

HORRORS OF HUN PRISON CAMPS

THREE THOUSAND SUFFERING FROM DISEASE AT STENDAL.

Hard Labor in Mines and Elsewhere Without Food Wrecking Constitution of Captives.

Another batch of British prisoners for repatriation has arrived from Germany, says a war correspondent at Rotterdam on Aug. 31. It was composed of thirty-six "stretcher cases," 145 men who were able to walk and three who were insane. I understand that on August 16 the Germans took from crippled men on the frontier the crutches they had used until then and thus rendered them more helpless.

The men returning to-day came from many camps and included a number who were captured last March. From them I heard many serious complaints of bad conditions in the German camps. These applied to Zerbst, Quedlinburg, Stendal and Wittenberg among others. One prisoner from the Stendal camps said 3000 British prisoners had been brought there at the end of May and the beginning of June, mostly suffering from dysentery and septic poisoning. They had been forced to work behind the German line on the shell dumps when the railways were under British shell fire.

Starving at Stendal

About 200 died soon after arriving at Stendal, several hundred of whom were in a starving condition. While they were behind the line they were made to work six miles daily and back with virtually no food. This treatment lasted from the time of the capture of St. Quentin until their arrival in Stendal. My informant said a British doctor had reported these facts to the Dutch commissioners.

From several camps come stories of the terrible sufferings undergone by our men while working in the mines with inadequate food. Unquestionably these abuses are wrecking the constitutions of many of our prisoners. Two mines particularly were mentioned, one the Kali works at Bernberg and the other the Marguerite coal mine in the Merseburg district. Three men died in a fortnight from brutal treatment received in the latter.

CONFIDENTIAL VOLUMES.

The Well Kept Secrets of the Royal Navy.

Signal books are not the only confidential volumes issued to the navy, though they are the ones most often mentioned. There are confidential books about wireless, gunnery and torpedo matters and volumes that are only issued to commanding officers; and are "not to be communicated to persons below that position."

The safe keeping of confidential books is impressed on everyone responsible. Signal books are in constant use, of course, but they are kept in a special box, and the officer of the watch has to satisfy himself both when he goes on duty and when he goes off that the books are in the box.

Special chests are provided for other confidential volumes, and the keys of these are issued only to the commanding officer. He gives a receipt for them when the ship is put into commission. Two keys are supplied for big ships, one for the commanding officer and one for the second in command. When the commission ends the keys are tested by the naval store officer at the dockyard, to see that they are correct, and they are then placed in sealed covers until the chests are re-issued for another commission.

The loss of a key must be reported to the Admiralty at once, and an incident of that sort—rare enough fortunately—causes more commotion than would ten Zeppelin bombs in Whitehall.

Confidential books sometimes have to be destroyed, either because they are obsolete or are worn out. A special ceremony is provided for such an event. Two officers act as sacrificial priests and the books are burned to ashes.

Before they are put in the furnace the titles and numbers have to be checked, registered, and certified, the names removed from the register kept by the ship, and the fact of the destruction entered on another page of the register.

The Right Sword.

A party of tourists were examining the curios in a little shop on a back street in a certain European city. The aged dealer, desirous of making a sale, picked up an ancient-looking sword and said:

"You see, my friends, this most wonderful sword. This is the sword that Balaam killed the ass with."

"But," said one, "Balaam didn't kill the ass; he only wished for a sword that he might kill her."

"Well," said the dealer, "this is the one he wished for!"

One of the most daring feats in the war—the bombing of Krupp's works—was carried out by a pilot nearly forty years of age, who before the outbreak of hostilities had no flying or military experience, but was a peaceful grocer in a French village.

"ON TO THE RHINE," OUR BATTLE CRY

CANADIANS PASS THROUGH NO MAN'S LAND.

Capture Territory Where Enemy Had Settled Down for Winter. With War Material.

Some idea of the task performed by Ontario infantry in their advance on the north of the Cambrai road and between the Senece River when, with Imperial divisions, they stormed the Quantrocourt line on the morning of Monday, Sept. 2, can be gathered from a trip along this road up to the villages bordering on the Canal du Nord, says a Canadian Press correspondent.

Vis-en-Artois, a ruin of rubble, was then in our hands. Thence the ground climbs gently upwards east to the sunken road connecting Hendecourt and Dury. Through here, there are no less than five enemy trench systems, with wire everywhere. The sunken road was held in great force and one Central Ontario battalion was somewhat cut up before it captured the 14 machine-gun posts in front of it. This was the same battalion that in the Amiens show captured Le Quesnel in the face of very strong enemy defence, including whizz-bang batteries and machine-gun nests. That success was accomplished by a brilliant turning movement and the result was the capture of a complete divisional headquarters and vast stores, which gave all ranks in the battalion a change of underwear and new boots.

