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The Siege Of Paris

London Correspondence of New York
"Sun.")

The Germans have striven to prove that the British blockade of Germany contravenes the laws of civilization, inasmuch as it may bring death by starvation to innocent women and children. There are two sides to the picture, and the "Time" gives the other in a brief record of the siege of Paris in 1870-71, when the Germans slowly starved a civilian population of more than 2,000,000 into surrender.

"They arrived before Paris in the middle of September," says the Times. "By October 8 our columns report that the daily consumption of horseflesh within the city had risen enormously. By November 20 no more beef or mutton was to be had. On December 6 our correspondent stated that 'rat hunting is now vigorously carried on to meet the demands of the restaurants.' When the frequenters of the restaurants were eating rats the diet of other classes must have been terrible. On December 15 the population were put on a ration of horseflesh. The allowance was 30 grammes, or about an ounce.

"On January 15 the bread ration was reduced from 500 to 300 grammes, less than 10 ounces, for adults, and to half that amount for children. This bread was a black and indigestible compound of rice, barley, buckwheat, oats, and even hay. Long files of women and children gathered before dawn at the bakers' shops in the rain, the cold and the snow of a winter in which the temperature sank to 21 degrees of frost.

"The animal in the Jardin des Plantes were eaten. Elephants sold at from 10 francs to 45 francs a pound, and even 'cotelettes de tigre' are mentioned. There were markets for dogflesh and catflesh, and an English writer partook of a feast at which 'the sole dish was a cat with mice.' 'Round it.' There was no fuel and no light. The people starved from cold as well as from hunger.

"On February 14 one of the English party who brought food into Paris after the armistice told the Mansion House Relief Committee what he had seen. Some of the persons assisted were barely able, 'to walk to the place of distribution, and when the provisions were handed them they were unable to carry them home.' That is how the nation that reproaches the 'brutality' of our blockade remorselessly exercised its strict right of siege.

"But perhaps the French children did not suffer? Perhaps the besieged babies had plenty of milk? Let us see what was their fate during the German investment. The French did their best for them. To the very end 3,300 cows were reserved to supply milk for the sick and new born infants. But the supply was altogether insufficient. Milk began to run short so early as September 22 and a month later the scarcity was affecting children. By the second week in January an English correspondent says they were 'dying off like rotten sheep.'

"What were the feelings of the humane Germans toward this vast population of non-combatants, the innocent victims of their military operations? Did they regret the sufferings they caused? Was their pity suppressed only at the stern voice of duty? Let their idolized statesmen speak for them. When Jules Favre came to Bismarck to arrange for the armistice, the Prussian observed that within a few weeks the French representative had grown much grayer; 'also stooped, probably on horseflesh,' while the Count's gentlemanly staff selected 'high class restaurants in Paris' as a suitable subject for conversation with the Frenchman's famished secretary.

"Favre told Bismarck that pretty children were still to be seen in the streets. 'I am surprised at that,' the genial champion of Prussia kultur replied; 'I wonder you have not eaten them.' And the Germans knew very well that the siege had cost a number of children their lives. 'They have been on every short commons in Paris for some time past,' Bismarck's today and Boswell records on January 29, and the death rate last week amounted to about 5,000. For the last week of December it had been 3,280 and for the week before 2,725.

"The mortality," our humane German goes on, 'was especially heavy among children up to 2 years of age.' Has he any touch of pity? 'Coffins of these tiny French citizens,' he adds, 'were to be seen in all directions.' Herod might have jested so."

ASSESSORS NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have been appointed Assessors of Rates in and for the Town of Woodstock, New Brunswick, for the present year.

All persons owning Property in the said town may within Twenty Days give us a statement of their property and income as by law provided.

Dated February 29th, 1916.

RICHARD ALLINGHAM,

GEO. W. JACKSON,

PATRICK BRADLEY,

Assessors.

"K. Of K."

New York "Tribune.")

Perhaps the thing that one would say first of Lord Kitchener is that he, more than any other man, served in Britain as the symbol of strength, of determination of the will to bear and to do in the terrible first months of the Great War. When, with the coming of war, there was the whisper, than the assertion, that Lord Haldane was to go back to his old post, a sense of apprehension, of doubt. All this was dispelled when the fact was established that "K. of K." was to go to the War Office.

In the months that followed, when England had to create out of nothing armies, officers, a system and a machine, it was Kitchener who in the public mind stood for the success of this tremendous undertaking. The first force that crossed the seas after the expeditionary army had fought itself to a shadow was "K. of K." The very posters that bade men enlist bore the face and name of the man who had conquered the Sudan and brought civilization back to the land where Gordon perished.

