

The Ex-Kaiser's Beard. Ladies and Wild Ducks. Food for Sale. Poor Peace.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE. (Copyright, 1919.)

This country is shipping spaghetti to Italy, which would surprise the man who invented the "coals to Newcastle" phrase.

The price of cotton is dropping. It dropped the day before yesterday, and again yesterday. In this there may be comfort for farmers, indignant because the price of wheat was fixed at \$2.30 and the price of cotton not limited.

Cotton growers must get now what they can, the Government having guaranteed them nothing. Whereas wheat farmers under a Government guarantee will get \$2.30 for wheat now selling for \$1.20 in Australia and for \$1.35 in the Argentine.

This may mollify some of the gentlemen in the North who denounced the Wilson Administration for protecting Southern cotton growers.

Our distinguished representatives in Europe are being because Europe is not taking foodstuffs from us. Our warehouses are stocked full, foodstuffs are not moving. The blockade keeps us from shipping to Germany and some of her neighbors. The allies, having now plenty of shipping for long distance hauls, are getting their wheat and other food supplies, quite naturally, in the cheapest markets, hauling from the Argentine and from Australia.

The former Kaiser is growing a full beard to protect his ear. If that announcement had been made four years, or four months ago, how many new beards would have started growing in Germany, and elsewhere? Alexander the Great shaved his face clean, and set a fashion that lasted centuries, but he did it when he was the "Great." The Kaiser's beard will not be imitated. The world does not imitate defeat.

The growing of it, however, may have value. If the Hohenzollern beard persuades other men to shave, it will do good, especially if doctors shave. Beards are microbe nests. The doctor who puts his beard close to the body of a child suffering from scarlet fever or measles, and then transfers the beard to the chest of some other child is not what you might call prophylactic.

There are women in New York State's legislature. And the first bill proposed by a woman is passed. It extends the time during which you are permitted to shoot wild ducks on Long Island. The two Socialists in the legislature voted against it. They sympathize with the wild things, presumably. The women took the view that if there is anything that you can shoot and eat that costs nothing, they were in favor of it, and they had their way.

Mr. Fletcher dies, only sixty-nine years old. Nevertheless his theory about chewing your food slowly is sound. Reading his book, which was made especially interesting by the liberal and important quotations from the writings of a Russian scientist, made it clear that Mr. Fletcher himself did not know why his chewing ideas were sound. But they were, and to "Fletcherize" means to live longer. He may be dead because he got tired of practicing his own theory; men do that sometimes. More probably he is dead, as most Americans die, destroyed by mental disturbance. You can't "minister to a mind diseased," even by Fletcherizing, although it helps a little.

Perfect peace is having her ups and downs. It is announced that the Jugo-Slav republic will mobilize her troops. She wants territory that Italy claims. She wishes to control the east shore of the Adriatic, which dominates the entire east coast of Italy. She won't be allowed to do it if Italy can prevent it. Trouble there.

There are serious riots among our neighbors in the South, the Argentine Republic and Peru. "Bolshevism" is alleged to be active there. However, the word "Bolshevism" will be used to cover all disturbances, including strikes and every difficulty.

It might be well, as Lord Northcliffe suggests, to find out first what Bolshevism is, and as he says, "what is going on among the one hundred and sixty million people inside of Russia."

WEATHER: Fair tonight and Thursday; somewhat colder tonight; lowest temperature about 32 degrees. Temperature at 8 a. m. today 28 degrees. Average temperature for Jan. 15 for last 30 years 33 degrees.

GERMANY TO HAVE FOOD BUT MUST PAY FOR IT

100 D. C. MEN IN BATTALION THAT PIERCED ST. MIHIEL LINE

The first stories of the glory and achievements of the famous 312th Machine Gun Battalion, composed of nearly 700 Washington men, to be brought back by men who went through the war, were told to The Times today.

These first-hand descriptions of the battles in which the 312th won undying fame were given at Walter Reed Hospital and the Base Hospital at Camp Meade by the first three Washington men to return to America. Two of the men are at Camp Meade and the other is at the Walter Reed Hospital.

Sergeant John H. M. Chaney, son of Mrs. A. W. Chaney, of the Northbrook Courts, Sixteenth and Newton streets northwest, told a thrilling story of how 100 men from Washington broke the German line at St. Mihiel. Sergeant Chaney, with the other two men, were members of Company C, 312th Machine Gun Battalion.

