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FIRST DAILY TO BE PUBLISHED IN SIAM.

VOL. 42. NO. 173

BANGKOK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1916.

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ed to send in changes of adver-
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day they intend the advertise-
ment to appear. Should any
advertisement arrive after that
hour the same will be held over
for the next day.

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No. 400
RUBBER SET.

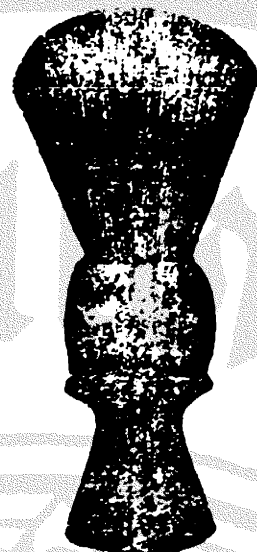
Wonderful value,
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nickel top band.
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Leaves Singapore	Connecting at	Due London
a.m., Friday	Colombo with	
s.s. "Nankin" Aug. 4	s.s. "Malwa" Aug. 28	
" " " " 18	" "Kaiser-i-Hind" Sept. 11	
" " " " 15	" "Mooltan" Sept. 25	
" " " " 15	" "Kashgar" Oct. 9	
" " " " 29	" "Karmala" Nov. 23	
" " " " 13	" "Arabia" Nov. 5	
" " " " 27	" "Morea" Nov. 19	
" " " " 10	" "Medina" Dec. 3	

Intermediate Direct Sailings

s/s "Somali" leaves Singapore about Aug. 23 due London Sept. 30
OUTWARD-1916.

For China.

Due Singapore	Connection with	Leaving London
s/s "Novara" July 9	s/s "Kaiser-i-Hind" June 9	
" " " " 23	" " " " 20	
" " " " 21	" "Kashgar" July 7	
" " " " 21	" " " " 18	
" " " " 3	" "Arabia" Aug. 4	
" " " " 17	" "Morea" Aug. 18	
" " " " 17	" "Medina" Sept. 1	
" " " " 30	" "Mongolia" Sept. 15	
" " " " 13	" "Malwa" Oct. 29	
" " " " 26	" "Mooltan" Oct. 12	

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1916	1916
s.s. Atsuta Maru Aug. 16	s.s. Kitano Maru Oct. 11
s.s. Hitachi Maru Aug. 30	s.s. Fushimi Maru Oct. 25
s.s. Iyo Maru Sept. 13	s.s. Hiran Maru Nov. 8
s.s. Miyazaki Maru Sept. 27	s.s. Kaga Maru Nov. 23
s.s. Kitano Maru Oct. 13	s.s. Katori Maru Oct. 22
s.s. Fushimi Maru Oct. 27	s.s. Kashima Maru Nov. 5
s.s. Hiran Maru Sept. 10	s.s. Mishima Maru Nov. 19
s.s. Kaga Maru Sept. 24	s.s. Suwa Maru Dec. 3
s.s. Kamo Maru Oct. 8	s.s. Atsuta Maru Dec. 17

FOR HONGKONG AND JAPAN.

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1916	1916
s.s. Kanakura Maru Aug. 8	s.s. Shizuoka Maru Oct. 11
s.s. Yokohama Maru Aug. 30	s.s. Kanakura Maru Oct. 31
s.s. Sado Maru Sept. 19	s.s. Yokohama Maru Nov. 22

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1916	1916
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s.s. Tango Maru Sept. 12	s.s. Aki Maru Nov. 14

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m/s "Pangai" ... Arr. about middle of Aug. "

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List of Departures from Bangkok.

s.s.	Departure	1916
"Prachitipok"	22nd	July
"Mahidol"	25th	"
"Asiang"	29th	"
"Yugala"	1st	Aug.
"Boribut"	5th	"
No Departure	8th	"
"Prachitipok"	12th	"
"Mahidol"	15th	"
"Asiang"	19th	"
"Yugala"	22nd	"
"Boribut"	26th	"
No departure	29th	"

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Bangkok, July 1, 1909.

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TERM.—Cash deposit 25/0 on fall of hammer, balance on delivery on Sunday 6th. before noon.

