

Pitiful Appeals Sent from China

**Incredible Scenes of Hardship
==Disease Adds Its Horror to
that of Hunger==Many Months
of Suffering and Death Ahead
==America Appealed to for Aid.**



The Kingdom of China—The Shaded Portion of the Map Indicates the Territory Stricken by Famine.

Frightful famine has its clutches on two lands. Owing to the drought and the failure of the crops in South Central Russia, 30,000,000 Russians in 27 provinces have seen their means of subsistence swept away. Men, women and children, huddled in their miserable villages on the steppes of the Volga and the Caspian sea, are face to face with starvation. It is feared that ten per cent. may die before new crops can be gathered.

The flooding of 40,000 square miles of lowlands in northeastern China has rendered 15,000,000 homeless. It is believed that fully 4,000,000 of these may perish.

So pitiful are these calamities that the voices of the starving peasants have been heard around the world. America has been among the first and most generous in appreciating the dire need and in giving of her prosperity. But all that has been given as yet has scarcely touched the fringe of the famine-stricken districts.

New York.—The climax of the great Chinese famine is at hand. In the seaboard provinces 4,000,000 men, women and children are starving—more than the population of Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens, and Richmond. According to the latest reports, the situation is much more serious than that described in these columns a few weeks ago by a correspondent in Shanghai. Since early in the winter the 4,000,000 refugees have been homeless and destitute. According to the viceroy of Kiangsu, it is ten times worse than any famine known in China in the last 40 years. In point of mortality, it is the worst calamity that has befallen mankind since the beginning of the new century.

The end is not yet. As the Chinese winter reaches its height, more and more people must succumb to hunger and exposure. It is not a question of surviving, but of how many thousands must die. That the famine will last for months to come is a certainty. With all the generosity of other civilized nations, the relief is inadequate.

40,000 Square Miles Flooded.
The messages received from China last December told of the beginnings of the famine. For 40 days and nights it rained constantly. The great canal, extending 700 miles from Tientsin to Hang Chan, close to the sea-coast in the provinces of Chekiang, Kiangsu, and Shan Tung, burst its banks and 40,000 square miles of low plains were flooded. Fifteen millions of people in five provinces were more or less affected. Of these, 8,000,000 lost their property, including their buildings and food supplies. Four millions were left absolutely destitute.

To these beginnings, nearly three months of unspeakable misery have since been added. The intermediate stages were, in some respects, peculiar to China. The dwellings and farm buildings had mud walls and roofs of thatch. The walls melted like paper as the water leaked through them. The peasants were forced to abandon them and wade through water up to their armpits to reach dry land.

Stores of Grain Lost.
These Chinese farmers were a frugal people living on millet, rice, peanuts, sweet potatoes, maize, and wheat. At the beginning of the winter their store of grain was swept away. The horses, cattle, and even the dogs that survived were sold. Hunger reduced thousands to a diet of gruel made of beans, when they could be found, and sweet potato leaves.

Then came reports of pitiful episodes peculiarly oriental in their nature. So intense did the suffering become that many sought death. Parents killed their children by throwing them into the water, then took their

own lives. Aged people are being drowned, or poisoned with opium, to prevent their slow death by hunger. The viceroy in one of the flooded provinces tells of a family consisting of a father, mother, and two children, all of whom perished in a single day. The mother left the house in search of food. In her absence the father drowned the children. When the mother returned, she asked where the little ones were. Her husband replied that he could not bear to see them starve to death, and as there was no chance of feeding them, he had thrown them into the water. The distracted woman followed her children. The father, in utter despair, took his own life.

Sell Their Children.
In some parts of the provinces of Honan, Kiangsu, and Anhui parents are selling their offspring, the girls for three dollars and the boys for two dollars Mexican, which means about one-half those amounts in American money. A correspondent declares that in the Sincow and Pailow districts the starving people have been reduced to eating human flesh, and that it is being sold secretly among the famine sufferers.

