

A French Opinion

On the Exhibits in the Canadian Section of the Paris Exposition.

"A Complete and Excellent Collection"—Fruit Growing and Exportation.

Following is a translation of an article appearing in the July number of Le Journal d'Agriculture Pratique, published in Paris:

It is the unanimous opinion that the Canadian exhibit may be regarded as typical of a very complete and excellent collection of a country's various products. The spacious and well lighted buildings containing it are situated in the garden of the Trocadero, near the Algerian pavilion. At the entrance the attention of the visitor is attracted by a kind of trophy adorned with bundles of cereals of all kinds—wheat, rye, oats, barley—and presenting a striking appearance. All around, on circular shelves, are arranged samples of the many varieties of Canadian fruits.

The intention of Mr. Perrault, the commissioner, who is in charge of this excellent exhibit, is to advertise the fact that Canada is above all an agricultural country, and that the great wealth of her province is chiefly derived from the productions of the soil.

Let us examine some of the various products here displayed. We find in large open cases samples of that red shining wheat which is being exported in increasingly large quantities to Europe, particularly to Great Britain. Close by is an exhibit of honey and maple sugar, the latter being a special product of Canada, which is obtained in the following manner: In the spring the Canadian farmer goes into the sugar bush, which is generally to be found near the habitations, and makes a small cut at the foot of each maple tree, as the peasants of France do in the bark of the maritime pine, and places under each a small can to catch the sap which flows out. This sap is collected and afterwards boiled in large boilers. After having been boiled for some time it turns into a sweet syrup, which in turn crystallizes if the boiling is continued. This sugar is used for domestic consumption. But the exhibit which commands special attention and interest is that of fruits, which are being grown by Canadian farmers in order that they may be in a position to meet the conditions of the international market. The exhibit is an interesting one and the fruits are preserved in the fresh state. Although it is now July the apples of the 1899 crop are as firm and taste as well as if just plucked from the tree, thanks to the system of cold storage, by means of which the fruit has been kept in such an excellent state of preservation, and to the manner of packing. As in the case of eggs for shipment, each fruit is isolated in a cardboard compartment, thus preserving it from damage.

In some parts of Canada large orchards are maintained for the purpose of supplying apples for export to Europe. In Nova Scotia, for instance, 400,000 to 500,000 barrels of apples have been exported during the past two years, the bulk of this quantity having been sent to the great cities of Great Britain.

In Ontario there are 388,000 acres of gardens and orchards, and in the Niagara peninsula there are 10,802 acres of vineyards, and over half a million peach trees. Peaches are exported to Europe preserved in cans, or in the cut or dried state. Samples of fruit in these forms are also to be found in the exhibit.

At last we come to the space where the cheese and butter from Canada are on exhibition, being kept in a well preserved and fresh state by means of ice. These products, more than any others, show the great progress which has been made in agriculture in Canada. In fact, the exportation of butter and cheese has increased wonderfully during the ten years from 1889 to 1899, as may be seen from the following figures:

Cheese, 1889, \$8,915,648; 1899, \$16,776,704; butter, 1889, \$331,958; 1899, \$3,709,873.

Last year Canada exported to England more than 200,000,000 pounds of cheese. At different times in this journal we have dealt on the always increasing importance of the dairy industry, especially in the old provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

If we go farther up, to the galleries on the first floor, we still find excellently arranged samples of Canadian productions from the western, eastern and central provinces. Specimens of wheat, oats, barley and Indian corn are to be found in abundance put up in the form of bundles, bouquets of heads of grain, etc., and in the middle of all bundles of timothy (heolo)—the grass which is so much prized by the Canadian farmer on account of its value as fodder—bags of beans, peas, sunflower seeds, etc., illustrating the many varieties of plants cultivated in Canada to provide stock with abundance of feed in the green state or in the form of ensilage.

These are the products of ordinary farming, but at the experimental farms trails of new varieties are made with the object of acclimatizing cereals and other plants which have proved to be the best elsewhere. Some of the results are excellent, judging from the samples of wheat and oats from the experimental farm at Ottawa.