Describe Three-Day Advance. The other two District men, Private Owen M. Grider, former policeman, who lives at 521 Ninth street northwest, and Corporal William Laeman, who lives at 141 Eleventh street southeast, tell of the three-day advance made by the 312th.

In September, 1917, the draft officials in Washington sent hundreds of District men to Camp Meade, Md. These men were sent to various camps throughout the country, and about 800 remained at Camp Meade. Of these 678 were chosen to compose a machine gun battalion to be known as the 312th. After this unit was organized and drilled it was ordered overseas. The men left Camp Meade, on July 5, and were sent to New York. On July 6 they embarked and on July 7 sailed for France.

The 312th arrived at Brest July 19, 1918. Remaining in Brest at a rest camp for two days, the men were ordered to Vaux. Here they remained for about two weeks. They were billeted in small temporary buildings, situated on rocky and hilly ground.

Move to Verdun. Leaving Vaux they took a position in the rear on the Verdun sector. This was about September 10. Of the fighting at Verdun Sergeant Chaney relates:

"On September 25 the 312th was assigned to a position at a cross-road near Verdun. From 6 o'clock on the day of September 26 we remained in waiting until 1:30 in the morning of September 27. At 1:30 we were ordered to advance. Behind us was a heavy barrage of artillery by the American guns. In front of us was also a heavy American barrage. We had guns in front of us, guns in back of us, and guns on each side of us. So far not a man among the battalion gunners had been wounded. We had yet to see the grim horrors of war."

Held in Reserve. "We acted as a reserve. In a short time we had advanced five kilometers. After completing this advance we saw the first signs of battle. Hundreds of men, dead, dying or wounded, were lying on the ground." (Continued on Page 2, Column 5.)

GERMAN PROBES URGE TRIAL OF KAISER

BERNE, Jan. 15.—A German commission, appointed to determine the Kaiser's responsibility for the war, has officially recommended that he be brought to trial, according to information received from Berlin today.

CZAR'S DAUGHTERS TORTURED

WITHIN HEARING OF THEIR FATHER AND MOTHER.

TERRIBLE STORY OF ROMANOFFS' LAST DAYS GRAPHICALLY TOLD.

An official of the Siberian government told the first connected story of the last days of the ex-Czar of Russia and his family. The tales of brutality add a new chapter to the world's history of twentieth century brutalities. For reasons of prudence the name of the official is withheld.

OMSK, Siberia, Dec. 12.—Until recently the fate of the ex-Czar Nicholas and his family was uncertain. The shocking rumors regarding assassination recently decided the council of ministers of the Siberian government to hold a judicial inquiry on the scene of their disappearance. This was carefully and impartially conducted by men who had no monarchical sympathies (being themselves advanced Liberals), verified by witnesses and documentary evidence, and was substantiated by photographs of scenes of the tragedy.

The Bolsheviks, drunk with power and the lust of cruelty, took the ex-Czar, his wife and their five children from the monastery of Abolok, thirty miles from Tobolsk, to Ekaterinburg, where they were destined to spend their last days in physical and mental tortures. They were interned in the house of a professor of chemistry named Ipatieff. The building was of two stories with a small courtyard surrounded by a high wooden palisade. The lower floor, comfortably, even sumptuously, furnished, was occupied by the guards, men specially recruited from the lowest class of Bolshevik bullets. The prisoners occupied the upper floor. A condemned murderer's cell is not more devoid of comforts than the small, dark rooms allowed to those who had spent their lives in luxury. Once rich beyond the dreams of avarice, they were now made to suffer the worst torments of poverty; once supreme in power, they were insulted and spat upon by the lower than beasts. The comfort of a single companion, even of a servant, was denied them.

Faithful Retainers Shot. Worse still, they knew that their few faithful retainers—Court Physician Botkin, two ladies-in-waiting, Baroness Ehrenowa and Mile. Naryshkina; the old sailor, Derevenko, who had devotedly nursed the delicate Czarovitch from babyhood; the former Czar's favorite valet, and the ex-Czar's trusted maid (all of whom were with them in the Abolok monastery)—had been shot as a reprisal.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

REAL REASONS WHY PRESIDENT ASKS PASSAGE OF FOOD BILL

The real reasons for the insistence by President Wilson on the immediate passage of the appropriation of \$100,000,000 for food for Europe became apparent today when the following facts were learned:

1. There are thirty-six cargoes of food of a value of \$55,000,000 already in Europe or on the way and not one pound of them can be used until the United States Treasury has sufficient guarantee that all the shipments will be paid for.

