

GREATEST MIMIC WARS

The Kaiser Manoeuvres That Show Germany's Power.

A PREPARATORY WORK

Fondness of the Emperor for Display Not Always a Help—How the Reserves Are Called Out—Equipment—Novel Aids to the Army—One Will; My Will.

Every one knows the German Emperor is master of 5,000,000 fighting men—a vast army keyed to an amazing pitch of perfection, and selected from a whole empire in arms.

At the same time it is erroneous to suppose the Kaiser himself works out the scheme of the manoeuvres or that he retains supreme command.

The Emperor's functions are those of a supreme umpire-in-chief, who passes final verdict on the performance of all troops and criticises defects with merciless severity.

The great September operations are known as the Kaiser manoeuvres, because the emperor always supervises them in person as Commander-in-Chief of the army.

The march to the railroad station, the actual entraining and the second march from the terminus to the appointed camp are all done with mathematical precision; for it is the boast of Germany that she can place a completely equipped army of half a million men on any frontier within twenty-four hours.

When the right time comes these canvas squares are buttoned together, the peg stuck in the ground, and the sticks joined up to form the ridge poles. Then when a couple of dozen pieces have been deducted for officers and non-coms, the men creep into what is left and steepled like sardines.

The hour of reveille varies between midnight and 5 in the morning. If there is time the regiment will boil its coffee, but if not every man munches his bit of schwarzbrod contentedly and marches off.

At the close of each day's operations the Kaiser summons his principal officers around him and delivers to them a lecture on the lessons and warnings to be gained from the day's experience.

On certain occasions, however, when the Kaiser has had entire command of an army of his own, he has suffered crushing defeat, despite his absolute mastery of strategy and tactics.

All agreed that for blind obedience to orders and unflinching courage the German soldier is unsurpassed. He cannot think for himself, however. He obeys a command mechanically, but is unable to vary it an inch through his dependence on it.

Revenue From Signs. New York State will derive revenue from large electric signs by taxing those larger than 32 square feet. Exceptions are made in the case of hotels, here the name of the house merely appears without any other sign.

OUR THIRST FOR ALCOHOL

Startling Figures Presented By the Statistical Gatherers.

For the hundred thousandth time the other day somebody worried a batch of statistics out of the census reports about the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the United States. Such statistics are always welcomed because they massage to be spectacular with less effort than any others.

Grave forebodings have been awakened by these revelations. One writer even asks whether socialism, anarchy and labor disputes are not growing and spreading on account of the increased consumption of strong drink.

The letter is probably the correct explanation. The majority of immigrants look upon the wine when it is red, white or any other color, and they fear it less than drinking water. By thousands of them beer or wine is used as a substitute for water, just as in Central and southern Europe.

The truth is that the poor man's beer "has reached its high water mark," as the statistician says, but in a very different sense from the intended one. The poor man can drink a gallon or more daily because what he drinks is chiefly water.

The economy, convenience and other good features of the automobile buckboard are gradually making themselves manifest and this type of machine is forcing itself to the front despite the prejudice which was apparent from the first, because of the exposed mechanism.

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\$15,000,000 PEANUT CROP

Rise of the Goober Since The Civil War.

BROUGHT FROM BRAZIL

Once Held to Be of Little Account—Now Recognized as a Valuable Food for Man and Beast—Useful Also for Enriching the Soil—Gives Many People a Living.

Before the civil war the Virginian who had a cow or a horse or even poultry and worked a vegetable garden, however small, gave a corner of his lot to the raising of the goober pea, known to the outside world as the peanut and to science as arachis hypogea.

During the war the Union forces captured a mail bag in which among other letters was one from a Confederate officer to a Virginia girl. It contained some information of value about the movement of troops, and also said:

It is plain we are congenial souls, for I, too, am fond of the despised goober. From this it is inferred that the liking for the peanut fifty years ago was not general even in the South. A few persons ate it, but without roasting.

At that time it was by no means a common field crop in the Old Dominion and no one thought of it as a source of revenue. Accident revealed its value as a means of enriching the soil.

However it may be with man, tobacco is bad for the soil, quickly exhausting its nitrogenous element. In the few years immediately following the war the impoverished Virginian planter raised all the tobacco he could and soon this crop hardly paid for the work it required.

The value of the peanut crop in the United States exceeds \$15,000,000. It reaches about 40,000,000 pounds and nearly half a million persons are employed in its cultivation. Some 400,000 acres of land is devoted to its culture for market purposes.