Large paintings and photographs set before the visitor the various aspects of Canadian agriculture. At the foot of the Rocky Mountains, where the climate is temperate and stable, are to be found there are immense ranches on which cattle and horses are raised. The cattle are of fine type, having been bred from choice animals imported at great expense from England.

Now we come to Manitoba. The black soil of the province is exceedingly fertile having been formed by the decomposition of the prairie grasses for centuries. Each year the settler increases, if possible, the area of his wheat land. The farm buildings in this province are generally quite primitive. Besides the output of the new immigrant or the more comfortable home of the old settler, there is usually a stable for horses and a shed

for the ploughs, drills and other farm implements, but no barns. The wheat is threshed on the field and the grain at once carried to the elevators, which are to be seen at different points along the railway lines.

In the East (Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime provinces) farming is more complicated, the products being more varied. Dairying is now perhaps the most paying branch of agriculture in the East.

The impression one gains from an inspection of this exhibit of agricultural produce is that it represents the labor of a people who are rapidly progressing. Their agricultural products are becoming more varied, and it may be said here that the government of Canada is making every effort to develop the art of agriculture, which is widely taught in all its branches. The number of publications issued specially for the farming community is proof enough of the government's endeavors in this regard.

But if till now Canada has been only an agricultural country, it will soon be known as an industrial one. The snow which covers its immense territories during the winter months supplies its innumerable brooks with an abundant and regular flow of water. Many of the streams, especially those coming down from the Laurentides in the province of Quebec, have series of waterfalls which respectively almost the limit of hydraulic power. Till recently this power had not been utilized to any extent, but it is now better understood what extraordinary resources it offers for the development and carrying on of almost every kind of industry. We will mention one, and that is the wood pulp industry which flourishes in the province of Quebec. The works at Grand Mero, on the St. Maurice, which have a very fine exhibit in the Canadian pavilion, alone produce every day 40 tons of cardboard and the same quantity of paper, valued at \$4,750.

DEWEY'S REPLY.

Does Not Think Hobson Meant to Say Anything Unkind.

New York, Sept. 20.—Admiral Dewey, who is stopping at Sayville, L. I., talking to-day of the Hobson interview, saying:

"I hardly think the young man meant to say anything unkind, and perhaps he did not say what I said there. The three vessels he referred to are the Isla de Cuba, Isla de Luzon and Don Juan de Austria. They were the least injured of the ten or twelve ships sunk at Manila. Naval Constructor Capps, a very able man, was with me, and he and divers and experts from Hongkong, made an examination of all the Spanish ships, and decided that these three were worth saving; three out of a dozen. They were raised, and temporary repairs were made at Cavite. The vessels proceeded under their own steam to Hongkong, and had been there for some time, undergoing repairs, before Hobson saw them. As a matter of fact, I never claimed that we sunk the ships. I reported that we destroyed them. I did see, with my own eyes, an 8-inch shell strike the Reina Maria Christina, Admiral Montecristo's flagship, and that destroyed her. The statement that the vessels were not much injured below the water line, was probably true. Everyone knows that it is impossible for shells to do much execution below the water line, or for anything but torpedoes to do much damage there. A few inches of water is a great protection. And torpedoes are not armored much below the water line, the water being protection enough from a shell."

"I hardly think it worth our while to pay much attention to this. You know it is human nature to depreciate what others have done, and Mr. Hobson may not have been quoted correctly, or in full."

CYCLONE AND FLOODS.

Sixteen Persons Killed in Minnesota—Colorado River Rising.

Minneapolis, Sept. 24.—Sixteen persons are reported killed in a storm at Morris-town, Minn., Sept. 24.—Word was received here to-night that a cyclone struck Morris-town at 6 o'clock. Eight men were killed and a large number more are missing. The report is meagre. A large tree was carried over a house-top and deposited on a brick building used as a saloon, which was completely wrecked, and from which the bodies of eight men were taken. The report does not say how much damage was done to property.

