PARKER IS PROUD OF NATIONAL ARMY

CUSTER HEAD SAYS MICHIGAN GUARD IS BEST QUALIFIED TO GO TO FRONT.

CLOTHING SHORTAGE SERIOUS

Thousands of Uniforms at Custer Cannot Be Used Because Sizes Sent Are Too Small.

Leading

Major-General James Parker, commanding the Eighty-fifth division at Camp Custer, before the Rotary club at Battle Creek, praised Michigan soldiers in the National Guard and national army, and declared there was great need for speed in training to reinforce the Allies, for it would be a year before the United States could put a million men in France.

He described personal experiences in France; how he had seen devastations around Soissons, every house blown up, the orchards ruined, etc.

"It is no wonder that the French and English soldiers have an unutterable hatred for the Germans," he said.

"The condition of the English and French army is superb.

"The odds are with the Allies now. They have a preponderance of artillery and well-trained troops. The English and French line will never be pierced.

"The Thirty-second division, consisting of Michigan and Wisconsin national guardsmen, now at Waco and reinforced by 3,000 selects from Camp Custer is the best qualified of any National Guard division to go to the front."

Clothing Shortage Serious.

Following the announcement of the quartermaster-general's department of a delinquency in delivery of clothing, shoes and blanket contracts of from 6 to 48 per cent, army authorities at Camp Custer have admitted that the protracted delay in the arrival of proper clothing is causing serious difficulties.

The root of the trouble seems to be that Michigan and Wisconsin men are too big for army clothing.

The matter, which has dragged on for some weeks, came to a head when a shipment of clothing rushed to the cantonment by express to equip men of the last contingent who have not been uniformed, was found to consist largely of small sizes. Of 10,676 blouses, 7,334 are too small to use; of 19,944 woolen breeches 2,709 are too small to be issued.

The great difficulty seems to be in procuring suitable sizes. Enough garments have been received to clothe the present division and all the men it has transferred to other points, but there has been such an overwhelming preponderance of small sizes that hundreds of men are still wearing the civilian clothes in which they came to camp.

One of the most pressing needs is shoes. Thousands upon thousands of shoes have been received, but the sizes run small. For instance, out of the last 50,000 pairs received 40 per cent were below size 8, and few men can wear a size 8 army shoe, if their feet are properly fitted:

Another vital need is socks. The men must have plenty of them, and they are skimping along on the minimum number, with the supply dwindling daily. Men in some organizations are being sent out to drill to work on the rifle range in the morning and then called in at noon and asked to turn their shoes over to other recruits who in turn go out for training.

Army Raises Ban on Married Men.

Because it seems to be the policy of the war department to interpose a great force of Americans to aid in checking the Germans' western drive at the earliest possible moment, the ban on married men in the armed forces of the nation has been lifted so far as the volunteer army is concerned.

To permit the enlistment of married men under the same conditions as is provided for single men, army regulations which said this sort of thing should be discouraged, have been suspended, according to a bulletin from Secretary of War Baker.

That the new order means the re-enlistment of many of the 500 guardsmen who were discharged from the Michigan forces last summer because they had dependents is the opinion of officers of the former state guard now training at Waco, Texas. Wisconsin leaders also believe that numbers of trained men in the Badger state will re-enlist.

Among the men discharged because they were married and had dependents were many border veterans.

Farm Agents, Make Plans for 1918.

County agricultural agents, extension specialists and state representatives of the department of agriculture gathered at the M. A. C. to formulate working plans of the college and state agencies for assisting the farmer in 1918. The conference, in addition to planning unified action in every part of the state, decided from what angles the labor problem shall be approached, what will be done towards augmenting the seed corn supply and the policy to be pursued with fertilizers.

Hardwood Firemen in State Employ.

The public domain commission has taken over the fire fighting forces formerly operated by the Michigan Hardwood Protective association, with offices at Gaylord. The association will be under state control, state direction and state pay. The men will be directed by William J. Pearson, of Boyne Falls, chief fire warden of the state. Lee Morford, the present secretary of the association, will be given a state commission without pay, with headquarters at Gaylord.

