

MACHINERY WORTH BILLIONS SCRAPPED IN GERMANY

THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION DEMOLISHES ONE THOUSAND FACTORIES TO PRESERVE PEACE

Germans Resent Destruction of Machines Which Could Be Utilized in Trades of Peace—One Plant Alone Suffers \$88,000,000 Loss in Equipment.

WORKMEN PAID TWENTY-FIVE CENTS A DAY

By FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Berlin, Germany, April 20.—The Allied Control Commission, which under the Treaty of Versailles was to take over and destroy all the material and machinery for making munitions of war belonging to the Germans, has done a good job. During my stay here I have gone through many of the big war factories and have seen the work of destruction. I have talked with the heads of the industrial institutions who have, metaphorically speaking, turned from the making of swords to the making of plowshares, and have before me some figures showing just what has been done.

Up until Oct. 1, 1921, there were destroyed 53,000 gun barrels, 23,000 trench mortars, 27,000 gun carriages, 102,000 machine guns and about 6,000,000 rifles. At that time all of the military schools had been dismissed, and the commissions of control had their staffs of experts and officers watching every large factory.

Even now constant inspection is going on in all the industrial centers, and it would seem to me a physical impossibility that any manufacture of munitions of war could be carried on without their knowledge. The commissions began their work as soon as the treaty was signed. There were almost two thousand members who were gradually reduced in number until 1922, when there were still several hundred.

Ten Thousand Factories.

During the life of these commissions they have inspected more than ten thousand different factories and more or less destroyed one thousand of them. The factories carefully examined were of every description, from those making poisonous gases, explosives, and big guns, to even some making tobacco, snuff, chocolate and artificial eyes. Speaking of the latter, a former captain of a German war industry said to me:

"I could never understand how they construed glass-eyes as war material, but one commission spent seven days visiting such an establishment at Wiesbaden. They did not destroy it, but when they left they could have started a factory to turn out such eyes for any war of the future."

Indeed, the Germans are sensitive about the destruction carried on by the control commission. They claim that some of the members, notably the French and Japanese, have been stealing their trade secrets, and that the military destruction has often been with the idea of crippling peace industries which compete with the trade of certain of the Allies. In other words, they are charging the French with carrying on somewhat the same policy that they themselves adopted when they blew up the French factories and maliciously destroyed their machinery during the war.

Stacks of Lenses.

The Germans object to the smashing of field glasses, telescopes, and other optical instruments on the ground that they might be used in warfare, and one of them hopped up and down in his rage as he showed me some bushels of costly lenses that had been shattered to bits, on that ground.

They want to go on making gas masks, saying that they must have them for protection against the sulphur and other poisonous vapors found in the mines, and they want the right to make any kind of wireless telephone or telegraph, notwithstanding such instruments can be used for war.

They are especially sore over the fact that they are not allowed to make any aeroplanes or Zeppelins which can carry more than fourteen hundred pounds each, nor ascend as high as fourteen thousand feet, nor go faster than one hundred and ten miles an hour. They say, also, that the Control Commission has prohibited them from making riding breeches and uniforms, which prevents their export of costumes for the police, porters and chauffeurs of South America.

A Good Job.

In fact, the work of the Control Commission has been thoroughly done. One of the officials of the Union of German Industries tells me that he has investigated the destruction of three hundred and thirty-seven factories, and that the loss in them was some hundreds of millions of dollars.

All kinds of machines for the making of munitions were destroyed, and the head of one of the largest German institutions said in his establishment alone sixty thousand such machines were crushed by means of a magnetic crane. He has a photograph showing how a fine lathe was lifted forty feet in the air and dropped, shattering it to pieces.

Another photograph exhibited a pile of rifles as big as a hay-stack, all in pieces, and others showed the remnants of boilers and furnaces and even smoke-stacks that were torn down and crushed. As I understand it the Germans have not objected to the destruction of the tools and machines that could be used for no purpose other than warfare, but they are objecting to the breaking up of dyna-

mos and all machinery which can be easily adapted to the industries of peace and which will have to be replaced by new machinery of the same kind.

