

PLANS TO AID MINE VICTIMS

Red Cross Society Formulates a
Plan to Combine its Funds With
Those of State and
Mine Workers.

FOR CHERRY SUFFERERS

There are 185 Destitute Families in
the Little Illinois Mining Town
Who Will Need Much
Assistance.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The American Red Cross has taken the initiative in a new method of furnishing relief to those left destitute through some great disaster and if the present plan is followed it will be put into operation first for the relief of the widows and orphans who have been left helpless by reason of the great disaster last month at the Cherry mine in Illinois.

Ernest P. Bicknell, the national director of the American Red Cross, in discussing the proposed plan, said it involved contributions to a permanent fund by the Red Cross, the National Mine Workers' Association and by appropriation of the Legislature of Illinois. The Red Cross has given its unqualified indorsement to the project, and the officers of the mine workers and Gov. Deneen of Illinois have expressed their full sympathy with the movement.

The plan is to consolidate the funds of the Red Cross, the State of Illinois and the mine workers and place them in the hands of a board representing the three bodies. Under the direction of this board each family in Cherry will be visited and its condition as to its ability to support itself fully looked into. The amount of the allotment to each family will depend upon this investigation. It is proposed to continue this relief until the members of the families are able to provide for the family support. There are approximately 185 such destitute families at Cherry, with about 450 children under 16 years of age. This is the first time in its history that the Red Cross has undertaken relief work of this character.