

FARM WORK AMIDST SHELLS



Within the sound of the big guns many French peasants are leading an almost normal life, for farming must go on or there would be no food for the fighters. The photograph shows farm horses started by a bursting shell. It was taken recently near Auber, France.

RUSS ARE ACCUSED

Atrocities Charged to Czar's Soldiers by Germany.

Affidavits to Be Used in Peace Negotiations to Prevent Extension of Muscovite Territory in Europe—Horrors Detailed.

By OSWALD F. SCHUETTE.  
(Correspondent of the Chicago News.)  
Berlin, Germany.—The German government has issued an official memorial to the civilized world setting forth a series of "atrocities committed by Russian troops upon German inhabitants and German prisoners of war."

The memorial is accompanied by documentary evidence in the shape of 81 affidavits setting forth the testimony on which the charges are based. They are far too horrible for publication. All are to be used against Russia whenever peace negotiations are begun to halt any possibility of an extension of the Russian government in Europe. The memorial already has called forth indignant denials from London.

In part the atrocity record is as follows:

"According to official investigations, thousands of men, women and children were dragged away, other thousand murdered, about 20,000 buildings were destroyed or burned during the first and second Russian invasions of East Prussia. During the second invasion alone 80,000 dwellings were plundered and desolated.

"The inhabitants, including women and children, were mishandled under the most flimsy pretexts or for no reason at all, although they did all they could to satisfy the Russian soldiers regarding quarters and supplies. This mistreatment was sometimes carried out with extreme cruelty; in one case the male inhabitants of an entire village, including the district judge, were flogged and at the same time threatened with death. Fugitives were fired upon without any motive. But above all, many peaceful citizens were murdered without any reason whatever, some enduring terrible suffering in the presence of their relatives. Innocent young men were shot merely because they were able to perform military service.

"A head forester, who was in charge of transportation of German convicts, was taken prisoner by the

TO INHERIT \$1,000,000



William J. Smith Cary, the Connecticut youngster shown in the illustration, will inherit \$1,000,000 on attaining the age of twenty-one years.

Russians and brought before General Rennenkampf—and apparently in keeping with his infamous orders to kill all German foresters—was immediately shot. Even the aged women and children did not escape the murderous frenzy of the Russian soldier.

"The murder of a little child between two and three years of age was particularly cruel. Investigations show how terrible was the end of a whole family which fell victims of the Russian soldier's lust for murder; the father was nailed to a table, the child to a door and the mother's breasts were cut off and her body slit open. In another instance the tongues of the husband and wife were nailed to the table and they finally died.

"The cases of attack upon young girls and women are innumerable.

"Information regarding the cruel treatment of German prisoners of war by the Russian troops will be found in additional appendices. In numerous cases German soldiers who were taken prisoners were robbed, spit upon or otherwise ill treated without any reason. A Russian officer threatened some German soldiers with death because they would not betray their comrades, and had one of them actually shot. Russian troops placed German prisoners in narrow excavations before their gun positions, apparently with the intention that they should be killed by shots from German guns.

"Cossacks have slashed off the heads of German prisoners as they rode by, and others were badly injured; some were maimed by having their limbs cut off. One German prisoner was bound to a horse gin in a most cruel manner and allowed to starve to death. Three hussars were found in a barn hanging with their heads down and noses and ears cut off, indicating that they must have died in excruciating agony.

"Russian soldiers have also not hesitated to murder and barbarously maim wounded German soldiers. They have removed bandages from the wounded that they might bleed to death; others' eyes have been stabbed out; tongues, ears, fingers and feet have been cut off and skulls crushed in.

"In some cases these brutal deeds have been performed with fiendish cruelty. Illustrative of this, a lightly wounded soldier was found secured to the floor of a veranda by a bayonet stuck through the mouth, the flesh of the lower arm was stripped off from elbow to wrist, the fingers were slit up to the wrist. Another soldier who had received a skull injury was so bound to a calf in a stable that every time the animal moved its mouth the exposed brain of the soldier was rubbed.

