

THRIFTY DUTCHMEN TURNED INTO DESPERADOES BY WAR

Genuine Shock Has Come to Those Who in Old Days Admired Industrious Hollander Whose Only Occupation Now Is in Deeds of Daring and Robbery—Country Is Now Paradise for Thieves.

The Hague.—To those who knew the Hollander before the war as a quiet, well-behaved, thrifty and industrious soul, content to pursue the even tenor of his way and sticking religiously to orderliness and good behavior, his transformation since the signing of the armistice last November will come as a genuine shock.

Crime, in the pre-war days, was at its minimum in Holland. Her standing army of some 50,000 was composed of young men who served their allotted time in the military service of their country with the minimum of grumbling, returning cheerfully to the plow, or the dairy, or the fisheries, as soon as their term of army service was over.

Except for an ever watchful eye on her frontier, Holland lived a calm, contented existence, turning out her world-famous cheeses and her perhaps, more infamous gins, her citizens secure in the feeling that theirs was a land where the law was observed, where their chattels were safe even though their front doors remained unlocked and where the infrequent offender against the penal code could not hope to get his full name in the papers, much less his photograph with a pretty border around it.

Today all this is changed. From a land of safety Holland has been transformed into a land of danger and the Hollander—that is, he who is represented in the ranks of the plow boy, the driver of the horse or donkey along the tow path, the churner of the butter and the cream, the farm hand or the miller's assistant—has been transformed into a shiftless, lazy, disorderly ne'er-do-well, whose principal occupation is burglary!

It is a New Crime.

Burglary in Holland was not a usual crime in the pre-war days. That fact makes the present wave of lawlessness all the more striking. The great truth that has dawned upon the country is that the 800,000 Hollanders who have been doing military service as non-combatants since the beginning of the war have come to hate work and to hate having to provide for their own living, after enjoying food, clothing and shelter at government expense for nearly five years.

When Holland mobilized her young manhood, middle-aged manhood and full-grown manhood during the first six months of the war, when there was momentary danger of Germany suddenly getting it into her disordered brain to invade and despoil the Netherlands as well as Belgium, the Dutch government provided for the support of the families of the soldiers whom she mobilized as well as for the support of the soldiers themselves.

In her well-ordered house, Holland could not see 800,000 families in want because 800,000 male supporters were taken for the defense of the fatherland. She provided this support as punctiliously and as carefully as she provided for the thousands of Belgian and French refugees, who have lived on the country's bounty from the day of the siege of Antwerp to the day that Marshal Foch handed his fountain pen to the German armistice commissioners and said: "Sign!"

With the demobilization that began during the latter days of last November the discharged soldiers found it irksome to resume their duties as family providers instead of "letting Wil-

heltna do it." The plow did not appeal nearly so much as the light field equipment along the frontier. The long hikes along the towpaths were not nearly so attractive as the short stretches between sentry posts on the border between Holland's eastern provinces and the Westphalian or Prussian country. It was found a hard matter to get the Hollander back into a civilian job, not because the job was not there but because the erstwhile thrifty Dutchman no longer cared for the job.

Food Shortage a Cause.

For many months now life for the law-abiding Dutchman and his family has been anything but a paradise and the shortage of food has been but a small matter in the grand total of this general unhappiness.

The principal thing that has been worrying Holland has been the burglar, who has since before the Christmas holidays become a sort of national institution, like the cheese and the gin. Acts of violence are of daily, in fact, of hourly, occurrence in the country districts as well as in the cities. Not alone must doors be securely locked and bolted at night, but if during the daytime the household-er turns his back to look over his chickens in the barnyard without first closing his front door he will most likely return to the "prunk kamer" (parlor) only to find every article of intrinsic value has disappeared.

The theft of silverware, jewelry, clothes and even pots and pans from the kitchen is reported to the police in every town and hamlet on an average of once every hour during the 24 hours of the day. The flow of complaints is so steady that in most places one man is assigned to do nothing but record these reports of burglaries.

While, of course, it would be unfair to say that every one of the demobilized soldiers has turned burglar after receiving his discharge from the army, it is safe to say that one-half of the 800,000 troops has turned its attention to either burglary, petty or grand larceny or highway robbery as a means to keep the wolf from the door without an undue amount of physical exertion.

The visitor in Holland, although he is still much in the minority because of the passport restrictions, has learned to keep his hand on his wallet pocket and his fingers firmly around the end of a stout cane whenever he ventures out into the street or along a country path, once Holland's delight and the safest promenade in the wide world.

Daring Highway Robberies.

The "kwajongems," who used to stand in proper awe of the well-dressed man or woman in the public thoroughfares of the city, now openly and brazenly snatch at watch chains, ladies' bags or pocket books that are carried in the hands by the ladies. Nine times in ten the culprit manages to make a clean getaway in the crowd of sympathetic ruffians, who gather quickly at the first sign of disorder in the street.

Children sent to the stores by their mothers are often the victims of the thieves, who take away their pennies, and market baskets on the way to the expectant housewives very often go astray and ultimately reach the dens

HAS MANY DECORATIONS



GENERAL LEROY UPTON

Gen. Leroy Upton, who recently returned from France, has received the distinguished service cross and medal, the croix de guerre with two palms, and the cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, for distinguished service in the war.

of the underworld, now a real menace in the economic and civic life of the Netherlands.

