

CHRISTMAS EVE

Miss Josephine Krick, This City, Tells of Experience in Hospital

AT MESVES, FRANCE German Prisoners and American Wounded Heroes Enjoy Event.

Christmas in a hospital in France is described by Miss Josephine Krick, a Red Cross nurse, in a letter to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Krick:

Xmas Night, Mesves, France

A. P. O. 798, A. E. F.

My Dear Mother and All:

This is Xmas night and I wouldn't mind being home telling you all we did last night and today but since that isn't possible why I'll try and write you about it.

Barring the mud and the rain we have had a very pleasant Xmas. I've been on night duty two weeks now and it has rained every night. I wish I could give you some idea of the mud but here words fail. I'll tell you what I did in my ward and then you can get an idea of what all the wards did.

The boys went out in the woods near here and gathered mistletoe and holly. Really they're the most beautiful holly here I've ever seen—the leaves are so green and shiny and so many red berries on every sprig. We completely covered the rafters in the ward with holly, mistletoe and shrubbery. They made a beautiful arch of holly over the doorway. I sent to Cosme for some crepe paper red and green, which by the way is very expensive here (a franc a sheet). We made fancy light shades from it. The boys strung cotton for snow and put it with the green decorations. They hung holly wreaths in each window (there are about forty-eight). The Red Cross gave each ward a Christmas tree and decorations for it. They also filled two socks for each man. They contained nuts, cigars, matches, chewing gum, candy and khaki handkerchiefs.

We also made candy for each man and filled baskets with candy and dates for each lad. Xmas eve we had a party. We took off our old gray uniforms for a change and put on our white ones. We made cocoa for the crowd and the mess sergeant gave us doughnuts. We lighted the tree and during our party the orchestra played about half an hour. The boys enjoyed it immensely. We didn't allow and sob music but all snappy, popular stuff. After they'd all gone to sleep, my night ward man hung the socks on the bed and this morning as they awakened, the first man awake gave a yell and soon all were awake. A bunch of nurses and Red Cross workers went from ward to ward singing Christmas carols.

For breakfast all our lads had hot cakes; for dinner, a regular feast—turkey—etc. They fixed a table in the ward for those who are out of bed. We had place cards and everything quite classy—plenty of cigars and cigarettes for them to smoke. This p. m. the orchestra gave a short concert in each ward. Tonight there's a movie at the recreational hall for the convalescent patients.

At the nurses mess hall we had our Christmas dinner, 6 p. m. We had turkey with dressing, mashed potatoes, peas, gravy, candy, salted nuts, dates, and coffee. Tonight there's a dance over there but I'm on duty instead.

One of our wards we have quite a few German prisoners. They have decorated their end of the ward up in real Christmas style. Each fellow has a canopy of mistletoe over his bed and lighted candles all around it. They were singing Christmas carols tonight and they surely can sing. They just fly around and help around the ward. When you see them sitting up on a bed with a bunch of our soldiers you scarcely realize that they were fighting against each other last month.

Our wards are much lighter now than they have been. We haven't received any new patients for some time.

Did I tell you that while making my night rounds the other night I ran across Sergeant Paul Myers? I wouldn't have noticed him but he called to me. He's getting along nicely.

I got a letter from Mayme the other day and intend answering it soon. How are Virgil and Muriel by this time? I have to prepare midnight lunch so will have to go. I don't think it will be necessary to fix much tonight for no one will be hungry.

As ever,

J. KICK.

MUST INCREASE FOOD EXPORTS

America Called on by End of War to Supply Added Millions.

ECONOMY STILL NEEDED.

Over Three Times Pre-War Shipments Required—Situation in Wheat and Fats Proves Government's Policy Sound.

With the guns in Europe silenced, we have now to consider a new world food situation. But there can be no hope that the volume of our exports can be heightened to the slightest degree with the cessation of hostilities. Millions of people liberated from the Prussian yoke are now depending upon us for the food which will keep them from starvation.

With food the United States made it possible for the forces of democracy to hold out to victory. To insure democracy in the world, we must continue to live simply in order that we may supply these liberated nations of Europe with food. Hunger among a people inevitably breeds anarchy. American food must complete the work of making the world safe for democracy.

