

French Progress Toward Reconstruction Is Amazing

Work Done in Five Years Toward Reconstruction of Devastated Areas Is Monument to French Thrift and Revelation of French Spirit

By DAVID LAWRENCE
Copyright 1923 by The Daily Advance

Paris, July 16.—When Woodrow Wilson stepped off the train in Paris five years ago the first man who met him was Raymond Poincare, then president of France and now its premier.

The first words that M. Poincare whispered in Mr. Wilson's ear were a plea that the President of the United States should visit the devastated regions of France. Mr. Wilson did not accept the invitation and the French were very much hurt. He did go many weeks later after the bulk of the work on the treaty of Versailles had been completed. Had he gone sooner there might have been less wrangling at the conference and the whole course of European history might have been changed.

So the first thing that anyone who wishes to study the European situation ought to do is to examine the physical aspects of France's problem. It was nearly five years ago when the writer last saw the battle fields with the ruins of cities and villages. The changes that have taken place since then are so heartening that the average American will not realize what has been done unless he saw the destruction when the guns ceased booming on the Western front.

The process has been gradual and only when some one makes a comparison based on France today and France five years ago can the progress be measured satisfactorily.

For France is rebuilding and is making a splendid job of it. Even the Cathedral of Rheims which one might have believed had been damaged beyond repair, is being restored rapidly. Hopeless ruins with piles upon piles of debris which the visitor saw five years ago, have been replaced with thousands of new houses and buildings. The old foundations have been utilized and here and there portions of the original wall remained so that the patch work can be discerned even through coats of paint.

When the writer saw Rheims after the German evacuation hardly a single house remained intact. The same was true of Soissons, for example, and other cities and villages where shell fire had been incessant. To look around today is a revelation indeed of the French spirit. The business sections of the cities have been almost entirely rebuilt and rows of roofless ruins are the exception rather than the rule.

Even in the fields picturesque patches of diversified farming are rapidly overspreading the landscape once burrowed with trench systems and shell holes. The sunshine of peace has seemed to cast a halo of glory on yesterday's battle fields. Here and there a ploughman still turns up a hand grenade or a bomb or perhaps the body of an unknown poilu asleep these five years as the world moves onward, but the aspect of war is passing out of the picture and in its place is the work of reconstruction that speaks eloquently of French initiative.

The embattled areas still remain, of course, as they were left five years ago. These were regions where habitations were few as, for instance, outside of Verdun. From these the sightseer will always be able to get some idea of what the war was like. The famous bayonet trench at Verdun attracts every year thousands who need only to gaze a moment on the fourteen bayonets sticking out of the ground in order to realize how often soldiers in the trenches were buried alive by shell fire. The French will preserve this trench as a memorial to the heroism of the men who were killed as they

and then the meeting will be turned over to special trips about the experiment station grounds and demonstrations on the grounds by the scientists of the State College and Department of Agriculture. One feature will be an exhibit of handling all forms of livestock. The work with field crops at the station will be shown by the results of tests of experiments conducted on the farm and will be handled by members of the agronomy division of the State Department of Agriculture.

The first prize in the "barnyard golf" contest will be a nickel-plated set of horse shoes, with a jappanned pair going to the winner of second place. The oldest man at the picnic will be given a box of choice cigars and the oldest woman a comfortable rocking chair. The most beautiful girl present will receive a dressing table.

According to Secretary R. W. Graeber, the meeting will be one of the largest gatherings of farmers in North Carolina this year. Special arrangements have been made for taking a moving picture of the occasion to be released throughout the South.

RETURNS FROM MEETING JUNIOR ORDER COUNCIL
J. E. Corbett has returned from a meeting of the Junior Order Council, Number 7, at Knott's Island, and reports that he passed through territory in Virginia where as yet practically no rain has fallen since the June drouth.

MRS VANWICK IS MOST GRATEFUL

Says She Won't Have Any Other Tonic in Her House But Stella Vitae

"I consider Stella Vitae the best all-round tonic in the world and won't have any other kind in my house," said Mrs. Maria Vanwick, Wallhalla, S. C.

"My complaint was painful and delayed menstruation. At the time of my periods my head ached like it would burst and my back was weak and hurt so I could hardly stoop over and straighten up again."

"A few bottles of Stella Vitae put me right and I am now feeling better than I have in many years. I have tried all kinds of tonics and other preparations and Stella Vitae is the only one that stood the test and proved out all right."

Stella Vitae may be obtained from any druggist and the purchase price will be refunded if it fails to bring relief. adv.

Barnyard Golf Is Annual Picnic Sport

Instruction Along Farming Lines Also Feature of Statesville Event

Statesville, July 17.—Amusement and instruction from a horse shoe pitching contest to addresses by Dean B. W. Kilgore of the North Carolina Experiment Station and Extension Service and President E. C. Brooks of the State College, will feature the annual picnic to be held at the Piedmont Branch Station farm near here on July 19. A special program for both the men and women attending this picnic has been prepared by F. T. Meacham, general chairman, and R. W. Graeber, secretary. Franklin Sherman will make a talk about the boll weevil and R. W. Scott of Haw River will talk on "Home Life" and Allen G. Oliver will tell about the "American Hen."

