

LIST OF FINAL PRIZES in OUR CULINARY CONTEST

\$115.00 HOTPOINT ELECTRIC RANGE, donated by the Maritime Electric Co., Ltd. This prize is only open to users of the above Company's power.

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SAARLANDERS DISILLUSIONED

Grumble at Economic Hardships; Some Learn What Concentration Camps Mean

SAARBRUECKEN, Germany, Nov. 9.—There are a lot of sadly disappointed persons in the Saar today as the process of absorbing the territory into Germany draws to an end.

This progress of absorption has been ably carried out. The "grafting operation" with which it began has been a distinct success. It has also probably been as painless as it was possible to make it. Furthermore, before the people made their decision, they were told very plainly what results they could expect from the operation. The patients are notoriously unreasonable, though, and the Saarlanders are grumbling a good deal. It is natural those who were opposed to rejoining Germany should grumble. But a good many people who voted for the Reich have been grumbling too.

If the Saarlanders had to choose again tomorrow between control by the League of Nations, annexation to France or returning to Germany, they would undoubtedly make very much the same choice as the authorized voters did in the January plebiscite; more than 90 per cent would choose Germany.

But many of them—perhaps most—are better Germans than they are Nazis. The lesson which the Nazis call discipline, and which the Liberals call tyranny, is proving to be hard for some Saarlanders to learn.

Non-Nazis Lose Jobs to Nazis
Non-Nazis have lost their positions and their prerogatives to the Nazis and the Saar is getting its share of imprisonment by political methods on political charges.

And what is more, even the most loyal Nazis are finding that their pay checks buy less and less almost from week to week as the cost of living goes up faster than wages do.

A large proportion of the Catholic clergy and many laymen regard some of the National Socialist theory and practice as heresy even if Gauleiter Joseph Buerckel himself is a Catholic and even if he does have a crucifix hanging on the wall of his bedroom.

Buerckel accuses certain elements among the clergy—he says he hopes they are only in the minority—of being hostile to the government and with stirring up the people against it. He has expelled some of the priests from the territory.

Many economic adjustments have proved painfully hard to make. Being cut off economically from France almost at one blow and being rejoined to Germany could not help but cause trouble.

Wages Lag as Prices Rise

A shortage of comparative statistics here is worse than the butter and pork shortages put together, and precise figures seem impossible to get, but according to most reliable estimates the cost of living here must have gone up approximately 25 per cent in the last six months. Wages in general lag considerably behind this and taxes and current costs and "voluntary" contributions to party causes certainly have increased.

A good many small industries have been hard hit, too. Several of them have relied to a considerable extent

on the French market, which is now cut off by customs, currency and treaty barriers, and few of them are able to compete with the better organized, more efficient firms in the same businesses in the rest of Germany.

These same customs and currency barriers have made it impossible for the Saar to buy foodstuffs from France. The territory used to import, among other things, 80,000 liters of milk a day from across the frontier. Now it can import none.

Before the Saar plebiscite the Nazis made two especially significant "campaign promises." They promised voters that many, if not most of them, would be worse off economically in Germany than they had been under the League of Nations. And Gauleiter Buerckel himself promised that he would set up no concentrations camps in the territory.

Learns of Concentration Camps

Both promises have been kept. Coming back to Germany has proved to be an economic hardship to a large proportion of the population. And Gauleiter Buerckel has set up no concentration camps in the territory of the Saar. Instead he sends his "concentration camp prisoners" to camps outside the Saar—some of them to one at Dachau in Bavaria apparently—or he puts them in regular jails here.

The "concentration camp category" of prisoners seems to include critics of the regime, Jews, alleged communists and persons accused of "un-social conduct" such as profiteering. At various times unruly Nazis also, apparently, have been guests of the Government in this way.

There has been, however, far less political trouble and far less rough treatment of non-Nazis in the Saar than Saarlanders themselves, as well as the outside world, thought there would be.

One reason for this is that the German Government promised in the

Rome agreements before the plebiscite that for twelve months after taking over the territory it would take no discriminatory action against any bona fide Saar resident because of his political activities or on account of his race, religion or nationality. The Reich also promised to protect Saar residents against any such action by anybody else.

Many Anti-Nazis Flee District

Germany has lived up to these promises with a faithfulness which few, if any, other countries could or would equal.

One reason why there has been so little trouble is that many anti-Nazis were able to leave the Saar before Germany took it over. Although it is harder to do so now than before, it is still easier to emigrate from the Saar than it is to do so from other parts of the Reich, and this will continue to be the case until the Rome agreements expire, March 1, 1936.

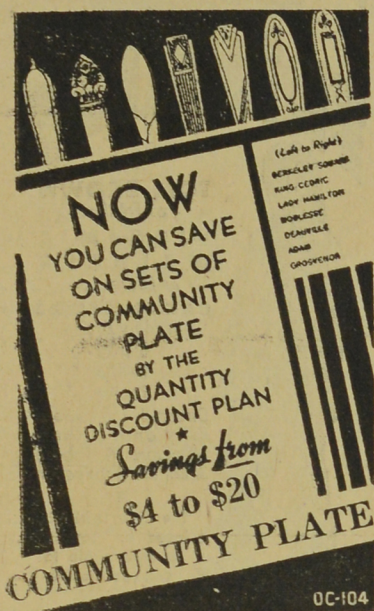
Another reason is that there is a special International Court here to hear charges of discrimination covered by the promises in the Rome agreements.

There are no exact figures on the number of those who have left the Saar since the plebiscite but what seems to be the most reliable estimate puts the number at between 4,500 and 5,000. More will leave during the four and one-half months which still remain of the year's "truce" guaranteed by the Rome agreements.

Most of the Saar's Jews have already left or will do so before next March 1. There were approximately 6,000 Jews in the territory before the plebiscite. Now there seem to be no more than 1,250.

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