FRENCH INDUSTRY IS RECOVERING

Natural Thrift and Economy Promise Rapid Progress.

EXPORT BUSINESS GROWING

Our Great Ally Possesses Recuperative Powers Which Justify Belief that She Will Meet and Solve Triumphantly the Problems Which Confront Her After the War.

With Paris Boulevards echoing with "vives" for American troops our interest in the welfare of our ally vastly increases, and the facts are not lacking to encourage the belief that she is already on the road to recovery from the blow of invasion by a ruthless enemy.

One of the most important developments is the announcement that one of the largest banking institutions in America concerned with foreign trade, the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, has opened a Paris branch to handle the rapidly increasing volume of French business.

This action may surprise many persons who had thought of France as bowed under a calamitous invasion. The bank, however, gives figures indicating that France is not only meeting her military and civilian problems with a stout heart and never failing courage, but is re-establishing her export business with this country.

In 1914, the year of the outbreak of the War, imports from France to this country totaled $141,446,252. This total was reduced to $77,158,740 in 1915, but last year the value of French imports to the United States rose to $102,077,060.

"A nation that can achieve such a commercial recovery while her territory is being ravished by the invader," says the Trust company's statement, "possesses recuperative powers which justify the belief that she will emerge from the present conflict prepared to meet and solve triumphantly the problems which confront her."

The commercial and industrial record of France, following past wars, indicates that she should recover quickly from the actual physical destruction inflicted in the present conflict. The reconstruction of railroads, the erection of factories to replace those destroyed, and the replacement of the mechanism of industrial activity that will be required and that is in part already planned, offer a peculiarly inviting field to American capital and enterprise. Tentative steps have already been taken by representatives of American engineers and business men in this work.

Aside from its attractive business aspect, the enlistment of American money and effort in the great task of reconstruction that will remain at the end of the war will tend to cement still more closely the ties that bind the two great Republics together, and will enable Americans to discharge in part the debt they owe to France for her friendly interest in the welfare and progress of the United States from the beginning of its life as a nation.

In judging the industrial status of any nation, its production and consumption of coal, iron, and steel and the growth of its trasportation systems are highly significant factors.

In 1869, French industries consumed 21 million tons of coal, of which 13.5 millions were taken from home mines. In 1912, the consumption was 61 millions, of which 41 million tons were taken from home mines

In 1869, the French output of cast iron was 1,380,000 tons, and of steel, 1,060,000 tons. In 1914, France produced 5,311,000 tons of cast iron and 4,635,000 tons of steel.

The increasing activity of her railway system is similarly demonstrable. In 1869, there were in France 10,743 miles of railroad track; in 1912, there were 31,546 miles.

Between 1869 and 1912, inland navigation increased 150%; while the traffic of her mercantile marine had amazingly expanded. The tonnage entering French ports in 1869 is set down as 11,000,000 tons. In 1912, this had been increased to 53,000,000 tons.

Leaders in American finance ascribe the solidarity of the French republic to three influences: first, a thoroughly sound banking system, centralized in one of the greatest banking institutions of the world, the Bank of France; second, the ingrained thrift and frugality of the French people as a whole, together with a national economic vigor not elsewhere surpassed; third, wise supervision, and patriotic coöperation by the government with banking and business interests.

The government does its part to warrant and retain the confidence of the holders of its securities. One of its wise policies is to impose new taxes to defray the interest charges on new security issues. It began this practice after the Franco-Prussian War, and is today following the same rule in regard to securities issued to finance the present conflict. This continuity of purpose, doubtless, will prove reassuring to all holders of French government securities.

The Franco-Prussian war of 1870-1871 taught the French people the meaning of thrift and economy. So well did they learn this lesson, that the whole sum of the indemnity demanded by Germany, $1,000,000,000, was raised within the republic's confines by its own inhabitants and paid off more than one year before the time stipulated by the Germans.

The habit thus acquired has never been forgotten by the French, and today the aggregate number of investors purchasing the French war loans has reached the amazing total of 4,500,000 individual subscribers. Perhaps no other country, in proportion to its population, can make so good a showing.

France is particularly forunate in that her small investors prefer "safe" investments rather than offerings which promise high returns. Government Rentes, in France are perpetual, and this characteristic seems to obtain for these government bonds increasing favor in the eyes of the French people.

The points of sympathy between France and America are too many to enumerate, but the spirit of liberty and its resultant democracy are, today as always, the major ideals of both nations. Seeking no victories but those of peace, no territory except their own, no sovereignty except sovereignty over themselves the independence and equal rights of the weakest member of the famliy of nations are to the people of the United States and of France entitled to as much respect as those of the mightiest empire. In defense of these principles, France is engaged in a death struggle with militant autocracy and ruthless aggression, and it is not surprising to learn that she has loaned to her allies and to other friendly states 7,000,000,000 francs with which to further the cause of democracy. It is in keeping with America's traditions that since the date on which we formally aligned ourselves with France and her allies in the great struggle, our Government has lent to France $370,000,000.

