

onet neatly through the front window of the street-car, to the great horror of the driver and passengers and the delight of the small boys in the neighbourhood. On Sunday mornings at the changing of the guard there was always an enormous crowd of people in front of the Monopol, and German policemen, mounted on horses, had to clear a way for the traffic. There is no doubt that the smartness of our sentries made a very strong impression on the Kölner, for most of them had been under the fond delusion that Germany alone had really smart and well-turned-out soldiers. The sentries at Second Army Headquarters, at the Kronprinz Hotel on the Domplatz, were taken from the 21st Division, and their general smartness was very little behind that of the Guards. I was told that our sentries at Canadian Corps Headquarters were picked out weeks before we entered Germany and put through all the parade instruction with splendid results.

Every morning one of the battalions at the Brigade of Guards would go on a route march through the streets of Cologne, and it was a sight well calculated to impress the Germans, this passage of a Guards battalion with its colours flying. Behind the battalion walked a special squad in charge of a sergeant-major. Any civilians who failed to salute the colours by taking off their hats were at once pounced upon by the sergeant-major and his myrmidons and made to walk behind the battalion to the end of the march, when they were tried by a summary court and fined. On the first morning there were nearly as many civilians marching as men in the battalion, but the numbers were quickly diminished.

It may, perhaps, seem rather trivial to dwell on such things as these, but had our Higher Command staged several others things, with the same eye to effect, our occupation would have been more successful from a military point of view. There was, at the beginning of our occupation, a lack

of grip and decision, due to a complete ignorance of the German character. No army of occupation in the world's history ever had a more malleable and docile people to deal with. But the unhappy German was lost without any orders to follow and looked in vain for real restrictions, which would be enforced. It reminded one very forcibly of a man, knowing nothing of horses, insisting on treating a cableless cab-horse as a dangerous "outlaw," when all he really wants is a cab to pull and shafts to lean up against, just wants to know "where 'e's at!"

Although we had been assigned rooms for our offices in the Dom Hotel there was no office furniture and equipment, and this we had to procure for ourselves by the very simple method of commandeering. You went into a store, selected the things you wanted and gave a receipt for them. This receipt was sent in by the store to the municipality and the value of the goods commandeered was added to the amount of taxes to be raised from the town. There was considerable confusion in this matter of commandeering at the beginning, and the system was, no doubt, abused by some. I heard of one or two messes commandeering grand pianos from stores. After a week or so a central commandeering office was established and the system worked smoothly enough.

During the first days of the occupation orders were issued that all male civilians were to salute officers in British uniform by taking off their hats to them when they met them on the street. Such an order, difficult to enforce in Bonn, was an absurdity in a large city like Cologne. In Bonn, I believe, it was enforced for two or three days, but was dropped owing to exhaustion on the part of some of our officers through having to return salutes. It was never enforced in Cologne. A further order was issued that no civilian was to go out on the streets after nine o'clock in the evening unless provided with a pass from