

Dr. Alice Barlow-Brown Asks for Shoes and Clothing for the People of Serbia

All Winnetka is interested in Dr. Alice Barlow-Brown and her work among the Serbian war refugees. The accompanying letter received recently from the great physician and relief worker will command the interest of every reader of the Weekly Talk.

Dr. Brown is supported in her work by voluntary contributions from Winnetka citizens and has been singularly successful due, for the most part, to the ceaseless efforts of Winnetka women, represented in the Winnetka Woman's club.

The letter follows:
Prishtina, Serbia, Feb. 16, 1920.
My dear Pard:

I do not remember whether I have written you since I left Belgrade or not, but it is nearly a month since then and I am now at Prishtina where I am supposed to remain and develop the work. My trip in a freight car from Belgrade to Veles was uneventful though unique. I was to take three cars and with the help of my interpreter, who accompanied me, to fill the cars with the supplies we would need most. In the car with me were the medicines that I had brought from New York, besides the entire baggage of our party and some kerosine oil. I arranged the steamer trunks to hold my bed roll in the corner, and curtained it off with my red blanket which gave me a private compartment. At the other end of the car I made a like place for Charles. We had purchased a stove and stove pipes so as to keep warm, also a basket full of provisions. This car had recently carried horses so that I had some cleaning of the floor to do. As we were to start at about 5 o'clock in the morning I thought it would be better to spend the night before in the car; I was rudely awakened about midnight when the switching of our car began and it kept up almost all night.

"Slow Train", etc.
At twenty minutes of six we started on our journey only to find that the car containing our lumber had been left behind, it had not been attached to the train, so I despatched Charles back to Belgrade; this meant that I must make the trip alone. We were attached to a military train made up of thirty coaches, my car was next to the engine, the brakeman sits in a little sheltered seat made especially for him at the end of some

of the cars, in the front of mine was the brakeman. A piece of board had been taken out so he could see my movements which gave me a feeling of protection. When Charles left me he asked the conductor to see that I was provided with coal and water, which he did. There was a very amusing incident in the morning as we approached a steep grade, the engine being disabled had great difficulty in pulling the cars; first, three soldiers ran ahead and picked up fine gravel which they placed on the tracks so the engine would not slip, then again when it was getting steeper all of the soldiers jumped out and pushed the train up the grade singing as they pushed. I wanted very much to take a picture of it but the day was dull—such a sight is not often repeated in one's life.

Observes Turk Customs
As we journeyed on through Serbia I became aware of the awful devastation that had taken place, every bridge, every railroad track, cars, engines, all destroyed, villages also. I wonder that the people have the courage to come back and start again. This section has more Turks than Serbs; the Turks have kept the Serbs as slaves for the last 500 years. Now that the Serbs are free they are bewildered, lack organization and don't know where to begin. The mountainous section of the country is beautiful, but the farming part of it shows that the land has been held back. The Turks will not work; they sit in the cafes and smoke and gamble all day and drink black coffee. Their women are in a terrible state their shut-in lives develop no energy, many suffer from anemia, and their customs are such that they sleep uncomfortably and sit on the floor; they have no chairs nor beds. Around the sides of the room are built benches about six inches from the floor on which rugs are spread. Here they sleep with long pillows against the wall. Some suffer from sitting on the floor all the time.

Visits Albanians
I hope that the town will repair a building for us so that we can fix it up for a children's hospital. I think that dispensaries are most needed as health centers where we can give out food and clothing. At one dispensary to which I went last Saturday at Podejero, two hours from here in a Ford car, almost due north

through Albanian villages, there were nearly 100 Albanians waiting for me to see them. Albanians are enemies of the Serbs so the Prefect sent a gendarme with us to protect us, but I think they are more likely to kill the gendarme than to kill any of us. At this place, Miss Halloway, a splendid English nurse, has been working for five years; every one thinks very highly of her.

The children look very haggard and wan, I want to give them one feeding a day either soup or cocoa. How I wish I could furnish oatmeal for them, I am trying to see if I can get some from Scotland. No milk

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