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Colorado Springs

October 3, 1942

#### GAEDDERT REPORTS ON WASHINGTON

Albert Gaeddert was welcomed back to camp on Friday night, Sept. 25 from his trip to Washington, D. C. At the same time he, in turn, welcomed six new campers into our midst. Of primary interest to the fellows was the report on his activities in Washington.

It is expected that there will be work in state mental hospitals for any men interested within a very short period of time. A great deal of effort has been exerted to arrange these projects, and it now appears that several will materialize at one time.

Gaeddert also reported that it now seems likely that some arrangement can be made with the U.S. Comptroller General's office to make possible the use of money earned on farm work for foreign relief activities. General Hershey and Paul Comly French are both working on this problem and feel that they will be able to convince the U.S. Comptroller General to reverse his earlier ruling that all the money earned by COs on farm work must be turned into the United States Treasury for use by the government. It is believed that when the Comptroller General learns all of the details in the matter, he will be more disposed to allow those that are earning the money to determine the use for the funds.

#### WORK BEGINS IN HARVEST FIELDS

It's just a little after seven. A battered Model A clatters into camp. It is followed by a sleek Buick sedan and a milk delivery truck. A bristled-faced farmer steps from his pick-up and like those other owners of cars and trucks, sort of feels his way toward someone who can tell him where his boys are so he can get started.

Yes, we're their boys. We climb in beside these men feeling awkward with a paper sack full of lunch in our hand,  
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#### NEW EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR WELCOMED

Mr. Roy Wenger from Orrville, Ohio, took over his post as Educational and Assistant Director on September 26. He arrived several weeks after Robert Kreider vacated the educational position here.

Mr. Wenger graduated from Bluffton College in 1932, receiving his A.B. degree as a major in history and education. For the following eight years, he taught in a number of Ohio's public schools. Leaving his teaching in 1940 Mr. Wenger went to Ohio State University as an Assistant in the School Survey Division of the Bureau of Educational Research. From this field of endeavor, he has now come to GPS #5.

The wife of our new staff member, Mrs. Florence Wenger, did not accompany her husband when he came, but expects to come around October 10. Mrs. Wenger will become the new camp Dietician, filling the position left by Miss Marie Groening.

When asked about the educational policy of the camp for this year, Mr. Wenger stated, "I feel deeply the responsibility which the position of educational director carries with it. The position is, however, by no means a one man job. A fruitful educational program can be worked out at the camp only if a large number of campers participate responsibly in the organization of the program. I have found the men at Colo. Springs eager to do this.

"All of our activities at the camp should be directed toward understanding the meaning of Christian democracy, and toward implementing this philosophy in all phases of our living. The responsibility for the success of the educational program lies with each camper. With wide participation, the program is sure to be vital and constructive. Without this wide participation, the program cannot be of much  
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MIRRORS

Mirrors! They're sissy things! None of the C.P.S. fellows would ever spend much time contemplating the satisfactory (or other wise) reflections they glance at casually, as they scrape off the previous day's (or week's) growth of beard. Mirrors! Men know little about them! That is the reason I have chosen "Mirrors" as the subject to bore you with in this brief discourse.

Personally, I find mirrors most interesting. But not only the glass ones that come in frames. They always show me the same picture, and that gets monotonous. The most fascinating mirrors to look into are those which one sees walking about C.P.S. camps with two eyes, a nose, a mouth, and a few other attachments. They are quite revealing. Did you ever try looking into those?

Some of these mirrors are pleasing and others are quite disturbing. And they don't get pleasing or disturbing in a minute, or even a week. They reflect to those about them the results of thoughts and actions which they have been building up for years. It doesn't take much looking into a pair of eyes to give you some hint of what kind of pictures the mind back there behind is getting ready to reveal to you.

Of course, here in C.P.S. we find no mirrors reflecting such things as one sees in the faces of the hoards wandering up and down our city streets; no faces which show even possibilities of characters who would stoop to such depths as to criticize the food which the cooks prepare for them, or to let his fellow camp-ees annoy to such an extent that anger would result in words or actions! And, of course, none of the faces hereabouts give any hint of the kind of person who would think of carrying off articles of clothing from the laundry without making sure of the identification, or sneaking apples from the commissary when the lights go out!

