

GREAT BRITAIN SHOWS FALLING OFF; UNITED STATES FORGES AHEAD

How Great Britain's maritime power has been falling off while that of the United States has pushed steadily ahead is shown by figures of tonnage holdings and ship production of the two nations since the beginning of the war. The calculations given are in gross tons.

TONNAGE HOLDINGS			
	United States	United Kingdom	British Lead
Aug. 1, 1914	1,076,000	19,256,000	18,180,000
Jan. 1, 1915	1,220,000	20,217,000	18,997,000
Jan. 1, 1916	1,429,000	19,776,000	18,347,000
Jan. 1, 1917	1,742,000	18,823,000	17,081,000
Jan. 1, 1918	2,881,000	15,988,000	13,107,000
Jan. 1, 1919	5,275,000	15,750,000	10,475,000
Aug. 1, 1919	7,478,000	16,580,000	9,102,000
Gain or loss	6,402,000	-2,876,000	-9,278,000

SHIP PRODUCTION			
	United States	United Kingdom	British Lead
1914	200,000	1,683,000	1,483,000
1915	177,000	650,000	473,000
1916	504,000	608,000	104,000
1917	997,000	1,162,000	165,000
1918	3,033,000	1,348,000	-1,685,000
1919 (Jan.-Aug.)	2,203,000	630,000	-1,573,000

WAR LOSS OF STOCK HEAVILY HITS FRENCH FARMERS

More Cows Used As Draft
Animals Than Total of
Horses and Oxen.

Though working under many disadvantages, including a shortage of horses and oxen, France is gradually re-establishing a substantial agricultural base as one of the first steps in general reconstruction.

There is a serious need for dairy cattle, and a decided shortage of both sheep and swine. Prices of good breeding stock in all classes of domestic animals are high, in some instances three or four times their value before the war.

The foregoing conditions are described in a report on the livestock, dairy, and meat situation in France received by the Department of Agriculture from its two European representatives, George A. Bell of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and Turner Wright of the Bureau of Markets. These men are jointly studying live stock in Europe, so that the United States Department of Agriculture and farmers in this country may keep closely in touch with international developments in supply and demand.

According to the report, the general policy of the French Government is to encourage the re-establishment and building up of French industries. This policy necessarily discourages impor-

tations from foreign countries and is aimed to maintain the exchange value of the franc. But at least until its agricultural resources are greatly improved France will import meat and dairy products and a considerable number of live animals.

Observations of the department representatives in France include many facts of interest to producers of live stock and dairy products in the United States.

Cattle, both oxen and cows, are being used extensively for work purposes, especially in the central and southern sections. In one district the number of cows used for work was twice as great as the number of both oxen and horses. The cows work in yokes, and those used for hauling are used also for breeding purposes. In many instances they are also milked.

There is a general shortage of horses, power for farm work, but army horses and mules are gradually being sold for civilian purposes, and it is estimated that eventually about 800,000 will be returned from the various armies. The farm tractor is also being used to a greater extent than before the war.

French farmers already have taken steps to increase the meat and milk supply, as evidenced by the large numbers of young animals seen on many farms visited in various parts of France. A striking feature of the livestock situation was the large number of calves and heifers on farms of peasants as well as on those of the large landowners. Most of the animals were in good flesh. In many sections there is a larger percentage of grass-land than before the war, due chiefly to the shortage of labor necessary to care for cultivating crops. The extra pasture is expected to improve livestock conditions by furnishing

grass for this summer and some of the additional grassland will provide more than the usual amount of hay for winter use. Grain is not fed so extensively to cattle in France as in the United States and consequently does not play such an important part in the production of cattle and dairy products.

The number of sheep in France was decreasing from year to year even before the war, and during the last five years the number fell from about 16,000,000 to 9,600,000. This average decline of more than a million sheep a year is about four times as fast as in previous years.

The slaughter of sheep at a principal abattoir in Paris was less in 1918 than in 1917, however, and the available figures for 1919 show that the slaughter this year is only about half that of last year. Such a condition indicates either that farmers are holding their sheep, notwithstanding the prevailing high prices, or else that flocks are nearly exhausted. The latter conclusion, however, is improbable, since the last estimate, in June, 1918, gave the total as about 9,600,000.

The decrease in the number of swine during the first two years of the war became more gradual after 1916, and now apparently has stopped. A continuation of present high prices, combined with good grain and potato crops, according to the report, would stimulate production of swine.

Hogs at market and also on farms were thinner in flesh than most hogs usually seen in the United States. The hogs of France are of a bacon type, since fat hogs do not meet the popular demand, yet it appears that pork production has been handicapped through shortage of grain and potatoes.

Shortage of the feed also has caused the marketing of pigs at a lighter weight than usual. As in the case of sheep, the slaughter of hogs this year is considerably less than for the corresponding period of 1918, indicating that farmers are holding up their herds.

Although casual observation in many parts of France indicates that the number of chickens per capita was at least as great as in the United States, there was a general complaint of scarcity. Dressed chickens of average size were retailing in the spring at prices equivalent in American currency to about \$1 apiece, and eggs from 70 cents to more than \$1 a dozen.

