

## LORD FRENCH REVIEWS LONDON'S VOLUNTEER ARMY



Field Marshal French has lost none of his popularity with the British people since he accepted a seat in the House of Lords, and was brought back from Flanders to take command of the home forces in England. The other day, as shown in the photograph, he inspected 10,000 volunteers in Hyde Park, London. He is shown addressing the officers of the force.

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#### He Won the Day

Walking down a suburban street—cherry blossom scented, yellow and pink with flowering shrubs—I met a child of five, wide-eyed at the wonder of the spring morning, watching at this particular moment a robin tugging away at a fat worm that was making a desperate effort to retain a weakening hold upon the sides of its hole.

"On my street," said I in friendly voice, "the squirrels come out of the trees and we feed them. Once they ate out of my hand."

The child looked at me with interest. "We have lions in my yard," he said boldly.

"Dandelions! You can't fool me that way. In a yard near me there are three white rabbits. You never saw any white rabbits in a yard?"

This staggered him only for a moment, and then he gave me a sweet, audacious smile. "A cat came in our yard and laid three baby elephants," he said. "You never saw three baby elephants."

"Not real live ones, like pictures?" "Real live ones."

"Goodbye," he said, and hastened away, not daring, perhaps, to mar the excellent impression that he had created in this, the first adventure of the morning. —Worcester Evening Post.

## BLACKS FIGHTING GERMAN BATTLES

Native Troops Used by Teuton in East Africa

Make Great Soldiers

Remarkable Work by Them Performed in Jungle Under Kaiser's Officers

That the sensational fight of the cruiser Koenigsberg up an inland African river, where later she was destroyed by British warships and aeroplanes, added to the life of the last German colony, that of German East Africa, is undoubted. Before the cruiser was destroyed, the greater number of her guns were removed from her and carried hundreds of miles through the tropical jungle to the eastern frontier, where later they were used against General Smuts' forces. That the work of transporting these heavy guns for such a distance through a dense forest was performed by hand is undoubted, for there are no railways in that part of the colony and ordinary roads capable of bearing the weight of guns are out of the question in that swampy territory. One of these guns from the Koenigsberg, a 4.1-inch Krupp, that showed every evidence of heavy usage, was captured by the British forces on March 21, when the Germans were driven heading south along the Tanga railway. This gun was more than a thousand miles from the wreck of the Koenigsberg—a fact which gives an inkling of the tremendous labor that has been performed by the men who are trying to keep the Kaiser's last flag aloft on the Dark Continent.

Persons familiar with the colonies in Africa agree that nowhere except in the Portuguese territories were the natives so harshly treated before the war as in the German colonies. In her dealings with natives Germany used the "nailed fist" with such effect that, in one case at least, the people at home protested and the government was forced to alter its policy. In German Southwest Africa the Bantus were nearly exterminated in one of the greatest and most savage negro "hunts" that ever disgraced the continent. In the early days of German East Africa, the natives were treated with such severity that they were in almost constant rebellion, and it was unofficially stated at the time that no fewer than a half million blacks had been killed, either by bullets or starvation, before the revolt was put down.

#### Negroes Fighting Hard

And now, to repay their masters for their former cruelties, the blacks of German East Africa are doing the finest fighting that their race has done on the continent since the white men entrusted guns and rifles to their hands. The native soldiers who are holding off the attacks of General Smuts' forces, and who are called Askaris, are the pick of the country. They are tall, lithe, superbly built and but for the deeper black of their skin are the physical counterparts of the Zulus, who unquestionably are among the most powerful specimens of physical manhood in the world. These Askaris are as brave and fearless as the lion that roars their country. They are afraid of only one thing in the world, and that is the snow-capped top of Mount Kilimanjaro. They believe the white of the peak to be the bleached bones of men who have died trying to reach the top, and the snow is the time when the time when Henry M. Stanley found Dr. Livingstone on the very site of present day fighting. I have watched German officers in the suburbs of Dar-es-Salaam drill these Askaris hour after hour under a midday sun when the thermometer registered far above the hundred mark. The German officer was pouring with perspiration only from the heat of calling out his orders. The blacks, in khaki uniforms and heavy shoes, marched, counter-marched, goose-stepped and performed a score of other evolutions without apparently moistening a hair. There was "thoroughness" there, even years ago, and undoubtedly the successors of the officers whom I saw that day are reaping the rewards of his labor.

One of the oddities peculiar to the blacks of the northeastern part of Africa is the fact that it is impossible or impracticable to train them to handle their rifles from the shoulder. Like the Americans and the Mexican peons and Indians, they plant the butt of their rifles against the thigh, push the muzzle toward the enemy and then fire in perfect volley. Also like other savages, they dislike fighting in close quarters with white troops, but when they see another black with a bayonet the old savage instinct is roused and they fight with all the insane fury which characterized their ancestors in their fierce inter-tribal wars.