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Bank Bills, demand —
GERMANY—
Bank Bills, demand —
NEW YORK—
Bank Bills, demand U.S.A. 36
INDIA—
Bank Bills, demand Rs. 113 3/4
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Bank Bills, demand \$65 5/8
HONGKONG—
Bank Bills, demand \$72 1/2
YOKOHAMA & KOBE—
Bank Bills, demand, Y71 3/8

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"Glenlogan"
"Tenshin Maru"
"Iyo Maru"
and Balances ex ss "Tydett", "Helenus", "Antiochus", "Radnorshire", "Kito", "Benloun", "Novara", "Hitach Maru", "Kashima Maru", "Mishima Maru" and "Katori Maru", are hereby notified that same have arrived per ss. "Katong" on the 2nd inst and will be landed and stored at our wharf.

No Claim will be entertained unless made within 10 days after final discharge of the steamer.

Goods not cleared within 3 days after final discharge of cargo will be liable for go-down rent.

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t.f.n

TIDE TABLE.

DEPTH OF WATER ON THE
BANGKOK BAR.

FOR AUG., 1916.

Aug.	A.M.			L.W.
	H. W.	Ft. in.	(Approx.)	
1	4 30	12 2	...	...
2	5 30	12 4	...	...
3	6 30	12 6	...	...
4	7 30	12 7	...	...
5	8 30	12 6	...	...
6	9 30	12 0	4.0	7.0
7	10 00	11 9	4.5	7.0
8	11 00	11 0	5.6	7.0
9	...	...	6.7	7.0
10	...	...	7.8	7.0
11	...	...	9.10	7.0
12	3 00	12 0	10.11	7.0
13	3 30	12 0	10.11	6.0
14	4 30	12 0	12.0	6.0
15	5 30	12 0	...	...
16	6 30	12 0	...	...
17	7 30	12 0	...	...
18	8 00	11 9	...	...
19	9 00	11 8	3.4	7.0
20	10 00	11 5	4.0	7.0
21	10 30	11 2	4.0	7.0
22	11 00	11 0	4.5	7.0
23	...	...	5.6	7.0
24	...	...	6.7	7.0
25	...	...	7.8	7.0
26	...	...	8.9	6.0
27	2 00	12 0	10.11	6.0
28	3 30	12 0	10.11	6.0
29	5 00	12 7	...	...
30	6 00	12 9	...	...
31	...	...	...	...

Aug.	P.M.			L.W.
	H. W.	Ft. in.	(Approx.)	
1	8 00	15 1	1.0	5.0
2	8 30	14 8	1.2	5.0
3	8 30	14 8	1.2	5.0
4	8 30	14 8	1.2	6.0
5	9 00	14 7	2.0	6.0
6	9 00	14 0	2.0	7.0
7	9 00	13 8	...	...
8	9 00	13 4	...	...
9	10 00	12 4	...	...
10	4 30	13 11	...	...
11	5 30	14 6	...	...
12	6 30	14 7	...	...
13	7 30	14 8	...	...
14	7 00	14 8	1.0	6.0
15	8 00	14 2	1.2	6.0
16	8 00	14 2	1.2	6.0
17	8 30	14 0	1.2	6.0
18	8 30	13 9	1.2	7.0
19	8 30	13 7	2.0	7.0
20	8 30	12 11	...	...
21	8 30	12 10	...	...
22	8 30	12 10	...	...
23	7 15	13 0	...	...
24	5 30	13 9	...	...
25	5 30	13 10	...	...
26	6 00	14 2	...	...
27	6 00	14 4	...	...
28	6 30	14 4	...	...
29	7 00	14 8	...	...
30	7 30	14 10	1.0	6.0
31	7 30	14 1	1.0	6.0

PHASES OF THE MOON.
Aug. 7th) First Quarter 3.48 a.m.
" 13th) Full Moon 6.42 p.m.
" 20th) Last Quarter 7.35 p.m.
" 27th) New Moon 0.7 a.m.

Greek King's Pledge.

The People's Will Shall Prevail.

Salonica June 25.—Says the "Daily Mail's" correspondent: M. Venizelos (the former Greek Premier) and a staunch friend of the Allies received me this morning. He was surrounded by his followers and the chief members of his party, all of whom wore an air of great relief, contrasting strongly with the sad and worn faces I have seen so frequently during the last seven months in the watched and guarded house in Academy-street.

The great leader himself wore no air of triumph, but had the quiet, dignified look of one who had won a just cause. His first words to me emphasized this. "To-day," he said, "Greece steps down on the path of legality."

