioting at noon of Wednesday, and Martial Law was in effect, with Adjutant General Barrett of the State in charge.

## CHAPTER II.

RELIEF AND THE RED CROSS

While "Little Africe" was still burning, while ambulances whizzed to the hospitals, while "dead" wagons were carrying off the victims, while refugees were being driven under guard to places of refuge; and the fiendish looting, robbing, and pillaging was still in progress, different scenes were being enacted "up town".

Realizing that an awful calamity was in progress of perpetration, the Red Cross immediately sprung into action. The women mobilized with incredible speed, and before midnight of Wednesday had made sufficient insignias of Red Crosses on a backgfound of white, to placard ambulances, motor vehicles, trucks and other conveyances for the transport of nurses, doctors, supplies and relief workers. This insignia was a pass everywhere.

Mayor Evans early in the day, by written communication, designated the Red Cross as the official Relief Agency.

It should be noted here that even befre any official request had been made, the Red Cross had by common consent, sprung into action.

was supplied at the rate of 20¢ per meal, until the time when temporary lunch stands were erected. In the meantime, the women and children were fed at the Red Cross kitchens.

FAMILY SURVEY

From time to time as found practicable, house to house surveys have been made to determine the next immediate relief needs of the effected families. From week to week the emergency relief situation has been made according to the needs of the moment. The first survey was necessarily a partial one for the reason that literally thousands of negroes had left the country for parts unknown and other hundreds were crowded together in servants quarters throughout the city. The first survey made during the week following the disaster showed 1765 families in Tulsa more or less seriously effected. There were 5366 persons in these families, 1620 of which were children under fourteen years of age.

As far as figures were obtainable, it was found that 1115 residences had been destroyed, exclusive of stores, cafes and other business properties. It was ascertained that in addition, 514 residences had been looted of practically all household possessions and valuables, which houses were not burned. It was also found that 563 families were crowded into small quarters with other families.

No accurrate estimate was possible on the number of refugees that left the district during and immediately following the trouble. As a basis of calculation, after seven months of relief work, it is noted that a total of 2480 family case records have been opened, indicating that at least 715

families temporarily left Tulsa, returning later for various reasons. All evidences show that most of the families returned to their old homes after the cotton picking season was over, in order to place their children in school and to reestablish where possible their old homes.

There is little indication that other cities were seriously burdened with Tulsa dependents. Indications also point to the fact that the majority of these families found employment for themselves and children in the agricultural districts.

HOUSING MEASURES

During the week of the riot, 384 army tents, 16x16, with a few, 17x21, had been thrown up to accomodate the refugees. The provisions did not, however, meet the conjected condtions in servants quarters.

By June 18th, 184 of these tents had been provided with floors and sides of lumber, wire screening and screen doors. Housing measures were handicapped because of insufficient sanitation and because of the lack of sewerage and also of the impossibility of inducing the city authorities to quickly furnish enough sanitary toilets.

HEALTH

With every sanitary condition unfavorable, thru one device or another, typhoid and other epidemics were avoided. In many instances strict measures were taken to segregate a few of the worst cases of typhoid, and the liberal use of typhoid serum, together with lime and other disinfectants, played a part in this epidemic.

GENERAL RELIEF PROGRAM

In the early days it was generally agreed that the Red Cross would have functioned when the homeless were provided with shelter, laundry outfits, cooking outfits and stoves; when sufficient, simple, plain bedding was provided; when the families were reunited as far as possible; when the destitute women and children were cared for; and when the able-bodied were placed on a self-supporting basis.

RECONSTRUCTION

The problem of reconstruction will be dealt with elsewhere. Suffice it to say that the Red Cross has refused to involve itself with the problem of permanent reconstruction or the rebuilding of a new colored district. This obviously was a task for the city and county administrations.

The uninformed should know that approximately two thirds of the burned area is located beyond the city limits.

HOSPITALIZATION, NURSING AND MEDICAL CARE

There are no public hospitals in Tulsa, there is no tubercular sanitarium. Consequently, during the riot the wounded and sick were taken to the private hospitals, where they were crowded into every available space and given surgical and medical attention. When the private hospitals became over crowded, a large residence was commandeered and equipped. With incredible speed a hospital staff of doctors and nurses were mustered in. 165 operations were performed during the first week, 82 of these being major ones. At the end of two weeks the Red Cross had equipped

four large hospital wards in the Booker T. Washington school house for hospital uses, and all of the patients were transferred to this central hospital.

FIRST AID FOR THE INJURED

Following the riot the Red Cross established a first aid station with Mrs. Clark Fields and a staff of nurses in charge. 551 patients were given first aid care, during the first ten days.

A general dispensary was equipped by the Red Cross in one of the rooms at the Booker Washington School and turned over to the Tulsa County Public Health Association in charge of Miss Richardson and her staff.

A V. D. Clinic was equipped also and operated by the Red Cross and turned over to Dr. C. L. Reeder, County Health Physician.

NURSING SURVEY

Immediately following the riot all medical, nursing and hospital activities were placed under the supervision of Miss Rosalind MacKay, State Supervisor of Red Cross Nursing.

She was ably assisted by Mrs. W.D. Godfrey of the Tulsa Red Cross and Miss Bessie Richardson of the Tulsa County Health Association. The following Red Cross Nurses gave their services for two weeks:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Miss Miser | - | Tulsa, Okla. |
| Mrs. Cleveland | - | Cleveland, Okla. |
| Mrs. Tosh | - | Sapulpa, Okla. |
| Miss Weaver | - | Osage, Okla. |
| Miss Thomas | - | Oklahoma City, Okla. |
| Miss Swanson | - | Tulsa, Okla. |
| Miss Hatch | - | Tulsa, Okla. |
| Miss Robinson | - | Tulsa, Okla. |
| Miss Trotter | - | Tulsa, Okla. |
| Mrs. Watson | - | Tulsa, Okla. |

The most important phase of the work of the nurses was the house to house survey made, with the following results:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Number calls made by Public Health Nurses | - - | | 4512 |
| Number of patients needing medical or nursing care- | | | 551 |
| Classified as follows: | | | |
| Maternity | - - | 38 | |
| Infant Welfare | - - | 359 | |
| General | - - | 154 | |
| Sent to Dispensary for treatment | - | - - | 80 |
| Number emergency calls by nurses | - | - - | 84 |
| Nursing care given to out patients | - | - - | 169 |

VACCINATION

Early in the day the utmost precautions were taken to prevent disease. There were seven cases of smallpox reported at the Fair Grounds before the refugees could be vaccinated. There was some delay in medical organization because of conflict in jurisdiction between the county and city physicians. It was necessary to corral all vaccine and typhoid serum in the state of Oklahoma. Approximately 1800 refugees were vaccinated and treated with serum. ~~There has been no outbreak of disease thus far.~~ The doctors of the city took charge of the health situation through a committee composed of Doctors C. L. Reader, H. T. Price and R. V. Smith, with Dr. Smith as Chairman.

In addition to this committee, Doctor Presson, City Health Physician, exercised his functions as sanitarian.

SUMMARY

Chronologically the medical and nursing phase of the relief work was as follows:

1. Immediate surgical and medical care of the wounded at six private hospitals.
2. The mobilization of all available nurses for hospital and field service.
3. Placing the State Supervisor of the Red Cross Nursing in charge.
4. The organization of a committee of doctors under whose direction the state supervisor was to supervise.
5. The mobilization of vaccine and the typhoid serum and the administering of same to the refugees.
6. A Field Survey by Public Health Nurses.
7. The equipping of a First Aid Station, a general dispensary and a V. D. Clinic.
8. Equipping and furnishing a central hospital.
9. The evacuation of the private hospitals.
10. The building of a suitable hospital for the more permanent care of those wounded during the disaster and all of the sick needing hospitalization because of the lack of suitable homes. An arrangement was made whereby the County Commissioners and the Board of Education jointly turned over for Red Cross uses certain properties located at 324 North Hartford. On this centrally located site a nine-room hospital building was erected, the Red Cross furnishing the building material and the East End Relief Committee (colored) furnished the labor.

This made the hospital a cooperative enterprise. The property when built represented an investment of approximately $65,000.00

11. The evacuation of the Booker Washington School property as relief and hospital headquarters on September 1st, 1921.

12. The formation of a Colored Hospital Association, which is incorporated under State law. The purpose of this Association is to take over the management of this hospital and to ultimately take title to the same. A full statistical report of hospital operations is given elsewhere.

To the everlasting credit of Tulsa and the Red Cross, it should be said that the very best surgical and medical care obtainable has been given the negro patients. Dr. H. S. Browne (white) has supervised the medical and nursing service since the first week following the disaster. A white nursing staff was maintained until the Colored Hospital Association began functioning, January 1st, 1922.

STATUS OF WHITES' WOUNDED

Our files contain the names of 48 whites who have passed through the hospitals. The greatest secrecy has surrounded the status of these whites, probably for the reason that they do not wish to have their names among those involved in the rioting. All of the whites needing Red Cross assistance have been handled by Mrs. Jennie K. Beam, Secretary of the Local Chapter, with headquarters at 4th and Cincinnati Streets. The best information obtainable is contained in a statement rendered by a local private hospital where practically all of the white wounded were given attention. On attempting to check the hospital

bills for payment it was found that there were an unknown number who were wounded, given First Aid treatment at hospitals and sent directly to their homes. The number of white wounded probably exceeded the number given in this record, as the figures given represent the cases whose medical care was actually paid for out of relief funds. (Many humorous instances might be cited of claims presented by "innocent bystanders" for the payment of doctors' bills). All such claims were rigidly investigated and many were turned down for the reason that it could not be shown that the wounded parties were "innocent bystanders", or persons in the employ of the city or county for guard purposes. Quite early in the fall, a claim for $65.00, Doctor bill, was presented by a young white man for gunshot wound treatment. The claim was of the "innocent bystander" kind". After lengthy explanation on the part of the claimant as to how the injury was incurred, but after his admission that he was not employed by the city or county, the Red Cross record-keeper confronted him with a full sized photograph of the same young man in the middle of the riot district with a shot gun over his shoulder and a high powered rifle in his hand. Altho he did not deny the identity, he has not been seen at the Red Cross office since. After this experience, no further claims have been made by "innocent bystanders".

FINANCES

This chapter in its beginnings harks back to the commitments of the Public Welfare Board which amounted to, "Go ahead and take care of the relief as it should be done and we will finance all Red Cross needs." The Red Cross

proceeded full speed ahead. The Public Welfare Board started a campaign for funds, collecting the sum of $26,000.00 during the first few days. The Welfare Board had also received the promise from the County Commissioners of a fund amounting to $60,000.00, to be made available for Red Cross uses. Immediately after July 1st pending the time when this $60,000 would be available, 25 men had agreed to underwrite the Red Cross for $25,000.00.

Plans were also underway whereby the Welfare Board was to engineer a rehabilitation and housing program. They expected to raise immediately a sum of $100,000 to start with.

When everything was running smoothly, like a thunderclap out of a clear sky the Mayor of the City, T. D. Evans, declared the Welfare Board out of commission, and in its place appointed a new committee of seven which he called "The Reconstruction Committee."

Thus, the backbone of financial support had been broken, most abruptly. The original Public Welfare Board resigned office at a mass meeting and at the time of their resignation recomitted itself collectively and individually to stand by the Red Cross Relief Committee if their services should be necessary.

The RedCross therefore was placed in a position of having to deal with a new Reconstruction Committee. It was understood, at first, that the new committee was to function as the agent of the city in the same manner as the old committee. Time, however, has proven that the new committee was politically constituted and was chiefly interested in maneuvering for the transfer of negro property and the establishment of a new negro district.

When it became apparent that the Reconstruction Committee was powerless to raise funds, the old committee members, together with Chairman Fields of the Red Cross brought about a meeting of the County Commissioners and the Mayor.

The Mayor and Chairman Fields, of the Red Cross committee requested the County to allow the local Humane Society to relieve the RedCross of its work. The CountyCommissioners, however, went into reverse and suggested to the Mayor that the Red Cross was the only organization competent to deal with the relief situation. The Commissioners and the Excise Board forcefully suggested that the Mayor include $40,000.00 in the 1921-22 budget to be used by the Red Cross, in finishing its relief program. The Mayor promptly and gracefully acceded.

This left the appropriation status as of September 1st as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Appropriation from County of Tulsa | $60,000.00 |
| Appropriation from City of Tulsa | 40,000.00 |
| Private Donations to Relief Fund | 24,865.36 |
| Merchandise Contributions | 6,000.00 |
| | $130,865.36 |

The financial report and statement indicates full payment of the appropriation made by the county but a falling down on the part of the city. It should properly be said that there is no indication that the public has been aware of the failure of the city to meet its properly and legally made pledges of financial support. On the other hand there is every indication of disinterestedness and lack of sympathy on the part of certain city officials. It was deemed best by the Relief Committee not to press its claims upon city funds. This meant the curtailment and limitation of the relief program to the extent of $22,400.00.

It should be said that the County officials have from the beginning shown a magnanimous spirit toward the stricken colored population, while on the other hand the city officials in control of the municipal policy, certainly for the period ending October 1st, were entirely out of sympathy with the relief program. In fairness to Mayor Evans it should be recorded that since October 1st, or more accurately speaking, since certain court decisions were made restricting the city from interferring in the rebuilding processes, he and other city officials have shown an increased and more sympathetic interest in the condition of the colored people.

