



MARINE BULL PEN



A PAPER ISSUED IN THE INTERESTS OF
SEA-GOING COWBOYS (CPS RESERVE)

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INTRODUCING The MARINE BULL PEN herewith makes its initial bow in the field of many CPS publications. It hopes to serve as an information sheet for those men who have deserted the forests and swamps of the base camps, the wards of the mental hospitals and the rigors of guinea pig living for the roving life of a sailor. It will seek to present stories of interest to sea-going cowboys in such fields as current relief efforts, UNRRA activities, tips from past crews to future crews, people to contact to European ports and the like. Let us hear from you men who are rustling those cattle across the Atlantic - write us your experiences and your suggestions for what this paper should carry.

OVER-VIEW The whole idea of having CPS men as sea-going cowboys is an outgrowth of the "Heifers for Relief" plan originated by Dan West of Goshen, Indiana, and fostered by the Brethren Service Committee and the Church of the Brethren. Other churches and organizations have now come to the support of the plan. Since the end of the European war and during the latter half of 1945 shiploads of heifers were sent to needy European countries. These heifers were cared for in transit across the ocean by cattle tenders recruited mainly from Brethren and Mennonite communities by Ben Bushong, Lancaster County (Pa.) member of the Church of the Brethren who volunteered his services. Ben Bushong did such an able job of securing men to accompany the heifers that UNRRA asked him to take charge of the whole program of getting livestock attendants to care for UNRRA shipments in addition to his duties with the "Heifers for Relief" program. It was through Ben's efforts that this type of work was approved by Selective Service for CPS men. Approval came at the end of January this year. The first crew of cattlemen were on the high seas by mid-February en route to Bremerhaven, Germany, with a shipment destined for Czechoslovakia.

According to our latest intelligence, some 231 CPS men have been officially authorized to enter the CPS Reserve and to work as sea-going cowboys. Ships are sailing regularly from the following American ports; Portland, Maine, New York, Baltimore, Newport News, Norfolk, New Orleans, Galveston and Houston. In general, men from western CPS camps and units will be sailing from Gulf ports while men from eastern camps and units will leave from Atlantic ports.

Some thirty-odd ships, being used regularly as livestock carriers, bear such colorful and historic names as Zona Gale, Virginian, Mexican, John J. Crittenden, Cyrus W. Field, Joshua Hendy, Santiago Ingelesias. These are supplemented by a whole string of Victory ships - Rockland, Morgantown, Harvard, Park, DePauw, Hattiesburg et al. Operating lines include the United States Lines, American-Hawaiian, American Export Lines, Matson, Agwilines, Waterman, Afro-American and others.

UNRRA supplies assistance to those countries that need relief and ask for it. At present UNRRA is shipping livestock to Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, Poland and Czechoslovakia. Ports of landing are widely scattered in Europe but serve the countries named above. Some of these ports are regular stops for livestock ships while others are touched only occasionally or in case of emergency: in Greece - Piraeus (the port for Athens), Salonika, Corinth; in Italy - Trieste (port for Yugoslavia and Albania), Naples, Venice; in Germany - Bremerhaven (where cattle are landed en route to Czechoslovakia); in Poland - Danzig, Gdynia, Zoppot; in Denmark - Co-

penhagen; in Sweden - Stockholm; in Scotland - Kirkwall; in France - Le Havre, Cherbourg, Marseille; Gibraltar; in North Africa - Oran, Algiers, Casablanca.

So far UNRRA ships have been carrying mainly heifers, mares, mules and occasionally chickens. Usually a cargo in addition to the animals has been taken. But present plans look forward to the time when only livestock will be taken with ballast carried in the hold so that ships will not be held up on this side and in Europe for loading and unloading of cargo. It is anticipated that a ferry service of this kind may well be established in which the round trip will be made in one month's time.

QUOTES FROM UNRRA In Greece 12,343 UNRRA draft animals have arrived plus 24,000 cows. The "first group of blooded bulls, a gift of the Church of the Brethren, was brought into Greece by UNRRA early last summer." . . . In Poland "a representative of the Church of the Brethren which contributed 150 heifers aboard the Santiago Ingelesias, was gratified by the receptions tendered in port and in Warsaw where the cattle were accepted by Government officials. The high quality of UNRRA-imported stock has made a deep impression on Polish cattle experts." . . . Up to the end of 1945 UNRRA shipped over 4 million long tons of supplies to liberated areas. . . Nearly three times as much was shipped by UNRRA in the second half of the year as in the first half." . . . In Czechoslovakia "a Prague newspaper headlined the arrival of the first contingent of utility cattle brought in by UNRRA from the U.S. aboard the SS Henry Dearborn from Baltimore. Two Czech officials, accompanied by a guard of 25 soldiers, were to take over the cattle and deliver them to Czechoslovakia."

FROM THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE Notes from men who have served as cattle attendants and have written after their return to the U.S.: "I found out in Poland that we were hitting at the grass roots when we brought in livestock and farm implements and fertilizer. . . We can bring them food, but if we go farther and provide tools so they can start producing themselves, it's an improvement." . . . On board the SS Mexicanin Trieste harbor one man writes: "After dinner to day we had noodle soup, chicken, beef, corn and peas left over. Instead of throwing it all in the garbage can (as I was told to do) I gave it to the Italian longshoremen who were unloading the ship. . . When I took the chicken up on deck, the men (Italians) were just eating. A few of the fortunate ones were eating a kind of bread pastry. The others were eating out of the garbage cans. If you've never seen men eating out of garbage cans, you're lucky. It turned my stomach. . . men eating rotten meat and potato peelings. After I gave them the chicken I came back and got the corn, peas, beef and soup for them. As long as I'm on kitchen duty I'm not going to throw food in the garbage can while men starve."

FOR FUTURE COWBOYS It has been suggested that men going on future trips may want to take individual packages to individual families in those European ports where they land. Some men have done this in this past much to the relief of the recipients. This paper will carry suggestions on items that might well be included in such a package. We are also compiling lists of names of needy persons in European ports. These lists will be available to those who want them. The International FOR and WRL are anxious to find men who will look up former members of these organizations in European cities and report back to the FOR and WRL offices in this country.

"THE LITTLE FLOWER" BLOOMS Governor Herbert Lehman, Director-General of UNRRA since its inception, has now resigned. To succeed him Fiorell H. LaGuardia, rambunctious ex-Mayor of New York City, has been named.