"What have you to say of the events of yesterday?" I asked.

"I regret," he replied, "that the late Government so obstinately clung to the shadow of power and would not understand that no course was open to it but to retire when the blockade was instituted. They seem to have realised the facts only in the last two or three days."

"What do you think of the Note itself?"
"The Note solved a situation from which there was no other issue. The just severity of its tone, the sincerity of its motives, its expressly drawn distinction between the Greek people and the ex-Government give it more than anything else a paternal character towards the people of this country. The protecting Powers have acted only like parents reclaiming a son's birthright. Greece can now take up her life anew and face the future with unbandaged eyes."

"And of to-day's Cabinet?" I inquired.

"The Zaimis Cabinet can be counted upon to end all friction instantly between Greece and the Allied Powers, and after the necessary proclamations we shall have the elections early in August."

"I take it that you will stand again for Parliament?"

"Of course, as we return to a parliamentary regime, I too shall return to it. I shall stand again for my old seat at Athens."

A Straight Policy.
M. Zaimis made the following declaration in the course of a conversation this evening:—"My Government will not appear before the Chamber. We shall execute the demands of the Protecting Powers to the letter. The dissolution of the Chamber and the date of the new elections will shortly be proclaimed. Thus everything will be straightened out with the Allies and in that path we shall continue. The date of the general demobilisation will probably be decided at the first Cabinet Council."

The Zaimis Government was sworn in at 7 p.m. It may be counted on to carry on an honest policy during the period before the elections. The general demobilisation and the other measures demanded by the Allies will be proclaimed by decree, probably without the reassembling of the Chamber.

The newspapers publish a statement by the King that he believes the policy followed by the Skouloudis Government was in conformity with national interests; that he, the King, is too highly placed to meddle with party questions; and that if the people wish for another policy their will shall be done.

This morning the Chief of the General Staff conferred with the King to settle the details of the general demobilisation. The plans for conveying the troops home by rail and sea are nearly completed. The 770,000 animals which were mostly requisitioned for military service will need special arrangements for their return for civil uses.

It is probable that the two Greek army corps in Macedonia will be left at a strength of 25,000 men, as this project has M. Venizelos' support.

As soon as the demobilisation is proclaimed the Government will announce the date of the elections, probably in August.

In the opinion of most Greeks the next six weeks are going to see such an electoral campaign as there has probably never been in the country. It is sufficient to observe the mien of the deputies of the defunct Skouloudis Chamber to see that they have small hopes of returning to it. Nevertheless, every influence in the country will be concentrated against M. Venizelos. The Government may issue a statement of policy through the papers.

It is now possible to perceive more clearly the line that what is now to be regarded as the Opposition will take in the coming elections. They say that the elections in Macedonia will be valueless because of the presence of Allied troops there. Their second point, which will be dimmed into the ear of every voter of military age, will be: "The election of M. Venizelos means war for you." The *Nea Himeru* says: "If ever M. Venizelos returns to power the Sovereign will not have the right to disagree with him in case M. Venizelos wishes to impose the policy we know all about. Let the Greek people want war? Good. Do it vote for M. Venizelos."

Cards are being left at the British Legation with words of thanks and felicitations written on them.

The financial difficulties of the State will probably be relieved by a loan from the Allies.

Rainfall.

We have received the following telegraphic reports of rainfall from the Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Lands and Agriculture:

MONDOL KRUNG DEB.			
At Min. of L. & A. Aug. 2	3.4	mm.	
MONDOL KRUNG KAO.			
At Anglong Aug. 1	2.4	"	
" Singlaburi "	2.7	"	
" Sraburi "	8.1	"	
MONDOL NAGOR JAISRI.			
At Sumsagor July 31	8.2	"	
MONDOL RAJBURI.			
At Bejraburi Aug. 1	9.0	"	
" Rajburi "	13.5	"	
" Sumsonggram "	1.8	"	
MONDOL PRACHIN.			
At Krachinaburi Aug. 1	14.5	"	
MONDOL NAGOR SVARGA.			
At Kamhaengbejra July 31	20.0	"	
" Nagor Svarga Aug. 1	1.5	"	
MONDOL KRUNG DEB.			
At Phra Pradaeng July 31	32.4	"	
" Snuiprakar Aug. 2	33.2	"	
MONDOL KRUNG KAO.			
At Krung Kao Aug. 2	43.8	"	
" Anglong "	17.0	"	
" Singlaburi "	2.4	"	
" Sraburi "	28.4	"	
" Loburi "	53.8	"	
MONDOL NAGOR JAISRI.			
At Nagor Pathom Aug. 2	1.2	"	
" Samsamuri "	12.6	"	
MONDOL RAJBURI.			
At Bejraburi Aug. 2	6.8	"	
" Sumsonggram "	3.2	"	
MONDOL PRACHIN.			
At Prachinburi Aug. 2	41.9	"	
" Nagor Nayok "	24.3	"	
" Jolburi "	7.5	"	
MONDOL NAGOR SVARGA.			
At Nagor Svarga Aug. 2	25.0	"	

