

THE DISPATCH.

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CHANGES FOR SETTLERS

Fine Mixed Farming Country Opened in British Columbia

"The 'Back to the Land' movement is taking place steadily but surely throughout the province of British Columbia and if this movement is directed along right lines we shall soon be supplying our own markets and eventually exporting." Such is the declaration made by Mr. W. E. Scott, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for British Columbia, returning with Mr. W. T. McDonald, Live Stock Commissioner, from an extended tour through the central portion of the province for the purpose of reporting upon the new country along the Grand Trunk Pacific's Transcontinental Line. In his report the Deputy Minister says: "There have been many opinions expressed about the lands in Central British Columbia contiguous to the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific. Our observations led us conclusively to the opinion that this part of the province is a country, the future of which is assured as a stock raising and mixed farming country.

"After leaving Prince Rupert, on the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, there is practically no land suitable for agricultural purposes until Terrace is reached, 100 miles from Prince Rupert. Here the Kitsum Kalem and Lakelse Valleys extend on each side of the Skeena River. There is probably an area of 250,000 acres of land in these two valleys suitable for agriculture. Considerable development has been effected lately in the Kitsum Kalem Valley. The district is particularly well suited for growing strawberries and other small fruits.

"A very large amount of development work has been undertaken during the past year in the magnificent Bulkley Valley. The quality of a large proportion of the land is all that could be desired. Farmers are realizing that the time has arrived when they should develop their lands, and land-clearing operations are in evidence on all sides. It is difficult to estimate the amount of land suitable for agriculture in this wonderful valley, but it runs into many hundreds of thousands of acres.

Proceeding along the line, Fraser Lake is reached. A considerable number of settlements have gone into this district lately and are proceeding to clear land and develop their holdings. We were immensely impressed with the enormous extent of good land in the Nechacho Valley, most of which can be cleared at a very low cost indeed. Settlers' log houses are springing up in every direction, and considerable energy is being shown by most of them in clearing their lands and getting them into crops. There are many tracts of good agricultural land adjacent to Prince George.

"The wonderful country between Hazelton and Prince George has a great future ahead of it, now that transportation has been effected. The country traversed grows magnificent crops of timothy, oats and barley. Wheat may also be grown successfully if care is exercised in getting the seed sown as early as possible so as to avoid frosts. Potatoes and other vegetables and small fruits do very well. It is, par excellence, a stock and mixed farming country, and not suitable for fruit trees."

AIRSHIP FLEETS TERRORS OF SEA

Whole Cloud of Death-dealing Fly. Pitted Against Warships in Future Battles

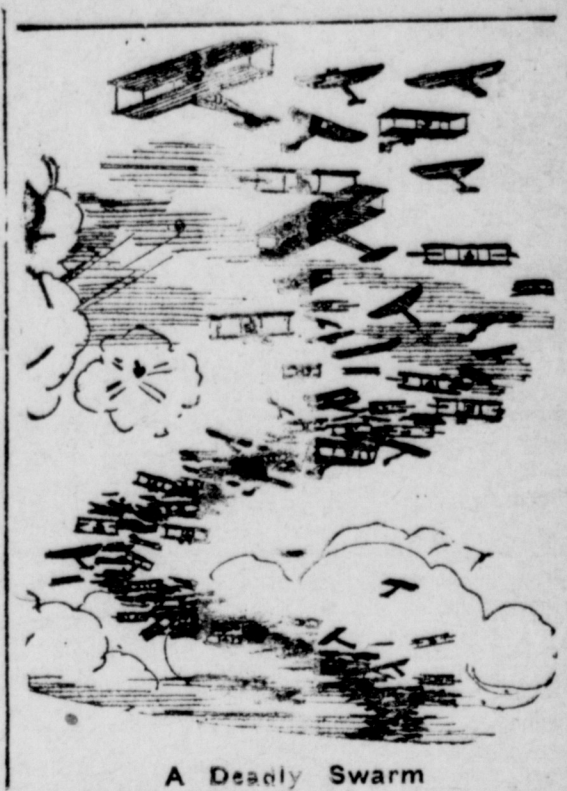
The flying machine is the greatest terror of the men who go down to the sea in \$15,000,000 floating forts. The fact is that the navies of the world are feverishly trying, on the one hand, to find a way to avoid the bird machines and, on the other hand, building as many war aeroplanes as they can.

