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## GERMAN PRISONERS DON'T LOLL IN LUXURY IN CAMPS

At Hot Springs Lawrence Finds Most Prisoners Are Not Happy. But Still Loath to Leave—They No Longer Talk of War as "Glorious," But Call it "Terrible".

(DAVID LAWRENCE in the Greensboro News.)

Hot Springs, N. C., June 28.—Life in an American internment camp—for this is the largest of them all, more than 2,300 Germans being sequestered here—is not what it is cracked up to be. Pictures that went forth months ago gave an impression of exaggerated solicitude on the part of our government for the everyday welfare of its involuntary guests. They are being treated decently, and such luxury as they have had was supplied by nature in a wonderful mountain spot, or by the skill of their unemployed hands.

Both the scenic beauty and the little playhouses they have fashioned, however, are to end on July 1, when the government removes the Germans to Fort Oglethorpe and takes over the camp here for a reconstruction hospital. Subtracting the scenery and the arbor houses the Germans have built for themselves, nothing remains but monotonous army barracks and a barbed wire fence. Still, if the German government treats American prisoners of war or detained citizens with equal consideration we shall not have the slightest kick coming. But that the Germans are living in summer hotel comfort is all wrong. They have been permitted recreation and occupation, for they would go crazy and be a sorry burden to us if denied an opportunity to break the monotony of their confinement, that's all.

I spent some time observing the Germans at work and play and talked with the men who have guarded them for more than a year, who have consorted their mail, and who have had the chance to get an intimate view of this odd delegation of enemies, whose counterpart 3,000 miles away is facing American troops in the trenches. In this and the succeeding articles of this series, I give not merely my own impression, but that of the officials, who have made a study of the psychology of their wards during the last 12 months.

Ten Germans came down on the train with me. Some were picked up in the Philippines, others in the canal zone, some came from American ships, where they had quietly become assimilated with other foreign born in the crews; some were merchants and one a traveling salesman who could have no good object in meandering from Argentina to America. Four husky American guards in the immigration service of the department of labor had charge of the Germans, and from the moment the train pulled out of Washington until it reached its destination they never had a chance. To have made the slightest break would have brought a very accurate fire from the pocket artillery, which the guards, some of them typical Carolina mountaineers, would have sent in their direction.

"My instructions," said J. Kemp Bartlett, Jr., of Baltimore, a well known Princeton athlete of recent years and the present director of the Hot Springs camp, "are to bring ten Germans to Hot Springs"—he spoke in a low voice to the Germans as they stood in a row before him on untrailing—"and there's nothing in the instructions which says the Germans must be alive when they reach their destination. It's a lot easier to take care of a dead German than a live one, and the very first time anybody tries anything my guards will shoot."

Every one of the group took his advice, more or less soberly, but one, a hatchet-nosed German, with pompadour hair and a blond moustache. There was on his face the same kind of a leer which I imagine marked the countenances of those German soldiers who have cold-bloodedly drowned men, women and children in the life boats of torpedoed ships. But the whole crowd behaved very well as the train would stop along the way one guard would get outside the car and protect the exits on both sides, while two others stayed inside. The Germans were covered every minute of the journey and all night long. They never had a chance. Two Germans in all have made a bolt for their liberty since the camp here was started, but each was re-captured within a few days.

The trouble with the outside impression of Hot Springs is that most people neglect to look at the date line. This isn't the Hot Springs of Virginia or Arkansas fame. It is a town of about 400 people, without a movie or a theatre and with all the dullness and isolation that a place stuck off in the mountains can accumulate. There was an old hotel here, and when the department of labor was looking for a building to relieve the crowded condition at Ellis Island, an enterprising person persuaded the said department to rent the hotel and grounds.

