

500,000 "Lost" War Prisoners

Dr. Nansen Reports Many Have Been Away From Home for Six Years.

TRANSPORTATION IS PROBLEM

Technically Free, Chief Concern of Captives Is How to Get Out of Siberia—Bolsheviks Aiding in Their Return.

London.—The lost tribe of Israel may have its counterpart in the 250,000 or more Germans, Polish, Czechoslovak, Rumanian and Jugo-Slav prisoners in Siberia, together with a like number of Russians in Germany. Eighteen months after the signing of peace they are still "lost." Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, the Norwegian explorer and one-time minister to the court of St. James, is in London, after having undertaken an investigation of the condition of lost prisoners at the request of the League of Nations. Some of the prisoners, Doctor Nansen found, have been away from their homes for six years.

Krassin, the representative of the soviet government, now in London, will be asked to obtain assurance from that government relative to the repatriation of the exiles.

"How many prisoners there are still to be returned," said Doctor Nansen, "no one can tell, for they undoubtedly include many who have been written off as missing or dead. Probably there are 160,000 to 180,000 in Russia and Siberia—including Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Poles, Czechoslovaks, Rumanians and Jugo-Slavs—and, roughly, the same number of Russians in Germany. Of the former there are some thousands in Turkey, and to extricate them is the hardest problem of all.

Transportation Chief Difficulty. "Many of the prisoners in Siberia are trying to get home on their own account—for they are technically free; the transport difficulty is the only impediment—walking, working now and then to earn a little money, getting on a few miles by train where they can.

"The trouble with the men in Siberia was that they did not know which direction to take. They saw the Czechoslovaks going toward Vladivostok, and heard that some of them had got home that way, so others tried to follow their example. Some of those furthest east are concentrating around Vladivostok—the Germans have got a number of their own men out that way in Japanese ships—but conditions there are much disturbed and instructions have been sent by the soviet government to all prisoners already west of Irkutsk to make their way westward to Moscow as best they can.

The Vladivostok prisoners, Doctor Nansen explained, it is hoped to repatriate in French and American ships, but it is imperative that this should be done at once, so as to get them through the Red sea before the hot season.

"What is the attitude of the soviet government in the matter?" Doctor Nansen was asked.

Bolsheviks Aiding Return. "They are really behaving extremely well," he answered. "They are extremely anxious to send home the prisoners they still hold, and despite their difficulties of transport they are sending trains of prisoners regularly from Moscow, through Petrograd to Narva, on the Estonian frontier where an exchange of prisoners from Germany and Germans and others from Russia takes place.

"There is an old fortress there, used as a depot and disinfecting station,

but it is found that at present a train-load a day means more than the shipping available can clear, so one train every two days is the rule at present. The bolsheviks are prepared to double this service when required.

"And how have the men been treated?" he was asked. "Very much better than I expected," was the reply. "They have, of course, had a hard time, but most of them say they have no reason to complain, as they get as much food as the ordinary population of the district they were in. I met several batches who came through to Berlin, and was favorably struck with their appearance.

"The essential need now is shipping and money."

Doctor Nansen's report has been submitted to the League of Nations. It follows the line of the interview.

MACHINE TO DETECT LYING

Scientists Find Breathing and Blood Pressure More Rapid During Prevarication.

Columbus, O.—Science is working on a machine which will tell whether you are lying or not. Prof. H. E. Burt, instructor in psychology department of the Ohio State university, is perfecting the apparatus and registering his data to establish this possibility.

The subject under observation has

Motorist Fined \$25 for Racing Against Bird

New York.—Automobile racing with a bird cost George Sloan of Glen Ridge, N. J., \$25. He was fined that amount by Magistrate Grook in Stapleton, Staten Island, for speeding at 37 miles an hour while "trying to test out the machine against a bird flying above me."

400 ARE NEEDED AT ANNAPOLIS

Examination to Be Held in August to Fill Classes Normally Full in June.

SOME CAUSES OF VACANCIES

Reaction Against Militarism and Higher Salaries of Civil Life Among Those Cited—Some Congressmen Are Lax.

Washington.—Have the seven seas lost their lure? Do the ghosts of John Paul Jones, Farragut and Perry, and others of like fame, no longer beckon adventuresome and ambitious American youths to clear the decks of the nation's ships for action?

There are approximately 400 vacancies on the rolls of the United States Naval academy at Annapolis. Another examination must be held in August to fill up the classes that should have been filled by June. Apparently young men no longer scramble for the privilege of becoming the admirals of tomorrow.

