

# BELGIANS HERDED IN CATTLE PENS

### Participant's Testimony of Degradation Accompanying Deportation From Mons.

## SCENES OF FIENDISH CRUELTY

#### Women Forbidden to Give Food and Clothing to Men Facing Privation and Cold—United States' Appeal Unheeded.

Conspicuous among cold-blooded acts of cruelty committed by the Germans, to their everlasting disgrace, the deportation from Mons is prominent. Official documents published by the committee on public information tell part of the harrowing story.

A vivid sketch of the deportations from Mons, ordered by German authorities, drawn by a participant, may well be cited here:

"I will take the 18th of November of last year [1916]. A week or so before that a placard was placed on the walls telling my capital city of Mons that in seven days all the men of that city who were not clergymen, who were not priests, who did not belong to the city council, would be deported.

"At half past five, in the gray of the morning on the 18th of November, they walked out, 6,200 men at Mons, myself and another leading them down the cobblestones of the street and out where the rioting would be less than in the great city, with the soldiers on each side, with bayonets fixed, with the women held back.

"The degradation of it! The degradation of it as they walked into this great market square, where the pens were erected, exactly as if they were cattle—all the great men of that province—the lawyers, the statesmen, the heads of the trades, the men that had made the capital of Hainaut glorious during the last 20 years.

"There they were collected; no question of who they were, whether they were busy or what they were doing, or what their position in life. 'Go to the right! Go to the left! Go to the right!' So they were turned to the one side or the other.

"Trains were standing there ready, steaming, to take them to Germany. You saw on the one side the one brother taken, the other brother left. A hasty embrace and they were separated and gone.

"You saw the women in hundreds, with bundles in their hands, beseeching to be permitted to approach the trains, to give their men the last that they had in life between themselves and starvation—a small bundle of clothing to keep them warm on their way to Germany. You saw women approach with a bundle that had been purchased by the sale of the last of their household effects. Not one was allowed to approach to give her man the warm pair of stockings or the warm jacket, so there might be some chance of his reaching there. Off they went!"—John H. Gade, in the National Geographic Magazine, May, 1917.

"The Belgian women sent a touching appeal to Minister Whitlock: Appeal of Belgian Women.

"Brussels, Nov. 18, 1916, 46 Rue de la Madeleine.

"His Excellency, Mr. Brand Whitlock, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America.

"Mr. Minister:

"From the depths of our well of misery our supplication rises to you.

"In addressing ourselves to you, we denounce to your government, as well as to our sisters, the women of the nation which you represent in our midst, the criminal abuse of force of which our unhappy and defenseless people is a victim.

"Since the beginning of this atrocious war we have looked on impotently and with our hearts torn with every sorrow at terrible events which put civilization back into the ages of the barbarian hordes.

"Mr. Minister, the crime which is now being committed under your eyes, namely, the deportation of thousands of men compelled to work on enemy soil against the interests of their country, cannot find any shadow of excuse on the ground of military necessity, for it constitutes a violation by force of a sacred right of human conscience.

"Called 'Monstrous Extremity.' 'Whatever may be the motive, it cannot be admitted that citizens may be compelled to work directly or indirectly for the enemy against their brothers who are fighting.

"The convention of The Hague has consecrated this principle.

"Nevertheless, the occupying power is forcing thousands of men to this monstrous extremity, which is contrary to morals and international law, both these men who have already been taken to Germany and those who tomorrow will undergo the same fate, if from the outside, from neutral Europe and the United States, no help is offered.

"Oh! The Belgian women have also known how to carry out their duty in the hour of danger; they have not weakened the courage of the soldiers of honor by their tears.

"They have bravely given to their country those whom they loved. . . . The blood of mothers is flowing on the

battlefields with that of their sons. "Those who are taken away today do not go to perform a glorious duty. They are slaves in chains who, in a dark exile, threatened by hunger, prison, death, will be called upon to perform the most odious work—service to the enemy against the fatherland.