From War To Peace. Notwithstanding this destruction, it is wonderful how rapidly the industries of Germany have been changed from an active war basis to one of peace industries. In most of the factories I have visited every vestige of arms and ammunition making has been wiped out, and one would never suppose that they had been anything else than ordinary industrial plants.

To show you what has been done by the control commission, and how the big war factories have been transformed, I called upon Dr. Weinlig, director-general of the Deutsche Werke here in Berlin, and then went out to see the great factories at Spandau, which before the war were employing something like 100,000 men.

The Deutsche Werke was the organization of the Kaiser's war factories independent of the Krupp and other private institutions. It was financed from the imperial treasury and operated under the direction of the government. It still belongs to the government, and therefore is an official civil service institution.

The Deutsche Werke has fourteen different establishments, and during the war they employed altogether more than a quarter of a million men. One of the biggest was the works at Spandau; another was at Kiel, on the Baltic, and others were scattered here and there throughout Germany. During the war all worked day and night, and their machinery was red hot until the time of the armistice.

Works Of Peace.

These factories have now all been turned as far as possible to the works of peace, but the number of employees has been greatly cut down owing to the difficulty of changing the machinery, and to the destruction done by the control commission. Still, all of the institutions are more or less busy.

During my talk with Dr. Weinlig I asked him what sort of peace goods they were now turning out. He replied: We have experimented on more than 110,000 different articles, and our successful experiments include freight cars, automobiles, motorcycles, wagons and agricultural implements. We are making wooden houses for North France and Belgium, and also office furniture and iron bedsteads. We make electric irons, toys and machine tools, and also emery paper, canvas and artificial leather and silk.

The space occupied is only a fraction of that we used during the war, and many of the buildings are vacant, as we have not yet been able to buy new peace machinery to fill them.

So far, our exports are small. We are shipping threshers and other agricultural machinery to South America. We hope later on to do a good business with Russia, but all that depends upon changed political conditions; and just now raw materials are so high, and must be paid for in gold, so that we are unable to buy much of them.

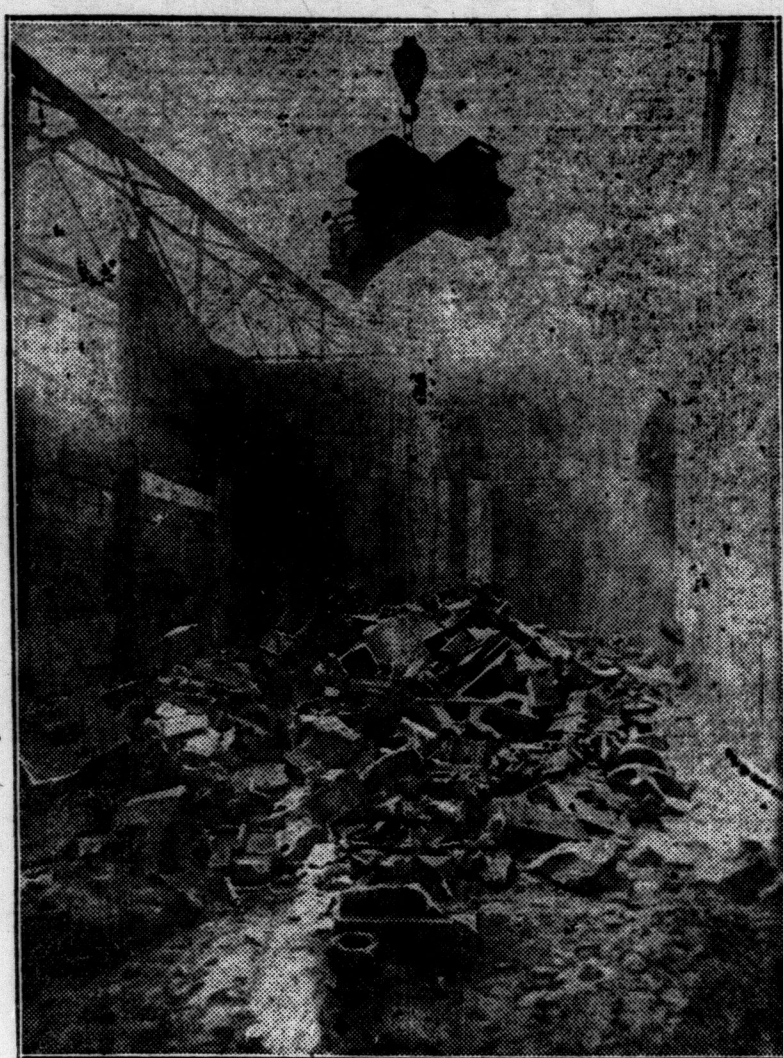
Fluctuating Mark Ruins Business. "It is not only the high gold cost of raw materials, but it is this perpetual rise and fall of the mark that makes it almost impossible for us to do business," continued Dr. Weinlig. "Our values change every day, and we have no basis for contracts. What seems to be a mark profit today is a decided loss tomorrow, and we could not replace the goods at the prices we sell them for. We shall have no successful manufacture until we have a stabilized mark."