Nothing of the kind was possible here, but the battalion went grimly forward till it carried the crest by assault and turned in a large number of prisoners. This battalion belongs to the brigade that captured and has since consolidated the apex of the Senece River and the Canal du Nord triangle.

Excellent Work of Various Units.

A Quebec battalion fought through the marshy ground along the river. This area is dissected by ditches and was filled with machine-gun posts. Some British Columbia troops also had very stiff fighting before this hornet's nest was cleaned out and we had established ourselves solidly between the river and the canal.

Novel and brilliant reconnaissance work for this attack was done by a brigadier, who advanced 5,000 yards in front of his line in a whippet tank. "He's always trotting about the front line," said a member of his staff, explaining his absence. "He is a regular daredevil, who isn't happy if he isn't in the thick of it."

Contributory to this success was the excellent work of our artillery, and in particular a Manitoba battery did useful service at a critical moment by laying down a smoke screen across the Cambrai road under cover of which the infantry pushed their attack.

Down the Cambrai road, through Vis-en-Artois, past Drury on the left, and Villers-les-Cagnicourt on the right, all is desolate. It is a typical No Man's Land landscape. The countryside is pitted with shell holes and scarred by trenches. The avenues of trees along the road remain blasted stumps. There is not a green thing. Everywhere is the debris of war, the litter and the ruin. Broken lorries, shattered remnants of an armored car, the twisted rails of a light railway, scrap iron of all descriptions—these things are horses in various stages of corruption. Here and there are rows of our dead, awaiting the burial party.

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ties. Over all is a brooding stench of decay and stale gas. Gangs of our engineers are at work mending the roadbed, relaying the steel, digging out the ditches. The battlefield of yesterday becomes the humming workshop of to-day. Pass over it again next week and there will be an ordered highway.

A Smiling Country Beyond.

But a mile or so beyond, and what a transformation is here. We have passed through No Man's Land to a smiling, country beyond, a part of France held for four years in bondage. Away to the right are three villages. They are Soudemont, Rumaucourt and Ecourt St. Quentin. From a distance it looks as if a pocket handkerchief might carry them. They stand intact, the heurlocks rising above the red-tiled roofs. The whole nestling amid groves of green foliage. The sight of these villages and green fields is more eloquent than anything that has gone before of the success of the battle, for here, as in former years, the Boche had settled down for the winter. He had filled them with his material of war. Now all of it is in our hands.

Rumaucourt, particularly, was a great artillery dump. The enemy had large supplies of ordnance and material. Here, too, was a complete hospital train. In Acourt we captured a vast quantity of supplies of all kinds. Tucked away behind the supposedly impenetrable Quantrocourt line he had made of these three villages a great depot. They were beyond the area we shelled. Not a tile was out of place on Monday. But no soon or had he got his wind after his hasty exit than he turned with wrath on these villages. In fact though they seem from a distance, on entering there is evidence at every hand of the process of ruin. Windows are shattered and walls gape. A beautiful spire is that of the Church of Ecourt St. Quentin, but even as one looks a shell hits it fair and square and it disappears in a cloud of dust.

Nevertheless the fields are still green. Our soldiers gather pumpkins in the village gardens. Cattle wade in the lush pastures. Except for the destruction of his heavy guns the enemy could not have wreaked this desolation. Beyond are fairer fields and villages.

A Hopeful Outlook.

It is the business of the Canadian Corps to do its share in reclaiming these villages to France. It has come from shell-torn Arras. It has fought its way step by step over fifteen miles of blasted wilderness, where even the weeds wither and die and the handiwork of man through the centuries is blotted out. The retreating enemy has left behind him only concrete and barbed wire.

Such is No Man's Land. It is the despair we leave behind us, the despair of the weary years, the bitter Winters of trench warfare. All that is past. With each sunrise hope shines from the west.

"On to the Rhine," cries that gallant gentleman, the Canadian soldier.

The Song of the Happy Warrior.

The song of the boy who was brave and fair,
Hee was young and his eyes were grey,
He was swift to run and strong to strive
And ready for any play.
He climbed to the top of the apple tree
When nobody else would dare;
He couldn't get down and he feared
He'd fall.

As the branch swayed in the air,
O! the ground seemed such a way below,
But he smiled a doubtful smile-a,
And he grit his teeth and sang "Cheer-o!"

