

WHITE MOUSE TO PLAY BIG PART IN WORLD WAR

Little Rodents Helping Crush Pneumonia Needed in Great Numbers

PRICE NOW \$1.22 EACH

Breeding Promises to Be Profitable Industry, Declares Major

CHICAGO, March 5.—He is just a little thing, with snow-white hide, and beady eyes, yet he is destined to play a most important part in the world war. "He" is the white mouse.

Major W. A. Shields, chief medical officer at the Central department supply depot here, says that these mice are needed in large numbers now and that if there be those who are in a quandary as how best they may serve their country, it would be well for them to look into the white mice industry.

White mice, Major Shields said, are among the most important needs of the army hospitals. Upon securing a sufficient number of the tiny rodents may depend the lives of many hundreds of American soldiers and sailors.

Mice Eliminate Suffering.

Pneumonia is the spectre with which the tiny mice are called upon to do battle, and, according to the medical officer, if the mice can be had in sufficient numbers, they can crush this grim monster of the entrenchments and trenches. They can alleviate the suffering caused by pneumonia by the sacrifice of their lives for the manufacture of serum.

Through elaborate experiments it has been discovered, according to Major Shields, that pneumonia is of several kinds, each being distinct from the other and requiring a different serum. There is, however, but one way in which to determine which of the diseases has attacked the patient, that is through the use of white mice.

The question that faces the medical supply officers is to get the little rodents which play such an important part in army hospital service. Before the war, said Major Shields, mice were so plentiful that ten cents each would purchase all one might desire.

Mouse Costs \$1.22.

Then came the war and the sudden demand for large quantities of the rodents immediately the price leaped upward. Today, Major Shields said, white mice are quoted at \$1.22 each, with prospects that the price has not yet reached the top.

"This is a sample of the patriotism of some of the people of the country," Major Shields said. "It is a sad commentary upon such persons that they will let their great outstrip their duty to America. A white mice breeder recently wrote, asking my quotation on mice. When I told him—giving him a figure that six months ago would have been considered extravagant—he replied that he could get ten cents apiece more elsewhere, and he refused to let us have any."

Not all persons, however, are like this, the officer added. A woman in California who sends on an average of fifty mice a month to the Chicago depot, has requested that the check in payment for the rodents be turned over to the American Red Cross. While the department could not do this, it was none the less exceedingly gratified to note the spirit.

Breeding Is Profitable.

White mice are bred in "mouseteas." The Major said in explaining how the animals are reared. They breed rapidly and the expense for caring for them is practically nothing. All that is required is a place to keep them which need not be expensive, and a slight expenditure for food. The mice are fed lettuce, oats and greens and are very hardy. They are shipped to the Chicago depot with practically no loss and are kept at the central department until called for by the various hospitals. Major Shields explained, however, that the supply is so limited that the depot is unable to keep any on hand and has been

obliged to use every facility at its disposal in order to find enough to supply present needs of the hospitals.

Pneumonia is generally recognized as one of the most deadly diseases to which soldiers are subject. The average death rate is 8.2 per cent. In consequence of this fact it presents itself as a deadly menace to the men at cantonments both here and abroad but if a sufficient supply of white mice can be obtained the death rate can be appreciably lowered.

In the diagnosis of pneumonia with white mice, secretions from the nose or throat of the patient are injected into the animal and then by a series of experiments which are executed quickly, the exact nature of the disease can be ascertained and the proper treatment can be administered. No other animal can be used for this work, the major said.

Major Shields said that he is now securing white mice from several mouseries in the United States and a small supply from Canada.

"IT SURE DOES THE WORK"

Mrs. W. H. Thornton, 3525 W. 10th St., Little Rock, Ark., writes: "My little boy had a severe attack of croup and I honestly believe he would have died if it had not been for Foley's Honey and Tar. I would not be without it at any price, as it sure does the work." Best remedy for coughs, colds, whooping cough, J. C. Perry.