Aside from these main addresses there will be an address of welcome with responses from local farmers

were about to go over the top and who remain standing below ground in exactly the same position as they occupied when the fatal shell entombed them. The trench will ever remain as a symbol of modern warfare and a terrible picture of what the war really meant to the French. America has been three thousand miles from the French in spirit as well as distance since the war but the French people are near enough to Verdun to worry about a repetition of 1870 and 1914 when they want reparations from Germany for damage done, when they talk of security against another invasion. Their economies may not conform to those of the rest of the world but their mood is still one of vivid war recollections. That is why the student of French policy must start with the battle fields in order to understand the diplomatic problems of Europe today and to penetrate the future of European reconstruction.

Chambers FIRELESS Gas Range

COOKS with the GAS TURNED OFF!

Insulated Oven and Hood seal the heat for hours

Cuts gas bills in half.

Cooks better food.

Saves time and labor.

Let us demonstrate.

M. G. Morrisette & Co.

After all it's EXPERIENCE that counts

ONE of our refineries makes nearly 200 different lubricants for various industries. If mechanical conditions in all motors and bearings were identical we could satisfy every need with one instead of 200. You would easily learn to tell good quality from bad. It would then be safe to say, "Give me a quart of oil," because almost everybody would make it good.

But requirements in automobile lubrication alone vary so much that it takes long experience and constant study to produce high-quality, dependable oils that insure absolute motor protection. We have had that experience. Polarine is the best oil we can conceive of for motor car lubrication. It is kept up to the minute by every chemical, physical or mechanical test known to science. It will pay you to be guided by the Polarine chart.

The Polarine Chart recommends a certain consistency of Polarine for your motor. Consult it at your dealer's.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY (New Jersey)



Say "Polarine"—not just a "quart of oil"

Special Prices — ON — STRAWS

We are cutting the price on all Straws, including Panamas, Leg-horns and Bankoks. Call early and get your size.

- \$6.50 Hats \$4.75
- \$6.00 Hats \$4.50
- \$5.00 Hats \$3.75
- \$4.00 Hats \$2.95
- \$3.50 Hats \$2.50
- \$3.00 Hats \$2.25
- \$2.50 Hats \$1.75

Weeks & Sawyer

Life's Three Great Hazards: Destitute Old Age: Loss Of Earning Ability: Death

AT AGE 65:

Of 100 average men starting at age 25, thirty-six have died, one is wealthy, four are well-to-do, five live on their earnings, fifty-four are dependent on others for support. (U. S. Statistics).

AN IDEAL PROVISION: ENDOWMENT AT age 65 GUARANTEED SETTLEMENT

If you live to age 65 we will PAY YOU \$10,000
 If you die from ordinary causes we will pay YOUR BENEFICIARY \$10,000
 If you die from accidental causes we will pay YOUR BENEFICIARY \$20,000
 MONTHLY INCOME during your lifetime \$ 100

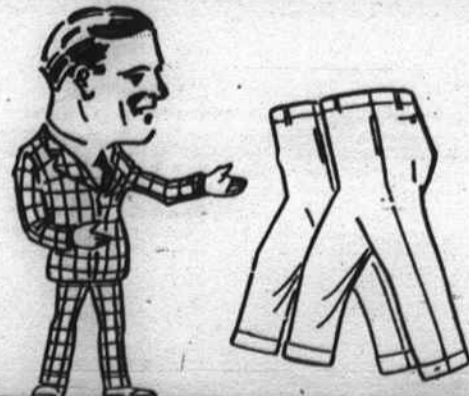
If you become totally and permanently disabled, PRIOR TO AGE 65, we will waive the payment of all future premiums and pay you \$100.00 A MONTH as long as you live and at death, or age 65, pay \$10,000.00 IN CASH, making no deduction from face of policy.

Issued in amounts of \$1,000 to \$100,000. Ordinary life or 20-payment life, participating or non-participating.

JEFFERSON STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE CO.

S. S. Cartwright

Special Agent
420 Hinton Building, Elizabeth City, N. C.



Hello Folks— I'm back in town!
 After a month's investigating in cities of neighboring states— I've found that Elizabeth City has an enviable reputation for fair prices.
 And say— you should see the new suits for men at Spencer-Walker Co. They are wonders in material and price.
 I got my suit there to-day.
 It will pay you to pay them a visit.
 I'll Value

Spencer-Walker Co.

MEN! Don't Miss These MID-SUMMER SPECIALS

Young Men's Tweed Pants, 29 to 36; Special— \$1.75

Straw Hats, values to \$6.00. "The Straw Hat Without a Headache"— \$1.45, \$2.45, \$2.95, \$3.65 \$4.15

Men's and Young Men's Two-Piece Summer Suits, Regular, Stubs, Suits, Sports, 34 to 52— \$3.95, \$10.85, \$15.00, \$16.50, \$18.00

Men's and Young Men's Three-piece Suits, Style and Service— \$13.95 to \$29.50

Men's Dress Shirts with and without collar, full cut, fast colors— \$1.00 to \$3.00

T. T. TURNER & CO.