Though the drop to the ground seemed a mile-a,
The song of the man in the khaki coat
As he stands in the wet and snow,
A smoking rifle in his hands
And his feet in the mud below.
The tale of the charge and the man that fell.

Of the tunic dyed with red,
The tight-clenched teeth and the clammy brow
And the stain where the wound had bled,
O! he groaned as he jolted to and fro
And wan, wan was his smile-a,
And he grit his teeth and he hummed "Cheer-o!"

And he died at the end of a mile-a—
—S. Donald Cox, Rifleman, C. L. R., London Rifle Brigade.

THE UNNECESSARY CAT.

A Menace to Birds, Which Are Our Best Food Conservators.

Nature has provided in the form of bird life a means to counteract the action of agents destructive to plant life. While artificial means may, to a limited extent, hold the multiplication of insect life in check, no human agency can accomplish the results which are secured by the birds.

Man, by his own action or inaction, is responsible for the causes which restrict the increase in the number of our birds. Slaughter and the robbing of nests by men and boys and the treacherous family cat have made such inroads on their numbers that the balance provided by nature has been destroyed.

By the recently consummated Mig-

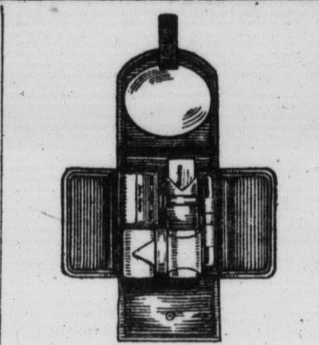
Good Reports of S.O.S. Boys.

Ontario Headquarters has reported as follows: "Ontario farmers everywhere are enthusiastic about the boys' services. The boys are making good. We estimate that 9,000 boys from the cities and towns and as many more farm boys are working as Soldiers of the Soil in Ontario."

Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro are the largest cities of South America. Walter (to guest who has been waiting a very long time)—"Did you ring the bell, sir?" Gent—"No, I was telling it. I thought you were dead."

Nothing is more annoying than to have your wife's relatives borrow money from you and then piously remark, "The Lord will provide."

A very good plan before laying oil cloth is to cover the floor thinly with sawdust. This helps the oilcloth to wear longer and deadens the sound.



AutoStop SAFETY RAZOR

A Great Nation's Tribute

The United States Government has conscripted the entire output of our U.S. factories in order to supply the "Yanks" with AutoStop Razors as part of their regular equipment.

This tribute is worthy of your consideration when next you send a package Overseas—your soldier's comfort is your first thought—the AutoStop, because of its automatic self-stopping device, is the ideal razor for his use.

Price \$5.00

At leading stores everywhere

2c. postage will deliver an AutoStop Overseas by first class registered mail.

AutoStop Safety Razor Co., Limited

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ratory Bird Treaty, the protection of migratory birds from destruction by man has been provided for. No attempt has been made, however, to remove the menace of the unnecessary cat. The elimination of it must, therefore, be left to the good sense and the public spirit of the individual citizen. The number of these prowling destroyers, and their predilection for birds as their prey, cause the loss to Canada of vast numbers of our best food conservators every year.

HINTS ON STORING COAL.

Precautions To Prevent Loss Through Spontaneous Combustion.

During the present year, consumers are storing coal as long in advance of winter as possible. It is important, therefore, that they should take precautions in the storage loss through spontaneous combustion is to be prevented. There are certain simple methods of handling coal that experience has taught are necessary to obviate such a misfortune, especially where considerable quantities are to be stored. Thus, coal should be so piled that air can circulate through it freely to carry off the heat, or so closely piled that air cannot enter the pile. Low piles are preferable, if space permits, and alleysways should be provided to facilitate moving the coal quickly. Occasional ventilation pipes are ill-advised, but the practice of placing such pipes close together has been tried in Canada with effective results. Different kinds of coal should not be mixed in storage.

In quenching fire in a pile, water should only be used if there is an ample supply; a small amount is ineffective and very dangerous.

Where available, under-water storage is recommended as it entirely eliminates spontaneous combustion. The preparation of a suitable pit for this method of storage is sometimes costly, but old quarries, clay pits and even prairie sloughs have been used. Deterioration of coal stored under water is negligible and it absorbs very little extra moisture.

Experiments and Tests.

