

MISTREATMENT OF PRISONERS ALLEGED Purported Instances of Brutality Toward Them in North Carolina Prison Camps Sent to Governor. CHARGES AGAINST CAPT. C. J. RHEM One of Charges Is That Colored Prisoner Has Been Subjected to Inhuman Torture by Doctor in Charge.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, April 9.—Complaints alleging mistreatment of prisoners and purported instances of brutality toward them in prison camps in charge of Capt. C. J. Rhem were forwarded today to Governor Bickett of North Carolina by the prisoners' Relief Society, with headquarters here. The letter to Governor Bickett accompanying documents tending to substantiate charges of mistreatment follows: "We have been for a long time receiving complaints of inhuman treatment of convicts in your state. We have lately received numerous letters telling us of the brutality in the camps under the command of Capt. C. J. Rhem. One of the letters states that a certain colored prisoner has been subjected to inhuman tortures by the doctor in charge of the camps.

"Please let us know immediately if you will look into this matter, as we feel that you are the authority that should be called upon first, and our executive committee has deemed it of sufficient seriousness to bring it to the attention of the Federal government unless immediate steps are taken by the state authorities to have the inhuman practice stopped." Gov. Bickett in New York. Raleigh, April 9.—Gov. Bickett to whom a letter has been addressed by the Prisoners' Relief Society at Washington in which complaint is made, alleging mistreatment of prisoners in camps in North Carolina in charge of Capt. C. J. Rhem, is in New York City and no statement regarding charges was obtainable at the Governor's office here today. The letter containing the complaint has not yet been received, the Governor's secretary stated.

Collie Says Charges Are Untrue. J. R. Collie, superintendent of the state prisons, when shown the story from Washington, declared that so far as he knew the "charges are without foundation." Mr. Collie said he visits the prison camps weekly, and talks freely with the prisoners, and they are at liberty to make any complaint they desire to him. No complaint had been made to him, he stated. When a prisoner is subjected to corporal punishment, Mr. Collie said the law of North Carolina requires that the prison physician or chaplain be present for the purpose of preventing cruelty. He said the charges came as a complete surprise to him, and that he would "welcome and invite an investigation."

HON. CHAMP CLARK will speak at the Y. M. C. A. KANNAPOLIS, N. C. Friday Evening, April 11th, at 8 P. M. (fast time) Write the Y. M. C. A. and Secure Your Tickets at Once Admission 50c and \$1.00

MT. PLEASANT NEWS. Play Saturday Evening.—Recital Friday Night.—Soldier Boys Honored.—Other Matters of Interest. Mt. Pleasant, April 9.—A military comedy in three acts, entitled, "A Little Savage," will be presented at the auditorium Saturday evening, under the auspices of the M. P. C. I. Athletic Association. The cast is a strong one, and the play will doubtless draw a full house. The curtain will rise at 8:30, and the admission charges will be 15 and 25 cents. A musical treat is in store for Friday evening when a Recital will be rendered at Mount Amoena Seminary.

Mr. Ben McAllister, of the 115th Machine Gun Battalion, arrived here last Thursday. Mr. John Faggart, of the 67th Division, also arrived at his home here last Thursday. Rev. John H. Keller, of China Grove, filled the pulpit at the Reformed church Sunday evening. Mr. Karl Cook leaves today for Winston-Salem, where he has accepted a position with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company.

Mr. Oscar Shuping is expected to arrive at his home here next Sunday from Camp Gordon where he has been for several weeks since his return from overseas. A reception was tendered last Saturday evening by the Y. M. C. A. of the Collegiate Institute to the Faculty and Students of Mount Amoena Seminary and other invited guests. The hall was decorated in patriotic fashion, and refreshments were served.

Mr. Fred W. Lentz is a business visitor in Charlotte yesterday. Mr. Martin Schulben, of Wilmington, is here a guest of Mr. Virgil Schenck. Mr. Schulben is an ex-student of the Collegiate Institute. Mrs. J. E. Schenck, Miss Anna Schenck, Messrs. T. C. Johnson and Martin Schulben spent yesterday in Charlotte.