PLANS FOR THE WINTER

From month to month as conditions changed and after conference with W. Frank Persons, the Vice-Chairman of the Red Cross, James L. Fieser, Division Manager, and local chapter officials, December 1st, 1921, was set as the date for closing the relief operations of the American Red Cross. Certain conditions, however, delayed the closing date to December 31st. The primary reason for this delay in closing, was the lack of any modern, record-keeping, case-work agency dealing with dependent families in Tulsa. There are no public hospitals nor facilities for handling the problems remaining. Prior to the fire there was a small private negro hospital and a general dispensary for colored people, both of which were burned.

It should also be indicated most clearly that the County Commissioners, the City Authorities, the white population and the negroes themselves, insisted upon the Red Cross continuing its relief work thru the winter, but that the best judgment of the Red Cross Relief Committee, Division and National offices,

dictated the final decision to close on December 31st, 1921.

Arrangements have been made whereby the "Tulsa Relief Trusteeship" will maintain a nucleus of workers and an office in the colored district to carry on the work of salvage and relief until the same is deemed unnecessary.

RECONSTRUCTION

All that has been said in this report has had to do with emergency and temporary relief. Seven months have elapsed since the trouble started, and on this date, December 31st, no rehabilitation nor practical reconstruction program has been outlined by the city government.

Early in the day the Red Cross made it clear that it was not its function to engineer plans for the acquisition of a new negro district, nor for converting any portion of the burned area into a commercial wholesale or industrial district. It was recognized at once, however, that the most suitable action, from a civic and business standpoint, would be the acquisition of that part of the burned area bordering on the railroad tracks, for future industrial or commercial expansion. Public opinion seemed in favor of this general proposition. Any such plan, however, it was pointed out, would involve, (1) the organization of a Housing Corporation or Holding Company which would act for the municipality in appraising and purchasing from the negro property owners their holdings; (2) the raising of sufficient funds to back the enterprise; (3) the acquiring of a new residential district to be severed, watered and lighted; (4) a committee or sub-committee to help the negroes clear up their property equities and to assist them in re-purchasing and rebuilding.

The above general suggestions were, on June 4th, made to the representatives of the Public Welfare Board in session at the City Hall. This board concurred and Chairman L. J. Martin outlined in writing a plan which would virtually embody the above suggestions. All that was necessary for the first plans, which among other things included plans for sufficient funds to start the enterprise immediately. It was well known in this connection that several men connected with the Public Welfare Board had agreed to liberally finance the move.

A CONSTRUCTIVE PLAN UP SET

A close reading of the newspaper articles in this report will show that just at the time when the Welfare Board was ready to announce its plans to the public, Mayor Evans again took up the reins of possitive authority at the head of the city government. His first act was to discharge the old Public Welfare Board. He immediately appointed a new committee which he named "The Reconstruction Committee". This new committee was politically constituted and did not have in its membership men of large financial power or influence. Later on this committee membership was enlarged sufficiently to include representatives from the banking interests. Seven months have elapsed/ The so-called Reconstruction Committee has gone out of existance without recording any constructive results.

Because of the many complications, political and otherwise, the Red Cross has successfully steered clear of the so-called "reconstruction processes" which engaged the "committee" during the early and late fall.

EXTENSION OF FIRE LIMITS

One of the first acts of the new committee was to extend the fire limits to embrace practically all of the burned area within the city limits. This move automatically made it impossible for the rebuilding of frame houses on the old properties. Shortly after this action the Red Cross asked the city authorities to grant the negroes permission to build temporary wooden houses on their lots. This permission was granted, only to be recalled a week later when it was found that a startling number of houses were under erection within the newly-extended fire limits. The agitation for and against the permanency of the fire limits proceeded for two months and until the district court - three judges presiding - permanently enjoined the city officials from executing the provisions of the fire ordinance recorded immediately after the fire. During the interim the negroes were prevented from helping themselves by rebuilding. With the final court decision, the so-called Reconstruction Committee automatically went out of business and rebuilding processes began in earnest. The statistical report appended indicates the progress made since that time.

Summarized, the activities revive around the creation of a public sentiment which would force the negroes to rebuild in a section somewhere outside the city limits. Concurrently, it was hoped by some that public opinion would become sufficiently strong in favor of a Union Station site or a Commercial District, to bring about the financing of some such project. The Committee did not, however, evolve or state any practical plan for helping the household situation.

THE NEGRO ATTITUDE.

The negroes have consistently said to the City, "Pay us for what we have lost and we will talk to you about selling what we have left." The Insurance Companies have consistently refused to honor the payment of insurance moneys because of the riot clause in the insurance policies. No suits for damages have reached the local court dockets and that which has been done is the responsibility of the negroes themselves and their white friends who have stood back of them.

RED CROSS RELATIONSHIPS

The Tulsa County Chapter with the guidance of the Director of Disaster Relief, bore the responsibility for Red Cross policy and execution. The workers from the Division office have been supplied the local chapter at Division expense. Altho using funds from the public treasury, it maintined a strictly independent position in the handling of such funds.

The accounting system has been under general supervision of the Division Accountant and a firm of local Public Accountants.

ADDENDA

The newspaper clippings and pictures tell the rest of the story. All local persons contributing valuable services are mentioned in these articles. Be it said, however, in this report, that the Red Cross has had the united support and good will of the whole population, all political factions

and both of the newspapers.

It has been taken for granted that the Red Cross was the only organization which could minister to both blacks and whites and maintain a strictly neutral position on all political and racial questions.

Respectfully submitted,

December 31st, 1921. / Director.

Porter Scott of St. Louis, and a little later by Mr. Clarence Dawson of Chicago, Miss Ade Palmer of Chicago, Miss Margaret Williams of St. Louis and Miss Dorothy Davis of Houston, Texas. The last three remained in Tulsa for a period of ten days only. Later the Division Office sent Mrs. C.B.McCartney and Mrs. Gretchen Abbott. These workers were all supplied out of Division funds.

MASS WORK

For the first ten days practically all relief work was conducted mass fashion. The refugee camp at the Fair Ground had been well equipped with plumbing, a refrigerator system, a temporary hospital and first aid stations. Over 2,000 people were housed and fed there, under the supervision of Mr. Newt Graham, and a corps of volunteer assistants.

An additional 2,000 were fed and housed at the Booker T. Washington School properties, while the balance of the refugees were hastily housed in tents, surrounding the Booker T. Washington School. These first relief operations involved the watering and sewering of both camps making both properties sanitary. In these operations full and ample assistance was rendered by the National Guard and the City of Tulsa. It should be noted that the disaster had wiped out practically every resource that the negroes formerly had. All relief to able bodied men was given in the form of work, at a wage rate of 25 cents per hour. The men were paid at the end of each day. There were however, no boarding houses, lunch stands or grocery stores from which to obtain food. This food

consent, sprung into action.

IMMEDIATE CARE OF REFUGEES

Simultaneously refugee camps were installed at Convention Hall, McNulty Ball Park, First Baptist Church and the Fair Grounds. Indeed every available church and public building and many private homes were used to house the homeless.

DIVISION OFFICE CALLED

On the afternoon of Thursday, June 3rd, a telephone message to the St. Louis office summoned division help. On Friday morning assistant manager Maurice Willows, arrived in Tulsa, and went into immediate consultation with Red Cross Officials, immediately after which a trip of inspection of refugee camps and hospitals was made.

PUBLIC WELFARE BOARD

It should be noted at this juncture that the Chamber of Commerce and other city organizations had unitedly appointed a Public Welfare Board consisting of seven of the strongest men of the city to temporarily take charge of the appalling situation. This committee was in its first session when the division representative arrived. This committee met with representatives of the Red Cross and unanimously charged the Red Cross with responsibility for relief operations.

FINANCIAL POLICY

The Public Welfare Board announced that Tulsa would not appeal to the outside world for contributions. This announcement was given wide publicity, which policy apparently met with universal approval. It was understood that in view of the many local complications which would inevitably follow that the National Red Cross should be asked to furnish expert leadership to direct and handle the problems of relief. In order to steer clear of local complications it seemed wise to ask National Headquarters for finances sufficient to cover such personnel. This contribution was acceptable to the Welfare Board and the local Red Cross officials.

Consequently, on the night of Friday June 4th a telegram was dispatched to the Division Manager, which brought forth the cooperation and funds asked for.

ORGANIZATION

Immediate steps were taken to centralize the work of relief which was being done at many different points in the "up town" section, notably the Y.M.C.A., the First Baptist Church and Red Cross office, 4th & Cincinnati. The Booker Washington School property situated in the heart of the burned area was selected, and by Saturday afternoon all relief operations with the exception of the refugee camps were directed from central headquarters. The following organization was announced on Saturday:

RED CROSS DISASTER RELIEF

General Headquarters and Relief Depot, Booker Washington school

Refugee Camp, Free Fair Grounds, N. R. Graham, Director.

Emergency Hospital, 510 North Main Street.

Red Cross Home Service (ex-soldiers) 4th & Cincinnati.

Tubercular Clinic for whites, 15 West Eleventh St.

ORGANIZATION

Acting Chairman of Local Chapter, Clark Field.

Director of Relief, Maurice Willows.

Assistant L. C. Murrey.

Registration Bureau: This department handled all telegrams and mail, and furnished information about lost relatives.

" For tents and bedding apply at the north unit building, Booker Washington School.

For lost or stolen property, apply at 703 East Archer, Mr. Doering.

Clothing Department, Second floor, main building.

For employment apply to N. A. Thompson, first floor, main building.

For nursing service, Miss MacKay; for treatment apply first floor, main building..

Purchasing Department, C. V. Borden, first floor main Bldg.

General Dispensary and Clinic (Negro tubercular, venereal and dental clinics, medical dispensary), unit building at north end fair grounds.

Food Supply, Mrs. Wheeler, first floor Main Bldg.

Motor Transportation Department, first floor Main Bldg.

J. C. Anthony.

Director of Relief Depot, J. T. Forster, Mr. Murrey's office.

TELEPHONES

Main Headquarters in Relief Depot Cedar 2300

Fair Grounds, Cedar 2509

Commissaries, Osage 6158

Fourth & Cincinnati, Osage 1772

Emergency Hospital Osage 2128

Reconstruction Camp Cedar 2508

Volunteer workers please report at Fourth & Cincinnati for pass.

Report location of stolen goods and names of culprits to J. M. Adkinson, City Hall."

FAMILY WORK PERSONNEL

During the first days of emergency work the use of many volunteers was imperative. The first person of training or experience to arrive was Mrs. L. V. Watkins, formerly Home Service Secretary at Port Scott, Kansas. Mrs. Watkins was placed in charge of the registration bureau, where she was ably assisted by Mr. Louis Lefko, secretary of the Better Business Bureau, Mrs. J. M. Reed, Mr. C. D. Adams and Mrs. T. L. Golay. A wired request for additional personnel was sent to the Division Office, and after a delay of ten days our family work forces were supplemented by Miss Jean Prout of Memphis Tenn., Miss Mary

7. Over five hundred children, mostly of the lower grades, were furnished school books and many of them school clothes, at the beginning of the school year.

8. During the months of October, November and December, and average of fifteen carpenters were kept at work on daily wages replacing tent homes with wooden shacks. During the same months an average of fifteen women have been employed in the work room, making underwear, quilts, hospital garments, bedding and clothing equipment.

9. At total of 2480 families have been to the Red Cross office with their troubles. A thorough record of each of these has been made and individual treatment afforded according to the merits of each case. The aim in each instance has been to help the sufferers help themselves, the Red Cross giving material assistance where the needs of the case warranted. In all of these cases the Red Cross workers have acted as counselor and advisers.

## CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Definite cooperation of the right sort has been given by all local social agencies, the East End Relief Committee, the National Association for the Improvement of the Colored People/

# FULL SOCIAL AND MEDICAL RELIEF REPORT

Up To And Including

December 31st, 1921.

# C H R I S T M A S  T R E E

The body of the foregoing report was written prior to the one big event in the lives of the negro children of the devasted district. For the first time in their lives, these hundreds of little folks were without their former comfortable homes. The resources of their parents had been reduced to a point where Christmas could not mean much to them. The workers of the Red Cross staged for them probably the largest Christmas affair ever staged in Tulsa. A beautiful big tree was placed in front of the Red Cross Relief Headquarters. Mr. Chas. Page of Sand Springs kindly furnished the lighting and decorations. The tree was topped with a large cross.