Said a market gardener: "The peanut will grow on soil that cannot be used for anything else and if properly gathered and carefully marketed it will yield \$100 to the acre. The weeds must be kept out and a little lime is needed to keep off bugs, and that is about all the attention it calls for."

The scientists of the Department of Agriculture at Washington commended the peanut as a nutritious and wholesome food for man and beast. To the former it supplies protein and ash materials and to the animals of the farm it is particularly valuable in combination with corn and other carbonaceous foods, both for young and growing stock.

As an improver of the soil it is chief virtue is that it does not consume the nitrogen of the soil, the rapid exhaustion of which, together with slow production by natural processes, has led to melancholy forebodings by chemists. The tubercles of the roots collect nitrogen from the air and feed it to the plant without impoverishing the land.

An enthusiast on the subject of the peanut, one of the prominent planters of Virginia, says: "It is one of the safest and surest of Virginia products. It is rare that it falls below 900 pounds to the acre and there is always a ready market for it at paying prices, either to supply the demand of the cities or as fodder."

"You may be surprised to learn its many uses merely for home consumption. Its history is much like that of the cotton plant. 'You know the cotton grower once found the seeds a nuisance and an expense, while now the profits from the seeds and other parts of the plant exceed those from the cotton itself. Every man who has a garden down here grows peanuts, some of which he may sell and some of which his family will eat. For every other part of the plant he has a use. It will feed his cow or his horse, fatten his hogs, chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese and enrich his garden."

"You see, the planter who does not give his time and labor to harvesting his crop for the market, and you know labor is mighty uncertain in the South, may get about as much profit out of it by converting it into meat by simply feeding it to any kind of stock that sells readily. Every living thing likes peanuts, and the stock prefers nuts and vices to hay or fodder."—New York Sun.

NAPOLEON'S GENERALS.

Story of Marshal Lefebvre—Lannes Challenge to His Men.

Probably no men who ever bore arms faced greater or more frequently recurring personal perils than the children of the French Republic, who, by the will of their old comrade Napoleon Bonaparte, were transformed into bulwarks of his Empire as Marshals of France.

Whatever was the variety of their merit as scientific soldiers, whatever may have been their individual failings, unscrupulousness, jealousy and rapacity, there has never been any question, says the Cornhill Magazine, that they were fighting men to the backbone, that their courage was at all times without hesitation, and that they had no faintest hesitation in placing themselves in extremity of danger whenever it was necessary to lead and show an example of resolution to the men under their command.

A story is told of Marshal Lefebvre, Duke of Dantzig, which illustrates his own sense of the qualities that had made him what he was. He was vexed at the tone of envy and unkindness with which a companion of his childhood, who met him in his prosperity, spoke of his riches, titles and luxury, and said in reply: "Well now you shall have it all but at the price which I have paid for it. We will go into the garden and I will fire a musket at you 50 times, and then if you are not killed everything shall be yours."

Indeed, the trial which Lefebvre proposed to his friend was in the least an exaggeration of the circumstances which every marshal had passed through in his early days, when he was a subaltern and was bringing himself to notice; circumstances, too, which might well again present themselves to him in any campaign, even after he had attained the highest rank.

At Eylau Augereau escaped death by a marvelous turn of fortune, for his corps, though it held its ground, was reduced from 15,000 to 3,000, all his staff were either killed or wounded and he himself, wounded more than once, had his uniform rent with bullets.

At Zurich Massena was in the hottest part of the fight keeping his hand upon the pulse of the battle where it throbbed with greatest emphasis. Every one knows of Marshal Ney's heroic conduct during the retreat from Moscow, how he took a musket in his hand and fought as the last man in the rear guard saving as was acknowledged, 40,000 lives.

At Ratibon, after the first and second attacks on the fortifications had failed with scathing loss, and to attempt the task again seemed to involve such certain destruction to the stormers that the men would not undertake it, Marshal Lannes cried: "Come I am going to show you that I was a grenadier before I became a Marshal, and that I am one still," seized a scaling ladder and began to carry it to the breach, thereby stirring up a wave of enthusiasm which at once carried the French columns forward to a great success.

Where It is Hottest.

Perhaps the hottest region on earth is that along the Persian Gulf. Little or no rain falls there, and the scorching sun, which beats down from early morning to late in the evening, makes living almost a torture.