FAMILIAR SONG RECALLS HOME

Company M Boy Hears French Girl Sing "Swanee River" on Street

Allan Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Jones of Salem, is doing office work in Company M in France and says it is right in his line. Now and then he is able to attend a theater and finds it interesting. He writes that he was surprised to hear a French girl singing "Swanee River" as she passed along the street. His letter follows:

"I am still on the job in the office there. It is an immense amount of clerical or paper work in our company and they find plenty for me to do. It is not an unpleasant job, and quite in my line.

"Have you got an allotment man yet? If you haven't you doubtless will soon. I've received no pay for three months and am in dire financial straits—I had to borrow 10 francs from Tommy Coates. I'll have quite a bunch of money. Ever since landing here I'll be drawing \$18 instead of \$15. After pay day I'm going to get a theater pass, and to the opera. They play Faust, Sigurd, Boheme, Wilhelm Tell, and many other grand operas here. The trouble is they begin so late (at 9 o'clock) and last almost four hours, and we must be in at 10:30. We can't get a pass from 3 till 10:30 every fourth day. On Sunday, I to 10:30 so it is impossible to go to the theatre, except Sunday matinee. I went to a musical comedy one Sunday, and was quite amused. The actors were quite good but all the men were old birds.

"There is one cafe where I go to the concerts occasionally. They have a stage at the end of the hall, an orchestra and entertainers. The entertainers are not so clever or do they work so hard or get the applause accorded the New York restaurant and cabaret artists. One hears American music very little outside of camp, although I did hear a girl singing 'down Where the Swanee River Flows,' as she was passing along the street. I was very surprised.

"At retreat the band plays 'Star Spangled Banner' and 'Marsellaise,' both of which rate a salute from uniformed men here."

Dallas Meat Company Is Sold to Firm of Grocers

DALLAS, Or., March 8.—(Special to The Statesman.)—The Dallas Meat company, one of the oldest business establishments in this city, closed its doors the first of the week and the proprietors will devote their life to other interests. The stock of the concern has been bought by Vitis & company, local grocers. Ed and Joel Shaw, owners of the business will hereafter look after their big stock farm on the Luckiamute where they have several thousand head of sheep and other stock.

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ITALY PREPARES FOR PROTECTION OF SACRED ART

Many Valuable Works Put Underground Since Austrian Air Raids

SAND SACKS ARE USED

Matresses Filled With Sawdust Protect Great Altar of Church

ROME, Feb. 28.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—The most complete effort to protect works of art from damage and destruction the world has ever seen, so it is stated, has just been finished by Italy's department of antiquities and fine arts, the head of which is Corrado Ricci.

The aviation raids of the Austrians in the early part of the war proved so harmful that the effort has not been limited to putting underground or in bomb proof storehouses Italy's treasures of paintings and sculptures, but it has also been attempted to protect cathedrals, palaces and museums in every city of Italy by erecting bomb-proof structures above or outside the finer portions of such buildings.

It is estimated that no less than a million sacks of sand have been used in this work and that no less than ten thousand temporary wooden frame structures of every size have been erected in the various cities and districts where necessary.

It is also stated that the deliberate bombing of the Church of St. Anthony at Padua, for hundreds of years a Mecca for Catholics throughout the world, tends to prove how little will be the consideration shown St. Peter's church and the Vatican palace in Rome where dwell Pope Benedict, should Austrian aviators succeed in reaching Rome.

So far there has been no effort, however, by the pope or the rulers of the vatican to protect the Sistine chapel or any other of the vatican museums filled with many of the world's most valuable paintings, frescoes, bronzes, and sculptures.

Many of Rome's treasures on the Capitoline Hill and elsewhere have been shifted or stored in bomb proof locations, either in Rome itself or in secret places in the south of Italy, as has been the case with many works of arts of north Italy. The vast protective work undertaken in Venice three years ago by Ugo Ojetti has been practically duplicated all over Italy.

