

RUSS NOBLEWOMAN DESCRIBES ATROCITIES OF THE BOLSHEVIKI

Hundreds of Persons Tortured in the Most Inhuman Fashion Before Being Put to Death and Their Estates Pillaged and Mansions Razed—Thousands Die From Hunger All Over Country.

New York.—"We do not hope any longer; we die!" The despair to which bolshevik misrule has reduced Russia is thus epitomized by a Russian noblewoman widely known throughout her country, in a remarkable picture of events in her country contained in a letter received recently in New York. Her castles and estates plundered or razed, her fortune vanished and her friends and family murdered, this titled woman is moved to remark that "three years ago, my second daughter and her husband died, he having caught cold in the trenches. Then I was in despair; now I envy them."

"I beg of you never to mention my name; I wrote frankly to you counting on your discretion," is the plea which the unfortunate woman makes to place at the disposal of her friend, a New York woman of prominent and influential family. "Excuse the incoherences; I write with my heart bleeding, knowing that I shall never be able to give you the faintest idea of the sufferings that thousands are enduring."

A graphic tale of the misery that prevails itself over Russia is unfolded in the letter. Wholesale pillaging and murder by bolsheviks, Germans, Finns and others swept the land clear of its wealth.

Both the noblewoman who wrote the letter and the woman who received it are well known. The danger involved for the former makes it advisable that not only the names of the persons but the names of the localities mentioned be withheld from publication. The letter in full reads as follows:

"My very, very dear Mrs. R—: At last I am able to write to you and to hope to hear from you."

"I will endeavor to tell you briefly the personal events of these terrible last years. But how to begin? How to give you the faintest idea of the unimaginable atrocities committed by the bolsheviks? Speaking of ourselves, I will tell you that we have lost everything. The bolsheviks have stolen all our fortune, boxes of silverware, precious objects, personal remembrances which uncouthly are now destroyed."

Freed to Flee From Home.

"Three years ago my second daughter and her husband died, he having caught cold in the trenches. Then I was in despair, now I envy them. The year 1917 in autumn, we had to flee from M—, and come to the city, where we lived under the reds' regime until the arrival of the Germans."

"You have probably read in the pa-

pers that the reds had sent to Siberia 300 Russian barons, and also some bourgeoisie; some died and the others returned two months after.

"Although under our roof lived a military guard of bolsheviks or reds, good luck kept us from sharing their rule. I cannot describe the last days. After the arrival of the Germans a list was found of about a thousand persons, in which we were, who were to be shot the very next day.

"The reign of the Germans lasted exactly seven months; they annihilated all our hopes, they accumulated taxes upon taxes; carrying away all the food to Germany, leaving the people of our cities to starve.

"No discipline, corruption everywhere, no administration. Only those who deliberately closed their eyes to evidence failed to see that a country thus plundered and so badly treated was not to remain long under their rule. But, alas! How many were blind!

"Then came the great catastrophe; the German troops fraternizing with the bolsheviks at W—; surrendering to them cannon, war ammunition, and refusing to fight. The Germans even damaged the cannon they left to the Esthes troops, which had been formed hastily and were incapable of defending themselves, having nothing, absolutely nothing!

Reds' Rule Was Worse.

"Then, for another year the country was at the mercy of the reds, and it was worse than the first time.

"The Bolsheviki had with them Chinese and Red Lettes, who were terribly cruel, and those formed the guard of the unfortunate emperor and his family.

"On the 28th of November we learned that W— had fallen; that the Germans were leaving us in haste; and, as the German general commanding at R—, had, at the request of the Lettes, refused the formation of troops with the men of the country, we were left without any defense.

"The lights of the electric projectors of the enemy's ships already illuminated our shores; from the castle's tower we could see everything; there was not a minute to be lost. The trains were running only for the German troops; it was then necessary to risk traveling by the inland ways, through dreadful roads and in a country in revolution, for when the Germans took possession of the provinces they took care not to punish their friends, the bolsheviks; so that we were compelled to see and to live with the people who had stolen and pillaged our properties. The Germans did nothing to find out the revolutionists and to protect us, nothing!

"After having packed in haste the strictly necessary things, our small caravan started at five o'clock in the morning; it was dark and the roads were frightful.

"We arrived at R— on the second of December. We were able to stay four weeks at our home, then in great haste we had to embark on the boat sent to Finland for the fugitives and we arrived at Helsinki. Lassitude, troubles, and emotions of all these weeks overwhelmed at last my poor husband.

"Fortunately we found two rooms in a hospital; there we lived for two months, being often hungry, and when we could get some food it was execrable.