**Rights of Honor and Conscience.** "The mothers cannot stand by while such an abomination is taking place without making their voices heard in protest.

"They address you in the name of the unalterable rights of honor and conscience.

"It has been said that women are 'all powerful suppliants.'

"We have felt authorized by this saying, Mr. Minister, to extend our hands to you and to address to your country a last appeal.

"We trust that in reading these lines you will feel at each word the unhappy heartbeats of the Belgian women and will find in your broad and humane sympathy imperative reasons for intervention.

"Only the united will of the neutral peoples energetically expressed can counterbalance that of the German authorities.

"This assistance which the neutral nations can and, therefore, ought to lend us, will it be refused to the oppressed Belgians?

"Be good enough to accept, Mr. Minister, the homage of our most distinguished consideration."

(Signed by a number of Belgian women and 24 societies.)

The United States government did not fail to respond to this touching appeal and to others of a similar nature. The American embassy at Berlin promptly took up the burning question of the deportations with the chancellor and other representatives of the German government. In an interview with the under secretary of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Grew was handed an official statement of the German plans, which is, in translation, as follows:

**German Camouflage.** "Against the unemployed in Belgium, who are a burden to public charity, in order to avoid friction arising therefrom, compulsory measures are to be adopted to make them work so far as they are not voluntarily inclined to work, in accordance with the regulation issued May 15, 1916, by the governor general. In order to ascertain such persons the assistance of the municipal authorities is required for the district of the governor general in Brussels, while in the districts outside of the general government, i. e., in the provinces of Flanders, lists were demanded from the presidents of the local relief committees containing the names of persons receiving relief. For the sake of establishing uniform procedure the competent authorities have, in the meantime, been instructed to make the necessary investigations regarding such persons also in Flanders through the municipal authorities; furthermore, presidents of local relief committees who may be detained for having refused to furnish such lists will be released."

Mr. Grew pointed out that the deportations were a breach of faith and would injure the German cause abroad. In his official summary of the negotiations which he carried on he says:

"I then discussed in detail with the under secretary of state for foreign affairs the unfortunate impression which this decision would make abroad, reminding him that the measures were in principle contrary to the assurances given to the ambassador by the chancellor at general headquarters last spring and dwelling on the effect which the policy might have on England's attitude towards relief work in Belgium. I said I understood that the measures had been promulgated solely by the military government in Belgium and that I thought the matter ought at least to be brought to the chancellor's personal attention in the light of the consequences which the new policy would entail. Herr Zimmermann intimated in reply that the foreign office had very little influence with the military authorities and that it was unlikely that the new policy in Belgium could be revoked. He stated, however, in answer to my inquiry, that he would not disapprove of my seeing the chancellor about the matter."

**Solemn Protest by United States.** The formal protest of the United States was as follows:

"The government of the United States has learned with the greatest concern and regret of the policy of the German government to deport from Belgium a portion of the civilian population with the result of forcing them to labor in Germany, and is constrained to protest in a friendly spirit but most solemnly against this action which is in contravention of all precedent and those humane principles of international practice which have long been accepted and followed by civilized nations in their treatment of noncombatants in conquered territory. Furthermore, the government of the United States is convinced that the effect of this policy if pursued will in all probability be fatal to the Belgian relief work, so humanely planned so successfully carried out, a result which would be generally deplored and which, it is assumed, would seriously embarrass the German government."

This protest was followed by those of the pope, the king of Spain, the government of Switzerland and other neutrals. They were of no avail, except, perhaps, to lead the German authorities to draw a tighter veil over their detestable proceedings. But the evidence has in some measure come through, although the full facts will not be known until the liberation of heroic Belgium.

# SOCIALISTS SAW GERMANY'S ERROR

### Urged That Inhuman Deportations Be Stopped Because of Effect on Neutrals.

## GERARD SUMS UP SITUATION

#### "Germans Will Stop at Nothing, and the Only Thing They Respect is Force"—Huns' Capacity for Cruelty Told by Whitlock.