Early in the new year, the famine situation changed. The starving peasants flocked to the nearest cities in their quest for food. They are living in great camps, where the pitiful conditions are intensified a hundredfold. There are now fully 800,000 refugees at nine cities—Tsingkiangpu, Husian, Yanchow, Yaowan, Hsuehou, Suchien, Hsien, Chinkiang, and Nanking.

One of the largest gatherings is at Tsingkiangpu, on the edge of the famine district. Here there are five camps each with at least 10,000 refugees, or three times as many at one point as there were Cuban reconcentrados in 1898. The flour and bean shops of the city have been closed. There are no foodstuffs available. All are dependent on charity.

In a large camp at Antung the destitute peasants are also facing death. The Chinese officials acknowledge their helplessness, and say that the only feasible course is to let one half the people die and endeavor to obtain seed and scanty food for those who remain.

In Suchien, 20 per cent of the people have been living on gruel for weeks. All the cattle have been sold and the donkeys, sheep, hogs, and even the dogs have been eaten.

Pitiful Scenes in Refugees' Camps.
In these camps the starving people find shelter in flimsy huts of matted grass and strip the bark from trees, devouring them ravenously to allay the pangs of their hunger. In the better camps the people are fortunate if they receive a scanty tea cup of rice a day.

This is usually supplied at the

kitchens established by the relief committees. Some of the most pitiful scenes in the camps are enacted as the crowds of refugees, emaciated, diseased, and in rags, besiege the kitchens for the dole of food which means their lives.

J. L. Rogers, American consul of the district, who is acting as the special Red Cross representative among the famine sufferers, visited refugee camps at Chinkiang and Nanking recently. He was told that these were infinitely better than the other camps along the canal, yet he found the wretchedness, misery, and appalling horror of the sight almost indescribable.

There is no attempt at sanitation, he says. The mat huts are crowded together, and each contains many men, women, and children, who are clothed in rags and are disheveled beyond description. To make matters worse, smallpox and other diseases have appeared among them.

Widespread Measures for Relief.
The famine will continue for five more months, or until the crop of spring wheat is harvested. Each sufferer needs little yet in the aggregate the requirements for their relief are formidable. It is said that ten cents a day will save a family, and \$100 will relieve a small community. Assuming that the total number of destitute is 4,000,000, the relief fund must be \$20,000 a day for five months, or at least \$3,000,000. The relief thus far has been trifling in comparison with the need.

In all parts of America purse strings have been loosened by men women and even little children to save their kind from the pangs of hunger and death. The contributions range from five cents to \$1,000 or more. Nearly every State is represented.

Fund for Sufferers.
A fund, started by contributions of \$100 each from President Roosevelt and Secretary Root, is being raised by the Christian Herald of this city. From this fund \$35,000 has been sent to China through the state department at Washington. The newspaper has promised to raise \$50,000 a month additional for February, March, April and May.

The Red Cross Society has raised about \$60,000. Of this \$45,000 has been sent to China. Several weeks ago 300 tons of foodstuffs were shipped from America to the famine districts. The California Red Cross society was also instrumental in sending 2,500 bushels of seed wheat from San Francisco two weeks ago on the Siberia, free transportation having been offered by the Pacific Mail Steamship company. Five thousand bushels of seed wheat have been given to the Red Cross at Portland Ore., and it is being gathered at Seattle for shipment.

There are two relief committees in China. One is composed of Chinese, Europeans and Americans, at Shanghai. The other comprises missionaries exclusively. They are sending food into the districts where the greatest suffering prevails, but have been unable to do more than relieve the starving peasants that are near at hand, owing to the lack of funds.

As early as possible in the famine the American Missionary society loaded 3,500 bags of millet and rice on boats and sent them up to the great canal to the starving peasants. Another consignment of 20,000 bags followed soon after. Thus far fully 16,500 more bags of grain have been distributed, making 40,000 in all.

