A DOUKHOBOR COLONY

Progress Made by Russian Exiles in Canada.

THIRTY FARMERS IN NORTHWEST

Several Thousand Acres Under Cultivation — Horses, Wagons and Machinery Introduced—Leader Ventures Interests to Connect Their Villages by Telephone and Railways—With Experiment in Fruit Culture.

When successive decrees issued by the czar five years ago made it almost impossible for the Doukhobors to live in Russia they gladly accepted an offer of a home in the Canadian northwest, with the the result that they are now a free people, with farms and money of their own, says a Winnipeg Canadian dispatch to the New York Herald.

Peter Veregin, their leader, has been in the colony at Yorkton eighteen months and during that short time has changed the character of the commune, introducing modern methods and building up an organization out of chaos. Several thousand acres of land have been broken, and the area under cultivation this year will be much greater than last.

At first these people were assisted by Quakers from Philadelphia, but they have since progressed so much that they are now well able to take care of themselves. They have large quantities of farm machinery, and one of their latest acquisitions is a steam plow. At present there are about 30 farmers belonging to the commune, and during the year they have been there they have not been idle a single working day. These engines are moved about from place to place as occasion requires, so that fall one is made of them.

Veregin proposes to connect the villages of the colony by telephone and later will join them by narrow gauge railways. He is not a visionary man, but eminently practical and a man of affairs.

A large warehouse for storing goods is being built on the Canadian Pacific railway in a central position, and when the crop is larger elevators will be built to hold the grain. The Doukhobors' crop amounted last year to 200,000 bushels of wheat, barely enough to supply their own wants. Owing to their plan of sowing flax on the newly broken land in the west they does not increase as fast as if other wise would. Veregin is about to experiment in fruit culture and also in growing flax suitable for weaving.

The commune has bought a brick and tile making plant, and gradually its log houses will be replaced by brick and tile and roofs by tiles. The build ing of a new one was begun in the vicinity of the colony enabled the men to go out during the summer and earn money. Half the men in this colony went out and brought back $11,000 which they had earned, and this money they gave to the commune. All their goods are bought at wholesale in large quantities.

An order for 5,000 pairs of overalls at five cent leads of dealers causes no comment, and when they buy farm machinery they get harvesters and plows by the hundred.

From early morning, when the village is roused by the sounding of a chisel which patrols the street, until evening, when the same chisel sings them to sleep, the villagers find their work in common very agreeable to them.

Their working day is from 5 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock in the evening. But this is divided into a fashion peculiar to themselves into three shifts of eight hours each. The shift of men and horses goes to work at 5 o'clock, quitting at 10 o'clock when they are relieved by the third shift, which works until 3 o'clock. The heavy and light shifts are taken by the shifts of men on alternate days.

Japanese Tresses For War Fund.

The patriotic women of Japan are sacrificing their raven locks to make American wigs and add to the war fund of the mikado, says a Washington special to the Cleveland Plain Dealer. The treasury officials have received reports from the custom house in San Francisco and other Pacific coast ports of large quantities of hair are being received, and investigation shows that these importations come from Japan, where it is sold not only the poorer classes, but even the aristocratic women of Tokyo, are having their long glossy tresses shorn to be sent to America, where there is a ready market.

A Few Words of Cheer.

A prominent singer in Louisville, Ky., recently took charge of a choir in one of the local churches, says the Louisville Herald. An enthusiastic member of the congregation, wishing to encourage her, approached her the other day with this:

"Miss Jones, you can't realize how great your success has been with the choir. Why, you have put the whole church interested. Before you began to sing in the choir scarcely a person in the congregation joined in the hymns, but last Sunday morning every one sang so loud that it was impossible to distinguish the choir at all."

Transatlantic Novelties.

The new Hamburg steamers that are being built for the South American service will have some novel features, including a playroom for children, and deck arbors like those used in Germany and France, which, it is expected, will be particularly appreciated by the passengers in tropical regions.

INDIGESTION

"I was troubled with stomach trouble, Thedford's Black-Draught did me good. Some time ago my husband took it for a cold and found it helped him also." — MRS. ANNA E. SHIRFIELD, Blairsville, Ind.

Thedford's Black-Draught quickly improves the action of the liver, stomach and bowels, removes chronic cases of indigestion. If you will take a small dose of Thedford's Black Draught occasionally you will keep your stomach and liver in perfect condition.

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"Thedford's Black-Draught is the best medicine to regulate the bowels I have ever used." — MRS. A. M. GRANT, Seneda Ferry, N. C.

CONSTIPATION

THE EARLIEST COMEDY.

The Plays Produced at Athens in the First Travelling Actors.

The first recorded comedy was played at Athens, B. C. 1 have heard that and Doom, the earliest travelling actors performed a comedy of Aristophanes, composition on a movable stage mounted on four wheels. The main form of play was so unsatisfactory that performers were rewarded by the grateful people with a cask of wine and a basket of figs.

Dramas belonged to Megaris, a city of ancient Greece, whose inhabitants were celebrated for their name by more and when in their theatre during the evenings, were wont to hold what called a comic contest, in which the which impromptu acting coupled with buffoonery played a considerable part.

In England the old miracle plays degenerated very early into what are for their religious associations seem heavy farces, but the best purely English comedy was one by Shakspere, the assistant master at Eton, and subsequently head master of Westminster school. It was entitled Ralph Roister Doister, and according to it has been performed in London about 1541, being, probably in 1550, ten years after its author's death.

STRANGE RAT TRAPS

The Way Ostrich Eggs are Utilized in Cattle Shanties.

