

# FRENCH HAS DONE WONDERFUL WORK

IDOL OF FRANCE AFTER  
10 YEARS OF WARFARE.

Have Given Up Trying to  
Have Any Influence  
On Him.

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a live news issue, writes  
Albert Goss from Paris. Some  
of columns he's been printed  
in, most of which were printed  
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but that he has been, ex-  
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The effects of the war will  
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life in England and the United  
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on foreign commerce for four-  
ths of their food supply, barring  
that of which between 67 and 70 per  
cent is produced at home, says an  
Associated Press correspondent.

The motto of a few years ago  
was "back to the land," thus has given  
way to the slogan, "England must  
feed herself." Lord Selborne, at  
the head of the crusade, declares that  
the attainment of this object is the  
country's sacred duty, and he emphasizes  
the point that the farmer can  
do much for the country as the soldier  
in the trenches.

Pans for the great reform include  
a number of important measures that  
are to be put into effect at the earliest  
possible moment.

Land for Soldiers.

The repopulation of the rural  
districts after reparation. The War  
Office has just consented to the ex-  
change of many of the older men,  
in the earlier days of the war,  
for farm work for the firing line,  
between 19 and 30 to take  
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The setting aside of thousands  
of acres for the settlement on the  
coastal plan of England's soldiers  
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during the remainder of the war,  
though many objections have been  
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likelihood of its being adopted.

Immediate Solution.

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growing larger crops, illustrated by  
the figures of the wheat, barley and  
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Wheat and oats were grown in large  
quantities, though the barley crops  
were much smaller. There were 5,626  
acres devoted to the three cereals  
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1914, an increase of 248,044 acres  
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wheat, 2,170,150 acres in all, the  
representing an increase of  
262,262 acres, or 26 percent greater  
than in 1913. Every country  
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Wales of 1,123 acres (31 per cent.)

being the greatest.

Ready Response.

The returns for 1915 give 2,088,047  
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men and women from the villages and  
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The spirit of the people here is  
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German Parsons.

German Church, like every  
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for their daily bread. The  
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## "BACK TO LAND" IN GREAT BRITAIN

REVIVAL OF AGRICULTURE IN  
OLD LAND.

Population of the Rural Districts  
Has Already Begun.

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# A Great Opportunity

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## RUSSIA IN THE SUMMER TIME

### VERY MUCH HOTTER THAN IT IS IN ENGLAND.

Russians All Live Free-and-Easy Outdoor Lives in Warm Weather.

I suppose it will surprise many people to learn that Russia has a hot summer, hotter than the usual summer in England, more sunshine, bluer skies. It is this which explains the rush of tourists every end of May to the country writes Hamilton Fyfe from Petrograd.

They will not stay in the towns. They say it is unhealthy. They speak as if all the plagues raged during the hot weather which is not, you must understand, as hot as that! Still,

Moscow is detectably dusty and the Petrograd canals smell worse than usual; and for all reasons it is pleasant to be in the country. So go all who care to their "datchas" (summer homes) to enjoy the sunshine and the clear sky and the soft, warm airs, that are blown from the sunbaked south.

It takes a long time to get rid of winter. Well into April, sometimes into May, he keeps his grip on the rivers, the earth is still under snow.

Gradually the snow melts, the ice breaks up and floats away. The dark earth appears and very quickly looks as if it had been lightly dusted over with a green powder. It recovers quickly, for the snow has kept it warm. The trees are not so soon themselves again. They have been exposed to the cruel winds, the savage, silent, paralyzing frosts. For a month after winter has gone they are black and bare. Life comes back to them only when they have been well warmed by the sun. Last year they were not in leaf until June.

Much Outdoor Life.

There is a passion in the summer here. One only feels this in countries which have a long, hard winter. The earth seems to rejoice in its freedom.