Avoid from a few necessary regulations, such as a health certificate, importations of live stock are reasonably free from official restriction. Horses, cattle, sheep, and swine are now admitted to France without tax, and private citizens are allowed to make importations. The Ministry of Agriculture, the report states, realizes the need for live stock and live stock products, and it is believed that only the regulations necessary to guard against disease will be made.

The French government is giving assistance in importing several thousand head of cattle which were to be obtained from the United States, Canada, and Switzerland, according to the plans at the time of the report. Importations of sheep and swine may occur to a slight extent, but the tendency will be rather to import the meat, fat, and wool.

Although the condensed milk industry in France during the war was used largely for army consumption, there has been a noticeable increase lately in the number of stores selling it and home serving it. From all indications France will continue to import large quantities of condensed milk

until the supply of fresh milk has increased materially.

"The large number of yearlings and two-year-old heifers seen on our visits to farms in different parts of France," the report states, "would indicate that with favorable conditions the production of milk should approach something like the prewar basis within the next two years."

ARE THEY SNOBS?

Australian Makes Few Cautious Criticisms of the Staid Britisher.

(By W. Harold Thomson in London Express.)

On the eve of sailing for his home as an Australian soldier—the cousin of a friend of mine in Sydney—called on the reporter, and we had much talk. He was a cheery, frank-natured fellow, and when we had discussed his birth-place and his relatives and the latest shows in London, I asked him to give me his impression of so much of Britain and the British as he had seen.

His compliments were so many and so varied and obviously so genuine that I was constrained to say:—

"But bless you, man, we must have some faults in your eyes; honestly, we have plenty in our own. Now tell me—what annoys you most about us?"

He was rather inclined to hum and haw; but at last he said:—

"Well, I'd say that the worst thing about the ordinary English man and woman is snobbishness."

"At first I used to get annoyed, and then, later on, it sort of amused me to study the thing. Now, of course, I'm used to it, and I take hardly any notice. But you are snobs all right."

"You are everywhere," he said.

"In the streets, in hotels and boarding houses and private houses, in trains

and tubes and omnibuses—even in your churches."

"The first-class passenger doesn't want to be half-fellow-well-met with the third-class passenger; the man or woman who punches at an A.B.C. won't mention the fact to the person who they happen to know has just come from the Savoy; the woman who is well enough off to keep three servants feels mighty good when she's chatting to the woman who can only afford to keep one; the man who smokes cheap Virginia cigarettes is almost afraid to bring out a packet when some one else produces a case filled with expensive Egyptians."

"These are just a few everyday instances—but, yes, I think that the worst thing about you is your snobbishness. It's so silly, too."

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MILITARY CLERK IS NOW WA

W. D. Stearns of Pay Office
Cheques—Seven Retirees
Lars—If Entire Number
Away With About

The local military pay office mourning the absence of one of its clerks and some of the funds which should be to the credit of their accounts in the Bank of Montreal. A warrant has been issued for the clerk, who if caught will be liable to a charge of forgery.

The man who is missing and is reported of forging several cheques and on the pay roll as W. D. Stearns, although it is believed this is not his real name. The last seen of him at the pay office was on Monday morning when he was reported to have been seen at the depot. The man who was seen at the depot was seen at the depot and his last appearance in the city, so far as could be ascertained yesterday was on Monday evening at the depot.

The number of cheques missing was twenty-eight and of this number twenty-eight had already been returned to the office. They were all in the name of Stearns, and were all for the same amount, being written on the back of the cheques, "W. D. Stearns, pay to the order of W. D. Stearns, \$100.00." The cheques were made payable to Stearns, and the others to W. D. Stearns. The cheques were so far returned as to be cashed, and the whole twenty-eight cheques had been cashed and all for the same amount, being the larger of \$100.00.

Stearns' boarding house by the military authorities, and the information that he had been intended going to Boston yesterday morning, but he had not returned on Monday night and they did not know anything of his whereabouts. It was said that on Monday night, when the cheques were cashed, the man who was seen at the depot was seen at the depot and his last appearance in the city, so far as could be ascertained yesterday was on Monday evening at the depot.

Military officials stated that he was enlisted with the 25th Nova Scotia Battalion under the name of W. D. Stearns, and one of his fellow workers said Stearns had told him that Stearns had \$20 to his credit in the Bank of Montreal in London, and that name in April of the present year he was taken on here under the name of Stearns.

So far as could be ascertained yesterday the cheques had been taken from the bank and the man who was seen at the depot was seen at the depot and his last appearance in the city, so far as could be ascertained yesterday was on Monday evening at the depot.

The case has been handed over to the local police department who are making a description of the man but up to a late hour last night had not heard of his capture.

Use Coconut Oil For Washing Hair

If you want to keep your hair in good condition, be careful what you wash it with.

Don't use prepared shampoos, anything else, that contains too much alkali. This dries the scalp, makes the hair brittle, and is very harmful. Just plain, unperfumed coconut oil (which is pure and entirely greaseless), is much better than anything else you can use for shampooing. This can't possibly injure the hair. Simply moisten your hair with water and rub it in. One or two spoonfuls will make an abundance of rich, creamy lather, and cleanses the hair and scalp thoroughly. The lather rinses out easily, and removes every particle of dust, dirt, dandruff or excessive oil. The hair dries quickly and evenly, and it leaves it fine, silky, bright, fluffy and easy to manage.

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