

INTERESTING AND GOSSIPY BERLIN LETTER

SALEM GIRL TELLS OF LIFE IN GERMANY

Business Methods Strange to Americans—Women Do Heavy Work and Little Tots Are Given Tasks

Editor Capital Journal,
Salem, Oregon.

Simply being in Germany doesn't make either a musician nor a linguist; it only offers facilities to accomplish much in both branches. To be a musician one must work; to speak German eloquently one must master German grammar. One can't safely learn it "by ear" from the clerks, tradespeople, or friends; for, even we are able to discern the fact that grammatical errors are quite prevalent, among many German speaking people, as well as foreigners.

We are very diligently endeavoring "to make the most" of our opportunities, consequently, by the time our practice is accomplished, lessons taken, French and German studied, the day is generally gone. The concert season is over, and the students have ceased the strenuous effort of endeavoring, daily, to select and attend the best musical thing presented "that evening." On one hand the earnest, serious workers are settling down to regular hours and diligent application, and will make their gain, for the year, from now until July. On the other hand, the loafers are having the most delightful time, strolling through the parks, loitering at the gardens, automobiling, etc. It is quite astounding to us, the number of students that spend their time doing just this thing. The big soloists are away for the May festivals at Bohm, Eisenach, etc., consequently the contents of this letter will not be pertaining to the things that are most important, and dearest to us, and that we came so far to study, but to the common, every day things one can't help observing and using—money.

Our unit of calculation, is the big round dollar, with its hundred cents worth of purchasing power, the world over. Here it is a mark, worth 100 pfennig. These are hard to earn, and their purchasing power is less proportionately to the hundred parts than ours, and their value less than one fourth as great. For instance, a ride on the street car costs ten pfennig, or one tenth of a mark and no transfers are given. To the German wage-earner this is equivalent to ten cents with us. Butter costs one mark and thirty pfennig a pound, milk from 20 to 40 pf, a quart or liter, potatoes from 12 to 20 pf, a pound, oranges 20 pf, a dozen, lemons 40 pf, ham one mark and bacon 80 pf, a pound, eggs from 75 pf. to a mark twenty for fifteen, asparagus 50 pf, a pound, fresh beef, mutton, etc. from 1.10 to 1.70 a pound, coarse salt 10 pf., sugar 20 pf., flour 20 pf., a pound, etc. Rents, heating and light are also expensive "thinking in German money," and one must calculate so to appreciate the situation. Laborers earn in marks about the same as they do with us, in dollars. Fancy the kind of living, a man earning \$30.00 a month would enjoy, who had to pay 20 cents a quart for milk, ten cents for street car transportation, etc. A workingman's lunch usually consists of a sandwich of brownbread and sausage, and a quart glass of cheap black beer. It is dreadful to contemplate the features, form and mental condition of these men, forced by necessity to depend on beer for nourishment. The better class, commissioned officers, nobility, and gentlemen of estate, take pride in their personal appearance, and refrain from drinking beer, in order to maintain a slender figure. In fact, from an American point of view, they carry the attainment of a good figure, to rather an extreme. This possibly accounts for the sign, "Gentlemen's corsets. Paris and Prussian cuts," being placed in many cloisters' windows. We passed a most ordinary American recently, but he appeared an Apollo here. We recognized him for an American a block away, by that indescribable air of supremacy, which sort of emanates from the whole being, of a free born citizen; and hastened to pass him as he drew within hearing, a long sentence composed principally of slang

but quite intelligible and decidedly expressive, greeted our ears. No one realizes what a truly glorious thing it is to be born an American, until they have been in a country not a republic. Caste is an awful tyrant, an almost unconquerable barrier. The little children born to serfdom begin their life work at three years, when they assume the responsibility of caring for a baby sister or brother. At six years of age they deliver newspapers, milk, etc., before six o'clock in the morning; climbing perhaps 80 steps at each house to place the paper under the door on the fourth floor, retracing these steps only to ascend more, until hundreds are climbed. I have seen little maids at this work, who were too tiny to push open the house doors, which have the patent air spring to keep them from slamming, alone, so they were sent in pairs, while yet only babies needing sleep, to refresh the already old faces, and neither properly fed or clothed. What hope is there for them to develop above their class? The streets and platzs are full of children of a better, class, at play. Their sports consist of rolling hoops, spinning tops, rolling balls, etc.

