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STUDIES OF MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT

Administrative Series

Subject: *Women in Nazi Germany—V Morale*

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WOMEN IN NAZI GERMANY--V MORALE

The concluding Part of this Report is based entirely on Censorship Intercepts, which have been selected to indicate trends in morale among the women during the past twelve months.

For the sake of security all means of personal identification have been deleted.

The selection of items was made by the Staff of "M" Project. .

Henry Field

CONFIDENTIAL

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MORALE

1. "Oh if only the time would hurry up for us to meet again. The times are so serious and it is impossible to say how long they will go on like this. I definitely look forward to a happy victorious peace for us sometime next year. The Russians must get fed up sooner or later they are having such heavy losses that I feel sure things will come to a quick end. (February 20, 1944).

2. "On Wednesday afternoon I go to a women's mending circle arranged by the Women's Organization. Several families send their bag with clothes and linen to be mended and we repair them. It is not so easy these days. Sometimes the hole in the stocking is bigger than the darning egg. Last time I repaired sheets. I have met some wonderful women there who help with the true national socialist spirit. Only a few come unfortunately, as not all of them are in the right spirit. Young women cannot come at all as they have to work. So there are only a few older women and spinsters. Some younger women are permitted to come and learn how to make slippers from felt and cloth. Some very nice shoes are made but of course without leather..." (May 2, 1944).

3. Anti-War Sentiments, - Anti-war sentiments are quite numerous. They spring, however, from the fact that the War is now beginning to hurt. Some say that War is evil, a form of insanity, a miserable murder of men, out of place in the modern world. Others maintain that the world could be a perfect place to live in, if men were wiser and had more fine qualities. A few who possess a deeper insight into human nature say that peace must first return to the hearts of men before there can be peace on earth. (March, 1944).

4. A sense of doom hangs over this group which is very large, 36.1% of negative morale. Again the "Leitmotiv" is: "Who would have thought it?" The fifth year of war and the homeland has become the front. A mother from a rural district replies to the complaint of P/W about too little mail from home saying that no one has the courage to write much. "Our privations are terrible," one working girl writes (k); "our sufferings increase from day to day", says another.

5. "How lovely it would be, if all our dear ones were at home. (March 6, 1944).

6. "Above all the War really ought to end soon, because in the long run our enemies will also get war-weary..." (March 14, 1944).

7. "We have enough to eat...so you need not worry about us in that way. If only we did not feel so done up every day." (January 26, 1944).

8. German woman expresses disappointment at Hitler's speech. "The Fuehrer just concluded his speech. He was not able to tell us anything new. Neither could he foretell the greatly desired end of this War." (January 30, 1944).

9. The drab and monotonous existence of the average German citizen is frequent cause for complaint. Women grumble at regulations compelling them to work from dawn to dusk, at the drudgery of their present existence and at their inability to escape from these realities for an instant. They stress the enormous changes that have taken place at home, changes beyond the imagination of the prisoner of war. The War now dominates their every thought and action; cares have robbed them of all joy in life, and their only hope of salvation is to hold out to the end. The War has lasted long enough, but they can do nothing to change their fate. Meanwhile life has become not only serious but bitter and dangerous. Many stress their new philosophy of living only in the present; fate may strike overnight so why take thought for the morrow? Others exclaim that they will be fortunate if they so much as survive the War. (December 12, 1943).

10. "Of course it is no easy life for you but, believe me, our lot is not an easy one either. Very great demands are made on us women. It often happens that I have not had my lunch by 7 P.M. when I have to go on duty. I only come home again at 10:30 P.M. and then I do not feel hungry any more and just have a slice of bread before going to bed. Life is so monotonous, always the same. If only all this would come to an end! I think that you will appreciate your home now when you return. But when ever will that be???" (June 19, 1943).

11. "...We sang, "Oh you happy one" as we used to, but who can be happy today. Is there not enough sorrow in every house? ...Yesterday I finally had a letter from...who, although well herself, had terrible news to relate. But we ourselves have had experiences no less terrible. Mankind is becoming on all sides totally crushed down. It requires a continuous effort to keep even a small flame of hope alive. My one-time optimism is coming nearer and nearer to fatalism. Is it any wonder!" (December 26, 1943).

12. "...We have all buried our belief in a better post-War period. I don't know whether you

understand me. Yes, my boy, we see with different eyes and we see further than you, young people. I must take away your confidence." (January 9, 1944).