"The most atrocious thing of all was the order of the highest Russian military authority, found on a high Russian officer, which directed that all male inhabitants over ten years of age should be driven before the attacking troops; this monstrous order, which has blackened the name of the Russian commander in chief forever, was apparently issued with the intention that German soldiers in repulsing the Russians would be compelled to fire on their own people."

CARRIED 13 ON ONE TICKET

Conductor of Train Thought Mother Had Her Sunday School Class With Her.

Muskogee, Okla.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott of Highland, Kan., are seeking a home with lots of land. They will need it, for although they have been married not quite ten years they have had nineteen children, all boys, and 13 boys are living. They hold the record for triplets, having five sets to their credit, and also two sets of twins. All the 13 living boys are under five years of age.

Mrs. Scott once boarded a train with her 13 boys and one first class ticket. The conductor informed her that she could not take her entire Sunday school class on one ticket, and it was not until she showed him the family Bible, with all the birth dates recorded, that he believed it was only her family and permitted them to occupy five double seats while paying for one.

STOP FOREST FIRES

United States Forestry Service Seeks Public's Co-operation.

Ten "Don'ts" to Be Observed in the Woods to Prevent the Blazes Which Are Causing Big Losses in East.

Washington.—To obtain the co-operation of the public in preventing forest fires, which are doing a great deal of damage in the East this spring, the United States forestry service has prepared ten "don'ts" to be observed in the woods. It is hoped that these rules may have a beneficial effect during the fire season of the southern Appalachians, which is not yet over, and that of the North woods, which is just beginning, and which, from present indications, promises to be unusually severe.

The "don'ts" follow:

1. Don't throw your match away until you are sure it is out.
2. Don't drop cigarette or cigar butts until the glow is extinguished.
3. Don't knock out your pipe ashes while hot or where they will fall into dry leaves or other inflammable material.
4. Don't build a camp fire any larger than is absolutely necessary.
5. Don't build a fire against a tree, a log, or a stump, or anywhere but on bare soil.
6. Don't leave a fire until you are sure it is out; if necessary, smother it with earth or water.
7. Don't burn brush or refuse in or near the woods if there is any chance that the fire may spread beyond your control, or that the wind may carry sparks where they would start a new fire.
8. Don't be any more careless with fire in the woods than you are with fire in your own home.
9. Don't be idle when you discover a fire in the woods; if you can't put it out yourself, get help. Where a forest guard, ranger or state fire warden can be reached, call him up on the nearest telephone you can find.
10. Don't forget that human thoughtlessness and negligence are the causes of more than half of the forest fires in this country, and that the smallest spark may start a conflagration that will result in loss of life and destruction of timber and young growth valuable not only for lumber but for their influence in helping to prevent flood, erosion and drought.

Many thousands of acres of forest and suburban woodland from Maine to Florida, and from the Atlantic coast as far west as Arkansas, have been burned over already this spring by fires which started for the most part from preventable causes. On the national forest purchase areas alone, 49 fires occurred in March, burning over more than 6,500 acres, while 44 fires starting on private land near or within government boundaries damaged nearly 5,500 acres. Fires in April were even more numerous and severe, but rains in the latter part of the month helped the situation somewhat.

MARRIED TO SPANISH PRINCE  
Society Favorite Is Secretly Wedded to Distant Relative of King Alfonso.

Miss Ruth Waters, widely known in society in New York, Philadelphia, Narragansett Pier and Palm Beach was secretly wedded recently to Prince Ludovico Pignatelli d'Aragon, a

Spaniard, and a distant relative of King Alfonso. Not even the announcement of the engagement ever was made, although Miss Waters announced a few days previous to the marriage that there was something in the report that she was engaged to the prince. Her parents, prominent socially in New York, were opposed to the match because of their daughter's youth.

Grandmother at Twenty-Nine.

Savannah, Ga.—Mrs. Josephine Davis Hill, a former Macon woman, now residing at Millbrook, Ala., is a grandmother at the age of twenty-nine years. She was married when twelve, became a mother one year later, a widow at sixteen, was remarried at twenty-nine and a grandmother at twenty-nine years and one day.



Miss Ruth Waters.