The wall paintings of the "Last Supper" by Leonardo di Vinci in the Church of Our Lady of Grace, at Milan, more famous even than the paintings on the subject by Roselli in the Sistine chapel of the vatican, both of which paintings have been widely reproduced throughout the world, has been protected in the most careful manner.

It is not argued that a high explosive bomb falling directly upon this space would not injure the painting, in view of sad experiences elsewhere, but it is believed the painting would be protected from light bombs or ones falling indirectly.

The treatment of this painting is typical of what has been done in hundreds of cases at Padua, at Verona, at Bologna, at Florence, at Ravenna and elsewhere with treasures whose names have been household words. Many bronze or marble statues have simply been covered up, as with the gigantic "David" of Michael Angelo in the academy gallery at Florence and the triumphal arch of Trajan, at Ancona, on the Adriatic sea, an arch some seventy-five feet high.

To protect the mosaic work preserved in the tomb of the Roman Empress Galla Placidia, at Ravenna, a new building was placed about the tomb, so that now the tomb is a building within a building. The famous "Assumption" by Correggio, painted on the ceiling of the dome of the cathedral at Parma has been secured from danger it is thought by the arrangement of a series of 600 sand sacks in circular form under the roof of the dome, with an ingenious set of wooden rafters to relieve the strain from the priceless ceiling.

As church altars always contain the finest and most elaborate painting and mural decorations, great care has been taken to shield them, as in the case of the great altar of St. Anthony's church at Padua, by Donatello. Here many hundreds of sand sacks were piled up, and in addition many hundreds of square yards of mattresses filled with sawdust hung on scaffolds reaching up to the ceiling. There is not a valuable altar in all of north or central Italy which has not likewise its covering of sacks and mattresses. In the same manner fronts of churches remarkable for their marble and bronze decorations have been cared for.

"The only reason that will keep the Austro-Germans from attempting to destroy art works," said Ugo Ojetti recently, "is the hope that some day they may be able to steal them. Already in the imperial museums and the imperial academy at Vienna are twenty-five paintings of Titian and fifteen of Tintoretto."

COATES HEADS NATIONAL PARTY

Socialist Party and Non-Partisan Leaguer Choice for Chairman

CHICAGO, March 8.—David C. Coates, formerly lieutenant governor of Colorado, an active figure in the Socialist party and one of the founders of the non-partisan league, was made chairman of the National party at the final session of its first convention here today.

SALEM MEETING ONE OF SEVEN

Series of Laymen's Missionary Conventions in Northwest Soon

The Laymen's Missionary convention to be held in Salem March 17, 18 and 19, is one of a series of seven great missionary conventions for men and women that will be held in Washington and Oregon from February 27 to March 22, 1918. In a recent series in California the average registration of men and women was 1000 in each city. The northwest hopes to surpass California.

The purpose of the convention is: To consider the new missionary opportunities and demands in a world at war.

To face new world conditions and America's enlarged responsibility.

To increase the spiritual power and efficiency of the local church.

To inspire men and women to take their part in the extension of the Kingdom of Christ.

To contribute a permanent missionary impulse to the churches.

The convention is financed by a registration fee of 50 cents, which is required of each delegate. The registration fee for the men's convention is \$1.

Mobilizing for world service is the general theme of the program. Some of the topics follow:

The Call of the Hour.

1. The Challenge of the World's Need.
2. The Church in a World at War.
3. The Field to Be Won.
4. America.
5. The World.
6. Enlisting Men and Women in World Service.

1. An Adequate Program of Missionary Education.

2. Fundamentals in Missionary Efficiency.
3. Assignments for Service.

Forces to Be Welded.

1. Men and Women.
2. Money.
3. Prayer.
4. Equipment and Training.

1. A Program for a Modern Church.

2. Mastering the Plan of Campaign.
3. Releasing the Resources of the Church.

Victory.

