

MURDER OF NATION BY RUTHLESS HUNS

How the Poles Were Slain and Starved and Frozen During the German Drive.

F. C. Walcott Tells of the Scenes of Horror He Witnessed Along the Road from Warsaw to Pinsk—Million Persons Homeless.

"This I have seen. I could not believe it unless I had seen it through and through. For several weeks I lived with it; I went all about it and back of it; inside and out of it was shown to me—until finally I came to realize that the incredible was true. It is monstrous, it is unthinkable, but it exists. It is the Prussian system.—F. C. Walcott.

The following is a statement by F. C. Walcott, who served as an assistant to Mr. Hoover during the time America was doing all that was possible to feed the starving millions of Belgium and Poland and northern France. In this work he was brought in direct contact with German military officials, and saw the conditions which the German invasion had created among the civilian population:

I went to Poland to learn the facts concerning the remnants of a people that had been decimated by war. The country had been twice devastated. First the Russian army swept through it and then the Germans. Along the roadside from Warsaw to Pinsk, nearly half a million people had died of hunger and cold. The way was strewn with their bones picked clean by the crows. With their usual thrift, the Germans were collecting the larger bones to be milled into fertilizer, but finger and toe bones lay on the ground with the mud-covered and rain-soaked clothing.

Wicker baskets were scattered along the way—the basket in which the baby swings from the father in every peasant home. Every mile there were scores of them, each one telling a death. I started to count, but after a little I had to give it up, there were so many.

That is the desolation one saw along the great road from Warsaw to Pinsk, mile after mile, more than two hundred miles. They told me a million people were made homeless in six weeks of the German drive in August and September, 1915. They told me four hundred thousand died on the way. The rest, scarcely half alive, got through with the Russian army. Many of these have been sent to Siberia; it is these people whom the Federewski committee is trying to relieve.

In the refugee camps, 500,000 survivors of the flight were gathered by the Germans, members of broken families. They were lodged in Jerry-built barracks, scarcely waterproof, unlighted, unwarmed in the dead of winter. Their clothes, where the buttons were lost, were sewed on. They had not even been able to wash for weeks. Filth and infection, from vermin were spreading. They were famished, their daily ration a cup of soup and a piece of bread as big as my fist.

In Warsaw, which had not been destroyed, a city of one million inhabitants, one of the most prosperous cities of Europe before the war, the streets were lined with people in the pangs of starvation. Famished and rain-soaked, they squatted there, with their elbows on their knees or leaning against the buildings, too feeble to lift a hand for a bit of money or a morsel of bread if one offered it, perishing of hunger and cold. Charity did what it could. The rich gave all that they had, the poor shared their last crust. Hundreds of thousands were perishing. Day and night the pictures is before my eyes—a people starving, a nation dying.

The above statement by Mr. Walcott is a terrible arraignment of the Hun, but no more terrible than he deserves. What has happened in Poland, in Belgium, in northern France and every other country that has been blighted by the Hun's presence would happen in America should the allies, by any chance, fail to win this war. It would mean the enslavement of American men, the starving and death of American women and children. Either the Hun or humanity must perish.

KILLED BY GERMAN HELMET

American Soldier Hunting Souvenir Picked Up Charged Headpiece.

Shamokin, Pa.—Writing from a dug-out in No Man's Land, France, Leo Comer, a corporal in the Twenty-third United States Infantry, forwarded to his sister here, Miss Cecelia Comer, a bunch of strange flowers he had gathered while on patrol duty.

Comer had promised a younger brother a German steel helmet as a war relic, but in writing informed the brother that he was doomed to disappointment until the Americans reach Berlin. He had seen a fellow soldier pick up a steel helmet and then fall dead.

The helmet had been electrically charged by the Germans.

MONSTROUS IDEA IN GERMAN MIND

Treachery, Murder, Barbarity, Anything, Praiseworthy if for Prussia's Gain.

Abominable System That Must Be Overthrown if the World is to Be Worth Living In, Regardless of the Cost.