Aroused by the indignation shown by the whole world over the ruthless deportations of the people in Belgium and France, socialist deputies in the reichstag protested against the continuance of the practice. Ambassador Gerard's evidence shows the extent of the horror.

In the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung of December 2, 1916, the following protests against the deportation of Belgians to work in Germany, appeared, made, respectively, by Socialist Deputy Hanse and Deputy Dittmann, members of the reichstag:

"Thousands of workmen in the occupied territory have been compelled to forced labor; we earnestly ask the government to restore to these workmen their liberty, especially in Belgium. In truth, we (the Germans) find no sympathy in neutral countries; even the pope has made a protest against this procedure, and several neutral states have done the same. Common sense itself demands that we abandon this procedure which moreover is in opposition to the Hague convention to which we have agreed."

"In opposition to the secretary of state, I must recall that when formerly the Belgian workmen who had fled to Holland returned to Belgium, Governor General von Bissing promised that these Belgian workmen would under no circumstances be deported to Germany. This reassuring promise has not been kept."

Ambassador Gerard's interesting testimony appears in his recent book: **Ambassador Gerard's Evidence.** "The president (during my visit to America in 1916) impressed upon me his great interest in the Belgians deported to Germany. The action of Germany in thus carrying a great part of the male population of Belgium into virtual slavery had roused great indignation in America. As the revered Cardinal Farley said to me a few days before my departure, 'You have to go back to the times of the Medes and the Persians to find a like example of a whole people carried into bondage.'

"Mr. Grew had made representations about this to the chancellor and, on my return, I immediately took up the question.

"I was informed that it was a military measure, that Ludendorff had feared that the British would break through and overrun Belgium and that the military did not propose to have a hostile population at their backs who might cut the rail lines of communication, telephones and telegraphs, and that for this reason the deportation had been decided on. I was, however, told I would be given permission to visit these Belgians. The passes, nevertheless, which alone made such visiting possible were not delivered until a few days before I left Germany."

**Belgians Forced to Make Munitions.** "Several of these Belgians who were put to work in Berlin managed to get away and come to see me. They gave me a harrowing account of how they had been seized in Belgium and made to work in Germany at making munitions to be used probably against their own friends.

"I said to the chancellor, 'There are Belgians employed in making shells contrary to all rules of war and the Hague conventions.' He said, 'I do not believe it.' I said, 'My automobile is at the door. I can take you, in four minutes, to where 30 Belgians are working on the manufacture of shells.' But he did not find time to go.

"Americans must understand that the Germans will stop at nothing to win this war, and that the only thing they respect is force."—James W. Gerard, My Four Years in Germany, 1911, pp. 263-52.

A similar point of view is expressed in an article entitled "Vae Victis" from the Hungarian newspaper Newszava of Budapest (quoted in K. G. Ostannilsson, Militarism at Work in Belgium and Germany, 1917, pp. 53-54.)

**Mixed Hungarian Opinion.** "Mechanical skill, and especially qualified mechanical skill, is for the moment a more important factor than usual, and as it must be obtained where it can be obtained, Belgium has had to suffer in accordance with the old saying which always holds good: Vae victis (woe to the vanquished). In Poland mechanical skill and the arms which exist there are mobilized under 'the glorious and fortunate banners of Poland'; in Belgium under 'the banner of necessity.'"

"The question remains: for what kind of work will the Germans use the Belgians? . . . every kind of work in Germany is war work, whether it is called agricultural or industrial work. As the deported Belgians have not given their consent, their use is contrary to international law, and the policy of the Germans in Belgium and Poland is equally to be deplored. Instead of aiming at bringing us nearer peace, it serves to embitter our opponents and to arouse more hatred to-

ward us amongst the neutrals. Many times and more and more we have had occasion to observe that the neutrals show more sympathy for Belgium than for any other belligerent."

