

AMERICAN DESCRIBES POST-WAR CONDITIONS

Walter M. Wolff, Former Nebraska Man Writes to Dean Buck From Germany.

Dean P. M. Buck has received a letter from Walter M. Wolff, former student and English department reader, now in Germany, in which is given a graphic description of conditions in that country. The post-war Germany, says Mr. Wolff, everywhere shows signs of thrift and order. Untrained officials are blamed by Wolff for much of the chaotic conditions through which the country is passing. American dollars buy far more in Germany than in the United States. A suit costs \$10 and a haircut three German universities are suffering in every way and the culture and learning of that famous country is receiving a setback because the people can no longer spare the time to invest in pursuit of knowledge, says Wolff. The country is fairly flailing, for its existence, he declares.

In closing his letter, Wolff offers to furnish Dean Buck or the University of Nebraska any information about Germany which might be desired. The letter follows:

CHEMNITZ, ALI, Germany, October 11, 1921.—Dean Philo M. Buck, A. M., College of Arts and Sciences, the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb., U. S. A. My Dear Dean and Professor: It was with much regret that I left Lincoln on the 6 of last June without saying goodbye to you when I knew that the future would find me in Germany on an extended visit. As you were more than busy with the registration for the first summer session, I considered it wise to forego a farewell conference, expecting to write to you before this. I have been in the land of the Germans since the 12th day of August; have traveled over most of the country; and have gotten a pretty good idea of the conditions and the people as they are today. However, it is only now that I am finding time to correspond once more with the homeland.

In the first place, please forgive my gross negligence of last June, for I am very sorry indeed that it occurred. Now I shall try to give you some idea of what is transpiring today in post-war Germany. To a foreigner, touring the country with American dollars in his pocket, Germany must seem like a veritable ten-cent store! For every "paper" dollar (not gold or silver) he may have today 120 German marks which will buy far more than will 100 cents in the U. S. A. For instance, it costs less to travel, say from here (Chemnitz) to Hamburg and return, than it does one way from Lincoln to Omaha, although the distance is five times as great. No "Paint or Powder."

A fine suit of clothes can be had for ten American dollars (1,200 marks), and a hair-cut costs but two or three cents. For the individual who likes his beer, a large glass of the 12 per cent variety comes to but four cents. In the way of sweets, everything is to be had here except ice cream and chewing gum which is almost unknown and the women do not use paint or powder at all. People Work Hard.

While the American visitor can enjoy himself through the abnormal valuta situation, the average German works hard and finds everything very high. Seventy-five marks for a day's work is considered good pay, but when one is forced to give one hundred to one hundred twenty-five marks for an ordinary cotton shirt, he often foregoes the pleasure of wearing such an article. In Berlin, for instance, prices on many articles are almost the same as in the States at home. Flowers, fruit and vegetables are very plentiful however, and are also more reasonable in price.

To date I have been in Hamburg, Kiel, Leipzig, Berlin and many smaller cities, not to mention numerous "Dorfer," and everywhere there are only signs of thrift and order. Although the future for Germany has taken a gloomy aspect, I do not believe she will sink so low as to become another Austria, Poland or Russia. The present German government is being ridiculed and held in contempt because of its utter inefficiency and neglect of the country's welfare. It is merely another case of too many untrained officials, too much red tape, and extreme short sightedness and ignorance of governmental affairs. And yet, from the physical standpoint Germany is still the clean, well organized land for which she has always been famous. Her hills and valleys, rivers and lakes, flowers and foliage, are still as beautiful as ever before; and the people, in general, are still as hospitable and as thrifty as they were before the war.

Universities Suffer. On account of the serious H. C. L., the universities are suffering in every way. German culture and learning is

receiving a severe setback because the people can no longer spare the time they formerly invested in eager pursuit of knowledge. Germany is practically fighting for her existence, and for the moment, muscle constantly giving communism in Germany such impetus; and the bolshevik with his cry, "Nur das Proletariat kann helfen!" is today the worst enemy within the "Reich!"

I had the good fortune of attending the "Kleiner Herbstwoche für Kunst und Wissenschaft" a few weeks ago, to which several hundred Swedish and Norwegian students were invited as guests of the city of Kiel. Many of the lectures by well known German university professors, and high-class music, made the week a most profitable occasion. I particularly enjoyed the splendid presentations of "Gotz von Berlichingen," and "Die Nibelungen," in which also Berlin and Hamburg professional talent participated.

Offers Information. Perhaps I have given you enough of the present Germany for this time, since cannot begin to tell you all of the many interesting experiences which I have had in the two months that I have been here. If there is any particular information concerning Germany which you would like to have me investigate or report for you or for our good old U. of N., I shall be more than glad to get it for you. Your former student and English Department reader.