The Chinese officials realize that the crisis is at hand, and have taken extraordinary measures to aid their starving fellows. Taxes in the affected provinces have been abated. Many officials have had their salaries reduced, the saving being devoted to relief. The mints are running overtime to coin cash. The acute sufferers in some of the districts are receiving three cash (a sixth of a cent) a day for a month. It is also proposed to reopen old canals and rebuild old roads, and thus afford the starving an opportunity to earn a living.

SOME FAMOUS LOVING CUPS.
King Hal's Grace Cup and the Skinners' Peacock Cup.

Some of the old loving cups were called grace cups. Of the specimens now in possession of the English guilds and corporations the most famous is the Henry VIII. grace cup, which belongs to the Barbers' Co., of London.

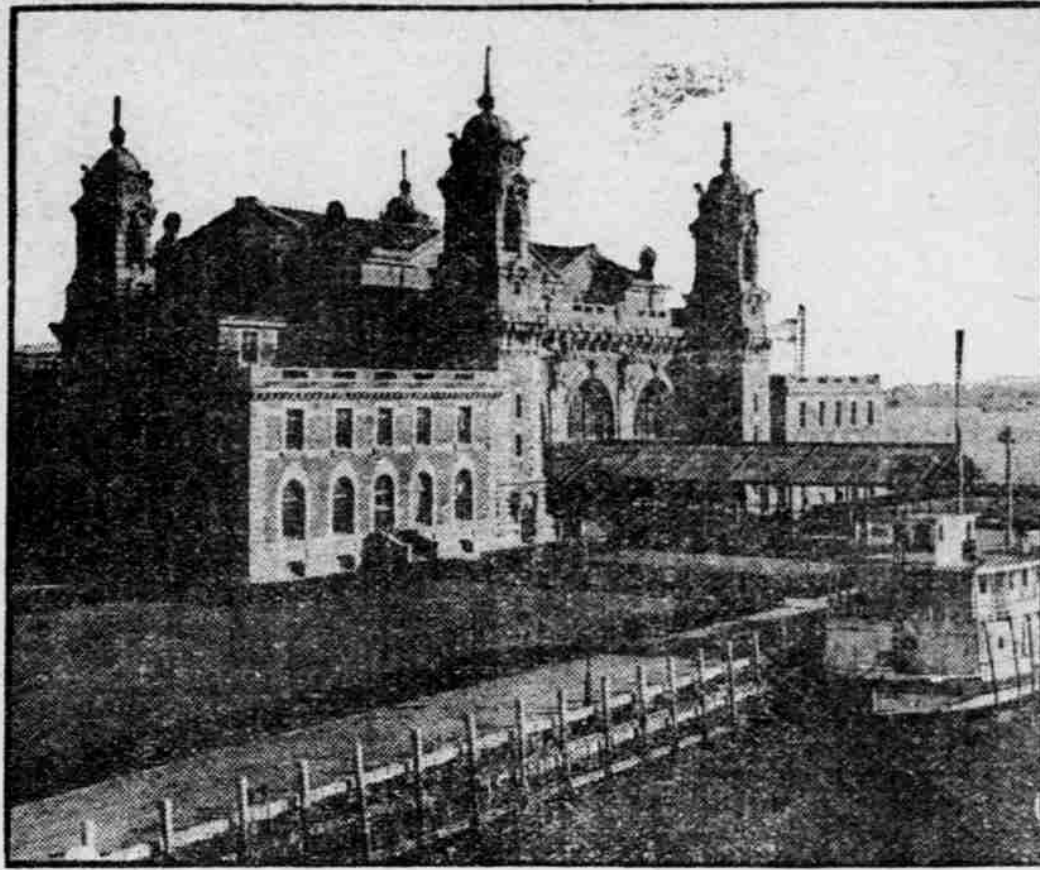
With its four globular bells hanging around the outer rim, says the Jewelers' Circular, this cup might well excite the envy of even the most honest collector of silverware.

The name of the cup is derived from the fact that King Hal was the donor, the grace cup being intended to commemorate the union of the barbers with the guild of surgeons. The cover carried the Tudor rose, portucullis and fleur-de-lis, the finial of the lid being mounted with the imperial crown, the English and French arms being beneath, supported by the lion and greyhound.

