

"My Four Years in Germany"---By Ambassador James Watson Gerard

ENVOY DESCRIBES WORK OF Y. M. C. A. IN WAR ZONES

Ambassador Gerard, who, during the four years preceding the declaration of war, was in Berlin and in constant touch with German affairs, has written a vivid story of his experiences. The story The Washington Times will publish in daily installments, of which the following is the forty-second. No document of diplomacy was ever more vital or more interesting.

By JAMES W. GERARD.
American Ambassador to Germany, July 28, 1913, to February 4, 1917.
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There is no question that the sufferings of the people of Poland have been very great; when the history of Poland during this war comes to be written, the world will stand aghast at the story of her sufferings. It is a great pity that these various schemes for relief did not succeed. The Rockefeller commission, however, up to the time I left Germany, did continue to carry on some measure of relief, and succeeded in getting in condensed milk, to some extent, for the children of that unfortunate country. These negotiations brought me in contact with a number of Poles resident in Berlin, whom I found most eager to do what they could to relieve the situation. I wish here to express my admiration for the work of the Rockefeller

commission in Europe. Not only were the ideas of the commission excellent and businesslike, but the men selected to carry them into effect were, without exception, men of high character, possessed of rare executive ability.

Ridiculed by Newspapers.
As I have said in a previous chapter, I was ridiculed in the American newspapers because I had suggested, in answer to a cable of the League of Mercy, that some work should be done for the prisoners of war.

I do not know whether the great work undertaken by Dr. John R. Mott and his associates was suggested by my answer or not—that does not matter. But this work, undertaken by the American Y. M. C. A., certainly mattered a great deal to the prisoners of war in Europe. Dr. Mott, after serving on the Mexican commission, went to Russia as a member of the commission to that country.

The Y. M. C. A. organization, headed by Dr. Mott, who was most ably assisted by the Rev. Archibald C. Harte, took up this work, which was financed, I have been told, by the McCormick family of Chicago, Cleveland H. Dodge, John D. Rockefeller, and others. Mr. Harte obtained permission from the German authorities for the erection of meeting halls and for the erection of the Russian camps. When he had obtained this authorization from Germany he went to Russia, where he



THE REV. ARCHIBALD C. HARTE

was able to get a similar authorization. **Allowed Great Liberty.**
At first, in Russia, as I have heard, the prisoners of war were allowed great liberty and lived unguarded in Siberian villages, where they obtained milk, bread, butter, eggs, and honey at very reasonable rates. As the war went on they were more and more confined to barracks, and there their situation was sad indeed. In the winter season it is dark at 3 in the afternoon and remains dark until 10 the following morning. Of course, I did not see the Russian prison camps. Of course, Mr. Harte in this work did not attempt to cover all the



A little German child offered a prayer for peace.

prison camps in Germany. He did much to help the mental and physical conditions of the prisoners in Ruhleben, the English civilian camp near Berlin. The American Y. M. C. A. built a great hall where religious exercises were held, plays and lectures given, and where prisoners had a good place to read and write in during the day. A library was established in this building. The work carried on by the Y. M. C. A. may be briefly described as coming under the following heads: Religious activities, educational activities, workshops and gardens, physical exercises and outdoor sports, diet kitchens for convalescents, libraries and music, including orchestras, choruses and the like. **Accompanied by Y. M. C. A. Men.**
When I left Germany on the breaking of diplomatic relations a number of these Y. M. C. A. workers left with me. The German women exhibited notable qualities in war. They engaged in the Red Cross work, including the preparation of supplies and bandages



DR. JOHN R. MOTT, Head of American Y. M. C. A. in German camps.

for the hospitals. The first day of the convalescent wounded. But perhaps the most noteworthy was the national frauentend, or service for women, organized the first day of the war. The relief given by the state to the wives and children of soldiers was distributed from stations in Berlin, and in the neighborhood of each of these stations the frauentend established an office where women were always in attendance, ready to give help and advice to soldiers' wives. There were card indices of all the people within the district and of their needs. At the time I left Germany I believe that there were upward of 7,000 women engaged in Berlin in social service, in instructing the women in the new art of cooking without milk, eggs, or fat, and seeing to it that the children had their fair share of these social workers that the rate of infant mortality in Berlin decreased during the war.

CROWD IN TEARS AS GIRL MADE PEACE PRAYER

A war always causes a great unsettling of business and trade; people no longer buy as many articles of luxury, and the workers engaged in the production of these articles are thrown out of employment. In Germany the National Women's Service, acting with the labor exchanges, did its best to find new positions for those thrown out of work. Women were helped over a period of poverty until they could find new places and were instructed in new trades.

