

Birmingham Woman Finds Denmark Much Better Off Than the Rest of Europe

By Helen Bishop

"Americans should not try to travel in war-torn European countries now. It is not the time for tourists, and the countries have not had time to take care of their own people yet, let alone looking after tourists."

That is the opinion of Mrs. Erla Bergin, 3520 N. Adams, who is just back from a three-month visit to Denmark to visit her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jacobsen, of Copenhagen.

Both her mother and father are quite elderly—her father is 84 and the war was very hard on them. It was at the request of her parents that she went to Europe at all, and she advises that no one attempt to travel over there unless it is absolutely imperative.

"While I was there," she stated, "several American tourists stopped in Copenhagen, a cultural center of the Scandinavian peninsula, and they were put out because the hotel and tourist facilities were very bad. If anyone has to travel over there, they should bear in mind that it will be very difficult to find accommodations, and that food will not be plentiful."

Denmark Damaged

It was her first trip to her native country since 1937. On the trip, she saw much of the damage done to Norway, Holland and other war-torn European countries.

"Although Denmark was not badly marked by the war at other countries," she said, "there have been many changes. It has often been called the European 'horn of plenty,' and while they have enough food, many things are rationed. Butter, m.e.s., coal, clothes, sugar and bread are all on the list.

"Food rations are ample and the people need little in that way, but fruit is another story. Almost all of it has to be imported. Peaches may sell as high as \$1 each, pears for 50c a pound. The loss in fruit is made up by ample supplies of sugar and other more available supplies."

Danes Become Bitter

"Clothing is not rationed as they are in other places—the officials take it for granted that the wealthy people will have more clothes than the poorer ones, so the poorer people are issued more ration tickets than any rich ones."

The Danes did not seem much different to Mrs. Bergin, but she said they often talked about how bitter they had become since the Germans had come into their country.

"When Denmark was first taken over," she said, "it was the Germans' thought to make a model example of Denmark—to show the world how they could take over a nation and still keep the Danes happy. Outwardly the Danes agreed to their terms, but in position to resist openly without being wiped out. But the underground movement in Denmark destroyed many newly-built German buildings and factories and undermined many of their plans to round up underground workers in the Scandinavian peninsula."

Complete Blacklist

"If it was thought that any Dane was familiar with the Germans, he was put on a blacklist. The list grew long and was put into a book by the underground—they printed it secretly and under constant threat to their lives. Now that the war is over, this book is still being sold over the counters in book stalls."

Often when Mrs. Bergin would wish to stop in a store, her sister would draw her back and say, "No—those people were friendly with the Germans. We do not shop there."

"In Copenhagen and surrounding areas," she said, "the Germans built a large airport for their own use, and it is now being operated by the Danes. It is the largest airport in Scandinavia and one of the biggest in Europe."

She came home in just 24 hours flying time, flying by local plane to Amsterdam, and then coming to New York by a large Dutch transoceanic transport which stopped at Prestwick, Scotland, and again in Newfoundland.

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- Avondale Brand New Pack GREEN BEANS No. 2 Can 15c
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REGISTRATION NOTICE

FOR
GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 5, 1946

To the Qualified Electors of the City of Birmingham, State of Michigan, County of Oakland.

To vote at this election all persons must be registered in the City by Wednesday, October 10, 1946, at 3 P. M. Eastern Standard Time.

Citizens of the United States, 21 years old, who have resided in the State of Michigan six months and in the City of Birmingham twenty days at the time of voting are eligible.

TO REGISTER, call at the City Clerk's office in the Municipal Building on or before Wednesday, October 16th, 1946, during business hours. The City Clerk's office will be open on Tuesday, October 15th, and on Wednesday, October 16th from 8 A. M. until 8 P. M. Eastern Standard Time.

NOTE TO MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO VOTED BY ABSENTEE BALLOT WHILE IN SERVICE. Michigan Statutes provided for the voting of NON-REGISTERED electors who were in the armed forces of the United States, the Merchant Marine, or in the service of the United States at least 21 years of age and otherwise qualified. All persons who cast an absentee ballot under such provisions, and who have returned to civilian duties must now register in order to vote.

Any registered elector who has moved from one address in Birmingham to another address in Birmingham, since he last voted, may cause his registration to be transferred to his new address by sending to the clerk a signed request, stating his present address, the date he moved thereto, and the address from which he was last registered, by applying in person for a transfer at any time before Wednesday, October 16th. Any person who has not voted within a two year period, and who has not re-instated his registration, must re-register by October 16th.

October 3, 1946

IRENE E. HANLEY
City Clerk

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2 Lbs. 29c

Medium Size Florida
Grapefruit 3 for 25c

Italian Blue Prune
Plums Half Bushel 3.49

Large Size Iceberg Head
Lettuce 2 Heads 25c

All Purpose Maine
Potatoes 15-Lb. Peck 55c

Michigan Grown
Cauliflower Head 19c

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