Never in history, not even in our own American Civil War history, has there been a more marvellous or more splendid voluntary rising of a nation than that which answered the call to the colors in Great Britain in the early months of the war. Those who volunteered were numbered by the millions. Not only did all that was best in Britain respond, but the host that marched was beyond the calculation of any who based estimate of British response upon records of volunteering in the past.

The task that was Kitchener's was in magnitude beyond that which any general has confronted. In character it was like that which was faced by the elder Carnot in France and by McClellan in our own Civil War. It was the task of

finding the guns, the officers, the millions, not for an army, but for a nation long given over to the habit of peace and never before in history confronted by such an immediate and tremendous peril.

In the present time men talk about mistakes. Mistakes were made. Kitchener himself was responsible for some, but the main mistake was not his. It was after all the mistakes had been made that were possible that he was called in to perform men criticised the incidental mistakes, but hereafter men will equally marvel at what was accomplished.

In a very definite and enduring fashion Lord Kitchener will be indistinguishable from that great national response which England, Scotland and Wales made to the call to the colors. Generals failed at the front and at the rear, exactly as generals failed with us in the Civil War and with the French in the Revolution. Statesmen and politicians blundered and flattered, but behind this, underneath this, the millions of British men slowly, steadily, transformed themselves voluntarily from civilians into uniformed servants of the State.

It is a wrong idea that any man, any soldier, can transform a civilian population into an army, speedily victorious, immediately efficient. Napoleon the Great found Carnot's army at his hand when he began his wonderful career, but Carnot, who made the army, bore a full burden of defeat. It was not Kitchener's fault that his first armies were not the rivals in achievement of the Napoleonic—it was his claim to distinction, and it will be an enduring claim, that under his direction armies were created which could take the field so promptly and hold the German armies in check.

What Kitchener did will be tested hereafter, so far as the quality of his armies is concerned. But what Kitchener did, what Britain did, in providing these armies is a final answer to the challenge of the Germans that the British were a decadent people who would not defend their possessions or their liberties and that British armies were and would remain mercenary.

On the military side Kitchener was a successful colonial soldier. He was not a great general; in the old-fashioned sense he was hardly a general at all. He was the man who carried a railway into the desert, created an instrument which had accomplished its main task before the Battle of Omdurman was fought, for the result of the battle was inevitable once his army was ready. South Africa did not add greatly to the fame of "K. of K." He was never the commander of large armies in the field, and he never fought a battle comparable not with the Marne or Flanders, but with those of Marlborough or Wellington.

Yet men will recall now that when England was still in the dark as to the extent and length of the war it was Kitchener whose grim forecast of three years first told the truth—a truth that seems now certain to be realized—that three years was the shortest time in which victory could be obtained.

About soldiers almost infallibly legends gather. Kitchener was not wholly fortunate in the legend that grew about him. He was neither as grim nor as taciturn as men fancied. But in the nerve-racking hours of the opening of the world war the legend served the most useful of purposes. What Englishmen believed of Kitchener was the thing that Englishmen desired to believe of some one in authority. What men held true of him it was necessary men should hold true of some one in the midst of crumbling reputations and broken dreams.

The passing of "K. of K." will leave the British military situation unchanged. Already Robertson had become the real force in the new military establishment. In the large sense Lord Kitchener's work was done. It is McClellan who died on the morning of Antietam his fame would have secured in our own country the man who made the Army of the Potomac and prepared the way for Grant and Appomattox. It is difficult not to feel that Kitchener was more fortunate than McClellan and that he lived to finish his part of a stupendous task and at the end of the death which insures undying fame.

When "K. of K." came to his post he found an expeditionary army of 164,000 and a reserve of some hundreds of thousands poorly equipped and imperfectly trained. Almost 5,000,000 men have since joined the colors. A nation has responded voluntarily in a fashion which will remain a thing for wonder forever. The work has been completed by conscription, as we in the Civil War had recourse to the draft when those who were willing had marched. So far this is the great, the enduring, fact in British history in the present

war, and it is the fact men will hereafter associate with Kitchener. No man ever died with a fame more secure, and whatever passing sorrow his death may bring to his country, no soldier was ever more fortunate in his fate.

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Poultry.

To anyone who has not carefully followed the direction of poultry development in Canada, an understanding of the status which the poultry industry has now reached must constitute a distinct surprise. Whether viewed from the standpoint of the farmer or of the produce trade, it is now one of the best organized and most progressive of any of our live stock industries. Co-operation amongst farmers in marketing is improving the product and realizing for them a higher price than they have hitherto been able to obtain. The reorganization of methods by the trade is providing against loss in handling, in assuring to the consumer a better article and establishing our export business upon a firm basis.

