

out of the misery of the poorest laborers in the kingdom.

Politics Interferes.

The corporation has made more or less ineffective efforts at various times to improve matters. There has for years been talk of buying up the slum areas, pulling the houses down and erecting modern sanitary dwellings, but nearly every scheme has fallen through because of the difficulty of deciding whether houses should be Unionist or Nationalist. To so ridiculous a pitch has politics been carried in the Irish capital that even the housing of the poor became a party question. One effort was made some years ago when \$200,000 was spent in improving the Foley street area, but the result of that is described by Mr. Pilkington in his evidence.

"The corporation has no more idea of the management of a large estate than the man in the moon," he said. "Foley street is now the worst sink of iniquity in the British Isles and perhaps in all Europe. The money spent there was absolutely wasted."

Sir Lambert Ormsby, one of the city's prominent physicians, declared that there was no use in talking about housing on "profit paying basis while wages remained at the present rate in Dublin. Maximum rent a casual laborer can pay, he said, is fifty cents a week, and he really ought not to pay more than twenty-five cents. Sir Lambert declared, however, that if the state would supply \$250,000 he could find the additional money needed to rehouse Dublin's poor and make a moderate profit.

The hopelessness of the present situation was emphasized by the lord mayor who declared that there was no good pulling down until alternative accommodation was provided.

"If we had 10,000 cottages," he said, "it would enable us to take the owners of the worst tenements by the throat and squeeze them out of existence."

In justice to the corporation it must be said that it is severely handicapped by geographical conditions. The city of Dublin is only the centre of Dublin. Greater Dublin is composed of the city and a ring of suburbs each with its own municipal government. These suburbs are inhabited chiefly by well-to-do persons who work in Dublin, but who contribute little or nothing to the cost of running the city which is the home of the poorer workers and on the profits of whose toll they live. Effort after effort has been made to promote a "greater Dublin" bill in parliament, but they always have been defeated by the black troops in any part of the world where she has her honor or interests to defend.

Stories of their Bravery

Maurice Barres, an eminent writer, academician and deputy, who has done much to popularize France's colonial army, at a recent dinner, related the following anecdotes, illustrating as he expressed it, "the heroism and incomparable abnegation of our black troops."

"Three years ago, at the taking of Kani, on the Ivory Coast, Lieutenant Kamm asked for a man to reconnoitre a stockade which appeared to be abandoned. Trooper Baba Toure was the first to volunteer and started to approach the stockade by creeping through the brushwood. He got quite close, there was no sign of movement. He crept up to the works and stood erect. There was still no sign of life. He was just about to announce the good news when he suddenly caught sight of about twenty of the enemy concealed in a trench. Twenty rifles were levelled at him. He might have saved his life by

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VALUABLE ADJUNCT TO THE FRENCH ARMY

(Continued from page 12).

The next four years. We could, however, in case of need, raise 10,000 extra men in Senegal alone, in a few months."

The writer has the highest authority for saying that France will use her black troops in any part of the world where she has her honor or interests to defend.

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gin's brother was killed at the head of his men, the soldiers' wives opened the cases of cartridges and brought them to their husbands in the firing line. Their timely action saved a general massacre, but a large number of the women were killed."

When Morocco has been completely conquered and pacified by France, she will have another inexhaustible recruiting ground for black troops—one which she cannot afford to neglect if she wishes to have a fighting chance against her aggressive neighbor. There are now, according to the latest statistics, two million French families without children, and five times this number with only one child. By increasing the duration of military service from two years to three, and by reducing the age of enlistment from twenty-one to twenty, the French government has imposed a very heavy burden on the nation. Any further attempt to increase it would lead to a revolution. The development of her colonial army is, therefore, her only way of salvation. Any other policy would be suicidal and it is being vigorously pursued in spite of the impecuniousness of the German press against the use of "savages" in "civilized" warfare.

AGONY OF THE AMAZON

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The Peruvian and Bolivian governments are more directly responsible for this kind of thing. The Brazilian government is the only one that makes any serious attempt to protect the aborigines within its boundaries.

Worse than the Putumayo

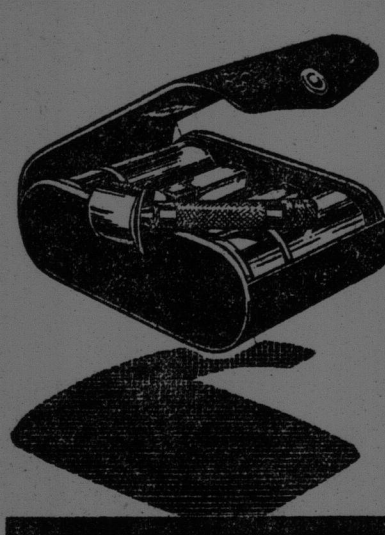
I regard it as far worse than the Putumayo district, for the Indians I speak of are more civilized. Some of the best men among them are probably of high intellectual type, but it is positively impossible for them to get away from the district.