Imagine, if you can, this huge tree brightly lighted standing on Hartford Street in the middle of a district which had once been comfortable homes, but now filled up with little one and two-room wooden shacks with here and there and everywhere large piles of brick and stone, twisted metal and debris, reminding one of the horrible fact of last June. War of the worst sort there had been. The "Maurice Willows Hospital" (named such by unanimous vote of the colored people of the district as a measure of their appreciation for what the Red Cross Director has meant to them) stood within a few yards of where the tree was placed. Imagine, if you can, the joy brought to the twenty-seven patients when after dusk on Christmas Eve a Chorus of twenty-two hundred voices sang their Christmas carols and typical negro melodies. Never has the writer witnessed more spontaneous outburst of Christmas fervor than on this occasion. Whole families were there - men, women and children. "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot", "Down By The Ribber Side", "Standing In The Need Of Prayer", coming from the throats of these people, reverbrated throughout the night air and attracted most of the crowd gathered in the business section over on Greenwood Street. It seemed as tho the whole negro population could not resist the chance to sing. A liberal supply of candies, nuts and oranges had been tied up into half-pound packages. Twenty-seven hundred of these were distributed in orderly fashion. Individual packages had been prepared suitable to the needs of women and children. These packages had in them everything in the way of useful articles from a spool of thread to a heating stove. Bed springs, pillows, children's underwear, quilts, cotton bats and every other sort of useful articles were brought by Santa Claus to families which needed these practical things most.

The crowning sentiment of the celebration was in a speech made by one of their leaders who said, "Let us always remember the old negro tradition, 'there is no room in our hearts for hatred'". This occasion furnished what was termed as the "greatest night in the history of Tulsa negroes", and was a fitting culmination of the major relief program of the Red Cross.

TULSA COUNTY CHAPTER AMERICAN RED CROSS DISASTER RELIEF COMMITTEE

PREFACE

The story of the tragedy enacted in Tulsa, Okla., on the night of May 31st, 1921, and the morning of June 1st, 1921, has been told and retold in the press of the County, with all sorts of variations as to causes, actual happenings and immediate results.

Unprejudiced and indirectly interested people have from the beginning referred to the affair as a "race riot", others with deeper feeling refer to it as a "massacre", while many who would saddle the blame upon the negro, have used the designation, artfully coined, "negro up-rising". After six months work among them, it has been found the majority of the negroes, who were the greatest sufferers, refer to June 1st, 1921, as "the time of de-wa'". Whatever people choose to call it the word or phase has not yet been coined which can adequately describe the events of June 1st last.

This report refers to the tragedy as a "disaster".

(Signed)

Director.

## RELIEF STATISTICS

| | |
|---|---|
| Total No. families registered | 2480 |
| Total No. persons in these families | 8624 |
| Total No. detached persons | 410 |
| Total No. families with no children | 462 |
| Total No. families with no father (missing or dead) | 222 |
| Total No. families with no mother (missing or dead) | 87 |
| Total houses burned | 1256 |
| Total Houses looted but not burned | 215 |
| Families definitely relieved with clothing, beds, bed clothing, tentage, laundry equipment, cooking utensils, dishes, material for clothing, etc. | 1941 |
| Churches housed in Red Cross tents | 8 |
| Medicines furnished (outside of hospital) | 230 |
| Medical service (in field) given to maternity cases, typhoid cases, and infant cases | 269 |
| Small property adjustments made | 88 |
| Transportation furnished (estimate) | 475 |
| Telegrams sent or received (relative to riot victims) | 1350 |

## RECONSTRUCTION

shows As of this date, December 30th, 1921, the following list/progress being made by the negroes in rebuilding in the burned area:

| | |
|---|---|
| 180 | One-room frame shacks |
| 272 | Two-room frame buildings |
| 312 | Three rooms or more, frame |
| 1 | Large brick church |
| 2 | Basement Brick churches |
| 4 | Frame churches - one room |
| 24 | One story brick or cement buildings |
| 24 | Two story brick or cement buildings |
| 3 | Three story brick or cement buildings |
| 1 | Large Theater |
| 1 | Corrogated Iron Garage |
| 2 | Filling Stations |

There are still 49 families residing in tent covered houses. All of these are unable to rebuild. The Red Cross has assisted, with the use of funds from the National Association for the Improvement of Colored People, in the erection of 13 homes.

The Red Cross on its own account has transformed 152 tent homes into more or less permanent wooden houses.

# SOCIAL RELIEF SUPPLY SCHEDULES

During the first three days following the riot a vast quantity of food was supplied for refugees at the Y.M.C.A., the Fair Grounds, the churches, the Convention Hall, the McNulty Park and other places. Likewise, a vast quantity of bedding supplies, cots, blankets, etc.

These supplies are not listed in the following table, altho these articles were ultimately paid for from relief funds. The cost of these first relief supplies is included in the detailed financial classification.

This supply list is necessarily a partial one, it being impossible to list the endless number of small goods which make up building material, clothing supplies and household equipment. The list does, however, give an idea as to the variety and extent of social relief operations.

Preceeding the list, however, should be the following statement on the methods of distribution.

## METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION

Beginning on June 3rd, all family relief supplies given, were incidental to the particular need of a particular family. By a flexible system of family case work each family was encouraged in helping itself to the limit of their ability. Where lumber was donated, for instance, the labor necessary to rebuild or build the tent house was supplied by the family or their negro friends. Exceptions were made only in the cases of widows, sick or helpless people.

Instead of issuing ready-made clothing, cloth was supplied, sewing machines were provided and the raw material turned into clothing by the negro women and girls.

A typical variation was made in the cases of school books for High School pupils. The girls in the High School classes who could not purchase their school books were furnished with work, making hospital garments, nightgowns , underwear, etc., thus enabling them to pay for their books. The High School boys were furnished manual labor, their wages paying for their books.

The same plan was followed with bedding supplies. The raw goods have been furnished, power sewing machines have been provided and the women required to manufacture their own quilts, comforts, cot pads, sheets, pillow cases and pillows.

The following is a list of relief supplies purchased on requisition or donated on invoice as shown:

| Housing Article | Purchased | Donated | Made in Work Room | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tents | 303 | 10 | | 313 |
| Lumber | 305,160 ft | 72,000 ft. | | 377,160 ft |
| Tent Poles | 300 | | | 300 |
| Paint | 119 gal. | | | 119 gal. |
| Shingles | 41 bun. | | | 41 bun. |
| Screen Doors | 152 | | | 152 |
| Screen Wire | 16,300 ft. | | | 16,300 ft |
| Roofing Paper | 125 rolls | | | 125 rolls |
| Lime | 40 bbls. | | | 40 bbls. |
| Nails | 2,233 lbs. | | | 2,233 lbs |

Household Equipment

| Article | Purchased | Donated | Made in Work Room | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cots | 1,222 | 160 | | 1,382 |
| Blankets | 1,491 prs. | 225 prs. | | 1,716 prs. |
| Comforts | 143 | | 360 | 543 |
| Mattresses | 112 | 36 | 80 | 228 |
| Pillows | 349 | | 240 | 589 |
| Cotton Bats | 1,540 | | | 1,540 |
| Bed Springs | 120 | 16 | | 136 |
| Stoves (cooking) | 36 | 24 | | 60 |
| Stove Piping | 1,400 ft | | | 1,400 ft. |
| Gas Stoves | 54 | 8 | | 62 |
| Heaters (small) | 68 | | | 68 |
| Oil Stoves | 25 | 10 | | 35 |
| Lamps | 50 | | | 50 |
| Chairs | 48 | 26 | | 74 |
| Laundry Tubs | 360 | 16 | | 376 |
| Boilers | 360 | | | 360 |
| Sets of Irons | 350 | | | 350 |
| Wash Boards | 360 | | | 360 |
| Variety Kitchen Utensils | 8,272 | | | 8,272 |
| Bedsteads | 40 | | | 40 |

Clothing Materials

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Children's Stockings | 500 pr. | | | 500 pr. |
| Thread | 50 doz. | | | 50 doz |
| Men's Socks | 300 prs. | | | 300 prs. |
| Women's Stockings | 200 prs. | | | 200 prs. |

Clothing Materials (cont'd)

| Article | Purchased | Donated | Made in Workroom | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Outing Cloth (for children's underwear) | | | | |
| Unbleached Domestic (underwear) | | | | |
| Ginghams | | | | |
| Cheese Cloth | | | | |
| Denims | | | | |
| Gauze for Surgical Dressings | | | | |
| Sheetings | | | | |
| Material for Layette | | | | |
| Quilt Material | | | | |
| Material for aprons | | | | |
| Comfort Material | | | | |
| Diaper Cloth | | | | |
| Dress Cloth (Children's School Dresses) | | | | |
| Total Yardage of Above | | | | 49,982 yds |
| Boys' Suits | 36 | | | 36 |
| Boys' Caps | 70 | | | 70 |
| Girls Caps | 100 | | | 100 |
| Children's Shoes | 50 | | | 50 |

SCHOOL BOOKS

Number not known. Total cash value of school books furnished $1,239.00

SUNDRY RELIEF SUPPLIES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Disenfectants | 24 gal. | 24 gal. |
| Working Tools (spade, wheelbarrows, hammers, saws, shovels, etc.) | 204 | 204 |
| Gas and Water Piping | 2,800 ft. | 2,800 ft. |

NOTE: Additional information on relief statistics is contained in the financial statement covering expenditures.

Social Relief, cont.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. During the immediate days after the riot, over four thousand people were housed and fed in detention camps, mass fashion.

2. An unknown number, approximating 2,000, were given shelter and fed wherever houses could be found to accomodate them.

3. Five hospitals were supplied with emergency dressings and medical supplies for care of 183 patients. 551 First Aid cases were cared for at emergency First Aid Stations.

(Note: It should be noted that all of the hospitals charged their regular fees both for hospital care and surgical attention, the bills being presented to the Red Cross.)

4. Anti-tetanus, typhoid and small-pox serums were administered to over 1,800 people.

5. Hospital care, a general dispensary, a dental clinic, and a V. D. clinic was equipped and put into service at the Booker T. Washington School and used there until September 1st.

In the meantime a fairly modern nine-roomed hospital has been built ready for occupancy, which was immediately pressed into service on the vacation of the school properties.

6. Over four hundred tent homes were erected with board siding and flooring with screen ventilators and screen doors, these for immediate temporary use.

Since October 1st, two hundred twenty-five of these have been converted into all wood one-room or two-room houses.

RELIEF TASKS YET REMAINING

1. There still remains 49 tent houses to be converted into all wooden ones. While the National Association of Negroes have agreed to cooperate in financing this rebuilding, it is improbable that they will carry out their agreement unless some white guiding hand is present.

2. There ~~is~~ are still ~~a number of~~ several a hundred families whose destitution is due to the riot still needing constant help of one sort or another.

3. The problems of overcrowding, sufficient bedding and clothing and minor sickness are still present in abundance

4. The transfer of the hospital has not been completed. A Colored Hospital Association is being incorporated. A staff of colored physicians and nurses are working at the hospital, under the direction of Dr. H. S. Browne and Dr. Butler, but it is too early to throw full responsibility of mangement and control to the negroes.

   The hospital can and should be made self-sustaining. Wise direction at this time is necessary to insure this.

5. The business end of Red Cross Relief operations cannot close until all December business is closed and the books and accounts audited by public accountants. Such an audit is complete up to September 1st. It is estimated that the final closing accounts will take until January 15th.

# SUMMARY MEDICAL AND SURGICAL RELIEF

| | |
|---|---|
| No. Wounded Whites Hospitalized During and After Riot at Red Cross Expense | 48 |
| No. Wounded Negroes Hospitalized during and after Riot at Red Cross Expense | 135 |
| No. Negro Cases Hospitalized since Riot | 98 |
| Total Number persons receiving hospital care | 233 |
| No. patients still remaining in hospital | 22 + |
| Number persons died | 18 |
| No. persons who have from time to time been discharged | 193 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| No. First Aid Cases during and after Riot | | 531 |
| No. Colored Physicians used by Red Cross in treatment of sick since riot | | 11 |
| Total No. of White Physicians whose services were paid for by the Red Cross | | 11 |
| Total No. of Nurses employed by Red Cross during and after the Riot: | | |
| a. Hospital | 38 | |
| b. Field | 8 | 46 |

Up to and including December 30th, the hospital has been in charge of Dr. H. S. Browne, Attending Physician and Surgeon, and under him a staff of three of the best white nurses obtainable. The white nurses, Mrs. Edmondson, Miss Sizer, and Mrs. Pendergraft, left the service December 28th, the nursing work being taken over by a staff of colored nurses. Dr. H. S. Browne is Supervising Physician and Surgeon.

A Colored Hospital Association has been organized and incorporated to take over the management of the hospital. A staff of colored physicians and surgeons has been organized by Dr. Butler, County Physician, the plan being to have the hospital entirely under the management of the colored people, the property interests for the time being to remain in the hands of the Board of Trustees - three or five white citizens yet to be selected.

1 Dec Dec 30.

(Summary Medical & Surgical - cont.)

Patients in Hospital Dec. 30th:

1. Cal Arnley - Shot in ankle - Old man - May still save leg.

2. Alex Stevenson - Shot in hand, arm and leg - Caompound fractures.

Others in Hospital Since Riot:

3. Elsie Walker - 80 yrs. old. Ulcers in leg - will never be well. Case for County. Homeless.

4. Frank Miller - Old man - T. B. - home burned in riot - case for County

5. Jake Miller - Old man - Suffer paralytic stroke during riot.- homeless - case for County.

6. Arthur Morrison - Age 12 - pellegra - homeless since riot - Mother died result injuries in riot.

7. Henry Gamble - Aneurism - may recover - old man - case for County.

8. Charles Carter - T. B. - homeless since riot - case for County Hospital.

Others in Hospital

9. Charles Caldwell - Hemorrhoids

10. John Williams - Asthma - syphilitic

11. Richard Ashford- Age 12 - Tumor on chest

12. Mary Stewart - Removal Fibroid Tumors, appendix and overies.

13. Harriet Pierce * Periorphium overies, appendix and curetment.

14. Bennie Krout - Infected jaw.

15. Arthur Montgomery Shot in addomen

16. Arizona Robinson Removal of overies and tumors.

17. Henry Oscar - Pneumonia

18. Mammie Nurse - Tonsils and throat

19. Ruth Johnson - Syphlitic - medical case

20. William Collins* Syphilitic

21. Mobeal Adams - T. B. - Case for County

# H O S P I T A L  P E R S O N N E L

As of December 30th, 1921.