1. Triumphs Far and Near.
2. How to Make Victory Certain.

Todd and Moores Elected Captains for Riffball

The Y. M. C. A. riff ball contest which attracted a larger attendance as well as more attention than any former contest this season came to a very happy close at the association gymnasium last night by Captain

PLAN TO TAKE MARKETS FROM GERMANY LAID

France to Depend on U. S. for Goods Formerly Purchased in Europe

ALSACE TO MAKE BEER

Belief Is Expressed That Dye Problem Can Be Solved With Allies

PARIS, Jan. 26.—(Correspondence.)—Elimination of German products from the French market and closer commercial contact with the entente countries and especially with the United States is the goal toward which the Republican committee of commerce, industry and agriculture is striving, Senator Alfred Maseurand told The Associated Press today.

Founded in 1914 under the auspices of the ministry of commerce and with Senator Maseurand of the Seine as its president, the committee, with a view to dispensing with German importations after the war has been making an extensive study of economic conditions in France and has been trying to ascertain what friendly countries could furnish France with the products formerly imported from Germany.

"It sounds very well," said Senator Maseurand, "to hear brilliant orators speak of driving the Germans from the foreign markets but in order to do so other supplying markets must be found. Goods formerly purchased in Germany will be needed after the war and unless other countries among our friends are prepared to supply us with them, inevitably the business eventually will revert to Germany."

French Imports Heavy.

The committee has discovered that France, during the last fiscal year previous to the outbreak of hostilities, imported machinery to the value of \$31,000,000 francs. Germany headed the list of exporting countries in that commodity by a comfortable margin. Then came Great Britain, Switzerland and the United States, in the order named.

The idea of this committee, as expressed by Mr. Havy, its secretary, is to intensify the production in the three latter countries in such ratio that with the German share of the importation from the French market, industry in France shall not suffer from lack of machinery.

"To give the war a large percentage of agricultural implements came Germany. There is not reason in the world why the United States should not supply France with all its needs in that line," said Senator Maseurand.

U. S. to Replace Germany.

"In exchange we shall attempt to furnish the United States with such merchandise as was formerly purchased in Germany and which is being or could be manufactured in France," he added.

In reply to a query as to whether in his opinion, Germany could be dispensed with in the market for dyes and dyestuffs, Mr. Havy expressed himself as confident that with the recent discoveries in England and the experiences and wonderful improvements achieved in the United States since the beginning of the war, Germany could well be ignored when the matter of dyes was taken up.

"All the secrets relating to the manufacture of these dyes were stolen from the United States, Great Britain and France originally," said Mr. Havy.

The same view, it is pointed out, could be taken with regard to surgical instruments, chemical products and other commodities of which Germany appeared to have more or less the monopoly before the war.

"What will France do for beer?" asked the correspondent.

It is a matter of statistics that more than sixty percent of the beer consumed in France in times of peace was of German brew.

"We have done without German beer since 1914 and I presume we

GERMANY VERY SHORT OF MALE LABOR THIS YEAR

Women Take Places in All Branches of Industrial Activity

RAILROADS USING MANY

Competition Between Plants Boosts Wages of Labor Vigorously

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—Germany has been extremely short of male labor this winter, according to German newspapers. The latest official labor statistics published show that there were only fifty-six applicants for every one hundred vacancies for male workmen. The market for female laborers showed for the first time since the early days of the war an over-supply, 103 applicants being registered for every hundred positions.

The Prussian state railroads alone employ over one hundred thousand women in various capacities from section hand to railroad conductor. Before the war there were barely ten thousand women on the payrolls of the state railways, employed largely as scrubwomen although they were also found in the telegraph department, as clerks in various bureaus and sometimes as crossing tenders.

Minister Von Breitenbach, head of the Prussian ministry of ways and communications said that if the war continued the number of women employed would increase even further in order to release more men for the colors. He stated in the Leipzig Illustrated Zeitung that the women laborers had in general proved fairly satisfactory, attributing this in part to the fact that the use of trousers had been made compulsory and hinted that skirted employes in the traffic department and on the roadbed would have been far less efficient.