Foreigners Seek Discharge.

Every man in the 85th division has been given a final opportunity to make a claim for exemption. And almost every foreign-born recruit has asked to be relieved from service.

The new rules of the selective conscription national board permit recruits who feel they did not receive a full hearing before local boards, to take their case up with their command ing general on arrival at the concentration camp. It was felt at Camp Custer, however, that it would be unfair to afford this privilege only to the men of the late contingents and the order was interpreted so that every recruit, both new and old was given a chance to present a claim.

The proportion of American born recruits who asked for another hearing was very small, and in almost every instance the man recited the fact that newly arisen cases of dependency prompted him. The birth of children was one of the common reasons given.

The foreign-born soldiers, however, came forward almost in a body to ask exemption. They filed a widely varying but generally insufficient list of pleas.

This problem of the unwillingness of the foreign born to serve is the cause of constant worry to the commanding officers.

Clothing Not Burned at Custer.

No, they are not burning recruits' civilian clothing at Camp Custer. Spike rumor No. 11,444 as a falsehood. No clothing has been burned and none will be burned.

Men who go there are permitted to dispose of their clothing in any way they see fit. They can send it home, they may sell it to secondhand dealers, or they may turn it over to the Belgian relief commissioon, which has a very active organization in camp.

This new evidence of what division headquarters has termed "enemy propaganda," came in a letter of inquiry mailed from a point in southern Michigan. The letter set forth the fact that the rumor had ben circulated among women who were knitting sweaters, mufflers and wristlets for the soldiers.

Starting rumors that Camp Custer is burning food, lumber and clothing seems to be a popular sport.

Michigan Guardsmen Go Next.

The place to train troops is near the theater of war, where the booming guns get into the blood, where the whir of aeroplanes controlling the sky mingles with the roar of artillery, where personal contact with men who have been in the thick of the fray cause the blood of Americans to run faster in their veins. The sooner we get our men to France the sooner they will be ready for battle."

That is the message Major-General James M. Parker, who is now in command of the Eighty-fifth division at Camp Custer, delivered to the people of Michigan when he received the camp's correspondents. He also added that Michigan might be proud of the showing made by her boys in the Thirty-second division, now training at Waco, because they have been selected as the next contingent of fighters to go abroad and enter the arena of war.

CAMP CUSTER NOTES

It takes about 200 carloads of coal a month to heat Camp Custer.

A class has been opened for intelligence officers. French and British officers lecture.

There are now more than 6,000 horses and mules in this cantonment's remount depots.

Twelve hundred of the most modern gas masks superior to the best now used in Europe, have arrived in camp for use in the gas defense service course.

British and French officers here are inclined to look askance at the vast amount of entertainment showered on the men. They believe there is too much of the "pink tea" feature in this camp.

The advent of real winter has caused a myriad of colds and throat affections, all of which are of a minor nature but serious enough to make it advisable to keep the men in barracks. Measles are also on the increase.

Photographers, professional or amateur, caught taking pictures of wooden guns or other makeshift equipment being used by the soldiers in Camp Custer until their actual equipment arrives have been ordered placed under immediate arrest.

A card index system has been adopted to record scores made by each man on the rifle ranges. Some of the records are surprising the officers. One fact being rapidly established is that men who never before fired a rifle are beating the records of old hunters and shooting enthusiasts. It is explained that many men, experts with shotguns and in their own peculiar way, have acquired habits not easy to change, while the beginner is amendable to instruction.

An English captain has charge of the sniping course in Camp Custer. The best shots have been selected for this course.

Of the 750 men to receive instructions in the officer's training school which opens here in January, 114 will come from civil life while the remainder are being chosen from among the enlisted men. It was announced that the majority of the instructors for this school will be chosen from among the line officers who received their training at the Fort Sheridan camp.

Of the 52 Y. M. C. A. secretaries who constituted the force at the opening of camp, 15 have enlisted in the United States army or navy.