2. Great Britain, whose contracts have been in large part the basis of Government fixed prices for pork products in this country, has suddenly and unexpectedly suspended all orders which were scheduled for January shipment.

To throw all this pork on the American market would ruin all but the strongest packing houses. Would Avoid Unrest. The real reasons for the President's insistence are to avoid the spread of unrest in starving Europe by providing food and to avert an industrial and financial disturbance in the United States by furnishing an outlet for the immense store of pork products now in hand.

Members of both House and Senate have been demanding more explicit instructions regarding the President's request. They have been unable to understand why the President has been so insistent and why he wanted the appropriation rushed through Congress and made immediately available.

If the Senate agrees to the hundred million appropriation—it has passed the House—the President will use more than half the amount in saving thirty-six shiploads of food already available and will not have to await the shipment of other cargoes from this country.

Right in the shadows of the warehouses, bulging with their stores and the docks groaning under the weight of their fresh food supplies from America, tens of millions of men, women and children who survived the war are today facing death or disfigurement from starvation and their governments are facing demoralization before the mad onrush of the Bolshevik.

Large Shipments Ready. On this side 500,000,000 pounds of pork and pork products are ready for shipment; so much meat has piled up at many important Atlantic ports that (Continued on Page 8, Column 1.)

GUFFEY SLATED FOR M'CORMICK'S POST

The Democratic National Committee will receive the resignation of Chairman Vance McCormick and will elect a successor at a meeting of the committee called by Chairman McCormick at the Shoreham Hotel here for February 26. It was announced today at the headquarters of the committee. Other business that would ordinarily come before the committee will be taken up at this meeting also.

GERMAN PLOT TO CHEAT U. S. IN ARMISTICE IS UNCOVERED

AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS IN GERMANY, Jan. 13.—The American third army has uncovered a plot by the Germans to evade the terms of the armistice, according to announcement today.

The Americans nearly were cheated of millions of marks' worth of material, it has been learned, through sales of motor trucks and large quantities of supplies by the Germans. These supplies, which reverted to the Americans under the terms of the armistice, were sold to private corporations and individuals.

Sales Declared Void. A proclamation has been issued from headquarters warning against such sales and declaring them void. Everything thus sold has been ordered surrendered within a week. German duplicity also is causing a rigid examination of alleged unsatisfactory food conditions. Two experts have been named to study and take control of the situation. They are Col. Walter Benez, formerly a New York sanitation expert, and Lieut. Cleo Mason, a food expert, of Maryland. These men already have met with German authorities, who were warned by Col. U. L. Hunt, in charge of civil affairs, that the Americans were fully cognizant of the subtle propaganda being carried on with regard to food conditions.

REDS RENEW WILD RIOTING IN BERLIN

LONDON, Jan. 15.—Bullets were fired into a Berlin street crowd last night by Spartacides who were hiding on the roof of a building, said an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen today.

Fighting broke out again and a sharp attack was made against the Franzer barracks. The fighting lasted an hour. Leaders of the Spartacus group are planning to precipitate further riots in an effort to hinder the national elections, but the government is taking strong measures to put down the disorders.

Fugitive Spartacides hurled three bombs at a train. BERLIN, Jan. 14 (via Copenhagen, Jan. 15).—More than 1,000 Spartacides who took part in the recent street fighting, have been arrested by government troops. Quiet has been restored.

2102 H Street N. W., January 8, 1919.

The Washington Times:

Through a single advertisement in your Help Wanted column I secured the services of an ex-soldier to help put on Detroit Weatherproof Tops. The result obtained was so prompt that I was more than delighted.

Yours truly, BLISS BLACK, Manufacturers' Agent.

President Harper Tells The Times His Program For Washington

Col. Robert N. Harper, president of the District National Bank and one of the best-known and most active business men of the National Capital, was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce last night. At the request of The Times, Colonel Harper has prepared the following statement to the people of Washington about the future welfare of the city.

By ROBERT N. HARPER, President Chamber of Commerce.

My election as president of the Chamber of Commerce has come upon me so suddenly and so unexpectedly that I cannot outline definitely the plans that I have in mind for the benefit of Washington, and especially for the business interests of Washington. However, as president of the chamber I hope I will be able to aid considerably in the work for the welfare of the Nation's Capital City, and I here offer myself unreservedly to this work.

There is a great opportunity for valuable work ahead for the Chamber of Commerce, and with such a splendid and powerful organization at work in behalf of the city the prospects for a prosperous year are exceedingly bright.

