

Letter to Editor

"Our Aliens"

Published in Brisbane's "Daily Mail" on 18 December 1919

An interesting addition to Maleny's WWI history. The following letter was written on 7 December 1919 and published in Brisbane's "Daily Mail" on 18 December 1919. World War I had been over for more than a year but hostility against German families at Witta continued. Most of whom were Australian-born.

OUR ALIENS.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—The majority of settlers in the Witta district are of alien origin, and since the war started, and also for a few years before, they have been conducting their services in the German language and in their own church. One Sunday in every three months the German priest or pastor conducts the service, and also christenings, and confirms Hans or Gretchen, if they are old enough.

What sort of a Government have we got in Queensland to allow this to be carried on Sunday after Sunday? That is what myself and a lot of other Diggers want to know. And every Sunday we sit and watch the Fritzes go to church, and we are powerless to stop them, after fighting for this country and against their relatives. There is also a gang of returned men making roads for these people to go to church on. What would have been the result if the Huns had won the war? Would we have been allowed to conduct our services? I don't think.

Yours, etc.,
RETURNED SOLDIER.
Maleny, December 7.

Our Aliens

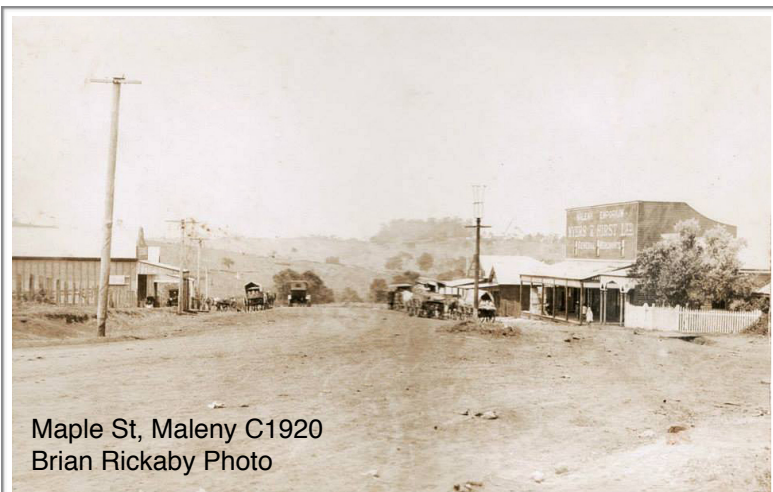
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Returned Soldier,

Maleny, December 7.



Maple St, Maleny C1920
Brian Rickaby Photo