"This I have seen. I could not believe it unless I had seen it through and through. For several weeks I lived with it; I went all about it and back of it; inside and out of it was shown to me—until finally I came to realize that the incredible was true. It is monstrous, it is unthinkable, but it exists. It is the Prussian system.—F. C. Walcott.

At a conference of field men of the United States food administration held in Washington, F. C. Walcott pictured conditions as he had found them in the countries invaded by German arms. Mr. Walcott served with Mr. Hoover on the Belgian relief commission when this nation was attempting to feed the starving civilian population of Belgium, Poland and northern France. In his address he had pictured such conditions as he said he could not believe unless he had seen the situation through and through, and had lived with it for weeks. He showed these terrible conditions to be the result of deliberate plans on the part of official Germany, and in summing up he said:

"Such is the German mind as it was disclosed to me in several weeks' contact with officers of the staff. Treaties are scraps of paper, if they hinder German aims. Treachery is condoned and praised, if it falls in with German interest. Men, lands, countries are German prizes. Populations are to be destroyed or enslaved so Germany may gain. Women are Germany's prey, children are spoils of war. God gave Germany the Hohenzollern and together they are destined to rule Europe and, eventually, the world—thus reasons the Kaiser.

"Coolly, deliberately, officers of the German staff, permeated by this monstrous philosophy, discuss the denationalization of peoples, the destruction of nations, the undoing of other civilizations, for Germany's account.

"In all the world such a thing has never been. The human mind has never conceived the like. Even among barbarians, the thing would be incredible. The mind can scarcely grasp the fact that these things are proposed and done by a modern government professedly a Christian government in the family of civilized nations.

"This system has got to be rooted out. If it takes everyone of us, this abomination must be overthrown. It must be ended or the world is not worth living in. No matter how long it takes, no matter how much it costs, we must endure to the end with agonized France, with imperiled Britain, with shattered Belgium, with shaken Russia.

"We must hope that Germany will have a new birth as Russia is being reborn. We must pray, as we fight against the evil that is in Germany, that the good which is in Germany may somehow prevail. We must trust that in the end a Germany really great with the strength of a wonderful race may find its place as one of the brotherhood of nations in the new world that is to be.

"The responsibility of success or failure rests now upon our shoulders; the eyes of the world are anxiously watching us. Are we going to be able to rise to the emergency, throw off our inefficiency, and prove that democracy is safe for the world?"

In the above statement Mr. Walcott has described a condition that must be changed if America, if the world, is to remain a "fit place to live in." And the only way by which this change can be effected is the defeat of German arms in this war. Nothing good, nothing but evil, can come out of Germany, so long as the German people are controlled by a military autocracy, and the German people cannot be made to realize this until this autocracy is crushed. The spirit of militarism that has made of the Germans a robber and a murderer nation must be utterly crushed if the world is to remain free, and to accomplish this those of us who cannot fight in France must lend our support to our men who are fighting for us.

FLIER IS MADE CHEVALIER

Guyerner's Friend and Pupil Has Seven Victories to His Credit.

Paris.—Sous-Lieutenant Bazou-Verduraz, recently made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor, following his seventh officially recorded aerial victory, was the intimate friend and pupil of Guyerner.

He accompanied Guyerner September 11, 1917, when the latter met his fate. His one thought since, it is asserted, has been to avenge the great loss. One of the new chevaliers' feats was to shoot down three planes in four hours. He was a cavalryman until transferred to the air service.

"A Great Net of Mercy drawn through an Ocean of Unspeakable Pain"

The American Red Cross

PUTTING HIS MONEY TO WORK



Contributed by Charles Dana Gibson.

JOKES ON SALOON MAN HE GAVE HIS SHIRT OFF HIS BACK

Wet Goods Dealer Found That Bundle He So Oblighingly Kept for Customer Had Its Uses.