It is eminently fitting that America should now be fighting on French soil to make the world safe for democracy. The liberty that America has enjoyed for 140 years France helped her to achieve. The swords of Lafayette and Rochambeau, aided by the guns of De Grasse upon the high seas, assisted in cutting the foreign ties that bound the American colonies prior to the War for Independence, and from the private purse of King Louis himself came the first loan to America—unsecured and unconditional—to finance that historic undertaking. It was with entire justtice that Washington wrote to Rochambeau, "To the generous aid of your nation and to the bravery of its sons is to be ascribed in a very great degree that independence for which we have fought."

SOLDIERS IN THE VERDUN SECTOR REPAIRING A RUINED CANAL.

IN THEIR RETIREMENT FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORY THE GERMAN ARMY DESTROYED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

HOW TO AVOID DANGER IN A THUNDERSTORM.

—If you are out of doors in a very severe electrical storm the Electrical Experimenter offers the following rules for your protection:

Keep away from wire fences. They may carry a dangerous electrical charge long distances. Cattle in pastures are frequently killed from the neglect of farmers to ground the wire of the fence.

Keep away from hedges, ponds and streams.

Keep away from isolated trees. Oak strees are frequently struck. Beech are seldom struck. It is safe in a dense forest.

Keep away from herds of cattle and crowds of people.

Do not hold an umbrella over you.

It is safer to sit or lie down in an open field than to stand.

Drivers should dismount and not stay close to their horses.

Do not work with any large metal tool or implement.

If you are indoors:

Keep away from the stove and chimney. The hot gases from the chimney may conduct the lightning to and down the chimney.

Do not take a position between two bodies of metal, as the stove and water pipe, for example. An exception to being near metals is the case of an iron bed. One of the safest places is on a mattress in an iron bed, provided you do not touch the metal. The metal surrounding you makes a safe cage which will prevent the lightning from reaching a person inside.

Do not stand on a wet floor nor draw water from a well or faucet.

Do not stand directly under a chandelier, near a radiator nor on a register.

Do not use the telephone.

TIRE TROUBLE.

Why Careful Driving Means Less Expence and Fewer Blowouts.

The automobile owner should realize that a vast proportion of tire breakdowns may be avoided by careful driving. Frequently a stone bruise in the tire could have been avoided if the driver had taken the trouble to swing his wheel a little to avoid contact with the obstruction. Cuts from glass or metal objects may be largely avoided if the driver pays strict attention to what he is doing. The man who takes a railway track head-on and at speed runs the risk of shooting his front wheels up in the air and bringing the tires down with a thud on the far rails, thus causing a bruise that may result in a blowout later on.

The first thing necessary to be impressed on the average driver is that he himself is the final court in deciding just what mileage he is to get from his casings. If he will only drive carefully most of his troubles will be cured before they occur. Whenever a casing comes in violent contact with a sharp object of any sort, whether it is a stone or a railway track, a small break will probably be made in one of the layers of fabric. The friction engendered in service widens this small opening as strand after strand gives way under the strain. Finally the inner tube forces its way into the break, and sooner or later the opening closes down on the tube, pinching it and causing a blowout of the inner retainer. The air, at a pressure of between eighty or ninety pounds, bursts its way through the injured place, tearing the small ruptnre wide open in a gaping blowout. And all because the driver failed to twist the wheel a little to avoid a chance flung stone in the road or refused to pull up a little to take a railway crossing diagonally and easily.

How to Preserve Meat When Hunting Is Told by a Hunter.

We cut plenty of meat from both the sheep and were busy most of the next two days caring for our trophies and drying meat. The sheep and bear skins had to be scraped, the fat carefully removed, the skin stretched out to dry. Fortunately the weather was clear and the sun hot, so that the drying was quickly and well done. We cut a great deal of both sheep and bear meat into strips and hung it on a rack that we rigged near the fire, where it would catch the sun and also receive artificial heat as well. Meat dried in this way will last indefinitely, and, though the flavor is not much to boast of, the meat is nourishing and goes well in "mulligans" and similar concoctions. For my people at home I also dried a few pounds of both sheep and bear meat according to Dr. Hornaday's recipe—that is, I first rubbed on the raw meat a mixture of black pepper, allspice and salt, after which I dried the strips in the sun.—Paul L. Haworth in Scribner's Magazine.

How to Move a Trunk Easily.