The schools are strictly separated and co-education is unheard of, and the examinations are real. One progresses by merit only, and the teachers and pupils work earnestly for results, not to cover ground. We know a small boy of ten who speaks German and English, is studying French and Latin, and is well advanced in algebra and science, and has a little friend who is "younger and knows more." It is a matter of pride with the children to learn for the sake of knowledge.

The telephone is not in as general use as with us. Here they have what is called "rohrpost," a system of rapid delivery. Letters bearing the "rohrpost" stamp are delivered to any part of the city within an hour from their receipt at the office. The mail boxes all over the city are visited each hour by a post "trager," and the mail taken. This stamp costs 30 pf. or, proportionately, more than an ordinary long distance telephone message with us.

The number of bakery shops, meat markets, cigar stores, beer cellars, "drogeries," (or shops of perfumes, patent medicines, powders, etc.), apothekes, (real medicine and prescription stores), book stores, hardware "laden," soap shops, etc., is regulated by law. Unpleasant competition is thus avoided and each section of town supplied with all necessary shops. We have always been proud that we could cook, and it is very fortunate for us that we can. We couldn't learn to enjoy pension diet, so rented a little "wohnung," and are keeping house. There are two seasons for renting, viz., April and October. No landlord rents for less than six months. We have a "Gartenwohnung," consisting of three living rooms, kitchen, bath, maid's room, hall, cellar, garret and balcony. We have five chairs, and other furniture in like proportion; but everything is new and clean, and our own, and keeping house is great fun. We have a maid come in to wash the dishes, empty ashes, sweep, etc., about two hours work. She comes from 3 to 5 in the afternoon and we pay her nine marks or \$2.25 a month. That old ditty, "To market, to market to buy a fat pig. Home again, home again, jiggety jig, etc." is laden with meaning to us now, for if one doesn't buy a whole pig one buys nearly everything else, and comes home so heavily burdened that the resting place at the end of the journey tempts one to hurry, resulting in a little "dog trot," a regular jiggety jig. The market is very interesting and most conducive to speaking German. Twice a week it is held on the "platz" or square near us, on other days in different neighborhoods. The wagons arrive early. The portable counters, etc., are taken off and quickly adjusted, little dirty awnings or flies are hastily raised and the wares arranged. The market