The Skinners' Co. has a peacock cup, though it is in the form of a peahen. This large silver bird, with three chicks at her feet, stands on the silver badge which was formerly worn by the company's barge master, and around it are the engraved words "The Gift of Mary, ye daughter of Richard Robinson, and wife to Thomas Smith and James Peacock, Skinners, 1642." The lady's two husbands were both masters of the company.

Norwegian Whalers.
The Norwegians have whaling establishments in Iceland, Scotland, South America, Japan and elsewhere.

Where the Emigrant Lands



Magnificent building at Ellis Island through which all aliens must pass and where they must undergo a rigid and thorough inspection and examination as to their qualifications before they are allowed to land in the United States.

PROFITABLE TO FARMERS.

BENEFIT GREATLY BY WORK OF AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Ahead \$231,000,000 Each Year, According to Estimate—Bureau of Animal Industry First—Showing Hens Their Duty Valuable.

Washington.—The people profit \$231,000,000 annually by the work of the agricultural department, according to the estimates of the bureau officials made public in the report of the committee on expenditures in the agricultural department, which has spent the entire session investigating the department.

The bureau of animal industry leads the list with an annual valuation of \$50,000,000, of which \$100,000 is because of the experiments making hens lay more plentifully.

Chief Willis J. Moore, of the weather bureau, says his bureau annually benefits the people \$30,000,000.

40,000 HORSES EATEN IN A YEAR.

Consumption Increases Fast in Paris and Is Aided by Doctors.

Paris.—According to official statistics, 40,000 horses were eaten in Paris last year. This represents about 11,000,000 kilograms of horseflesh, as compared with the earlier figures of 1899, when a total of only 5,000,000 was eaten. This branch of the butcher business in Paris seems to be growing rapidly in favor, so that the horse butcher is assuming the position of quite a respectable competitor with the beef butcher.

Horse butchers' signs, with a gilded horseshoe above the door, are numerous in certain quarters of the city, and horse butchers are rapidly preempting spaces in the market halls. This is particularly the case in well-to-do sections, and the fact almost prompts the suggestion that the doctors are in league with the horse butchers.

Doctors are more and more recommending for certain patients who are in need of building up their shattered systems a bit of horseflesh, and for persons whose constitutions are thoroughly run down with weakened stomachs they prescribe the juice of horseflesh, prepared under certain simple conditions, instead of the fresh meat itself.

At the markets during the early morning hours each day men and women stand in line waiting their turn to be served by the horse butcher. They call for a nice steak or fillet, and, being well versed on the matter of quality, are very particular in their selections. Some butchers make a specialty of mule meat, which contains more fatty matter than horse meat.

No Cemetery for Cats.

Boston.—The bill for the incorporation of a cemetery for the burial of pet cats, which had been advanced to the third reading stage in the legislature, was itself consigned to the graveyard when Representative Mock of Boston said:

"I thought this measure was a joke, but I really begin to believe that some men are taking it seriously. First, we have the burial ground for these pets. Then, of course, why not funerals? Then the decoration of the graves of these pets, for the decoration of graves is entirely proper. And who knows but one of the ministers of this house might not be called on to officiate at the burial services."

The house reversed its previous action and killed the bill, 52 to 71.

England's Navy Cheapest.

London.—Great Britain has the cheapest navy in the world, according to the report of Admiralty Secretary Robertson. It costs \$445 a ton. Russia's cost \$465 a ton. In ten years 1,132,205 tons have been added to the navy, while Russia, Germany and France together only added 1,108,280 tons. Two years hence Great Britain will have completed six new battleships, including three of the Dreadnought class and three armored cruisers of the invincible class, while neither France nor Germany will have a single ship of those types completed.

survey appropriation was left out of the agricultural bill for the reason, that the money asked was to be expended in "mapping districts in the United States which would make ideal homes for frogs."