Fearful Loss of Life.

Austin, Texas, Sept. 24.—Governor Sayers wired to-night to all points in the south of here warning notices that the most terrific flood in the history of the Colorado river, which flows by this city, is now surging down through the mountain gorges to the northwest of here, and it is expected at this place by midnight. The warning was sent out by Governor Sayers in response to the following telegram of warning:

Goldthwaite, Texas, Sept. 24.—To Governor Sayers: Notify all towns on Colorado river, and have towns notified country points, that river is ten feet higher than ever before known and is still rapidly rising. Very urgent. (Signed) Phil H. Clements, State Representative.

A telephone message was received here last night by the chief of police from Llano that Sansaba, 40 miles north of that place, containing about 1,000 people, was partially swept away by the flood of the Sansaba river, which was still rising. All the bridges had been carried off. No news could be had from Sansaba people to-night, the wires all being down. It is feared there has been great loss of life in the bottom, as the rise was in the night and came without warning.

CURZON SUCCEEDS TO PEERAGE.

(Associated Press.) London, Sept. 20.—Earl Howe, Richard, Peet Curzon Howe, is dead. As his son, Viscount Curzon, who is a candidate for parliament in the South Buckinghamshire district, succeeds to the peerage, the Conservatives will nominate Mr. William Henry Grenfell, the celebrated sportsman, for South Buckinghamshire.

FAVOR FEDERATION.

Melbourne, Victoria, Sept. 26.—The Puff Islands are taking steps to federate with New Zealand.

Empress's Flight

Further Particulars of Departure of the Royal Family From Peking.

She Bade Farewell to Imperial Palace—Englishman Murdered in Corea.

Upon the arrival of the Empress of India the Times was enabled through an Oriental exchange to give an interesting narrative of the capture of the capital of the Chinese Empire and the relief of the legations.

The special correspondent of the North China Daily News writing in a recent issue of that paper, received by the Ryojun Maru this morning, describes the events succeeding the relief of the legations. He says that whilst the legation was being relieved, the 24th Punjab and the 1st Sikhs, after a little street fighting, captured the Temple of Heaven. Later on the 24th Punjab, with four guns of the 12th Field Battery, and captured the south gate, which was held in force. The Royal Welsh Fusiliers and 1st Sikhs, after a little fighting, captured the Ch'ienmen. For some reason the Japanese, although a day ahead of the other forces on the march, waited before the city after bombarding it, and followed the British when they arrived. Other- wise the honor of first entering would have been theirs. Probably there was some arrangement between the various forces. The Americans, after bombarding another part of the city, entered by the same gate as the British, but later in the evening. Throughout, the weakness of the Chinese position was inescapable. Today the Americans bombarded lightly the Imperial city, but withdrew later, presumably as the result of overtures from the Chinese. After what has happened, and in face of recent Imperial decrees, it is impossible to imagine the foreign ministers listening to such appeals. If a strong lesson is to be taught the punishment of her perfidy, and it will be represented that the foreigners are too weak to do anything.

China is now trying to shelter herself under the plea that the foreigners are only fighting Boxers; as a matter of fact, all the serious fighting on the Chinese side has been done by regular troops, led by high officials. The reports of these leaders, minimizing their defeats, have been printed in the Peking Gazette together with intensely anti-foreign decrees. Among other things the ministers' actions during the siege are elicited. The Chinese frequently endeavored to induce the foreigners to capitulate under promise of safe escort. Unfortunately they were unsuccessful, as massacre would undoubtedly have followed the leaving of the legations. Heavier attacks than usual always followed these overtures. In order to support the statement that the Chinese government was protecting the legations and feeding its inmates, two or three paltry presents of melons were sent to the ministers.