In every home occasion arises when a heavy trunk or chest is to be moved from one place to another. It often is a back breaking task which the average housewife prefers deferring until the homecoming of her husband at night. Popular Mechanics suggests a means by which two women or even a woman and a child can move the heaviest trunk with very little effort. Simply place a broom under one end, and with one person guiding it the other can easily draw the trunk across the floor, the slippery broom straws acting as a sled.

General Farm Topics

PRODUCE MORE POTATOES.

Increase the Yield by Spraying Against Late Blight and Beetles.

[Prepared by United States department of agriculture.]

Insects and diseases normally take rather heavy toll of the northern potato crop. Much of this loss can be prevented by proper spraying, however, as is shown by the fact that sprayed potato crops in Vermont, for example, have produced on the average 105 more bushels to the acre than unsprayed crops over a period of twenty-one years. This year, especially, every northern potato grower should spray as insurance against a short crop.

Bordeaux mixture, with lead arsenate added, will prevent late blight and get the potato bug or Colorado beetle also. The mixture should be applied every two weeks, though the interval may be longer if the weather is dry and no insects are present. With the approach of the late blight season, after the middle of July, a thorough protective spraying should be given. Cool, wet weather means trouble. Continued showers and an average temperature around 73 degrees call for sprays once a week or even every five days.

For home gardens small hand sprayers will do. For the farm potato patch, where from one-half acre to three acres are grown and where there are orchard trees or small fruits to be sprayed, a barrel spray pump is recommended. This hand pump is mounted on a fifty gallon barrel and carried on a homemade two wheel cart or in a farm wagon.

Commercial growers should provide themselves with the most effective traction sprayer they can get. In this the pump is operated by a chain or gear drive from the wheels. It pays to get the best, as a pressure of from 120 to 150 pounds is needed.

A good nozzle is one of the most important parts of a spray outfit. The spray should be a fine mist and should reach every part of the plant.

Bordeaux mixture is the only fungicide that has any practical value against potato diseases. Lime-sulphur, powdered sulphur and other new mixtures that have come into use in orchards are either injurious to the foliage or are weaker in fungicidal action, or both. Experiments made by the department show that for potatoes and other truck crops nothing has yet been found to replace the copper fungicides.

Bordeaux mixture is made with copper sulphate, four pounds; quicklime, four pounds, and water to make fifty gallons. Suspend the copper sulphate in a gunny sack in a clean barrel containing several gallons of water.. It should hang so as to be just below the surface of the water. When the sulphate is dissolved, which requires from three to four hours, remove the sack and stir into the barrel enough additional water to make exactly twenty-five gallons of the copper solution. Prepare the lime by slaking it slowly and thoroughly in a clean barrel, strain and add enough additional water to make exactly twenty-five gallons of lime milk. Stir thoroughly. It is highly important to strain both ingredients before they are combined, as otherwise clogging of the spray nozzles might result. Use a copper or bronze wire strainer of eighteen meshes to the inch.

Pour the two ingredients together into another barrel or, better, directly into the spray tank if it will hold fifty gallons. After the two solutions are combined stir the mixture very thoroughly. Do not put copper sulphate or bordeaux mixture into tin or iron vessels. Use wood or copper containers. Mix the bordeaux as needed and apply at once. It is never so good after it has settled.

POTATO AFFLICTED WITH SCAB.

Scours In Calves.

Scours occurring after a calf is a week or two of age is due to some error in feeding. In feeding calves all vessels should be thoroughly scalded every day, the milk should be fed at body temperature and they should be fed regularly. Do not overfeed, and if skimmilk is used they should have a small amount of a grain mixture consisting of equal parts of cornmeal, bran and linseed meal. To check the scours observe above suggestions and give in feed two or three times a day a teaspoonful of dried blood or a little powdered ginger.

Sweet Clover.

Sweet clover makes excellent pasture and has a distinct advantage over the common clover or alfalfa in that cattle pastured on it do not bloat. Furthermore, it is well known that cattle eat sweet clover with avidity after they have become accustomed to the taste of it.

Test Milk Carefully.

If milk contains 4 per cent fat an error of .1 per cent fat in testing will cause a difference of 2½ cents on the dollar or 3¾ cents on the price of 100 pounds of milk selling at $1.50.

POULTRY HINTS.

Young stock will do better if not compelled to pick their living with the old. There will also be less trouble from lice.

Shade is one of the most important essentials during the hot months. Get the chicks into the orchard and cornfield.

A growing chick will not thrive on short rations. If the right kind of food is fed there is little danger of overfeeding, especially if it is given plenty of range.

Supplement the regular feeds with a wet mash, fed crumbly. Feed all the chicks will clean up before going to roost, but none should be left in the trough, for it will sour.

Mark the pullets in the fall so that you will know just how old your hens are. A leg band on the right leg one year and on the left leg the next will assist in culling the flock.

Eradicate the little red mite from the poultry house and you will rid yourself of one of the worst enemies of the poultry flock.