**Old Men and Boys Taken.** The news dispatches indicate that the deportation and forced labor of Belgians still continue. In a dispatch from Havre (New York Evening Post, September 13, 1917) it is stated: "The removal of the civilian population of Belgium continues, according to advices received here. The town of Roulers, immediately behind the battle line in Flanders, has been evacuated completely. Ostend is being emptied gradually, and two thousand persons already have been sent from Courtrai."

In another dispatch from Havre (Washington Post, September 24, 1917) it is stated that "the German military authorities at Bruges, Belgium, are conscripting forcibly all the boys and men of that city between the ages of fourteen and sixty to work in munition factories and shipyards. The rich and poor, shopkeepers and workmen, all are being taken, only the school teachers, doctors, and priests escaping."

**German Officer Rebuked Men.** The following "Order of the Day" shows how the town of Huy escaped the fate of so many Belgium and French towns. Drunken German soldiers were frightened and began to shoot men and burn houses. The commanding officer condemned this because it was not done by his order and because two German soldiers were wounded. It is evident that massacres and arson were permitted only when commanded by the officers.

"Last night a shooting affray took place. There is no evidence that the inhabitants of the towns had any arms in their houses, nor is there evidence that the people took part in the shooting; on the contrary, it seems that the soldiers were under the influence of alcohol, and began to shoot in a senseless fear of a hostile attack.

"The behavior of the soldiers during the night, with very few exceptions, makes a scandalous impression.

"It is highly deplorable when officers or noncommissioned officers set houses on fire without permission or order of the commanding officer, or when they, as the senior officer, or when by their attitude they encourage the rank and file to burn and plunder.

"The miserable behavior of the men caused a noncommissioned officer and a private to be seriously wounded by German bullets.

**"MAJOR VON BASSEWITZ."** **Report of Minister Whitlock.** "One interesting result of the deportations remains to be noted, a result that once more places in relief the German capacity for blundering, almost as great as the German capacity for cruelty. Until the deportations were begun there was no intense hatred on the part of the lower classes, i. e., the workmen and the peasants. The old Germans of the Landstrum had been quartered in Flemish homes; they and the inmates spoke nearly the same language; they got along fairly well; they helped the women with the work, the poor and the humble having none of those hatreds of patriotism that are among the privileges of the upper classes. It is conceivable that the Flemish population might have existed under German rule; it was Teutonic in its origin and anti-French always. But now the Germans have changed all that.

"They have dealt a mortal blow to any prospect they may ever have had of being tolerated by the population of Flanders; in tearing away from nearly every humble home in the land a husband and a father or a son and a brother they have lighted a fire of hatred that will never go out; they have brought home to every heart in the land, in a way that will impress its horror indelibly on the memory of three generations, a realization of what German methods mean, not, as with the early atrocities, in the heat of passion and the first lust of war, but by one of those deeds that make one despair of the future of the human race, a deed coldly planned, studiously matured, and deliberately and systematically executed, a deed so cruel that German soldiers are said to have wept in its execution, and so monstrous that even German officers are now said to be ashamed.

**"WHITLOCK."** **Mr. Hoover's Conclusions.** Mr. Hoover's mature conclusions on the German practices in Belgium, which he wrote for the pamphlet issued by the committee on public information, reinforce the detailed evidence already presented:

September, 1917. I have been often called upon for a statement of my observation of German rule in Belgium and northern France.

I have neither the desire nor the adequate pen to picture the scenes which have heated my blood through the two and a half years that I have spent in work for the relief of these 10,000,000 people.

The sight of the destroyed homes and cities, the widowed and fatherless, the destitute, the physical misery of a people but partially nourished at best, the deportation of men by tens of thousands to slavery in German mines and factories, the execution of men and women for paltry effusions of their loyalty to their country, the snatching of every resource through financial robbery, the battening of armies on the slender produce of the country, the denudation of the country of cattle, horses, and textiles; all these things we had to witness, dumb to help other than by protest and sympathy, during this long and terrible time, and still these are not the events of battle heat, but the effects of a grinding heel of a race demanding the mastership of the world.