The same spirit of disregard of the conventions that obtains throughout the country, as far as the rights of others is concerned, obtains in the nation's parliament—the States General. Ultra-bolshevistic members occupy seats in the lower chamber and openly advocate doctrines which, a year before the war began in 1914, would not have been listened to by any self-respecting Dutchman. The self-respecting Dutchman must listen to these doctrines now, for they are preached on every street corner, from the forums and from the platform of the governing body, whenever the radical wing gets a chance to give voice to its sentiments.

Blocked at the Frontier.

The government does everything humanly possible to prevent the influx of the radical element from Germany and every day dozens of would-be intruders, be they bolshevist or Spartacist, are turned back at the frontier with the admonition to go East. But many slip through, with the result that this formerly quiet, orderly land is fast being poisoned by the seed of violence that has been planted in its fertile soil from the very day that the one-time kaiser entered the country as a refugee and the one-time crown prince took up his involuntary abode on the Island of Wieringen.

There is enough of the regular army left to prevent any serious concerted movement by the forces of the malcontents, especially as they are not organized and no leader has yet put in an appearance. The police in the various districts, too, still observe the street discipline of the pre-war days, although they have not been very successful in stamping out the lawlessness that is everywhere evident, they are, at least, holding the unruly element in check and, to a certain degree, holding it in awe of municipal authority.

The principal hope of the better educated class of Hollanders lies in an early restoration of the regular channels of food importation.

Now Land of Unrest.

Just now the Hollander is anything but tractable. He will drop his hammer, his shovel, his hoe or his churning handle at the drop of a hat or the whisper of a labor agitator. He imagines that he is the under dog of every man who possesses a nickel more than he does.

From a land of calm, peaceful, seething quiet, Holland has changed into a land of unrest. It oozes out of the very ground at every step one takes. Lack of grain keeps the grist mills idle, which consequently fail to provide work for those who might be induced to take up the broken strands of their tasks and don the snow white of the miller for the blue of the soldier.

Stagnation in shipping, owing to the restrictions placed upon the country by the allies, has had its natural effect upon Holland's inland waterways commerce, with the result that thousands of men who were employed along the numerous canals, both as boatmen and tow drivers, before the war, now find their vocations gone. This is another important industry which, if it could resume its normal proportions, would greatly reduce the number of the unemployed.

Over everything, however, looms the one large fact that the formerly correct Hollander could so readily be changed into a man with criminal instincts and to such an extent as to make the entire country, practically, a burglar's paradise.



1—German financial delegates after a meeting with allied representatives in Versailles. 2—Anti-Wilson demonstration in Rome over the Fiume question. 3—French child at the entrance of her subterranean home in the ruined district of France.

Relief Goes On After War Ends

Work With American Expeditionary Forces to Continue for Some Time.

EFFORTS ARE CO-ORDINATED

One War Worker for Every 150 Men and One Hut Operated for Every 900 Men—Headquarters Inaugurates New Plan.

Paris.—Although the tumult and the shouting have died over here, and the captains, having assisted in effecting the exit of the kings, are themselves beginning to depart, the American program of war work with the American expeditionary forces "carries on" with increased resources and effectiveness.

The other day the American expeditionary forces took stock of the agencies from the homeland that are serving the doughboy. The stock-taking was preliminary to the newly instituted general headquarters program for co-ordinating the work of these agencies to the best advantage of the men. And the results are illuminating. With approximately 1,500,000 doughboys still in France and occupied Germany, there is now one American war worker over here for every 150 men and one hut operated by an American war work organization for every 900 men. The totals as given in the resume for all the war agencies, exclusive of the American Red Cross, are 9,618 men and women workers and 1,636 huts. Of the total number of workers, 8,350 are representatives of the Young Men's Christian association, leaving the overseas war work strength of all other organizations at 1,268. Of the total number of huts, 1,507 are operated by the Young Men's Christian association, and the remainder, 140 by all other war work agencies.

All Increased.

The stock taking showed that every one of the American agencies has increased its personnel in the five months since the signing of the armistice—the Young Men's Christian association, for instance, having added 720 workers to its strength.

With these resources at hand the general staff of the American expeditionary forces has undertaken to supervise and regulate the service given to soldiers by the auxiliary organizations. General welfare officers are to be appointed, one to each combat division, each similar unit of the service of supplies and each higher headquarters. Their duties will be to supervise

athletic and amusement programs; determine the proper disposition of huts, restaurants and entertainment halls; recommend readjustments where recreational facilities are inadequate or where there is duplication of effort, and to notify war work agencies of the location of all units. They will decide whether there are too many or too few war workers in their territories and where necessary, will obtain details of non-commissioned officers and men to aid the war workers.

The welfare officers will have jurisdiction over free distribution of food and supplies by the various war work organizations.

The Young Men's Christian association, which is operating 1,600 huts in France, is said to have expended half the amount which will be available to it for use in France. It has operated the canteen service at a loss. With the army taking over the canteen service, however, the expenses of the Young Men's Christian association will be reduced.