Yet navy officials believe this is only a temporary condition. The sea and Uncle Sam's "navy," they are confident, have not lost permanently

Last Town Crier in U. S. Quits His Job

Provincetown, Mass.—Provincetown's town crier, said to be the last of the profession in America, has hung up his bell and announced that he has cried his last message. For twenty-two years Walter Smith has plodded the two miles of the town's only street, announcing the time and place of events of interest, from sales of fish to the election of a president. Now, in his seventeenth year, he says he is through, and there is no one in sight to succeed him. The old crier's last cry was for the reopening of the Church of the Pilgrims, founded in 1714, and which had been closed for a year.

his blood pressure and his inhaling and exhaling registered. Burt is trying to determine the exact ratio between inhaling and exhaling when the subject is lying.

The breathing and blood pressure of the person is more rapid when he is prevaricating, Professor Burt says.

GOT LIQUOR FOR SICK BABY

Theatrical Couple in Ohio Town Receive Donations From Churchgoers.

Lancaster, O.—The following advertisement appeared in a local news paper:

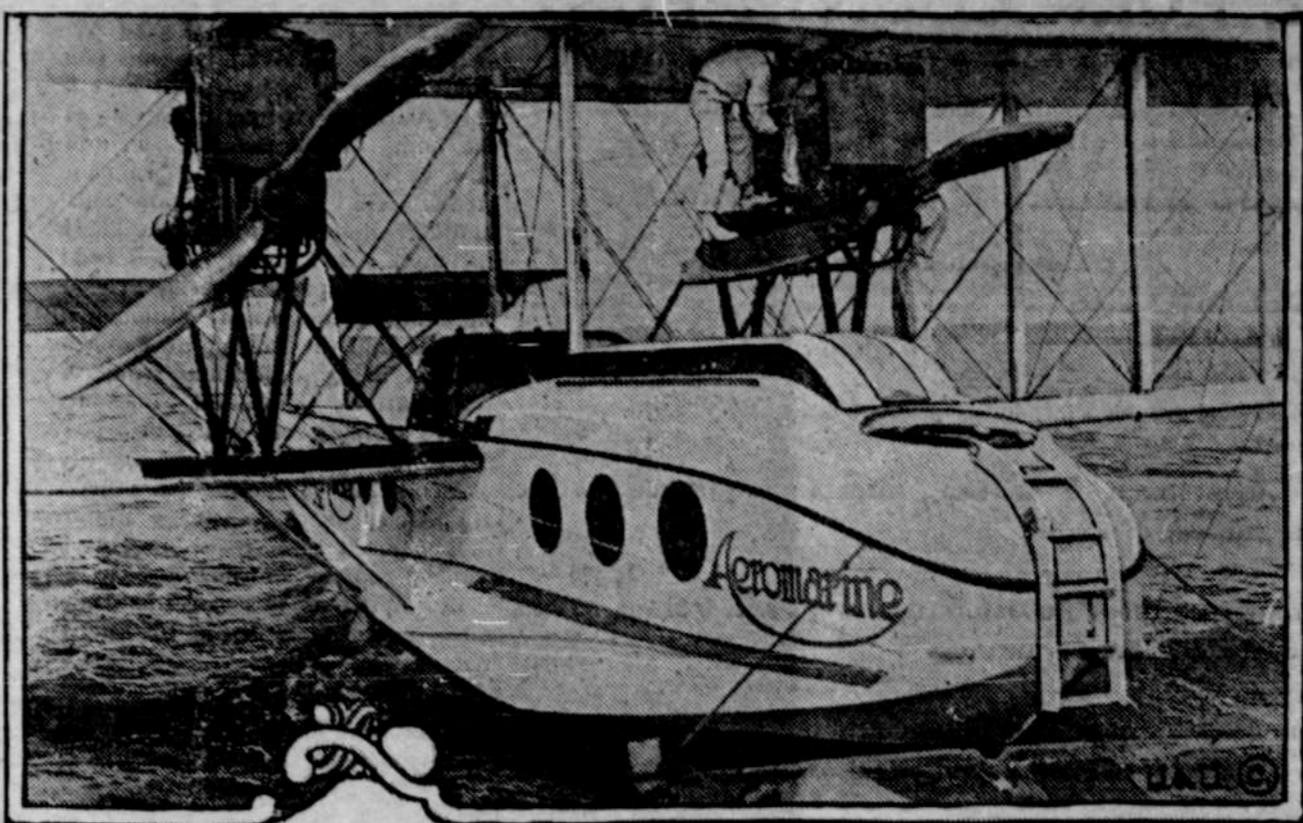
"Wanted—A little whisky for medicinal use for five-year-old child who is desperately ill."

The ad was inserted by Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Birney, theatrical people, who were forced to leave their show here on account of the child's illness. He had a prescription for the whisky but Lancaster druggists had failed to take out licenses to sell intoxicants.

