





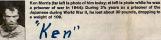
Virall Johnson: American troops remained disciplined during captivity: "We sometimes had close-order drill and Saturday inspections."

Charles Dawes: "I'll



like to be held behind barbed-wire fences."





Japanese during World War II, he lost about 30 pounds, dropping to a weight of 109. "Ken"





H.J. "Bud" Reiser (far left is photo of him today; at left is photo while he was a prisoner of war in 1945): "We were hit by flak and our plane caught fire, and we had to ball out use our parachutes - before the plane blow up and grashed. I met the pilot after I not on the ground. He and I ye e a plured trying to get back to our lines."

Soldier puts his feelings to words - Charles MY DAYS IN MUNICH

We started on the thirtieth They got us up way early. There wasn't a one of us in a hurry To be working under a Jerry.

we. We climbed up in the box cars And was it hell a-riding

You freeze your toes and frost your But we kept soft on airding

We fruity arrived in Munich Our shovels and spades were wating With pockets full of soop and tea

We soon were busy trading When the watches said three-traty

## **POWs** Ex-prisoners unlock memories By ROB SWENSON

d in a Slour Falls delicateuren wake him up

Ken Morris also has memories of hunger. He remembers fellow can Eves bringing in frogs and snakes to out from Philipine rice gardens. "You weren't used to eating rice three times a day... One guy killed a cobra. Anything like that was edible. Morris said Morris, 64, and Reiser, 65, were

ans from World War II, Reiser and Morris also are members of a group of ex-POWs from the Stoux Falls area who meet the third Tuesday of ans programs and activities, and just socialize. Three years ago, they started the Sioux Land Chapter of American Ex-Prisoners of War Inc... a national veterans organization

chapter has about 50 members scat tered throughout eastern South Da-Members of the Sioux Falls club share a common experience with about \$0,800 living Americans, in-cluding \$0 South Dakotans who belong to one of the state's three ex-

Members of the local chapter though it wasn't an easy time. "I is never forget what it was like to be held behind hurbed-wire fences." Charles Dawns, 215 Meyer German prison camp during World

We throw the showels mean.

And started back our way

And we easily put it away

Ombed back up in the box cars

Your ration of sour was western

Stacked our bread in the boxes

And went to sleep on the hay.

I dream of good of South Dakets

The land of the sunshine state

weight of 128, during 3½ years as a prisoser of the Japanese. Reiser, 1805 S. Lincola Ave., dropped from 181 pounds to 115 pounds during about three months of captivity that started is late January 1945 while he was serving as a gunner on a B-17 We were hit by fisk and our

plane caught fire, and we had to ball out — use our parachutes — be fore the plane blew up and crashed I met the pilot after I got on the ground. He and I were captured try or to get back to our lines." Reises

Reiser, commander of the Sinux Falls area ex-POW chapter, said he was given one cup of barley soup a day during his first week in captivi ty and varying rations of potatoes and bread after that. I got to the point where I thought if I could just have a garbage can from the United States, I'd live like a king," Reiser said. He said allied

troops weren't aime in their suffer-ing, though: "The The German guards didn't have food either. They were hungry - not as hungry as us - but hungry." Morris said he thinks the federal government could do more to help veterans. But Perwin Knutson. 62.

treated. Knutson put in about 10 months in a German prison camp during World War II. The Rev. Virgil Johnson, 60, 2016

W. 11st St., who also put in 19 stooths in a German prison camp. Kautson said fellow prisoners at parts of a radio, which was assem-bled at night to receive messages. Veteran's Day, which is Friday, that

For Dawes, Veteran's Day under scores the need to protect liberty. Shortages of warm clothing and Hoping for the day when I'll be back

And eating some hamburger steaks ('I be at home lorever more With a padlock on my door Hand all my dollars to the Red Cross And the net with at the draft boards.

Written by Charles Gates Dawes while se was a prisoner during World War II.