13. "Here at home it is always the same, everything desolate and dead, work the whole week and then Sunday nothing but the cinema." (March 6, 1944).

14. "The old year 1943 was full of sorrow, the New Year begins bringing great anxiety, we are all full of alarm for what this year may bring. ...I want to see what the year 1944 will bring, and above all whether we survive." (March 6, 1944).

15. "...but some day the War must finish and then you can come home for good. But then it will be worse for us women who no longer have a husband than it is today. But I don't think very many will come home, if we want to win the war..." (March 6, 1944).

16. One mother writes of Hitler's need of cannon-fodder. (March 7, 1944).

17. "Here is the 5th year of war and we have no complaints to make. No one is hungry even if certain products are scarce. Our position is not to be compared to that of the war 14-18. We owe our Fuehrer for this equitable distribution." (February 25, 1944).

18. "This constant friction with little people, this fighting with narrow-minded persons who refuse to recognize our needs, lead to an attitude of resignation and indifference. It's the same with many things. (March 20, 1944).

19. "I wanted to go to church today but our Supervisor would not allow me, so I shed some tears early in the morning -- oh, how I dislike to go on -- if only everything, everything would end soon. Only you brave men give me the courage to keep up. It is good that we always have a great deal of work, lately, in fact we often have so much to do we can hardly take a rest." (December 20, 1943).

20. "...It is hard to lose one's only brother. But it is still harder to lose faith in the ideals for which our boys have lost their lives...Our leader! History will never again bring forward a personality like our FÜHRER ADOLF HITLER..." (February 26, 1944).

21. Wife writes to P.O.W.: "I feel so downhearted, everything I see makes me feel sad, I wish I was dead. I doubt if I can live until you come home and this war is over. There is terrible misery, for even now the last few old men have to go. That will be something in the summer time when everything

has to be built up again and there are no workers.
It won't be long and we will be all finished."
(December 20, 1943).

22. The women at home find their powers of endurance strained to the utmost, "always this disheartening waiting for letters," and the faint of heart despair at the seemingly unending uncertainty in which they find themselves with regard to the fate of their dear ones. (July and August, 1943).

23. "If they believe the German people are going to capitulate from fear of the terror raids, they are mistaken. Those people on the Island will fail a thousand times worse than we..."

24. "If only the war would end and that we may still be alive -- nothing but work, eat and sleep. Often one tells oneself inwardly that it is folly not to go out and amuse oneself more often; life is so short. What do you think? Send me your opinion on the subject. I shall be happy when this Sunday is over. Tomorrow will be taken up with work that prevents one from thinking of many things."
(November 28, 1943).

25. "If anyone should try to influence you that things are bad with us, do not believe it."

We are fighting bravely for a Peace worthy of all our comrades whose blood has flowed for the protection of the homeland. Not only those fighting for the new Germany who have been shot by the Reds and Reactionaries but also those who have died a hero's death for the new Europe are marching in spirit in our ranks." (January 30, 1944).

26. Retired nurse teaching deaf and dumb states there will be no internal collapse nor revolution in Germany. (February 25, 1944).

27. "We are all well and do not feel the stress of war. Provisions are abundant yet we would like to see the end. Our dear Führer will do what is necessary ..." (March 28, 1944).

28. "At home, in GERMANY, everyone works hard, everything follows its normal course and morale is good. Just think -- here we are in the fifth year of war; but you must know how courageous the GERMAN people is. Despite terrifying attacks there are few complaints and we build anew. We Germans are more stubborn than is thought. I am pleased to tell you that food rations have been increased. We get more bread than we need and wheat flour can be had; also no one has reason to complain of the other things

we receive. We have clothing, and although that just about barely suffices at times, each one obtains the essentials." (November 7, 1943).

29. Most evacuees seem to be of the opinion that home is the best place after all. Especially evacuees from Hamburg. Some are very much dissatisfied with their present surroundings and with the people whom they meet in other parts of Germany.

A note of fierce defiance appeared in letters after the July 1, 1943 air raids on Hamburg but in the last few months this seems to have changed into a grim determination to hold out to the end.

30. Berlin.- "We are cheerful and content. In spite of everything, morale here is extremely good. In former days you would scarcely have believed that such comradeship and willingness to help others was possible...." (November 11, 1943).

31. "I have little hope for it is a struggle for our very existence." (December 12, 1943).