ket is divided into sections. First comes the fish, all kinds, some on ice, some alive and swimming in little portable tanks. The fish women dip them up in a hand net and deliver them wriggling. Then comes the cheese counters—their presence not unsuspected—we hasten by them to the egg stalls. The goods here are graded. For stamped eggs one pays more, but they are guaranteed to be fresh, and are "made good" if the shell is brought back to prove the egg was not as represented; the middle grade, where one takes some chances as to quality, is less expensive; and the third grade is the cheap eggs for the poor and—pensions. Then comes the section of fresh meat stands. All the meat sold here must be inspected and stamped "free from disease" before being brought to market. Next appear the smoked meat and sausage merchants, then poultry, pigeon, ducks, wild game, etc. Across the aisle occurring here, the fruit and vegetable stands appear, after them, cooking utensils, flowers, bread bags, porcelain ware, laces, etc. etc. At one o'clock the market closes, the wares, counters, etc. are repacked and by two p. m. the platz has been cleaned and no sign of the thousands of purchases made a few hours before remains. One has to learn to hesitate and bargain; and we are getting so we can trade "like the Dutch." We each have a market bag and come home with them bulging—the regulation style. The ice wagons are driven by women, and it is wonderful the quantity they can lift and carry. The street cars stop only at certain places, about two or three blocks apart, called "halt stalls." Every six or eight blocks the city over, are stationed "drotschen" or cabs, a row of them perhaps a block in length. They are allowed to go out only in turn, and a driver returning from a trip goes to the end of the line and works up again. If the front horse is lame, or blind, or white, one has to wait for some one else to take a cab or accept as graciously as possible what fortune presents. Some of them are pitiful looking and I never saw so much wanton beating as is given them; but I suppose one could expect little else from men in a chronic state of semi-intoxication. Both the dumb brute and the other are to be pitied. Whenever it is necessary to take a cab we try to get an electric one. The automobile is a wonderful boon to beast as well as man. The fare is the same and the ride more enjoyable. We had to go to a new address, so we took an auto and drove through the Thier Garten and down "Sieges-Allie." This is the famous "Allie of Ancestors." At one end near the Brandenburger Thor stands an equestrian figure, at the base of which is a large playing fountain. At the other extremity is the famous "Sigesaule." During the war with France in 1807 the "Quadrige" by Schadows" which stands over Brandenburger Thor, the gate of entrance to Unter den Linden, was captured by the French. Brandenburger Thor is the remains of the wall which at one time surrounded Berlin. In the reign of Frederick the Great it was torn down with the exception of this entrance which was remodeled and beautified. There are five entrances, of which the large central one is

reserved for Royalty. The next on either side is for vehicles, and the outer entrances for pedestrians. The "Quadrige" is Schadows' masterpiece. It represents Peace riding in a chariot drawn by four prancing steeds. This remained in France until 1813 when it was retaken by the Germans and replaced over Brandenburger Thor. In commemoration of its return and also the victory in the conflict of 1871 the "Sigesaule" or "Triumph" was erected. At its base are four groups of figures representing:

- First. The Departure of the Soldiers.
- Second. The Conflict.
- Third. The Victory.
- Fourth. The Return of the few Remaining.

Above this rises the pedestal or little tower, around which are placed five rows of brass from cannons captured in famous battles with Denmark, Norway, France, etc.; and on top of this tall pedestal stands a bronze figure of a beautiful woman, "Victory," holding a laurel wreath in one hand and an emblem of peace in the other. Fountains and statuary are scattered about, flowers adorn the paths, and the whole is beautiful. Along the drive on either side of the street are the tall marble statues of the former rulers of Prussia, beginning with the Carolingian period, and continuing down to the emperors of Germany, Wm. I in 1861 and Frederick III. in 1888. These are most interesting. The primitive costume, the arms of the times, the hair-dress, etc., belonging to the first ruler represented, compared to those that follow, tell a tale of evolution and racial development. The features of almost all of these men are of that strong, forceful type belonging to men of strength and ability, at all times history makers. A very few show weakness and depraved characteristics. We were struck with the resemblance which a few of these men of the 11th century have to the American Indian.

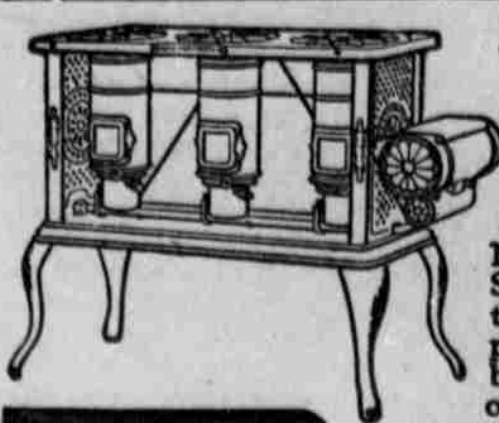


MRS. CLARENCE MACKAY.

Wife of the telegraph and cable magnate, who interests herself in church and school work at her Long Island home.