He said that in duties of a predominantly mental character, women were practically as efficient as men. When mental ability must be combined with strength and physical skill, as in the case in most branches of the operative departments, the women, he declared, could not keep pace with the men, while, in positions requiring chiefly qualities of muscle and endurance, such as those of track repairers, for example, the women reached only 50 to 75 per cent of the efficiency of the male laborers.

For this reason Minister Breitenbach apparently looked upon the employment of women in such large numbers upon the railroads only as a temporary expedient, to be gradually abandoned after the conclusion of the war.

The shortage of labor and the competition between the various plants engaged on war work has resulted in a decided boom in the wages of labor, some of the working classes in Germany now being in receipt of such high wages as to provoke spiteful and sarcastic comment from the anti-socialist newspapers. One provincial paper, printing a story of the extremely high prices on the Berlin market, mentioned the normal equivalent of \$50 as the price of a fat goose when bought by surreptitious methods and added that only workmen could afford this luxury.

When taciturn, slow-speaking Tom Bixby lost his wife, in 1915, he went to live with his son, Jim, whose wife talked at the rate of 300 words a minute practically all the time she was awake. After a few attempts Tom quit trying to say anything. There never was an opening in the conversation wide enough to get in a word.

In 1916 Mrs. Jim went away for a visit.

"Pa," chuckled Jim, upon his return from the station, "what was it you started to say last spring?"

"Country Gentleman."

Professor Brown Here to Confer With R. C. Paulus

Prof. W. S. Brown of the horticultural department of Oregon Agricultural college paid a visit to Manager Robert C. Paulus of the Salem Fruit union in anticipation of the needs of the big crops in sight for the coming season, especially the requirements of the prune orchards in Marion county which, perhaps, may require scientific pruning.

Sanford Jones, agent in Salem for the Great Northern Express company, announced yesterday afternoon that his company, on the first of next month, will have in operation in Salem the first auto truck to be placed in service in Salem in express service.

It will be a large car, with a capacity of nearly two tons of freight, and will enable the company to make its deliveries of freight, and the gathering of packages from shippers very much more quickly than with its present system of express wagons drawn by horses.

\$10,000 WORTH STAMPS SOLD

Phenomenal Showing Is Made by Pupils of Salem Public Schools

City School Superintendent John W. Todd, announced yesterday afternoon after he had received all reports of the sale of thrift stamps by the pupils of the different schools of the city, since the drive began two weeks ago which amounted to more than \$10,000.

Following are the figures from the beginning of the campaign:

Highland school, \$112.14; Park school, \$150; Lincoln school, \$698.25; High School, \$3,981.95; Richmond school, \$447.25; McKinley school, \$288.57; Garfield school, \$1,063.54; Englewood school, \$147.33; Washington school, \$3,096.07; Graut, \$907.50; total \$10,892.65.

The total for this week is \$3,557.87.

Parker & Banfield Must Replace Work in Walls

Parker & Banfield, Portland contractors, will be at an additional expense of several hundred dollars because of a misunderstanding with Architect Lazarus relative to construction of interior partitions in the new north wing of the state hospital receiving ward. An arbitration of the difficulty by W. A. Legg of Salem and Albert Sutton and O. G. Hughson of Portland was completed yesterday.

The question arose over failure of the contractors to put reinforcement at the base of the walls after a change had been agreed upon in the construction of the walls, the architect contending that the requirement for the reinforcement had not been eliminated from the specifications. The arbitrating parties were the contractors and the state board of control. The agreement is that the work be accepted except such defective portions as may be pointed out by Superintendent Steiner which must be removed and replaced by the same construction as the other portions at the expense of Parker & Banfield.

The expected eruption of the Kiluaea volcano will not materialize, too much opposition.

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