32. "My own cheerfulness has completely vanished, and I have no more interest in anything." (October 13, 1943).

33. A mother writes: "A Polish Ukrainian male prisoner and a Russian Ukrainian woman may not be together." (November 10, 1943).

34. "I am sure you have read the reports in detail. There will not likely be much left of the Old German Reich when you return...In reality when one looks at it soberly, there is no end in sight. (Germany is still strong. We are not starving nor is the front weakened and our production is at a high level. American production too is at a high peak. The Jews are making money and desire this condition to continue and the fanatical impetus to fight us is provided by the BOLCSCHIEVIKS and COMMUNISTS). According to my way of looking at it, this war will last for years, for I don't believe in miracles." (December 2, 1943).

35. Faith in Victory. - The repetition of the word faith in the excerpts under this heading is remarkable. In one excerpt alone "faith" is written five times, "Germany" four times, and "future" three times. Others write that their faith is "firm as a rock", "strong", "steadfast" and "unfaltering". They say that everyone is confident, that the spirit of the people is excellent although this type of warfare (referring to air raids) had engendered bitterness in their hearts. One writer admits that if their faith were to be shaken their power would go too, but hastily adds that such a thing could never happen.

Their will to hold out is just as strong now as it was at the beginning of the War and as soon as the enemy realizes that the better. Enemy propaganda has not the slightest effect on them. Germany never harmed any nation, it is just fighting for its existence and no matter how long this struggle may last an ultimate German victory is assured.

36. Attitude.- Correspondents in general show little inclination even so much as to mention the Fuehrer. Of 8,315 letters read in the Enemy Prisoner of War Branch between the middle of October and the middle of November, only 5 refer to Hitler.

Such civilians as do mention him, still express blind confidence, love and an admiration verging on adoration. It is a great comfort to rely on him "who will surely know how to master all threatening dangers," although the added help of God seems advisable to a number of writers.

37. Criticism of the Authorities and Regulations.- This wife of an internee, whose young son was taken by German authorities and put to work on a farm, writes to her husband: "I have taken Hans out of his apprenticeship, I just simply could not bear it any longer. Of course I do not know whether I will be able to get away with it; but I shall defend myself with both

hands and feet before they will ever take any of my boys and put them to work on a farm. Hans has now decided to become a mechanic. My dear Karl I cannot give you all the reasons now, I shall do that later verbally. This one thing however I will tell you though, with each passing week our boy became leaner and went to pieces both physically as well as morally."

38. Enemy Propaganda.-"Enemy propaganda also tries to lead us out on thin ice. But they don't succeed. If there are a few stupid dogs who swallow their bait, the masses will never be affected thereby. The party sees to that. We are today the instrument the FUEHRER needs. He can depend upon his party." (January 18, 1944).

39. Duration of the War.- Only 5% of the total excerpts on positive morale venture to express the belief that the War will be over soon. (February, 1944).

40. A Hamburg woman sighs for an end of the terrible war.

41. A woman from Westphalia looks forward longingly to a return of "dear peace."

42. A fear of Russia continues to be expressed as strongly as ever. "If only the War will end for us." (November 3, 1943).

43. "Our trials are not yet over, but we'll come out on top of them too..." (November 10, 1943).

44. "We've experienced some hard times here lately, but we don't let it discourage us..." (November 30, 1943).

45. "Everyone says if only you could see the little rascal. But that won't be for quite a while. Even the Fuehrer's speech showed that. But perhaps it will be much quicker than we think." (November 10, 1943).

46. The Fuehrer's Speech of November 8, 1943.-
Direct references to Hitler's speech consist of 15.6% of the positive excerpts. There is no doubt but that it has been very effective. The writers say over and over again that his "gripping" words renewed their strength and faith. Although difficult times are still ahead they now have absolute confidence in final victory; the "Fuehrer" says so, it must be true. They say, as he said, that a second 1918 is out of the question. How could it happen in this War when the whole nation stands as one man behind the "beloved Fuehrer."

HIS very choice of words and the tone of his voice had a "comforting and pacifying" effect upon

some correspondents, while others find stimulus in his occasional goading. Some mention his name with reverence and quote his words as others might quote passages from the Bible. He alone can lead them on to victory and make today's sorrows and sufferings bearable. Many pray God to bestow health and strength upon him so that he may be spared to carry on his good work.

47. "Our Führer will take care of everything..."
(March 17, 1943).

