

UNITED STATES HIGH COMMISSION

American Embassy
Constantinople

31

June 26, 1923.

Professor Caleb W. Lawrence,
Chairman Smyrna Disaster
Relief Committee,
Smyrna.

Dear Professor Lawrence:

I beg to acknowledge your letter of May 30th, forwarded to the High Commission by ConsulTreat, in which you give a resumé of the operations of your Committee from the time of its organization, September 6, 1922, to the present date. This gives me one more opportunity to congratulate you on the very excellent and devoted work that has been done by the Committee and by yourself personally - work which I know has added to the respect in which Americans are held in this part of the world.

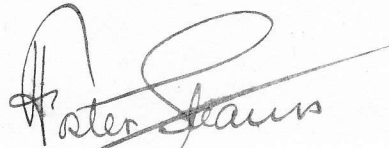
With regard to the recommendations in your closing paragraph, you are authorized to discontinue the work of the Committee on June 30, 1923. After consulting with Mr. Compton, of the Near East Relief, I would suggest the following procedure. The comparatively small cash balance which you have on hand to be expended on local relief and a complete financial statement submitted. It would seem that the inquiry work could be handled
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by the Young Men's Christian Association Committee on Prisoners of War; with regard to any remittances which this Committee is unable to handle, the Near East Relief would undertake them through its Constantinople Office by which all its remittance work in Anatolia is now done.

If these suggestions do not seem feasible, the Disaster Preparedness Committee would be glad to have you make such arrangements as may seem best to you on the spot for the continuance of the Committee's work. All I ask is that you will inform the Constantinople Committee of the procedure determined upon.

With sincere regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Foster Stearns", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.

Foster Stearns
Chairman Disaster Preparedness Committee.