Deserters may expect stiff sentences. According to word received here a sentence of 20 years' imprisonment at hard labor, dishonorable discharge from the army and forfeiture of pay was imposed on Lawrence W. Trefenphen, private of the 54th depot brigade, Camp Meade, Maryland, charged with desertion. Trefenphen was absent from October 1 to October 27, when he was arrested at Staunton, Va.

1—British in Palestine laying a telephone cable with the aid of a chariot drawn by camels. 2—Huge German guns of a new model being hurried up to the western front. 3—Highlander in a gas sentry post ready to spread the alarm when the Germans let loose the poisonous fumes.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

COSSACKS UNDER KORNILOFF AND KALEDINES FIGHTING THE BOLSHEVIKI.

LENINE'S RULE TOTTERING

Germans Prepare for Great Offensive on Western Front—Haig Repulses Their First Attacks—Italians Still Holding Piave River Line—Our War Preparation Methods Are Being Investigated.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Speculating on what has happened in Russia and what is about to happen has become a favorite occupation of the rest of the world. Dispatches from Petrograd, where the means of communication are controlled by the bolsheviki, are wholly unreliable, and news from other sources is fragmentary and conflicting. At this writing the facts appear to be about as follows: In southern and southeastern Russia the Cossacks, who stand for law and order, are fighting the bolshevik forces; in Petrograd and Moscow Lenine and his crowd are maintaining themselves in power by using the strong hand, arresting and murdering their opponents and bulldozing the constituent assembly, which began its sessions; the Russian armies on the east front, following the arrangement of an armistice, are rapidly disbanding, and the Roumanians were forced to accept an armistice by the action of their allies; but the negotiations for peace started by the bolsheviki have run against a snag in the extraordinary demands made by the Germans; many different parts of Russia have declared their independence, and Siberia shows signs of reverting to the rule of the deposed czar; Vladivostok, where are immense quantities of supplies sent by America and the entente allies, is patrolled by Japanese troops, and Harbin is being protected by Chinese soldiers.

If this is a correct statement of conditions at the close of the week, it would be a bold man who would predict the immediate future.

Reports of Battle Contradictory.

According to official bolsheviki dispatches from Petrograd, the Cossacks under Kornilof were defeated early in the week near Belgorod, but another account of the battle said Kornilof routed his opponents, that many of them joined his forces and that he surrounded the others and "dealt with them very drastically." General Kaledines, the Cossack hetman, also is active in southern Russia and it is said to be his hope, with the aid of the allies, at least to shut the Germans out of the food-producing part of the country.

Wireless reports from Rostov, which did not reach the outside world until Thursday, said Kaledines was besieging that city and that within Rostov the Cossacks had been fighting the bolsheviki and destroyed their headquarters. At the same time a transport manned by bolsheviki was bombarding the Kaledines forces.

Bitterly disappointing to the bolshevikl must be the German demands made in the peace negotiations, and at this distance it is hard to see what may be the kaiser's purpose in being so severe. His commissioners are reported to have insisted that Germany shall not give up any Russian territory she now occupies; that Petrograd must be evacuated until peace is concluded; that the Ukraine shall be ceded to Austria-Hungary; that Germany shall control the Russian wheat market for fifteen years and German goods shall be admitted to Russia duty free. The armistice, it is said, is to continue for three months. Germany seemingly evaded the Russian demand that during its continuance no troops be moved to other fronts, and meanwhile has been transferring hundreds of thousands of soldiers to France and Italy.

Germans Preparing for Great Attack.

All the signs during the early part of the week led to the belief that the Germans were preparing for a supreme effort at some point of the west front. Allied aviators observed long motor trains carrying vast numbers of troops and immense quantities of supplies, and for days the German artillery was excessively active. Various feeling-out movements were undertaken against the French without success, and on Wednesday the Germans made three violent attacks on the British between Bullecourt and Queant. The first two were repulsed and the third gave the enemy possession of an already obliterated trench at the apex of the angle in the British lines.

