

LIVE STOCK

PROPER SELECTION OF SIRE

One of First Considerations in Breeding of Livestock—Pure Bred Gives Best Results.

One of the first considerations in the breeding of livestock is the selection of the proper sire. The influence of the sire is pre-eminent because he directly affects a greater number of offspring than does the single female. There can be no improvement or grading-up process by the use of scrub sires. Horse breeders should recognize the fact that it is not a paying proposition simply to breed mares to any stallion that may be available. A sound, pure-bred stallion should be used if the best results are to be obtained.

The stallion selected should conform as closely as possible to the breed and type of the mares that are to be bred. Stallions of pure breeding are, by virtue of their unmixed ancestry, possessed of greater propensity than are grades or scrubs, and will therefore invariably impress their offspring with their breed characteristics and individual merit.

A low service fee is too often the deciding factor with many farmers and mare owners in the selection of a sire. A low service fee ought never to be a temptation, but rather should be taken as a warning. A low fee is usually a sign of an inferior stallion. Colts from inferior or scrub sires will sell for much less than those sired by the sound, pure-bred stallion.

GENERAL BUCK



General Buck, commander of a brigade in France, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by General Pershing.

In selecting eggs for shipping by mail, thin-shelled and unusually long or irregular shaped eggs should be avoided. Each egg should be wrapped in sufficient paper to hold it snugly in its own individual compartment in the container.

The Kaiser as I Knew Him for Fourteen Years

By ARTHUR N. DAVIS, D. D. S.

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the ones which your country upon as its real enemies."

A German officer of high standing told me just before I left Berlin that America had made the great mistake of sending ammunition, guns and supplies to Russia, via Japan, because Japan had just retained the finely made American articles and had dumped on Russia a lot of good-for-nothing material of her own in their place. "My advice to America," he declared, "is to cut the throat of every Japanese in America and get rid of the internal danger." He did not suggest cutting the throats of all the undependable Germans who were in America and who had already demonstrated that they were far more dangerous than the Japanese had ever been.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Kaiser's Confidence of Victory.

About twelve years ago I attended the German military maneuvers at Liegnitz, in Silesia, having been invited by some journalistic friends of mine to accompany them in the motor allowed the press. The military representatives of England, France, America and other countries were there with the Kaiser's staff to witness the display of Germany's military power. Apparently they were very much impressed, for I heard afterwards that one of the French officers who had been present had written a book in which he said: "With such an army, Germany could annex France in six months!"

I happened to mention this fact to the Kaiser shortly afterwards and his significant comment was:

"Six months! I should hope so. It wouldn't take that long!"

The confident belief that when "Der Tag"—"the day"—finally arrived, Germany would crush her enemies and accomplish her object within a few months at the outside was held not only by the Kaiser but by the people generally and their conduct when the war broke out clearly disclosed it.

When Germany's man power was mobilized, no one in Germany believed it would be very long before they would all be back and every effort was made to make their few weeks of active service as little irksome as possible. "Liebesgaben," gifts of love, consisting of clothing and food of every description, were forwarded to them by their relatives and friends in the most lavish manner, although, of course, at that time the German commissary was able to satisfy all the soldiers' requirements.

One of my patients told me that she had sent seventeen hundred pounds of sausages to one regiment within a week, and when I asked her why she had been so generous she replied that her chauffeur was a member of the regiment!

The extent to which the country's resources were squandered in those early months is evidenced by the fact that the soldiers had such an excess of ill-fitting woollen wearing apparel that they used many of the knitted articles as earpieces and covers for their horses. No one had the slightest idea that the time might come when the whole nation would be clothed in paper!

At this late day it can hardly be necessary to establish how thoroughly prepared the Germans were for the war, but an incident which occurred in the early days of the conflict may not be out of place to show the self-satisfied and confident attitude which all the Germans assumed.

Two officers sitting at a table in an out-of-door cafe shortly after the war began overheard one of several ladies who were passing remark: "Look at those officers sitting there drinking. Why are they not at the front fighting?" One of the officers got up and, approaching the ladies, said: "Our work was completed months ago. We worked from early morning till late at night on plans which our armies are now carrying out. It is our time to rest."

The resistance that France would be able to put up was always very lightly estimated, and if the intervention of England was at all taken into consideration, the comparatively small army she could place in the field was regarded as but a drop in the bucket compared with the well-trained German horde that was ready to sweep across the border. How could England's 80,000 men cope with Von Kluck's 500,000 or the hastily mobilized French armies resist the thoroughly prepared, equipped and well-disciplined German warriors?

