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CHÂTEAU D'OEX FOR OUR WOUNDED.

KINDLY SWISS HOSTS.

In the following message from Château d'Oex a correspondent of the Wireless Press describes the conditions under which the British prisoners removed from Germany will live.

Château d'Oex, where the British wounded and invalid prisoners released from Germany will find a home until the end of the war, is a typical Swiss mountain village in the Bernese highlands. The inhabitants are almost exclusively French-Swiss—they speak French and their sympathies are strongly for the Allies. The prisoners will be among friends. Château d'Oex was chosen as the place for the first British prisoners in Switzerland because it was the first to ask for the privilege of receiving them. When the French and German exchanges began the people of Château d'Oex foresaw that British prisoners would soon follow and they immediately put in an application. Recently there have been hundreds of invitations from Swiss places for the British prisoners, but Château d'Oex comes first.

The officers will be housed in a separate hotel. Later, those who are married will be permitted to rejoin, within the limits of Château d'Oex, their wives. They will be free from the outset to receive visits from their relatives and they will enjoy an almost complete measure of liberty within the bounds of the village. Their quarters are very comfortable and their material en-

vironment as good as that of a first-class London hotel. There will be ample opportunities for sports and outdoor amusements.

The men will be lodged in hotels and boarding-houses in Château d'Oex and the neighbouring villages of Rougemont and Rossinières. Two men will sleep in each room. The Château d'Oex hotel and boarding-house keepers, in their anxiety to make their new guests comfortable, are using their finest and best rooms for our men. Were it not that nothing is too good for the heroes of the war one might say that the soldiers interned at Château d'Oex are pampered. In the case of non-commissioned officers and privates it will be impossible to allow them to live with their wives and other relatives, but if any of these find it possible to come to Château d'Oex to be near their husbands and sons, facilities will be given for the men in question to visit them frequently.

Men who are fit to work will be suitably employed in the mornings. They will be free to go out within the limits of the village in the afternoon. British non-commissioned officers will be in charge of the men and will receive instructions from Swiss officers. The men will be their own servants and will be responsible for the cleanliness of their rooms. There will be three meals daily—breakfast, midday meal, and supper at 6 p.m. Meat once daily. All food will be specially adapted to the English taste.

The Swiss authorities insist that with the exception of nurses no women visitors shall enter any of the hotels and houses set apart for the British prisoners. A British Committee has been formed, with the permission of the local authorities, to promote the welfare of the prisoners in every possible way. The Committee has as its chairman the Rev. E. Dudley Lampen, the British chaplain at Château d'Oex, and as members the author, Mr. Archibald Marshall, Mr. T. H. Reeve (treasurer), Mr. H. F. D. Pennington (secretary), and three English ladies. Side by side with the British Committee there will be a Swiss Committee over which the Syndic of Château d'Oex will preside, and which will include two Deputies of the Legislative Assembly of the Canton of Vaud. The Swiss military officer in command is Major Mercanton. The British Committee will open a branch of the Geneva Inquiry Bureau for missing soldiers, as it is thought that the prisoners may be able to give information regarding missing comrades.

The names of British prisoners interned in Switzerland will not be published. Information of their removal to Switzerland will be sent to relatives privately.