"The high prices of living in Finland are unbelievable. A pound of tea, which ordinarily cost from five to fifteen kronen, cost from one hundred to

a hundred and fifty marks; a kilogramme of sugar one hundred marks, etc. Also Finland tried to get rid of so many people she had to feed, and, as the bolsheviks who came up to 28 kilometers from R— had been repulsed by the Finn troops, which had at the last moment come in aid to the Lettes and to the volontaire corps of Balthes-Germans, the Finns then ordered all fugitives to leave the country within six days. However, we received, on account of my husband's bad condition, permission to stay until he would get better.

"Going back was an impossibility, the situation being still very grave; a second expedition was no longer possible for the strength of my poor husband; moreover, we had nothing left. Our large city house was taken and turned into a hospital by a Russian volontaire corps. M—, devastated and plundered! First by the bolsheviks, then by the Esthes, whom the Germans left unpunished; then by the white troops and the Finns, who were fighting the reds, German properties being left unlooted.

Family Lost Everything.

"Last year our estate had suffered, but our magnificent castle with all its dependencies had been respected. Now all have pillaged it. The Finns being more civilized stole the most beautiful things—paintings, bronzes, antiques, etc. Finally the 36 masters' rooms and the 11 servants' rooms were plundered. What they could not take away they smashed or burned. We lost everything. Not a sheet, not a plate or a glass exist, and when our intendant complained to the minister of state (a Thesthe), he answered him that naturally in war time everybody wanted to have some souvenirs. The whites pillaged, as I hear, 80 estates, and they were supposed to be our defenders!

"Friends here obtained for us the permission to come to K—, where we found two rooms in a family. We hope soon to find some occupation, and sell some furs that I could take with me, for unfortunately my beautiful lace are also in Petrograd.

"I do not know whether you have an idea of what the bolsheviks have done everywhere whenever they had to retire. At W— they killed 82 people; we have lost friends, acquaintances and our excellent and noble doctor. Almost all were tortured before being put to death. Before shooting Doctor L— they broke his two legs. To the old Baroness H., seventy-two years old, after having opened her stomach, snatched out her intestines while alive. They killed priests, doctors, nobles, merchants, women, children and peasants. They made several persons dig their own graves, forcing them to undress; a carriage was waiting to take away their clothes. Then they tortured every one, breaking arms and legs, crushing the limbs, snatching the intestines, gouging out the eyes, scarring the cheeks, and they even burned two persons alive.

"There were three large pits; they tossed pell mell in one of them the living and the dead, and then these monsters jumped into the pit and trampled under foot the unfortunates until they were lifeless.

"Twelve persons were so crushed and disfigured that they could not be recognized. And all that is true!

"After the corpses had been exhumed the doctors and the officers of the state took photographs of each, after having examined everyone of them.

Russia Awaiting the Allies.

"At D—, at W—, etc., whenever the reds were repulsed—note, I pray you, that I say 'everywhere'—the same tortures were inflicted to the unfortunate ones. I shall not try to describe the horrors of other places, for it has been the same everywhere.

"At D—, hundreds have been thrown under the ice of the river, yet a clement death compared with the others.

"Thousands die from hunger in all Russia; bolshevism reigns everywhere. We had hoped to be delivered by the Germans, and they having failed we were telling, we do not hope any longer, we die!

"Russia is anxiously awaiting the help of the allies, for she alone cannot conquer the terrorizing bolsheviks."

Potatoes Without Vines Are Grown by Girl

Kutztown, Pa.—Lizzie, daughter of Jefferson Hoch, discovered in their potato patch that a number of seed potatoes failed to produce any vines on top of the soil. She was surprised to find the seed potatoes in every hill had clustered around good-sized new potatoes, that the entire vitality of the seed potato was transferred to the new ones, and that there was no vine growth above the surface of the potato hills. The mother potato was still in the hill, but had given up its substance to the young potatoes, which were already so well matured that they could be used for a meal.

Files Suit on Herself, Then Argues Own Case

Mrs. Alice Viola Parsons, a Denver beauty specialist, appeared before a jury in Judge G. W. Dunn's division of the county court in more roles than it is given most persons to play in court.

She is plaintiff, defendant, plaintiff's attorney and star witness in a suit brought by herself against the Instant Anti-Wrinkle company, of which she holds 40 per cent of the stock.

The suit is being contested by other stockholders in the concern. Mrs. Parsons claims that the company obtained valuable wrinkle eradicating formulas from her and has withheld her salary. She asserted that she had no money left from the venture, and so was obliged to act as her own attorney.

Good roads like this bring farmer nearer to city markets.

What are the things to be considered in locating the road? What "grade" should be maintained? How should the road be drained? What are the laws governing highway construction? There are a few questions answered in extension circular 68 dealing with country roads.

Matters of prime consideration in locating a road are: Easy grades, good drainage, exposure to sunshine, elimination of culverts and bridges by avoiding unnecessary creek crossings, directness and the number of farms to be served for a given length of road. Whenever possible to avoid it, a good location should not be rejected merely because a certain roadway has been in use for some time. If the location of a used road is bad it should be changed if possible. In relocating roads avoid railroad crossings at grades.