# WOMAN ADMITS SHE SET FIRES

### MRS. ED. HANSEN RESPONSIBLE FOR BURNING HER OWN HOME—CONFESSION SECURED EARLY YESTERDAY MORNING.

(From Monday's Daily.)

Because she had heard her husband say that if their newly erected two-room house in Kenwood would burn up they could get enough insurance from it to pay for one twice as large, Mrs. Ed. Hansen set fire and destroyed her own home on January 28. Such was the statement she made at an early hour Sunday morning in the presence of District Attorney H. H. De Armond, Chief of Police Nixon and State Fire Marshall H. H. Pomeroy, who has been in this city several days conducting an investigation of the circumstances surrounding the case.

The impression had been left by the Hansen family that some enemy had been responsible for the placing of three fires, the last of which finally accomplished its work. Each time Mrs. Hansen had retreated to a safe distance after setting the blaze and professed ignorance of the cause. She had been aided in her deprecations by her 13-year-old brother, Anfan Strand, who had been visiting at her home.

**Blames Small Brother.** Saturday night about 7 o'clock the Hansen family was brought in to the district attorney's office and were kept there until far into the morning, a signed confession finally being secured from Mrs. Hansen, who at first laid the responsibility on the little boy.

Officers went over to his home about 2 o'clock and walked into the room where he was sleeping. By picking him up in the darkened room and asking him suddenly who set the fires, he was startled into admitting, "my sister." After that the full details were easily drawn out.

Mrs. Hansen is but 18 years of age and Mr. De Armond is of the opinion that she is mentally deficient in some respects. Grasping at the suggestion made by her husband, she set about to accomplish the work of burning her home. The place was built the latter part of last year at a cost of \$400. She understood that it was insured for \$700. Mr. Hansen was working at the Pine Tree Mill and his wife thought she could go along with him if the house were got out of the way.

**Attempts Unsuccessful.** One evening she went out to a neighbor's and before leaving placed kindlings inside the front door. Returning with the neighbor she was forced into putting the tiny blaze out in order to avoid suspicion. Then about a week later she set another fire on the front porch while she was at work in the back of the house. A passerby extinguished this. Mrs. Hansen feigning fear that someone was after her, said she would go to her parents to spend the night. Before leaving she again set the fire, this time succeeding in her purpose.

The woman and her brother will be placed under arrest on the charge of arson. Mr. Hansen will probably be held as a witness. The couple have a 14-months-old baby.

**DISCONTINUE GIVING CUP AT TRACK MEET**

### Eliminate Hard Feelings Generally In Competition For Trophy—Board Elects Officers.

(From Monday's Daily.) No cup will be offered this year in the track meet to be given at Prineville on May 18 under the auspices of the Central Oregon Athletic and Literary Association. Instead a banner will be presented each school and on it a record will be made of the winnings of that institution for the year. The executive board of the association at its meeting Saturday in Redmond decided this would be a wiser course to pursue and would eliminate the hard feelings which have generally gone with the award.

Officers of the board were chosen. E. E. Evans, of Prineville, being elected president, Mrs. J. D. Davidson, of Bend, vice-president, and J. E. Myers, of Prineville, secretary. Both Mrs. Davidson and County School Superintendent J. Alton Thompson attended from this city. The board is made up of three representatives of each county.

The newly elected officers were given entire power to arrange for the track meet.

**LOST—A cow. Find her in The Bulletin want ads.**

# ONLY 25 GERMANS REGISTERED HERE

(From Monday's Daily.) Twenty-five Germans were registered last week at the Bend post office. Although the time limit was extended by the government, the work is practically complete here. The following are those residing in this city:

Richard Herold, Carl Nicholas Petersen, Emil Wenger, Bernhard Te-kampe, Anton Rosengarth, Herman Richter, Louis Rosengarth, John Stenkamp, Ernst Noelting, John Martlek, Richard Schuete, August Mueller, Cord G. Hirsch, Simon Peter Milsen, Emil Wieneche, Joseph Reyn-netti, Emil P. Jech, Fred Wieneche, Paul Frederic Riedel, Franz Jos Steinhouser, Otto Richard Liebing, Enzelbert Guenther, George Erdmann Otto Becher, Herman Te-kampe, Ernest Rulhr.

