

SEVEN AMERICANS HELD IN RUSSIAN PRISONS ARE IN WORSE PLIGHT THAN WHEN CAPTURED

Life in Bolshevnik Prison Camp is Matter of Physical Endurance Captain Cooper Says.

WARSAW, June 6.—(A. P.)—The plight of seven Americans, one of them a woman, held by the bolsheviks in prisons on various charges, is worse today than at any time since they were taken into custody. In the opinion of Captain Merion C. Cooper, of Jacksonville, Fla., who escaped recently from one of the camps near Moscow, Captain Cooper at the time of his capture was commander of the Kosciuszko air squadron of the Polish army.

Life in a bolshevnik prison camp is a matter of physical endurance as to the length of time one is able to hold on, if compelled to live upon the food furnished by the soviets. Captain Cooper said. All of the Americans would have died long ago, Cooper believes, if it hadn't been for outside aid from time to time.

Captain Cooper said he was on the verge of starvation several times, members of a British railway mission who were also prisoners coming to his rescue with food in one instance and on other occasions, estates having been sent him by foreign welfare organizations.

The food ration of the average camp follows:

Morning—Imitation coffee, half pound black bread, spoonful sugar.

Noon—Two spoonfuls cooked mush made of cereal resembling bird seed.

Night—Cup of hot soup. A small amount of potatoes and a piece of meat usually not larger than an egg were served on an average of about twice a month.

The black bread, according to Cooper, who, as an aviator with the First American army, was captured by the Germans during the Saint Mihiel drive, is far worse than the bread served by the Germans even during the last few weeks of the war.

Mrs. Marguerite E. Harrison of Baltimore, a writer, arrested nearly two years ago, is in the prison where foreigners under investigation by the extraordinary commission are held. Conditions in this place are said by the prisoners to be the worst of any prison in all Russia.

Estey (unidentified) and William Fleck, moving picture operators, were in the same prison near Moscow where Mrs. Harrison is confined.

Thomas Hazelwood of San Francisco, a United States soldier captured in Siberia, was in a prison hospital. Hazelwood has never been sentenced as he has been under medical treatment most of the time for frequent attacks of illness.

X. P. Kalemantiano, a graduate of the University of Chicago, having been accused of being a spy, has been held nearly three years, most of this time having been in solitary confinement. Originally, Kalemantiano was sentenced to be shot, Cooper heard, but later this was commuted to 20 years' imprisonment and at last accounts the sentence had been reduced to five years. Kalemantiano claims that he went to Russia strictly in connection with business.

Another American held by the bolsheviks is Royal C. Keely, a civil engineer, arrested early last year after he had completed an industrial survey of Russia for the soviet government. According to various persons who have come from Russia during the last year Keely was imprisoned because he aroused the wrath of the soviets by writing the "plain truth" in his reports, although they were submitted to no one excepting soviet authorities. Recent reports said Keely had been sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

The last American to be arrested was Ernest Kilpatrick, of Uniontown, Pa., taken last fall in the Crimea where he had gone as an American

Red Cross worker. Kilpatrick is accused of being a military observer for the United States government. Kilpatrick is accused of being a military observer for the United States government. Kilpatrick and Cooper were prisoners together three months. Kilpatrick contends he has never had a trial and that he has been denied the privilege of outside assistance.

"Kilpatrick told me that he was engaged in humanitarian work in the Crimea as an official of the American Red Cross and that he carried an American passport giving him the right to travel in the capacity of a welfare worker," Captain Cooper said.

"He said he felt that death would come within the next few months if compelled to exist upon the ration issued by the soviet authorities. So far as I know some of the Americans was receiving outside aid at the time I last heard of them and the condition of each, judging from what I heard from time to time, was most pitiful.

"Kilpatrick was in poor condition when I saw him last though still keeping up his nerve and he felt thoroughly confident that the American government and the American Red Cross would do all possible in his behalf.