This, of course, was not the main attack planned by Von Hindenburg, who, it was believed, would soon start his greatest offensive on the west in two years, with the assistance of many Austrian divisions. The British and French were on tiptoe to meet it, and it was taken for granted that some at least of General Pershing's American forces would have a part in the battle. Indeed, some observers predicted that an attempt would be made to smash that part of the line toward Alsace where most of the Americans have been stationed. Others believed the main attack of the Germans would be delivered against the French between Reims and Verdun.

Italian Front Seems Safe.

For several days the Austrians, Hungarians and Germans made continuous and heavy assaults on the Italians between the Piave and Brenta rivers north of Monte Grappa. The fighting was severe and the losses large, but the enemy made slight impression on the Italian line, gaining a precarious foothold in some positions on Monts Spinoncia and Col Orso. The Italians are fighting with the utmost determination and are greatly cheered by the prospect of American help. On Thursday a large number of American ambulance men with their cars left Rome for the Piave river front. It is interesting to note that the first American shot against Austria was fired by Representative Tinkham of Massachusetts on the lower Piave. On invitation of an Italian officer he sent a big shell hurtling across to the Austrian line, regardless of the fact that if the enemy should capture him he could be executed as a "franc-tireur."

Bearing out the statement that the Teutonic effort in Italy has exhausted itself is the welcome news that heavy snow is falling in the mountains at the west end of the front, rendering difficult the further transportation of men and material. The Italians, however, expect to hold the enemy by strength of arms rather than with the aid of nature.

The Italian navy is doing its part in the defense and on Sunday eight a torpedo boat flotilla entered the harbor of Trieste and sank two Austrian battleships, one of them being the Wien.

Occupation of Jerusalem.

The occupation of Jerusalem by General Allenby's expedition caused great rejoicing among Christians and Jews of the civilized world. The event has more than a sentimental value, for the possession of the Holy City by the British makes safe the Suez canal and provides them with a base from which to threaten seriously the Turks to the east and north. In conjunction with the British operations in Mesopotamia, Allenby's success in Palestine is very important to the cause of the allies. As was predicted, Jerusalem was taken without the necessity of a bombardment, and its captors are adequately protecting the holy places.

In Mesopotamia General Falkenhayn launched his expected offensive, attacking General Marshall's army with a strong force of Turks and Germans. The British were compelled to fall back across the Diala and Edkem rivers with the enemy in pursuit. It is taken for granted that Falkenhayn's intention is to make a great effort to recapture Bagdad.

Though the number of British vessels sunk by submarines, as reported by the admiralty, was still too large for comfort, those in a position to know assert that the U-boat campaign really has proved a failure and that the submersibles are being destroyed or captured almost as fast as Germany can build them. Moreover, the British shipyards are now turning out almost as much tonnage monthly as the Germans destroy, and are fast increasing their output.

Investigating Dilatory Methods.

The expected and inevitable attack on our methods of war preparation came last week in the form of an investigation by the senate committee on military affairs. Enough of what the committee learned in the first few days' work has been made public to show that the complaints and the inquiry are warranted. The brunt falls on the ordnance and quartermaster general's bureaus, though the chiefs of these bureaus are not considered personally to blame. The senators want to learn the real causes of the delay in supplying arms, artillery and all other munitions to the nation's fighting forces—a delay that is admitted and that is finally laid to the old red tape methods of the war department. Congress furnished plenty of money, and the question is why was it not expended quickly and wisely? General Pershing's troops, it appears, have had to rely on the British and French for artillery and other supplies, and the men in the American training camps have been very inadequately furnished with rifles, warm clothing and other necessities. These are only a few of the complaints the committee is investigating.

Secretary Baker's reply to criticism, an assertion that America's military preparations have evoked the admiration of the experts of other nations can scarcely be taken as an adequate defense of the methods of his department. In explaining the delay in obtaining machine guns General Crozier, chief of the ordnance bureau, declared that Mr. Baker himself was to blame. The whole thing should and probably will result in the creation of a real superior war council, and the sooner this is done, the better for America and the world.