# LEGAL NOTICES

## APPLICATIONS FOR GRAZING PERMITS.

Notice is hereby given that all applications for permits to graze cattle, horses and sheep within the DESCHUTES NATIONAL FOREST during the season of 1918, must be filed in my office on or before March 1, 1918. Full information in regard to the grazing fees to be charged and blank forms to be used in making applications will be furnished upon request. N. G. JACOBSON, Forest Supervisor, Bend, Oregon. (47-50c)

In the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Deschutes County. In the Matter of the Estate of Susan E. Benson, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that Mary A. Benson, executrix of the last will and testament of Susan E. Benson, deceased, has made and filed with the Clerk of the County Court of Deschutes County, Oregon, the final account of her administration of said estate, and that the Honorable County Judge of said Deschutes County has set Monday, the 4th day of March, 1918, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon at the Court Room in Bend, Oregon, as the time and place of hearing the final settling of said estate, and all persons interested are cited to appear at said time and place and show cause, if any, why said account should not be allowed.

Dated this 29th day of January, 1918.

MARY A. BENSON, Executrix of the last Will and Testament of Susan E. Benson, Deceased. 48-51p

**NOTICE OF CONTEST.** Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Lakeview, Oregon, January 21, 1918.

To Howard Wallace, of Canby, Oregon, contestee: You are hereby notified that Eldon P. Swank, who gives Brothers, Oregon, as his postoffice address, did on December 10, 1918, file in this office his duly corroborated application to contest and secure the cancellation of your Homestead Entry, serial No. 67537, made May 12th, 1914, for SW 1/4, Sec. 12, and NW 1/4 Sec. 13, Township 21 S., Range 17 E. W. M., and as grounds for his contest he alleges that:

1. I am informed and believe and therefore state that the said Howard Wallace has never been upon said land since the day he filed on same in May, 1914, and that he has been absent from said land ever since and more than six months last past and that he has entirely abandoned the same and does not intend to ever return to said land; that he has never made any improvements upon the land whatsoever and has never cultivated any of said land whatever, but entirely abandoned the land the day he filed on same.

2. That his said absence and abandonment was not and has not been due to his employment in the military branch of the U. S. Government, or service rendered in connection with operations in Mexico or along the borders thereof, or in mobilization camps elsewhere in the military or naval service of the United States in any capacity or the National Guard of any of the several states, nor in the service of the U. S. in any capacity on account of the European war or in any other manner.

You are, therefore further notified that the said allegations will be taken as confessed, and your said entry will be canceled without further right to be heard, either before this office or on appeal, if you fail to file in this office within twenty days after the Fourth publication of this notice, as shown below, your answer, under oath, specifically responding to these allegations of contest, together with due proof that you have served a copy of your answer on the said contestant either in person or by registered mail.

You should state in your answer the name of the postoffice to which you desire future notices to be sent to you.

JAS. F. BURGESS, Register. Date of 1st publication, Jan. 31, 1918 Date of 2d publication, Feb. 7, 1918 Date of 3d publication, Feb. 14, 1918 Date of 4th publication, Feb. 21, 1918 48-51p

**NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT.** In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Deschutes County. In the Matter of the Estate of George W. McCallister, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, the executrix of the estate of George W. McCallister, deceased, that she has made and filed with the County Clerk of Deschutes County, Oregon, her final account of her administration of said estate, and that the Honorable Judge of said County Court has set Monday, the 25th day of February, 1918, at 10 o'clock of the forenoon of said day at the County Court Room in Bend, Oregon, as the time and place of hearing of said final account.

Dated this 22d day of January, 1918.

JULIA E. McCALLISTER, Executrix of the Estate of George W. McCallister, Deceased. 47-51c.