We are suffering, also, from a lack of working efficiency on account of the dissatisfaction of the men at their low wages and the high cost of living. Men will not work unless they feel they are fairly paid, and you can get no spirit into them



GUARDING DEARLY-BUGHT PEACE.

At the great shipyards at Kiel war material that cost millions has been reduced to scrap steel. This man is cutting up six-inch armor plate from a German cruiser with an acetylene flame.



THIS ONE WILL DO NO MORE DAMAGE.

Big guns cannot be made except on giant lathes. This one is about to be destroyed by letting it drop from a crane forty feet up in the air, when it will become broken scrap like the pile below.

under our present conditions."

Twenty-Five Cents a Day.

"I understand that your ordinary factory wages are now about twenty-five cents a day."

"Yes," replied Dr. Weinlig, "but that is not enough for the men to buy more than their bare food, to say nothing of clothing. The wages are pitifully small. Take my own case. Before the war I earned more in eight days in gold value than I can now earn in a year. I was then a millionaire and I had a good income from my investments which were in stocks and bonds and other ill-edged securities."

Today I am worth practically nothing and I really work for my bread. But you can see something of our actual situation by going through the works. You may go where you please and make photographs and talk with the workmen, for I would like to have your people know just what we are trying to do to get on our feet."

Destroying War Shops.

As a result of this talk I have visited Spandau and driven about through its buildings and yards, which are more than twenty miles in circumference. The place made me think of some of the ruins I saw in North France. Large buildings have been entirely demolished and I went through structure after structure of enormous size, out of which all the machinery was taken and shattered to pieces.

I remember one boiler-house covering an acre which had contained eighteen large boilers. These were taken out and broken into bits. The steam pipes were torn out and even the concrete floors dug over to a depth of four or five feet so that the whole looked like a garden inside the bare walls of red brick.

Everywhere about the works are piles of scrap-iron, the pieces ranging in size from a pea to some that weigh a ton or more. The scraps were formerly lathes, boring machines, steam engines and dynamos. There are also piles of broken munitions, rifles, and all sorts of weapons of war.

\$88,000,000 in Machinery.

The destruction of the machinery was enormous. The official who went with me said that something like twenty thousand machines had been taken out and destroyed in this plant alone, asserting that it would take eighty million dollars in labor and material to replace the machinery and adapt the plant to making peace goods with an efficiency equal to that which it had for making munitions.



GUARDING DEARLY-BUGHT PEACE.

At the great shipyards at Kiel war material that cost millions has been reduced to scrap steel. This man is cutting up six-inch armor plate from a German cruiser with an acetylene flame.

He objected to the Control Commission preventing the manufacture of shotguns, to which purpose many of the old rifle machines had been changed, each machine having been out with acetylene flames to make sure that it could never be used for actual war work again. There are some hundreds engaged in such work who will have to be thrown out of employment if the making of shotguns is prohibited.

"But," said I, "it seems to me the Control Commission has a good excuse for prohibiting the manufacture of any kind of guns."

"I suppose it has," replied the superintendent, "but shotguns cannot be used in warfare and the same is true of pistols. We can adapt our machinery to making such things and our workmen have been trained to such manufacture."