Just occasionally, of course, we see faces throwing out grey rays of discouragement, a bit of grumbling, discomfort, of dissatisfaction, but these minor ailments can easily be remedied. All it takes is a little effort on the part of each one to cooperate in this community of men; a little good will to take the place of discouragement; a little laughter, a little love for one another; and a great deal of faith, both in God and in our fellowmen. With these efforts, we shall all have absolutely beautiful faces when we finally leave C.P.S! It is worth trying, especially since others will have to look into your mirror!

--Mrs. Myrtle Hertzler

THOSE WE HAVE MET

(Montana men not interviewed before)

Emil Albrecht, Richey, Montana  
Generous and trusting...farmer.... worked on regular project crews...ardent croquet fan...Gen. Conf. Mennonite

Elmer Penner, Corn, Oklahoma  
Quiet and reserved...farmer...part time on regular crews, rest of time in kitchen...rather recent arrival.... Mennonite Brethren.

Ernest Reiner, Inman, Kansas  
Frank...rural background...several years spent at Bethel College...crew foreman some of the time...General Conference Mennonite.

Artyin Paul, Sawyer, North Dakota  
Married...farmer at home....field crew worker...sang in the camp chorus...Mennonite Brethren.

Adolph Lentzner, Frazer, Montana  
Jovial...liked Colorado but thought Montana was better...truck driver during his entire stay here....Mennonite Brethren.

Leonhard Bartel, Hillsboro, Kansas  
Staunch...determined...jolly...worked in garage previous to camp...was truck and tractor driver here...enjoys nature, photography...Gen. Conf. Menn.

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## IV. MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

## Russian Reconstruction

Feeding, clothing, reconstruction--these three fields of endeavor followed one after the other in solving the problem of relief to the people of south Russia and Siberia during the time of great famine and pestilence.

People must be fed! Kitchen feeding under the Mennonite Central Committee reached its crest in June 1922. People must be clothed! Clothing distribution increased during the fall of 1922, in order to fill the need of clothing for a long winter ahead.

More than that had to be done however. People must be rehabilitated! They must be given a fresh perspective, a rekindled self-respect and new hope. After the most painful and acute needs were met, relief activities of the Mennonites began to assume the form of reconstruction. To rebuild, remake and repair the means of livelihood became their chief aim and thus it was that assistance was given by "helping the needy to help themselves."

It was reasoned that the cheapest food available to the needy would be the food the relief workers could help them raise; and the cheapest clothing that could be furnished would be that which they spun and wove with their own hands, the wool coming from their own sheep. Upon this basis reconstruction work in Russia was undertaken in the summer of 1922 along the following lines: (1) the shipment and distribution among the colonies of fifty American tractors; (2) the purchase and resale on credit, of horses and sheep; (3) the supply of seed grain; and (4) the encouragement of home industries.

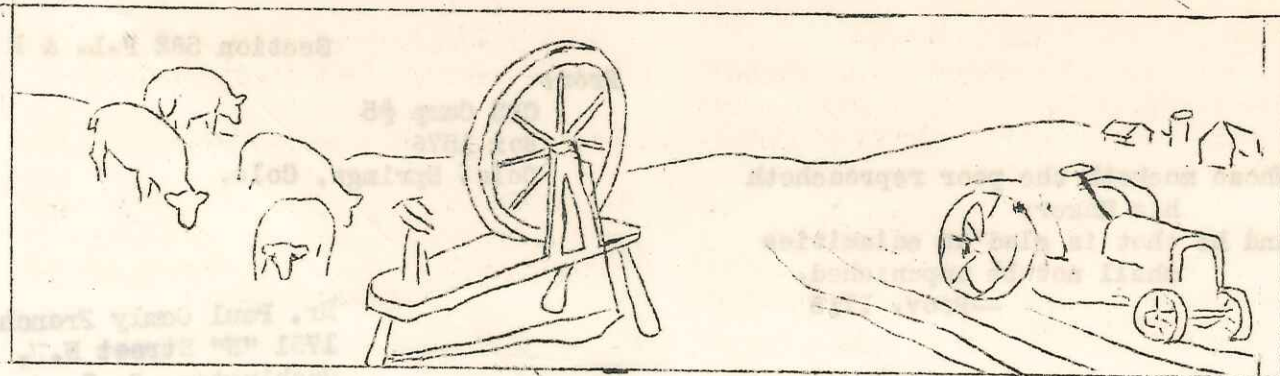
Land was plowed with the new tractors and gang plows, seeded in the fall and the new grain harvested the next summer. This crop yielded food for the communities, and made possible the first step toward paying for the tractors. By successful farming the grain seed and the tractors were paid for in a few years and these people became able, in turn, to offer assistance to less fortunate communities.

