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Jewish Relief Committee in Eastern Europe

"American prisoners in German war camps never suffered greater horrors or endured more brutalities than I have seen with my own eyes inflicted upon Jewish refugees in Russian and Hungarian jails" declared Sam Gershon, a prominent Atlanta merchant who recently returned from a year's work with the Jewish Relief Committee in Eastern Europe.

"These same conditions are existing right now," Mr. Gershon continued. "They will continue to exist until sufficient money is raised to provide a daily allowance for these refugees. The worst part of the conditions are that the refugees are not criminals or in the same class as prisoners of war. They are merely innocent women and children, with their husbands and fathers who have been driven from their homes by famine and pogroms.

"When I was in Budapest I visited a jail there and I saw sights that made my blood run cold. What I saw I never believed could exist of a nightmare.

"Gray haired men scarcely able to totter along the cold hard stones of their cells, hollow-faced women with lines of care and starvation in their faces, little babies crying for warmth and food, and sick children with tear-stained faces pressed to the damp walls of the jail were huddled together in misery and hunger. Some of the women carried their babes pressed to their sunken breasts and tried to still their piteous cries. Outside the icy wind of the Russian steppes blew a gale and whistled through the cracks in the stone and mortar. The jail itself was unheated and the only way the miserable prisoners hovering in the darkened dungeon could keep warm was by hunching their half-starved bodies in heaps on the cold stone of the floor.

"I also saw refugees living in freight cars. I saw them lying there in the torpor of hunger and cold. I saw them in some of the cities dying by the hundreds every day from a typhus epidemic induced by the wretchedness of their hovels and the lack of nourishment. On the Russian borders I saw them begging along the streets and alleys for a bite of dry hard bread. All of these miserable people were once small farmers, on the plains of Poland and Russia or shop keepers in small Slav villages.

"In one town we were able to care for 400 refugees and there were 15,000 in the town. Such conditions exist throughout Eastern Europe. With our present funds the Relief Committee cannot even temporarily relieve the suffering. Relief is not nearly so much needed as rehabilitation, for that alone will put an end to their suffering."

This is but one phase of the many branches of the tree life now being raised for the relief of the Jews suffering throughout Central and Eastern Europe, and North Carolina's portion to be raised for their purposes is \$100,000 during the week of February 6 to 12th.

Mr C. C. Ramsey has rented his garage to Henderson Bros. Mr. Ramsey will take up other business. Mr McKinley Ramsey runs a transfer car and will still stay at the same garage and any one who wishes to call him just call Henderson's garage. We hope they will all make good at their new work.

Big Limestone Mill And Brick Works Growing at Hot Springs

Big Possibilities Good--Livestock Raising on Large Scale is Shown--Fruit Possibilities Barely Touched--Supply Electrical Needs of the City.

By B. S. LEIPER.

(Staff Correspondent The Citizen.)

While it must be admitted that there are many who looked upon the hotel as the very life of the village, Hot Springs in normal times is not without varied interests, principally connected with agriculture, lumbering and mining.

One of the most significant moves that has been made in years, says older residents, is the demonstration work now being conducted by W. R. Ellerson, general manager of the Laurel River Livestock Company formed by E. W. Grove of Asheville and St. Louis some time ago.

Much cut-over land of the 45,000 acres originally secured has already been put under rich pasture, capable of supporting ever-enlarging herds of beef cattle. The Lemon Cap farm, too, reached up Spring Creek from Hot Springs, has great possibilities in the production of fruit. It is understood that almost half the land holdings over which Mr. Ellerson has supervision is now partially improved, with additional acreage being put in grass from time to time.

Cattle Raising

A Thriving Industry.

The cattle raising industry of the Spring Creek section has long been regarded as a most thriving and profitable one.

The possibilities of growing large quantities of apples, peaches and other fruit, it is pointed out, are among the real agricultural assets of the region. As yet they have barely been scratched, all admit.