The annual report of the Dominion Experimental Farms for the year ending March 31st, 1917, is a comprehensive document of some 150 pages, containing matter well worth studying by progressive farmers. It describes briefly and concisely the experiments and tests which have taken place at every farm and station, which practically means all over the country, seeing that every province is represented. Just as there is not a branch of agriculture undealt with, so there is not a district the capabilities and possibilities of which have not been tried in the matter of better production by improved methods. In former years the report has been given in two and three volumes and contained accounts of scientific experiments that have been made during the year, or that were still in progress, written by professional experts of the experimental farm system, but henceforth these are to be given in bulletin form and the Report confined to statements of the year's doings at the score and more farms and stations at different parts of the country. The Report, which, as has been said, will well repay study, can be had free on application to the Publication Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Minard's Lintment for sale everywhere.

Combination of Materia's



A clever little design for combination of materials. The front panel is applied and stitched as far as the belt. McCall Pattern No. 8486, Girl's Dress. In 6 sizes, 4 to 14 years. Price, 15 cents.



An excellent design for combination of materials. Can be worn with or without overdress. McCall Pattern No. 8505, Ladies' Dress. In 6 sizes, 34 to 44 bust. Price 25 cents.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Ont. W.

LIFT YOUR CORNS OFF WITH FINGERS

How to loosen a tender corn or callus so it lifts off without pain.

Let folks step on your feet hereafter; wear shoes a size smaller if you like, for corns will never again send electric sparks of pain through you, according to this Cincinnati authority.

He says that a few drops of a drug called freezone, applied directly upon a tender, aching corn, instantly relieves soreness, and soon the entire corn, root and all, lifts right out.

This drug dries at once and simply shrivels up the corn or callus without even irritating the surrounding tissue.

A small bottle of freezone obtained at any drug store will cost very little but will positively remove every hard or soft corn or callus from one's foot.

If your druggist hasn't stocked this new drug yet, tell him to get a small bottle of freezone for you from his wholesale drug house.

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A NEWSPAPER PROCESS.

For the Making of Newsprint From Ground Wood-Pulp.

The Taggart Paper Co., of Great Bend, N.Y., has developed a process for the making of newsprint from all ground-wood pulp, omitting entirely any proportion of sulphite pulp. Mr. George C. Sherman, president of the company, in an interview given to the Paper Trade Journal, said:

"It required two cords of wood for a ton of sulphite pulp, while one cord of wood will make more than a ton of ground-wood pulp. It takes 20 per cent. more timber to make paper out of 20 per cent. sulphite than it does out of all ground wood. One-fifth more acreage of timber is required for the sulphite method."

If this process should prove generally feasible it will do much to conserve Canada's forests. It would also effect a considerable saving in the cost of manufacturing newsprint and in the consumption of sulphur, which is in demand for the making of munitions.

LEMON JUICE IS FRECKLE REMOVER

Girls! Make this cheap beauty lotion to clear and whiten your skin.

Squeeze the juice of two lemons into a bottle containing three ounces of orchard white, shake well and you have a quarter pint of the best freckle and tan lotion, and complexion beautifier, at very, very small cost.

Your grocer has the lemons and any drug store or toilet counter will supply three ounces of orchard white for a few cents. Massage this sweetly fragrant lotion into the face neck, arms and hands each day and see how freckles and blemishes disappear and how clear, soft and white the skin becomes. Yes! It is harmless.

The Change.

I want you here little lad on my knee,
For my lips to touch and my eyes to see;

I want your hand in my own to-day,
But instead, you scampered outside to play.

And the house is still as I sit alone
In the silence mothers alone have known.

I want you here little lad to tell
You over and over I love you well.

I want the touch of your soft brown hair
But you're off for a game that I cannot share

While I wait and lonely and longing bide
'Till the night shall bring you back to my side.

I want you here little lad on my knee
But I'm glad you're sturdy and free

I want your hand little lad to hold
But I'm glad you're fearless of storm and cold.

And I'm glad that 'tis Nature's plan
That I've given the world a some-day man.

St. Joseph, Lewis, July 14, 1903.

Minard's Lintment Co., Limited.

Gentlemen,—I was badly kicked by my horse last May, and after using several preparations on my leg nothing would do. My leg was black as jet. I was laid up in bed for a fortnight and could not walk. After using three bottles of your MINARD'S LINTMENT I was perfectly cured, so that I could start on the road.

JOS. DUBES.

Commercial Traveller.

Improving Bridge Floors.

I was down in a part of the country recently where a little creek winds its way through the farms, where the roads were numerous and there were many small bridges. One feature I noted particularly about the bridge was that the floors were smooth and the wooden planks did not rattle as they so often do after a new floor has been in service for a few months. Loose floor boards are annoying and the looser they become the more dangerous they are to traffic, especially horses.