At the same time, horses and sheep were purchased by the M.C.C. in various parts of the country and resold on credit to the needy Russian farmers at cost plus transportation. The horses provided needed power to those not having access to the tractors, while the sheep formed an important source of wool for their home-spun clothing. Figures show that 203 horses and 159 sheep were thus sold to the people.

A plan for home industries was also begun, which gave the people a start in producing their own clothing. The art of spinning thread and weaving cloth was taught by Russian and Bulgarian weavers brought in by the M.C.C. Those receiving food rations were required to spend some time in spinning and weaving whenever they were physically able. Some of the wool came from the newly purchased sheep and the rest was provided by the M.C.C. The manufactured cloth was then distributed to the most needy families.

This type of reconstruction was carried on for several years by the Mennonite Central Committee until it was felt that the people of that country could take over the heavy burden of this rehabilitation.

(This is the fourth article in the series on the MCC)



## NEW EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR CONT.

value. If we work humbly together to achieve a greater understanding of the way of life which we believe holds the greatest promise for the human race, we cannot help but be successful."

The entire camp wishes to extend a warm welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Wenger together with the assurance of its full cooperation.

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## WORK IN HARVEST FIELDS CONT.

and this anxiety seems refreshing. We find that we too are eager to get started, to help with this silo filling. It's cold and we feel a little bit stiff from yesterday's work.

We are there now. We work. We eat our sandwiches at noon. We return to camp again at five-thirty. We say our "see you in the mornings" and rush to clean up before supper.

This has been an interesting venture, this helping in the harvest. It is a response to a call for help. Forty men are working because they know how farmers needing help feel, and working so that someone somewhere, after this war, can face the future with a little more hope. The wages that farmers pay will go into a fund for reconstruction work, for after destruction must come that which takes far longer and is much harder--building up again.

These are trying days, days of uncertainty and want. We here are trying to fit in where we can, striving for consistency and truth, and hoping we may always be willing to serve. The farmers are deeply appreciative of our work for them. We in turn appreciate their consideration and kindness. Their good will we covet. And so our work progresses.

Whoso mocketh the poor reproacheth  
his Maker:

And he that is glad at calamities  
shall not be unpunished.

--Prov. 17:5

## TRAINING FOR SERVICE PLANNED

According to a number of reports, several types of training programs are being contemplated for future CPS leaders and relief workers.

The C.P.S. NEWS LETTER put out by the Mennonite Central Committee contains the following statement:

"Plans are underway to conduct a training school for assistant directors. Men would be picked from those in the camps to receive this training which would consist of several weeks work and study at NSB, Washington; a week at the administrative office; and some direction in camp. The quota of men from MCC camps is 14 men. Final arrangements are being made this week."

At a meeting of Mennonite college officials at Winona Lake, Indiana, in August, the following resolution was passed:

"We propose to set up a civilian service training program for prospective workers in relief and reconstruction, both at home and abroad which can be offered to conscientious objectors who are willing to volunteer for a term of service provided arrangements can be made with Selective Service whereby men in such training can be assigned to service either before or after induction into C.P.S."

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## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Six new men made their appearance at Colorado Springs on Sept. 25. The new assignees are: Tobias Yoder, Thomas, Okla., Arthur Rediess, Gary, Colo., Jacob Doerksen, Mosca, Colo., Marvin Dester, Deer Creek, Okla., Allen Miller Hydro, Okla., and Emil Thomas, Ringwood, Okla.

The coming of these new men cover the loss of Tim Mullett, Bloomfield, Montana, to the army, and the loss of Ed Diener, Hutchinson, Kansas, through a ministerial release, and brings the camp strength to 151 men.

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