#### Possibilities of Colony

The fact that much of the fighting in German East Africa has occurred in the plateau south of Mount Kilimanjaro indicates that the colony is worthless territory which will add nothing to the wealth of the nation which will acquire it when the day of the signing of peace treaties comes. On the contrary, it is one of the richest parts of Africa, and more work was done there by Germany to develop its resources than was performed in any of the other colonies. She made intensive studies to discover the range of agricultural possibilities and mineral wealth. There were twenty agricultural sub-stations where studies were made of the soils and their adaptation for growing tropical export crops. On the northeast coast near Tanga the colonists developed the cultivation of sisal until their exports were second only in quantity to those of Yucatan. In the north and central parts gold mines were opened, and in other parts of the interior they cultivated cotton, coffee, rubber, maize and rice. After the Boer war many of the defeated burghers went to the German colony and began the raising of cattle and ostrich farming, and their plantations on the plateau south of Mount Kilimanjaro were far finer in every way than those of their neighbors in British East Africa, only a few miles distant. As proof of their interest in agriculture it may be remembered that a few months before the war began there came to New York a delegation of colonists from the vicinity of Dar-es-Salaam to study American methods of farming and cattle raising.

Until the war stopped the mails, I frequently received letters from a Cape Colony Afriander—that is, a white born in Cape Colony of British parents—who had settled in German East Africa and engaged in breeding ostriches. He went

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tion," said Prof. G. I. Christie, superintendent of Agricultural Extension Work at Purdue University, before the National Fertilizer Association Convention here today. "The New Agriculture" was the subject of his address.

"Agriculture is the great business and industry of the state and country, and the farms must be brought to a high state of productivity to meet the demands of the rapidly increasing population. It is a problem of industrial efficiency as well as that of social co-operation," continued Professor Christie. "Comfortable homes, the best of schools, community churches, community centres, good roads and a more permanent and satisfying social life must be provided for. This can only be done when the land owners and their families willing to remain on the farm and expend their energy and money in the building up and maintaining of rural institutions."

"The large and rapidly increasing population makes an unprecedented demand upon the farmers for foodstuffs. A study of statistics shows that the population of the United States has practically doubled every twenty-five years. A few years ago new states and territories were being occupied, and an increased supply of farm products placed upon the market. This acquiring and developing of new lands did much to keep production ahead of consumption and meet the needs of an increasing population," continued Professor Christie.

"The average yield of wheat in the United States for the past ten years was 14.5 bushels per acre. A few years ago the yield of wheat in New England and Germany was really lower than that found in the United States. Through fertilization and a better crop system, these countries have been able to gradually increase the average yield of the wheat crop until at this time it ranges about thirty-six bushels per acre. On the farm of Purdue University, where conditions are similar to those of a large area of wheat lands, through a good rotation of crops and proper fertilization the average yield of wheat for the past thirty years has reached twenty-eight bushels per acre. These, with other examples clearly demonstrate that it is possible to materially increase the yield of wheat throughout the country."

Prof. Christie then told how 288 farmers in Indiana grew five acres of wheat each last year, from which an average yield of 72.4 bushels per acre was obtained, or just about double the average yield of the state. The average cost of producing an acre of corn in Indiana is \$19.16 or \$7.10 cents a bushel. The 288 farmers who raised 72.4 bushels per acre did so at an average cost of \$18.02 per acre or 18.6 cents per bushel, showing that the high yields are not only profitable because of the total value but because there is a greater net profit on each bushel produced. Prof. Christie explained the importance and development of the county agent movement throughout the country at considerable length and pointed out how the county agent works in connection with other agencies to bring about better schools, better churches, better roads and recognition of the country's greatest business and industry—agriculture.

## THE NEW AGRICULTURE

Hot Springs, Va., July 13.—The present high cost of living was indicated by the production of food products is not keeping pace with consumption. Today there is but little new agricultural territory to be developed in the United States, and the increase in farm products for the future must come in a large measure from land already under cultivation.

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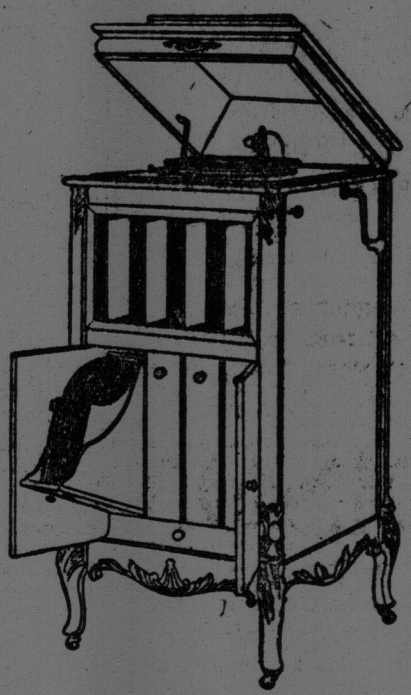
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