In considering the effect of an aeroplane in battle, too many people

are apt to pit a single plane against a battleship. How easy to put on or two or half a dozen flyers on business! But navy men have not fallen into this error. They know it would be just as foolish for a naval commander to send one aeroplane against a battleship as it would be for a military commander to send one machine gun against a brigade of troops. They know that their problem figures out about as follows:

A battleship costs from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000; it carries a crew of 1,000 men. An aeroplane costs from \$7,000 to \$10,000, carries not more than two men. Therefore, to be sure of success against the battleship, the proper tactics would be to send a fleet of from 25 to 100 aeroplanes, or even 200, into the fight.

Suppose there were 100 in a fleet and fifty of them would be destroyed and their crews drowned. In men the loss would be 100 lives, in money less than a million. But there is little chance that the battleship would escape. So the count against the airship loss would be the destruction of



A Deadly Swarm

a \$15,000,000 battleship and the loss of 1,000 lives. It would take at least a year to build another battleship while the loss of the 50 aeroplanes would be replaced in a month or two. The aeroplane would be the hardest sort of a mark to hit from the deck of a rolling ship. But how about hitting 100 aeroplanes?

The protection afforded the ship by its deck armor would not be very great in a rain of high explosives such as a fleet of aeroplanes could drop on it. In a trial in Paris, France, an army officer demonstrated a device which shoots as accurately from an aeroplane as the big guns of a warship shoot—70 per cent. of hits.

Now suppose we send a fleet of 100 air craft against a battleship and each ship drops two bombs with 70 per cent. of hits. That is 140 bombs out of 200 landing. (One would be enough) to wreck the ship. So we can readily believe that these little craft that carry but two men and cost so little will become the terror of sea fighting.

FOODS AND DISEASE

Popular Ideas and Fads Discouraged by Science

A Canadian writer says: It is one of our national fads to worry about foods, and invent theories of the effect of diet upon mind and body. Although the majority of scientific men say now, and always have said, that a natural and varied diet is best for the normal human animal, the faddists continue to urge vegetarianism, the monodiet, the return to uncooked food, and numerous other queer and restricted ways of dining. While health undoubtedly depends upon a correct and reasonable diet, there is very little scientific proof to support the belief in various foods as specific cures for diseases. A few diseases are known to have been aided by dietary changes, such as the restriction of sugar in diabetes, or the supply of added nutrition in the form of milk and eggs in tuberculosis; but the amount of definite knowledge along this line is small. Persons past middle age are advised by a class of food venders to refrain from eating any food produced below the ground. The origin of this notion is unknown, although it is widely accepted. A well known dietetician asserts that from a scientific standpoint it is absurd to claim that the starch obtained from a potato grown below the ground is more nutritious than that of corn starch secured from a product above ground.

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Russian Winter Peril to Germans

London, Sept. 11.—The London Times military expert writes:

"In the midst of desolation and at the opening of the bad season, the Germans will have to decide what they will do next. It is true that the comparative proximity of the German bases and the German methods give them advantages which Napoleon never possessed in Russia, but in winter must be sheltered or perish.

"The systematic destruction of towns, villages and farms, and the withdrawal of local supplies will certainly affect the German operations most injuriously.

"In Russia vast hosts are preparing to renew the war. In every allied and neutral country all available factories are working day and night to supply the munitions that Russia needs.

"The effect of these preparations is already becoming manifest in the firmer countenance of the Russian regiments and in the offensive operations, which have been undertaken at several points.

"Even if during the winter one million Germans could be transferred from the east to the west, to join the 1,800,000 Germans now in the west they would find themselves faced by greater numbers of French, British and Belgians, and after immense losses such as they would assuredly suffer they would be unable to pursue their campaign either east or west with any hope of success.

"No matter what the German decision is the Allies can regard it with equanimity."

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AT

"The Dispatch Office"

Fighting For Potash Deposits Are Going On in France

Paris, Sept. 17.—One of the reasons for the determined fight which the Germans are making to hold the ground between Guebwiller and Mulhouse is the importance of the potash deposits in upper Alsace in this vicinity, which are estimated to be worth 80,000,000 francs (\$16,000,000), says a despatch to the Havas News Agency from Geneva. Despite the war, the industry continues in active operation, and about 100 freight cars loaded with potash are sent daily into the interior of Germany.

Turks Refused Further Assistance by Germany

London, Sept. 17.—The correspondent of the Daily Chronicle at Athens telegraphs:

"Interesting information has reached me from thoroughly reliable sources with regard to the matter of furnishing fresh help for the hard-pressed Turks. A Turkish mission lately has been in Berlin in order to point out to the military authorities there the circumstances of the Ottoman empire which make resistance after the end of September an extremely difficult matter in the absence of effective assistance from Germany.

