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ITALIANS ADOPT COMMUNISTIC FARMING PLANS

Agriculturalists Will Be Exempt from Service With Military.

Rome, Italy, June 29.—In order to solve problems of farm labor and farm production, Italy has introduced a set of communistic measures that are stated to be more comprehensive than any of those yet devised by the various countries of Europe now at war.

By decree of the Minister of Agriculture, the entire farming system of the country has been re-organized on a mutual basis by which land owners are forced to aid their tenants, by which prefects of departments are required to oversee the relations of both owner and tenant, by which the government itself is compelled to buy and loan machinery and, finally by which which tenants must help each other and loan both machinery and labor.

The decree provides for the exemption from military service of the farmer, if he be the only man left to till the soil. It also encourages the employment of women labor on the farm, giving them proper pay and permitting them to make contracts of the character customarily made in peace times with men laborers.

Laborers are granted a seventy-five per cent. reduction in railway fares, just as if on military service, so that they may be shipped cheaply from one district to another according to labor demands and the rotation of crops. Special courts to settle disputes between laborers or farmers have been provided for each farming district.

When a tenant is forced to employ extra help, the land owner is required to pay one-half of the wages of such help. Special commissions are also being established in each department to regulate the distribution of labor, of machinery, and of horses, mules, and oxen, no matter who the owner, so that the most pressing crops and harvests may be attended to in time. These commissions are also empowered to transfer such labor, machinery and animals from one province to another.

It is hoped these measures will keep up the normal production of the land which has recently suffered severely by the call of farmers from overseas. This present year the wheat crop of Italy is but 9.1 per cent. of last year, though 3 per cent. more than the average of the five-year period of 1909-1913, when the yearly wheat export of Italy was valued at over \$15,000,000. From August last to the end of March of this year, Italy imported more than twice as much wheat as for the preceding year.

Brown bread has been the rule on all the tables of Italy for the past four months. The price of wheat is more than twice what it is in the United States, being \$8 the quintal, or \$3 more per quintal than before the war.

Australia Ready to Receive Ex-Soldiers After European War.

Sydney, Australia, June 23.—Sir Rider Haggard, the English novelist and land settlement expert who is on a tour of British overseas dominions to investigate ways and means of placing British soldiers and sailors on the land after the war, sailed for New Zealand from here last week having finished his work in Australia. He will spend about a month in New Zealand and will then go on to Canada.

Speaking of his efforts in the Commonwealth, which involved 3,000 miles traveling in about six weeks, he said, "It had been extraordinarily successful."

"The Queensland government" he said "is prepared to provide a million acres for agriculture for the settlement of ex-service men from the United Kingdom. The New South Wales government by its irrigation schemes will be enabled to increase its settlers by about 1,000 in two years and in this is prepared to put time-expired United Kingdom soldiers on the footing as its own men. Other states are also willing to extend to ex-service men from the United Kingdom the same advantages in land settlement as they offer their own."

"When this war ends we shall be faced suddenly with the problem of handling great numbers of the 5,000,000 soldiers who will be released with changed ideals and changed spirits. Unless something is ready for them there will be great mistakes. We can take a lesson from the emigration of 125,000 men from the United Kingdom to the United States after the Boer War."

HOW MR. TAPT LOST 75 POUNDS.

A majority of newspaper readers, who have seen photographs of this distinguished citizen slashing at a golf ball have a notion that he reduced his weight seventy-five pounds by working overtime on the links. Prof. Tapt himself gives this practical advice:

"I have lost seventy-five pounds since the 4th of March, 1915. My diet has not been severe. I have not drunk a great deal of water, not more than a glass or two at my meals; I have given up bread and toast and all farinaceous food, all butter and fat, confined my meat to beef and mutton, and fowl, and eschewed pork and veal, have omitted fat fish, like salmon and have taken no sweets of any sort. You can eat all vegetables but potatoes, and fruit that has not too much sugar. You ought to take moderate exercise every day. I have tried to play a game of golf, or walk four or five miles each day. You ought not to lose too rapidly, because it is likely to injure the muscles of your heart if you do; and above all you ought to be examined by the best physician you can get. Don't get a quack. Have your physician examine you; then have him recommend a diet which, I think, will be similar to the one I suggest. If your constitution will stand it. You may have some organic trouble that would make it unwise to attempt such a diet. Don't do anything except under the observation of a physician, consulting him every ten days or two weeks. If he will allow you to pursue this diet, and you stick to it, I think you will reduce your flesh. I do not smoke or drink intoxicating liquors."

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A MOVIE PREMIERE.