IT PAYS TO CAPONIZE.

Cockerels Thus Treated Will Turn Loss Into Good Profit.

One of the greatest leaks in the poultry industry has been that caused by the sale of surplus males, either at a loss to the poultryman or at little more than the mere cost of production. It is unfortunate perhaps that in raising chickens for eggs half of the fowls reared develop into cockerels, of which only a very small percentage are necessary for breeding purposes. Thus each year about half of the stock raised is sacrificed at low prices, the reasons for which are quite apparent:

First.—Virtually all of the stock is hatched in the spring. Surplus cockerels reach broiler size in from eight to twelve weeks and are then dumped on the market in vast quantities at virtually the same time, which naturally depresses prices. There is more or less of a limited demand for broilers at best, but if the supply could be distributed throughout the entire year instead of a couple of months there would be a nice profit in them.

Second.—On most farms, especially those that do not make a specialty of poultry, but which carry chickens more as a side line or byproduct, the young

BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCK COCK.

males are allowed too much freedom and exercise, which tends to make them staggy at an early age. Without any fattening or preparation for market they are then sold to commission dealers and others, who cannot offer fancy prices because the stock is inferior. In consequence the grower receives from 18 to 22 cents a pound live weight, which does not cover the cost of production.

Third.—It does not pay to keep males until they are fully matured, with large combs, spurs and other indications of age, and then market them, because the chances are they will have to be sold as old roosters, and the returns will not pay for the cost of feeding them to maturity. There never was a time when grain should be fed more judiciously. It must either be fed for egg production or for meat that will command good prices because it is good meat. The only kind of poultry meat that commands top rices is capon meat or soft roasters, which may or may not be capons, but at least it is specially fattened poultry.

Caponizing is recommended because males so treated are made docile, inactive, easily fattened and increased in size, just as horses, beef cattle, hogs and other animals are improved for domestic purposes by a similar operation. Capons will put on more weight per pound of food given them than other poultry; they can be kept in confinement in large numbers without fighting; they can be kept for any length of time up to a year and still be in prime condition, sometimes longer, which means that they can be marketed when poultry is in scant supply and therefore bringing good prices.

They are rated as a delicacy in the large markets and bring corresponding prices. There is less waste on a capon if it is properly grown than on other fowls, which means an actual saving in the amount of edible meat despite the increased price; they are exceedingly tractable birds, their only function in life is to grow and get fat. Last, but not least, the operation is simple, easy to perform, requiring no more than five minutes' work per bird, and it is not so cruel as some think.

A BAD START.

Man—So you've been to the doctor about your cold. Did he take your temperature?

Gus—Ah don't know, boss. Ah ain't missed nothin' but mah watch yet.—Pittsburgh Press.

Just So.

"You ought to join our Audubon club," said the Plunkville girl.

"What do you do?"

"Oh, we make candy and"—

"Um. Sort of an Audubonbon club!"—Pittsburgh Post.

The Exclamation Point.

The exclamation point we praise,
For, though indeed it's small,
It gives a point to things that have
No other point at all!
—Brooklyn Eagle.

Perils of Travel.

Sillicus—They met on a railroad train quite by accident, and in less than three months they were married.

Cynicus—That's what comes of neglecting to take out an accident policy.—New York Times.

Her Share.

Mr. Pester—You're constantly nagging me about our financial circumstances. I'd like to know what you do to help me out.

His Wife—Me! Don't I do all the worrying about our affairs?—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

What He Rose To.

When his speech was complete
It was filled with evasion.
He rose to his feet,
Not to the occasion.
—Detroit Free Press.

Took His Advice.

"He told his wife she ought to take cooking lessons."

"Did she?"

"Well, yes. She sent for her mother to come and give her a three months' course."—Exchange.

Queer Fish.

The married man is a queer fish.
You can dispute it if you wish.
We'd better let it go at that.
Hot water is his habitat.
—Kansas City Journal.

Gave Himself Away.

The Customer—Do I get a discount? I'm in the tailor trimming business.

The Tailor—You pay in advance. I've been trimmed enough already.—Chicago News.

Limited Permission.

Gerald—May I kiss you?

Geraldine—Not much!

Gerald—Well, I only wanted one or two.—Awgwan.

In Olden Days.

An irate neolithic man,
His anger to assuage,
Once stoned a peaceful mastodon
('Twas in the stony age).

His simply costumed ladylove,
Who dearly loved to pun,
Remarked, with sparkling, roguish eyes,
"What has the mastodon?"
—Chaparral.

Popular Fiction.

"On Time."

"Certainly. I'll Be Tickled to Death!"

"I Didn't See It Myself, but a Friend Called My Attention to It."

"I'll Pay You Next Week, Mr. Sprigins."

"For Value Received."—Portland Express.