

WOMEN WELL CARED FOR ON THE FRONT

British Government Careful of Feminine Workers Attached to the Army.

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Headquarters of Women's Auxiliary Corps, British Lines in France, Aug. 15.—When it was decided to employ women with the British army in France, the main difficulty that arose lay in the question of housing. Accommodation in France had been prepared solely in accordance with the requirements of male troops, and modifications and adaptations for the use of women required careful consideration.

The camps and hotels for the women workers had to be fully equipped, within reasonable distance from the places of employment, and on a somewhat higher standard of comfort than was required then for the men.

With the co-operation of the military authorities, preliminary arrangements were so rapidly carried out that within a month after the decision to send women to France everything was ready for the first groups of workers. These crossed the channel at the end of April, this year. At present the women's quarters are principally in hotted camps, and in hostels taken over by the corps at the end of the camps accommodate from twenty-eight to 500 women each. Their total accommodation has reached a figure over 4,000.

Each camp, however small, is under the charge of a women administrator responsible for the comfort and well-being of its occupants and for their discipline outside office hours.

The question is often asked, is the discipline of the women workers very strict? The question of discipline was a subject of careful consideration. The women of the auxiliary corps cannot be treated as children; they are carefully chosen in the first instance and are doing responsible work. For this reason a great deal of liberty is given them and the rules and regulations are not stringent.

Members of the corps must wear their uniforms on all occasions; there are certain restrictions regarding admission to cafes and estaminets in France. There are occasional roll-calls at the hostels, but out of office hours the women are allowed a great deal of liberty. The administrator may sanction invitations to men to the public recreation rooms of the hostel.

Should Be Led.

The idea in enforcing discipline among the women workers is that they should be led, not driven, and that much depends on the administrator, who acts as leader, still more on the manner in which the individual members respond to the trust reposed in them to keep up the personal credit and the honor of the corps. It speaks well for the success of the system that after an experience of three months in France only three girls have been returned to England and they for an act which showed more stupidity than deliberate indiscipline.

The administrators are carefully chosen, being in many cases teachers in girls schools or housekeepers in schools or large institutions. Others are women trained in welfare work or university women who have had experience in similar work. To fit them for their special work in France all women chosen for administrators receive instruction before being sent out to take up their duties.

Recruits for the women's army are very carefully selected in England. Each candidate must furnish two references, which are carefully consulted. Then the candidate is sent before a selection board and a medical board, both of whom have set a fairly high standard. Approved candidates are "called up" to a receiving depot after a short time allowed them for making preparations. On arriving at the receiving depot the candidates are solemnly enrolled and required to sign their formal agreements before a military officer. They stay at the receiving hostel about three weeks, during which time they are inoculated and vaccinated, fitted with uniforms and taught some elementary marching drill. They also attend lectures on the work before them. These three weeks are very valuable; the women make friends among their future associates and begin to get a little of that valuable "esprit de corps"—pride in their work and understanding of its value and importance.

When the first batch of recruits came to take possession of the big receiving hostel in London they were told that the beds had not yet arrived and that they would have to sleep on straw filled mattresses stretched over planks. Not a protest was made, although vaccination and inoculation soon gave aches and pains to several of them; on the contrary they rejoiced in the temporary discomfort as "part of the game."

"A Bank Book Better Reading Than a Novel"

In the memory of his son, whose life war has claimed, Harry Lauder, famous Scotch comedian, is making his appearance at army camps and cantonments throughout the country under the auspices of the army and navy Young Men's Christian association, and he has demonstrated again and again that his own personal sorrow has not lessened his almost magical power to make other men laugh. He always has something to say about thrift and the thrift campaign. As a Scotchman, though a comedian, Harry Lauder has a number of thrift maxims which he insists ought to be observed by everyone.

Here are some of them:
 "Behave toward your purpose as you would to your best friend."
 "View the reckless spending of money as criminal and shun the company of the reckless spender."
 "Dress neatly, but not lavishly. A bank pays a higher rate of interest than your bank."
 "Take your amusements judiciously. You will enjoy them better."
 "Don't throw away the crusts—eat them. They are nourishing as beef."
 "It is more exhilarating to feel money in your pocket than beer in your stomach."
 "Remember it only takes 20 shillings to make a pound and 12 pence to make a shilling."
 "You can sleep better after a hard day's work than after a hard day's idleness."
 "Get good value from your tradesmen. They watch out that they get good money from you."
 "A bank book makes good reading—better than some novels."—Philadelphia Times.