48. There is a slight decrease in the number of mentions of Hitler in the mail. In the Periodical Diary for September, 18.4% of writers under Positive Morale mentioned the Fuehrer. This month the figure stands at 17.7%. However, writers express almost religious fervor in speaking of his personality (a). Faith and fidelity are words which occur again and again coupled whenever possible, with the adjective "unshakable" (b). The verb "to believe" is devoutly conjugated in all persons and tenses, notably in the present tense, as befitting a god, who is by definition timeless (c). A god asks for, and is conceded love (d), sacrifice (e,f), trust in his wisdom and power (g).

Some writers try to rationalize their faith by saying they believe in the "Fuehrer" because they have enough food, because they are in good health, or because their homes which were raided have been rebuilt. Others, whose faith is stronger, say they believe "although they have to undergo much," "although there have been many changes of late," "although things don't look so rosy just now."

Seventy-five percent of the excerpts under this heading are from women.

49. German women untrue to their men at the front. "You won't believe some of the things going on here, the behavior of some women is simply terrible." (October 20, 1943).

50. The mother of an internee writes: "Why are you so nervous? Don't allow yourself to be beaten and don't believe the lying rumors! We fear God but nothing else in the world -- neither flattery nor insults rouse us." (September 6, 1943).

51. Courage and Determination.-- Writers say that superhuman efforts are demanded of everyone... However, there are no signs of weakening, one reason being that they know what is at stake, they know that the final outcome will more than compensate for the

terrible sacrifices which have been made. They say that the strongest nation is the one that can hold out the longest, and keep reminding themselves that they are Germans, and a German never gives in. They will never let anyone bring them to their knees. The thought of what would happen to a defeated Germany is fostered by propaganda and succeeds in making the people even more determined to hold out. (February, 1944).

52. Defeatism.-- A small group of writers, soldiers and civilians, women predominating among the latter, does despair. "I'm not saying anything," says a woman, "but I know things are going to turn out badly." "In order to win" says another writer, "a great miracle must happen in favor of Germany." That these are not isolated cases is borne out by two letters, captured from the enemy and therefore uncensored in which the wife says to her husband: "Here the general opinion is that it will be somehow over in September, yes, this would be nice, everybody is waiting for it, those conditions cannot continue, everybody is going to pieces, especially mentally. (Die ganzen Menschen gehen zu Grunde, vor allem seelisch). I believe this war will become more terrible and will come to a horrible end..." (August 19, 1943).

53. "The die is cast. Starting tonight I have been banished to S...for the next six weeks. Please think this over thoroughly then you will realize what I am doing here. In one of my last letters I wrote you a little about M..., but S...is supposed to serve the same purpose. I am really anxious to learn how this whole farce will end some day. Let us hope these six weeks pass very, very rapidly.

Alas, I am still so tired. Last night at 2:45 A.M., I arrived in this little town with many other co-workers or rather, co-sufferers whom I met on the train. Now don't think that we were permitted to get a good rest after this endless journey. We traveled 27 hours. Oh no, we were awakened early at 6:30 A.M., and during the course of the morning we received several assignments." (February 24, 1944).

54. Regional Antipathy.- "There is no doubt about it, South and North Germans are different people," says a Mecklenburg girl. This statement is amply borne out by recriminations on both sides. A northern evacuéé to Bavaria exclaims: "I am terribly unhappy here...the people are so unfriendly and besides you cannot understand their speech. We are all homesick for Hamburg and the North."

The same causes for complaint are given by three other women from the North who add: "We are only just tolerated here," "I never have enough to eat. The people are glad to get rid of us again." "When they hear our accent one is done for." (September 8, 1943).

55. Air Raid.- "Let us hope that life will once more bring us some happier hours..." (February 28, 1944).

56. "Unfortunately the population has no authority, but I think, if they had any, it would be just too bad for the survivors of the planes, which were shot down." (March 7, 1944).

57. Vienna.- "The year 1944 must bring us peace." (March 7, 1944).

58. Suicide.- A 22 year-old girl committed suicide because "she was weary of her new married life." (March 4, 1944).

59. A girl, aged 20, committed suicide. Her brother and fiancée were killed in the East. (March 8, 1944).

60. A girl, who ran away from home with a foreign (stranger?) soldier, committed suicide. (March 7, 1944).

61. A girl took poison "because of an awkward affair." (March 8, 1944).

62. A woman threw herself under a train after her husband and son had been arrested for use of illegal radio. (March 7, 1944).