***

Dr. H. S. Browne and Dr. Butler, white, Supervising Physicians and Surgeons with a staff of negro physicians and suggeons.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Miss Fagg | Day Nurse | 125.00 mo. |
| Mrs. Marshall | Night Nurse | 100.00 " |
| Mrs. Ragesdale | Asst. Day Nurse | 100.00 " |
| Homer Mosely | Day Orderly | 90.00 " |
| John Grisson | Night Orderly | 90.00 " |
| Rebecca | Nurses Aid | 60.00 " |
| Mrs. Phillips | Cook | 72.00 " |
| Arthur | Asst. Cook | 60.00 " |
| | Total Salaries Per Month | $697.00 |

NOTE: Dr. H. S. Browne has consented to remain as Supervisor for a period of fifteen days or as long thereof as may be necessary to turn the patients over to the colored doctors with safety.

# INVENTORY OF HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT

As of December 31st, 1921.

****

## WARDS

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28 | Iron Beds | Value | $335.00 | |
| 20 | Mattresses | " | 100.00 | |
| 68 | Pillows | " | 68.00 | |
| 14 | Cot Pads | " | 30.00 | |
| 95 | Blankets | " | 235.00 | |
| 24 | Quilts | " | 48.00 | |
| 31 | Bed Tables | " | 31.00 | |
| 10 | Chairs | " | 12.50 | |
| 1 | Water Cooler | " | 3.50 | |
| 8 | Gas Stoves | " | 75.00 | |
| 6 | Baby Blankets | " | 7.50 | |
| 2 | Hot Plates | " | 3.00 | |
| 1 | Baby Bed and Mattress | " | 8.00 | 956.50 |

## BATH ROOM

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | Bed Pans | " | 7.50 | |
| 4 | Urianls | " | 4.00 | |
| 5 | Large Pans | " | 9.00 | |
| 9 | Small pans | " | 7.50 | |
| 4 | Urina Pans | " | 4.00 | |
| 3 | Slop Jars | " | 5.00 | |
| 6 | yds Rubber Tubing | " | 1.50 | |
| 11 | Hot Water Bottles | " | 35.00 | |
| 6 | Ice Caps | " | 12.00 | 85.50 |

## OPERATING ROOM

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Kelly Pad | " | | |
| 1 | Operating Table | " | | |
| 3 | Small Tables | " | | |
| 3 | Large Pans | " | | |
| 2 | Small Pans | " | | |
| 3 | Basins | " | | |
| 6 | Hand Brushes | " | | |
| 3 | Sterilizers | " | | |
| 2 | Stools | " | | |
| 3 | Pitchers | " | | |
| 1 | Irrigating Can | " | | |
| | Total of Equipment valued | | $300.00 | 300.00 |
| | | | | $1342.00 |

(Hospital Inventory continued)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brought Forward | | | | $1342.00 |
| LINEN CLOSET | | | | |
| 107 | Sheets | Value | $112.50 | |
| 161 | Pillow Cases | " | 161.25 | |
| 6 | Spreads | " | 12.00 | |
| 137 | Small Towels | " | 6.85 | |
| 39 | Bath Towels | " | 20.00 | |
| 40 | Gowns | " | 51.00 | |
| 19 | New Gowns | " | 27.00 | |
| 11 | Pajamas | " | 12.50 | |
| 3 | Aprons | " | .75 | |
| 1 | Sweater | " | 1.50 | |
| 18 | Nigh Ghirts | " | 18.00 | |
| 17 | Used Gowns | " | 17.00 | |
| 21 | Summer Gowns | " | 21.00 | |
| 15 | Baby Gowns | " | 15.00 | |
| 10 | Baby Blankets | " | 12.50 | |
| 4 | Baby Shirts | " | 2.00 | |
| 4 | Baby Dresses | " | 3.00 | |
| 26 | Baby Diapers | " | 5.20 | 389.05 |
| KITCHEN | | | | |
| 1 | Queen Bee Gas Range | " | $ 45.00 | 45.00 |
| 1 | Kitchen Table | " | | |
| 5 | Skillets | " | | |
| 5 | Bread Pans | " | | |
| 1 | Large Coffee Pot | " | | |
| 6 | Large Stew Kettles | " | | |
| 5 | Dish Pans | " | | |
| 2 | Large Soup Kettles | " | | |
| 4 | Galvanized Buckets | " | | |
| 5 | Small Stew Kettles | " | | |
| 1 | Meat Grinder | " | | |
| 1 | Meat Hatchet | " | | |
| 1 | Meat Saw | " | | |
| 12 | Pie Pans (tin) | " | | |
| 1 | Clock | " | | |
| 1 | Assortment Kitchen Wear - (knives, forks, mashers, etc.) | " | | |
| | Valuation on Above | | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| 136 | Knives, Forks and Spoons | | | |
| 40 | Drinking Glasses | | | |
| 97 | Cups and Saucers | | | |
| 58 | Plates | | | |
| 70 | Small bowls | | | |
| 41 | Desert Dishes | | | |
| 1 | Sugar Bowl | | | |
| 1 | Large Meat Plater | | | |
| 1 | Vegtable dish | | | |
| 1 | Water Pitcher | | | |
| | Estimated Value on Above | | 40.00 | 40.0 0 |
| | | | | $1866.05 |

(Hospital Inventory continued)

Brought Forward $1866.05

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 10 Lbs. Lipton's Coffee | Value | 3.75 | |
| 1 Bu. Irish Potatoes | " | 3.75 | |
| 100 Lbs. Granulated Sugar | " | 6.00 | |
| 25 Lbs. Corn Meal | " | .70 | |
| 50 Lbs. Flour | " | 2.00 | |
| 30 Lbs. Crisco | " | 3.42 | |
| 2 Doz. Cans Sour Krout | " | 4.00 | |
| 32 Bars. Grandma's Soap | " | 1.92 | |
| 11 Packages Corn Starch | " | 1.38 | |
| 25 Cans Old Dutch Cleanser | " | 2.50 | |
| 6 Lbs. Calumet Baking Powder | " | 1.25 | |
| 17 Cans Everyday Milk | " | 1.70 | |
| 20 Cans Pineapple (Sunkist) | " | 5.17 | |
| 25 Package Gold Dust | " | 1.23 | |
| 3 Gallon Cans Pumpkin | " | 1.50 | |
| 12 Large Packages Soda (Arm & Hammer) | | 1.20 | |
| 90 Bars Fairy Soap | " | 7.65 | |
| 16 Cans Salmon | " | 2.00 | |
| 30 Cans Corn | " | 3.09 | |
| 24 Cans Homonie | " | 3.50 | |
| 26 Cans (large size) Tomatoes | " | 4.33 | |
| 10 Cans Peas | " | 1.30 | |
| 15 Cans (large) Pineapple | " | 4.20 | |
| 31 Cans Assorted Soup | " | 3.10 | |
| 10 Lbs. Dry Beans | " | .80 | |
| 2 Gallon Cans Table Peaches | " | 1.00 | |
| 1 Gallon Vinegar | " | .85 | |
| 1 Assortment Aluminum Dishes | " | 12.05 | |
| Reserve Stock | | | |
| 1 Case Milk | " | 5.10 | |
| 2 Cases Peas | " | 5.40 | |
| 6 Cans Pumpkin | " | 2.50 | |
| 2 Cases Corn | " | 5.00 | |
| 1 Case Peaches | " | 6.80 | |
| 1 Case Pears | " | 7.50 | |
| 2 Cases Tomatoes | " | 5.20 | |
| 2 Gallons Vinegar | " | .40 | |
| 1 Case Jam | " | 12.00 | |
| 6 Sides Bacon | " | 14.80 | |
| 2 Cases Spinage | " | 8.50 | |
| 1 Case Rolled Oats | " | 2.10 | |
| 1 Doz. Cream of Wheat | " | 3.00 | |
| 1 Case Spaghette | " | 3.80 | |
| 2 Cases Dutch Cleanser & Soap | " | 7.00 | 172.64 |
| | | | $2,038.69 |

(Hospital Inventory - continued)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brought Forward | | | $2,038.69 |
| MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SUPPLI S | | | |
| In Office (approx.) | Value | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| 1 Electric Sign | " | 60.00 | |
| 1 Ice Box | " | 10.00 | |
| 1 Refrigerator | " | 15.00 | |
| 1 Water Cooler | " | 3.00 | |
| 15 Shades and Globes | " | 15.00 | |
| 1 Extra Stretcher | " | 7.50 | |
| 4 Double Roofed 16x16 Tent Houses | " | 360.00 | |
| 1 Extra Hospital Bed | " | 7.50 | 553.00 |
| HOSPITAL RESERVE MATERIAL | | | |
| 12 Blankets - heavy grade | " | 36.00 | |
| 30 Sheets - new | " | 37.50 | |
| 43 Pillow Slips - new | " | 6.25 | |
| 3 Rubber Sheets | " | 6.00 | |
| 17 Crash Towels | " | 1.50 | |
| 5 Suits Pajamas | " | 5.00 | |
| 7 Gowns | " | 7.00 | |
| 15 Pillows | " | 15.50 | |
| 3 Ash Cans | " | 15.00 | 129.75 |
| | | | $2,796.34 |
| Valuation nine-room Hospital Building with heating, lighting, and plumbing complete | | | $6,000.00 |
| Grand Total for Hospital | | | $8,796.34 |

INVENTORY OF SUNDRY EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

As Of December 31st, 1921.

***

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 168 | 16x16 Tents - used | Value | $1600.00 | |
| 4 | 17x21 Tents and Flies | " | 100.00 | |
| 44 | Army Cots - good condition | " | 88.00 | |
| 56 | Army Cots - | " | | |
| 107 | Long Canvas Cots | " | 107.00 | |
| 10 | Combination Heaters | " | 40.00 | |
| 4 | Oil Heaters | " | 20.00 | |
| 14 | Screen Doors | " | 30.00 | |
| 1 | Lamp and Chimney | " | 1.00 | |
| 3 | Porch Lights and Shades | | 6.00 | |
| 16 | Electric Globes in H. Q. Tents | " | 4.00 | |
| 3 | Double Sockets | " | 3.00 | |
| 14 | Fly Traps | " | 14.00 | |
| 2 | Hand Saws | " | 3.00 | |
| 1 | Hammer | " | .50 | |
| 1 | Wheelbarrow | " | 2.50 | |
| 1 | Ford Touring Car | " | 250.00 | |
| 3 | Mattresses | " | 25.00 | |
| 4 | Gas Heaters | " | 40.00 | |
| 2 | Sets Steel Filing Cases | " | 80.00 | |
| 1 | Electric Battery | " | 2.50 | |
| 1 | Electric Iron | " | 5.00 | |
| 1 | Water Keg | " | 2.50 | $2,424.00 |

RECAPITULATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Inventory of Hospital | $8,796.34 |
| Total Inventory Sundry Supplies | 2,424.00 |
| Grand Total | $11,220.34 |

Tulsa, Oklahoma.
January 14, 1922

Mr. Maurice Willows, Director,
Tulsa American Red Cross Relief,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions, we have made an audit and examination of the books and accounts of the Tulsa American Red Cross Relief, covering the period from the date of inception to and including January 13, 1922, and as a result thereof, we submit, herewith, the following Exhibits and Schedules, together with our comment thereon:

EXHIBIT "A"- Condensed Account for period under review

Schedule 1- Reconcilement of Bank Account.

Schedule 2- Outstanding Checks.

Schedule 3- Analysis of Expenditures.

Under Exhibit "A" hereof it is shown that the total Cash and merchandise received during the period under review, was the sum of $101,395.43. The only part of these funds that could be confirmed by us are the amounts that were appropriated for this purpose by the City and County of Tulsa.

The total expenditures, less Sundry Refunds and borrowed funds returned amounting to $5,805.84, aggregate $93,118.35. Our verification of Expenditures consisted only by comparing the checks issued with corresponding vouchers and invoices; no verification was made with regard to the receipt and issue of supplies and other relief.

Schedule 1, reflects in summary form, receipts, deposits and disbursements, together with a reconcilement of the Cash Account. All funds were deposited in the Exchange National Bank of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and disbursed by check. On January 13, 1922, there was a balance in the said bank of $3,492.08 which was transferred to A. L. Farmer, Treasurer of Relief Trustees.

Schedule 3, shows a classification of Expenditure for the period under review.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, we wish to state that, upon your request, we will gladly furnish you with any additional information which we are in a position to give.