POULTRY FACTS

COST OF RENEWING A FLOCK

Interesting Figures Given of Results of Experiments With Old Hens at the Utah Station.

Bulletin 135 of the Utah experiment station gives the results of a study in annual egg production. This is based on the records of a flock of seven-year-old hens and their progeny, and figures given are very interesting. For example, a White Leghorn hen in her pullet year laid 103 eggs. Under the usual system of judging layers, this hen would have been discarded as a drone, but the



White Leghorn Cockerel.

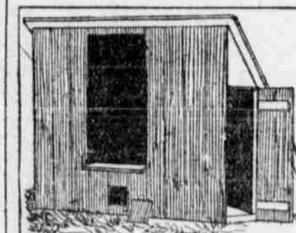
next year she came back with 197 and repeated with 198. In her fourth year she fell down to 72, yet in her sixth year she laid as many as she had when a pullet. It is a question whether it paid to keep this hen after her third year, but such records are necessary in order to learn definitely about such things.

The cost of renewing the flock is considered one of the greatest drawbacks to the poultry industry, the authors estimating the cost of a pullet—probably up to laying age—at from 50 to 60 cents. The average productive life of hens cannot be estimated at this stage of their work, but for the strain used in their studies was thought to be about four years. The range of individual egg production in their flocks was found to be from 100 to 150 in the first year, from 105 to 140 in the second year and from 100 to 130 in the third year. After the third year the production remained fairly constant at about 90, with a variation of not more than 10 or 15 eggs per year.

SERVICEABLE POULTRY HOUSE

Portable Colony Structure Shown in Illustration Will Accommodate Ten to Fifteen Fowls.

Here is a poultry house that will accommodate from 10 to 15 fowls, according to the amount of yard room, breed, etc. It is known as a colony house and is portable, so that it can be moved from one part of the field to another, says a writer in Western Farmer. The building is 9 feet long and 7 feet wide and about 6 feet high at the center and 18 inches at the eaves. The door is covered with fine wire netting, so as to provide light and ventilation. If desired the door



Portable Colony House.

can be covered with a muslin curtain which can be swung open during the day and on warm nights. The chief recommendation for a house of this shape is the economy of labor and material needed to build it. Many poultrymen find use for colony houses. The house shown in the cut herewith given is easily constructed and at a low cost.

INFERTILE EGGS FOR CHICKS

Feed Made by Mixing With Rice and Flour and Baking Into Cake Wards Off Bowel Troubles.

Keep the infertile eggs taken from the incubator to feed the coming chicks. An infertile egg will not rot if kept in a clean place. After months you will find that it has merely dried down to something not much larger than a bean.

Mix the eggs with rice and flour and bake in a cake, which you can crumble to chicks, poult and ducks. The rice wards off bowel trouble. As they get older mix the eggs with sifted corn meal and bake up for them.

Start in Chicken Business.

While it is desirable it is not always necessary to start in the chicken business with a flock of purebreds. Buy the best hens you can afford and then spend as much more as you can afford for a purebred cock.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

First Medicinal Drug Plant Farm in the World

WASHINGTON.—A medicinal drug plant farm on a large scale a thing unique in the annals of horticulture in this country and abroad, has been established by American scientists on the Virginia hills just opposite the national capital. It is contended by those in charge of the farm that it will go far toward revolutionizing the trade in medicinal drug plants and the channels of supply of these plants.

The whole operation has been undertaken after conference with the experts of the department of agriculture, who for some years have conducted experiments in the cultivation of medicinal drug plants at the Arlington farm, owned by the department

just across the Potomac river. The new drug plant farm is established on the property of John B. Henderson, Jr., who has taken a scientific interest in the matter and has turned over his land to those in charge for a long period of years.

At the drug farm in Virginia about forty-five acres of land are being planted with drug plants this year, and it is planned to very much increase this acreage next year. Already enough selected belladonna plants for five acres have been brought up under glass. Big beds containing 100,000 ginseng roots have been set out in the woodlands. Other plants which are being grown include cannabis, larkspur, golden seal or hydrastis, Japanese peppermint, senega, colchicum and springelia.