There is one district in Thuringia where they have made nothing but these rifles and shotguns for hunting purposes for many years. The work was scattered through hundreds of small shops and employed thousands of men. We need work for these people, and we do not know what to do with them. We can't feed them, and we have not the peace machinery to put them to work."

Marriage on 16 Cents a Day.

During my stay I went through parts of the factory making motor-cycles, agricultural tools and other peace goods, stopping here and there to talk with the workmen. One man in the automobile factory, who has a similar job to that for which thousands in Detroit get wages of six dollars and upwards per day, told me he was getting a number of marks per hour, which is equal to just two cents of our money. He works eight hours and his daily wage is just under sixteen cents.

I asked him if he was married. He replied, "No, I have a mother and father to support, and besides how can I get married when to furnish a kitchen alone would cost me several hundred thousand marks, to say nothing of furnishing the bedroom adjoining which might make my home?"

This man had on a suit of yellow overalls which had cost him what was equal to twenty hours' wages. Near him a good-looking woman of thirty was sweeping the floor and picking up scraps. I asked the superintendent what she was getting and he replied a number of marks that equal about one-third of a cent per hour.

He said his own salary was not as much today as he had fifteen years ago, and that he had to figure on the number of days in the week when he could have meat on his table. This man was a mechanical engineer and was superintending a shop which employed three thousand workmen.

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STATES \$41,000,000 NEEDED IN CONSTRUCTING SCHOOLS

Canadian Press Despatch. Montreal, April 20.—Four million dollars will be required for the construction of new schools. Mme. Lafontaine, secretary of the Catholic school commissioners, declared here yesterday afternoon. Last year \$2,300,000 was spent for this purpose. The provincial government will be asked to sanction a loan when the Quebec house meets in the fall.

ENLARGE PETROLEA PARK. Special to The Advertiser.

Petrolia, April 20.—At the meeting of the local Horticultural Society Tuesday, the question of beautifying Victoria Park was discussed at length. The object of the society is to enlarge the park, extending it back about 20 feet to the town hall.

Dental Clinics In Schools Now Working At Top Speed

Inspection Shows Number of Pupils Suffering From Defective Teeth Reduced Thirty-One Per Cent.

Through the operation of public school dental clinics, the number of children suffering from defective teeth has been reduced, in a few short years, from 96 out of every hundred to 65, according to Dr. E. W. Fuller, chief dental inspector in the city schools.

Three clinic centers established by the board of education at Aberdeen, Riverview and Lorne Avenue schools serve the whole city. In each of these centers a doctor works at top speed five mornings of the week to meet the growing demand.

When dental inspection was first introduced in the schools of the city, in 1917, Dr. Fuller discovered that 86 out of every hundred children from the kindergarten to the highest grade, were suffering from some form of dental diseases, and 96 out of every hundred had defective teeth.

Dr. Fuller sees great strides in the education of the parents. This is manifested in the fact that a new clinic was made necessary last year, and a third was opened last March. At the present time a fourth clinic is needed, he claims, for the doctors are swamped by applications, although they are working overtime.

Visit Clinics. This morning Dr. Fuller, accompanied by Trustee A. N. Udy, chairman of the board of education, and a representative of The Advertiser, visited the various clinics.

At each of the schools children were being treated, and at Aberdeen two little girls were waiting their turn. One was a wee tot just turned 4. She did not seem a bit nervous, although she had three or four big cavities which needed filling.

Dr. Fuller explained that many of the children of five years of age were being treated. Efforts were made even to save the baby teeth, which parents were so prone to leave to their early fate.

"The condition of the baby or deciduous teeth have a direct bearing on the condition of the second teeth," said Dr. Fuller. "It was found necessary to combat the very prevalent idea of allowing the first teeth to be lost because they would get another in its place. You see, it is not generally known that by the time the second tooth is ready for eruption there might not be room for it. This results in irregularities."

Showed Samples. Dr. Fuller showed several examples in children where the second teeth were being crowded because the jaw was not fully developed. The baby teeth had come out too soon.