The Osaka Asahi's correspondent at Peking, writing to his journal recently, gives some particulars of the flight of the Empress of China and the Dowager Empress which have not so far been published. He says that the Empress and the Dowager Empress were accompanied in separate coaches. General Ma Yui Kon was in attendance on the Empress, and the Empress Dowager took the Crown Prince in her arms to the palace. Under these circumstances, the report attributed to Russian military sources and the statements contained in the Port Arthur journal are obviously incorrect. But it remains to be seen whether Lieut.-General Linievitch forwarded any such report.

It is to us (Japan Mail), quite incredible that a Russian lieutenant-general can be guilty of any intentional misrepresentation. Certainly these incidents are most regrettable. The Russians have fought splendidly and suffered heavily. They have done all that could have been done under the circumstances, and the Peking community at least owes its salvation to them. They were unfortunate on the whole, since they found themselves inevitably in positions which prevented them from pushing into the first fighting line, and they seem to have made at Peking an essay to "get even" which was very comprehensible. But the thing to be remembered is that they were comrades with our own people in an arduous and sanguinary campaign. The fact should suffice to rob all petty jealousies of their sting."

Gen. Dewet's Escape

First Detailed Story of the Long Pursuit—Eluded British For Weeks.

Correspondent Tells of the Various Movements Made to Entrap Him.

The following is the first complete account of one of the most exciting incidents of the war—the chase and escape of the Boer general Christian Dewet. It is written by F. H. Howland, correspondent of the London Daily Mail, who took part in the pursuit from start to finish, and who has just arrived in England to find that nearly all the dispatches which he forwarded from the front during the progress of the chase have failed to reach their destination.

On the night of Sunday, July 15th, the Boer commandant, Christian Dewet, accompanied by his brother Piet and by the ex-President Steyn, with some 1,500 men, a dozen guns and a convoy of over a hundred bullock-wagons and Cape carts, forming a column several miles long, slipped out of the hills to the south of Bethlehem, in the Orange River Colony, on the border of Basutoland, got safely through the cordon Sir Archibald Hunter had drawn around him, and started northwards.

A month later, near Rustenberg, in the Transvaal, 250 miles north of his starting point, with a force double in strength, he joined Commandant De la Rey.

With one of the keenest of the British generals on his heels throughout the march, he kept his lead, successfully circumventing several large bodies of troops on the lookout for him, crossed Lord Roberts's lines of communication twice, cutting them in both cases, and captured two trainloads of soldiers and supplies.

A Typical Story.

This extraordinary march of Dewet's in his miniature story of all our disasters in this war. It says that Lieut.-General Linievitch, keenly anxious to succour the foreign legations, hurried forward a brigade of troops, who after a night's march, on the 14th, blew up a gate of Peking and forced their way into the city. On the following morning, the main body of the troops arrived and entered Peking."

This newspaper adds that the English had nothing to do with the relief of the legations. Japanese papers publish the telegrams and comment briefly, but severely upon their flagrant untruth. It is well known, say our contemporaries, that the Russian troops, disregarding the plan of operations which had been formed with their own approval, attempted to steal a march on their comrades of other nationalities, and assaulted the city on the night of the 13th. It is well known that they failed to effect an entry until the afternoon of the 14th, and that, even after forcing the Tung-pien gate, they did not pass the Hata gate into the Tartar city until after the Japanese had marched in. It is also well known that the British troops reached the legations six hours earlier than any other force. Under these circumstances, the report attributed to Russian military sources and the statements contained in the Port Arthur journal are obviously incorrect. But it remains to be seen whether Lieut.-General Linievitch forwarded any such report.

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Dewet reached Palmfontein by a course in the form of the letter "S," which led him around Lindley from the southwest to the northeast. The fight at the former place began at about two in the afternoon and ended at sunset, nearly the whole of Broadwood's force being engaged. The enemy, seeing that we were drawing up to their conveyance, posted their rear guard in an excellent position along and below a low range of kopjes, where stone kraals, a few farm houses, and a dorga provided satisfactory cover.

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24th, entrenched on the Vaal just outside Vrededorp.