Personally, if I were a wounded soldier in the reconstruction hospital that is to be established here soon, I should prefer the plain army barracks to the hotel. For one thing, it seems to me cleaner and less populated by bugs, and there is more air. Four cots are put in each of the hotel rooms, maybe that's how the original analogy to summer hotel comfort arose, but the photographs so widely circulated were taken from the outside rather than the inside. Another thing, I failed to discover the luxurious swimming pool. There was

for a week or two an inclination to take a dip in the outdoor tank near the hotel, but the physicians promptly put a stop to that, as the water was found to be impure.

Happy, most of the Germans are not. Some play soccer football, and 40 out of 2,300 have gone in for tennis, but the great majority sit and read or talk or meditate. The wives of about 30 of the Germans are quartered in the village nearby, but they are not permitted to see their husbands, and they can't even get a glimpse of them through the fence. Five hundred feet away and never a sight of wife or child for months, but that's the rule, and it is being rigidly enforced. The other day the women were permitted a special interview with their husbands, apocryphal of arrangements to move the camp to Fort Oglethorpe, about which transfer they seem to have strange apprehensions.

In fact, back in the minds of all the Germans is a kind of awe of the American people. They seem to think harm is going to be done them sooner or later. Particularly do they lurgle that as they go from the jurisdiction of the department of labor and the immigration authorities to the war department they will encounter hardships at the hands of army officers. But our officials have assured them that they need have no fear, that the American army officer is quite a different type from the German army officer, that he is a human being who has spent his life as a rule in civilian pursuits and not in learning how to express a contemptuous superiority over all things civilian.

The Germans are loath to leave here. They have dug themselves in, so to speak, and such comforts as they have are the results of months of hard labor. The village they have built is typically German. It is a series of arbor-like houses, not more than twelve feet square, built of driftwood, scraps of wreckage from old buildings, with hammered-out tin cans or tooth powder tubes or shaving soap containers and other bits of metal to decorate the exteriors or line the neat little windows. Every other little house has its garden with beds that are bordered or bisected with tiny paths.

Some artistic effects in gardening and decoration have been secured by incessant application day after day, for nearly a year. They take a pride in these little playhouses. They are not permitted to sleep in them. They are recreation centers, where the Germans gather in groups of four or six or where the owner secludes himself for reading or study. Maybe the army authorities will let them build similar houses and a new village at Fort Oglethorpe. Our officials tell me the Germans are much less loath when they have something to occupy them. The mountain folk hereabouts say "put them to work in the fields," some, indeed, have accepted paroles for that work, but so deep rooted is the fear of what will happen to them when they get back to Germany if they accept a parole that most of them do not dare even to apply.

Some of the Germans are too old to work, as they are over 50. The younger men find amusement in outdoor sports or in musical instruments, which they have brought with them from their ships, but the great majority feel like prisoners and act like it. They wonder when it will all end. They no longer talk of the war as "glorious," it is now a "terrible war," and they do not think it will be over "in a few months," as they fancied when they came here. It is a dreary, monotonous future they foresee, but at least, they are being fed, three times a day, and have a bunk to sleep in, which ought to be told in the streets of Berlin repeatedly with photographic illustrations, if necessary.

All the men, in the letters they are permitted to write twice a week to Germany, unanimously describe their treatment as good. Germany ought by this time know that when America as the intermediary for England and France sought to improve the condition of allied prisoners she was not merely uttering empty altruism. America is now practicing what she then preached, and presumably German public opinion will keep this in mind, whenever there is complaint to make about American prisoners in Germany.

An editor in the Far West dropped into church for the first time in many years. The minister was in the very heart of the sermon. The editor listened for a while, and then rushed to his office.

"What are you fellows doing?" What about the news from the seat of war?"

"What news?" "Why, all this about the Egyptian Army being drowned in the Red Sea. The minister up at the church knows all but it, and you have not a word of it in our latest. Bustle around, you fellows, and get out an extra-special edition."—Tit-Bits

The serious food shortage in Austria-Hungary has given rise to sensational rumors. One of these, from Amsterdam, says an attempt has been made on the life of Emperor Charles. This rumor lacks confirmation. There is, however, little doubt that conditions in Austria are near a crisis. Little of the true state of affairs can be learned because of the strict censorship, but what little news filters out through neutral countries shows that the Austrian people are on short rations, that serious rioting has occurred, and that general strikes are feared. In a clash between police and strikers at Budapest 45 persons are reported to have been killed or wounded.

