

# VIENNA WORST OF STRICKEN PLACES

### English Statesman Finds Famine Has Wrought Most Havoc in That City

London, Dec. 30.—(By Mail).—Sir William Goode, the British Director of Relief, declares that Vienna is the worst of all the famine-stricken places that he visited on a recent tour through Central Europe.

Although more than 2,400,000 tons of foodstuffs, at a cost of nearly \$500,000,000, have been delivered in European relief since the signing of the armistice, by far the greatest share of which, he said, had been furnished by the United States under the direction of Herbert Hoover, conditions are still so deplorable as almost to "beggar description." A distinguished British army officer who had been in Vienna for some time, implored him before he left the Austrian capital: "For God's sake go home and tell them what it is like!" Sir William told his experiences to the American Luncheon Club here.

"I felt upon leaving Vienna," said he, "as if I had spent ten days in the cell of a condemned murderer who has given up all hope of a reprieve. I stayed at the best hotel but I saw no milk and no eggs the whole time I was there. In the bitter-cold hall of the hotel, once the gayest rendezvous in Europe, the visitors huddled together in the gloom of one light where there used to be forty. They were more like shadows than representatives of the rich. Vienna's world-famous Sopera house is packed every afternoon. Why? Women and men go there in order to keep themselves warm and because they have no work to do.

**Wood Brings High Price.**  
"In my office I made several experiments at working in overcoat and with blankets for the staff when the thermometer inside was only one degree above freezing point. Finally I determined to get wood enough to light the one small fire for two days. It cost me 970 crowns, which, to the Viennese, is equivalent to about 30 pounds or 40 pounds.

"Do you wonder that the well-to-do people in Vienna are burning their furniture to light their stoves? Can you imagine how the poor live or try to live? It is not unusual to see the traffic in one of the main streets which leads to the cemetery held up by hearses. Nine-tenths carry the bodies of children.

"In Vienna, in the palace of a former archduke, I saw thousands of children being fed with American Relief food under the control of a young naval officer, whom I was proud to recognize as one of those Americans who did excellent work in the early days of the Commission for Relief in Belgium. Our own British Relief Missions, both in Austria and in Hungary, and a number of unofficial British workers are do-

ing everything possible to stem the tide of distress." In Serbia alone, Sir William declared, there are 500,000 fatherless children, most of whom are suffering from hunger and exposure.

**Starvation Serious Thing.**  
"It seems to me that you cannot trifle with starvation and privation in Central Europe such as prevails today in Vienna without running the risk of a carnival of Bolshevism which would probably not be confined to this continent. I do not want to cry 'wolf' and I am rather inclined to think that Bolshevism has been used too much as a bogey, but anyone with half an eye must realize that if, as a result of apparently legitimate grievances, forces of unrest are loosed in the heart of Europe, the whole world, the United States as well as ourselves, will be menaced."

Sir William declared that "first and foremost among the causes of the present situation in Central Europe is the delay in making peace.

"It scarcely seems to be realized in the United Kingdom," he continued, "isolated from the continent of Europe by a narrow strip of water and still less in the United States, isolated by the Atlantic Ocean, that Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey are still technically at war with the Allies and, what is more important, at war with most of their neighbors.

"As one approaches the frontiers one finds every little wayside station packed with soldiers, bayonets fixed and railway sidings congested with ammunition wagons. War, and all the wasteful affects of preparedness for war upon economic and industrial progress, are visualized for miles as one travels through these countries. In many corners of Central Europe today the inhabitants do not even know their own nationality. Until universal peace is ratified, until boundary commissions are able to get to work, and until plebiscites can determine the future of democracies, Central Europe will be a patchwork of ethnological dislocation. An overprolonged armistice, following upon four years of war, has

knocked away almost every fundamental prop: political, financial and economic. "States on the Danube—the main avenue of traffic—fear to send barges out of their own territorial waters lest they should be appropriated by their next-door neighbor. Just as on land the British Tommy is the only safeguard for a train of supplies, so on the Danube one of Admiral Troubridge's British mine-layers, with a little British midship in command, is the only guarantee of safe conduct.

**Stamps On Export Duty.**  
"The other day on the Jugo-Slav frontier, trains of food supplies arranged by the Allied Relief Missions and all paid for by the Austrian government were on their way to mitigate starvation in Vienna. At the last moment the Jugo-Slav government clapped on an export duty of 40 per cent and refused to permit the trains to go forward unless that tax was paid in foreign exchange. I ventured to take international law into my own hands and, thanks to the resourcefulness and intrepidity of a couple of young British

Army officers, these trains arrived in Vienna.

"Another interlocking difficulty as between food and transport is the persistent flocking of peasants with eggs, sacks of flour, live geese and ducks and all kinds of agricultural produce into the towns. In snow, rain, or any kind of weather, you can see not only the inside but the roof of every railway carriage thronged with this queening crowd of food speculators. Their traffic has assumed such proportions as to make legitimate railway travelling almost impossible. What it means in the problem of food distribution will be apparent when I tell you that a train of 40 carriages full of these picturesque profiteering pedlars can only carry as much food as could be put into four ordinary railway trucks."

A woman can get a man to do anything she wants him to if she has tact enough to induce him to talk about himself.

"Ah, cowboys on the streets. I didn't expect to see them in these days." "We air progressive, stranger. We have considerable tourist business and these cowboys air maintained by the town."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

### SAVES MONEY FOR CAROLINIANS.

The price of "The New International Encyclopedia" was increased Jan. 1st. In order to favor my Carolina customers, I contracted for one hundred sets of these (the most useful books published), at the pre-publication price. You doubtless need and probably want these books. The first one hundred people writing to me can get a set at the former price, thereby saving nearly \$50. If you are interested, write to me today, and I will send you particulars of this unusual offer. J. T. Norworthy, The Book Man, Tarborough Hotel, Raleigh, N. C.—(adv.)

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## At Public Auction

### Saturday, January 10th, at 12:00 Noon

AT WAKE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

### PACKING PLANT SITE

This site was bought by the State Packing Co. for the purpose of building a packing plant, but owing to changes in the Company this property is being offered for sale by order of the Board of Directors. This property contains 39.8 acres, bounded on the North by N. & S. Railroad, on the South by Seaboard Railroad, and on the East by the Raleigh-Wake Forest National Highway, having over 2,000 feet Railroad siding on each Railroad. No site for Industrial Plant, Warehouse or Manufacturing establishment in this section is available.

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**TIME: SATURDAY, JANUARY 10th, AT 12:00 NOON. PLACE: WAKE COUNTY COURT HOUSE. TERMS: CASH.**