

U.S. Businessman Suffers Years in Soviet Prisons

By THOMAS A. REEDY
Associated Press Staff Writer

DETROIT (AP)—A 60-year-old camera manufacturer, arrested in Germany by World War II agents, Wednesday of seven years in Russian Zone concentration camps, constantly hungry and in poor health.

Charles A. Noble, of Detroit, Mich., in an interview he was furnished by the East Zone authorities, said he was shipped to West Germany where he now is awaiting repatriation from Washington to return to his home.

More than July 4 to the chunky, ruddy-faced man, "It was really and truly Independence Day."

DETAINED IN 1938

When Noble, 38, emigrated to the U. S., and became an American citizen in 1920.

After he returned to Germany, he started a camera factory in Dresden, employing his wife and two sons, George and John, with him. He said he had planned to return to the U. S. after a year or two but was stopped by the war. The Nazis refused to permit him to leave, he said. He told this sequence of events after that:

The Russians, arriving in Dresden in May, 1945, treated him well for about six weeks. He was sent on a trip to the American Zone to get some optical equipment and return the Soviets used that equipment to charge him with espionage for the purpose of getting cameras from his own factory.

AND SON RELEASED

Noble and his son, George, were released in January, 1946, and his other son, John, was released in Dresden, later a notorious ex-Nazi camp at



GAINS FREEDOM—Charles A. Noble (above), of Detroit, Mich., released by the Russians after spending seven years without trial in Soviet-zone concentration camps, holds a letter from the U. S. Consul in Berlin stating he is a United States citizen. Noble, who was born in Germany, said he was arrested by the Russians in East Germany in 1945 along with his son, John, 29, who is still in Soviet hands.

Buchenwald, and finally in the most ill-fated Communist camp now established at Waldheim.

Noble said his repeated demands for at least a trial were refused by the German captors because they said they were not authorized to try an American.

"They told me the Russians had

Decrease Noted In Irish Cattle Fairs

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Col. John H. Haughton, director of the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, said that the number of Irish livestock fairs, for centuries important in Ireland's rural life, are decreasing in number and will never disappear completely.

It is the conclusion of Joseph Haughton, lecturer in Geography at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, delivered to the Eighth International Assembly and Seventh International Congress of Geographical Names at Washington.

Haughton points out that Irish fairs are held in a network

of Irish towns of 1,500 to 5,000 population, they are not the same thing as the weekly markets of English or continental European towns.

CENTURIES OLD

The fairs, which can be traced back to the 14th century, are held as often as once a month. They are essential to the Irish farmer for the sale of his young cattle and sheep, and to lesser extent of other livestock. In the past almost all livestock in Ireland was sold at fairs, but fattened cattle and hogs are now sold largely to buyers who appear at individual farms.

The decrease in the number of county fairs has been marked in the past 100 years. Mr. Haughton says that in 1852 such gatherings often attended by much of the rural population in a village or town area, numbered 1,297, as compared to 602 in 1952.

An indication of the decrease of social function of the fairs is noted by Mr. Haughton in the increasing appearance of auctioneers. Cattle sales at fairs formerly were made almost entirely in deals between farmer and buyer, after protracted bargaining often compromised by a third party, or "tangler."

LESS PERSONAL

Individual sales usually were completed in a local tavern, rather than the open market place. The public auction puts the auctioneer in the place of the tangler and the dealings between buyer and seller become impersonal.

Fairs formerly were considered an asset for the town or village in which they were held, and the larger ones remain so. But village merchants at the scene of smaller fairs contend that they now bring little business to anyone but the keepers of taverns.

In addition, says Mr. Haughton, the fairs are no longer confined to special "green" or "square" set aside for them. "The farmers prefer to place their animals in the main street where traffic is blocked, the shop fronts damaged, the streets dirtied and the normal business of the town disrupted."



GETS NEW POST—Career diplomat Walter J. Donnelly, above, was named by President Truman as U. S. High Commissioner for Germany after filling similar post in Austria.



CLOSEUP OF A QUEEN—Dainty-clad Susan Applegate sees Queen Elizabeth leaving a home in Adeyfield, England, during a visit to the town to lay the cornerstone for a new church.

Picture Review of News



QUEEN ON 'WITCHES' SCALE—Devil which decided fate of women suspected of witchcraft is inspected by Dutch Queen Juliana during visit to town of Oudewater.



NORSEMEN DISCOVER NEW YORK—The Statsraad, a Norwegian barque, with 180 would-be seadogs aboard, moves to New York pier after 36-day voyage from Bergen.



HISTORY IN PICTURES—Mrs. Matthew Ridgway, wife of European Commander, views a painting of Cornwallis' surrender to Lafayette during party for her near Paris.



TESTING THE WIND—A member holds aloft a model of a new arrowhead glider under construction at Aachen, Germany, University Aero Club. Pilot will sit up front at controls.



CHECKING THE MAKEUP—Mrs. Fran Allen measures the beard of Charlie Kennington as they prepare for Old Home Week and Centennial Celebration, St. Thomas, Ont., Canada.



HAPPY HONEYMOONERS—Film star Betty Hutton and her husband, movie director Charles O'Curran, skim along on water skis while on a delayed honeymoon at Lake Tahoe, Cal.



MOTORIZED SWIMMER—German girl in Munich wears a "water horse" propeller linked by cable to motor behind, and able to send her skimming along water at 10 miles an hour.



LIFETIME KEPSAKES—Venezuelan President Suarez Flamerich, center, presents swords to the 1952 graduating cadets at Escuela Militar, Venezuela's West Point, in Caracas.

Booth-Kelly Makes Repairs

EUGENE—The Booth-Kelly Co. Company took advantage of recent vacation to make repairs at their Dorena plant.

Eugene contractor, John Booth, with a crew of bricklayers, worked in the boiler room, rebuilt the ovens and the walls under boilers 1 and 2, made extensive repairs under



CLOSEUP OF A QUEEN—Dainty-clad Susan Applegate sees Queen Elizabeth leaving a home in Adeyfield, England, during a visit to the town to lay the cornerstone for a new church.