## GERMAN PRISONER THINKS WAR WILL SOON BE OVER

Too Many Americans, He Says—Our Boys Captured 250 Prisoners — One Prisoner Says Are Going to Wipe Out Americans.

German prisoners captured by the American forces on storming the Belleau Wood section now numbers 250, including 7 officers. One of the officers said the German commanders have been telling the soldiers that the Germans have landed an army in America, captured New York, and are now marching toward Philadelphia. The Germans have also told that submarines have sunk between forty and fifty ships in Long Island Sound.

The importance of the American advance in Belleau Wood is not indicated by the amount of territory captured as that only amounts approximately to 500 square yards. The new positions of the Americans, however, dominate the ridge beyond so that they now hold the upper hand.

Another German officer, arrogant and sarcastic, remarked: "We are just starting with the Americans. We are going to wipe out whole divisions as if they were companies."

The German prisoners were less arrogant and apparently were glad they were captured. One declared that the Germans were surprised at the Americans, who appeared so young, but fought like devils when they got started. Another declared:

"The war will soon be ended. There are too many Americans coming to Europe."

This prisoner was a Prussian, who fought on the Russian front. He confessed that the Germans were preparing to attack the Americans in Belleau Wood, when the American troops started their attack. It was a surprise affair. The Americans came one way, and the German officers tried to force their men forward the other way. This prisoner was shot in the leg by his own officer because he hesitated confusedly between the American guns and bayonets, and the pistols in the hands of the German officers.

Raymond S. Howell of Barnesville, Ohio, who was in the first line of the advance, describing the operation, said:

"We took up a position in the open wood; there were no trenches. The Germans opened a heavy fire, and shells fell around us like rain. We charged over the rocky hill, our fellows laughing and yelling a war song. We then came up a wheat field and crossed in the face of a withering shell and machine fire, and drove back the Germans at the point of the bayonet."

"It was a wonderful sight. The Americans never hesitated, and the sound of their shouts and whoops were almost drowned by the Germans' cries of 'kamerad!'"

"The Germans got a few of our fellows, but we made them pay dearly for every one."

Herbert E. Bartlett of Anita, Iowa, told about a wounded American forcing a big German to lead the way to the rear of the American lines. When they reached the lines, the American said quietly: "Here's my prisoner." The German sheepishly nodded and said "Yah."

Some idea of the thoroughness with which the American prepared for the attack may be gleaned from the fact that they fired approximately 5,000 high explosives in one hour. The American gunner worked so fast the Germans said they did not have time to think. The German lines were torn up and the ground around strewn with German dead and wounded. Two members of a German hospital corps were captured.

Machine guns were placements, which were hidden behind the rocks, were charged and captured, while a group of several Americans captured one machine gun and twenty Germans in a shell hole. The attacking force was a comparatively small one, but did the work so thoroughly as one several times as large might have done.

One of the American wounded remarked to the correspondent:

"I got bumped pretty badly, but I guess it was worth while. If we had a million more like out outfit over here we would go to Berlin."

## Death of J. Labe Little

Mr. J. Labe Little, one of the most prominent citizens of the northern part of the county, died at his home on Rocky river Monday at the advanced age of 83. He had been ill for some time.

The deceased was a leader in his community, where practically all of his long and useful life was spent. Besides his wife he is survived by nine children, five sons and four daughters. The daughters are: Mrs. James Griffin of Ocoee Creek township; Mrs. T. A. Honeycutt of Stanley; Mrs. T. W. H. Bizzers and Mrs. Ellis Griffin, who lives in Tennessee. The sons are: Messrs. J. A. Little, Clerk of Superior Court of Stanley; J. C. Little, also of Stanley; L. B. Little of Florida; T. A. Little of the Long's store section; and Mr. Watt Little, who made his home with his parents.