Last year we sent 11,820,000 tons of food to Europe. For the present year, with only the European Allies to feed, we had originally pledged ourselves to a program that would have increased our exports to 17,500,000 tons. Now, to feed the liberated nations, we will have to export a total of not less than 20,000,000 tons—practically the limit of loading capacity at our ports. Reviewing the world food situation, we find that some foods will be obtainable in quantities sufficient to meet all world needs under a regime of economical consumption. On the other hand, there will be marked world shortages in some important commodities.

Return to Normal Bread Loaf.

With the enlarged wheat crops which American farmers have grown, and the supplies of Australia, the Argentine and other markets now accessible to shipping, there are bread grains enough to enable the nations to return to their normal wheat loaf, provided we continue to mill flour at a high percentage of extraction and maintain economy in eating and the avoidance of waste.

In fats there will be a heavy shortage—about 8,000,000,000 pounds—in pork products, dairy products and vegetable oils. While there will be a shortage of about three million tons rich protein feeds for dairy animals, there will be sufficient supplies of other feedstuffs to allow economical consumption.

In the matter of beef, the world's supplies are limited to the capacity of the available refrigerating ships. The supplies of beef in Australia, the Argentine and the United States are sufficient to load these ships. There will be a shortage in the importing countries, but we cannot hope to expand exports materially for the next months in view of the bottle neck in transportation.

We will have a sufficient supply of sugar to allow normal consumption in this country if the other nations retain their present short rations or increase them only slightly. For the countries of Europe, however, to increase their present rations to a material extent will necessitate our sharing a part of our own supplies with them.

Twenty Million Tons of Food.

Of the world total, North America will furnish more than 60 per cent.

The United States, including the West Indies, will be called upon to furnish 20,000,000 tons of food of all kinds as compared with our pre-war exports of about 6,000,000 tons.

While we will be able to change our program in many respects, even a casual survey of the world supplies in comparison to world demands shows conclusively that Europe will know famine unless the American people bring their home consumption down to the barest minimum that will maintain health and strength.

There are conditions of famine in Europe that will be beyond our power to remedy. There are 40,000,000 people in North Russia whom there is small chance of reaching with food this winter. Their transportation is demoralized in complete anarchy, and shortly many of their ports will be frozen, even if internal transport could be realized.

To Preserve Civilization.

At this moment Germany has not alone sucked the food and animals from all those masses of people she has dominated and left starving, but she has left behind her a total wreckage of social institutions, and this mass of people is now confronted with absolute anarchy.

If we value our own safety and the social organization of the world, if we value the preservation of civilization itself, we cannot permit growth of this cancer in the world's vitals.

Famine is the mother of anarchy.

From the inability of governments to secure food for their people grows revolution and chaos. From an ability to supply their people grows stability of government and the defeat of anarchy. Did we put it on no higher plane than our interests in the protection of our institutions, we must better ourselves in solution of this problem.

As ever,

J. KICK.

BASE BALL GAMES

May be Forbidden by Ad-ded Forces Against Sun-day Picture Shows.

IN LEGISLATIVE HALL

Bureau of Information to be Re-established—New Bills Presented.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 12—(Special to Daily Democrat)—A bill which would authorize the sterilization of mental defectives to prevent them from having children, will be introduced in the house of representatives shortly. Representative Barker of Boone announced today. Barker stated that he would father the bill. Barker announced that Representative Tuthill of Michigan City had agreed to support the bill, along with other members of the lower house.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 12—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Forces which have been opposing the bill legalizing Sunday movie picture shows, have gone to the support of the Duncan bill which would repeal the law permitting Sunday baseball games. According to sentiments expressed by members of the senate, they will not favor the Duncan bill in sufficient numbers to pass the measure. The senators generally regard baseball as a wholesome, clean sport which may be indulged in on Sunday by young men without harm.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 12—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Opponents of the Bernard garnishee bill today pointed out a "joker," which they believe will render the measure impotent.