The grade of the road is important for on this depends the weight of the load which can be hauled economically. By grade is meant the rise or fall in feet for each 100 feet in horizontal length of road, usually expressed in percentage. A 5 per cent grade means that the road rises or falls 5 feet each 100 feet along its center line. It has been calculated that on a smooth country road the load that one horse could pull on a level would require two on a 5 per cent grade, three on a 10 per cent grade and four on a 15 per cent grade. Engineers usually figure a 6 per cent grade as a maximum.

Road work in Missouri has not been as well managed as other public work. Projects have been too narrowly limited to localities, resulting in fragmentary effort. Skilled locating and supervision of construction have been generally lacking. The remedies are: First, a wider co-operation and the adoption of broad schemes of improvement, preferably with units no smaller than counties. Second, the absolute elimination of political considerations in the spending of money. Third, securing good engineering advice in the preparation of plans and requiring careful engineering supervision of construction.

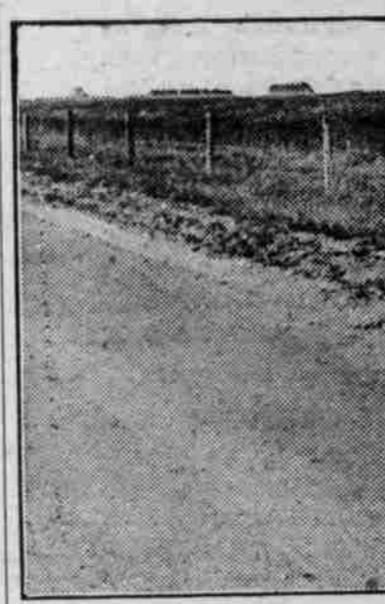
ROAD BUILDING

BENEFITS OF COUNTRY ROADS

Among Other Things They Cheapen Cost of Transportation of Farm Products to Market.

Good roads promote self-respect in a community. They make possible social intercourse. They bring the benefits of churches and schools within the reach of all. They help to keep the boys on the farm. They cheapen the cost of transportation of farm products to the markets and thus add to the value of farm lands much more than they cost. They mark the degree of civilization of the rural community. This, in short, is the value of good roads as seen by the extension service of the University of Missouri College of Agriculture.

The building of good roads is of the greatest importance to a community. What kind of a road should be built? Of what should it be constructed?



Good Roads Like This Bring Farmer Nearer to City Markets.

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MAKING SUCCESS IN HOME GARDEN

Much Depends Upon Interest of Gardener Being Maintained Throughout Season.

WAGE FIGHT AGAINST PESTS

Man Must Make Continuous Fight From Start, Never Shirking Duty and Keeping Everlastingly on Job—Easy to Kill Weeds.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The ultimate success of a home garden depends largely upon the interest of the gardener being maintained throughout the season. Many persons have gotten the idea that when the garden is planted and cultivated two or three times their work has ended, and as a result the garden soon goes to weeds or is destroyed by insects and diseases. The successful gardener, declare the specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture, is the one who wages a continuous fight against the enemies of the garden from the very start, never shirking his duty and being everlastingly on the job.

A crop of weeds can be destroyed in a few moments by means of a steel rake or a hoe, if it is used when the weeds are just coming through the ground. If allowed to remain, the weeds become firmly rooted and a thorough renovation of the garden is necessary to rid it of them.

Seem Innocent, but They're Not.

A few old-fashioned hardshell potato bugs may not appear to do any great harm, but the crop of soft-shelled beetles they produce will eat the leaves from the potato vines almost before you know they are present. A few spores of some mildew or other disease may not do any great amount of damage, but if the weather is favorable for the spread of the disease, it will soon cause the loss of the entire crop.

The old adage of "A stitch in time saves nine" applies with double force to the care of the garden. Keep up interest in the garden and make successive plantings of various crops, so that a continuous supply of vegetables may be provided for the table. There is nothing gained by having the land lie idle, and it is easier to keep it clean if there is a paying crop upon it.

"Seedy" Gardens Show Neglect.

Too often gardens with a "seedy" appearance are seen in the middle of the summer. The brush on which the peas were grown or the wire trellis on which they were trained is left with the remains of the crop upon it, and general unsightliness rules the entire plot. It is a little more trouble to keep things neat and attractive, but it pays in the long run; and if you as a gardener want to maintain a reputation

for a good garden, the necessary attention will have to be given to its neatness and general appearance.

In sections where the weather becomes extremely hot in summer and it is not possible to keep garden crops growing, the land should be cleaned, replowed and kept stirred from time to time until conditions are suitable for the planting of fall vegetables. Under ordinary conditions it is best to have some crop growing on the soil, and if the period between the early spring vegetables and the fall vegetables is sufficient, a crop of cowpeas should be grown upon the garden land. This will shade the soil and prevent the sun burning the organic matter out of it, and at the same time will actually add fertility to the soil.