The bureau of entomology thinks it saves the people \$22,000,000 a year, of which \$5,000,000 is because it was instrumental in the "introduction of the Australian lady-bird beetle."

The bureau of public roads is the most modest of all and only asserts it benefits the people \$373,000 a year.

The report severely criticizes Chief Moore, of the weather bureau, for his expenditures on "Mount Weather," the research institution which he established in the Blue Ridge mountains at a cost of \$161,000, for which Comptroller Tracewell says under existing law there is no authority.

Secretary Wilson, of the department of agriculture, is criticised for exceeding his authority in expending the appropriation for the new department of agriculture building. Instead of completing a structure for the entire department he spent the money in building a single wing.

DEAF WILL ENJOY MUSIC.

French Doctor Declared to Have Wonderful Invention.

Paris.—An extraordinary invention appears to have been made by a French doctor, M. Dupont, according to a communication read to the Academy of Science by M. D'Arsonval. Dr. Dupont intended to invent a process by which the sensation of music could be conveyed to deaf mutes.

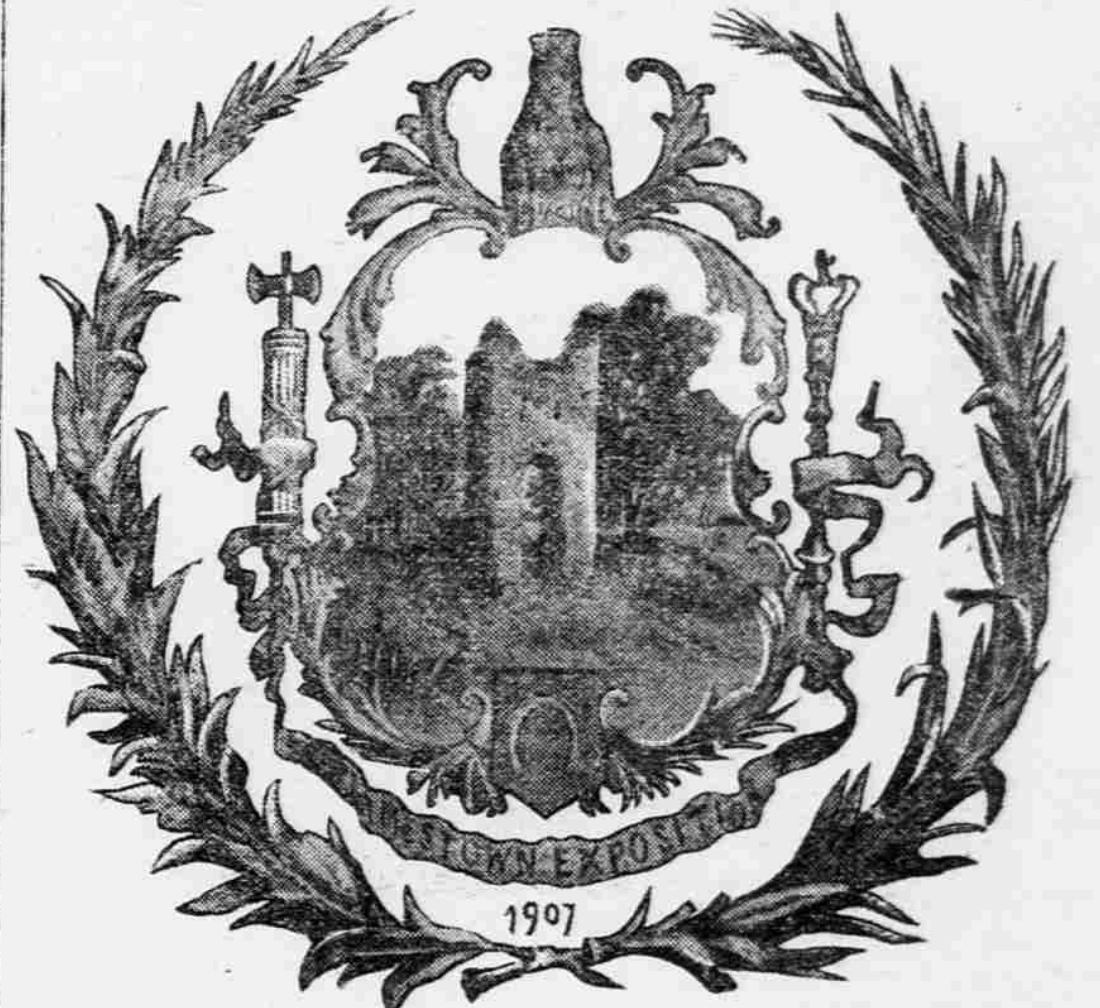
He devised an apparatus by which the number of vibrations in each musical note is conveyed through electric wires with alternating currents. The apparatus is attached to a microphone and musical sounds are transmitted to the body with extraordinary distinctness.