Mr. Little was a man of upright Christian character. His word was good as his bond. His neighbors recognized him as such, and as a leader. Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at Crooked creek Primitive Baptist church by Elder Henry Taylor. A large crowd attended the services.

Nearly \$10,000 worth of War Savings Stamps were sold at the post office here yesterday.

Lick stamps and lick the Kaiser.

## AMERICAN SOLDIERS WILL SOON FACE THE AUSTRIANS

Meanwhile, All Eyes Are Watching That Scene of the War With Expectant Eyes—Quiet Reigns on The War Theaters.

With the return of almost normal conditions on the Italian front and with no indication apparent that it is the intention of the Austrians in the immediate future to launch another stroke against General Diaz's armies, the eyes of the world are being centered once more in expectancy on the battle area in France and Flanders as the possible theater of early encounters on a large scale.

This expectancy is heightened by the utterance of Prime Lloyd George, the British prime minister, in the house of commons Monday, when he said another enemy attack might be looked for, possibly within a few hours and certainly within the next few days—a blow on which the issue of the campaign might depend—rather than by any outward signs of great preparations by the Germans to loose their armies for another attempt at the capture of Paris or the channel ports.

Although the infantry operations, except by the Americans in the Belleau Wood, have scarcely risen in importance above patrol encounters recently, nevertheless the Germans are trying out with their artillery the stability of the British and French positions on various sectors from Flanders to the region of the Marne. Southwest of Arras, on the river Lys sectors, and between Givenchy and Robecq, the British lines have been heavily shelled with guns of all calibers and with considerable numbers of gas projectiles. The French have been receiving similar visitations between the Oise and Aisne rivers, especially in the region north of Villers-Cotterets, where the recent German offensive reached its greatest depth in the attempted dash to Paris.

When or where the next offensive is to be launched cannot be told, but it is expected that it will be started and carried out in an ambitious manner, for it seemingly is realized that time now is working against the Germans in the west and that haste is necessary. This fact apparently is being deeply impressed on the German high command, especially as it daily is witnessing the arrival of increasing numbers of Americans on the battle front and is coming to realize that they are foemen of the highest merit.

For the moment the Germans seem resigned to their loss to the Americans of the Belleau Wood, northwest of Chateau Thierry. No counter-attacks have been made in an endeavor to regain the lost ground. The latest account of the Americans' victory shows that the troops from overseas, in addition to killing and wounding many of the enemy, took 311 prisoners, 11 machine guns and 19 automatic rifles and a large quantity of ammunition and other war stores.

All is quiet along the Piave front in the Italian theatre, where the Italians are secure in the positions from which they drove the Austrians from the western bank of the river. In the mountain region there has been considerable fighting in which the Italians seem to have had the upper hand.

Announcement has been made by Secretary of War Baker that a regiment of American troops from the expeditionary forces of General Pershing has been ordered to Italian front. On their arrival, which is expected shortly, the Austrians will have facing them men from Italy, the United States, Great Britain and France.

## Junior Red Cross Notes

The Juniors will have to be zealous in good work this summer if they do their part to meet the requirements of the government in supplying the three million men which Baker says will be in foreign fields by fall. There is a call from headquarters for an unlimited supply of quilts. The latest instructions are to make them 55x65, heavily padded with cotton. At the last two meetings the Juniors have put together one quilt and have squares ready for two more. Mrs. E. A. Armfield met with the Juniors last Monday and has graciously offered to help with the quilting. The auxiliary at Union has sent in two nice quilts. The following little ladies have brought in material for the work: Martha Adams, Sarah Hudson, Edie Hudson, Rachael Hudson, Cornelia Dillon, Virginia Blakely, Mary Norwood, John Belk, Rebecca Norwood, Nora Lee, Katherine Redfern, Mary Watkins, Virginia Neal, Lillian Parker, Fannie P. Rudge, Ashe Lane, Ida Mills, Francis Simpson, Elizabeth Simpson, Anna E. Redfern, Rachael Armfield, Eleanor Armfield, Martha Heath, Clara Anderson, Louise Anderson, Lorraine Sales, and Mary L. Patton.

