

*Giddings Deutsches Volksblatt*, 17 February 1921. Image 011500313.

You must help the Germans in Western Prussia!

The unification of Germans in Poland in the area of Culm has made a formal request to the American Relief Committee for Polish People of German Extraction which should be known to all Germans in America, especially women and girls.

According to the American newspaper a relief committee has been formed in Randolph, Wisconsin, which wants to help the Germans in Pomerania. We need assistance with four families and turn to you. Because of the war these four families of German descent have lost everything. They settled in the area of Chelmno (today Poland) which was Culm in earlier times, West Prussia. Presently they live with relatives. They tell the committee that they are especially short of underwear but also general clothing. They say they can barely dress for the day. The Union of the Germans in Poland asks to give serious consideration to this request and send clothing; there also is a need for sewing notions so they can repair their underwear. The board of directors, attorney Baer and superintendent Böckler, are willing to lead communication and distribution of the clothing. The emphasis is on clothing for adults.

A second document follows: "My name is Frieda Dunkel. I am 23 years old and an orphan. For the last 8 years I have been employed with superintendent Böckler. I earn 50 Marks in Polish currency per month. My employer only receives 500 Marks per month for the whole family. Prices are very high here and it is therefore impossible for me to have enough for every month. During last winter I was seriously ill with a cold because I could not afford to buy any warm clothing. I am afraid to look at the future. A serious emergency is knocking on my door. Add to that the suffering over the loss of our fatherland. I sincerely ask you for help which I hope you will not refuse.

Underwear, patch material, sewing materials, also rice, cocoa and other foods can be mailed with a limit of 11 pounds per package. The address will be:

Union of the German people in Poland, Chelmno County, Chelmo, Wodna #30, Poland. For those who want to send money for the Germans in Western Prussia, send a money order or check to: American Relief Committee for Poles of German extraction, attention Otto Engel, Secretary, Randolph, Wisconsin.

Translated by Margot Hendricks