Many women engaged in the work of sending packages containing food and comforts to the soldiers at the front and to the German prisoners of war in other countries.

Through the efforts of the American Association of Commerce and Trade and the embassy a free restaurant was established in Berlin in one of the poorer districts. About 200 persons were fed here daily in a hall decorated with flags and plants. This was continued even after we left Germany. At Christmas, 1916, Mrs. Gerard and I visited this kitchen with Mr. and Mrs. Wolf and General von Kessel, commander of the Mark of Brandenburg, and one of his daughters. Presents were distributed to the children and the mothers received an order for goods in one of the department stores. The German Christmas songs were sung, and when a little German child offered a prayer for peace I do not think there was any one present who could refrain from weeping. Many of the German women of title, princesses, etc., established base hospitals of their own and seemed to manage these hospitals with success. (Concluded Tomorrow).

NATIONAL GUARD REGIMENTS TO JOIN PERSHING'S ARMY

National guard troops remaining in New England will be sent to France soon to serve as corps troops and to fill up gaps in the New England division already in France. Secretary of War Baker gave this assurance to Governors McCall of Massachusetts, Milliken of Maine, Graham of Vermont, Holcomb of Connecticut, and Keyes of New Hampshire.

There are 2,300 men comprising skeleton regiments, which were left when the New England division was sent to France. The New England governors asked that these skeleton regiments be used as the nucleus of a second New England division, to be filled up with drafted men. As an alternative proposal, a general recruiting officer had Secretary Baker authority to recruit the organizations up to full strength by voluntary enlistment.

Secretary Baker and General Tasker Hiltz convinced the governors that neither proposal could be accepted, as to grant the first one would be to disrupt the national army organization, while the second plan would be out of line with the government policy.

The five governors intended to ask permission to enlist the services of Col. Theodore Roosevelt as a general recruiting officer had Secretary Baker authorized the recruiting up of the New England regiments, which are in the Federal service, although in camp in New England. In view of Mr. Baker's decision, the name of the Colonel was not mentioned in the conference.

Secretary Baker said that the War Department fully approved the proposal of prominent Poles in this country to raise a separate contingent of Polish troops for service in France. He said he had discussed the matter several times with Paderewski, who first made the offer in the name of the Poles. Mr. Baker declined to discuss the matter further, stating that all publicity concerning it must come from the Polish leaders.

NOT SO FOOLISH.
Babies have more sense than adults. They never go round telling the smart things their fathers said.—Milwaukee Sentinel.



Teach Children To Use Cuticura Soap

Because it is best for their tender skin. Help it now and then with touches of Cuticura Ointment applied to first signs of redness, roughness, pimples or dandruff. If mothers would only use these super-creamy emollients for every-day toilet purposes how much suffering might be avoided by preventing little skin and scalp troubles becoming serious.

ROTARY CLUB WILL AID RECREATIONAL WORK AT CAMPS

The Rotary Club of Washington is to give its support to war camp community recreational work of the War Council under direction of Henry White.

Members of the Rotary Club pledged their aid and co-operation in the movement at the quarterly meeting at the Willard last night. Major C. Fred Cook, former Washington newspaper man and rotarian, who is now at a canteen near Washington, told his fellow members of life in a camp and of the need of recreational work for the men.

Pullman and Cooper Speak.
Major Raymond W. Pullman, chief of police, and William Knowles Cooper, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A., spoke for the support of the training camp work. Mr. Cooper, who has directed the work of his organization, which is represented in every camp, told of the work from the inside.

Major Pullman told of efforts he is making to have the National Museum and other public buildings opened at night for the benefit of the soldiers stationed in and near Washington. Trustees of the Corcoran Art Gallery have already taken action he said to keep the gallery open for soldiers and sailors.

Assures of Coal Supply.
Assurance that there would be no coal famine in Washington this winter was given by John L. Weaver, Federal fuel administrator. Mr. Weaver outlined briefly the coal situation as it had come under his observation since its appointment.