Respectfully submitted,

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

EXHIBIT "A"

# TULSA AMERICAN RED CROSS RELIEF

## Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Fund for the relief of race-riot sufferers
Condensed Account from inception to January 13, 1922

TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cash received – | | |
| Popular Contributions | $ 15,177.22 | |
| Public Welfare Committee | 10,000.00 | |
| Tulsa County Commissioners | 60,001.27 | |
| City of Tulsa | 11,400.00 | |
| Anonymous | 31.94 | |
| | $ 96,610.43 | |
| Merchandise Donated | 4,785.00 | |
| TOTAL TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR | | $101,395.43 |

ACCOUNTED FOR AS FOLLOWS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Expenditures | | |
| Cash (Schedule 3) | $ 93,118.35 | |
| Cash turned over to Tulsa Relief Trustees | 3,492.08 | |
| Merchandise, Per Contra | 4,785.00 | |
| TOTAL AS ABOVE | | $101,395.43 |

Schedule 3

# TULSA AMERICAN RED CROSS RELIEF

## Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Analysis of Expenditures from Inception to January 13, 1922.

| | |
|---|---|
| Sanitation & Salvage | $3,669.20 |
| Clothing Committee Labor | 1,595.57 |
| Emergency Hospital Labor | 2,835.24 |
| Postage | 66.24 |
| Kitchen Labor | 1,994.61 |
| Food | 8,912.86 |
| Shelter | 6,473.52 |
| Shelter Labor | 1,996.30 |
| Nurses | 5,888.89 |
| Auto Transportation | 2,121.20 |
| Kitchen Utensils | 766.70 |
| Telephone & Telegraph | 649.73 |
| Transportation Persons | 4,304.37 |
| Express | 20.77 |
| Medical & Hospital Supplies | 3,082.84 |
| Cots | 3,773.24 |
| Blanket & Bedding Supplies | 4,437.12 |
| Hospital | 2,861.70 |
| Office Supplies | 1,040.41 |
| Furniture | 28.20 |
| Hospital Laundry | 756.38 |
| Clothing | 5,432.65 |
| Other Supplies | 2,674.46 |
| Household Supplies | 2,639.45 |
| Doctors | 7,461.00 |
| Purchasing Agent-Stenographic-Clerical | 5,081.73 |
| Building Material-Lumber | 8,797.09 |
| Construction Labor | 1,898.78 |
| Freight and Drayage | 650.63 |
| School Books | 996.25 |
| Miscellaneous | 211.22 |
| | $ 93,118.35 |

# REPORT

# TULSA RACE RIOT

## DISASTER RELIEF

American Red Cross

Compiled by
Louis V. Watkins

# INDEX


Organization

Report — Maurice Willows

Clippings

Riot Photographs

Photographs — General Headquarters

Snapshots — Red Cross Workers and Refugees

Miscellaneous

# ORGANIZATION

Director of Relief ..... Maurice Willows

Relief Committee

Chairman ..... Clark Field
Assistants Jennie K. Beam L.C. Murray

Refugee Camp
Director ..... H. R. Graham

Nursing Service .....
Director ..... Rosalind Mackay
Assistants Mrs. W.D. Godfrey
Miss Bessie Richardson

Purchasing Department
Director ..... C.V. Borden
Assistant L.H.Serber

Food Supply
Director ..... Mrs. Wheeler
Ora Upp Mrs. A.W.Roth

Relief Depot
Director ..... J.T.Forster

Motor Transportation
Director ..... J.C.Anthony

Railroad Transportation
J. A. HULL
W. L. Walker

Bedding Supplies ..... Lilah D. Lindsay

Clothing Relief Mrs. J.A.Hull Mrs.H.L.Heinsman

Bureau of Identification Robert H. Woods

Stolen and Lost Goods A.C.Doering

Shelter ..... H.L.Heinsman

Cinnabar Hospital Relief Station
Dr. Paul Brown

Director Relief Station Booker Washington School
L. L. Connelly

O F F I C E  C H I E F  E X E C U T I V E

T. D. EVANS, MAYOR

TULSA, OKLAHOMA.

To The Red Cross Society:

Please establish headquarters for all relief work and bring all organizations who can assist you to your aid. The responsibility is placed in your hands entirely.

(signed) T. D. Evans,
Mayor.

6/2/21

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

Southwestern Division

St. Louis, Mo. June 1, 1921.

Mr. A. L. Farmer, Chairman,

Tulsa County Chapter,
American Red Cross,
204 Palace Bldg.,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

My dear Mr. Farmer:-

As I indicated in my telegram to you of today, I am sending you herewith a copy of the statement of policy of the Red Cross in race riots and strikes issued by the General Manager in November 1919. This policy still holds.

Unquestionably there is big opportunity for misunderstanding any action taken by the Red Cross in connection with race riots. One or another party to the situation usually misunderstands and it accordingly becomes necessary for the Red Cross to act with unusual caution. As outlined in the attached statement from the General Manager, Red Cross can best serve through meeting the needs in the form of First Aid, Medical Assistance, Nursing Service, etc., to those injured in disturbances, regardless of the faction to which they may belong.

Service should only be rendered to National Guardsmen on the specific request of the State Authorities in charge.

May I ask that you keep me fully advised of any action taken by your Chapter and particularly in the event that any border line question arises which, in your judgment, does not seem to be covered by the enclosed statement of policy.

Very sincerely yours,

James L. Fieser,
Manager, Southwestern Division.

JLF*S

(copy)

P O S T A L  T E L E G R A M

Washington, D. C., Nov. 4, 1919.

Alfred Fairbank,
American Red Cross, Frisco Bldg.,
St. Louis, Mo.

The various situations that have arisen in United States at this time of unrest and readjustment make it desirable we lay before our Division Managers for their personal guidance the attitude which should govern Red Cross in event of race riots and conditions arising out of lockouts and strikes. Red Cross stands in a peculiar position because of its close relationship to Federal government and at same time because of its support by the American people as a whole, a position which involves both special responsibilities and special obligations. toRed Cross must therefore very keenly have in mind its obligations to maintain a position of impartiality. Red Cross must also always be open to appeal to meet needs in form of First Aid, medical assistance, nursing service, etc., to those injured in disturbances regardless of faction to which they may belong. This is the prime service of Red Cross. There are also possible situations where widespread distress may develop as result of conflict between elements in communities, affecting in some cases other than those a party to the distrubance. This type or question may demand action on the part of Red Cross, but decision cannot be made in advance as the possibilities are too various and intricate. Situations do not develop so rapidly but that there remains time for discussion in each case as to the obligation if any on part of Red Cross. There remains a type of service less important but one which Red Cross must consider; this is an obligation to be prepared at all times to furnish certain types of service to Federal troops and to a lesser degree to those who perform types of service similar to those of our army. This is a type of service which should not be sought

(Postal Telegram, Washington, D. C., Nov. 4, 1919.)

Alfred Fairbank. -2.

by Red Cross on its own initiative but a service which should be given in responce to request of those in authority. If those in command United States troops make request upon Red Cross for canteen or other reasonable service for the troops themselves, Red Cross should endeavor to meet these demands, confining their efforts strictly to comfort for the soldiers. In the case of state troops our relations are by no means so well worked out and established by war time experience and charter obligation; however, upon request of govenor of any state, Red Cross should consider favorably a call for service similar to that which it would be our obligation to render Federal troops limiting service in same way. Beyond this point Red Cross should consider very carefully before undertaking any form of comfort and aid to those engaged in general police duty, being very sure that any request upon them for service is made on behalf of governmental authority representative of the general public and that the type of service requested is limited strictly to giving personal comfort to servants of the public and that such service be closely confined to its proper purposes and not be enlarged in such extent as for practical purposes to amount to furnishing police service of any kind whatsoever. Under no circumstances should this service be rendered to any group in control of either party to a controversy no matter what the temptation, no contrary it should be our aim to make clear and definite the understanding that irrespective of the merits of any controversy Red Cross will avoid favoring either side to that controversy by acts either of commission or omission. It is evident any question of relief which grows out of conflict between different elements in the population a position of much delicacy to Red Cross

(Postal Telegram, Washington, D. C., Nov. 4, 1919.)

Alfred Fairbank -3.

delicacy to Red Cross with its desire to represent an entire public calls for closest consultation between Chapters and Divisions and Divisions and National Headquarters as to application particularly as such types of controversy affect more than local situations and often involve questions national in scope.

F. C. Munroe.

HEADQUARTERS OKLAHOMA NATIONAL GUARD

TULSA OKLAHOMA JUNE 2, 1921.

Field Order No. 4

All the able bodied negro men remaining in detention camp at Fair Grounds and other places in the City of Tulsa will be required to render such service and perform such labor as is required by the military commission and the Red Cross in making the proper sanitary provisions for the care of the refugees.

Able bodied women, not having the care of schilren, will also be required to perform such service as maybe required in the feeding and care of the refugees.

This order covers any labor necessary in the care of the health or welfare of these people who, by reason of their misfortunes, must be looked after by the different agencies of relief.

By order of Brig. Gen. Chas. F. Barrett-

Chas. F. Barrett
Brig. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS NATIONAL GUARD

CITY HALL, TULSA, OKLAHOMA, June 2, 1921.

Field Order No. 5. To Commanding Officer, 3 Infantry. You will detail a Non-Commissioned officer and 12 men to act as guard at Fair Grounds Dention Camp, this detail be armed and fully equipped will report to Clark Field at American Red Cross Headquartors. From and after 1 P. M. this date detention camp at McNulty Camp will abolish and camps will be removed to Detention Camp at Fair Grounds.

By Command of Brig. Gen. Barrett.

Bryon Kirkpatrick

May A. G. Dept. Adj.

June 2, 1921

Chief of Police Gustafson:

Will you kindly furnish us two white police officers, to report at Red Cross Headquarters, Fourth and Cincinnati.

Assist. Director.

TULSA CHAPTER

AMERICAN RED CROSS

DISASTER RELIEF

# C O N D E N S E D  R E P O R T

Social

Medical

Nursing

Financial

December 31, 1921.

NOTE.

The following is a brief summary of more detailed reports and historical matter written and compiled for American Red Cross Headquarters at Washington D. C., a copy of which will be filed permanently with the Tulsa County Chapter records.

OFFICERS TULSA CHAPTER RED CROSS

Chairman ..... A. L. Farmer
Vice Chairman ..... Clark Field
Chairman Home Service ..... C. E. Buchner
Chairman Home Nursing ..... Mrs. Lilah D. Lindsay
Executive Secretary ..... Mrs. Jennie K. Beam
Treasurer ..... Alva J. Niles

DIRECTORS

C. E. Buchner
E. E. Oberholtzer
W. F. Stahl
Mrs. John R. Wheeler
Mrs. P. C. West
Clint Moore
Phillip Kates
Mrs. Geo. H. Tabor, Jr.
W. S. Cochran
E. E. Dix
W. A. Partridge

Director Nursing Service ..... Mrs. W. E. Godfrey

December 31st, 1921

TO Mr. A. L. Farmer, Chairman Executive Committee,
Tulsa County Chapter,
American Red Cross.

FROM Maurice Willows, Director,
Disaster Relief.

On the closing of Relief Operations by the Tulsa Chapter it seems fitting and important to permanently record the activities of the Red Cross, National, Divisional and local, in connection with the Disaster of June 1st, 1921. A detailed narrative and statistical record or history has therefore been compiled and transmitted to your Chapter Secretary.

This record contains,

1. All newspaper accounts of Disaster. These clippings record the activities of the Public Welfare Board (original), the National Guard, the Police Department, the Mayor's Reconstruction Committee, the County Commissioners, the Ministerial Association, the Inter-racial Committee and, what is more important, reflect, editorially and otherwise, the concensus of public opinion on questions which will inevitably arise in the future for discussion.
2. The Authority placed with Red Cross for the conduct and control of Emergency Relief.
3. A record of problems as they arose and how met.
4. A statement of relationships with other organizations and committees.
5. Photographic evidence of riot scenes, the devasted areas, and of progress in rehilibation, hospitalization and physical care of riot refugees.

6. Sundry resolutions transmitted to Red Cross by negro organizations.

7. Statistical reports - social and financial.

This record is to voluminous for publication, but is available at Chapter Headquarters for those who may be interested.

## THE TULSA DISASTER

of June 1st, 1921, is a matter of local history, known to all Tulsans, and known in part at least, to the rest of the world. This report interests itself with the aftermath - the picking up of the fragments - the relief of human suffering - the care of the sick and wounded, and the bringing order out of chaos. This kind of a task is not spectacular, and therefore the local or general public knows too little about it.

During the riotous hours between dawn and noon of a well-known June day, what had previously been a prosperous, peaceable and fairly well-ordered negro business and residental district, with a population of approximately twelve thousand negroes – men, women and children, was transferred into a burned and devasted area. Skeletons of brick and stone stood out in ghastly relief against a background of ashes, cinders, twisted iron and steel, charred autos, beds and household implements. Twisted and torn electric wires, gas pipes, meters and other ruined junk was scattered about. A heavy pall of smoke kindly mantled the ruins for the first twenty-four hours, during which time Tulsa had rubbed her eyes and prepared to face a condemming world.

When the smoke had cleared it was found that

1256 buildings had been burned.

314 buildings (mostly homes) which were spared the torch, were looted and robbed of everything worth while.

10,000 (approximate) persons were homeless.

183 persons were in hospitals, practically all for gunshot wounds or burns.