A number of people on their way to church stopped at the hotel where Mr. and Mrs. Birney and child were staying and left whisky.

Dry detectives are now in the field threatening arrests, while public sentiment in many quarters has lined up behind the couple.

Governor Edwards Christens Flying Boat



Governor Edwards of New Jersey christened the "Aeromarine," a new ten-passenger flying boat, at the plant of the Aeromarine Plane and Motor company at Keyport, N. J. The governor used a bottle of real champagne to christen the boat—the largest civilian passenger-flying boat in America. This photograph shows the giant motors and cabin of the "Aeromarine."

Army Treatment of Tuberculosis

Some 5,000 Soldiers Admitted to Hospital at Oteen, N. C., in 22 Months.

DISEASE ARRESTED IN 3,000

Quiescent in 1,000 Cases, 600 Under Treatment, While 300 Have Died—Most Efficient Modern Methods Employed.

Washington.—Among the vast enterprises which have engaged the attention of our government during the last few years the physical reconstruction of our soldiers who saw service abroad ranks among the first. And among those who needed the closest care and attention were service men who fell a prey to tuberculosis.

These victims of the dreaded white plague have been treated by the most efficient modern methods in the great army hospitals which arose as if by magic in different parts of the country. The work has been carried on unostentatiously, and but little knowledge of it has come to the attention of the public.

The physical health of the men taken into the service had to be generally excellent, as is quite well understood, otherwise the medical examiners would be obliged to reject volunteer or draftee.

Notwithstanding all the care taken to select none but sound men, the influenza epidemic resulted in the development of tuberculosis in a great many of our soldiers, as the secondary result of this acute infection.

In addition, many soldiers who had been gassed readily became victims of the disease. Moreover, the constant damp and rainy weather in France would often result in the development of pneumonia, another ready factor in activating tuberculosis.

While a few men got into the army who already had small tubercular lesions, these were so slight as to be passed or overlooked by the examiners. However, when such men were unduly exposed and subjected to the severe physical work incident to army service, a break in the normal state of health resulted.

It was from these sources, therefore, that the great majority of the tubercular patients in the army were recruited. Indeed, many thousands of soldiers required treatment.

Provision for their care was made at Otisville, N. Y.; Denver, Colo.; Fort Bayard, N. M., and Oteen, N. C., besides several smaller posts that have since been abandoned entirely or turned over to the department of public health.

Two Main Hospitals.

The main army hospitals for the treatment of tuberculosis at present are at Denver and Oteen, United States General Hospital No. 19 is the one at Oteen, which is near Asheville. It has established a splendid record and will serve best as an example in giving a brief outline of the treatment of tuberculosis as it is carried out in the army.

No. 19 is a hospital conducted on a truly gigantic scale. It is a town in itself, consisting of more than one hundred buildings which cover 340 acres of land. The money outlay was \$3,500,000. No. 19 has its own water supply and sewerage system. The grounds at night are lighted by electricity, and are intersected by cement and macadamized roads. There are two central heating plants for the hospital.

The buildings are of wood and painted. The unit ward system was used in construction, which permits the very sick to be quartered away from those only slightly afflicted, and also permits of more individual care where there are only a few patients in each building.

More than 1,400 beds were avail-

able in this institution for the treatment of tuberculosis.

The surgeon general's office has taken great pride in this hospital and has been most energetic in the endeavor to have everything at the top notch of efficiency. The success achieved has amply demonstrated what can be done by skill and devotion.

When the hospital was built in the fall of 1917 a Western specialist in tuberculosis was installed. He retired and returned to private work, and was succeeded by Col. William C. Lyster, a regular army man of more than twenty years' service. He had held very responsible posts in England and France and had been decorated by King George with the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Prior to the war he was known to army men as the inventor of the Lyster water bag for the use of troops in the field, which is always used when fresh water is unobtainable.

Many difficulties in the way of providing an ideal treatment for the tubercular were encountered at first. One of the most apparent was the amount of money allowed for the daily ration. The war department allowed but 64 cents, an amount experts say is totally inadequate to provide the proper kind and quality of food required by tubercular patients. It is to be remembered, of course, that proper feeding is one of the mainstays of treatment in this disease.

Not Enough Money for Food. Colonel Lyster's representations to the war department resulted in temporarily raising the ration money from 64 cents to \$1, but this was reduced later to 88 cents.

The method of treatment followed at Oteen is that advocated by Colonel Bushnell, a contemporary of the late Dr. Edward Trudeau of Saranac Lake, N. Y. The course is subdivided thus: Complete rest in bed, partial rest in bed, and rest by every patient from 1 to 3 in the afternoon. In addition, the patients get good wholesome food and plenty of fresh air.

