

CHINESE GIRL BABIES SOLD FOR DOLLAR EACH

So Terrible Are Famine Conditions Over a Large Area That
Extraordinary Means to Obtain Funds Are Reported—
In Some Cases Entire Families Are Driven to Suicide.

Peking, Nov. 15.—(By Mail).—The area and extent of the famine situation in China has recently been brought out in a number of reports reaching here. The region chiefly affected extends east and west from the Gulf of Chihli to Hanchow, in Shensi and north to Shan-shan, and south to Shantung in Honan. Forty-two years ago China was swept by a memorable famine in which millions of persons perished from cold and hunger. In 1917, however, conditions were less serious than at present for at that time a wheat crop preceded the drought, whereas today, due to two years' lack of rainfall, only limited areas have produced even the scantiest yields. The reports have been that the people of the districts have been stripped of their leaves for use as food. The starving people mix their willow chaff, clover or weeds, with a minimum of grain and bake them into cakes which resemble clay. Thousands of refugees who are endeavoring to migrate from the famine areas are said to be living on such "food," hoping to reach the more fortunate cities and towns where they can possibly purchase necessities of life.

Extraordinary means to obtain money for food are reported from all sections of the five provinces. Little children are found deserted in the streets and many have been rescued from the rivers into which they have been cast by their impoverished parents. The sale of children in the reported, much despised girl babies being offered for sums as low as a dollar. A boy of five years, whose mother had died and whose father was ill, was rescued from the father who declared that if no one would feed him he intended to "throw him into the river." The child has been rescued of entire families.

Reports from numerous points in

the famine area which, it is estimated, will require \$200,000,000 worth of the plainest food to avert the greatest loss of life, have been received as follows: One thousand Chinese from starvation are occurring daily in the Peking district; farm and draught animals in Tschow and Shantung, have been sold by their owners for a song because of lack of fodder to keep them and fuel to cook them if slaughtered; every road northward from Chang-tso, in Honan, swarms with hungry, pinched humanity, many of whom fall exhausted out of the weary procession of the famished. In the district southward of Paoching, denuded of vegetation, looks as though it had been swept by a plague of locusts. In the district of Chang-tso, an old man with a basket on his arm containing about six pounds of red millet, explained that he had traded overcoats and a pair of boots for the millet, which he was taking to his wife and their seven children.

Efforts that so far have been made to relieve the famine situation include the following: The Chinese ministries of finance, agriculture and the interior, have appointed a commission to dispense \$1,000,000 fund to be raised by a short-term loan; Shanghai reports that another fund of \$1,000,000 is being raised by seven provinces at the request of Chang-tso; the chief southern peace delegate; the Japanese government has supplied 500,000 bushels of rice; in addition, representatives of American and British commercial interests in Shanghai raised \$50,000 for the Chinese Relief Association. The Peking-Hankow railway is allowing refugees to travel free on trains bound for South Honan and Hupoh, and these have been provided with little children or old persons who have been rescued from the mountain roads to points where food is obtainable.

UNREST IN INDIA IS CAUSING FEARS

(Continued From Page 1).

of the Bolsheviks to stir up trouble have met with much success. In this connection it is pointed out that the printed propaganda, upon which the Bolsheviks depend so much, is of little value in India where the bulk of the population cannot read. Thus the Bolshevik ideals must be spread by word of mouth, a considerable task in a country the size of India. That the Muscovites have been busy in India, however, there is no dispute.

The main cause of the unrest may be summarized thus:

The high cost of living, prices in some cases having advanced 1000 per cent, while incomes, especially of the brain workers, have increased only a small fraction of this.

The continuance of the war-time restrictions on the conduct of the police, whereas the government had indicated that these would be removed within six months of the termination of the war.

The desire on the part of a large section of the educated classes for a greater hand in the government than has hitherto been accorded natives.

The allegation that the government has failed to keep its war-time promises for betterment of general conditions of living and employment, it being charged that the promises were not made but merely to gain support for carrying on the war.

Amritsar Incident.

The feeling of widespread opposition to the government has been given great impetus by the "massacre of Amritsar," as the Indians describe the national events of April, 1919, when Gen. Dyer ordered his troops to fire on a vast concourse of people.

This feeling has been increased by the apparent endorsement in England of the policy by some legislators in the debates of parliament, and the subscription to a testimonial to General Dyer got up by a London newspaper, which amounted to twenty thousand pounds.

To General Dyer's claim that he fired on a menacing mob in the belief that he was preventing a seditious outbreak, the Indian replies that the military action was peaceable and intended not the slightest harm. This incident and its length and breadth of the land, and undoubtedly have done more to embitter the population of India than anything in recent years.

Average Indian Hard Hit.

The cost of living has hit the average Indian exceedingly hard, since his main interest in life centers in his food, his business journeys, his periods of rest, and his various parts of the country, and in the observance of his religious rites.