Recently, dogs entered the pasture of Mr. Arthur H. Cowles, of Yadkin Valley, Caldwell county, while he was away from home, and killed practically his flock of 35 sheep. On returning Mr. Cowles caught the dogs at their work and managed to kill one of them but the others succeeded in getting away. It was said that Mr. Cowles recognizes the dogs as belonging to one of his neighbors. The sheep were valued at about \$600.

THOSE TRIUMPHAL GERMAN HELMETS



Eighty-five thousand German helmets, captured by allied troops in Coblenz, are to be awarded as prizes by federal district committees in the Victory Liberty Loan campaign. They will be given to Victory note salesmen making the best selling records and school children writing the best essays on the loan. In the picture shown above, taken on the Treasury steps in Washington, are shown Frank R. Wilson, director of publicity (left), and Lewis B. Franklin, director of War Loan Organization (right). Wilson created a panic in the helmet market by buying the entire \$5,000 allotment from the War Department for \$1. It cost the German government more than that amount to manufacture each one of the helmets.

These helmets were a special supply held in reserve for a triumphal entry into Paris. Eventually they arrived there by freight. REPORTS OF BOLSHEVIST AGITATORS AT WORK Reported That Wealthy Woman Will Pay Expenses of Work Among Southern Negroes. (By The Associated Press.) Washington, April 9.—Reports that Bolshivist agitation in the United States is being financed by a number of wealthy persons, particularly women, have reached the Department of Justice, but have not been taken seriously so far. One report related that a wealthy American woman had undertaken to pay the expenses of agitators to work among the negroes in the South to get them to organize soviet committees. No evidence of this agitation has developed.

INCREASED RATES ON COTTON FACTORY PRODUCTS From Albemarle and Charlotte and Points in North Carolina and Virginia. (By The Associated Press.) Washington, April 9.—Increases rates on cotton factory products from Albemarle and Charlotte, N. C., and points in North Carolina and Virginia, taking the same classification to Sedalia, Mo., were approved for filing today by the Interstate Commerce Commission, on application to the Southeastern railroads.

COLLISION BETWEEN STRIKERS AND WORKERS Occurs at Essen, Where the Christian Workers Desire to Continue Employment. (By The Associated Press.) Copenhagen, April 9.—German government troops are marching on Essen, where a collision has occurred between the strikers and the Christian workers organization, the members of which desire to continue their employment. A Berlin dispatch announced that the strikers have occupied the Krupp munition plant, the message adds.

Lieut. Neely Killed in Airplane Accident. (By The Associated Press.) Hampton, Va., April 9.—Lieut. John E. Neely, of Seattle, Washington, was instantly killed today, and Sergeant J. S. Richardson seriously injured when an airplane which Neely was driving fell from a height of about 250 feet at Langley Field. Witnesses said Neely attempted a nose dive too close to the ground. Neely was twenty four years old. Richardson's address was not given.

Black Sea Ports of Odessa Evacuated. (By The Associated Press.) Paris, April 9.—The evacuation of the Black Sea ports of Odessa by the allied forces is confirmed officially. The Paris dispatch Tuesday night said that a wireless message received here from Moscow reported the capture of Odessa by the Ukrainian soviet troops.

Cobb Leaves Home. Augusta, Ga., April 8.—Ty Cobb left his home here today to join the Detroit American league team tomorrow at Rock Hill, S. C., where the Tigers play an exhibition game.

Holy Communion at New Gilead Reformed Church. The Holy Communion will be administered at the New Gilead Reformed Church Palm Sunday, April 13 at 12 noon. Every member should attend. The services preparatory to the Communion will be held Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Quarterly meeting of the Consistory at 5 o'clock. W. C. LYERLI, Pastor.