Aren't the master workmen of the wet goods establishments easy marks? That is what the gentry who live by their wits are asking each other. They know that the proprietor of a wet goods establishment loses his mental balance and is completely dazed when he is invited to have a drink. Recently two husky-looking individuals entered a Forty-second street suds emporium. One of the party carried an enormous bundle, which he placed on the top of the mahogany. They both called for a drink.

"Well, it is hopeful that my wife will stop her nagging about the cold weather and being cold when I carry this home," said the man who carried the bundle.

At the end of the bar stood the proprietor of the wet goods establishment. He seemed curious, so the two men invited him to have a drink, which was accepted. One of them explained that he had the finest pair of wool blankets that was ever sheared from the backs of sheep in the package.

"Feel for yourself," he said, as he unfastened one end of the bundle.

The proprietor felt and acknowledged that they were the simon pure wool article.

"I'm taking them home to my wife," said the owner. "She has been kicking about being cold."

Then they had another round of liquors.

"Well, I must be on my way," said the man, as he picked up the bundle.

"Why don't you leave them here until you start for home?" interposed his companion.

"Good idea," he said. And turning to the owner of the cafe he asked if he could leave the bundle.

"Sure," said the proprietor, "but you had better write your name on it to avoid any mistake."

Twelve o'clock came around and the man hadn't called for his bundle. "I can see that fellow getting more—l—l when he goes home tonight," said the proprietor as he turned the key in the door.

The next day the owner of the cafe was the first on the job. He took a survey of the wet goods and then went to the rear of the store, where the safe was. Here was a surprise for him. He found the door of his burglar-proof safe neatly reposing on the pair of downy blankets, which had been used to muffle the sound of the explosion.—New York Times.

If you run your household on three pounds of sugar a month per person when fall comes the grocer won't have to hang up the sign "No Sugar."

The second helping is getting to be bad form.

There's lots of money to go round, but bacon, beef and wheat can't make the circuit. Save your share.

HE GAVE HIS SHIRT OFF HIS BACK

How an Italian Officer Traveling on Train Helped a New Born Baby.

One of the ways to say that a man is good hearted is to descend to expressive Americanese slang and say "he'd give you his shirt."

A young Italian officer did exactly that—gave the shirt off his back to a baby just born. It was during a flight of the Italian refugees just after the Italian army had been tricked by the Austrians.

Here's the story: An Italian officer, who had been a volunteer worker at the station when the crush came through, walked into the American Red Cross office at Bologna, Italy, and told of a poor young woman who had given birth to a baby on the train in which he was riding a few nights' previously. They had been riding for over 16 hours, and the

wretchedly poor and disheartened mother had been jammed in with the hundreds of other frightened Italians on the same train. Hungry, tired and miserable and in a frightfully weakened condition, she had scarcely sufficient clothes for herself, not to speak of properly caring for a newborn babe. The young officer stripped himself of his shirt, and there among this frightened, half starved, forlorn crowd the poor Italian infant was wrapped in its first body covering.

Mother and babe were afterwards nursed back to health, clothed and looked after by the American Red Cross. And this is only one small, isolated incident among thousands that come under the working of the Red Cross.

HEAVY WORK ON THE FIGHTING LINE



These powerful American artillerymen, with huge crowbars, are working fast to get their heavy gun into position to hurl its shells at the retreating Huns. It is a difficult job, for the earth is pitted with shell craters.

Dried Eggs.

The high cost of eggs in England has led to the birth of quite a new big business in dried eggs and eggs in solution. One large firm selling dried eggs has undertaken an extensive advertising campaign to push these eggs upon the attention of retailers, who in their turn are being enabled by other advertising matter to attract their customers to the goods.

The dried eggs which they advertise are entirely soluble and take up the water like a lump of sugar and thus give the perfect creamy liquid of a beaten shell egg ready for instant use on mixing. Dried eggs are no longer to be regarded as war food; they have come to stay. This firm predicts that in the near future the properly dried

eggs will have become one of the very largest used and most important of our foods.

Rabbits a Real Pest.