The feeling produced is said to be more delightful than when the notes are heard and not only deaf mutes but, persons with good hearing declare that the sensation is positively delicious.

A gay waltz produces unwonted hilarity and every nerve and muscle in the body seems to dance from the efforts of what might be appropriately described as a musical tickling machine.

One may look forward, therefore, to the time when one can feel as well as hear Mozart's operas or Beethoven's symphonies.

Official Seal of Jamestown Exposition



Buffalo Heads Expensive.

RELICS OF DEPARTED BISON ARE BECOMING VERY SCARCE.

Few of the Mounted Trophies of Almost Extinct Monarch of the Plains Are Now for Sale at Any Price.

Kansas City, Mo.—Mounted buffalo heads are becoming scarce. A buffalo head in good condition will sell readily for \$400 to \$1,200, according to size and condition.

And only 30 years ago thousands of them were left to rot upon the western plains.

Not many weeks ago Frank Rockefeller of Cleveland brought a buffalo bull to Kansas City from his ranch in Kansas. He sold the meat to a butcher. But the head and hide he sent to his home. It was a magnificent specimen.

"Mr. Rockefeller valued the head and hide at \$1,200," said A. Weber, "but it was not for sale at any price. The old buffalo weighed 2,500 pounds. Think of it! A buffalo bull weighing more than a ton. A long beard hung from his chin and his coat was shaggy. But the buffalo was 27 years old."

Along in the late '70s officials of the Kansas Pacific railroad bought 38 buffaloes that were shot on the plains of Kansas. A buffalo head was the road's trademark. These 38 specimens were handsomely mounted and distributed throughout the towns along the length of the road. Some of these heads are still seen in the offices of the Union Pacific railway.

One is in the Kansas City ticket office at Ninth and Walnut streets. "I do not know its value now,"

said Thomas A. Shaw, the assistant ticket agent. "But I should say \$1,000 would not buy it."

In the museum at the public library is the head of a big buffalo bull, which has a history. The animal was one which roamed the plains in the Panhandle of Texas, the leader of a herd. He was a surly brute when captured on the Goodnight ranch, in 1899, and loaded in a car for Kansas City. A butcher, who wished to supply some fancy meat for his customers, bought him and sent him to a packing plant to be killed. But the buffalo taught the butchers a lesson in "buffalology."

The old bull was driven into the killing chute. The man with the ax steadied himself, and swung a terrific blow squarely between the animal's eyes. But the old bull shook his shaggy head and bellowed. Again the executioner swung the ax. This time the bull objected to such tiring torment and leaped from the chute.

"Bring a rifle," ordered the chief executioner, "and we'll shoot him." The rifle was brought, but the bullets rattled off his hide like shells from armor plate.

"Lasso him!" was then ordered. When the bull was down, he was again shot, but little damage was done. The butchers in desperation then wound the lariat about the old bull's neck and choked him to death. But he died game, fought until unconscious.

Sulphur Yellow in Vogue.
London.—According to the Drapers' Record sulphur yellow, which already has a vogue in Paris, will be the popular shade this year both for women's frocks and for household decorations.