A Volunteer Wanted. If there is a woman in Concord or Cabarrus County who has the time and patriotism to accept the Chairmanship of the National Women's Liberty Loan Committee please advise me and she shall have the appointment. Act quickly. C. W. SWINE, County Chairman Victory Liberty Loan. For Sale—Fine Pigs. Cabarrus County. 6-31-19

RECEPTION LAST EVENING.

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bost Entertain in Honor of Their Son, Mr. Allan Bost. The home of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bost, on Depot street, was a real beauty and festive State Library reception from 8 to 10 o'clock of the 21st birthday and the return from France of Mr. Allan Bost, the only son of the home. He fought with the valiant Old Hickory Division (of which we are justly proud) having been wounded several times. Although very modest as to the part he took in the war he told in a very pleasing and informal way of some of his experiences which were listened to with much interest. The decorations were patriotic all through the house. The centerpiece in the dining room was of red and white carnations banked with violets. Music was furnished by Mr. Bell on the Victrola, while delicious refreshments, consisting of a salad course, ice cream cake and punch, were served by Miss Ida Bost and a bevy of pretty girls to about 90 guests. Mr. M. H. Caldwell was toastmaster and after a speech of welcome and good cheer and many good wishes for the gallant young soldier and his hospitable parents, the guests departed with memories of a very enjoyable evening.

SIDNEY DREW DEAD Famous Actor on the Stage and in Moving Pictures Dies in New York. (By The Associated Press.) New York, April 9.—Sidney Drew, actor on the stage and for the moving picture screen, died today at his home here.

Mr. Drew was appearing with his wife in the play "Keep Her Smiling" in Detroit last week, when he became ill. Against the advice of physicians he insisted upon being brought to his home in this city, and his condition rapidly grew worse. The cause of his death was given by his physician as uremia, due to nephritis. Mr. Drew, who was a native of New York, was 54 years old.

MAY APPEAL TO THE ALLIED ARMIES To Maintain Order in Germany in the Interest of all Europe. (By The Associated Press.) Paris, April 9 (Havas).—At the latest session of the German cabinet council, the government considered the expediency of making an appeal to the allied armies to maintain order in Germany in the interest of the whole of Europe.

HEALTH EXPERTS PUZZLED Sleeping Sickness Prevalent Here Not Fully Identified Yet. Washington, April 6.—Although 183 cases of lethargic encephalitis, or "sleeping sickness," with 14 deaths, were reported to the United States Public Service up to March 29, officials of the bureau still are undecided whether the disease of the type prevalent in Europe has reached the United States. The bureau said it was impossible to say whether the figures gave a true picture of the prevalence of the disease, inasmuch as the disease is not generally reportable to health officers.

AMERICAN RED CROSS STORAGE SHEDS PILLAGED Goods To The Value of \$700,000 Marks Are Taken in Nuremberg. (By The Associated Press.) Basle, April 9.—Storage sheds of the American Red Cross were among the food depots pillaged by armed crowds in Nuremberg Tuesday, according to dispatches received here. Goods to the value of 700,000 marks are said to have been taken from various food depots.

Meeting of Soldiers' Employment Committee. Mr. Max Payne, of Greensboro, representing the U. S. Labor Bureau, recently visited Concord and appointed the following persons to serve as a committee to aid our returning soldiers in securing their old jobs or other employment, viz.: Morrison Caldwell, chairman; Mayor Isenhour, Chief of Police C. A. Robinson, Postmaster Miller, Supt. Locke Mills Smart, W. R. Odell, president Kerr Bleachery, Editors Sherrill and Kestler, with Prof. McAllister in charge at Mount Pleasant. Mr. Payne planned at the time to have a separate committee for Kannapolis, N. C.

WAR GIFTS NOT EXEMPT. Income Taxes Must Be Paid on Red Cross and Other Donations. Washington, D. C., April 7.—Big corporations cannot escape or dodge income taxes by including in expense accounts gifts and donations to Red Cross and similar organizations. All efforts in that direction have failed, and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue will proceed to collect the tax. This means that approximately \$60,000,000 will be saved to the Treasury.