531 other persons were seriously enough injured to require first aid medical or surgical care.

--- were dead. (Figures are omitted for the reason that NO ONE KNOWS.)

PROPERTY LOSSES.

A conservative estimate, based upon such data as has become available during a seven months period of relief work, places the losses on buildings, business stocks, household goods and personal property, at three million five hundred thousand dollars. (The only purpose of this estimate is to indicate the approximate size of the economic destruction.)

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND RELIEF.

In a situation such as this, which can better be imagined than described, it is not strange that the community instinctively turned to the American Red Cross.

True, the disaster was not "an act of God". It was "Tulsa made", but the American Red Cross, in accepting responsibility, generously and properly took the position that disaster had visited thousands of human beings, the majority of whom were innocent victims, helpless, and practically re-

the measures taken by the State, County and City governments and other civic organizations, all of which carried a share of responsibility for safe-guarding life, limb and property, following the day of the riot.)

ENTRY OF NATIONAL RED CROSS OFFICIALS

On the morning of the third day following the riot, Mr. Maurice Willows, then Assistant Manager of the Southwestern Division, had, by prearrangement over long distance telephone, reported for duty. After hurried conferences with local Chapter Officials, the Mayor, the Public Welfare Board and others, the direction of relief activities was placed in his hands. Within another twenty-four hours all relief measures had been co-ordinated and permanent relief headquarters were opened at the Booker T. Washington school. Concurrently with this centralization, the churches, the Y.M.C.A. and other temporary relief places were evacuated. After thorough office organization, the first sizable task was a survey of the negro homes remaining in the district and the servants quarters throughout the city by a field staff of Red Cross Nurses quickly mobilized for the purpose. Briefly the results of this survey was as follows:

No. of calls made by Nurses - - - - 4512

No. of patients found needing medical or nursing care - - - - 551

Classified as follows:

1. Maternity cases needing care — 38
2. Infants and children needing care 359
3. Other physicial breakdowns needing care - - - - 154

sourceless. The "Greatest Mother" could not say no to such a challenge, where human need was so great and human suffering so evident.

In addition to the wholesale destitution, the whole situation was aggravated by the destruction of morale among the victims. Thousands of them were literally frightened out of the city. Large contingents were found in Sapulpa, Claremore, Muskogee, Oklahoma City, and some were heard from at Kansas City on the north, Los Angeles on the west, Dallas on the south and New York on the east.

The significance of this "scattering" is that the whole relief situation was effected by the wandering of these people and the ultimate return to the site of their old homes, schools, churches and neighbors.

RELIEF PROCESSES.

1. The first step was taken when the Mayor of the city placed responsibility for all emergency relief measures on the Red Cross, and in order, the following movements:

2. The quick organization of Red Cross Committees, the detail of which is found in the complete report.

3. The establishment of relief stations. These were located at the Fair Grounds, the Y. M. C. A., McNulty Park, Convention Hall and several of the churches.

4. Making certain the effective hospitalization of the wounded.

5. The establishment of First Aid stations for the care of those not needing hospital care.

(The newspaper articles and the full report record

Of these 80 were sent to the dispensary for care. Definite nursing care was given to 84, and continuing nursing care was given to 169 people in their temporary homes. (A detailed list of nurses is given in the detailed report.)

VACCINATION

Immediately following this survey it was deemed of importance to use the utmost precautions against epidemic. Especially important did it seem to administer serum to the detention camp refugees. It was necessary to corral all available vaccine and typhoid serum. Approximately 1800 refugees were treated by the physicians of the city who were organized for the purpose.

Chronologically the medical and nursing phase of the relief work was as follows:

1. Immediate surgical and medical care of the wounded at six private hospitals.
2. The mobilization of all available nurses for hospitals and field service.
3. Placing the State Supervisor of the Red Cross Nursing in charge.
4. The organization of a committee of doctors under whose direction the state supervisor was to supervise.
5. The mobilization of vaccine and the typhoid serum and the administering of same to the refugees.
6. A Field Survey of Public Health Nurses.
7. The equipping of a First Aid station, a general Dispensary and a V. D. Clinic.

8. Equipping and furnishing a central hospital.

9. The evacuation of the private hospitals

10.

WORK DURING SUMMER MONTHS.

Along with the foregoing set-up for medical and surgical care, the social relief work was quickly and thoroughly organized with a staff of trained family workers in charge, assisted by an able corp of volunteers, the work of which is described in detail in the detailed history.

THE FAMILY RELIEF WORK.

Thus the whole organization quickly settled down to a long time schedule of relief activities. Naturally the first big task was that of HOUSING. Immediately following the disaster, the solution lay in three directions: First, the use of the crowding of a certain number into servants quarters throughout the white district. Second, the use of detention camps. Third, the quick construction of tents and equipment. At the end of the first week, 184 tents had been equipped as temporary homes. The next move following the first housing was to make these tents liveable for families.

Sufficient progress had been made by the first of July to warrant the evacuation of the Fair Grounds, which had from the beginning been ably administered by a staff of local workers under the direction of Mr. Newt Graham of the Exchange Trust Company.

SLOW PROGRESS DURING SUMMER MONTHS

A volume of local history might be written regarding

the serious details and obstructions in the rehabilitation program, the causes for which revolved around the lack of action on the of public authorities who were charged with the responsibility of working out a reconstruction program for the city and county. In this connection it will be recalled that a serious blunder occurred when the first "Public Welfare Board" chosen by the Chamber of Commerce and which had authority during the first days following the trouble was declared out of commission and a new "Reconstruction Committee" appointed by the Mayor.

The first committee had a program outlined; the second committee had none, and from all evidences the second committee, after seven months inactive service, evolved no constructive plans. It will also be recalled that part of the burned area lay within the city limits, and part of it in the county outside the city limits. The period from June until October 1st proved to be a sloughing off period, during which time the negroes within the city limits were practically forbidden to help themselves by rebuilding wooden houses of any sort. It was not until the courts made certain decisions in September that the negroes were allowed to replace their temporary tent homes with wooden shacks. This delay of three months consequently retarded all other concurrent relief measures.

RELIEF METHODS

Relief work in the Tulsa Disaster differed in many respects from that ordinarily followed in other large dis-

asters in that no provision was made for money grants or loans, neither were any moneys made available for permanent rebuilding. It was a question of dealing with each individual family according to its individual needs, and the records show that of the 2480 families whose cases were presented for some relief action, no two families presented exactly the same situation. Many interesting variations in relief treatment were resorted to. The whole relief program was bound to the principle of helping the colored people to help themselves. Two illustrations are given: First. It will be noticed that nearly half a million feet of lumber were used during a six months period. Practically all of this lumber was converted into small homes of the one or two-room shack type by the negroes themselves. The negro hospital, as an example, was erected by the negroes, the material furnished by the Red Cross. Second. It is noted that nearly 50,000 yards of cloth was furnished. This meant that this amount of cloth was manufactured by the negroes themselves into children's dresses, underwear, nightgowns, bed clothes and other personal and household apparel. Negro women were employed at day wages to manufacture garments, which were in turn distributed to those who could not do their own work. In other words, every resource known was drawn upon in helping the sufferers "pull themselves up by their own boot straps". How well they have, with the assistance of the Red Cross, succeeded is shown in the following tables:

SOCIAL AND MEDICAL

RELIEF REPORT

Up To And Including

December 31st, 1921.

## RELIEF STATISTICS

| | |
|---|---|
| Total No families registered | 2480 |
| Total No. persons in these families | 8624 |
| Total No. detached persons | 410 |
| Total No. families with no children | 462 |
| Total No. families with no father (missing or dead) | 222 |
| Total No. families with no mother (missing or dead) | 87 |
| Total houses burned | 1256 |
| Total Houses looted but not burned | 215 |
| Families definitely relieved with clothing, beds, bed clothing, tentage, laundry equipment, cooking utensils, dishes, material for clothing, etc. | 1941 |
| Churches housed in Red Cross tents | 8 |
| Medicines furnished (outside of hospital) | 230 |
| Medical service (in field) given to maternity cases, typhoid cases, and infant cases | 269 |
| Small property adjustments made | 88 |
| Transportation furnished (estimate) | 475 |
| Telegrams sent or received (relative to riot victims) | 1350 |

## RECONSTRUCTION

shows As of this date, December 30th, 1921, the following list progress being made by the negroes in rebuilding in the burned area:

| | |
|---|---|
| 180 | One-room frame shacks |
| 272 | Two-room frame buildings |
| 312 | Three rooms or more, frame |
| 1 | Large brick church |
| 2 | Basement brick churches |
| 4 | Frame churches - one room |
| 24 | One story brick or cement buildings |
| 24 | Two story brick or cement buildings |
| 3 | Three story brick or cement buildings |
| 1 | Large Theater |
| 1 | Corrugated Iron Garage |
| 2 | Filling Stations |

There are still 49 families residing in tent covered houses. All of these are unable to rebuild. The Red Cross has assisted, with the use of funds from the National Association for the Improvement of Colored People, in the erection of 13 homes.

The Red Cross on its own account has transformed 152 tent homes into more or less permanent wooden houses.

RELIEF TASKS YET REMAINING

1. There still remains 49 tent houses to be converted into all wooden ones. While the National Association of Negroes have agreed to cooperate in financing this rebuilding, it is improbable that they will carry out their agreement unless some white guiding hand is present.

2. There is still a number of a hundred families whose destitution is due to the riot still needing constant help of one sort or another.

3. The problems of over crowding, sufficient bedding and clothing and minor sickness are still present in abundance.

4. The transfer of the hospital has not been completed. A Colored Hospital Association is being incorporated. A staff of colored physicians and nurses are working at the hospital, under the direction of Dr. H. S. Browne and Dr. Butler, but it is too early to throw full responsibility of management and control to the negroes.

   The hospital can and should be made self-sustaining. Wise direction at this time is necessary to insure this.

5. The business end of Red Cross Relief operations cannot close until all December business is closed and the books and accounts audited by public accountants. Such an audit is complete up to September 1st. It is estimated that the final closing accounts will take until January 15th.

## SOCIAL RELIEF SUPPLY SCHEDULES

During the first three days following the riot a vast quantity of food was supplied for refugees at the Y.M.C.A., the Fair Grounds, the churches, the Convention Hall, the McNulty Park and other places. Likewise a vast quantity of bedding supplies, cots, blankets, etc.

These supplies are not listed in the following table, altho these articles were ultimately paid for from relief funds. The cost of these first relief supplies is included in the detailed financial classification.

This supply list is necessarily a partial one, it being impossible to list the endless number of small goods which make up building material, clothing supplies and household equipment. The list does, however, give an idea as to the variety and extent of social relief operations.

Preceeding the list, however, should be the following statement on methods of distribution.

### METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION

Beginning on June 3rd, all family relief supplies given, were incidental to the particular need of a particular family. By a flexible system of family case work each family was encouraged in helping itself to the limit of their ability. Where lumber was donated, for instance, the labor necessary to rebuild or build the tent house was supplied by the family or their negro friends. Exceptions were made only in the cases of widows, sick or helpless people.

Instead of issuing ready-made clothing, cloth was supplied, sewing machines were provided and the raw material turned into clothing by the negro women and girls.

A typical variation was made in the cases of school books for High School pupils. The girls in the High School classes who could not purchase their school books were furnished with work, making hospital garments, nightgowns, underwear, etc., thus enabling them to pay for their books. The High School boys were furnished manual labor, their wages paying for their books.

The same plan was followed with bedding supplies. The raw goods have been furnished, power sewing machines have been provided and the women required to manufacture their own quilts, comforts, cot pads, sheets, pillow cases and pillows.

The following is a list of relief supplies purchased on requisition or donated on invoice as shown:

| Housing Article | Purchased | Donated | made in Work Room | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tents | 303 | 10 | | 313 |
| Lumber | 305,160 ft | 72,000 ft. | | 377,160 ft |
| Tent Poles | 300 | | | 300 |
| Paint | 119 gal. | | | 119 gal. |
| Shingles | 41 bun. | | | 41 bun. |
| Screen Doors | 152 | | | 152 |
| Screen Wire | 16,300 ft. | | | 16,300 ft |
| Roofing Paper | 125 rolls | | | 125 rolls |
| Lime | 40 bbls. | | | 40 bbls. |
| Nails | 2,233 lbs. | | | 2,233 lbs |

Household Equipment

| Article | Purchased | Donated | Made in Work room | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cots | 1,222 | 160 | | 1,382 |
| Blankets | 1,491 prs. | 225 prs. | | 1,716 prs. |
| Comforts | 143 | | 360 | 543 |
| Mattresses | 112 | 36 | 80 | 228 |
| Pillows | 349 | | 240 | 589 |
| Cotton Bats | 1,540 | | | 1,540 |
| Bed Springs | 120 | 16 | | 136 |
| Stoves (cooking) | 36 | 24 | | 60 |
| Stove Piping | 1,400 ft | | | 1,400 ft. |
| Gas Stoves | 54 | 8 | | 62 |
| Heaters (small) | 68 | | | 68 |
| Oil Stoves | 25 | 10 | | 35 |
| Lamps | 50 | | | 50 |
| Chairs | 48 | 26 | | 74 |
| Laundry Tubs | 360 | 16 | | 376 |
| Boilers | 360 | | | 360 |
| Sets of Irons | 350 | | | 350 |
| Wash Boards | 360 | | | 360 |
| Variety Kitchen Untensils | 8,272 | | | 8,272 |
| Bedsteads | 40 | | | 40 |
| Clothing Materials | | | | |
| Children's Stockings | 500 pr. | | | 500 pr. |
| Thread | 50 doz. | | | 50 doz |
| Men's Socks | 300 prs. | | | 300 prs. |
| Women's Stockings | 200 prs. | | | 200 prs. |

Clothing Materials (cont'd)

| Article | Purchased | Donated | made in Workroom | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Outing Cloth (for children's underwear<br>Unbleached Domestic (underwear)<br>Ginghams<br>Cheese Cloth<br>Denims<br>Gauze for Surgical Dressings<br>Sheetings<br>Material for Layetts<br>Quilt Material<br>Material for aprons<br>Comfort Material<br>Diaper Cloth<br>Dress Cloth (Children's School Dresses)<br>Total Yardage of Above | | | | 49,982 yds |
| Boys' Suits | 36 | | | 36 |
| Boys' Caps | 70 | | | 70 |
| Girls Caps | 100 | | | 100 |
| Children's Shoes | 50 | | | 50 |

SCHOOL BOOKS

Number not known. Total cash value of school books furnished $1,239.00

SUNDRY RELIEF SUPPLIES

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Disenfectants | 24 gal. | | | 24 gal. |
| Working Tools (spads, wheelbarrows, hammers, saws, shovels, etc.) | 204 | | | 204 |
| Gas and Water Piping | 2,800 ft. | | | 2,800 ft. |

NOTE: Additional information on relief statistics is contained in the financial statement covering expenditures.