The railroad question is claiming much attention of the administration and President Wilson intimated last week he would soon address congress on the matter and ask legislation. It appears he does not favor actual government ownership of the roads, but rather the creation of an administrator or board of transportation with power to direct the employment of the joint resources of the railways in whatever manner is deemed best for war purposes. Under this plan the roads would be operated by their present managements and would be guaranteed a fair profit.

Leniency for Austro-Hungarians.

In his proclamation of a state of war against Austro-Hungary President Wilson announced an unexpectedly lenient policy in the treatment of subjects of the dual kingdom in America. So long as they behave themselves they are left free to reside and labor in the barred zones closed to Germans, and they are not required to register with the police and postmasters. This policy was hailed with joy by thousands of Czechs, Bohemians and Poles who hate Austria, and also was a great relief to many employers who had feared their industries would be crippled. If the conduct of the Austro-Hungarians shows they deserve properly appreciate this leniency they will be placed under the same restrictions that apply to subjects of Germany.

In prosecuting his campaign for the conservation of food needed for the fighting forces, Mr. Hoover last week added a porkless day, Saturday, which he asks everyone to observe. In addition to the wheatless and meatless days, he urges a wheatless and a meatless meal each day. The federal trade commission having been informed that canned goods are being hoarded in the warehouses of the meat packers, an investigation of this was started at once.

The coal situation is becoming more and more serious with the increasing cold weather. The administrations of various states are complaining bitterly of the hardship imposed on their people, and in Ohio only the state intervention of Fuel Administrator Garfield prevented Governor Cox from seizing the coal at the lake ports. In the senate the conditions brought out severe criticism of the railroads and of the government priority board.

Several more of the American railway engineers in France have been killed this time by aerial bombs dropped by the Germans in a town through which the engineers were passing.

The successful military revolution in Portugal is causing the allied governments some uneasiness, for while the new government set up announced that Portugal would remain faithful to her pledges, the insurrection was directed against the most trusty friends of the allies, and some of them, including President Machado and Premier Costa, have been imprisoned. Dr. Sidonio Paes, who led the revolt, has been made premier and foreign minister.

OUTSIDE PALE OF HUMANITY

Frightfulness Taught by German Leaders Belongs to Age of Barbarism.

SOLEMN PLEDGE MERE WORDS

Kaiser's Statesmen Had No Intention of Keeping Faith With Their Agreement on International Law —Horrors Told by Diaries.

In giving to the American people the knowledge of German inhumanity in Belgium, says a pamphlet issued by the committee on public information, the evidence is drawn mainly from German and American sources. The German sources include official proclamations and other official utterances, letters and diaries of German soldiers, and quotations from German newspapers. The "Rules for Field Service" of the German army advises each soldier to keep such a diary while on active service.

In the wars waged in ancient times it was taken for granted that conquered peoples might be either killed, tortured, or held as slaves; that their property would be taken and that their lands would be devastated. "Vae victis!—woe to the conquered!" For two centuries or more there has been a steady advance in introducing ideas of humanity and especially in confining the evils of warfare to the combatants. The ideal seemed to have become so thoroughly established as a part of international law that the powers at The Hague thought it sufficient merely to state the general principles in Article XLVI of the regulations: "Family honors and rights, the lives of persons and private property, as well as religious convictions and practice, must be respected. Private property cannot be confiscated." Germany, in common with the other powers, solemnly pledged her faith to keep this article, but her military leaders had no intention of doing so. They had been trained in the ideas voiced by Gen. von Hartmann 40 years ago: "Terrorism is seen to be a relatively gentle protection, useful to keep the masses of the people in a state of obedience." This had been Bismarck's policy, too. According to Moritz Busch, Bismarck's biographer, Bismarck, exasperated by the French resistance, which was still continuing in January, 1871, said:

"If in the territory which we occupy, we cannot supply everything for our troops, from time to time we shall send a flying column into the localities which are recalcitrant. We shall shoot, hang and burn. After that has happened a few times, the inhabitants will finally come to their senses."

Horrors Told in Soldiers' Diaries.

The frightfulness taught by the German leaders held full sway in Belgium. This is best seen in the entries in the diaries of the individual German soldiers.