Some idea of the expenditure made

for war work in the period which passed with the institution of the program of co-ordination is shown in the record of the Young Men's Christian association. This organization had invested \$4,500,000 in overseas huts and their equipment up to the first of the year, with an average maintenance cost of more than \$70,000 a month. It gave away in combat areas from last May to the end of November goods valued at more than \$700,000, and its Christmas gifts to the doughboys last year represented a value of more than \$500,000. Its loss in the operation of canteens, done on borrowed capital, was \$600,000. It has expended \$1,750,000 for sporting goods for free use of the soldiers. It has leased and operated 37 chocolate and biscuit factories and seven sawmills in France to meet the needs of the work. It has distributed more than \$2,000,000 worth of books, literature and Bibles free to the soldiers. The entertainment bill of the Young Men's Christian association overseas for the last six months had increased to \$400,000 a month in February. In three months after the signing of the armistice it gave 11,181 moving picture presentations, representing an aggregate of 83,085,000 feet of film. The Young Men's Christian association has transmitted free of charge for the soldiers up to April 5 of this year \$12,316 remittances to the value of \$18,627,797.65.

Japanese Courts Simple and Quiet

No Wrangling of Counsel Allowed and Sentences Generally Are Fair.

CASES TRIED WITHOUT JURY

Many Unusual Points of Difference Between American Tribunals and Their Counterparts in Japan—Minor Cases to Police.

Tokyo.—A Japanese criminal court is almost as difficult to get into as a spectator as it is difficult to get out of as a prisoner, but there are enough unusual points of difference between American tribunals and their counterparts in Japan to make at least one visit instructive, if not profitable. Criminal trials in Japan are public, but not blatantly so, and idle curiosity is not encouraged. To be permitted to even enter the grounds surrounding the court buildings one must secure the formal permission of the stern police official at the gate, and that permission is only secured through the presentation of some good reason why the solicitor should be permitted to pass.

Once past the guardian of the gate, however, one may proceed into the courtroom itself without trouble, provided always that he removes his hat immediately he enters the building, removes his overcoat, if he happens to be wearing one, walks quietly and holds his remarks and questions down to a faint whisper. In the main courthouse in Tokyo, which houses the supreme court and the various local courts, corresponding to the American circuit courts, the corridors are lined during the session by be-sworded gendarmes, between the rows of which the one with business before the judges warily walks. No chance is lost to impress upon everyone the fact that the dignity of the law in Japan is something which must not be trifled with.

Minor Cases to Police.

Ordinary police court cases in Japan are disposed of in the police stations themselves and the police inspectors in charge have the power to exercise a wide discretion. Ordinary drunks, of whom there are very few considering that almost every corner grocery store and every tea house and restaurant sells intoxicants, and there are saki shops every hundred yards on al-

most every street, are simply kept long enough to sober up and are discharged with a stern warning.

Once he has been sent to headquarters a prisoner's troubles commence. As a preliminary to all else he is photographed and finger printed, a decided reversal of the American principle, which bars a man from the rogues' gallery until he has been convicted of a felony. From the photograph room and the ink pad the prisoner passes on for his "examination," a legalized third degree, held in an underground room where, without benefit of counsel, he is sweated, perhaps for several days in succession.

Then after waiting his turn the prisoner goes to the local court, where he faces a bench of usually four judges, one of whom is head judge and who does all the questioning of the witnesses. On the bench also sits the prosecuting lawyer, with the lawyer for the defense occupying a desk and seat immediately facing the head judge.

Everything is solemn, everything is decorous and, without a jury to impress, there are none of those flights of oratory with which the American lawyers call upon heaven to witness either the scandalous nature of the prisoner's crime or the halo of innocence so plain to the attorney for the defense. The prisoners sit in a prisoners' box until their case is called, when they stand one by one before the judges and are polished off in rapid succession.

Handling of Prisoners.

The handling of the prisoners is pure Japanese, however. Delivered at the courthouse for trial, the prisoners are marched from the police wagon in single file handcuffed and tied together by a stout rope that circles each man's waist and is twisted through his obi.

The most unusual feature of all to a stranger is the fact that each prisoner has his head covered by a wicker mask, more like an inverted waste-paper basket than anything else, the object of which is to prevent recognition of the prisoner, to permit him to hide his shame under the disguise and, very possibly, to prevent the whole file from making a bolt for liberty. The sight of a prisoner so arrayed is ghastly, the mask bringing up the suggestion of the hangman's cap. Once in the prisoners' box, however, the masks are removed, while the prisoners sit with deeply bowed heads in an attitude of the utmost humility.

Japanese courts have the name of being fair and the bench is honest.

COME TO HELP THE GIRL SCOUTS



General Sir Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the boy scout organization, is here from England to help the girl scouts, which organization did such wonderful work in England during the war. In the group, left to right, Mrs. Arthur O. Choate, commissioner of Manhattan council of girl scouts; Sir Robert Baden-Powell and Lady Baden-Powell; Mrs. Juliette Low, president and founder of the Girl Scouts of America.