IMPORTANT NOTICE. On account of the fact that many of our subscribers are out of employment, due to the shutting down of the mills, our cash in advance requirements will not be strictly enforced for the present, until conditions grow better. If any one is unable to pay, we shall be glad to extend credit on the subscription for a reasonable length of time. Of course we shall expect all others to pay promptly as usual.

HOW PROHIBITION WILL BE ENFORCED

Three Thousand Revenue Agents Will Work in Especially Arranged Zones Throughout the Country. 800 INSPECTORS TRAINED FOR WORK The Force of Men Will Be Distributed Among Districts Where the Violation of Law Is Threatened.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, April 9.—Three thousand internal revenue agents working in especially arranged zones throughout the United States will enforce prohibition after July 1, according to plans announced today by the revenue bureau. Nearly 800 inspectors will be trained for the work, to be added to the force of 2,283 revenue agents already available for police regulations, and the machinery for enforcement will be in working order before the date when absolute prohibition becomes effective.

This force of special agents will be distributed among the districts where law violation is threatened, to the largest extent, and special attention will be paid to cities where revenue officials look for most persistent efforts to make whiskey illegally. THE AMERICAN PEACE DELEGATION NOT AFFECTED By the Harsh Denunciation Made by The French Press. (By The Associated Press.) Paris, April 9.—The harsh denunciation of the American peace delegation by the French press and charges that the ordering of the transport George Washington to come to Brest before its regular time is nothing short of blackmail, have not affected the American delegation, who are not surprised at the newspaper criticism.

While the Americans repeatedly reaffirm their belief that considerable progress has been made in the last three days, one member remarked today: "It is not a bad idea to have the ship at Brest, ready for return." Comment From Paris Paper. Paris, April 9.—"We do not accuse our allies of forgetting what France has done," says the Matin today, "but nevertheless men knowing that President Wilson has summoned to Brest the ship which is to take him back to America saw in this natural order an opportunity for blackmail."

TO EXCHANGE PRISONERS WITH THE BOLSHIEVIKI Allied Delegation Goes Into Lines Under a Flag of Truce. (By The Associated Press.) With the American Army South of Obozerskaya, North Russia, Monday, April 7.—An allied delegation went forward under a flag of truce to the Bolshieviki lines along the Volozda railway today, and opened preliminary negotiations with the Bolshieviki regarding an exchange of prisoners. The delegation, which consisted of one American and two British officers, was escorted by American troops and an American brigler.

STRIKE AT ROME IS TO OCCUR THURSDAY General Strike Decided Upon to Last For 25 Hours. (By The Associated Press.) Rome, April 9 (Havas).—The Rome council of the general federation of labor has decided upon a general strike to last 25 hours. The strike is set to begin on Thursday at 6 a. m.

Has Joined Diaz To Oust Carranza. General Blanquet, Minister of War under Huerta and later Vice-President of Mexico, heads the latest revolution in that country. He has landed near Vera Cruz with a staff of old Federal officers and joined forces with Felix Diaz to serve as second in command. The General is seventy years old. He had been living in New York City for the last four years. He left Mexico after Huerta's overthrow, escaping to Jamaica on the German gunboat Dresden.

Up To Uncle Sam. Former President Taft says it is the duty of the United States to become a member of the league of nations. If Europe has the power to force us into war, willy-nilly, then Uncle Sam must get a little power to keep Europe out of war willy-nilly. Houston Post.

Sleeper Suffocates in Pillow. Allentown, Pa., April 6.—When George Adams, aged 29, a machinist came home late last night, he pulled a pillow off the bed, threw it on the parlor floor, sank his face into it and went to sleep. When members of the family came downstairs this morning they found him dead. He had been suffocated.

Dr. Regina Flood Kery of the American Women's Hospital of the American Red Cross in Serbia, and her assistant, Dr. Mabel Flood, have been decorated by the Greek Government for their work in Greece and Serbia.