The bill allows garnishment of a person's wages to the extent of ten per cent. to pay bills. However, it provides that all costs in connection with the garnishee action, above \$5, must be paid by the person, or firm seeking the garnishee. This, it is pointed out, would permit the defendant to appeal the case to all courts, demand a trial by jury and cause other such court actions which would make the costs prohibitive for the plaintiff.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 12—(Special to Daily Democrat)—Establishment of a legislative bureau of information by the present session of the general assembly seems practically certain. The bureau was wiped out by the 1917 session, through failure to appropriate sufficient funds for its maintenance. A bill re-establishing the bureau has been passed by the senate and it is probable that it will receive favorable action in the house. The measure would place supervision of the bureau under the direction of the presidents of Indiana and Purdue universities. It appropriates \$12,000 a year for carrying on the work of the bureau. Besides getting out the year book which is issued by state departments, containing annual reports of the work of officials, the bureau would collect and classify information regarding legislative matters. The salary of the director of the bureau is limited to \$5,600 a year. Charles Kettolborough is now head of the year book department and has been aiding some legislators in drafting the bill.

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Our food Gospel

eat less serve less waste nothing

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J. KICK.

MEAT PRODUCERS DID FULL DUTY

Increase in American Hogs Will Help to Meet World Fat Shortage.

FARMERS SAVE SITUATION.

Government Justified in Stimulation of Pork Production—Sevenfold Increase Over Pre-war Exports.

Through increased production and conservation we will be able this year to export seven times our pre-war average exports of pork products. With the heavy demands added in caring for the millions who have been freed from German oppression, the Department of Agriculture and the Food Administration are justified today in our every action of stimulation of hog production. In the coming year the greatest world shortage will be in fats, and pork will help to save this situation. The efficacy of the policy of stimulated production has built up in this country supplies which will enable us to supply a very large part of the fat deficiency of the world. In beef there must be a shortage in Europe, due largely to limited refrigerator ship capacity. All freezer ships available, however, will be filled by America, Argentina and Australia.

The contribution made by the producers of this country to the war program as applying particularly to animal food products is illustrated by the following:

Reports compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture indicate an increase in cattle of 10,238,000 head and 12,441,000 hogs. These figures were compiled to January 1 last.

In this period there was a decrease in sheep of \$19,000 head. The indications are that this decrease will show an increase, according to recent reports.

Since January 1 unofficial information indicates an increase in hogs of not less than 8 per cent. and not more than 15 per cent. as compared with one year ago, with an increase in the average weight.

Following the request of the U. S. Food Administration for an increase in hog production for marketing in the fall of 1918 and the spring of 1919 the increase may yield not less than 1,600,000,000 pounds more of hog products than were available last year. Without this increase the shipping program arranged by Mr. Hoover regarding animal food products would have been impeded.

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J. KICK.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of the school of Decatur, Indiana, has determined by proper resolution duly adopted and entered of record, that the urgent public necessities do now exist and has voted for the installation of a new heating and ventilating plant, and in making repairs to the Central School building heretofore erected for or which will be erected, realized from existing levies made for that purpose and available therefore, and on account thereof, it will be necessary to borrow money and create a debt of said school city, and to issue and sell the bonds of said school city for said purpose, the aggregate amount of said debt thus proposed to be created by the issue and sale of bonds in the sum of \$4,000.00: said debt proposed to be created shall be evidenced by the bonds of said school city bearing date of February 20, 1919, issued in series of \$500.00 each, making a total of eight bonds, the first of which bonds shall be due and payable on the 20th day of June, 1920, and one bond on the 20th day of December and June thereafter, until all are paid. Said bonds shall bear four and one-half per cent interest from date, payable semi-annually.

The repairs so made and to be made to said Central School building aforementioned will consist and does consist of a heating and ventilating system together with all necessary appliances and connections to completely install the same.

R. D. MYERS,
J. D. FERGUSON,
A. D. SUTTLES,
Board of School Trustees of the School City of Decatur, Ind. 29-5-12

NOTICE TO BIDDERS.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Adams County, Indiana, will receive sealed bids for one adding machine suitable for and to be used in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, on

Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1919, beginning at 10 o'clock a. m., on said