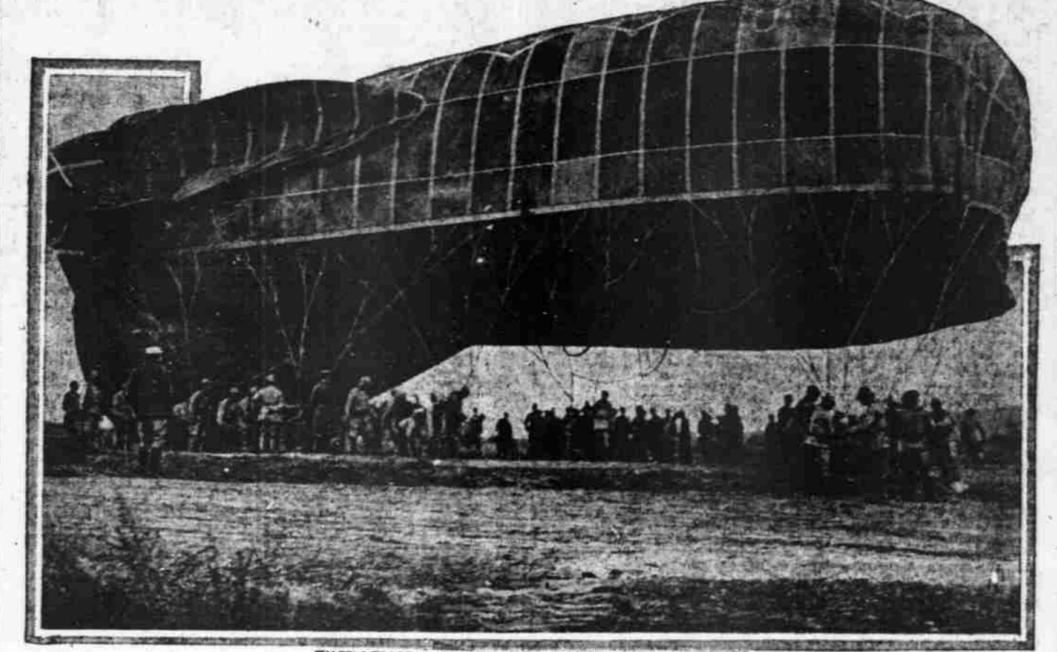
L. Bert Nye was elected secretary of the club to succeed John Brewer, who resigned. John Poole and Charles Semmes made Liberty loan addresses. Mr. Poole urged bond buying, and Mr. Semmes asked for support and the services of members in the motor truck campaign being conducted by himself and other members of the Commercial Club, who are holding old-time street rallies.

WHY NOT GIVE SOLDIERS LIFT, APPEAL TO TIMES

"I believe that some plan is required whereby soldiers and sailors on our streets and avenues might know what automobiles would be glad to give them a ride," suggests a letter to The Times.

BOURNE ASKS WHAT PAPERS ARE SUPPRESSED
Former Senator Jonathan Bourne, as president of the Republican Publicity Association, today challenged Postmaster General Burleson to make public the names of the newspapers he has suppressed. "No 'spurious veresants,'" is the declaration of Senator Bourne. He says the Postmaster General is quite likely justified in suppression of papers, but he is not justified in sinking them without a trace. He says every American who believes in freedom of the press wants to know "who has been silenced and why."

Huge New Observation Balloon Now Used by French



Some idea of the huge size of the balloons used by the French soldiers in making observations along their front battle lines may be obtained from the above photograph. The picture shows one of the army balloons about to ascend in the Aisne district. Nearly a hundred soldiers are gathered under its shadow while it is slowly filling with gas.

CAVALRY USED IN FLANDERS ATTACK BY GENERAL HAIG

LONDON, Oct. 27.—For the first time in many months cavalry has supplanted the infantry, and reports from two fighting fronts indicate that cavalry charges have proved highly effective.

From the British headquarters in Flanders comes the report that in fighting in Gheluvelt the British were fighting astride for the first time since early in the war. Haig flung his cavalry into the fray, and they fought successfully.

Baruch and Hoover Overworking.
Barney Baruch has fought with every hour in the twenty-four to keep up to his schedule. He seems to be doing it. Food Administrator Herbert Hoover tells at his big problem night and day. Most of his day time goes for conferences; the nights to studying what has come to his hand during the day. He scarcely takes time to eat.

are under to remain in the air for hours at a time, communicating to the officers in the trenches and beside the batteries news of the enemy and gun ranges. It is little wonder that these huge airships are at the mercy of the agile and well-nigh invisible aeroplanes that swoop down upon them from the clouds with fire bombs, making the work of the observers about as precarious as can well be imagined.

TERRIFIC STRAIN BEGINS TO TELL ON WAR LEADERS

The leaders of America's business genius are breaking themselves on the war wheel by their terrific speeding-up to help the allies smash Prussianism.

Under Great Strain.
They are all under tremendous strain, hurried and driven by the realization that the war branches they are organizing are desperately needed to help the allies give Germany the final shove.

MITE BOXES ADD TO MEN'S SMOKE FUND FOR TROOPS

The Washington Times Tobacco Fund was enriched today with a flood of pennies, nickels, and dimes, and a few larger pieces, amounting in all to \$93.84, the result of a collection made from the various mite boxes of the city.