LABOR

1. All women who have only one child which is over two years of age have to work. One woman was assigned to the Post Office for parcel-post duty for the entire day. (January 16, 1944).

2. Women from 18 to 27 drafted for fire department in Westmark. (January 2, 1944).

3. Wife of German Officer assigned to military duty at Bodensee. (November 20, 1943).

4. Woman drafted into freight train service, upon husband's refusal to allow her to work as communications aid in Germany. (February 7, 1944).

5. Unmarried women between 20 and 23 called up for duties with the "flak." (January 5, 1944).

6. "Two of my comrades have reported to the Goering headquarters; girls are wanted there. We have the chance to rise to the highest administrative posts: but that is of no use to me. I want to go home." (January 5, 1944).

7. "Thusi wants to take part in another theatrical tour for she is sure to be called up in the labor draft like Mrs..." (January 10, 1944).

8. One woman residing in Oldenburg is so tired in the evening she can't write her husband every night. She has to provide lunch for 400 people and

dinner for 150 -- always hot and cold food. Good wages keep her going in spite of the extreme fatigue resulting from so much work. (March 27, 1944).

9. "The young women who get married now no longer receive a subsidy. They all have to work." (January 11, 1944).

10. "...She did not do her service, but was in Wien with soldiers, now she is in prison in Scharding." (January 11, 1944).

11. "I want to stop working, I have had quite enough. I do 13 hours' work a day, I am not home all day...I hope every single day that the end will come -- it cannot go on this way." (January 11, 1944).

12. "Do you think we women have not to bear our burdens, when we have to stay in the factory day and night and do our duty. Do you know what it means for a woman to work at night where others are at home and have a good sleep. You think our work is an easy one. Perhaps you can see that for yourself later on and will be convinced how heavy our work is. Sometimes I am fed up with everything yet I have to carry on just the same. Therefore you must never write any such letters in the future." (January 13, 1944).

13. Germany orders girls of 21 to work in Finland. (February 20, 1944).

14. Service Women in German Navy entitled to one furlough a year. (February 21, 1944).

15. Girls are to replace soldiers as search-light operators on the Ruhr. The soldiers must all go away. (March 12, 1944).

16. "The girls on the trams must stay 3 months longer. If I had to do that too, I think I should go mad. I would rather smash my foot than to stay here another three months. What did one learn for! I have earned hardly anything since my apprenticeship finished. One had to go into the R.A.D.--My parents had to buy so many things for me and even now they have expenses for me when I earn nothing. What can you do with 30 M.? It is only a little pocket money. It is really too bad, the way one wastes one's good time. I would rather bring up 5 children than stay here another 3 months. ..."
(April 26, 1944).

17. "I, too, shall be forced to work in the near future. All women with one or two children. I will return to Gruschwitz. Klausl must go to a nursery. Klausl will not like it, but what can I do. If only this War would soon come to an end."
(March 6, 1944).

18. Girl forced to work for the duration in factory, lives in camp nearby.

19. Woman states she now has to work in a paper mill for a trifle compared to her previous earnings. (February 29, 1944).

20. "We are now taking stimulants to brace us for our work. I feel my strength waning." (December 29, 1944).

21. Except in "ordinary capacity" in office or factory, women are found to be employed or trained by the postal service, as streetcar conductors and as locomotive engineers.

22. Woman imprisoned because she refused to work. (March 24, 1944).

23. Girl complains hours are too long. She walks 5 kms. to station each morning. Leaves home at 06.00, returning after 19.30. (February 29, 1944).

24. After five years land girls receive a bonus of 500 R.M. (February 29, 1944).

25. Germans writing to internees in Palestine or to P.O.W.'s in the Middle East camps make the usual complaint about overwork and the stringent regulations governing labor in Germany. (January 29, 1944).

27. A writer informs his correspondents that if his sister "Wanted to join Mother she would have to first get her release from the Vienna labor office. This is quite improbable. Then she would lose her flat under all circumstances. And finally she would have to report to the labor office in Linz and would again be sent to a factory..."

28. Several women show dissatisfaction with the labor regulations and the Arbeitsamt's policies. "Let us hope that good times come again soon. If we had to live like this always, I should go mad. I have been discharged from the Kindergarten because I can no stand and go about all day. I shall certainly be sent somewhere else now. The 'Arbeitsamt' doesn't leave anyone in peace."