Strong, muscular limbs, high cheek bones, prominent nose, etc. Beside the ruler are placed the busts of the two most influential men of his regime, either civil ministers, generals, musicians, literati or artists. The workmanship is excellent, each link of the chain armor stands in marble so distinct, so even and so real; and the battle scars on the hands are also there. A walk down this Allie is like a panorama of history and impresses one very strongly. This is a beautiful tribute to the builders of the nation and creates pride and love for the Fatherland in the breasts of its growing defenders. But to return to prosaic things.

The system of delivery is exceedingly queer. In the large department stores, goods are delivered every hour. One buys, we will say a half dozen cooking utensils and orders them sent. The clerk makes out a bill and accompanies you to a small group of desks. A clerk there takes the bill, nods to the clerk, who then returns to her place, and gives you another little piece of paper. This with the bill you present at another little desk with the required sum and receive a "quitting" or receipt. This time-consuming process is repeated with every purchase, and every purchase is delivered separately. Think what a happy thought the transfer was. We have quite a joke among ourselves. Our hardware came in a dear little wooden box and according to the suggestion in the Ladies Home Journal we had converted it mentally into a substantial foot-stool, a wood box, a book case, a lamp stand, a shelf and many other "little luxuries" when suddenly the bell rang and a trager from the store



Clean Cooking

Wherever there's a New Perfection Oil Stove in the kitchen, there you will find the pots and pans clean and bright. The blue flame of the New Perfection is the cleanest flame produced by any stove, and is entirely free from smoke and soot. Another advantage of the

NEW PERFECTION Wick Blue Flame Oil Cook-Stove

is that the heat is highly concentrated by enameled chimneys. This means quick results. The New Perfection is different from other oil stoves. Made in three sizes, with one, two and three burners. Every stove warranted. If not at your dealer's, write to our nearest agency for descriptive circular.

The **Rayo Lamp** is the best all-round household use. Equipped with the latest improved burner. Gives a bright, steady light at lowest cost. Made of brass throughout and beautifully nicked. Suitable for any room, whether library, dining-room, parlor or bedroom. Safe and satisfactory. Every lamp warranted. Write to our nearest agency if not at your dealer's.



STANDARD OIL COMPANY
(INCORPORATED)

stood there to take it away. When another lot of goods was delivered in heavy paper and generously tied with twine I noticed that Eveline folded the paper very painstakingly, and would the twine carefully into a small round ball. A few days later after I had hunted the paper for twenty minutes I asked her if she knew what had become of it; to which she replied, "I don't believe they are coming after it and we might as well use it ourselves," and produced it from the place where she had secreted it.

The fire company is very primitive. It is more of a precaution than a necessity. The houses are built of tile and brick and almost fireproof. Stoves are built in each living room. They give a slow, regular heat, much like a steam heater, if one uses enough coal. Heat is one of the things on which the Germans economize and American students soon become Germanized to such an extent that they wrap up in blankets and overcoats to practice and buy cough medicine rather than pay 10 pf. or 2 1/2 cents for ten extra bricks. The fuel is peculiar, it is the dust of coal and is an inflammable preparation of tar mixed and moulded into brick-shaped blocks, or bricks. It is much nicer to handle than coal, easily ignites, and gives considerable heat. The kitchen stoves have to be learned. The oven is heated by a separate fire, consequently it is cheaper to buy bread and cakes than to bake. The bread is clean and delicious—but a German cake requires a cultivated taste. It is made without baking powder and the filling for the layer cakes is varied and indescribable. It is funny what people think of. We have learned to make "older kuchen." It is a German desert and very delicious. The fashion of wearing the hair, waved and high on the head, is in imitation of the crown princess. It is late so shall leave a description of our visit to the Schloss and Royal Stables until another time.