There is a luxuriance of growth which is scarcely known in England, a sudden rush of life, a glory of light and warmth and splendor. Ask any Russian living abroad what he most misses and he will tell you "The White Nights." All through June, with a little overlapping on either side of it, sunset and sunrise are so near together that there is no darkness. Last night I was sitting out of doors reading at eleven o'clock. We dine at half-past eight, and after strolling about the garden, or watching the after-glow flame in the sky and reflect its glory in the Gulf of Finland, we say, "It must be getting late." Someone looks at a watch. It is midnight! Who could have guessed it? We go reluctantly to bed, our rooms quite light still, until with hesi-

tation hand we draw curtains over the windows. It seems a shame to shut out those wonderful "White Nights."

It is a happy life, that of the Russian "datchnik" ("datcha" dweller).

Very simple and primitive, utterly different from English country-house life. To begin with, "datches" as a rule are wooden houses, only meant for summer habitation. All winter most of them stand empty. When they are to be occupied again servants go down, light fires, clean them up. Then the furniture is sent by road, piled up on carts. Not too much of it. Just enough for comfort. Appearances are not considered.

No Formality.

There is no state or ceremony. One lives out of doors as much as possible or on glassed-in balconies which are often one slight remove from the open air. Outside every "datcha" is set benches, both in the garden, if there is one, and in the road. Upon these it is customary to sit and talk for hours. Dress is sketchy, and often scanty. Meals are at odd times, and some flowers for your wife?" Wrong again! I am not married." "Well, then, give her!" exclaimed the resourceful hawker. "Buy some flowers for your wife?" Wrong again!

Remodeling of the ranger service so as to give real protection to the forest wealth of the province and supply a fair return in service rendered for the money spent thereon. Ontario's system is recognized generally as out-of-date and inefficient.

Employment of inspectors in the ratio of at least one inspector to

the number of rangers, so as to get the maximum degree of actual forest protection.

Over an area of 10 million acres of timber lands under license, Ontario has just eight supervisors, each being required to manage, on an average, 38 men, an impossible task.

Sufficient rangers must be provided to competently patrol the Claydon region, most of which is now under tree growth, and these rangers must have authority to control the burning operations of settlers so that holocausts, such as that of recent date, shall have less opportunity to recur.

Most English people, accustomed to the formality and state of our country houses (delightful also in their way), would be revolted by the "go-as-you-please" life of the "datcha".

But it is of a piece with everything else. With the wild gardens, growing as they please, letting nature be their gardener. With the sergeants so smiling and friendly and cheerful, but, judged by our standards, so incompetent. With the free-and-easy manners of the "datchnik", determined to make their summer as complete a contrast as possible to their winter existence in town. From September to May they live in almost hermetically sealed houses. They take no exercise, breathe as little fresh air as they can. Their complexions grow wax-like, their eyes dull. From May till August they get as near nature as they can. Instantly their appearance alters. They look healthy and strong. They feel vigorous and normal. All the result of fresh air.

BUSH FIRES IN ONTARIO.

What the Canadian Forestry Association Says About Them.

The frightful loss of life and property from forest fires in Northern Ontario need not be accepted by the people of the province as wholly due to unavoidable causes. Evidence thus far received indicates that the huge conflagration had its beginning in "slash" fires started by settlers for the purpose of clearing their lands.

For many years the settlers' fires during excessively hot

weather have been increasing, largely for the reason that no machinery of any sort existed whereby the settler's so-called "liberty" of burning down

lives and property could be curtailed.

Investigation shows that both in Ontario and Quebec, the settler and not the railways primarily, must shoulder a very large part of the responsibility for annual forest fires.

Thence arose the once universal custom of settling a "datcha" with

"God bless you!" or "May you live long!" The custom still obtains in some parts of the Continent.

England not only was a sneezer

blessed, but friends raised their hats to him as well. In an old book, "The Code of Conduct," it was directed that if his lordship sneezes ye are not to howl out "God bless you!" but bow to him handsomely.

All over the world the sneeze was recognized. Whole nations were under obligation to make exclamations when their king sneezed.

Sneezing was believed to be a sure cure for hiccough, and was also looked upon as a sign of sanity. If an ancient and universal belief goes for anything, it is good to sneeze.

Shape Didn't Matter.

Butcher—Will you have a round steak, ma'am?

Mrs. Youngbridge—I don't care what shape it is so it's tender.

## POSTUM