Official Document From German Secret Archives, Signed by Bethmann-Hollweg, Shows Germany Deliberately Forced War

(By Associated Press.)

Paris, March 2.—Two historic documents, one showing the German government's determination to force war upon France and the other setting forth the reasons which induced Germany to take Alsace-Lorraine were made public today by Stephen Pichon, the French foreign minister.

The minister was speaking at the Sorbonne, upon the anniversary of the protest made by representatives of the national assembly of Alsace and Lorraine, against annexation to Germany.

"I will establish by documents," said M. Pichon, "that the day the Germans deliberately rendered inevitable the most frightful of wars they tried to dishonor us by the most cowardly complicity in the ambush into which they drew Europe. I will establish it in the revelation of a document that the German chancellor, after having drawn up preserved carefully, and you will see why, in the most profound mystery of the most secret archives."

"We have known only recently of its authenticity and it defies any sort of attempt to disprove it. It bears the signature of Bethmann-Hollweg (German imperial chancellor at the outbreak of the war) and the date, July 31, 1914. On that day von Schoen (German ambassador to France) was charged by a telegram from his chancellor to notify us of a state of danger of war with Russia and to ask us to remain neutral, giving us 18 hours in which to reply."

"What was unknown until today was that the telegram of the German chancellor, containing these instructions, terminated with these words:

"If the French government declares it will remain neutral, your excellency will be good enough to declare that we must, as a guarantee of its neutrality require the handing over of the fortresses of Toul and Verdun; that we will occupy them and will restore them

after the end of the war with Russia. A reply to this last question must reach here before Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock."

"That," said M. Pichon, "is how Germany wanted peace at the moment when she declared war. That is how since she was pretending that we obliged her to take up arms for her defense. That is the price she intended to make us pay for our baseness if we had the infamy to repudiate our signature as Prussia repudiated hers by tearing up the treaty that guaranteed the neutrality of Belgium."

"Our mortal enemy in the war of 1871, von Moltke, declared on the morrow of the treaty of Frankfurt," added M. Pichon on taking up the question of Alsace-Lorraine, "that it would require no less than 50 years to wean the heart of her lost provinces from France."

M. Pichon contrasted the German acceptance then that the provinces were in reality French, with the reiterated pretensions of German statesmen since, especially the assertions of former Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and the present Chancellor, Count von Hertling, that most of the provinces were always German.

The foreign minister made public for the first time the full text of a letter written by William I., the grandfather of the present German emperor, to Empress Eugenie. The letter is dated Versailles, October 26, 1870:

"After the immense sacrifices for her defense," read M. Pichon, "Germany desires to be assured that the next war will find her better prepared to repel the aggression upon which she can count as soon as France shall have repaired her forces and gained allies. This is the melancholy consideration alone, and not a desire to augment my country, whose territory is sufficiently great that obliges me to insist upon the cession of territories that has no other object than to throw back to the starting point the French armies that in the future will come to attack us."

Former Swift Employee Now Member of 160th Aero Squadron

James B. Coleman, jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Coleman, 2716 South Sixteenth street, and brother of Mrs. A. A. Johnston, 3423 Webster street, has been visiting relatives and friends in Omaha for several days.

He is with the 160th aero squadron, stationed at Park field, Memphis, Tenn. He says he likes life in the army.

He was with Swift & Co., packers, before he enlisted in the army.



WOMEN JUDGES SIT IN RUSSIAN COURTS

Feminine Magistrates Part of General Judicial Reform in New Democracy.

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Petrograd, Aug. 14.—The reform of Russia's judicial system, proceeding rapidly under the provisional government, has brought with it the institution of women magistrates, unknown elsewhere in Europe.

The higher courts already have been reformed. One of the new government's first acts was to reintroduce the famous "Judicial Statute," promulgated by Alexander II in 1864 during his brief reforming fit after the Crimean war, but abolished by his reactionary successors. The reform of the minor local courts, the

peasant courts and the police courts is a more complicated task, but virtually it is accomplished.

Chief of the reform of the courts of the peace, corresponding to police courts in other European states. The system of peasant jurisdiction also has been reformed by the abolition of the volost courts.