Dewet has succeeded in doubling his force, which was now 3,000 strong, more than double that of his pursuers. Crossing the railway near Rooderol, he cut the line and captured a supply train, with its hospital and convalescent, which had been hurriedly sent to Vrededorp. Broadwood had time to get to the Vaal, he entrenched himself and sat down to draw breath.

Broadwood was up with him again on the following day. His persistence and dash were this time rewarded by the capture of six wagons, handsomely made, after an exciting chase, by a portion of Ridley's Mounted Infantry. Under Col. Legge, who snatched them up under the enemy's nose, Col. Legge, pushing on his own, became heavily engaged with the Boer's strongly-posted right flank, and Broadwood, noting their strength, and action with a force far larger than his own, ordered a general retirement to a ridge a mile back. This was accomplished, but steadily accomplished, losing heavily in the open.

Whole force then fell back four miles and encamped in face of the enemy, prepared to contest any effort he might make to cross the Vaal. The incidents of the next few days are plain in part how it was that Dewet was not captured then and there.

Broadwood reported that the enemy was too strong to be attacked by his inferior force, knowing the position of his headquarters and asked for reinforcements. Judging that the enemy was sorely in need of rest, he saw that if a force was sent down from the north to block the drifts across the Vaal from that direction, and sufficient troops sent to him from the south, the Boer might be cornered yet. But the intelligence officers at headquarters had received information that Dewet intended to cross the Vaal without delay. Assuming that the Vaal drifts could not be blocked in time, they contented themselves with ordering Gen. Hart and Col. Little, with two of the 47 naval guns, to reinforce Broadwood.

As a matter of fact, Dewet retained this position on the Vaal until July 23rd to August 7th, thereby any justifying Broadwood's assumption. Dewet was very active during most of this time, making several attempts to seize positions commanding Broadwood's and Ridley's camps, which a brave force would soon have done.

But by increasing waterfalls the Boers were kept at bay. Reinforcements from the south came slowly up, and the advent of Lord Kitchener on August 3rd, and the order to move down to the Vaal, put Dewet's position in some danger. For some reason a delay occurred, and this, in the end, gave Dewet his chance.

His Final Escape. On Sunday, August 5th, Broadwood extended his line, and two days later Dewet's escape to the south was effectually cut off. He found a hole to the north, however, and on August 7th successfully crossed the Vaal and slipped round Methuen's front. He was never in danger after that. The time he had spent in resting and replacing his animals had repaired his forces, whereas Broadwood's transport had suffered seriously owing to the unhealthiness of his camp and to the necessity of sending constant convoys back to the railway.

Lord Methuen hung on to Dewet's left rear guard with a persistence which, if he had found an earlier opportunity of displaying it might have borne fruit, and Lord Kitchener, relying on the fact that his mules and bullocks at a killing pace crossed the Vaal at Lindlip's drift on August 10th, and sought to overcome this latest lead Dewet had gained.

But it was a hopeless task. Dewet trooped at night, when bullocks go to their best, and thus gained time during the day to let them feed and rest at will. The result was inevitable. Dewet joined De la Rey, and retook his main column, and, coming in quietly and unobserved, slipped off to contact with Little a few days later. This same flank guard created another diversion which also met with complete success.

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Broadwood reported that the enemy was too strong to be attacked by his inferior force, knowing the position of his headquarters and asked for reinforcements. Judging that the enemy was sorely in need of rest, he saw that if a force was sent down from the north to block the drifts across the Vaal from that direction, and sufficient troops sent to him from the south, the Boer might be cornered yet. But the intelligence officers at headquarters had received information that Dewet intended to cross the Vaal without delay. Assuming that the Vaal drifts could not be blocked in time, they contented themselves with ordering Gen. Hart and Col. Little, with two of the 47 naval guns, to reinforce Broadwood.

As a matter of fact, Dewet retained this position on the Vaal until July 23rd to August 7th, thereby any justifying Broadwood's assumption. Dewet was very active during most of this time, making several attempts to seize positions commanding Broadwood's and Ridley's camps, which a brave force would soon have done.

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