

Pathfinder

EVERY WEEK FROM THE NATIONS CAPITAL

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A FOOD "RIOT"

What has been generally overlooked in the present generous aid of the destitute is that country people have largely escaped notice. In Central Arkansas where crops were ruined by the drought and the farmers were left without food some 300 of them banded together, descended on the little town of England and grimly announced they were going to have food if they had to take it from the shelves of the stores. In the crowd were women who wept as the men threatened. Hasty action by townsmen and Red Cross officials prevented violence and provided immediate provisions to the extent of about \$3 a family.

The affair created much excitement, and some regarded it as the forerunner of similar trouble elsewhere. The director of the Red Cross at St. Louis said his organization was feeding approximately 100,000 persons in Arkansas and expected the number to reach 250,000 by February. At Washington Senator Caraway immediately announced a bill for a further \$15,000,000 for food loans, but Secretary of Agriculture Hyde quoted Chairman Payne of the Red Cross as saying that that organization has the funds, the organization and the preparation to take care of the situation. "Nobody is going to starve," declared an Arkansas official of the Red Cross. Total Red Cross funds available were placed at \$4,500,000, but Chairman Payne stated that if more were needed an appeal would be made to the American people.