Social Relief, cont.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. During the immediate days after the riot, over four thousand people were housed and fed in detention camps, mass fashion.

2. An unknown number approximating 2,000, were given shelter and fed wherever houses could be found to accomodate them.

3. Five hospitals were supplied with emergency dressings and medical supplies for care of 183 patients. 531 First Aid cases were cared for at emergency First Aid Stations.

(Note: It should be noted that all of the hospitals charged their regular fees both for hospital care and surgical attention, the bills being presented to the Red Cross.)

4. Anti-tetanus, typhoid and small-pox serums were administered to over 1,800 people.

5. Hospital care, a general dispensary, a dental clinic, and a V. D. clinic was equipped and put into service at the Booker T. Washington School and used there until September 1st.

In the meantime a fairly modern nine-roomed hospital has been built ready for occupancy, which was immediately pressed into service on the vacation of the school properties.

6. Over four hundred tent homes were erected with board siding and flooring with screen ventilators and screen doors, these for immediate temporary use.

Since October 1st, two hundred twenty-five of these have been converted into all wood one-room or two-room houses.

(COPY)

Tulsa, Oklahoma
July 1, 1921

Mr. Maurice Willows

Red Cross Headquarters

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Kind Sir:

This comes to express to you the profound gratitude not only of every negro in Tulsa, but throout the civilized world wherever there is a negro. Words fail me in trying to express our appreciation for your noble work for us. You and the Great Red Cross are helping us as a race to shut out of our lives all that is evil, to do our "Duty",and in that way we hope to receive the pure, the beautiful, the good, and true, and when the time comes that we shall add our motto to the music of the spheres it will be full of "Joy and Thanksgiving, no harsh note to mar the full, harmonious sound."

" 'We have but faith, we cannot know;
For service is of things we see;
And yet we trust it comes from Thee,
A beam in Darkness, let it grow.' "

Knowing that God will reward you for what you have striven to do for us, for what you are doing, and for what you will do; in His words we read that what is done for the least of His subjects is precious in His sight.

Is the prayer of a grateful people,

Very Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Louella T. West.
&
J. S. West, Pastor
A. M. E. Church.

7. Over five hundred children, mostly of the lower grades, were furnished school books and many of them school clothes, at the beginning of the school year.

8. During the months of October, November and December, an average of fifteen carpenters were kept at work on daily wages replacing tent houses with wooden shacks. During the same months an average of fifteen women have been employed in the work room, making underwear, quilts, hospital garments, bedding and clothing equipment.

9. A total of 2480 families have been to the Red Cross office with their troubles. A through record of each of these has been made and individual treatment afforded according to the merits of each case. The aim in each instance has been to help the sufferers help themselves. The Red Cross giving material assistance where the needs of the case warranted. In all of these cases the Red Cross workers have acted as counselors and advisers.

## CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Definite cooperation of the right sort has been given by all local social agencies, the East End Relief Committee, the National Association for the Improvement of the Colored People.

## SUMMARY MEDICAL AND SURGICAL RELIEF

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| No. Wounded Whites Hospitalized During and After Riot at Red Cross Expense | | 48 |
| No. Wounded Negroes Hospitalized during and after Riot at Red Cross Expense | | 135 |
| No. Negro Cases Hospitalized since Riot | | 98 |
| Total Number persons receiving hospital care | | 233 |
| No. patients still remaining in hospital | | 22 x |
| Number persons died | | 18 |
| No. persons who have from time to time been discharged | | 193 |
| No. First Aid Cases during and after Riot | | 531 |
| No. Colored Physicians used by Red Cross in treatment of sick since riot | | 11 |
| Total No. of White Physicians whose services were paid for by the Red Cross | | 11 |
| Total No. of Nurses employed by Red Cross during and after the Riot: | | |
| a. Hospital | 38 | |
| b. Field | 8 | 46 |

Up to and including December 30, the hospital has been in charge of Dr. H. S. Browne, Attending Physician and Surgeon, and under him a staff of three of the best white nurses obtainable. The white nurses, Mrs. Edmondson, Miss Sizer, and Mrs. Bendergraft, left the service December 28th, the nursing work being taken over by a staff of colored nurses. Dr. H. S. Browne is still Supervising Physician and Surgeon.

A Colored Hospital Association has been organized and incorporated to take over the management of the hospital. A staff of colored physicians and surgeons has been organized by Dr. Butler, County Physician, the plan being to have the hospital entirely under the management of the colored people, the property interests for the time being to remain in the hands of the Board of Trustees - three or five white citizens yet to be selected.

x 1 Died December 30th.

Tulsa, Oklahoma.
January 14, 1922

Mr. Maurice Willows, Director,
Tulsa American Red Cross Relief,
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions, we have made an audit and examination of the books and accounts of the Tulsa American Red Cross Relief, covering the period from the date of inception to and including January 13, 1922, and as a result thereof, we submit, herewith, the following Exhibits and Schedules, together with our comment thereon:

EXHIBIT "A"- Condensed Account for period under review

Schedule 1- Reconcilement of Bank Account.

Schedule 2- Outstanding Checks.

Schedule 3- Analysis of Expenditures.

Under Exhibit "A" hereof it is shown that the total Cash and merchandise received during the period under review, was the sum of $101,395.43. The only part of these funds that could be confirmed by us are the amounts that were appropriated for this purpose by the City and County of Tulsa.

The total expenditures, less Sundry Refunds and borrowed funds returned amounting to $5,805.84, aggregate $93,118.35. Our verification of Expenditures consisted only by comparing the checks issued with corresponding vouchers and invoices; no verification was made with regard to the receipt and issue of supplies and other relief.

Schedule 1, reflects in summary form, receipts, deposits and disbursements, together with a reconcilement of the Cash Account. All funds were deposited in the Exchange National Bank of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and disbursed by check. On January 13, 1922, there was a balance in the said bank of $3,492.08 which was transferred to A. L. Farmer, Treasurer of Relief Trustees.

Schedule 3, shows a classification of Expenditure for the period under review.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, we wish to state that, upon your request, we will gladly furnish you with any additional information which we are in a position to give.

Respectfully submitted,

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

EXHIBIT "A"

# TULSA AMERICAN RED CROSS RELIEF

## Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Fund for the relief of race-riot sufferers
Condensed Account from inception to January 13, 1922

TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cash received – | | |
| Popular Contributions | $ 15,177.22 | |
| Public Welfare Committee | 10,000.00 | |
| Tulsa County Commissioners | 60,001.27 | |
| City of Tulsa | 11,400.00 | |
| Anonymous | 31.94 | |
| | $ 96,610.43 | |
| Merchandise Donated | 4,785.00 | |
| TOTAL TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR | | $101,395.43 |

ACCOUNTED FOR AS FOLLOWS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Expenditures | | |
| Cash (Schedule 3) | $ 93,118.35 | |
| Cash turned over to Tulsa Relief Trustees | 3,492.08 | |
| Merchandise, Per Contra | 4,785.00 | |
| TOTAL AS ABOVE | | $101,395.43 |

Shedule 1

# TULSA AMERICAN RED CROSS RELIEF

## Tulsa, Oklahoma

### Reconcilement of Exchange National Bank Account
### January 13, 1922

| | PER BOOKS | PER BANK STATEMENT |
|---|---|---|
| **DEPOSITS:** | | |
| June | $24,653.67 | $24,653.67 |
| July | 20,558.61 | 20,558.61 |
| August | 12,316.52 | 12,166.81 |
| September | 18,818.46 | 18,968.17 |
| October | 1,211.54 | 1,211.54 |
| November | 14,401.98 | 14,401.98 |
| December | 10,340.04 | 9,369.56 |
| January | 115.45 | 1,316.19 |
| | $102,416.27 | $102.646.53 |
| **DISBURSEMENTS:** | | |
| June | $25,081.98 | $22,405.83 |
| July | 17,361.26 | 14,129.61 |
| August | 13,874.23 | 18,608.38 |
| September | 6,879.88 | 6,675.90 |
| October | 13,460.66 | 14,760.19 |
| November | 11,798.12 | 10,896.95 |
| December | 6,941.87 | 7,151.60 |
| January | 7,018.27 | 2,804.44 |
| | $102,416.27 | $ 97,432.90 |
| Balance January 13, 1922 | | $ 5,213.63 |
| Less- Outstanding Checks | | 5,213.63 |
| Balance per Books. | | |

## S U M M A R Y

**DEPOSITS:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Collections as shown by Exhibit "A" | $ 96,610.43 |
| Funds borrowed from Special Red Cross Fund. | 1,500.00 |
| Refunds Credited to Expenditure Accounts | 4,305.84 |
| TOTAL | $102,416.27 |

**WITHDRAWALS:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Expenditures shown by Exhibit "A" | $93,118.35 |
| Payment of borrowed Funds | 1,500.00 |
| Expenditures Refunded | 4,305.84 |
| Balance turned over to Relief Trutees | 3,492.08 |
| TOTAL | $102,416.27 |

Schedule 3

# TULSA AMERICAN RED CROSS RELIEF

## Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Analysis of Expenditures from Inception to January 13, 1922.

| | |
|---|---|
| Sanitation & Salvage | $3,669.20 |
| Clothing Committee Labor | 1,595.57 |
| Emergency Hospital Labor | 2,835.24 |
| Postage | 66.24 |
| Kitchen Labor | 1,994.61 |
| Food | 8,912.86 |
| Shelter | 6,473.52 |
| Shelter Labor | 1,996.30 |
| Nurses | 5,888.89 |
| Auto Transportation | 2,121.20 |
| Kitchen Utensils | 766.70 |
| Telephone & Telegraph | 649.73 |
| Transportation Persons | 4,304.37 |
| Express | 20.77 |
| Medical & Hospital Supplies | 3,082.84 |
| Cots | 3,773.24 |
| Blanket & Bedding Supplies | 4,437.12 |
| Hospital | 2,861.70 |
| Office Supplies | 1,040.41 |
| Furniture | 28.20 |
| Hospital Laundry | 756.38 |
| Clothing | 5,432.65 |
| Other Supplies | 2,674.46 |
| Household Supplies | 2,639.45 |
| Doctors | 7,461.00 |
| Purchasing Agent-Stenographic-Clerical | 5,081.73 |
| Building Material-Lumber | 8,797.09 |
| Construction Labor | 1,898.78 |
| Freight and Drayage | 650.63 |
| School Books | 996.25 |
| Miscellaneous | 211.22 |
| | $ 93,118.35 |

# STATEMENT OF THE PASTORS OF THE CITY OF TULSA

The fair name of the city of Tulsa has been tarnished and blackened by a crime that ranks with the dastardly deeds of the Germans during the Great War, provoked by the bad element of the negroes, arming themselves and marching through the streets of the city. Block after block of our city has been swept by fire applied by the frenzied hand of the mob. Many of our people are dead, while thousands of innocent, peaceable, and law-abiding citizens have not only been rendered homeless, but they have been robbed and despoiled of all their earthly possessions. The pastors of Tulsa blush for shame at this outrage which renders our city odious and condemned before the world.

We believe that the only bulwark of American safety for our liberties, our homes, the peaceful persuits of happiness, of law, order, and common decency, is found in the teaching and living of the high ideals of Jesus Christ, - that without Chirst modern civilization cannot bear the weight that is being placed upon it, and the crash is inevitable.

We, the Pastors of this city, hold that there cannot be peace, security, happiness, moral conscience, to say nothing of religious development, so long as the following obtain:

1. The Bible, God, Jesus Christ, and the Christian Religion outlawed in the Public Schools. It is only where Christianity has influence and power that the Jew and the Infidel are protected. We insist that they have no right to tear down in America that which not only protects them but protects us. The little sop thrown to the Christian forces at Commencement by Prayer and a Sermon is little more than an insult to Christianity.

