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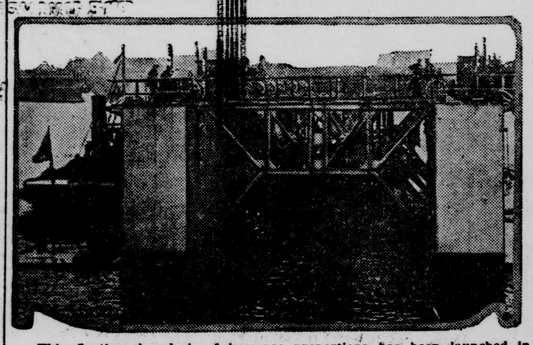


This floating dry dock of immense proportions has been launched in Germany for salvaging sunken vessels. The dock is towed into position directly over the vessel to be salved, and by means of pontoons the ship is raised.

MANY ILL WITH DEADLY TYPHUS

Two Million Cases in Russia—Conditions in Poland Appalling.

U. S. RELIEF BOARD SWAMPED

Several of Its Officers and Men Have Died, Among Them One in Charge at Tarnopol—Shortage of Supplies.

Warsaw.—General Petliura's Ukrainian government, which, despite its amazing weakness, remains the nearest approach to organized authority that exists between the East Galician frontier and the Dnieper, has sent its minister of public works, Mr. Bezalko, to Warsaw to appeal for assistance in fighting the incredible typhus conditions in the Petliura country. He reports that 10,000 men, the remnants of Petliura's Ukrainian force, have been stricken with the disease and that the 90,000 men of the East Galician army, commanded by Pavlenko, who from time to time have co-operated with Petliura, are in an almost equally bad plight. About half the cases have proved fatal.

Hands Are Occupied.

It is virtually certain that the Poles will not be able to give assistance to the Ukrainians because their hands are more than occupied in combating the spread of the disease in Poland. There is some typhus in Warsaw—5,000 cases perhaps; Dvinsk, recently captured from the bolsheviki, is in an appalling condition; the epidemic has swept in virulent form as far west as Cracow, where the normal activities are half paralyzed; in most of the villages on the eastern frontiers more than half the inhabitants are sick and there is a disturbing amount of typhus in the army. Where 20 fumigating machines are needed, the Poles have one; where a gallon of carbolic acid is required they have a gill.

The American typhus commission, which, with 5,000 men and 750 officers, came here last summer to prepare to combat the disease this winter, has been overwhelmed; even the vast supplies the commission brought have proved insufficient. Several officers and men of the commission have died, including a colonel who was in charge of the work at Tarnopol. So there is small prospect that Petliura can find any help here.

Reliable reports indicate that soviet Russia is being devastated by the disease. In the recent exchange of prisoners between the Poles and the bolsheviki, there arrived here a Doctor Czechowitz, who over a year ago was impressed into the bolshevik service as a sanitary expert and assigned to the work of dealing with typhus. He says that in March of last year there were 1,340,000 known cases of typhus in bolshevik Russia and that conditions this year are worse than last year. He estimates that there are now at least 2,000,000 cases in Russia. The soviet government has almost no facilities for controlling the disease and comparatively few physicians are available to care for the sick. In consequence the percentage of deaths is now enormous, Czechowitz says.

Usually Follows War.

Such an epidemic as the present one almost inevitably follows a period of war in central Europe. It is to be attributed to insufficient food supplies, weakening the resistance of the people, and to lack of clothing, frequently making cleanliness difficult even for the moderately well-to-do and impossible for the poor.

A common assertion is that typhus is as great a menace to social quiet as bolshevism. But competent observers here do not believe this. The people of this part of the world, they argue, have come through centuries to accept the peril of typhus as an unescapable concomitant of life. Certainly from Poles one hears little outcry at present conditions; it is only those who have known Western civilization who are shocked by the spread and virulence of the disease.

The Polish cabinet has reached no decision on the proposal to quarantine the country and it is hoped that suspension of the railroad service for two weeks, because of the coal crisis, may have a favorable effect upon the typhus situation, which could never have attained the proportions it has if travel had been supervised and restricted a month ago.

"VIRGIN OF STAMBOUL"

Photo taken in New York shows Sari, the "Virgin of Stamboul," said to be the most beautiful girl in Turkey, and heiress to $100,000,000, who was discovered in New York by Sheik Ben Mohammed, brother of the emir of Hedjaz, who sent him on the search.