His place of abode and his furnishings trouble him little or not at all. He is now unable to buy the food to which he has been accustomed, simple as his wants are. Likewise, he can no longer make his journeys, depending on his friends for food and lodging, because, forsooth, his friends cannot afford to entertain him. To the nomadic Indian this is a grievous thing.

Even religious observances are affected, a most serious matter. The gravity of the situation from the Indian standpoint may be illustrated by referring to the cost of ordinary cotton cloth, which at one time got beyond the means of the masses. The Mohammedan religion requires that the dead shall be buried in unadorned shrouds. This is one of the cardinal rules, the observance of which the members of this religion, of whom there are nearly 70,000,000 in India, is all important.

Superstitious Dread.

With the price of cotton cloth beyond all reach, the lower classes have been compelled to bury their dead in ordinary clothing which had been worn. To the living this seems to be a limit of sacrifice, and they are terrified of the hereafter. If this appears like a trivial matter to the western mind, one has only to recall that one of the causes of the great mutiny in India in 1858 was that Indian soldiers were compelled to wear the drug of paper cartridges which had been dipped in the fat of cows and pigs.

The cow is a sacred animal in the religion, and may not be eaten while the pig is anathema to the Mohammedans.

Government Made Scapgoat.

The chief cause of living and all other troubles which may have fallen on the Indians, are attributed by him to the government.

system which the government has for

the government has come to be the all-powerful thing from which come all things, both good and bad. Literally speaking, if there has been a favorable monsoon and the crops have been good, the government has always received the credit for it from the masses, who do not question but that Delhi makes the weather. Since the reverse is also true, the government is now condemned for poor crops or high prices. Thus, the government is being censured for all present conditions throughout the country.

The present "Rowlatt" regulations, which have caused so many heartburnings, were passed after the war to take the place of those under which the country had been governed during the conflict. They give the government powers almost as wide as those which would be under martial law. It had been planned to discontinue such measures six months after hostilities ceased, but when the time arrived the government felt that the moment was not ripe for the change. Accordingly, another measure of similar import was passed and still remains in effect. This is resented bitterly by the population.

New Bill May Help.

So far as the political agitation is concerned, those who know India well state that much depends on the working of the new Montagu Bill, which gives the natives more say in the affairs of the government and which becomes effective next year. It is said to be acceptable to a large section of the educated classes of India, although it has some strenuous opponents among the extremists.

Should the measure fail to work out as has been anticipated by the government, the extremists may be serious in their demand that the government be replaced by a true self-government for India.

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SUNBURY FARMER LOSES BARN AND ENTIRE STOCK

Kington, Dec. 26.—A barn, the season's crop, twenty-six head of cattle and a number of pigs and chickens were destroyed by fire late yesterday afternoon at Sudbury.

They were the property of Frederick Cummings, a farmer, who had gone to Hattersea to spend Christmas with his father at Hattersea. When he returned at 5 o'clock he found the barn in flames. The origin of the fire is unknown. The loss has not yet been ascertained. There was no insurance on any of the destroyed property.

TRAIN SERVICE IN GERMANY IS GOOD

There Are, However, Fewer
Trains De Luxe Than
Formerly.

COURTEOUS TO ALIENS

Attempts in Some Quarters to
"Sting" Foreigners Are
Resented.

Munich, Dec. 7.—(By Mail).—Traveling conditions within Germany are more nearly normal than in most other parts of Europe. Trains are frequent and generally on time, when not compelled to stop for military operations with trains from other countries. There are fewer trains de luxe than formerly. Many lines do not operate first-class sleeping cars, most important trains carry sleepers with second-class accommodations, that is, two persons in each compartment. The trains have dining cars, also most sleeping car conductors provide coffee and tea for passengers and sandwiches, cakes and fruits can be had from vendors at nearly all important stations.

Cars and stations are clean and fairly well heated. The trainmen are courteous to foreigners and talk French and English with apparent ease. This is probably due to the fact that foreigners are more liberal in their fees and German railwaymen make such small salaries that they are eager to augment them.

Travel to and from East Prussia is more troublesome than in any other part of the country. Most trains are delayed at least two hours by Polish officials at the Danzig corridor, and frequently the delay is much longer. The Poles require Polish visas for all passengers crossing the corridor, and the fee for an American is \$10, regardless of whether he desires to stop in Poland or under Polish control.

Treatment of Foreigners.

In the Rhineland the train service is especially good and all hotels and pensions are extending a welcome to foreigners. For a time some hotels in Germany charged higher rates to foreigners from countries where the exchange rate was better than in Germany, but this practice has been abandoned by all important hotels. Shopkeepers occasionally try to charge Americans and Englishmen more than the market price on their goods, but the practice has been resented so strongly that few important concerns concern themselves with it.

The attitude of the German toward English-speaking travelers is almost universally courteous. Occasionally Germans in the railway station or in the street are English is spoken, but the great majority of Germans seem to enjoy an opportunity to practice English and will frankly say so.

