

January 21, 1931.

Mr. John Z. Martin,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce,
Breckenridge, Texas.

Dear Mr. Martin:

Will Rogers called up from Washington over the telephone and stated he had just had an interview with President Hoover regarding the drouth relief situation, particularly the part in reference to personal aid for the drouth stricken farmers, and that inasmuch as Congress was not going to pass an appropriation to buy food for the farmers the practical way to handle it was through the Red Cross, as the President felt in the event they should pass the appropriation it would be the end of the Red Cross because any time in the future the necessity for Red Cross aid should appear it would immediately be turned over to Congress for an appropriation.

Under the circumstances, Rogers is sold on the idea that the proper way to handle the proceeds from his appearances in all of the Texas cities is to turn these funds over entirely to the Red Cross, thereby assisting in making up their quota in the particular community in which he appears. In the event your regular Red Cross Drive, together with Roger's program should produce more money than your Red Cross quota, you would then turn over to the Red Cross the proper quota and the additional money would be expended by your committee as you saw fit, along the lines of the original plans.

As the program stands now, the enclosed schedule covering eleven towns will be carried out and all the proceeds turned in to the Red Cross in each City. As a matter of showing our appreciation for Mr. Rogers efforts I am sure he will be delighted if we have a packed house in each city and take in a substantial amount of money.

With best wishes for a big house, I remain

Yours very truly,