It is really not to be wondered at that the Germans firmly believed that they would bring the allies to their knees within a comparatively few weeks and that the conquering German armies would celebrate Sedan day, September 2, in Paris. What actually happened is, of course, too well known here to require recital, but I know that the Germans were kept in absolute ignorance of the marvelous resistance the allies were able to put up in those critical days of August and September, 1914, and to this day the majority of Germans have not heard of the battle of the Marne!

Just after the English passed their

scription law I was called to see the Kaiser at the great army headquarters, which at that time were at Pless. Although the war had then lasted two or three times as long as the Germans had expected, the Kaiser masked the depression he must have felt by putting on a bold front.

"How foolish for England to start conscription now," he declared. "She thinks she can accomplish in a few months what it has taken Germany a hundred years to attain. Armies and officers cannot be developed overnight. We have never stopped preparing since the days of Frederick the Great!"

"Yes, your majesty, but the Northern states in our Civil war put in conscription two years after the beginning of the war," I suggested.

"But just look how long your war lasted," the Kaiser replied quickly. "This war won't last that long. The allies will feel what the power of Germany is long before English conscription can avail them anything!"

"And while England is slowly building up her insignificant army," the Kaiser went on, "she will see America's navy and merchant marine constantly growing and the dollar replacing the pound as the unit of the world's finance. No, Davis, England will soon be sick of the war and will look with fear upon America's growing power!"

The French army, too, was generally belittled, and the Russians were believed to be absolutely negligible. The French army was so poorly equipped, it was pointed out, that the officers had to go to the field in patent-leather boots, and on the Russian front, only the first-line men had guns, the others being armed with clubs!

Eventually, officers and soldiers returning from the western front on furlough or passing through the country en route from one front to the other brought the report of the defeat before Paris. Soldiers who participated in that disastrous retreat wrote from the new trenches to their friends and relatives telling of the terrible experiences they had undergone, when they went for days with nothing to eat but raw potatoes and turnips which they picked from the fields.

When these reports finally spread through Germany the people began to realize that their generals in the west were not meeting with the same success that Von Hindenburg had had in the east and Von Hindenburg became the idol of the people immediately, a fact that was very distasteful to the high command.

The Kaiser's dislike of Von Hindenburg was of long standing. He had never forgiven that general for the mistake he made during military maneuvers in peace time when by a brilliant stroke of strategy he had succeeded in capturing the Kaiser's forces, including the Kaiser and his whole staff!

I have referred in a previous chapter to the Kaiser's unbounded confidence after the Italian collapse in 1917. "Now, we've got the allies!" he exclaimed, with an air of conclusiveness which emphasized the optimism he displayed.

After the capture of Roumania, he exhibited a similar degree of exultation. He believed that in that achievement he had successfully solved the food problem—the one cloud which constantly darkened the Kaiser's horizon.

"Now the allies will never succeed in starving us," he said to me in my office shortly after the Roumanian drive. "With Roumania in our pockets and Serbia already ours, their wonderful agricultural possibilities will supply our food needs and foil our enemies' efforts to starve us. Indeed, they had better look out for themselves. Don't forget we have a monopoly on the potash mines of the world. Without proper fertilization, American crops will go on decreasing and decreasing and they won't get any potash until we get ready to let them have it!"

The failure of the Zeppelins from a military standpoint was undoubtedly a great disappointment to the German people at large, who had counted so much upon them to bring disaster to England, but it cannot be said that the Kaiser shared their chagrin. On the contrary, I have reason to believe that he never expected very much from that arm of his military force except as it might be useful to terrorize the civil population.

A day or two after Zeppelin's death, in 1917, a patient of mine, a lady, happened to remark that it was too bad that the count had not lived to see the triumph of his invention, and when I saw the Kaiser shortly afterwards I repeated her remark to see what he would say.

"I am convinced that the count lived long enough to see all that the Zeppelins were capable of accomplishing," was his only comment. It recalled the answer he had given me some years before when both Zeppelins and airplanes were in their infancy and I had asked him which held the greater promise. "We do not know. Time alone will tell," was his reply.

The last time I conversed with the Kaiser was on November 28, 1917. Up to that time we had sent over 169,000 troops, according to the figures which have since been revealed by Secretary

(To be continued)

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