MORE TRADE ACCIDENTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver, Dec. 26.—There were 80,598 accidents in all industries in British Columbia this year, up to Dec. 25. According to a statement of E. S. Winn, chairman of the workmen's compensation board. This number is 2325 in excess of the total for all of last year. The number of fatal accidents this year is 197, while last year 196 deaths occurred.

The total amount of money paid for compensation of persons injured in the province, logging claims for compensation this year numbering 4377.

The figures prepared by Mr. Winn show that the payroll in the industries of the province totaled last year \$128,855,760, and the number of men employed was 109,227. For eleven months of this year the total payroll in wages was approximately \$130,000,000, and the number of men employed was 112,000.

During 1920, as in 1919, logging was the most hazardous occupation in the province, logging claims for compensation this year numbering 4377.

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INDUSTRIAL FRANCE RECOVERS RAPIDLY

Factories in Devastated Area
Are Resuming Operations
With Gratifying Speed.

HUTS HOUSE WORKERS

Brick Shanties Spring Up,
However, Where Brick-
laying Is Practicable.

Paris, Dec. 8.—(By Mail).—Manufacturing industries are rapidly resuming operations in the devastated districts. This is shown by a report of the office of industrial reconstruction, which has been investigating the resumption of factories and workshops, which, before the war, employed more than 20 workmen.

Of the 4321 establishments in which inquiries were made, 3392 have resumed work, while 929 are still closed. A classification of the various trades concerned shows that 88.4 per cent of metal works are again active; 81.5 per cent of the potteries, stone and brick works; 80.4 per cent of the chemical industries and 70.3 per cent for the textile industries.

The relatively slow rate of progress of the textile industries is due to the bureau to be due to the fact that the looms were deliberately destroyed and it is taking some time to replace the delicate machinery.

These 4321 establishments employed 778,915 persons in 1914; in November, 1920, they employed 355,552, or 45.7 per cent of the 1914 personnel.

While the factories have for the most part been rebuilt much as they were in 1914, the houses which shelter the workers are mere wooden huts, although brick shanties are springing up in the districts where bricklaying is practicable.

The proportion of resumption of activity bears little relation to the recovery of the towns and villages, which it will be impossible to rebuild as formerly.

THINK THEY SAW MISSING BALLOON

Ottawa Men Saw Something
Which They Thought First
Was Airplane.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The missing balloon carrying the three United States airmen, which has been lost since December 13, may have been the "object" which Louis Dubroy and S. Mowatt, residents of this city, saw drifting over the western shore of Ottawa in a northwesterly direction on the morning of December 15. According to their statement, they first thought it was an airplane, but were unable to explain the absence of the "engine" of the engine, for it was not traveling at a very great altitude. They then came to the conclusion that it was a balloon, although they could not see the bag. They explained today that while the balloon was drifting over the city, they saw it was a balloon, but they did not see the bag. They said that the bag was so sheeted with frost as to make it invisible to the men standing on the ground. They paid further attention to it when they noticed the announcements in the local papers of the search for the missing airmen.

The officers of the United States Naval Air Service, who have been directing the search for the missing balloon here, left on Friday night for New York after making arrangements for all points in the northern woods.

The officials of the Canadian Naval Service department, when informed of the statements of Messrs. Dubroy and Mowatt, said it was possible they had seen the missing balloon, although the supposition was that if it came in this district on December 14th instead of the 15th, the department will make further investigations.

ACCUSED OF BANK THEFT.

Pembroke, Ont., Dec. 26.—John Hudson, of Barry's Bay, who is being held in connection with the robbery of \$2,200 from the teller of the Merchants Bank near that place, was further remanded a week in police custody here on Friday.

The cost of the monument is estimated at one hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000).

The assessors in the competition will be: Mr. Frank Darling, F.R.I.B.A., R.C.A., representing the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

Mr. J. H. Reilly, O.B.E., F.R.I.B.A., representing the Royal Institute of British Architects (London).

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TO BETTER HEALTH IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

Commission From That Country
Making Tour of U. S.
and Canada.

New York, Dec. 26.—Five members of a commission from the ministry of hygiene of Czechoslovakia, now in the United States as guests of the Rockefeller Foundation, will tour the country and will include Toronto in their itinerary.

The members of the commission are: Dr. Vladimir Basoka, chief of the medical and sanitary department of the ministry of public health of Czechoslovakia; Dr. Brumhil Vacek, general medical health director in Brno, Moravia; Dr. Ivan Hialek, member of parliament and general medical director in Bratislava, Slovakia; Antonin Kolinsky, general director of administration in the ministry of health in Prague; Dr. Vladimir Petrik, medical health inspector in Bratislava, Slovakia.

An announcement of a co-operative program in public health, agreed upon with the government of Czechoslovakia, is made by the international health board of the Rockefeller Foundation. This program provides:

Lending to the Czechoslovak government the services of a representative from the United States, competent in public health administration.

Fellowships for training a select group of young Czechs for service in the field of public health.

Co-operation in the development of the health service.

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