It is estimated that Canada and Cuba, during the last twenty years, received from the United States about three fourths of all the eggs exported by that country during that period. This situation, however, has now changed. As against an importation in 1913 of 13,240,111 dozen, we imported in 1915 not more than 3,783,952 dozen. On the other hand while in 1913 we exported only 147,149 dozen, in 1915, we exported 7,898,922 dozen. This constitutes a net increase in production, in two years, of at least 17,100,000 dozen. Practically all of these exports went to the United Kingdom.

Notwithstanding the surplus in Canada which these figures indicate, prices during March, April and May have remained at an extraordinarily high level. For the first quarter of the year 1916, the price to producers, selling co-operatively, has been at least 4c in advance of the price received, for the same period, in 1915. For the month of March, it was at least 5c in advance and for the month of April at least 3c in advance of last year's price for these respective months. The demand for eggs for local consumption, for storage purposes and for immediate export, has rarely been so keen as at the present moment. This situation is clearly reflected in the prices just quoted. Heavy domestic consumption in the face of the high price for meats, partly explains this condition. Confidence in the export demand, on the part of the produce trade, confirm it from another direction. Notwithstanding increased production, the egg and poultry business in Canada is in a very strong position at the present time.

Under these circumstances, we believe that it will be a very wise practice to raise as many chickens as it is possible or practicable. Early hatched chicks make good winter layers. Rough grain will probably be produced in abundance in Canada this year and the feeding of poultry at a profit should be

materially assisted from this source. Eggs at winter prices are paying proposition, in any event. Poultry, alive or dressed, under present and prospective market conditions, can unquestionably be reared and finished at a decided profit. A good flock of poultry, if carefully handled, will serve to prevent waste on the farm and promote economy in living expenses, such as is particularly necessary when all farm products are becoming so marketable and so dear.

JUDGING MEN'S AGES

Bachelor Claims Young Women Cannot Do It Correctly

"Women—especially young women—seem to have no capacity for judging a man's age." This is the mature opinion of "Bachelor of Forty," who has made some exhaustive tests in this matter, and has some interesting conclusions to advance. The truth of his statements, he says, can be tested by all, and he is convinced that anyone who cares to take the trouble to find out will discover that men between the ages of 25 and 50 always appear from five to ten years older to the ordinary young women in her twenties. After 50 and up to 65 men appear to these same young women as being from five to ten years younger than they really are. There is, however, a period in the middle thirties, when young women seem to judge a man's age fairly exactly.

CARE OF MILK AND CREAM

It is impossible to produce clean milk and cream unless the udder, teats, milker, utensils, and separator are clean.

To wash milk utensils use, first, cold water for rinsing; second, warm water containing a small quantity of food washing powder for cleaning; third, boiling water or steam for sterilizing.

Use a metallic strainer; it is practically impossible to keep cloth strainers sweet and clean and free from bacteria.

Strain the milk as soon after milking as possible, and cool the cream at once.

Strain a cream testing from 35 to 45 per cent.—the richer the cream the better it will keep. By skimming a rich cream, more skim milk is left for home use, and there is also a smaller bulk on which to pay express charges.

Do not mix warm, new cream with cold cream until it has been cooled. Keep the cans of cream in a tank of cold water until time of delivery.

Wash the separator thoroughly after each separation.

Deliver the cream to the creamery or cream station early in the morning.

Deliver the cream not less than three times a week during the summer, and twice a week during the winter.

Protect the cans of cream from the sun by covering with canvas or with a wet sack while en route.

Hardening Steel With Compressed Air

The usual methods of hardening steel in oil, water, and other special baths produce a great tension along the line of contact between the hardened and the unhardened parts. A recent German improvement on this process is the use of a number of jets of compressed air playing on the hot steel. The zones of cooling are graduated beautifully by varying the number and spacing of the openings in the nozzle. A wide range of results is possible by adapting the shape of the nozzle to that of the work.

Handy Measuring Glass

The markings of a graduated measuring glass invented in Germany are made along a zigzag line instead of a vertical one and, having wider spaces between, are said to read more accurately.

Makes Power Direct

A patent has been granted a Dresden inventor for an application of the principle of the thermopile for the direct production of electricity from heat without the intervention of a boiler, engine or dynamo.

Umbrella Device

A combination lock that encircles the handle of an umbrella and prevents it being opened by any person ignorant of the combination is the invention of a London cafe coat room attendant.

New Sewing Machine

A sewing cabinet capacious enough to hold everything a seamstress may need in her work yet which folds up like a screen and can be carried by handles on one side has been invented by a Missourian.