It is said that the pretty Sari arrived here with an American army officer some months ago. The two worked their way from Marseilles. After a period the officer took to flight and she took to dishwashing, later selling flowers on the city streets.

However, all's well now. She is staying at a leading hotel and won't have to wash dishes any more. She will return home with the sheik. It is said her mother and father died of grief over her disappearance. Sari is said to be affianced to the emir and upon return to Turkey will probably be placed under his jurisdiction.

CHINESE SHOOT RUSS

Captives Are Shot to Death With Revolvers.

First Make Victims Dig Graves, Then Execute Them for the Bolsheviki.

Amsterdam.—The correspondent of the Handelsblad, who recently returned from a trip in soviet Russia, gives the following account of his investigations of the activities of the Chinese employed there by the bolsheviki as executioners.

"Such horrible stories were being told in Europe about these Chinese that I thought it worth my while to learn more about them. As a joke, I asked everyone who asked my opinion of the bolsheviki to show me some 'real man-killing Chinese,' but I always was told they couldn't produce any just now because they had all gone to the Denikine front.

"I was told the Chinese, if commanded by their own officers were excellent soldiers, but they ran like hares if their officers were killed. Executions are now very rare in Moscow, but, in August, when thousands of counter-revolutionaries were slaughtered, it was carried out by the Chinese because the authorities feared the Russian soldiers would refuse to do the work.

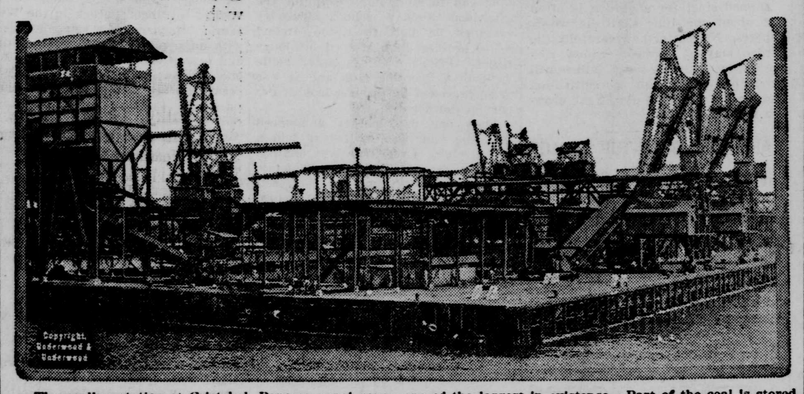
"The Chinese do this work indifferently—like they do all other work they are ordered to perform. They are blind, conscienceless tools in the hands of the men who feed them and pay them and who raised them from the position of coolies in which they came to Russia to the rank of soldier, of the guards.

"If the 'boltsjak' (his name for bolshevik) orders something, the Chinese does it, and he does it in his typically practical way. He first makes the victim dig his own grave and then shoots him with his revolver. He is not cruel about it, just practical.

"When boltsjak says kill, then he kills with an unperturbed face. And when boltsjak says, 'You may stop now,' with the same cool face he lets his victim go."

The correspondent after some weeks in Russia left when he was refused permission to make investigations freely as he pleased.

ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST COALING STATIONS



The coaling station at Cristobal, Panama canal zone, one of the largest in existence. Part of the coal is stored under water. Coal can be loaded here at the rate of 1,000 tons an hour.

WANT MORE BIRTHS

France Is Stirred to Urge Larger Families.

Government Names Board to Warn Nation of Danger of Dying Out.

Paris.—France is at last arousing itself to the danger of dying out.

The privately conducted, uphill fight for a higher birthrate has been taken over by the government through the creation of a higher council of natality. This council of 30, appointed by J. L. Breton, minister of hygiene, was asked to act immediately.

Mr. Breton, father of five children, is known as a strong friend of large families. Three others of the new cabinet are advocates of measures to increase the French birth rate.

War cost France roughly 1,500,000 lives. A low birth rate, during the war years, cost France 2,272,735 loss of population.

The statistics, made into striking pictures to illustrate their effect on the nation, industry and war danger are being used in a vigorous campaign, by the national alliance, for the increase of the French population. This campaign is being conducted by letters to members of parliament, posters, a magazine, the Woman and the Child, and through the many socially and politically powerful persons interested in the movement.

The plainest sorts of truth are told the French about the decreasing birth rate. The national alliance and government officials hold that a family should have three or more children. To encourage such families, government allowances of 60 to 200 francs a year are granted for each child after the second, under thirteen years.