Each of the bridges I saw had two fourteen or sixteen inch planks bolted to the floor, so that they provided a smooth track across the floor for all vehicles, having been spaced far enough apart so that the wheels ran over them in the centre. As few vehicles ever meet on these small bridges there is little difficulty in the plan, and it helps wonderfully in preserving all the bridgework.

The incessant rattling or vibrating of a bridge tends to weaken its whole structure. When our car slid over these planks it was like riding on a pavement and the bridges did not rattle out their complaint of loose floor boards.

A single wide two-inch plank is better than two narrow planks are used. Where two narrower planks are used they are likely to spread some time and catch a wheel between them. The ends may be bevelled to make a smooth approach. If the planks are bolted to the floor in several places they will be secure.

Minard's Lintment Cures Burns, Etc.

Poultry yards at this season are likely to be dirty and barren of green foods. Stir the soil by sowing in, up, sow wheat, oats or other grain and keep green food constantly available.

Minard's Lintment for sale everywhere.

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Potato Speculators Warned.

Dealers and others who may be ambitious in regard to this year's crop of potatoes and apples have been warned by the Canada Food Board against speculation. "In negotiations for the purchase or sale of apples, potatoes, or other roots, due consideration should be given to the possibility of some action being taken by this Board," declares their recent statement.

Minard's Lintment Cures Dandruff.

Exploring Africa.

The first organized attempt to explore the interior of Africa was made by Mungo Park, who set sail on his initial voyage to the Dark Continent 123 years ago. He returned two years and seven months later after having explored a considerable section of Africa never before visited by a white man, although he failed in his main purpose, which was to trace the source of the River Niger.

MONEY ORDERS

It is always safe to send a Dominion Express Money Order. Five Dollars costs three cents.

Flowers are more fragrant when the sun is not shining on them, it is contended by a French scientist, because the oils which produce the perfumes are forced out by the water pressure in the plant cells and this is diminished by sunlight.

Minard's Lintment Relieves Neuralgia.

Potatoes baked in layers with onions and tomatoes is an excellent main dish for supper.

FOR SALE

WELL EQUIPPED NEWSPIRER and job printing plant in Eastern Ontario. Insurance carried \$1,500. Will go for \$1,200 on quick sale. Box 89, Wilson Publishing Co., Ltd., Toronto.

WEEKLY NEWSPIRER FOR SALE in New Ontario. Owner going to France. Will sell \$2,000. Worth double that amount. Apply J. H. O. Wilson Publishing Co., Limited, Toronto.

MISCELLANEOUS

LADIES WANTED TO DO PLAIN and light sewing at home, whole or spare time, good pay, work sent out distance, charges paid. Send stamp for particulars. National Manufacturing Company, Montreal.

CANCER, TUMORS, LUMPS, ETC. Internal and external, cured without pain by our home treatment. Write us before too late. Dr. Hoffman Medical Co., Limited, Collingwood, Ont.

WANTED

HEALTHY WHITE RATS

Must be between 3½ and 5 ounces. 25c. each given. Express collect to

E. N. MACALLUM,

243 College St. Toronto

KEEP YOUR SHOES NEAT

2 IN 1 WHITE SHOE DRESSING LIQUID and CAKE

For Men's Women's and Children's Shoes

ABSORBINE

TRADE MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

will reduce inflamed, swollen Joints, Sprains, Bruises, Soft Bunches; Heals Boils, Felt Evil, Quittor, Flatule and Infected sores quickly.

It is a positive antiseptic and germicide. Pleasant to use; does not blister or remove the hair, and years work the bottle. \$1.50 per bottle, delivered. Book 7 R free.

ABSORBINE, JR., the antiseptic ointment for shallow, reduces Pimples, Swollen Veins, Wens, Bruises, Blisters, stings, pain and inflammation. Price \$1.25 per bottle. Dealers of colored. Will tell you more if you write. Liberal Trial Bottle for 10c in stamp.

W. F. YOUNG, P.O. Box 1, Williamsburg, Virginia, Montreal, Canada. Absorbine and Absorbine Jr. are made in Canada.

ABSORBINE, JR., the antiseptic ointment for shallow, reduces Pimples, Swollen Veins, Wens, Bruises, Blisters, stings, pain and inflammation. Price \$1.25 per bottle. Dealers of colored. Will tell you more if you write. Liberal Trial Bottle for 10c in stamp.