

Tourist Describes Enrope . . .

German People Work in Fields With Feet  
Wrapped in Rags, A&M Student Discovers

By CHARLES KIRKHAM

Our train pulled into the station of a small town just inside the German border. On the platform stood a soldier, his rifle slung, his uniform the faded baggy green of the Wehrmacht. Military permits were inspected and passports stamped.

This was Germany. Along the rail lines vegetable gardens grew to within a foot of the crossties. Workers in the fields tossed heavy shocks of wheat onto horse drawn wagons. Men and women with rags wrapped around their feet worked in vegetable patches too small for wheat or oats. Crops were good this year and they were being stored for the long winter.

Small herds of Holstein cattle grazed contentedly on the grass grown over their crates. Four brick walls surrounded rusted machinery partially heaped over with rubble of a factory once there.

Rusting girders twisted into other rubble heaps of bricks and stones and dirt—what was left of a home. Few men were employed in reconstruction, only the

streets in many towns have been cleared.

A large wheatfield was cut into sections by the asphalt runways of a former airport, the hangars blasted down. Men along the way stopped their work and idly watched the passing Scandinavian Express; their dirty, worn clothes either the black Allied prisoner garb or the baggy, faded green of the Wehrmacht. Children ragged and dirty waved, their arms thin, their faces solemn. Almost no traffic moved on the streets and highways.

Our train stopped in the large dirty Bahnhof of Bremen and there our American group was met by a delegation of German students from the work camp we had come to attend. They welcomed us sincerely and assisted in loading our baggage on the bus chartered by the camp. The hard rubber tires of the bus rumbled over cobblestone streets and either side the eye encountered only rubble heaps where blocks of homes had been.

Standing on what looks to have been the front steps of a house, an

old woman—her hair gray, her dress faded print—surveyed the scene, and there were those among us that claimed she was crying. Perhaps this had been her home.

Bremen is a port city on the Weser River. Before the war (and now) the population was over 400,000. Systematic bombings of the dock areas and saturation bombings of the residential areas destroyed 60% of the city. A single family is allowed two rooms. In the winter long lines of hungry people receive two hot meals daily of watery potato soup ladeled out by the city government.

Here again little has been done toward reconstruction. Prior to the currency reform when the cigarette was the medium of monetary exchange, workers would not labor for worthless marks, and now too few people have marks enough to begin rebuilding. Legally there are 3 1/2 marks to the dollar. A suit of men's clothes made of wood fiber costs 180 marks or a months wages for the worker.

On the black market a pack of cigarettes costing a dime in the Army PX will bring five marks; a fifteen cent bar of soap is two marks; and a nickel candy bar, eight tenths of a mark. Theoretically Americans have only marks obtained through the Military Government at the legal rate. But in jewelry shops Americans are seen buying expensive silverware costing hundreds of German marks.

The store windows and shops are loaded with shoddy goods priced high for anyone but the rich and the blackmarketers to buy. Coffee is about \$7 a pound (\$5 of that is taxes). American coffee on the blackmarket is only \$5 a pound, cheaper than the legal price.

An American may ride the city's street cars and busses without fare by showing his passport. A steak in an American restaurant is on the four-course, sixty-cent supper. A two room suit in the comfortable Army managed Hotel Bremen is a dollar a day. In the parking lot of the hotel German men bend to residents cars—washing, polishing and cleaning—for the tips of cigarettes, soap, and chocolate they receive.

Our work in Bremen was to live with the Germans, eat with them, work with them for four weeks.

Barber Shop Worshippers . . .

'Sweet Adeline' Rings Out  
As SPEBSQSA Gathers Pep

By CHUCK MAISEL

Drag out your atomizers and air out last year's lungs. The Society for Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America is about to set up shop again this year. They are holding their organizational meeting Thursday night after yell practice in the YMCA—the Assembly Room, not the barber shop.

The local chapter expects big things this annum. According to S. C. Jones, vice-president of the songsters, there wasn't enough time for the members to get in voice last year as the charter of the group wasn't received until April.