Turning to one passage of the book which he is to publish, Mr. Woodroffe then described how he saw the sale of two young Indian girls. He was on a launch at the time, after being ill for some months in the care of friendly Indians. He said:—

Shortly after embarking on the launch after leaving these Indians we were stopped by signals from a large boat which was being impelled rapidly in our direction. We were boarded by a short, brutal-looking man, apparently a Turk or Syrian. I did not pay any attention to his conversation with our captain, but saw money and goods change hands, apparently in payment for two Indian girls, one about seven years of age and the other about three. I was surprised to find this was so, it being confirmed by the captain, who called me into his cabin to show me his purchases. These consisted of two preserved heads of Indians, a fine box containing skinned and these poor Indian children, all of which he had bought for about \$15.

He seemed fairly well satisfied with his purchases, but expressed the hope that he was not going to lose money by the death of the children had only been taken from the bush a few days, and, owing to their fear, could not be induced to eat.

Day by day they became more emaciated and were eventually sold to the proprietress of a large firm who I



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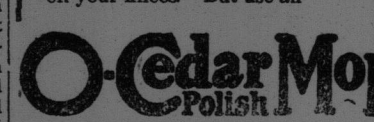
learned made a bad bargain, as the children quickly succumbed, more probably from grief than anything else. These purchases and resales of Indian children are of common occurrence.

There is a person, living fewer than seventy miles from Iquitos who employs more than 500 persons, mostly Cokana Indians, who are, with one or two exceptions, the worst examples of peonage I have encountered. Not only are they obliged to work rubber in the season, but they are obliged to work all the year at anything and everything required of them without any remuneration.

They are debilitated by everything purchased by them, even to rent of canoes and other tools and necessities required by them to carry out their work; but they receive credit only occasionally for a proportion of the rubber or dried fish, vegetables, etc., they have brought in. These unfortunates were in debt to the extent of about \$100 and even more after being in their employers' service almost a life time, and they had no effects but what could be got into any ordinary portmanteau.

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THIRTY-SEVEN DIE IN VENDETTA

(Continued from page 12).

or wounded more than one Corrairie at a time.

The Corrairies now set themselves to even things up. Their leaders, Giovanni Corrairie, Onorato Succu, a relative of the Succu in the rival camp, Domenico Moro and Masu took to the mountains outside Orgosola with a vow to slaughter ever person who bore the Cosu name, or was in any way connected with the Cosus. Three Cosu partisans were assassinated without the Corrairies getting a chance to retaliate. The Cosus in force made a raid into the mountains but failed to find any Corrairies. After this a cow-herd, Carotta Succu, employed by the Cosus, was shot dead in his cabin. His thirteen-year-old sister was found lying beside him with ten bullets in her body, but not dead. Then Salvatore Moro, who started to seek vengeance for the Cosus, was next shot and wounded.

At this point exhaustion showed itself. Attempts were made to reconcile the survivors. Both sides gave the same answer. "We will be reconciled when our dead arise." The vendetta started again with the death of Antonio Podda, brother of Epido Podda, who committed the first murder in the vendetta. Antonio was shot dead as he was carrying Easter cakes to the herdsmen in the hills.

All this went on in easy indifference to the law. The authorities in East Sardinia have only a handful of gendarmes. Hence for the first twenty murders there were only three trials. Neither side wanted the help of the authorities. The tradition is that, however much the vendetta factions hate one another, they are united in common hatred of the interfering police. One of the Cosus who had been shot by a Corrairie in the hills refused to help a gendarmery patrol to catch his enemy. "I shall finish him off alone," was his reply.

The authorities next came to the decision that wholesale deportation of the Corrairies from Orgosola was the only solution. They carried off to Nuoro twenty-five Corrairies, including the families of the outlaws in the mountains. They later carried off thirty odd Cosus. The factionists who stayed behind kept quiet. They calculated that the authorities would consider the vendetta at an end, and send back the exiles at Nuoro.

The authorities did not fall into the trap. After three weeks' peace two small Cosu boys, one of them a Succu by name, were kidnapped by the Corrairies. It is believed that they have been butchered. And another Cosu factionist, Antonio Mereu, was murdered within a few minutes' walk of Orgosola town.

The vendetta during the last month has been raging fiercely. The Corrairies in the mountains have done most of the killing. Two Cosuilles, Giuseppe Succu Podda and his brother, Giovanni, together with a hired man, went to San Mical, a town twelve miles from Orgosola, where they breed pigs. They did not return. All three were found dead in the pig-sties, cut almost to pieces. The Corrairies are supposed to have found their victims asleep, to have butchered them and thrown them to the pigs.

That is the last event in the vendetta to date. There has been a lull of three weeks. But experience shows that Orgosola makes up for its lull with a double batch of murders, and the next blood-act is not far off.

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