"I was in the same hospital with Hazelwood for a time and he told me several times that he had been forced to sign many papers, all written in Russian, which had not even been translated to him."

Cooper was charged with being a counter-revolutionist and was a prisoner nine months. He escaped from Moscow to Riga traveling most of the distance on foot.

MOUNTAIN RANGES COLLAPSE IN QUAKE

BY CHARLES EDWARD HOGUE.

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

SHANGHAI.—(By Mail).—Whole mountain ranges collapsed and buried scores of villages and towns under a sea of loose soil, when Kansu province was stricken by a series of earthquakes that began on December 16 and continued for more than a month. This is the word brought to Shanghai today by H. D. Hayes and J. W. Hull, investigators for the United International Famine Relief Society. They have just completed a survey of the devastated area.

No accurate estimate is made as to the number of lives lost, but it is known that more than 200,000 were killed. The province has been so badly depopulated that it is likely that artisans will be imported from neighboring states to aid in the work of rehabilitation.

Landslides have blocked many of the mountain streams and a fresh danger menaces the survivors of the earthquakes. The dammed streams and backing up in the gorges and forming huge lakes. Seepage has already begun at various places and the loose earth threatens to go out at any time. In scores of instances the breaking of such a dam would mean the inundation of a valley and the death of the inhabitants, besides the probable starting of further landslides.

COMMENCEMENT MARKS FOUNDING OF AMHERST

AMHERST, Mass., June 5.—(A. P.)—Commencement this year will have a double significance for graduates of the Massachusetts Agricultural College for it will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the institution. Exercises particularly appropriate to the occasion are planned. One feature will be the dedication on Sunday, June 12 of a memorial to the "Aggie" men who sacrificed their lives in the World War. Major General William M. Wright, U. S. A. formerly professor of military science and commandant at the college, will dedicate the building, erected at a cost of \$150,000.

The celebration will open on June 10 which has been designated as "Citizen's Day." Alumni Day, Dedication Day, Anniversary Day and Commencement Day will follow in order with Secretary of Agriculture Henry C. Wallace, Governor Cox, Arthur W. Gilbert, state commissioner of Agriculture and others as speakers on the different days.

Kills Actor



Mrs. Helen Cass, wife of a Denver policeman, killed Edward S. (Curly) Kennington, photo-play actor in Denver. She says she shot him in self-defense, when he accosted her on the street in the early morning.

Tuesday Is Your Turn To Mobilize

Oregon needs the new homes and land development which passage of the Soldier Relief Measure will mean to the state and the boys

THEY DESERVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CATCH UP AND OVERCOME THE ECONOMIC HANDICAP INCURRED BY GOING TO WAR



A PARADE OF PROTEST

REASONS WHY THE PEOPLE WILL AND SHOULD SUPPORT THE SOLDIERS' AID AND RELIEF BILL

1. The home and farm loans will cost the TAXPAYERS NOTHING; the soldier pays 4 per cent interest and returns the principal; as a taxpayer he will pay more than the extra interest cost to the state.
2. It will bring millions of dollars of new money into the state for farm development.
3. It is sound social and economic policy; every soldier who takes the loan becomes a taxpayer, hence a more interested and intelligent citizen.
4. It will relieve house congestion.
5. It will stimulate building, furnish new work for labor, increase demand for house materials and home furnishings. A conservative estimate indicates that over \$1,000,000 will come to Pendleton alone.
6. It is SAFE, SANE and SOUND. It embodies the experience of our present state and federal policy of farm loans. Every loan is secured by a first mortgage. The plan is safeguarded against speculators. ONLY EX-SERVICE men and women can enjoy the benefits. Any transfer to others automatically terminates the privileges.
7. It will help to solve unemployment, stabilize labor and quiet industrial unrest.
8. It helps to pay the big debt we owe to those who made secure for us our present peace, happiness and security of property, at the risk and in many cases at the loss of their health, happiness and property.

Pendleton Post, American Legion

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NOTICE My office will be closed until Friday June 10. Dr. David B. Hill