At Bahrein the arid shore has no fresh water, and the people who live there have a novel means of obtaining drinking water. At the bottom of the sea near the shore are many fresh springs. The water is got by diving. The diver winds a large goat skin bag round his left arm, the hand keeping the mouth of the bag closed. Then he takes in his right hand a heavy stone, which is fastened a long rope. Thus equipped, he plunges in, and, sinking to the bottom, fills the bag with fresh water. He then releases his hold on the stone and returns to the surface. The stone is hauled up by the rope, and after the water has settled again he dives and fills another bag.

The sources of the springs is supposed to be the hills of Osman, which are several hundred miles away.

When Debtors Were Imprisoned.

In nearly every country, until comparatively recent times, debtors have been subject to imprisonment. After the panic of 1825, one hundred and one thousand writs for debt were issued in England. In 1830 seven thousand persons were sent to London prisons for debt, and on January 1, 1840, seventeen hundred persons were held for debt in England and Wales, one thousand in Ireland, and less than one hundred in Scotland. From time to time modifications in the laws governing the imprisonment of debtors have been made, so that fewer debtors are imprisoned for this crime each year.

In 1829 there were three thousand debtors in prison in Massachusetts, ten thousand in New York, seven thousand in Pennsylvania, three thousand in Maryland, and a like proportion in other states.

If you think you are in hard luck, think of the humans who live on the east side of New York.

HETTY GREEN'S AMBITION.

Desires to Make Her Son the Richest Man in America.

"I have been more abused and misrepresented than any other woman alive. Periodical attempts have been made to have me declared insane, and for more than 40 years I have had to fight every inch of the way," says Mrs. Hetty Green, the richest woman in the world.

One of the first indications that Mrs. Green was not as much interested in her business as formerly was at the time of the removal of the Chemical National Bank from the old to its new building. In the old building Mrs. Green, who is one of



MRS. HETTY GREEN.

the largest stockholders, was given a private office rent free and there she transacted most of her business.

There it was she built up her immense fortune from the original \$9,000,000 left her through the will of her father, Ben Howland of New Bedford. Almost every day found her at this office in the old building, and it was there she gave her son his first insight into the financial secrets that swayed Wall street and brought him up to care for the immense fortune that would some day be his.

But when the bank established its quarters in the new building no special provisions were made for Mrs. Green, who has since been conducting her business in the handsome quarters provided for all women stockholders and depositors on the first floor.

Since the day, she was ousted from her private office, however, Mrs. Green has seldom been in personal attendance at the bank, although all her financial transactions are still done through that institution.

For some time past the only big transaction involving the Green interests has been the launching of the Cash Oil Company of Dallas, Texas. The charter of this company was taken up by Mrs. Green's son. This company is in possession of over 10,000 acres of land in Hunt county where unusual petroleum deposits have recently been discovered.

Another inducement said to have brought about a change in the action recently taken by the heirs of Captain F. B. Howland of San Francisco who was a cousin of Mrs. Green. On his death bed Captain Howland called his children to his side and told them of provisions that had been made in the will of Ben Howland; the father of Hetty Green, by which it was provided that his money should stay in the family and that at the death of his daughter, Hetty, it should be divided in proportion provided by law among his heirs.

Hetty Green has always been filled with the desire of making her son the richest man in America, a thing she could not do if any part of her capital became disintegrated.

Thus it happens that she has added interest in keeping alive as long as possible so that no part of the original fortune or old Ben Howland will be divided among his heirs.

If she lives many years longer, her son with the immense amount of backing he already possesses may fulfil the hopes of his mother.

Caught at His Own Game.

A certain well known bank in Buenos Ayres has reason to be very grateful to a clerk in its employ. At 2 o'clock one day a well dressed prosperous looking man came in and, presenting a letter of introduction, opened an account with \$9,000. Just before the bank closed the same man rushed in again in a tremendous hurry. He had been cabled for to go to New York. He must catch a boat first thing in the morning and must therefore draw out all his money.

The clerk paid him—in his own notes, all of which were clever forgeries.

Paderewski's Hobbies.

Everyone that has been privileged to taste the great Pole's hospitality declares that he is as distinguished as a host as he is as a pianist. At his ideally situated Swiss home he practices six hours a day regularly, with unremitting enthusiasm. His leisure time is devoted for the most part to composing; he is now finishing off his symphony, which will be introduced on his coming tour. Apart from music his three hobbies are whist, billiards and farm stock.

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