29. In addition to complaints about receiving only a trifle for their work, there are many complaints on the subject of the long hours and fatigue. Working hours are often from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

30. One teacher writes that she is on leave until January 12. "I need it badly, for at the moment I am teaching 129 children and that needs nerves."

31. All unmarried girls are required to do compulsory service outside of Germany. (March 28, 1944).

HONOR WORK

32. This is extra work, overtime work. This extra work would appear to be voluntary in name only -- it seems to be a "voluntary must." The most often mentioned form of "honor work" is streetcar driving by women.

HOURS OF WORK

33. "Long hours and little rest." The victims are mostly women. They are employed as waitresses, private secretaries, dressmakers, kindergarten teachers, nurses, stenographers, in railroad offices, in armament factories, etc. Daytime hours, including time for lunch, and sometimes time to and from work, are given as $9\frac{1}{2}$, 10, 11, $11\frac{1}{4}$, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, 14. Few comments are made, the most common being: "It is doubtful how long this can go on."

LABOR SHORTAGE

34. Only a few cases of labor shortage are mentioned this month. Mention is made of a school girl in Hamburg who, in order to graduate, has to work in the office of the Commission for the evaluation of Air Raid Damage.

ATTITUDE TOWARD LABOR

35. Many women work so hard and such long hours that, as one of them puts it, they are "vegetating rather than living." "We are sick of this war" -- "we have got enough" -- "It is high time the war was over. Morale generally is getting lower." These cries come from districts little, if at all, subject to R.A.F. raids.

PRIVILEGE

36. Girl drafted for defense work deferred because her father appealed to Konrad Henlein. (March 11, 1944).

GERMAN WOMEN'S FIRE FIGHTING UNIT

37. "We are in the Fire Department...We have the pants and helmets of the men and we have to do everything the men used to do. We are under the Police Department and are a Unit of the S.S." (March 22, 1944).

CIVIL SERVICE

38. Higher positions than secretary now possible for women provided they remain unmarried. (March 24, 1944).

TEACHER

39. States she is tired from teaching 129 children and needs vacation. (March 29, 1944).

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY SERVICE IN GERMAN NAVY

40. "...I've been sent to the Naval Auxiliary Service. I am now a soldier now who replaces you in the country. The service is not difficult as we are not raised to be gun women. What is good about it is that one is also treated as a woman. Obviously we must conduct ourselves honorably as women otherwise... is completely lost. We are amongst sailors but we have nothing to do with them. Our entire service is not difficult and one must not lose one's head..." (February 22, 1944).

41. Wife wrote she had been employed on the "ANTONIO DELFINO" for 4 weeks, as a member of the crew. (March 11, 1944).

NEW REGULATIONS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

42. The Women's Office of the German Workers Front has announced that German mothers-to-be must work up until the sixth week before the expected date of birth of their child. If an expectant mother leaves her work without medical permission or some urgent

reason, she can expect to lose her right to the free care given to mothers and to special rations. The only non-medical excuse accepted is an official order to the woman to evacuate the city she lives in, on account of bombing..." (March 18, 1944).

R.A.D.

43. R.A.D. workers take the same oath as soldiers and can be punished for infringement of regulations. That the enforced labor system is being strictly maintained is confirmed by several excerpts. A father suggests that his daughter do her service with what are apparently friends or neighbors. The girl replies that the Labor office would never give permission for this since she is young and healthy, and expects to be sent to a farm or a plant nursery. Another girl is reported working very hard for little pay in the machine tool industry at Lorraine. Still another girl confesses they are worked very hard but she is used to it from her "Service Year". A woman employed by R.A.D. is allowed to bring her young child along and earns 70 M. per month plus room and board. Finally: one half of the R.A.D. is reported to have been drafted into the "Luftwaffe": the particular girl who tells this is now an aircraft spotter.

REGULATIONS

44. A woman who is expecting a child in January and who had wanted to leave her employ on October 31, is asked to stay another month as no substitute could be found for her in time.

45. Training for sports teachers is said to have been discontinued.

COMPULSORY CIVIL DEFENSE FOR WOMEN

46. "I cannot go to Erfurt any more, it is just the same now for me as for your father -- when the Alarm goes. I have to go out and every Thursday and Sunday, duty, we even get a uniform and steel helmet, anyone who doesn't turn up must pay a fine of 150 marks -- what a beautiful world." (January 26, 1944).

