

## TAKE THE RIGHT ROAD

Nature meant us to retain our own teeth throughout life. Natural teeth are best because with them:

- We eat better
- We digest our food better
- We look better
- We talk and sing better.

No artificial teeth can replace the radiance and sparkle of healthy, natural teeth and gums.

False teeth are never as good as our own. They cannot manage as efficiently those juicy steaks and chops, that crusty bread, and those stimulating fibrous foods.

Wearers of false teeth show their age more quickly—lines appear round mouth and nose. Gums often shrink fast, causing loose fit and requiring frequent replacement of dentures.

Young men and women, keep your natural teeth clean and sparkling by: Brushing your teeth after meals, particularly before bed. End each meal with a salivary stimulant and tooth cleaner such as raw fruit or raw yegetable. Visit your dentist twice a year.

KEEP THIS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

FOR A HEALTHIER NATION

## NORTHUMBERLAND HAY

(Written for "The Listener" by JIM HENDERSON)

ALL day long we worked together in the hayfield. In the hayfield high on the fells of Northumberland, with never a tree to be seen, with only the groundlarks rising in sudden agitation before us, and the black corbie (carrion crow) watching from the stone wall.

They were in battledresses dyed brown, the two German prisoners of war, and on their heads were dark khaki caps, cut as those worn by the Afrika Corps, back at Sidi Rezegh in the last weeks of 1941.

And together we worked, the four of us, side by side, spreading out the dampened kiles (haycocks) before the new sunshine; in the afternoon piling the dried, hay into pikes, great grass mounds topped with weighted sacks built only in Northumberland.

The Jerries worked with a will. Bruno, 44, once a civil engineer, when spoken to replied in good English. He had brown wavy hair, long, and eyes of brown. His free, broad smile showed strong teeth. He gestured gracefully with his hands.

Franz, two years older (ex-school-teacher), had a crumpled, weatherbeaten face. He wore spectacles. His hair was cropped closely. Between us, we completed a pike.

"Voon-der-baar." I cried.

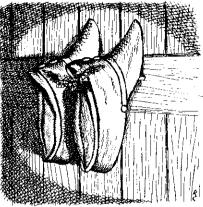
"Vun-der-full," Franz grinned.

We are working together now, for peace, thought I to myself, forking over the hay to Franz. Oh, the hell with war, he's a good chap, and so is Bruno. Then I thought: if it wasn't for them I'd be walking 50 per cent better, and George (Dunkirk-wounded) would see with two eyes instead of one. Then I thought of the Germans we had mutilated. But always came the answer to pity: Well, they started it. (Jerry equivalent: They encircled us.)

ON the way to the hayfield, George, at 29 the owner of the farm, and I had passed other Germans digging black peat, groping and toiling amongst the muck and slush of the oozing trench. "The proper place for the Master Race," said George, "down in a ditch." He said if he had his way he'd keep 'em working hard in England for six years—"for six years they kept us at war, for six years we should keep them working at peace—here. Same conditions: a few months off for good behaviour, but any slacking—shot. Too soft, that's what we are, too soft."

Mrs. Robson came across the field with our tea and sandwiches. We all ate and drank together. Four years ago now....

At six o'clock, our joint task over, we went back to George's farmhouse, the two Jerries disappearing into their rooms at the end of the building. But after supper I said to George: "Mind if I yarn with that English-speaking joker Bruno?" "Go right ahead, boy." So for



20 minutes I yarned to brown-haired Bruno, prisoner from the Channel Islands in May, '45.

BRUNO, very cordial, said the main camp (holding 3,000 German officers) had been quite comfortable, radio sets were permitted now, and the well-stocked canteen had "sometimes a little beer." Cigarettes ran from 10 to 25 weekly. "The kitchens in the camp are managed by Germans, so we have German meals." Many prisoners were seriously learning English. Widely-varied educational classes included farmwork, architecture, electricity, mathematics, book-keeping and languages. "We can also listen to lectures about politics, religion, philosophy. The lecturers are English or German. They are very interesting and frequented."

I asked why he, in common with many other officers, volunteered to go farming. He replied: "Because we wish to become acquainted with the English people, their feeling and their customs, and because we intend to show the English that there are Germans who are no barbarians. We are hoping that there will not take place any future war between our two nations if they know each other."

The Y.M.C.A., sending books and newspapers, working hard to make P.O.W. life easier, and the Commandant of the camp "is a perfect gentleman and does his best to make our prisoner time easy." As for correspondence, a prisoner may write to anyone living outside England and the Channel Islands. He is allowed each month four postcards (seven lines) and three 24-line letter forms, which reach home within three weeks. A letter to a prisoner takes a fortnight from the English Zone, 10 days to three weeks from the Russian Zone. and from four to five weeks from the American Zone.

"Do you ever think we will ever be at war with each other again?"

"Neither before the Second World War nor at present have been unfriendly thoughts against England or the English people."

"Do you think we will be at war with Russia in the next ten to twenty years?"

"We shall not hope that there will be a war between England and Russia because Germany would be the battlefield; that will mean Germany and the German people would be destroyed perfectly."

Asked if many desired to migrate, he answered: "Of course, because life in

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