During the night of August 15-16 Engineer Gr. . . gave the alarm in the town of Visé. Every one was shot or taken prisoner, and the houses were burnt. The prisoners were made to march and keep up with the troops." (From the diary of noncommissioned officer Reinhold Koehn of the Second battalion of engineers, Third army corps.)

"A horrible bath of blood. The whole village burnt. The French thrown into the blazing houses, civilians with the rest." (From the diary of Private Hassemer of the Eighth army corps.)

"In the night of August 18-19 the village of Saint-Maurice was punished for having fired on German soldiers by being burnt to the ground by the German troops (two regiments, the Twelfth Landwehr and the Seventeenth.) The village was surrounded, men posted about a yard from one another, so that no one could get out. Then the Uhlans set fire to it, house by house. Neither man, woman, nor child could escape; only the greater part of the livestock we carried off, as that could be used. Anyone who ventured to come out was shot down. All the inhabitants left in the village were burnt with the houses." (From the diary of Private Karl Schenfele of the Third Bavarian regiment and landwehr infantry.)

"At ten o'clock in the evening the first battalion of the One hundred and Seventy-eighth marched down the steep incline into the burning village to the burning village to the north of Dinant. A terrific spectacle of ghastly beauty. At the entrance to the village lay about fifty dead civilians, shot for having fired upon our troops from ambush. In the course of the night many others were also shot, so that we counted over 200. Women and children, lamp in hand, were forced to look on at the horrible scene. We ate our rice later in the midst of the corpses, for we had had nothing since morning. When we searched the houses we found plenty of wine and spirit, but no eatables." Captain Hamions was drunk." (This last phrase in shorthand.) (From the diary of Private Philipp of the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth regiment of infantry, Twelfth army corps.)

Writing from Belgium in 1916 Irvin S. Cobb said:

"Briefly what I saw was this: I saw wide areas of Belgium and France in which not a penny's worth of wanton destruction had been permitted to occur, in which the ripe pears hung untouched upon the garden walls; and I saw other wide areas where scarcely one stone had been left upon another; where the fields were ravaged; where the main villagers had been shot in squads; where the miserable survivors had been left to den in holes, like wild beasts."

Even Soldiers Horrified.

Some German soldiers, we are glad to see, showed their horror at the foul deeds committed in Belgium.

"The inhabitants have fled in the village. It was horrible. There was clotted blood on all the beards, and what faces one saw, terrible to behold! The dead, 60 in all, were at once buried. Among them were many old women, some old men, and a half-delivered woman, awful to see; three children had clasped each other and died thus. The altar and the shrine of the church are shattered. They had a telephone there to communicate with the enemy. This morning, September 3, all the survivors were expelled, and I saw four little boys carrying a cradle, with a baby five or six months old in it, on two sticks. All this was terrible to see. Shot after shot! Thunderbolt after thunderbolt! Everything is given over to pillage; fowls and the rest all killed. Even a mother, too, with her two children, one has had a great wound on the head and had lost an eye." (From the diary of Lance Corporal Paul Spielman of the Ersatz, first brigade of infantry of the Guard.)

. . . . . In the night the inhabitants of Liège became mutinous. Forty persons were shot and 15 houses demolished, 10 soldiers shot. The nights here make you cry.

"On the 23rd of August everything quiet. The inhabitants have so far given in. Seventy students were shot, 200 kept prisoners. Inhabitants returning to Liège."

"August 24. At noon with 36 men on sentry duty. Sentry duty is A 1, no post allocated to me. Our occupation, apart from bathing, is eating and drinking. We live like God in Belgium." (From the diary of Joh. van der Schoot, reservist of the Tenth company, Thirty-ninth reserve infantry regiment, Seventh reserve army corps.)

"Behaved Like Vandals."