On June the first occurs the annual review of the troops which is quite an interesting affair. Miss Sanders leaves within the week for a tour of Southern Germany; and expects to visit Paris before returning. All the teachers leave in July for summer vacations. Our plans for the months of July and August are not definitely decided. We hope to do the British Isles. A very dear friend of ours intends taking a course of lectures at Oxford and we also may possibly do so, and continue German through the summer. However, nothing definite is planned. We both send our kindest regards and best wishes to all our friends.

Very sincerely yours,
HELEN & EVELINE CALBREATH,
Berlin, Germany.
Freisingerstr. 4th.
Gartenhaus rechts I.
May 20, 1907.

Do Not Neglect the Children.
At this season of the year the first unnatural looseness of a child's bowels should have immediate attention. The best thing that can be given is Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy followed by castor oil as directed with each bottle of the remedy. For sale by Dr. Stone's drug store.

Notice For Bridge Bids.
Sealed bids are invited for the construction of a 100-foot span Howe-Truss bridge, resting upon concrete piers, together with 64 feet of approach, across Butte creek on the boundary line between the counties of Marion and Clackamas, State of Oregon, at what is known as the Jack bridge, one mile southwest of Marquam, Oregon. Plans and specifications will be on file at the offices of the county judges of Clackamas and Marion counties, on and after June 15th, 1907.

Bids will be opened on Friday, July 5th, 1907, in the county court room at 1 o'clock p. m., at Salem, Oregon.
Each bidder will be required to deposit a certified check for the amount of five per cent of his bid, which shall be forfeited to the counties of Marion and Clackamas in case the award is made to him, if he fails, neglects, or refuses, for the period of two days after such award is made, to enter into a contract and file his bond in the manner required by, and to the satisfaction of the above named county courts upon the day appointed.

The county courts of Marion and Clackamas reserve the right to reject any and all bids.
M. A. McCORKLE,
Roadmaster for Marion County, Ore.
Daily 6-11-15-18-22-25-29 7-2.

Thompson's Rose Nicotine

Kills plant insects on flowers, fruit trees, vines or vegetables, and—
VERMIN
On human body, dogs cats, fowls, and in the house.
Colorless, Odorless, Stainless
Price, 25 and 50 cents at
FRY'S DRUG STORE, Salem, Ore
Headquarters for all kinds of spray materials.
Ask for booklet, "How to Destroy Plant Insects and Vermin."

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A dark skin beauty transformed into a blonde beauty.
Sallowness transformed into a delicate, luminous complexion.
A dark skin beauty transformed into a blonde beauty.
Sallowness transformed into a delicate, luminous complexion.

WILLAMETTE FRUIT AND PRODUCE CO.
Wholesale dealers and commission merchants. Cash paid for Butter, Eggs, Poultry, etc. W. E. Cummings and C. A. Wittercraft, Cattle block, Salem, Or.; J. C. Stapleton, 84 Union Avenue, Portland.

Difficult Breathing

Short breath, fluttering, palpitation, sinking spells are symptoms of a weak heart, struggling to do its work. It must keep the blood in circulation to carry nourishment to make flesh, bone and muscle, and remove the worn-out particles. When it cannot do this, it must have help. Dr. Miles' Heart Cure gives strength to the heart nerves and muscles, and increases the heart action.

"I am glad to say that I am so much improved in health. Dr. Miles' Heart Cure cured me when several doctors failed. I think no other medicine could do for me what Heart Cure has done. My case was bad; but as it could be at times. I had difficulty in getting my breath, my heart beat so fast at times that I thought it impossible to live without relief; the pain was very severe in my left side, and my nerves were all unstrung. I had almost given up all hope of being cured, and I am sure I would not, if I had not taken the Heart Cure. I take great pleasure in recommending Dr. Miles' remedy to all who suffer with heart disease."

MRS. MARY C. HAMILTON,
Sullivan, Mo.
Dr. Miles' Heart Cure is sold by your druggist, who will guarantee that the first bottle will benefit. If it fails he will refund your money.
Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.