GERMAN GIRLS TO BE INSTRUCTED IN SPINNING

47. "At the present time I am spinning. The necessary wool for it was furnished through Mrs. ... of Kammerich. By order of the National Peasants Association (Landesbauernschaft). My pupils, too, have to learn how to spin the wool which is not requisitioned by the Government." (January 31, 1944).

CRITICISM OF LABOR

48. One woman would rather become a mother after 20 years of marriage than keep on working. A girl looks forward to marriage and a home as a means of escape. Another voices the not uncommon complaint that parents no longer have legal control of their children (in connection with the Year of Service and what looks like a moral lapse by a daughter).

Some women have the feeling that the days pass by more quickly for them if they are occupied.

COMPULSORY LABOR CAMPS

49. "Although Ursel has already completed the Compulsory Labor Service (EX: Arbeitsdienst) she was called to Karlsruhe for the Assistance Service (EX: Hilfsdienst). The girls are well taken care of and live together under the guidance of an older Compulsory Labor Service Leader (EX: Arbeitsdienst-fuehrerin). (January 4, 1944).

FOREIGN WORKERS

50. Russian girls, who are prisoners of war, are given presents by German factory workers because they do such good work. (February, 1944)

RELIGION

1. The great disasters of War, at home and at the front, with the grief and general unhappiness resultant from them, are the causes of a strengthening or revival of orthodox religious faith on the part of many Germans, the term, orthodox religion, being taken to embrace the opinions mainly of members of the Protestant and Catholic Churches in Germany. The ordinary lay civilian is no longer concerned with resistance to active persecution, so that what emerges from a study of 142 letters containing references to religion, are trends vitiated or unvitiated by German-Nazi doctrine. These letters cover the period July to December, 1943 inclusive.

2. "...One can only be still and hope for God's help...Perhaps soon the longed-for peace will come. Yes, if God grants it. It must be earnestly prayed for, otherwise the price is too high. And, thank God, there are still many in our Fatherland who pray, no matter if they are called dreamers or sluggards..." (August 20, 1943).

Others hope God will extend his mercy to them, save their lives and end the War.

3. "There are still people who attempt by their stupid talk to separate us from the church. But our love for Christ, the King, is stronger than death..." (September 25, 1943).

4. "In Germany everyone has learned to pray again."

5. "In the last few months, at the diocesan places of pilgrimage, I have rallied the women and young girls to magnificent demonstrations of love and trust in our Holy Mother Mary. Thousands came." (November 1, 1943).

6. A young girl, much impressed by wireless talk which has fired her patriotism, observes: "I prefer such talks to sermons in church! I do not like to admit it, as mother and grandmother go to church fairly regularly and at the bottom of my heart I myself still adhere to our old faith. I spoke about this to Gerti, who has become very religious of late and attends church with her mother pretty regularly." (August 29, 1943).

7. There are also a few expressions of doubt in the goodness of a God who can permit "so much suffering on this earth," a doubt which does not however accept the creed of the new Reich Church as a substitute.

8. "We have all safely arrived in the New Year. We are fortified, whatever it brings us...and if it is God's will, we shall have the peace that is so longed for. Yes, man proposes but God disposes. God's ways are impenetrable so we shall leave everything to Him." (January 4, 1944).

PUNISHMENT

1. Resident in Germany penalized with eight years imprisonment for falsifying ration cards. (March 12, 1943).

2. German girl condemned to four months' imprisonment for breaking the contract with her employers. She had stayed home a week to take care of the household. (November 18, 1943).

3. German girl at Wartberg, Steiermark jailed because of association with French civilian who turned out to be French P.O.W. (January 26, 1944).

4. One year prison sentence for German woman bearing child by Prisoner of War. (February 17, 1944).

5. One year imprisonment for third attempt to dilute milk given to resident to Sudwemhe Bez. Bremen. (February 23, 1944).

6. "I was in Ulm...and overextended my leave of absence for five days, so the Labor Office penalized me 400 R.M." (March 22, 1944).

7. Woman got four months as punishment for refusing to work. (January 9, 1944).

8. "That was my first refuge, because your mother didn't want to have me. Of course, I could have applied to the NSV and then she would have had a considerable punishment inflicted on her into the bargain." (November 26, 1943).

9. Bootlegger was discovered and his mother will be punished as an accomplice. (March 23, 1944).

10. Illegitimate Children. - Wife of German war prisoner in the U. S. had to pay a fine of R.M. 1,000 and several years imprisonment for having a child by a Prisoner of War in Germany. (March 20, 1944).

