

"SLAVERY ARMY" IN NORTH FRANCE

Belgian Refugee Asserts That Germans Are Torturing Prisoners

Ottawa, Ont.—A London dispatch to the Ottawa agency of Reuter's Limited, says it has received from a trustworthy Belgian citizen who has just reached London from the German military zone at Valenciennes an account of terrible conditions existing in the occupied districts of France, from which virtually no news ever reached England. It could not be stated how this man escaped. He still bore traces of a heavy blow on the jaw, and showed Reuter's representative a handful of natural teeth which had been knocked out by the butt end of a German guard's rifle. He said: "The Germans have organized a slavery army in the zone of northern France. When I left St. Amant, a few weeks ago, conditions were unbearable. The men between the ages of seventeen and fifty had been taken away. Unmarried women under forty are obliged to work in the fields while the German army must collect acorns and nettles. "Everywhere you meet civilians working under armed guards. Every town wears a brassard showing the town he comes from. Some wear a brassard around the leg showing they tried to escape. One old man had a large cross painted on his back. I knew what that signified. If you refuse to work you are fined; if you refuse to pay the fine you are imprisoned. If you refuse a second time you are sent to Germany, from where one seldom comes back alive. "Besides civilian prisoners, the Germans have great numbers of war prisoners behind the lines, who work under terrible conditions. The English are especially badly treated. They want food, but are suffering from lack of food, and are awfully ill. It was while I was endeavoring to give a starving Russian a little of my own food, that a supply of food that the guard knocked out my teeth. "The informant told how domestic clocks and lamps are ripped for copper, mattresses are ripped for wool, and sacks and clothes are seized. Farmers and peasants must declare everything. The refugee continued: "I have seen people dragged to prison for hiding a pound of potatoes. Hiding an egg involves a fine of five marks. One woman was deported to Germany for keeping three pigeons. Another was sentenced to fourteen months for hiding an Alsatian refugee. The refugee was immediately killed by a noncommissioned officer, who struck another woman with such violence that she became deaf. A violence that she shot dead without warning because she crossed the Franco-Belgian frontier for bread. "The Belgian disclosure dates and names of the persons in all cases. "Wherever you turn your eyes the same tragedy is everywhere: starvation, and untold brutality," he concluded.

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- Sloan's Liniment 29c, Sargol 67c, S. S. S. (Swift's Specific) 59c, Stearns' Wine of Cod Liver Oil 67c, St. Jacob's Oil 34c, California Syrup of Figs 34c, Tonsiline 34c, Usoline Oil, pint 34c, Vapo Cresoline 38c, Vernas Lotion 39c, Wampole's Cod Liver Oil 59c, Williams' Pink Pills 30c, Wright's Ind. Veg. Liver Pills 16c, Wyeth's Glycerine Suppositories 21c, Wyeth's 5-grain Lithia Tablets 35c, Wendell's Ambition Pills 38c, Mesterol 39c, Nature's Remedy 15c, Nuxated Iron Tablets 59c, Omega Oil 23c, Palmer's Skin Success 19c, Parmit 63c, Pape's Cold Tablets 27c, Perry Davis' Pain Killer 19c, Peterman's Roach Food 17c, Phelps' Rheumatic Elixir 67c

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