While the Bible has been outlawed, the Dance has been put in the Public Schools over the protect of hundreds of fathers and mothers who have a conscience on the subject. Certainly it is an established fact that the dance weakens moral fibre. We therefore demand consideration.

2. A Wide Open Sunday. The amusement houses, parks, and anything else that desires is free to run wide open on the Lord's Day. It was respect for the Lard's Day and the Lord's House the built that sturdy New England civilization which gave the world the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the great Educational Institutions of the Eastern part of the United States, as well as the great Statesmen, Poets, Philosophers, and Philanthropists.

3. Motion Picture houses constantly showing films that are suggestive in Title, Poster, Advertisement, and in actual production on the screen where there is drinking, the use of weapons, the portrayal of lust the portrayal of the eternal triangle, the breaking of homes, the caracture of the Christian ministry, - until the young and the ignorant get the idea that such is the common order of Society. That in 1919, Tulsa County gave the startling total of 56.8 divorces, an increase of 18.9% over 1917, two years, is food for solid thought.

4. Officials who can see a car parked a foot out of line, but who are blind to Choc-joints, boot-legging, and the like, said to flourish in and about Tulsa.

5. Officials who have already winked at two lynchings, and who had every opportunity of knowing that a third was contemplated hours before the trouble actually begun.

6. Criminals who are given their freedom almost immediately after arrest either on worthless bonds, or through some powerful "Friend" at court, or through some other unlawful manner.

7. A certain type of citizenship which openly boasts of violating the Law with respect to the 18th Amendment.

These and other things have created in the minds of some, especially the younger ones, that the Law is nothing and may be violated with impunity and that punishment is a farce.

We, the Pastors of the City of Tulsa, urge that a thorough and complete investigation of this outrage be made immediately, and that wherever the guilty ones may be found, and whoever they are, white or black, that a full punishment be meted out. Good citizenship can not condone and tolerate vandalism, looting, and such other lawless acts as both black and white were guilty of May 31st, and June 1st. We believe that the possession of firearms and ammunition, especially rifles, revolvers, and such should be made a felony.

We call upon the officials, both County and Municipal for a full enforcement of the Law. We call for a readjustment of our Moral and Civic life, placing it on the plain of decency, righteousness and justice.

We appeal to the Christians of Tulsa to be more faithful in exemplifying the true meaning of Christianity in word and deed, to refrain from all questionable practices, and to give themselves over to the practice of Christian virtues and general Christian living.

We appeal to the unaffiliated Church members to take membership at once with their respective Churches, for in so doing they will strengthen the moral fibre of the Community. This is no time to hold aloof.

We also deem it the part of wisdom that there should be a closer cooperation between the religious and business forces of the two races in Tulsa, so that at all times there shall be a better mutual understanding making it possible for both races to work together to achieve the highest ideals. As an example of what we have in mind, we have invited the pastors of the Colored churches to associate themselves with the Ministerial Alliance in this city.

We believe most emphatically that the Church is the only hope for the City of Tulsa, and without her moral influence there can be no security no matter how many or what laws are enacted, or how well policed the city may be. The observance of all law depends upon the moral consciousness and the Church is the only Institution in our Society whose sole and only business is the creating of that Moral Consciousness.

TULSA COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICAN

TULSA OKLAHOMA

Washington School

INFORMATION ABOUT BOY SCOUT SERVICE

1. EACH OFFICE WILL HAVE A DETAIL OF SCOUTS FOR SERVICE IN THE BUILDING CONSISTING OF A DOOR ORDERLY AND ONE OR MORE DESK ORDERLIES.

2. THE DOOR ORDERLY SHALL NOT BE ORDERED FROM HIS POST BY ANY ONE OTHER THAN THE SCOUT DIRECTOR.

3. THE DESK ORDERLIES ARE FOR SERVICE INSIDE THE BUILDING ONLY.

4. SCOUTS ARE ON RESERVE IN THE SCOUT DIRECTORS OFFICE FOR ALL OTHER DUTIES

5. ALL REQUESTS FOR SCOUTS SHOULD BE MADE IN PERSON OR BY A WRITTEN ORDER STATING THE NUMBER OF SCOUTS DESIRED AND THE NATURE OF SERVICE REQUESTED

6. NO SCOUT SHALL LEAVE THE BUILDING WITHOUT A WRITTEN ORDER FROM THE SCOUT DIRECTOR.

(signed) F. D. Craft.

TULSA COUNCIL

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

TULSA OKLAHOMA

REQUEST FOR SCOUT SERVICE

Number of Scouts Needed .....

Nature of Service.

Remarks.

The Church stands between Society and destruction. What are you doing for the Church?

TULSA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE .

(COPY)

# R E S O L U T I O N S

On the 31st. night in May, 1921, the fiercest race war known to American history broke out, lasting until the next morning, June 1st., 1921. As a result of the regretable occurance, many human lives were lost and millions of dollars worth of property were stolen and burned. Hundreds of innocent Negroes suffered as a result of this calamity -- suffered in loss of lives, injury from gun-shot wounds, and loss of property. Many of us were left helpless and almost hopeless. We sat amid the wreck and ruin of our former homes and peered listlessly into space. It was at this time and under such conditions that the American Red Cross -- that Angel of love and Mercy -- came to our assistance. This great organization found us bruised and bleeding, and like the good Samaritan, she washed out wounds, and administered unto us. Constantly, in season and out, since this regretable occurance, this great organization, headed by that high class Christian gentleman, Mr. Maurice Willows, has heard our every cry in this our dark hour and has ever extended to us practical sympathy. As best she could, with food and raiment and shelter she has furnished us. And to this great Christian organization our heartfelt gratitude is extended.

Therefore be it resolved that we, representing the entire colored citizenship of the city of Tulsa, Oklahoma, take this means of extending to the American Red Cross, thru Mr. Willows, our heart-felt thanks for the work it has done and is continuing to do for us in this our great hour of need.

Resolved further that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the American Red Cross Head-quarters, a copy be mailed to Mr. Willows and his co-workers, and that a copy be spread upon the minutes of the

Office of the
EAST END RELIEF BOARD

Tulsa, Oklahoma, December 24, 1921.

The courage with which Tulsa Negroes withstood repeated attempts of the city administration to deliver the "burned area" over to certain land grafters is the subject of most favorable comment all over the country. The rapidity with which business buildings and residences are being rebuilt, in most instances, better than before is proof in wood and brick and in stone, of the black man's ability to make progress against the most cunningly planned and powerfully organized opposition.

Without weakening the above statement and taking nothing from the Tulsa Negroes courage, fortitude and resourcefulness, gratitude forces the admission that had it not been for the helping hand of the American Red Cross Society, his morale would have broken and the splendid history he has made since June 1st, 1921, when the savings of a lifetime were reduced to ashes, would have been impossible. The the Red Cross has wrought so nobly in our behalf, is due largely to the spirit of the man in charge, Mr. Maurice Willows. He is an apostle of the square deal for every man, regardless of race or color. Behind closed doors in council with bodies of influential white men he fought battles and won victories for us sufficient to merit the everlasting gratitude of our people. The Red Cross as a society, has ministered to our physical needs and Mr. Willows as a man, has stood for our civic rights at home and a fair presentation of our case abroad. When inportuned by interested parties to refer to the eventualities of May 31st and June 1st, in his official report, as a "Negro uprising", he stubbornly refused and instead, called it "the Tulsa disaster" and in addition told the truth as, upon investigation, he found it.

While assembled to witness the method by which the Red Cross has elected to give Christmas Cheer to the Negro Children of Tulsa and upon the eve of Mr. Willows" departure from our midst, the undersigned thought it fitting to offer these few words of appreciation on behalf of the entire Negro population of Tulsa, for the unselfish service he has rendered us, with the added assurance that the prayers of a people whom hardship and oppression have thought how to pray will follow him and his associates wherever, in response to the call of suffering humanity and in the line of duty, they may go.

EAST END RELIEF COMMITTEE

Resolutions
(2)

East End Welfare Board.

Respectfully submitted,

(SIGNED)

B. C. Franklin

E. F. Saddler

J. W. Hughes

I. N. Spears

P. A. Chappelle

Dimpie L. Bush

Committee.

Tulsa, Okla.
June 5th, 1921.

The Physicians Committee of the Board of Public Health recognizes and accepts the selection of Chief of Department as made by the American Red Cross as follows, i. e.

| | |
|---|---|
| Surgery | Dr. Ralph V. Smith |
| Obstetrics | Dr. George R. Osborn |
| Medicine | Dr. Horace T. Price |

For immediate service the following Doctors may be called:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Surgery | Dr. H. D. Murdock | O - 95 |
| | Dr. A. W. Pigford | O - 187 |
| | Dr. H. S. Browne | C -1039 |
| | Dr. D. C. Johnson | O -5011 |
| | Dr. G. H. Miller | O -6669 |
| Medicine | Dr. A. G. Wainwright | C - 497 |
| | Dr. C. S. Summers | O -9160 |
| | Dr. W. J. Trainer | O -8744 |
| | Dr. J. E. Wallace | O - 812 |
| | Dr. E. B. Wilson | O -8727 |
| Obstetrics | Dr. Geo R. Osborn | O -2010 |

It is the purpose of this committee to work in harmony with the American Red Cross and the other organizations doing relief work.

In recognition of the valuable services performed by Dr. Paul R. Browne, we recommend that in case of need he be consulted by all chiefs of departments and this committee.

The committee requests that the various types of work outlined further on, at the places named by performed by the designated physicians.

Sanitation - Dr. C. L. Reeder, Dr. L. C. Presson and assistants shall be responsible for sanitation throughout the city and county.

Fair Grounds Camp - Dr. C. D. Johnson, A. C. Wainwright and assistants shall have charge of all medical and surgical cases at the Fair Grounds Camp, but sending all Major operative cases to the Morningside Hospital and others requiring hospitalization to the Red Cross Hospital.

Obstetrics - Dr. Geo. R. Osborn and Assistants shall take care of all obstetrical cases arising anywhere, which must be sent in time to the Tulsa or Oklahoma Hospitals.

Red Cross Hospital - Dr. R. B. Smith and Assistants shall have charge of all operative cases at the Morningside and Red Cross Hospitals. Dr. C. H. Haralson and assistants shall take care of all eye, ear, nose and throat cases arising anywhere which may require special attention and those now in or coming to the Morningside or Red Cross Hospitals.

Booker Washington First Aid Station - Dr. Geo. H. Miller, Dr. C. S. Summers and assistants shall be responsible for the first aid and after treatment of all cases applying to this dispensary.

The Committee recommends that no attempt be made to rebuild the devasted area until a sanitary sewerage system has been installed, with connections to each building or that it shall at least be started and no building planned without such connections and accessories, within the corporate limits of the City.

We further recommend that the adjacent territory now situated in the county, be immediately included within the corporate limits in order that the health of the community may be protected by the installation of proper sewerage.

We further recommend that recognizing the extremely insanitary conditions existing within the devastated area, that if legally possible, the same be corrected through condemnatory preceedings and necessary destruction of all shacks that are now a menace to health.

In view of the fact that their building and equipment have been destroyed by fire, we recommend that temporary quarters be provided in the colored district for the use of the Tulsa County Public Health Association, that is work may be resumed at once and we further recommend that permanent quarters be provided as soon as possible. We further recommend that the tuberculosis and general public health work be resumed at once among the whitepopulation at the Public Health dispensary, 15 West 11th St.

By Order of the Committee

Dr. C. L. Reeder, Chairman

Dr. R. V. Smith

Dr. Horace T. Price, Secy.

# EMPLOYMENT ORGANIZATION

Red Cross Representative:
N. A.Thompson, Cedar 2300, Washington School House.

Employment Committee:

Chairman: W. N. Ellis, Osage 3540, 14½ E. First St.
Representing Federal State Employment Service.

G. A. Gregg, Cedar 613. Easton and Exeter.
Representing Colored Y. M. C. A.

Edna Pyle, Archer and Cincinnati,
Representing Y. M. C. A.

Miss Eloise Williams, Osage 8639, 4th & Cincinnati.
Representing Y. M. C. A.

Mrs. Victor A. Hunt, Osage 8823, 5th & Cheyenne.
Representing Y. W. C. A.

Barney Meyers, Osage 9393, 120 W. Third St.
Representing Open Shop Ass'n

G. P. James,
Representing Central Labor Unions.

T. C. Hopkins, Osage 9702, 406 So. Cincinnati.
Representing American Legion.

EMPLOYMENT ORGANIZATION

Duties of Agencies.

Red Cross Representative

Refers calls of all kinds to proper agency.
Makes adjustments.
Forms contact with Red Cross Committee
Special advertising.

Federal State Employment Bureau

Direct all employment work.
Fill all calls for permanent male colored.
Labor and day work for colored women.

Colored Y. M. C. A.

Fill all calls for day work for colored men.

Colored Y. W. C. A.

Fill all calls for permanent work for colored women.

General Activities

Committee meeting Tuesday, 2:00 p. m.
Washington School.

Employment city survey for positions.

Placards all over colored district, calling attention to agencies operating.

Advertising by newspaper stories.