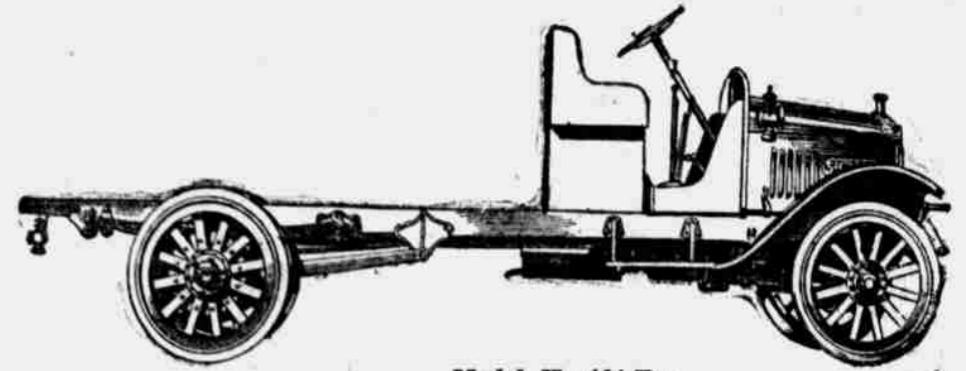
Before the revolution the real judicial authority in the villages was the "Rural Chief" or Zemski Nachalnik, usually retired army officer or other person without legal training, who also was administrator of peasant affairs; and therefore was often

in a position to justify as magistrate his own illegal acts as administrator. The rural chiefs have all been dismissed and, for the peasants as already ready for the so-called "privileged classes," justice definitely is severed from administration.

Reform is Radical.

The reform of the courts of the peace is radical. Formerly a single magistrate of the peace sat in judgment. In future three magistrates will sit, the chairman having the rank of justice of the peace and the two others being members of the peace court. The electoral principle on American lines is introduced. By a law of June, 1912, the old government consented to election of peace magistrates; but the law was only partially put in force, as it was distasteful to reactionary ministers. The law of 1912 will now everywhere be put in force.

The qualification for voting for the magistrates has been democratized, as was demanded in 1912 by all progressive parties in the Duma. Henceforth any person of either sex, more than twenty-five years old, who has passed a secondary school or higher school examination may be elected justice of the peace. This opens the position of petty judge to practically all women of the middle and upper classes and to many women from the poorer classes. Men and women without this educational qualification may be elected if they have had legal experience as court officials or lawyer's clerks. As subordinate "members of the peace court," sitting with the chairman or chairwoman, any man or woman who can read or write may be elected.



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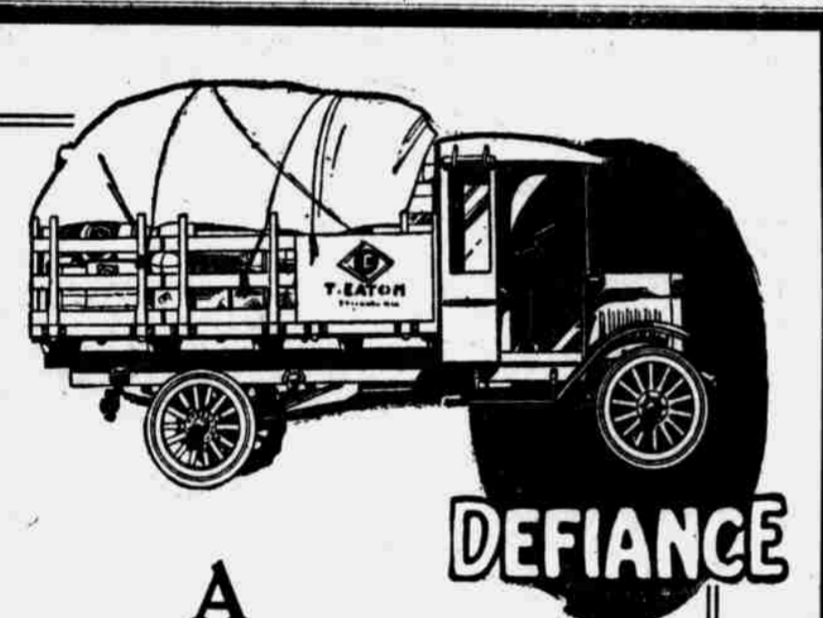
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