Keep the Garden Growing Through the Summer.

ENGLAND SPENDS 50 MILLION

Grants to That Amount Will Be Distributed for Reconstruction of Roads and Bridges.

Grants amounting to \$50,000,000 will be distributed by the British road board for the reconstruction of roads and bridges in England in 1919. Demobilized army units will be used to do the labor. Local highway authorities will be required to match this appropriation by at least as large a program of road work as they carried out in the year before the war. Area taken into consideration, England's program is thus far in excess of that of the United States, including both federal aid and state funds.

POOR ROADS ARE EXPENSIVE

Congressional Report Places Annual Loss at \$504,000,000 for Transportation Alone.

The congressional report of 1914 placed the economic loss of the United States through poor roads at an annual figure of \$504,000,000 for transportation costs alone. The heavy increase in tonnage since that time probably makes the loss today close to \$1,000,000,000.

DAIRY

INCREASE IN DAIRY PROFITS

Dairy Bull Associations Have Done Good Work and Show Big Increase in Incomes.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Scrub dairy bulls are doomed. The bull association sounds their death knell, but it replaces them with bulls of better breeding. In June, 1916, there were 44 dairy bull associations and several have been organized since then. They are doing excellent work. Without exception they show an increased income without an increased cost.

The New Windsor (Maryland) Bull association has furnished production records of dams and daughters for three successive years. Each year the daughters have produced more milk and butter fat than their dams, which



A Good Holstein Bull.

demonstrates that the bulls were well selected. Of the 21 daughters of association bulls for which the 1918 records are available, 16 excelled their dams in butter-fat production, and 15 excelled their dams in production of both milk and butter fat.

The average yearly production of the dams was 5,300 pounds of milk and 219 pounds of butter fat. The average yearly production of the 21 daughters was 6,523 pounds of milk and 263 pounds of butter fat. In milk production the daughters excelled their dams by 963 pounds or 17 per cent, and in butter-fat production by 44 pounds, or 20 per cent. These are not as large gains as some other bull associations have given, but are well worth while.

Because of co-operative ownership the bulls cost the farmers no more than would have been paid for scrubs; it costs no more to feed the daughters than to feed the dams, and it costs much less to feed the bulls because there were not so many of them. The increased production, therefore, was all net profit.

GROWS GARDEN TO BUY CALF

Washington Boy Raises Prize-Winning Vegetables and Buys Jersey Heifer With Money.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Alfred Olson of Klickitat county, Wash., is a member of one of the calf clubs organized by the United States department of agriculture and the state college of Washington. With his purebred Jersey heifer calf, Arca's Babe, he won the state championship prize last year. In 1917 Alfred became interested in the calf club work, but a purebred calf costs money, and he did not have funds to buy that requisite for membership. To enroll in a garden club as the first step toward entering the calf club may seem unusual, but that was what the Klickitat county boy did, and he reached the desired goal. The weeds in his club garden kept him busy all summer, but he gave it such faithful care that his vegetables were prize winners. He exhibited a collection of them at the state fair and took \$60 worth of prizes.

Meanwhile he had been writing to Jersey breeders for prices and descriptions of calves. He decided on Jerseys because that was the breed his father had. With \$40 of his garden prize money he bought a month-old Jersey heifer calf in October. He kept her in the barn all winter, but in the spring she was turned out on the range. When brought in in September to be made ready for exhibition purposes she was larger at eleven months than his father's grade calves of fifteen months. At the state fair Alfred's Jersey was awarded the state championship prize in the boys' and girls' club class and was valued at \$150.

SMALL-TOP MILK PAIL BEST

Prevents Entrance of Dust or Dirt and Greatly Reduces Number of Bacteria in Milk.

In modern dairies where clean milk is produced the small-top milk pail is a necessity, as it presents only a small opening into which dust and dirt may fall from the air or from the cow's body. It has been found by experience that the use of a pail of this kind greatly reduces the number of bacteria in milk from dairies where it is used. Many types of milk pails are for sale, but any tinier by the addition of a hood can convert an ordinary pail into a small-top pail.

KEEPING HARNESS IN REPAIR

Tools and Facilities Are Comparatively Inexpensive and Simple—Special Devices Needed.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The tools and facilities required for keeping harness in repair are comparatively simple and inexpensive. A considerable portion of the repair work on harness can be performed by the aid of tools required for other purposes, but there are a few special devices that are desirable.

SPORT ON SHIPPING BOARD VESSELS



The sailors on the merchant vessels operated by the shipping board have plenty of amusement in their times of leisure. The photograph shows a boxing bout at a shore station.