The alliance asks also for legislation to provide for the construction of cheap attractive homes available only to large families, establishment of "supersalaries" in industries to heads of such families, preference in government employment, the plural vote, giving the father as many votes as there are persons in the family, and real war, on "birth control," known here as Neo-Malthusianism.

ITALY MAKES OYSTERS SAFE

Removes Impurities by Keeping Them in Sterilized Sea Water for a Week.

Washington.—An Italian company has perfected a process for removing impurities from oysters, according to a report to the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce.

On being taken from beds along the Venetian coast the oysters are shipped to Rome, the shells carefully washed and thrown into great tanks filled with sterilized sea water. The tanks are constantly replenished and the flowing water has been found to wash all impurities from the oysters which, after a week's "treatment" are shipped to the retailers.

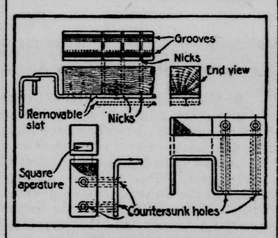
FARM POULTRY

ROOST WILL DESTROY MITES

Plan Outlined for Completely Clearing Poultry House of All Thirsty Blood-Suckers.

One successful way to rid poultry houses of mites is to use a roosting pole that will harbor them during the day, so that it can be soaked with hot water to destroy them. The roost shown provides a place on the underside where they may hide. It consists of a lath held under the roost with small nails to make the hiding place inviting for them. You simply lift the roost from the holders, slightly loosen the pieces of lath, and pour boiling water between the lath and the roosts. This will kill all vermin and destroy any eggs that may be there. The roosts will quickly dry if the water is hot.

In this way a poultry house can be completely cleared of all blood-suckers



A Hiding Place Is Provided for Vermin in This Poultry Roost to Catch Them During the Day.

on the place. The iron ends are colder than the wood, and the vermin will not crawl over them.

Mites do not attack fowl in the daytime, and it is difficult to discover their presence. Body lice remain on the fowl all the time, and they may be exterminated in the following way: Hang the fowl head downward in a barrel and rub a small amount of flouride of soda well into the feathers for half the length of the fowl. This is a harmless powder and it can be used on chicks as well.—George W. Smith, in Popular Science Monthly.

PREMIUM FOR GRADED EGGS

Fact Is Due to Strict Grading Practiced by Shippers of Far West, Say Specialists.

Eggs from the Pacific coast in large amounts were first shipped across the continent to the New York city market two years ago. Now they are bringing a premium of from 1 to 2 cents, according to market quotations.

That this is due to the strict grading practiced by the shippers of the far West is the belief of men in the bureau of markets, United States department of agriculture. The reputation for careful grading which the Westerners have attained in other products shipped East has spread to include eggs.

PTOMAINE POISONING CAUSES

Decaying Flesh When Eaten by Hens Is Harmful—Dispose of Carcasses of Dead Fowls.

Carcasses of dead fowls if not properly disposed of will decay rapidly in hot weather. The by-products of putrefying bacteria, accumulating rapidly, attack the digestive systems of any chicks which are rash enough to eat their unfortunate brothers. When enough of the decaying flesh is eaten by the birds, ptomaine poisoning results.

POULTRY NOTES

Feed a dry mash.

* * *

Keep house and yard clean.

* * *

Provide roosts and dropping boards.

* * *

Provide a nest for each four or five hens.

* * *

Make the house dry and free from drafts, but allow for ventilation.

* * *

Keep hens free from lice and the house free from mites.

* * *

Don't crowd eggs in the incubator tray. It makes trouble in turning them.

* * *

The first thing to consider in raising geese successfully is the foundation stock.

* * *

Kill and eat the hens in the summer and fall as they begin to molt and cease to lay.

* * *

A clean cellar, two-thirds below ground surface, makes a good place to set the incubator.

* * *

Duck raising is in the decline as to numbers. There are less in many states than there were five years ago.

* * *

Always catch a duck or goose by the neck and never by wings or legs and always be careful that the geese do not inflict injury with their wings which are very strong.

* * *

Turkey raising as a side line on the farm is very profitable. A flock will keep a farm free from grasshoppers and other insect pests while growing into the finest of roasts.

* * *

Geese will fatten quickly if they have plenty of corn and it is best not to confine them in yards but to let them have free range and plenty of yellow corn, as well as a good supply of clean water.

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