Industrially, Hot Springs has made few boasts because this has not been a feature of the civil life heretofore. And yet the village has a good 125 horse-power hydro-electric plant on Spring Creek, combined with a saw mill and ice manufacturing plant; barytes grinding and mining operations up the same stream a few miles upon one side, and upon the other, and what is doubtless the largest grinding plant in the southeast, upon the French Broad just outside the village limits. Just below this, also, a large red shale brick yard is being operated successfully.

The plant of the G. C. Buquo Lime Company, with a siding on the Southern Railway given the name of Buquo just below Hot Springs, has in a few years grown from an investment of \$3,500 to become an industry valued at \$80,000, fully equipped with every modern device for the efficient grinding of limestone in large quantities.

There is now stored in the main warehouse around 12,500 tons of ground limestone awaiting the market. The firm has given particular attention to the storage facilities so that larger demands may be met without delay.

The visitor at the plant can readily ascertain the vast quantities of limestone available upon the company holdings which skirt the French Broad river and the Southern Railway, the sheer face of the stone wall rising overhead, giving a veritable "mountain of limestone" that will take at least 50 years, it is estimated, to consume at capacity output. The deposits are on a 168 acre tract that runs even west of the Dixie Highway. The plant is served by a siding large enough to accommodate 15 freight cars. The limestone is shipped out in bulk, in paper and in jute bags that are filled by an ingenious machine that works with great rapidity.

High Quality

Limestone Deposits.

The type of limestone found in the deposits is regarded as very high in desirable ingredients, particularly for sweetening the soil. It runs high in percentage of carbonates and much of it is so pure that the Crystal carbonic laboratories of Atlanta, employ this alone in their brand of Epsom salts. This is prepared by putting hydrochloric acid on the limestone which gives off carbonic acid gas and leaves the salts in deposit.

Large quantities of hard rock adapted to road building are shipped regularly from this plant to many points throughout the mountain territory where road improvements are under way. Limestone deposits are also found in Western Carolina at Fletcher, Lincille Falls and Hewitts. C. C. Buquo, after whom the plant was named and who is active manager of this enterprise, makes his home at Hot Springs with his wife and son, and is widely known as one of the progressive citizens of the village. He is well known in Asheville and also in Fletcher where for some time he operated the lime industry at that point.

The field for the agricultural lime output for this particular plant is largely in North and South Carolina, and of the importance of its use no less an authority than Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of agriculture declared: "Indeed an investment of limestone pays a dividend of 100 per cent or more the

first year. It may safely be said, I believe, that if all sources of artificial chemical fertilizer failed out total farm output could not only be maintained, but even the application of lime to acreages increased, for a time, simply by that are low in yield or lying fallow because they are too sour to grow profitable crops."

A Link Between Hot Springs And Asheville

Among the several links that bind Hot Springs with Asheville in kindred interests is The Asheville Shale Brick Company, which recently passed from the hands of James E. Rector, well known attorney of this city to Frank Buell, who lives on Broad street, and who has plans for the enlargement of the industry, employing in times of maximum output some forty men.

Located about two miles down the French Broad river, below the village and adjacent to the Southern railroad so that a 1,400 foot siding serves the plant, the company is operating brick making machinery capable of an output of between 40,000 and 50,000 a day.

Heretofore, however, the dry kiln capacity was limited to around 25,000 a day. An additional downdraft kiln has been installed recently, and other similar units are planned by Mr. Buell to bring the drying capacity up to the same output as that of the machinery, it is announced.

Vast deposits of red shale, said to be the only shale deposits on the railroad within 100 or 150 miles of Asheville, are deemed of sufficient size to supply the kilns of untold years, since there are 50 acres of the shale, found in a deposit showing a depth of 200 feet. The manufacturers estimate that 10 acres of the shale would be sufficient to make enough brick with which to build ten cities the size of Asheville, thereby giving some indication of the unused amounts on hand. The deposits were first opened some five years ago.

Since the shale lends itself particularly to the manufacture of higher grades of building bricks, such as the red rug or rough faced brick and hollow building tile, the new manager plans gradually to work over into these commodities entirely, leaving the common brick field to those who handle clay only and are therefore unable to produce the higher grades for the trade.