"It is a surprise to me," he continued, "why so many people fail to realize that a child needs teeth even more than adults, it being essential that a child should be able to properly masticate its food for the growing body and the great amount of energy the child expends."

Dr. Fuller claimed that the health of the future race is being insured by school inspection.

Doctors, he said, lay the blame for much of the heart disease, rheumatism and kidney disease on defective teeth.

Much of this he claimed will undoubtedly be overcome in London, because the teeth of the children are really being saved. The majority of children in grade 8 at the present time have good teeth, he said. The three doctors did not average more than ten extractions a year, and this was remarkable in face of the fact that there are more than 8,000 children in the schools.

Causes Trouble. The sixth year molar, the largest and the most important of the second teeth, caused the greatest amount of trouble, he claimed. Because it came so early, people were apt to regard it as a temporary tooth, and did not worry when it began to decay. For this reason many of the children lost the tooth before they became old enough to earn money for treatment. The tooth in every child is now being watched very carefully.

Dr. Fuller worked alone at first making inspections part of the time and operating a clinic furnished by the board at Aberdeen school. Gradually a system has been worked out making it possible to inspect every child's teeth once a year and to provide treatment where needed, with parents' consent.

At the present time Dr. Fuller makes all the inspections. He visits every school of the city and during the course of the year he inspects the teeth of every child. The clinic work is now done by Dr. S. A. Moore at Aberdeen school, Dr. J. F. Giffen at Riverview and by Dr. C. Snelgrove at Lorne Avenue.

Parents Opposed. The greatest difficulty which the doctors were forced to contend with from the very start was not the children themselves but opposition in parents. The school was developed only as rapidly as parents have been educated to the necessity of inspection and treatment.

Last year Dr. Fuller made more than 8,000 examinations, and 1,000 children were treated by the school dentists. This year at least 1,500 children will receive treatment. This work will be done by three clinics working only in the mornings, five days of the week and ten months of the year.

When a child is examined the condition of his teeth is marked on a chart and the record follows him throughout public school life. When treatment is required the parents are notified by Dr. Fuller and

if they were unable to send the child to an outside dentist, the school clinics will do the work free of charge if the parents will desire it.

The best of material is used. Amalgam is used for the majority of large fillings but if the tooth is in the front which is rarely the case, cement is used. All material is supplied by the board of education and according to Dr. Fuller the cost is surprisingly low.

Failure on the part of people to eat harder and rougher foods is one of the great causes of bad teeth in children, said Dr. Fuller. People should eat more bone-building substances. By far too many refined foods are consumed and too much sugar and starch. He is a strong advocate of whole-wheat bread and fresh fruits containing mineral salts.

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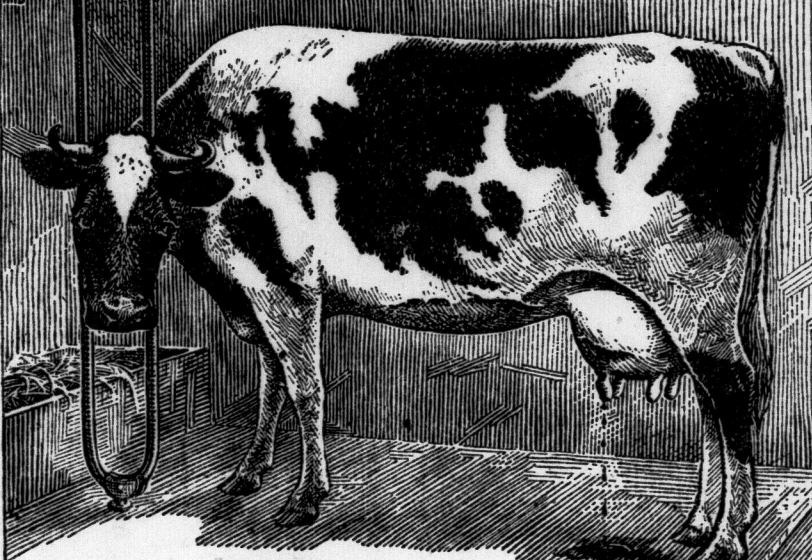
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