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Priority postal cards are issued after air raids to inform relatives at home or at the front. (March 13, 1944).

2. There is a predominant negative trend among women writers to prisoners of war, mostly in letters

coming from mothers, wives and sisters.

Mothers of both N.C.O.'s and Officers maintain a fairly equal balance between negative and positive, although a larger percentage of neutral found in letters from mothers to N.C.O.'s leads to the probable conclusion that they are reluctant to express their thoughts freely.

Wives of Officers and N.C.O.'s are fairly equally divided between negative and positive, with negative slightly greater.

One item of interest stands out, that is, the letters of the women friends writing to interned personnel are largely negative. (May, 1943).

3. They were instructed not to write so much.

4. Mailing Regulations.- "After all, one doesn't know what to write all the time. Regulations direct us to write that we are well off." (March 24, 1944).

SHORTAGES

1. "It is difficult to give Christmas presents now. There isn't much to be had and if you get anything in town it is very expensive..." (March 9, 1944).

2. Coffee.- One pound for R.M. 400. (March 25, 1944).

3. "I would feel like a Queen if I could have real coffee every morning." (March 21, 1944).

4. Food.- Baking is done without eggs and little fat. (March 24, 1944).

5. Books.- ...Only available to Party Members in Berlin.

6. Home.- Housewives experience difficulties. (March 13, 1944).

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Hitler Jugend.- During 1943 produced three times as many "strictly first class" toys as in 1942. (March 23, 1944).

2. Restrictions.- Seven o'clock curfew "doesn't matter to us. We are not losing courage." (March 21, 1944).

3. Post-War Inflation.- "If our enemies believe we are going to have an inflation, they are severely mistaken. Never! We have much too much confidence in our administration. With us it is "FUEHRER command and we follow." (January 12, 1944).

4. U.S.S.R..- "My brother is still in France but -- unfortunately has been sent to Russia." (February 25, 1944).

5. Recreation.-- Special Ski Course in Riesengebirge. (February 17, 1944).

6. Blood Donors.-- "She now donates blood every four weeks...out of sympathy with our brave soldiers." (November 15, 1943).

7. Housing.-- A woman from Hamburg discusses the advantages of saving for a new home with the Niedersaechsische Bausparkasse, an organization under State supervision. By enrolling in this organization, she is making preparation for the rebuilding of her home after the War. She is now paying the sum of 51 marks a month and later will be able to build where and how she likes.

8. Travel.-- Special permit required to travel on express trains. (March 25, 1944).

9. Fate of Prisoners of War.-- Some mothers and wives implore their men to be taken prisoners of war so they will be assured of returning home.

10. Reference to 1918.-- We can be rightfully proud of our Army, our great military leaders and our GREATER GERMANY, generally speaking. They over in ENGLAND and AMERICA and RUSSIA must not imagine that they have a GERMANY of 1918 when we became nothing but a plaything of these nations.

11. New Marriage Regulations.- New marriage regulations permit women in Sudentengau, whose husbands are missing in Russia to remarry, annulling the first marriage, regardless of any reappearance of husbands after the War. (March 20, 1944).

12. Education.- "I don't know if you know already that the German women cannot study law and sociology any more. The University, i.e., these Faculties are closed for women. A very clever Decree of the Reich..." (January 4, 1944).

13. Attitude of Women.- "I was not drafted for Labor Service, but was deferred to the end of the War. They told me "B.H.Z.Z." Do you know what that means? It means, remain here for breeding purposes (Bleibe hier zur Zuch"). (January 24, 1944).

14. Behavior of Women.- "You can be proud of your wife (who is not behaving as other women do; one could write letters about this kind.)" (March 9, 1944).

15.. "...gave birth to a boy. Her Frenchman has been transferred to SCHERNAU. Now she can cover her crime with her 20,000 Marks. The whole village is in revolt about it. She has lowered herself. The aftermath is not far away." (January 3, 1944).

16. Attitude.- "In our camp retaliation is the only subject of discussion..." (March 7, 1944).

17. Christmas Sentiments.- Forty-four and four tenths percent of the total number of excerpts classified as negative show depressed and cheerless feelings in regard to Christmas.

Long years of separation from their sons and husbands have a lowering effect on the morale of all classes of population. (December, 1943).