Plans to be discussed include starting a big membership drive with the cooperation of KORA, the Batts, the Bryan Eagle, and the Bryan Chamber of Commerce. If enough members are recruited the Houston chapter, which sponsors the locals, may send a quartet to the International Convention this year.

Also on the agenda will be the preparation for the public performance to be given early in November by the Brazos barber shoppers and guests from other leading chapters in the state. A spot on KORA's "On the Beam" program is in the offing also.

For those of the readers who aren't acquainted with the SPEBSQSA, it was organized in 1938 by Owen C. Cash and three others in Tulsa, Oklahoma. From there the idea spread until today there are chapters in 416 cities with a total membership of 21,000. The organization publishes a monthly music book and a quarterly magazine, the Harmonizer.

The Code of Ethics of the unique society states their purpose, that is, to "save for future generations the sacred right to seek haven from their daily cares through indulgence in old fashioned quartet harmony."

The Code also warns members to refrain from forcing their

songs on unsympathetic ears and declares that the laws of the society must necessarily correspond with those of the many states concerning disturbance of the peace.

W. H. Hall of the EE Department and president of the vocalists asks for all men who love music and harmony to come out to the meeting. Upon joining, the new member checks on his application blank whether he sings bass, tenor baritone, or crow.

Crows are those who like to sit on the fence and just listen. A voice is not needed to join the organization, only a desire to "spread the spirit of harmony throughout the world."



This slightly Dali-influenced picture was drawn for the Battalion by its geographic expert Dr. Frank Welch. He has tried to point out the sights of specific historic interests to a traveler visiting San Antonio. Dr. Welch will conduct guide tours immediately preceding and following the pliskin conflict.

Texas Tech After Second Win  
In Game With Aggies Saturday

By LEON SOMER

Texas Tech may not have the team that it had last year but the Red Raiders will not be a push-over for any team this year. Only last Saturday the Lubbock team blanked highly regarded West Texas State 19-0 and will be seeking their second win in this week's game with the Aggies.

This year the Tech team will be pointing toward their third straight Border Conference title and once again their main obstacle will be the Hardin-Simmons Cowboys.

The Red Raiders were hit hard by graduation and Coach Dell Morgan has been hard pressed in filling some of his positions.

Gone from last year's eleven are such players as Freddie Brown, last year's backfield

sparkplug, Bennie Winkler, tackle, Joe Smith, end, and Tuffy Nabors, center who was the heart of the Tech line last season.

Sparking the Texas Tech team this year will be such players as Dan Pursell and Bobby Garner at guards, Bobby Williams at center, Walter Edrington at end, and Cal Stevenson and Bud Conley in the backfield.

Despite the set-back that the Aggies took last Saturday, there were some bright spots in the team's offense. The running of Bobby Goff, Bob Goode, and Jim Boswell proved to be the main spark in the Aggie backfield.

The passing game of the team was far from pleasing to Coach Stittler. The Cadets tried eleven passes and completed only four. Stittler has been working the team long and hard this week in an effort to have a sharper passing game ready for the Texas Tech team Saturday night.

The Aggies will work-out on their home practice field all week, going to San Antonio by bus Saturday morning.

Bo Finds Tackle  
For Bear Hunt

DETROIT—(AP)—Bo McMillin, new coach of the Detroit Lions of the National Football League, finished one of the colloquialisms that helped make him famous when he met Lion Tackle Paul Briggs.

"That fellow is big enough to hunt bear with a switch," said Bo Briggs, who played for the University of Colorado, "stands six feet, four and a half and weighs 264 pounds."

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In

**THE COMMENTATOR**

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POST'S GRAPE NUTS, 12-oz. package 18c  
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WOLF CHILI—Big No. 2 can . . . 51c  
SOAP, Fine Art Complexion . . . 2 for 15c  
CIGARETTES . . . Carton \$1.70  
ARMOURS BACON ENDS & PIECES 32c  
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**Garden Club Will Have Tea Friday**

The A&M Garden Club will entertain with a tea from 3 to 5 Friday at the home of Mrs. R. D. Lewis, 410 Throckmorton.

Members of the club and those interested in becoming members have been invited to attend.

