

ALBERTA GERMANS PRAISE CANADIANS

Issue Statement Refuting False Criticism of Conditions There

ALWAYS WELL TREATED

Americans Should Not Believe Statements Alleging Harsh Measures

Calgary, Alta., Dec. 23.—With a view to counteracting reports circulated in the United States that Germans and Austrians are being harshly-treated—reports evidently intended to discourage immigration to Canada—the settlement of Germans at Hussar, Alberta, have prepared a statement which has been forwarded to the Lutheran Synod at St. Louis, Missouri.

The statement is as follows: "A short time ago there appeared in a number of newspapers in the United States articles which dealt with the unworthy and unjust treatment of Germans and Austrians living in Canada, both on the part of the Canadian Government and Canadian people, in which were painted in strong colors the unpleasantness to which the enemies of England were exposed here.

Found No Unpleasantness.

"To this statement we wish to remark that these rumors are not according to facts. A little over a year ago we established a colony in Hussar, Alberta consisting of twenty German farmers and their families. The young members of our colony left for the United States at the outbreak of war to sail for Germany, while the others signed their parole in accordance with the directions of the Canadian Government, in which parole they undertake not to take any inimical steps during the duration of the war, against which the Government on their part promise full security of the Canadian laws.

"Since then more than a quarter of a year has elapsed, and we have not had any unpleasantness of any account. We have met everywhere with kind receptions and a discreet understanding of our situation. Everything in our colony has taken the usual course. The railroad company from which we purchased our lands have during this time in which the forwarding of money from Germany for the purpose of extending our operations is made possible, has aided us in the most helpful manner, so that the execution of our plans could progress without hindrance. We have only words of grateful acknowledgement therefore.

False Newspaper Articles.

"As we are impelled by our German sense of righteousness we are sending you these lines as a number of people among us belong to your faith and as we have been informed that there is a number of Germans from your jurisdiction who

intend to make new homes in Western Canada, and have been turned away from their purpose by false newspaper articles. The fact is that Western Canada is the place for every German or Austrian farmer, who has made up his mind to secure for himself and family a safe future through earnest and steady labor. That fact, the war cannot change in any particular.

"In the experiences we have had, although we all remember our Fatherland in the moment of distress with all our hearts and thoughts, we, however, believe that it is only fair that we in this manner should vindicate our new home."