Washington never will be again as it has been in the past. The old Washington is dead, and a new Washington, a bigger, a better, a more vigorous and aggressive Washington, has arisen. The business interests of the city have taken on new life, and a day of great business activity and business success is upon us.

Washington is in the spotlight as the seat of government of this great world powerful nation. Washington will go forward in ever increasing activity along all beneficial lines and the commercial activity will be notably on the increase. Personally, I am for business and commercial Washington in the broadest sense.

I want suffrage for the people of the District. I believe it of paramount importance to the welfare of the city that the right to vote exist in Washington as in all great American cities. In the era of prosperity opening up to us, I want to see the ballot among the beneficial things that come to us and I intend, personally, to work for suffrage in the National Capital.

I am for improved street car service here. I need say nothing more.

I want to see a practical street railway transfer plan put into effect here to meet the present and future needs of Washington.

I want to see an arch of triumph erected in Washington. Because Washington is the seat of Government of the United States, the spot where the American participation in the great war was planned, I believe that the most beautiful and appropriate arch obtainable should be erected here to commemorate the deeds of the men who went overseas for America, who fought, bled and died for the nation and for democracy.

I want to see buildings erected here representing every State in the Union and containing exhibits from all the States of their natural resources, together with those other things its people are proudest of.

And I want to see commercial Washington grow by leaps and bounds, far past any expressed expectations for the future. I offer my services and, I think I can safely say, the services of the Chamber of Commerce during the year we are just entering to advancing the welfare of commercial Washington in all of its phases.



PRESIDENT HARPER.

ANARCHY RULE CAN BE ENDED ONLY BY BREAD, ALLIES LEARN

By FRED S. FERGUSON.

PARIS, Jan. 15.—Fear that further occupation of Germany would be necessary if a serious food shortage developed, has prompted the allied food council to permit importation of supplies into that country, the United Press is able to state authoritatively today.

Bolshevik riots in industrial centers, such as Berlin, are based upon food difficulties, it was established. It was further ascertained that while Germany's supplies are sufficient for the moment, the people are rapidly consuming their stocks and would face actual starvation before spring.

Approved By Army. It was upon representations of the allied military authorities that the council decided it was vital to permit Germany to import foodstuffs. This would insure establishment of a stable government, it was declared, and prevent the necessity for further encroachment by the allied armies upon German territory.

Under the provisions of the Hague convention, provisioning of the people will devolve upon the armies of occupation. When the Germans' own supplies are exhausted, if it were necessary occupy additional territory, the obligation naturally would increase.

In view of the conditions revealed by allied military investigation, it is pointed out that if Germany succumbs to anarchy she will be unable to make peace, and restitution and indemnities would be impossible. Germany, however, must pay for every pound of food imported to save herself from dissolution.

Won't Permit Hagglng. The allies it was learned today, have instructed Marshal Foch to enforce all provisions of the new terms included in the armistice in connection with its prolongation. No haggling, such as Germany has been showing a marked tendency to indulge in, will be permitted.

The new terms also included transfer of all gold in the Reichsbank in Berlin, to France, where it will be placed under allied control.

FRENCH TIGER TO PRESIDE INSTEAD OF PRESIDENT AT PEACE TABLE SITTINGS

PARIS, Jan. 15.—Three questions dominated the conference program today as the time approached for the first full session of the peace congress—set for Saturday afternoon. They were:

Will the session be open or secret? Will the Bolshevik problem or the League of Nations come up first? Will Premier Clemenceau or President Wilson preside?

These together with a score of minor puzzles are solved or unsolved as fast as one newspaper edition succeeds another, or a correspondent meets one of the conferees.

All Were Guesses. Nothing authoritative, whatever could be obtained as to whether the conference will be open.

As to the question of what subject will be broached first, Clemenceau already is pledged to bring up the League of Nations at the outset. The Bolshevik problem probably will come next. It is understood the situation of Poland and similar questions will be taken up in the general Russian discussion. It is generally agreed that Clemenceau probably will be given the chairmanship, through diplomatic precedent.

President Wilson does not take precedence over Clemenceau, because he merely acts as his own premier, being the mantle of the Presidency on the same peg with his hat and overcoat as he enters the council chamber.

BOLSHEVIK REVOLT IN PORTUGAL IS THWARTED

LONDON, Jan. 15.—Efforts of Bolshevik agents to foment rebellion in Portugal have failed, says a dispatch from Lisbon.