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My dear Mr. Matthews:

Recently I was transferred from the City Commission Work Bureau, where I acted as Supervisor to the Emergency Home Relief Bureau, as investigator. Well, I have resigned. Not because of the harder work at a reduction in wages, but because I find it impossible to conform my ideas of standards of health and decency to the level of the new ratings.

To investigate a family and obtain the necessary answers to bring them within the need of Home Relief, only to find that single people can no longer receive relief, that a man or woman with one or two dependents is to receive one dollar and fifty cents per week and the rating increasing to a family over nine gets a food ticket of three dollars, ~~no~~ rents, no gas, no coal ~~to~~ to be given to relieve the economic pressure of the people, makes the work utterly devastating.

Friday, I called on one family and found a mother and nursing baby in one bed, and four children in another, suffering from chicken-pox. Instead of being able to give her the comfort of paying her rent and an adequate food ticket, I had to rouse her to a sitting position to sign two names to a two dollar food ticket to last one week and hasten away, before she gave vent to further aspects of her problem, calling the Board of Health to attend the case.

Another family, colored, a splendid well educated man and wife with three well-behaved little children, had registered for work and hated the idea of charity, but found themselves with their back to the wall. While questioning the wife, I mentioned the frail condition of the children and suggested the Health Station. She said she had already been there and the doctor told her the children were on the verge of starvation, prescribed a diet which was impossible to obtain. Investigation revealed she had worked four hours and earned a dollar and this family had lived on that sum for one week.

These two cases are samples of the majority of those under my care. It is impossible to continue working for a system which purports to relieve the pressure of the present unemployed situation and really reduces its clients to a condition below starving and impairs health.

In this, the world's richest city; in this, the City of Churches; in this, the city of efficiency, one expects great humanitarian results, instead of being a laughing-stock of the entire world.

Faithfully,