"August 17. In the afternoon I had a look at the little chateau belonging to one of the kings hereditary (not at home). Our men had behaved like regular vandals. They had looted the cellar first, and then they had turned their attention to the bedrooms and thrown things about all over the place. They had even made fruitless efforts to smash the solid oak doors. Everything was topsy-turvy—magnificent furniture, silk, and even china. That's what happens when the men are allowed to requisition for themselves. I am sure they must have taken away a heap of useless stuff simply for the pleasure of looting."

"August 6th crossed frontier. Inhabitants on border very good to us and give us many things. There is no difference noticeable.

"August 23rd, Sunday (between Dinant and Dinant, village of Disonge). At 11 o'clock the order comes to advance after the artillery has thoroughly prepared the ground ahead. The Pioneers and Infantry regiment 175 were marching in front of us. Near a small village the latter were fired on by the inhabitants. About 250 inhabitants were shot and the village was burnt—artillery is continuously shooting—the village lies in a large ravine. Just now, six o'clock in the afternoon, the crossing of the Maas begins near Dinant . . . All villages, chateaus, and houses are burnt down during this night. It was a beautiful sight to see the fires all round us in the distance.

"August 24.—In every village one finds only heaps of ruins and many dead." From the diary of Mathern, Fourth company, Eleventh Jager battalion, Marburg.)

All Male Inhabitants Shot.

"A shell burst near the Eleventh company, and wounded seven men, three very severely. At five o'clock we were ordered by the colonel in command of the regiment to shoot all the male inhabitants of Nomeny, because the population was foolishly attempting to stay the advance of the German troops by force of arms. We broke into the houses, and seized all who resisted, in order to execute them according to martial law. The houses which had not been already destroyed by the French artillery and our own were set on fire by us, so that nearly the whole town was reduced to ashes. It is a terrible sight when helpless women and children, utterly bewildered, are driven together, and driven into France." (From the diary of Private Fischer, Eighth Bavarian regiment of infantry, Thirty third reserve division.)

Too Many Servants in Britain.

Duncan Miller asked the minister of national service, says the London Times, whether attention had been called to the number of advertisements for servants in households of one, two or three persons, where seven to ten indoor servants are already kept, and whether he proposes to limit the number of indoor servants employed in each household. The minister of national service replied that he had already pointed out how essential it is, in the national interest, that no person should employ more servants than are absolutely necessary. The minister trusts that the awakened consciences of those who have in this respect failed to appreciate their duty will provide an immediate and sufficient remedy. If not, he will tell his plan in the general statement on man power.

URGE POLYGAMY IN GERMANY

Movement to Allow "Secondary Marriages" With Object of Increasing the Nation's Man Power.

A pamphlet urging "secondary marriages" to increase the nation's "man power" is circulating in Germany.

It is called "secondary marriage as the only means for the rapid creation of a new and powerful army and the purification of morality."

The author, Carl Herman Tergas Leadsoff, declares roundly "the conception of immorality is relative," and that "good morals are only what the upper classes of society approve" and gives Germany "the justification in case of necessity to put the stamp of morality upon what today seems immoral."

The main proposals are:

Women who have reached a certain age are called upon to enter into a secondary marriage, supported by personal inclination.

Only a married man may be the object of this inclination, and he must have the consent of his wife.

The offspring of these lawful secondary marriages bear the name of their mother and are handed over to the care of the state, unless the mother assumes responsibility. They are to be regarded as fully equal members of society.

The mothers wear a narrow wedding ring as a sign of their patriotism. The secondary marriage can be dissolved as soon as its object has been obtained."

AS THE WORLD MOVES

Almost automatic in its operation is a child's swing featured by an additional set of ropes that an Iowa man has invented.

Electric control that can be operated from any desired point features a new gas heater designed to warm several rooms.

Twin bascule bridges, each section of which is operated separately by electric motors, have been erected over the arm of a European harbor.

For disinfecting or perfuming the air in rooms an attachment for electric fans has been invented in which liquids descend from a tank into a tray that is waved by the fans' breezes.

French cotton mill men have established a laboratory to determine the percentage of moisture or any abnormal dryness in cotton, that which is too dry being regarded as defective.

Dayton, O., is said to have made more than $100,000,000 in war munitions manufacture.