A feature of this plant is the method in which the topography of the deposits has been used to make the handling of the shale from bank to railroad car a matter involving an unusually small degree of labor. The banks are high above the plant.

Electric Machinery Has Been Installed

The installation of electric hoisting machinery has made possible further reductions in manual labor. In one of the larger kilns, for instance, 500 wet bricks are lifted at a time by this crane, carried into the waiting cars upon the siding, so that in one day 20,000 wet and 20,000 dry bricks are handled by one young man in charge of the crane.

It is estimated in the average brick plant that one young man per 1,000 bricks is required for capacity operation, but the Asheville Shale Brick Company is reducing this to three-fourths of a man per 1,000 by the use of electrically operated machinery.

By the type of kilns installed, say officials, only 30 or 40 per cent of the coal burned under the old style kilns is required in this plant and the covered kilns make production in any type of weather possible. The controlling interest in this company passed into the hands of Mr. Buell the first of the year.

Within one-half mile of the village the plant of what was formerly known as the Hot Springs Manufacturing Company, operates on Spring Creek to produce more than sufficient electricity for the present needs of the village.

H. B. Lance, a native of Hot Spring, not long since acquired the entire holdings and in July of last year installed a saw mill cutting 10,000 feet of lumber daily and 10,000 laths. White and yellow pine and hemlock are used for making laths, and the mill uses in making lumber great quantities of white pine oak, poplar and yellow pine. The ice plant located at the same point, has a capacity of three tons daily.

Power is derived from Spring Creek, halted in its rushing course at this point by a 32-foot dam which can be raised an additional two feet or more when this is made necessary by even heavier drains upon the power. An auxiliary steam plant is located in the power house for operation in case of emergencies.

Arbuckle Jury is Discharged After Failing to Agree.

San Francisco, Feb. 3.—The jury in the second trial of a manslaughter charge against Roscoe C. Arbuckle decided at the conclusion of a 44 hour session that it could not agree and was discharged today with the final ballot standing 10 for conviction and two for acquittal.

Arbuckle was accused of having caused the death of Miss Virginia Rappe, of Los Angeles, a motion picture actress who was taken ill at a drinking party in Arbuckle's suite here at the Hotel St. Francis on Labor day 1921, and died four days later as the result of a ruptured bladder.

The case was placed on the calendar for next Monday to begin for its third trial. Both prosecution and defense announced they would favor such trial. So sure was the defense of its position in the second trial that it submitted its case without final argument. This had an effect opposite from the one intended, according to Max Friedman, one of the jurors in a formal statement.

"We thought that when the defense declined to argue it had thrown up its hands," he said. "The first 10 ballots stood nine to three for conviction and thereafter until the 14th and final ballot it was ten to two."

Side Lights On The Farmer's Conference.

Agriculturists' Problems To Be Solved at Washington; Welfare Enlisting Aid

Washington, (Capital News Service).—"We are drawing upon everybody who can contribute to the general solution of the farming problem," says Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, discussing the representatives of various lines of activity invited to participate in the National Agricultural Conference to be opened by President Harding in Washington January 23, "because it is the biggest problem we have.

Bankers, packers, railroad executives, automobile and tractor manufacturers, highway engineers, and experts in many other lines have been asked to come as delegates, and have accepted. The general feeling of legislators at the Capital is that much that is good must come of so catholic a council as will sit upon the many problems confronting the farmers, and thus the nation. Many go so far as to believe that the conference will form and promulgate a definite national policy which will in large measure decide whether in the future the United States is to be well balanced between farming and manufacturing production or whether this nation will to a large extent forsake the land to go into the factory, depending upon tenant farming and imports for sustenance.

A new note in the general thought of aid for the farmer has been sounded by former Governor of Illinois Frank O. Lowden, who believes that the greatest single factor which will contribute to farming prosperity is the provision of sufficient warehouses to enable the farmer to make a fat year provide for the lean ones, stabilize prices by holding too plentiful crops against the day of sparse crops, and preventing any such disastrous economic catastrophes as have been seen in the prosperity which came to cotton raisers as a result of boll-weevil destruction of cotton, and the need for corn farmers to burn their grain as fuel.