Martha Adams, Edie H. and Rachael Hudson have brought in one pound of tin-foil.

Mrs. Randolph Redfern, chairman of the Junior work, wishes the high school girls to enlist in the splendid work as well as the grammar grades.

Mrs. WALTER CROWELL, Executive Secretary Junior Work.

Give up your luxuries that the Kaiser may be made to give up his ambitions.

Become a stockholder in the United States—buy War Savings Stamps.

Lick stamps and lick the Kaiser.

## RUSSIAN HEROINE HERE



Mme. Leontina Botchkareva, founder and leader of the famous Russian women's Battalion of Death, who arrived at a Pacific port en route to France, where she will offer her services to the allies. At the time of the downfall of Kerensky Mme. Botchkareva was smuggled out of Moscow and taken to Vladivostok, where she took refuge on a British war vessel.

## KERENSKY SAYS RUSSIA WILL RE-ENTER THE FIGHT SOON

Former Premier, On His Way To America, Made This Statement In London—Much Speculation As to The Purpose of His Visit.

The unheralded appearance in London of Alexander Kerensky, former provisional premier of Russia together with his announcement that he is on his way to America and that he is certain Russia soon will be fighting again with the forces of democracy against German domination, furnished the subject for a discussion in official and diplomatic circles that covered a wide range.

As there apparently had been no intimation of Kerensky's intended visit to this country, speculation naturally centered around his purpose in coming. The belief seems to be general that he not only will seek to enlist the support of his own people in this country in his efforts to rehabilitate Russia and cast off the German yoke, but will discuss the subject with officials as well.

Appearing as he does at a time when both the United States and the entente governments are earnestly considering how they may best aid Russia, the visit of the one-time dictator is regarded by officials as having many and far-reaching possibilities.

Coincidentally with the appearance of Kerensky in London, John Sookline, a member of the Russian commission sent to the United States by the Kerensky government a year ago, and now just back from France, announced today that he had learned from intimate reports from Russia that the people now would welcome military action by the allies to overcome German domination.

Mr. Sookline's statement and that of former Premier Kerensky concerning the change in the sentiment of the Russian masses serve to bear out reports received at the state department. It is known that for some time powerful forces have been gathering within Russia itself to restore order.

It developed today that Kerensky actually had been in Russia most of the period of eight months since his government was overthrown by the Bolsheviks. Although assiduously sought by the Bolsheviks, he is understood to have been hiding in Moscow and in the Caucasus, directing his agents in combatting the spread of German influence and intrigue. However, it has not yet been made clear to what extent Kerensky represents the elements seeking to set up a strong government in Russia.

## Names For Red Cross Quilt.

The following names have been added to the quilt since Tuesday: Samuel A. Price, Mrs. Samuel A. Price, Ray Alexander Price, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Price, Mrs. D. M. Gordon, George Gordon, Harvey Gordon, Jonathan Gordon, Nancy Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Wiggins, Donald Stanley, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Keller, J. H. Winesher, Sam J. Winesher, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pickett, Mrs. J. A. Presley, Mabel Presley, Miss Annie Lee, Nora Lee, Francis Lee, Dick Lee, Harry Lee, Mrs. E. J. Horton, Ellen Starnes, Bertha McLain, Miss Lura Heath, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Crook, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Greene, Mr. and Mrs. Vance Laney, Mrs. T. F. Modlin, Mrs. Lee Presley, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Williams, Harry Williams, Robert Williams.

Luxuries as usual means a victorious Germany. Save and buy War Savings Stamps.

