

BUSINESS DEAD BUT PLEASURES BOOM IN BERLIN

How to Spend Money Fastest
is Aim of Most Young
Bloods There.

By VIGGO TOEPPER.
(Copyright, 1920, by Cross-Atlantic.)
Berlin, Oct. 21.—Germany is the pleasure "highspot" of Europe today, and every young German is bent on making himself a pauper in the briefest, merriest, most shameless way. That is the stranger's first impression after reaching Berlin. Germany is today the most extravagant country in Europe, and Germany today has money for everything except her debts.

Business does not boom in Germany. Pleasure booms. It booms as it never did before. Visiting and prosperous Germany of 1870-1913 was a quiet, unexciting land. Defeated, humiliated Germany of 1920 lives in a sort of excessive, excessive, excessive, during the winter, the air. Foreigners who knew Berlin before the war do not recognize it today. They imagine they are in the capital of a country which has won half-a-dozen great wars and carried home the spoils of half-a-dozen potent states.

Only One Instance.
Let me give one instance. In August, 1914, the big thoroughfare called the Kurfürstendamm, which intersects the western part of the city, was entirely composed of private residences. It was a quiet street. Today, as a luxury street, it rivals Bond Street or Fifth Avenue. The lower floors of the residential houses are transformed into luxury shops, art shops, restaurants, dance halls and cabarets.

Well-dressed people are everywhere. Only last week citizens who in 1913 were cleaning the door handles of a Deutsche Bank suburban office paid 600,000 marks at an auction for a suite of Louis XVI. furniture. The stories current of bad German feeding are a myth. True, many are underfed; but the others are so extravagantly overfed that if food was honestly rationed all would have enough. Over 4,000 new restaurants, mostly luxury restaurants, were founded in Berlin last year. And the west and southwest every third private house has one of its flats converted into a "gold-bug" restaurant consisting, perhaps, of only three or four small rooms, but with prices inversely high.

Luxuries at Restaurants.
Those restaurants bear exotic names suggesting luxury, extravagance or vice. All are dainties. All are full. Yet a single meal, dinner with an ordinary native who costs between 200 and 300 marks, and a good dinner with French champagne (which the German spends lavishly on drinks, especially champagne), costs 600 or 700 marks—235 according to pre-war standards. And the diners are not control Commission officers or foreign business men. They are Germans.

Nearly every German, though a pauper, is a splendid pauper. The expenditures on this side of the Atlantic are not so extravagant. In the last week reported here, the best record with 1,800,000,000 marks, and there with the total paper circulation for the first time exceeds 70,000,000,000 marks. Before the war it was 400,000,000 marks. And as Erzbischof's famous taxes in any case will turn all the new rich into paupers—to reach pauperism by the merriest, most riotous path.

One Erzbischof tax will take 100 per cent. of all money, exceeding a petty sum, made since 1913. So the new rich resolves to get rid of his riches pleasantly instead of parting with them tamely to the state.

CELEBRATES IN CHURCH
BUILT IN BERMUDA
NEARLY 300 YEARS AGO

Hamilton, Bermuda, Oct. 21.—Bermuda has been celebrating the 300th anniversary of the founding of its House of Assembly one of the oldest representative bodies in existence and coming next in age to the British parliament.

Bermuda shares with Virginia the honor of the earliest of representative institutions on this side of the Atlantic. Its history is closely linked with that of the Old Dominion.

The first general assembly for Virginia was held at Jamestown, June 30, 1619, while the first general assembly for Bermuda was convened at St. George's, the ancient capital of this colony, on August 1, 1620.

Virginia was settled in 1607 while Bermuda was settled in 1612, though the latter reached the stage of self government more quickly than their Virginian fellow colonists.

When Sir George Somers was wrecked on this island in 1609, he and his company of adventurers were bound for Virginia to settle. But after their unexpected landing in Bermuda they decided to stay on here and in 1612 secured letters patent from the crown which included the Bermudas in the limits of the Virginia Company.

The distinction of being the oldest self-governing British possession is proudly borne by Bermuda and its 20th anniversary in one of the notable celebrations in connection with the English settlement of America recently held at Plymouth and Southampton, England.

The ceremonies included meetings in old St. Peter's Church at St. George's where the first legislature met 300 years ago, and in the former state house in that town. They are now concluded with the visit of the Prince of Wales.

SPANISH THE CRAZE.
London, Oct. 21.—A society craze for things Spanish seems to be imminent in England. Two Spanish plays are running in London and Spanish singers and dancers are in great demand. Many fashionable women are wearing the high Spanish comb and one sees tentative attempts at the mantilla, a

VIENNA "DYING" CITY WITH FOOD AND FUEL GONE

Death Rate Far Higher Than
Birth in Once Gayest City
of Europe.

(Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger.)
London, Oct. 21.—More widespread suffering from the lack of food, clothing and fuel for the Austrian people during the coming winter than they experienced a year ago is predicted by the American Relief Administration. That is contrary to statistics made early in the summer when the outlook was more favorable for the food supply. Today, shows no increase over that of a year ago, and if there is a change it is for the worse.

That there is a greater scarcity of fuel is shown by the present picture which is two crowns a kilo while the highest figure reached during the middle of last winter was a little less than two crowns a kilo. The fuel shortage is expected to become acute during the early part of the coming winter which will be more severe than the mild one of last year. The situation then was relieved by the cutting down of trees in the parks, but what was a scene of study trees is now a waste stumps land.

Deaths Exceed Births.
The appropriateness of the term "dying city" which is often applied to Vienna is shown by the comparison of the latest birth and death rate statistics. During one week early in September 460 normal births were recorded in Vienna and 528 deaths during the same period. In London there were more than twice as many births as deaths.

In view of the gravity of the situation, the American Relief Administration will continue its work of child feeding, in Austria on the same scale as last winter. It had been planned to reduce the number of children needing care from 300,000 to 200,000 but it is now believed that it would be unwise as the recent census shows nearly 500,000 children suffering acutely from under nourishment. It is planned to continue charging 1 kroner for each meal to help defray the local expense and eliminate the idea of begging.

Not Many Workers.
The staff which will carry on the child feeding work during the coming winter consists of five Americans, 11-14 Austrians. More than half of the natives are voluntary workers and the others are paid by the Austrian government. In addition to supplying the majority of the workers the Austrian government will continue to furnish all the food necessary for the child feeding operations and pays the transportation charges on supplies such as cocoa, milk and sugar from the port where they are delivered by the child feeding fund. The result is that, according to a recent tabulation, for every dollar invested in the United States, 39 cents goes to a share for food for starving children. The Austrian people regard that work not as pauperizing charity but as making an opportunity for them to help themselves.

During the past eighteen months under Herbert Hoover's direction the administration has distributed food in Austria valued at \$2,245,000.00 and clothing valued at \$521,000 which exceeds the work of any other relief organization there.

EXPLORATION PARTY
FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Ecuador and Peru to be
Scenes of Big Adventure
by U. S. Scientists.

New York, Oct. 21.—A large party of scientists from the United States, next January will explore about 1,000 miles of almost unknown territory in the Amazon basin along Eastern Ecuador and Peru, it is announced at Columbia University. The ground to be covered includes a portion traversed by the Roosevelt expedition along the Madre river.

The start will be made from Bogota by mule to Calamar, thence by canoe down the Jaures river and the Rio Negro. After reaching the Amazon, the second half of the journey will be begun July 1 up the Madre river. The party plans to avoid the difficult high land encountered by the Roosevelt expedition by going up the Mamora river. The Pacific coast is expected to be reached at the end of the year.

TIPS \$75 WEEKLY
New York, Oct. 21.—Facing a local court on a charge of theft, Mrs. Adeline Southwell, a waitress, stated that she worked for five dollars a week in a Manhattan restaurant, but admitted that her tips averaged \$75 per week. She said she stole two diamond rings and pawned them in order to obtain money to dress her 11-year-old daughter.



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BRING RUSSIANS HOME FROM SIBERIA

Red Cross Ship is at Sea Now
With Twelve Hundred Ex-Prisoners.

London, Oct. 21.—The first steamer put into service between Hamburg and the Far East by the International Red Cross and the League of Nations has left for Vladivostok carrying 1,200 Russians whose homes are in Eastern Siberia. The ship will return with former war prisoners from Siberia, according to information from the League of Nations.

It has been estimated that 100,000 former prisoners of war remain to be repatriated from Russia and Siberia. Comparatively few, however, can be brought from Vladivostok because the Soviet authorities have refused permission for prisoners from Siberia proper to leave Russia by way of the Far East.

Funds From America.
Repatriation of former war prisoners by the present scheme is possible as a result of funds raised in the United States, a number of American organizations acting jointly in what is known as the American Repatriation Committee. Already \$500,000 has been raised, \$1,000,000 being expected.

The principal organizations co-operating in this committee are the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers), American Red Cross, American Relief Committee, the War Relocation Administration, the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, the National Council of Young Men's Christian Association and the National Lutheran Council.

3,000 JAPANESE TROOPS SENT TO MANCHURIA

(Public Ledger Far East Service.)
Tokio, Oct. 21.—Six battalions of 500 men each, their peace-footing strength, have been sent to Manchuria district of southern Manchuria from Korea. The Fourteenth Division, which was withdrawn from Vladivostok and Nikolayevsk, also is on the way and may remain, all or partly, until the district is pacified.

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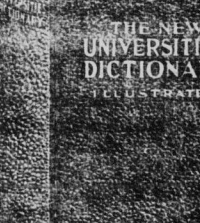
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