Ostrich eggs are regarded by the Copts as the natural emblem of the rich fulness and practical effect is given to this idea among these people by the very curious use to which they put them in their public buildings, particularly in those devoted to the celebration of divine worship. Whenever one sees a Coptic church, cannot fail to notice the numerous ostrich eggs which hang above and around him.

The explanation is simple. The churches are much infested by rats, and these animals, as everyone knows shown, have been in the habit of creeping down the cords by which the lamps are suspended for the purpose of getting at the oil and drinking it. To blow their fear for such thieves the cord belonging to each lamp is passed through the shell of an ostrich egg, which is thus fixed at a convenient distance above the lamp. The smooth polished surface of the shell offers an impassable barrier to the wily and adventurous rodents, so they dare not venture side of and tumble to the ground if they attempt a passage.

TRUE BLUE

First Card as a Political Term by Scotch Presbyterians.

Blue is an emblem of fidelity and in Britain for several centuries it has been so extensively. Coventry was formerly famous for a "true blue" who would neither change its color nor wash out, and thence the phrase "Coventry blue" and "true blue" were illustratively used to signify persons who would not change their party or principles on any consideration.

"True blue" is said to have been first used as a political term by the Presbyterians of Scotland, and applied to Episcopalian church. Butler, in "Hudibras," speaking of his hero, says:

For he was of that stubborn crew,
Right Presbyterian true blue.

For, we are told, were in the house of commons a blue frock coat, and the expression "a true blue" was in common use in his time, though no one writer puts it, "blue must not be set down as emblematic of fidelity because this color was formerly adopted by the Whigs."—London Telegraph.

Why Sunflowers Like Punch.

Mr. Sydney Brooks, writing in Harper's Weekly, gives some of the reasons why Punch has so strong a hold on the affections of the British public and why it fails to appeal to Americans. The great virtue of Punch, he says, is its seriousness, in which opinion there will be many on this side of the water to agree with him. The great fault of the American comic papers, he says, is that they are not serious enough, that they are mainly jokes. Punch, on the other hand, evades these mistakes. "because it is really not a humorous, but a critical journal. The American comic paper is like the professional funny man at a party, you listen and laugh for a while and then you want to murder him."

A Stanley Story.

Stanley had to relate the following funny story. One day while he was conversing with a friendly tribe during his travels one of the chiefs present inquired how many wives he possessed. Upon Stanley replying that he had none, all those present stood up and shouted, "Ah!" and unanimously exclaimed, "What a splendid fan!" They intensely admired the apparent calm composure of the man, and, as they thought, tried to pass off on them a wondrous traveler's tale.

Sure Stay.

Watts—Tennyson must be awfully afraid of his wife. He is always telling her one wife gives him fits if he doesn't hurry home. Potts—That's the best sign in the world that he is not afraid of his wife. Watts—How so? Potts—He is bossed by his wife never says a word about it.

Sensible.

Younger Sister (peeping through keyhole. Mr Spoonamore is going to propose to Bertha. Oh, Sidney How do you know? Younger Sister I can tell by the concerned look on Bertha's face.—Chicago Tribune.

In the United States the sparrow has pts breeds a year. In Britain seldom more than three.

MASSAGING THE SCALP.

It Is the Seat of All Systems of Stimulating the Hair's Growth

The massage of the scalp is at the root of all treatment of the hair. By stimulating the flow of blood to the scalp new vigor is given to the hair. Without this massage hair restoratives are of little avail.

Now this massage may be better done by a masseuse than by the man or woman who is given to bald. It is impossible for that individual to massage his own scalp with enough to do the hair a great deal of good.

The hands should be half folded and the tips only of the fingers should touch the scalp lightly. Then rub them slow up over the scalp.

It is convenient to begin at the back of the neck and rub the scalp slowly up the center of the head to the forehead. Then the rubbing should be done all over the sides and back of the scalp to the other. It should be repeated several times.

The same glow that the expensive fingers of the masseur produce follows

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A Feeble Imitation.

Albert Vandam, a French writer, gives this description of one of the leading republicans of Gambetta's time: "Blonde had a tendency to imitate the great Napoleon. He has had joined Lamartine in his vigorous protest against the removal of Napoleon's ashes from St. Helena to Paris strive. Napoleonesque attitudes at the cramp of Conile when reviewing the troops or the undisciplined workgoose messes, standing bare deep in mud, which were supposed to represent troops. He trudged up and down the lines with his hands behind him, then came to a sudden stop and, nodding his head, whispered the Joan of arc—Soldiers, I am pleased with you."

Unique Advertising.

Some of the Japanese tradesmen in the smaller towns of Japan have a curious way of advertising their business. On the right hand side of the intine figures the shoemaker a shoe the wonderer an ax the butcher a cleaver. Underneath these emblems are such inscriptions as "I do my work uselessly and cheaply" or "I am as good at my [illegible] as my neighbors." When they are hoeing rice they bare their arms and walk about the streets.

His Greatest Sorrow.

Burt—I have no doubt you are sorry about your uncle's death, notwithstanding it brought you into a lot of money. Wert Yes, he was doing a good business when he died, and I had hoped to wear or two longer he might have left me a good deal more Boston Transcript

Only on the Outside.

"Why, Ethel, you don't seem to tell me you want to marry that bald-headed Professor Wiseman?"

"It is true he is bald," said Ethel, "but think how many young men of today are bald on the inside of their heads."

To please, one must make up his mind to be taught many things which he already knows, by people who do not know them. Chamfort.

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