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YANK PRISONERS MADE HUN CAPTORS BEHAVE

(Continued from Page 1)

correct. The Americans gained special barracks by demanding them. Under Halyburton's orders these were cleaned twice a day. They were better than those of the German guards. Then came the fight against German propaganda. The Germans were publishing a paper in Berlin called "America in Europe." It was distributed in the prisons and over American lines. The sheet was written by Germans who had lived many years in America and could use American slang. When the first issue appeared, the editor came to Rastatt and interviewed Halyburton, representing himself as appointed to look after Americans because of his sympathies for them. Halyburton told him the paper would be welcome if it cut out

the propaganda and printed sporting news. The friend of Americans agreed.

Next week he appeared with the new issue somewhat revised to suit the Americans. The German's clumsy efforts were amusing, but Halyburton saw danger in the propaganda still in the paper. He forbade its circulation among those under his command. For this Halyburton was taken to a punishment camp. His stay was short. The Germans placed an incapable American in charge of the Rastatt camp, who immediately muddled affairs. The several hundred prisoners struck and insisted that Halyburton be returned. The commander complied.

On his return, Halyburton was called up before Gen. von Kaltenreiter, the hardhearted old Prussian in charge of war prisoners. Several hundred new Yankees had been gathered at

Rastatt from other camps and the general granted Halyburton to take charge of them, leaving the old group under the incapable substitute. Halyburton refused but offered to take charge of the entire camp. The old Prussian argued but ended with, "Ach Gott, go ahead. If you don't get along at night, let me know." The old general had given himself away with that statement, made before the prison officers. Halyburton and Georhegan went to the general, or threatened to, for everything they needed after that.

Again Halyburton had propaganda plans to fight. The Germans had treated certain captives well in order to influence them to write letters saying they had not been mistreated. Some letters were too favorable to the Germans, and Halyburton established a censorship in each pen. He knew the Germans were waiting for favor-

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197 BUSY STORES

able letters to publish.

Another battle against propaganda was against an individual named Enders who claimed to be American and the correspondent of an American news agency. He appeared several times at the camps saying he was gathering data to prove that Americans were not mistreated in Germany and that he had been permitted to do so by the German government. Halyburton told Enders he had better leave before some of the doughboys "insulted your German friends by telling the truth." Enders left.

When the armistice was signed the German guards suddenly disappeared. Those who remained were benighted. They told the Yanks that prisoners were free to go to towns and do as they pleased. Halyburton saw danger in this, if the men became mixed up in revolutionary movements. To avoid further complications their food arrangements with the Red Cross and others were handled by Halyburton. In camp and at his work. By this time each man had been reduced to some sort of work for which he was adapted. There were skilled shoemakers, barbers, and a few others. Each man had a small room in camp, including a staff for the camp paper which was copied by hand. Curtains included, and provided for reading.

The order was difficult for many to understand, but it was followed to the letter. Next came the requisition of trainloads to leave for France. It was by now these problems were met and the soldiers were assisted by Red Cross men from Switzerland. The Red Cross were amazed by the organization in every camp, and found the natives around American camps full of admiration for the way the Yankees had handled themselves under difficulties.

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