"The Germans recognize that time is now against them in this particular zone of the great war area, and I am told by a diplomat that the belief in Vienna is that the Gallipoli Peninsula at least will be in the Allies' hands at an early date.

Refugees From Turkish Armenia

Petrograd, Sept. 17.—(via London Sept. 18).—Mr. Clarence D. Usher, Mr. and Mrs. Yarrow, and thirteen other persons, comprising the missionary staff at Van, Turkish Armenia, passed through Petrograd to day on their way to Bergen, Norway, having had to abandon to pillage and flame the result of seventy years work at Van.

Aged, but dauntless, Mrs Reynolds broke her leg in the hurried flight from Van, and died in Tiflis. Mr Usher was attacked the same day as his wife was stricken. He still is scarcely able to walk.

The entire party suffered great hardships on the road. Already weakened through the long nursing of thousands of refugees, virtually all the members of the party were scourged by disease and were forced to halt at Tiflis. There fortunately, the Board of Missions had a fund deposited with the American consul, Dr. Wilson A. Shedd, head of the Urumiah Mission, and Mrs. Labore, the wife of one of the missionaries at Urumiah, and several other missionaries are homeward bound.

Dr. Shedd lost his wife, and two other women of the Urumiah station died of disease, due to overwork for caring for twenty thousand refugees.

As an indication of the spirit of missionaries, another body of them left here to-night for Persia, after having bide farewell to Dr. Shedd's party.

The Urumiah missionaries report that that city was spared a massacre on the occasion of the second flight of people from it. The Kurdish tribes around Urumiah are said now to be disposed to submit to Russia.

Van again is in the hands of the Russians, who are declared to have found the canals and trenches choked with untold thousands of bodies of Armenians who had been unable to escape and were killed.

At Seattle, Wash., recently 50 tons of dynamite intended for Russia, exploded on a barge in the harbor, causing damage estimated at \$40,000 to windows in that city. A watchman guarding the explosive is believed to have been killed. The explosion occurred within a radius of

8 miles from Seattle. The dynamite was taken to Seattle from San Francisco and was transferred to the scow and was awaiting the arrival of a steamer to take it to Russia.

"Conscriptionist Conspirators"

Few York, Sept. 17.—A cable to the Herald from London this morning says:

"The Daily News this morning asserts the movement for conscription backed by Lord Northcliffe and his newspapers is inspired by a desire to upset the government and precipitate a general election in the hope that 'as His Lordship has been unable to depose Lord Kitchener, Mr Asquith will be beaten and Lord Kitchener will resign.'"

"How dangerous Lord Northcliffe's policy is to England is evidenced by the statement of W. H. Thomas, Labor member for Derby, in the House of Commons, that if the government attempts to enforce conscription three million railway workers in the United Kingdom will strike and that this strike will be supported by other trades, thus precipitating an industrial revolution.

"Mr Thomas's words carried great weight, as since the beginning of the war he has been assisting in preventing strikes and speeding up work on guns, munitions, and other war materials.

"Mr Thomas's intimation that the conscription movement is fanned by those who wish to oust the Prime Minister caused a tremendous sensation in the House of Commons, and it is believed he administered an effective, if not deadly, blow to the conscriptionist conspirators."

CANADA'S GOOD ROADS

Consumer Benefited by Motor Transport Over Modern Roads

The campaign for good roads being carried on throughout Canada is only part of the general awakening of the people to the causes which have led to the enormous increase in the prices of the necessities of life. That the transportation problem is all-important for the farmer-producer is without question. That he may at all seasons reach his markets at a minimum of time and expense is a necessary factor in the making of reasonable prices for his products. For the consumer, good roads have an advantage in the fact that by enabling the farmers to reach the markets in greater numbers, the supplies of produce will be larger, and competition will be keener. A further consequence of larger attendance will be that more attention will be paid to the condition of the produce offered by those displaying it for sale.

In the present campaign for increased production, good roads will play an important part. Motor transportation is being rapidly developed and utilized by the farmers. By this means greater distances can be covered and farmers at a considerable distance from markets, with the advent of better roads, will be able to bring their produce to the consumer in larger quantities and at less expense.

Why Minister's Wife Quit

A Presbyterian minister in one of Nova Scotia's leading pulpits prayed earnestly for "all the wounded soldiers among our own men." On reaching home his good wife reminded him that he should not confine his petitions to the wounded "among our own men." Next Sabbath he bravely attempted to broaden the scope of his petition, and was earnest in his supplication for "all of the soldiers who had been wounded on both sides." It is understood that his wife has made no further attempts to criticize the phraseology of the long prayer.

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