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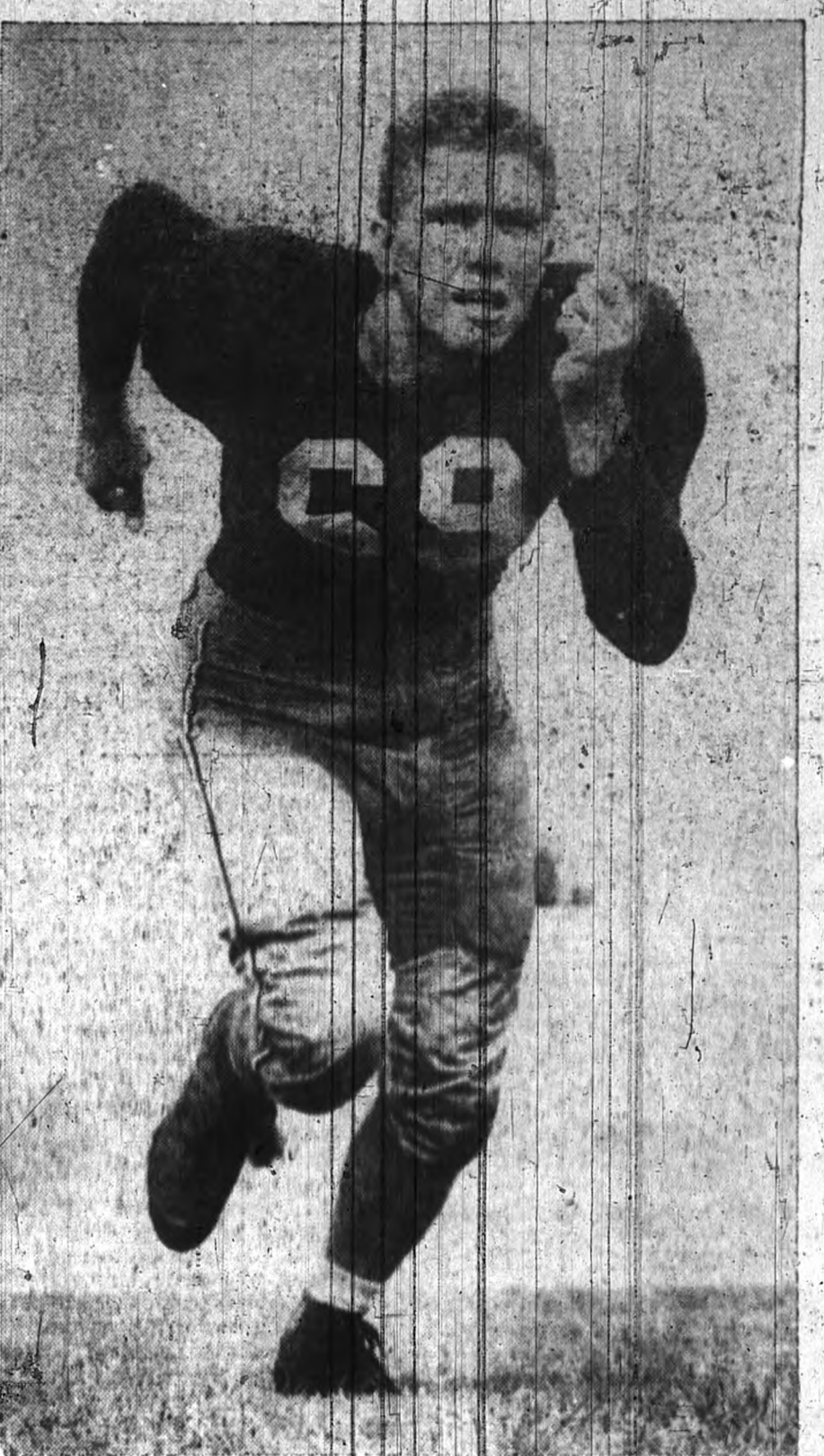
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MAX GREINER, 190 pound sophomore guard, was one of the better Aggie linemen in the Villanova game. Greiner's time in the Philadelphia game was limited by an ankle injury but he is expected to be ready to go against Tech. Greiner graduated from Beaumont High School but now lives in Houston.

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