Make thrift your by-word.

## SUGAR IN THIS COUNTY TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY GRIFFIN

Retailers Must Get Certificates From Him, and the Householder is Limited to Three Pounds—Causes Underlying Action.

On July 1 and thereafter the distribution of sugar in the United States will be conducted under the absolute direction of the United States Food Administration, according to announcement by County Food Administrator Lee Griffin today. This radical departure is necessary in order to conserve the sugar supply so that ample sugar will be available for household use and for preserving and canning.

On and after July 1 Mr. Griffin will issue certificates to all buyers of sugar, including wholesalers, retailers, manufacturers, eating houses, boarding houses and every dealer or user of sugar whatsoever with the exception of household customers. No sales of sugar must be made July 1 and after except upon the surrender of certificates issued by Mr. Griffin and with the exception of sales to household consumers.

All commercial users of sugar are being required to make a new statement of sugar on hand and in transit on July 1, and those who have more sugar than they are entitled to will be required to dispose of it under the direction of County Food Administrator Griffin.

The same applies to any hotels, restaurants, bakers, or dealers who have on hand July 1 more sugar than they are entitled to. It is manifestly unfair for any one to be over-stocked under conditions which the country faces at this time. Our national sugar supply does not come from stocks, but arrives in monthly amounts and any attempts to provide ahead upon the parts of dealers, commercial users or individuals will be severely punished by the Food Administration which will be able to keep accurate tab on all sales of sugar through the new system of inspection.

The extension of the rationing plan for the distribution of sugar is the result of a number of causes that have culminated to make the sugar situation more difficult than could have been anticipated even a few weeks ago, according to a statement issued by State Food Administrator Henry A. Page today.

On account of the shipping situation it is impossible to secure the sugar which is available in remote markets and there has been a smaller yield of sugar in the West Indies. The domestic beet and the Louisiana crops have also fallen below anticipation. In addition to this, a considerable quantity of sugar has been lost by submarines.

As close an estimate as can be made indicated a reasonable expectation from all sources of about 1,600,000 tons of sugar for United States consumption during the last half of the present year. This is based upon the maintenance of the present meagre allied ration.

This supply of 1,600,000 tons necessitates a considerable reduction in our consumption. To provide three pounds of sugar per month per person for household use, to take care of our army and navy and to provide for the necessary preservation of fruit, milk, etc., will require about 1,500,000 tons of sugar for the six months. A household consumption of three pounds per month per person, together with the special allowance for home canning, means a reduction of some 25 per cent in these branches of consumption from normal but it is still nearly double the ration in the allied countries and is ample for every economical use.

In the plan of distribution which will now go into force, the less essential users of sugar, that is confectioners, soft drink manufacturers, tobacco manufacturers, etc., will be hit the hardest. There are a number of substitutes available to the confectioners upon which no restrictions are placed.

A retailer is expected to sell not more than three pounds per person per month to householders. All householders are requested and expected to purchase all sugar supplies from the same grocer insofar as possible.

Households canning and preserving fruits for home use will be allowed only 25 pounds of sugar for such purposes for the entire season except upon specific authorization from their County Food Administrator to purchase an additional amount. Canning club girls and others canning and preserving fruits for the market can secure certificates from the Sugar Division of the Food Administration upon filing a statement of their requirements upon blanks which will be furnished for their purpose.

It will be seen by this plan that there is no direct rationing of the householder. It would cost the government \$5,000,000 to put the householder on a ration card and would take the services of 100,000 people to carry it out. We cannot afford the labor or money and if householders will co-operate it can be avoided.

## Presbyterian Church Notes.

A cordial invitation to the following services:  
10 a. m., Sunday school.  
11 a. m., worship and sermon.  
6:30 p. m., prayer service and 20 minute sermon.

Note the change in hour for evening service.—Reporter.

Hartley Withers, the editor of the Economist, of London, says: "Money spent in war time on things not needed is money given to the enemy."