Patrons of the Strand Theater demonstrated that they regarded their box as something more than a receptacle for "mites" as it contained \$107, the largest amount yet collected from any one box. The Strand box and the one at Moore's Garden Theater have always contained most liberal contributions.

The number of arrests made by the detective bureau was 2,986, as compared with 2,516 in 1916.

Attention is directed to the excellent work of members of the police department during the inauguration period, the Confederate Veterans' reunion, and the street car strike.

Contributions to The Washington Times Tobacco Fund thus far received include:

- Previously acknowledged, \$4,029.70.
- Mite boxes from the following: Strand Theater, \$10.97; National Savings Bank, \$4.73; Continental Hotel, \$2.75; Garden Theater, \$4.62; Federal National Bank, \$1.02; Elliott (first box), \$2.71; Gayety Theater, \$2.67; American Security and Trust Company, \$2.24; Crandall's Theater, \$2.84; Columbia Theater, \$2.38; Riggs bar, \$1.11; Elliott (second box), \$1.12; Meyers' Military Shop, \$2.12; Kafka's Shop, \$1.55; Munsey Trust, \$1.71; Willard Hotel, \$1.02; Powhatan Hotel, \$1.28; Lincoln Theater, \$1.00; Commercial Hotel, \$2.00; Penn Garden, \$0.50; miscellaneous, \$0.50; George Oujeval, 1218 Pennsylvania avenue, 25c; Andrew J. Arrington, 321 I street northeast, 50c. Total, \$4,029.70.

AGED MAN A SUICIDE.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 27.—Edward Morris, 87, seventy-three, one of the founders of Morris & Co., manufacturers, is dead here, a suicide. He took his own life by taking illuminating gas. Continued ill health is said to have driven him to end his life.

SPECIAL NOTICES
The Corcoran Gallery of Art
Corner 17th Street and New York Ave. N. W.
For the especial accommodation of all
Officers, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines
stationed in and near Washington, this gallery will be opened, informally and free of charge, on Saturday evening, October 27th, from 7:00 until 10:00 o'clock.

PULLMAN PLEADS FOR MORE MEN AT HIGHER SALARIES

Major Raymond Pullman, superintendent of the Metropolitan Police Department, in his annual report submitted to the Commissioners this afternoon, asked not only that Congress be called upon to increase the numerical strength of his department, but that a corresponding increase in the salaries of its members be given.

One of the most important pieces of legislation enacted by Congress, Major Pullman says, was the provision for 100 additional men, bringing the quota of the Metropolitan police force from 715 at the beginning of the fiscal year 1915 up to 821.

The creation of a traffic branch, with a captain lieutenant, and sergeant is again recommended.

The total number of arrests made during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1917, was 39,552, as compared with 32,371 for the preceding year.

The number of arrests made by the detective bureau was 2,986, as compared with 2,516 in 1916.

CHALOTER HOME ATTACHED.
CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va., Oct. 27.—John Armstrong Chaloter's home, Merritt Mills, in Albemarle county, has been levied on to satisfy judgments aggregating \$11,000 obtained by lawyers and returned to him in his vain effort to obtain possession of his New York property.

Vital Records
Births.
Walter R. and Ruth M. Thomas, girl, Arthur R. and May F. Thompson, girl, Charles L. and Marie T. Smith, girl, Joseph L. and Maude L. Perry, girl, John P. and Marie E. Smith, girl, William P. and Estelle E. Hutchinson, boy, Thomas J. and Anna M. Flynn, boy, Chester and Annetta C. Dyer, girl, Edward and Charlotte Collins, girl, Spiro J. and Blanche Choukounis, boy, William and Christine Blass, girl, William E. and Harriette J. Bromley, girl, Wiley G. and Mattie T. Wisney, boy, Harry G. and Emma Thibe, boy, Robert and Susie Howell, boy.

Deaths.
Mary Hayes, 23 yrs., Georgetown Dabr. Hosp., Earl Gallier, 21 yrs., on troop train, Robinson, C. G. and Marie T. Smith, girl, Margaret A. P. Gibson, 23 yrs., 1408 Hally St. N. W., Elizabeth S. Lawson, 78 yrs., 715 Monroe st. N. W., Sarah Athys, 23 yrs., Providence Hosp., Louis Pratt, 23 yrs., 28 Mass. ave. N. W., Thomas Miller, 1 mos., Children's Hosp., Laura J. Tyler, 24 yrs., 311 Lamont st. N. W.

DEATHS
WHEEHL—On Thursday, October 26, 1917, at 4:35 p. m. WILHELMINA M. WHEELER, the beloved wife of Charles Webster Wheeler, died at her home, 774 Laniar place northwest, Saturday, October 27, 1917, at 2 p. m. Relatives and friends invited.

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