It was the premier performance. Everybody was there. To be sure everybody did not quite fill the theatre, but it was the first movie ever started at the cross roads and the audience felt at least twice as big as it was. The proprietor was a Russian, who had drifted into the country from the foreign colony in the city, and had arranged somehow to erect the little building and install the machinery, including an engine that furnished both power and lights. He was satisfied. He was enthusiastic and voluble. He was determined to make a speech. As soon as he was certain that everybody was there he climbed into the operator's box and began: "Ladies and gentlemen, you will now have the greatest opportunity to see the biggest show that has never been in your town. It is for everybody to see. From Chicago I get my films and they are the best any grand show of a robbery. You can see for yourselves. Here we go now, already."

"It was all very fine. There he stood running the film through the machine in the happiest possible manner. The only trouble was that no picture was visible on the screen. The audience was patient. Maybe the would show after a while. At last somebody called out: "What's the matter up there?" "Nothing's the matter," was the response, but the proprietor's wife, appearing from the ticket office, threw her hands above her head and screamed at him: "It ain't goin', Max, it ain't goin'!" "It is goin'," argued Max, but for the first time he looked at the screen below and was forced to admit that there was no picture there. Almost immediately, however, his wife discovered that the trouble lay in the fact that no hole had been cut to allow the picture to show through the partition of the operator's box. Everybody laughed. Even Max laughed. It was rather funny and it was only a matter of a few men and a saw and 10 or 15 minutes until a sizable hole was cut, and everything seemed well enough. Max would have made another speech, but his wife nudged him, and reminded him that it was getting late.

Accordingly, he started to grind away at the machine. This time both he and his wife watched the screen. The light streamed through the hole in the partition, but no pictures appeared on the screen. It was uncanny. The arguments, conjectures and suspicions were interesting and prolonged. Max decided that the "film was no good for anything." He was in despair. He wanted to weep. His wife had hysterics. At last the store-

keeper pointed to one of the rafters. Sure enough it was a hole in front of the new hole. It took a ladder and considerable lumber and a dozen men and the better part of an hour to saw the rafter in two and make new supports for that part of the building. By 10 o'clock it was all done and the audience sat down to see the show. Again Max mounted to his machine. He was too weary for speechmaking. He turned the crank. Somehow, it seemed a marvelous thing that the picture was on the screen. At least, it was there for a minute, maybe for two. At 10:05 o'clock the engine broke down, the machine would not work and the lights went out. Sadly the audience lighted matches and found the way to the door. More sadly Max handed them their nickels and dimes as they passed.—Indianapolis News.

SOMETHING NEW AT NIAGARA FALLS.

The whirling aircraft of the 20th century birdman has enabled its daring pilot to view many a sight not generally enjoyed by persons of less venturesome natures. But this same whirling aircraft now has a strong competitor at Niagara and one of the birdman's rarest and most thrilling views, that of the Whirlpool from above, will be available to every person visiting the Falls this year. This is due to the ingenuity of a Spanish syndicate which has just completed operations on the longest scenic aerial cableway in the world. This wonderful undertaking is suspended from shore to shore, for a distance of 1,800 feet, high above Niagara's setting majestically. It is entirely a Spanish proposition, based on Spanish patents and backed by Spanish capital. The inventor and designer, Torrea y Quevedo, a Spanish engineer, has gained considerable fame in European aero circles, and while his principle, as used in connection with this new project, is not altogether an innovation, his is the first multiple-cable tramway to be devoted to passenger service. The cars operated along these multiple cables have a carrying capacity of forty five persons. Every possible precaution has been taken to make this aerial tramway accident-proof, and many special safety devices have been installed.

Another new feature at the Falls this year rivaling in interest the Aerial Cableway is the illumination at night of the American Falls and Rapids above the Cataract. Successful experiments have been carried out and the permanency of the scheme is practically assured. Powerful incandescent lamps have been effectually distributed at various points around Goat Island and American Falls, and every night this battery of lights is

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played on the Cataract, producing an effect even more impressive than the grandeur of Niagara by day. The lights are arranged so that they do not mar or detract from the natural beauty of the scenery by day and this new and more attractive Niagara will mean a greater source of interest and an increased charm for the sight-seer. The Lehigh Valley Railroad, a road of scenic grandeur, offers a special opportunity to the people of New England to take this trip to the Falls over the route of the Black Diamond, through the Switzerland of America at a special low rate fare of \$11.40 round trip from New York. Mr. M. J. Ormond, General Agent, at 123 Church street, New Haven, Telephone 1140, is making reservations for large numbers who will make this interesting trip over the Fourth of July. **DOUBLY WELCOME.** (Christian Herald.) The new minister was invited out to supper. He was a bachelor and when he helped himself to the biscuits for the third time he looked across the table at the hostess's little girl. "I don't have such a good supper as this my dear," he said in his most propitiatory tone. "We don't, either," said the little girl, smiling. "I'm awful glad you came." The Bank of England bought £765,000 bar gold.