WALTER M. WOLFF, Dorfstrasse 47, Chemnitz, ALI, i. e. Germany.

WANT ADS.

LOST—PAIR OF SHELL-RIMMED glasses in leather case. Return to Student Activities Office.

LOST—SIGMA NU JEWEL PIN, Initial E. R. DeR, '24. Return Student Activities Office.

LOST—LEATHER BRIEF CASE Initial G. S. S. in gold. Return to Student Activities Office.

PARTY FINDING MUSIC BAG LEFT at Conservatory kindly return Student Activities office.

LOST—A GOLD EVERSHARP Pencil in or about R. 101 S. S. Return to Student Activities office.

LOST—A MARTEN NECK PIECE: between 1310 R street and the administration building about 2:15 Saturday. Presumably picked up by a student on way to football game. Please leave at Student Activities office.

NEW DEPARTMENT AT AG. COLLEGE ADDED

Horticulture Branch is New Department At College of Agriculture To Support Forestry.

The horticultural department of the Nebraska agricultural college has pledged its support in the advancement of the state forestry association, recently organized for the purpose of conserving timber and encouraging a more extensive campaign of reforestation in the state. The department will lend its services and experiments in the treatment of the industry, specialists at the college announce.

The association also has been given the support of organizations in the state. A revival of interest in Arbor day as a means of increasing the number of trees planted is one of the plans under consideration. The aim of the association is not only to preserve forests in the state because of their aesthetic value, but to encourage tree planting as a means of further increasing the economic assets of the commonwealth.

IRON SPHINX ELECTS OFFICERS FOR YEAR

Iron Sphinx, honorary sophomore men's organization, held its initial meeting of the year last evening at the Phi Gamma Delta house. Election of officers and the general business for the coming year were the chief matters brought up to the meeting.

The organization adopted a resolution whereby every member pledged himself to promote school activities for the coming school year to the best of his ability and to co-operate with every organization on the campus in helping stage the various events put on by the university.

The officers elected for the year were as follows:

President, Charles B. Hall; vice-president, John Hollingsworth; secretary, Rex Smith; treasurer, John Spear; sergeant-at-arms, Ross McGlasson, George Smaha.

Questions pertaining to the coming olympics were brought up and discussed to a certain extent and meetings will be held as often as necessary up until the time of the olympics in perfecting plans for the annual class scrap.

DISARMAMENT IS THE SUBJECT OF ARTICLE

Professor Tells of Fundamentals of Conference of Many Nations at Washington.

An expression of public opinion on the problems to be considered by the conference on the limitation of armament will no doubt have an important bearing upon the results. But in order to have an intelligent expression of opinion it is necessary to understand the questions which will come up for settlement. It is gratifying to know that the students of the University of Nebraska have a keen interest in the coming conference. They have requested that members of the faculty co-operate with them in the study of causes of war and steps toward disarmament. The faculty has generously responded to this request. The following article by Professor Alexander is the first of a series which will appear from day to day on problems connected with the Washington meeting.

"Nationalism as a cause for war, or at any rate as war's justification, is a modernism of politics. In early times wars were waged frankly for plunder and glory; later on religion, trade rights dynastic successions colonial expansions, were openly avowed pretexts for militant aggression. Since the rise, in the modern world, of the conception of the sovereignty of peoples, the preservation or realization has been the one motive to which men have most virtually restored when in quest of a casus belli, it has gone under the name of liberation, and today there are few civilized peoples who cannot be brought to fight for the preservation of nationalistic liberties. If political wars threaten the future they are more likely to be promoted under this than under any other pretext.

It can hardly be denied that nationalism has engendered and does engender belligerent attitudes which breed wars. But nationalism is young in the world, and it may fairly be asked if there is not chance for a civilized enlightenment in which this need not be the case. Granting the premise that wherever there is a developed national sentiment there should be erected a sovereign state, need we jump to wars as the consequence? As I see it, this is the crucial question; a 'nay' makes disarmament

And why should not nations exist and form without rupturing society? Essentially a nation is a group of people possessing a tradition and owning an ideal; their real bond is in the immaterial kingdom of thought—their culture, if you choose—and it does not seem incredibly Utopian to look for an advent wherein peoples should find pleasure in, rather than take umbrage at the differing cultural complexions of earth's nations.

KONESKY CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS FOR YEAR

The Komensky club met Saturday evening at Faculty hall and elected the following officers for the ensuing year. President, Adolph Brazda, vice-president, Rosa Belchavy, secretary and treasurer, Charles Luke, sergeant-at-arms, Blanche Votapka and Charles Novatny.

The president appointed a social committee and membership committee. Plans were made for the next meeting November 12. Arrangements have been made for regular meetings to be held at faculty hall every second and fourth Saturday of each month.

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