Serums and vaccines are not employed. Artificial pneumothorax (that is, cutting into the pleural cavity so that air can enter and exert pressure on the lung) is only resorted to in cases of severe, continued hemorrhage.

The bed linen is changed daily to prevent reinfection; the sputum cups are changed twice daily, and everyone must have lights out by 10 p. m.

The X-ray diagnostic laboratory is one of the best in the country. Maj. John McRae, who has a fine reputation in this field, is radiologist. Each patient is radiographed upon admission and again every month or two, to note improvement or retrogression. There is also an excellent chemical laboratory.

Four dental surgeons are constantly busy seeing to it that the teeth of the patients are kept in good condition.

The hospital buildings and grounds are kept spotlessly clean, and the evidences of perfect sanitation are observable everywhere.

Colonel Lyster had the officers' ward turned over to the very sick enlisted men, all bed patients. There

Eat Salty Food Nights If You Want Dream Jag

London.—"If you eat anchovies, pickles, olives and other salty things before going to bed you will dream that you are drinking all night."

So says William Archer, the well-known critic. He adds: "I commend this practice to the citizens of the United States if prohibition has left them with a grievance."

were about seventy of these. Such patients are provided with everything the market affords, and they can order anything they wish. There are two dietitians constantly in attendance to provide food for them. There are also four ward surgeons to attend to them; in fact, nothing is overlooked that could aid to their comfort.

In the officers' infirmary ward about thirty officers who are gravely ill are quartered, most of whom are bed cases. Contrary to what one would naturally expect, these men, seriously ill, joke with each other all day long.

A most remarkable fact is the spirit of cheerfulness that pervades the hospital, especially in the wards mentioned.

How Officers Pass the Time.

Some of these officers are incased in plaster casts on account of spinal trouble. All are engaged in something to help pass the time; they make baskets, knit scarves, paint pictures, carve wood or make dolls.

The cheerfulness of one officer, a man of Irish birth, was noticeable. He was near death for many months, but he never gave up hope, although he would become delirious every night. Finally, he took a turn for the better, and now he is up and out of bed and has gained in weight from 92 pounds to 121 pounds. He is so overjoyed at "coming back" that he keeps the whole ward in an uproar of mirth by his witty sallies. Many others have regained their health or are on the road to it.

Another factor that has much to do with keeping up the spirits and high morale of the patients is the genuine interest in them manifested by the nurses. They never grumble, are always at the call of the patients, and always appear to be happy. The spirit of good cheer manifested by Miss Sheehan, the chief nurse, seems to be contagious and to have imbued itself into those who work under her. Miss Sheehan had the same reputation of being able to get work done cheerfully in the largest base center at Vichy, France.

Again, many pleasant ways of keeping occupied are provided by the government. About one hundred reconstruction aids help the soldiers in all kinds of instruction, such as basket-weaving, language, typesetting, printing, chemistry, etc.

The Red Cross has a large building where moving pictures are given daily, and where a social meeting place is provided for those on the road to recovery.

The hostess house, run by the government, provides rooms at nominal cost for the women relatives of the patients, and furthermore is active in a social way.

Then the residents of Asheville have been enthusiastically hospitable, constantly entertaining the patients who are able to be about and carrying candy and all sorts of good things to the hospital every day.

Such is the manner of life at general hospital 19.

Now that the war risk insurance bureau and the public health service are gradually taking over the patients needing further treatment, ample provision is made for their care. Those requiring such treatment will receive \$80 a month instead of \$30.

Some hardship is caused in the case of reserve or temporary officers requiring further treatment. They are obliged to submit to a curtailment in pay, while the regular army officer is either kept on in the hospital or returned on three-quarters pay.

The enlisted man, however, is greatly benefited by the provisions of the war risk bureau. Those totally and permanently disabled receive \$157.50 a month.

As an instance of the real results obtained at Oteen it may be said that 5,000 soldiers have been admitted to the hospital. All of these did not have tuberculosis and a few were transferred to other hospitals. Yet during the year and ten months of its usefulness more than 3,000 cases of tuberculosis have been treated and nearly 2,000 have been returned to gainful occupations. In about 1,000 cases the disease has been arrested; in 1,000 it is quiescent; about 300 have died and 600 are still undergoing treatment.

Sorting Seized Narcotic Drugs



Committee appointed by the commissioner of internal revenue segregating narcotic drugs sent in from the various offices throughout the country. The unopened and original packages are turned over to the United States public health service for use in government hospitals. The broken packages and the adulterated drugs are destroyed.