As a fair illustration of the rabbit pest in certain portions of New Zealand, and especially in the drier sections of the South Island, it is stated that on an estate lately taken over by the New Zealand government, comprising 12,436 acres of freehold and a pastoral run of 19,250 acres, there were 120,000 rabbits on the property. It is suitable for the location of returned soldiers.

World's Need for Wheat. Experts of wheat from the United

CRUELTY AND LUST WEAPONS OF HUNS

Conquered Peoples Shamefully Treated for Advantage of the German State.

Prussian Officers Callously Tell How Starvation and Abuse Are Made to Serve Their Purpose—Captives Women Made Slaves.

"This I have seen. I could not believe it unless I had seen it through and through. For several weeks I lived with it; I went all about it and back of it; inside and out of it was shown to me—until finally I came to realize that the incredible was true. It is monstrous, it is unthinkable, but it exists. It is the Prussian system.—F. C. Walcott.

No more graphic description of the ravages of the German soldiery upon the civilian population of invaded countries has been given than is contained in the brief and simple statements of F. C. Walcott, now connected with the United States food administration, who was assistant to Mr. Hoover while America was feeding Belgium, Poland and northern France. In one of these statements Mr. Walcott says:

Even now I find it hard to describe in comprehensible terms the mind of official Germany, which dominates and shapes all German thought and action. Yet it is as hard, as clear-cut, as real as any material thing. I saw it in Poland, I saw the same thing in Belgium, I heard of it in Serbia and Roumania. For weeks it was always before me, always the same. Officers talked freely, frankly, directly. All the staff officers have the same view.

Let me try to tell it, as General von Kries told me, in Poland, in the midst of a dying nation. Germany is destined to rule the world, or at least a great part of it. The German people are so much human material for building the German state, other people do not count. All is for the glory and might of the German state. The lives of human beings are to be conserved only if it makes for the state's advancement, their lives are to be sacrificed if it is to the state's advantage. The state is all, the people are nothing.

Conquered people signify little in the German account. Life, liberty, happiness, human sentiment, family ties, grace and generous impulses, these have no place beside the one concern, the greatness of the German state.

Starvation must excite no pity; sympathy must not be allowed, if it hampers the main design of promoting Germany's ends.

"Starvation is here," said General von Kries. "Candidly, we would like to see it relieved; we fear our soldiers may be unfavorably affected by the things that they see. But since it is here, starvation must serve our purpose. So we set it to work for Germany. By starvation we can accomplish in two or three years in East Poland more than we have in West Poland, which is East Prussia, in the last hundred years. With that in view, we propose to turn this force to our advantage."

"This country is meant for Germany," continued the keeper of starving Poland. "It is a rich alluvial country which Germany has needed for some generations. We propose to remove the able-bodied working Poles from this country. It leaves it open for the inflow of German working people as fast as we can spare them. They will occupy it and work it."

Then with a cunning smile, "Can't you see how it works out? By and by we shall give back freedom to Poland. When that happens Poland will appear automatically as a German province."

In Belgium, General von Bissing told me exactly the same thing. "If the relief of Belgium breaks down we can force the industrial population into Germany through starvation and colonize other Belgians in Mesopotamia where we have planned large irrigation works; Germans will then overrun Belgium. Then when the war is over and freedom is given back to Belgium, it will be a German Belgium that is restored. Belgium will be a German province and we have Antwerp—which is what we are after."

That is not all. Removing the men, that the land may be vacant for German occupation, that German stock may replace Belgians, Poles, Serbians, Armenians, and now Roumanians, Germany does more. Women left captive are enslaved. Germany makes all manner of lust its instrumentality.

The other day a friend of mine told me of a man just returned from northern France. "I cannot tell you the details," he said, "man to man, I don't want to repeat what I heard." Some of the things he did tell—shocking mutilation and moral murder. He told of women, by the score, in occupied territory of northern France, prisoned in underground dungeons, tethered for the use of their bodies by officers and men.

If this is not a piece of the Prussian system, it is the logical product of disregard of the rights of others.

Germany has limited the amount that prisoners may spend to \$15 a week for officers and \$12.50 for privates.