Uncle Sam Might Have Replaced Marian's Dolly

ONE fine summer day little seven-year-old Marian Coggeshall was playing with her dolly at her home at Cape Cottage, Me. At intervals the great guns at Fort Williams, near Cape Elizabeth, boomed terribly and shook the house. Finally Marian put her doll on a chair and crept into a corner, frightened. Then came an extra loud boom and dolly lost her balance and fell to the floor, broken into many bits. Marian was broken hearted, for although the dolly was not very big, it was the little girl's pet, and she had grown to love it very much.

A grown-up admirer of the little girl listened to her tearful tale and then told her that she had a just claim against the government and explained to her exactly how such claims were attended to, little thinking that Marian had any intention of placing the matter before the authorities at Washington. Marian said nothing, but she went to her little writing desk and penned the following letter:

"Dear Mr. Adjutant General:  
"When the big guns were fired last week it shook the house so badly that my Precious dolly fell onto the floor and was broken to pieces. May I ask the Government for another dolly. She was not very big, but she was my pet and I loved her very much. Yours truly,  
"MARIAN COGGESHALL,  
"Seven years old."

The letter was received by the adjutant general and given the official designation of document No. 1949121. The matter was referred to the quartermaster general for investigation. Then it went to the commanding general of the eastern division of the army, Maj. Gen. William H. Barry, stationed at New York. Finally the matter reached Col. George T. Bartlett, who commanded the artillery division at Fort Williams.

Colonel Bartlett called Mrs. Coggeshall on the telephone and told her of the official document. Marian's mother was greatly surprised, for she knew nothing of her daughter's action, and she assured the officer that Mr. Coggeshall would relieve the government of Marian's claim and buy the new doll himself.

So Marian's father bought her the doll and the matter ended right there. But Marian had a perfect right to ask the government to replace her doll, and if her mother had permitted it, her claim probably would have been granted.

Her letter still is on file at the war department here, and is regarded as one of the most novel documents ever received by the adjutant general.

News Digests Prepared for Our High Officials

THE average high official of the United States government has little or no time for newspaper reading. He has to have his newspapers read for him, with the result that subordinate officials or employees of his department are assigned to go over the newspapers daily, and to prepare for him a digest of the news of the day, with reference to his particular field of activity.

At his right hand President Wilson has in Secretary Tumulty a person keen for the contents of a newspaper. Tumulty usually has read half a dozen or more newspapers before coming to the White House in the morning. These papers are eastern publications from the large cities which reach Washington by a fast mail in time to be delivered before breakfast. During the day, the president's secretary is kept informed as to what is going on in the outside world by the newspaper correspondents who call regularly at the White House. The White House also takes a large number of representative newspapers, and these are carefully read by an employee assigned to the job, who clips out everything relating to the president, the White House, the administration and politics in general.

When Mr. Tumulty goes home at night he takes this mass of newspaper clippings home with him, and no matter at what hour he may go to bed, he never fails to look these clippings through before retiring. Anything he finds therein which he believes is of sufficient importance to call the attention of the president is carefully marked. The next morning the president may find on his desk one of these clippings with a note attached as follows:

"Dear Governor: I think you ought to read this. TUMULTY."

In this way, the president is kept posted.

Geographic Society Admits a Dog to Membership

THAT a dog has been elected a fellow of the National Geographic society is an announcement that will surprise most persons, but this is no ordinary canine. Bronte is its name—Bronte McCormick. Bronte was elected to membership in the society on March 29, 1915, according to a highly ornate certificate of membership signed by O. P. Austin, secretary of the society, and decorated with the society's official seal.

Bronte has amused, entertained, instructed and mystified thousands upon thousands of school children, having already given more than two thousand entertainments in public schools. College professors and scientists have marveled at her wonderful feats of mind reading. There is no trick, nothing to deceive. Her work is purely mental work and it is, presumably, because of her brain power that she has achieved the distinction of being elected to membership in a society that is supposed to embrace only human savants.

Bronte is a Scotch collie of the finest type. She was born July 29, 1903, in the famous collie kennels at Center Moriches, Long Island. She can count money, she can count people and tell how many there are in the room and how many have glasses on.