Siam Observer

Special War Edition

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Acid Sulphuric,
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Prices on application.

Anzac Raids.

London, June 28.—Mr. Philip Gibbs describes in the "Daily Chronicle" two successful Anzac raids carried out 5,000 yards apart in the early hours of Monday morning. He states: In order to ensure success to the raiding parties, all the six footers underwent special training. Their comrades rubbed them down after their morning sprints and protested against any tendency to excessive smoking. Trench mortars at midnight began cutting the enemy's barbed wire like bean stalks, while simultaneously the guns bargaged the communication trenches, putting a fence of shell fire around the positions to be attacked. Then the Anzacs went forward with bombs and truncheons. The German machine guns scoured No Man's Land but the raiders escaped the bullets and rushed on. One party encountered the Prussians, the other the Saxons. There was a terrible ten minutes. The Germans came out of their dug-outs and were terrified to see the Anzacs in their trenches. Some promptly surrendered while others tried to defend themselves with bombs, mainly killing their own comrades. The Anzacs wasted not a moment. They accomplished a great deal of quick work, rummaged dug-outs for papers and hauled out their prisoners. They bombed other trenches and used tomahawks to break through the debris of sandbags which were strewn with corpses as a result of the bombardment. When ordered to retire, an Anzac escorting his prisoners over the parapet shouted:—"I've won that five francs" to an officer who had made a sporting bet regarding the number of prisoners taken. Another cheerfully drew attention to six bullets in one arm, remarking on his luck. The raids demoralized the Germans like a dreadful nightmare driving men mad.

Other correspondents describe the Anzac raids in the neighbourhood of Arras. It was a calm summer, moonless night. The trench-mortar bombardment lasted only eight minutes instead of the usual forty minutes. Both the German trenches were attacked heavily. The defenders were unable to escape owing to the barrage of fire. It is believed that every German in them was killed or taken prisoner. The attackers advanced across No Man's Land through the machine-gun fire, but it was happily ill-directed and there were practically no casualties owing to the Australians' sprinting powers. The enemy were so flustered that many were killed by their own bombs and the others were comparatively easy to capture. Many went down on their knees. The difficulty was to get the captives out of the trenches, so terrified were they of their own artillery. A barly New Zealander made a bet

Ahead of the Mail.

Anglo-French Offensive.

London, July 17.—A German Lieutenant, wounded in the fighting on the Somme, gives in the "Vossische Zeitung" a description of the Allies' methods, mentions various improvements in military appliances during the war, and continues: "In this respect the Franco-British offensive is the last word. The greedy heart began eating at the back lines of the German front. The third and second trenches were bombarded with the concentrated fire of unprecedented masses of heavy artillery. To prevent the bringing up of reserves all places up to ten miles behind the front were kept under an incessant fire. The troops' supplies going up had to pass through several lines of fire. The plan of destroying the German front necessitated gaining the ascendancy in the air. A large number of massed aeroplanes daily directed the artillery fire. When the incessant fire began, dozens of aeroplanes flew over the German trenches, and every second great squadrons went beyond the lines, bomb dropping. The battering-down of the advanced trenches was left almost exclusively to the heavy artillery and the trench mortars. The French have greatly improved, the latter worked them uninterruptedly, throwing aerial torpedoes. They tore up our wire obstacles from the ground, poles and all, and throw them all over the place in a very short time. A great portion of our trenches has been flattened out. This lasted seven days. Finally came a gas attack, also of an improved kind."

The Pope's Ship.

The Pope, intending to safeguard diplomatic representatives of the Holy See from war risks, has bought the steamer Nuncios, and the Italian Government has permitted the use of Civita Vecchia as permanent harbour.

The ship is painted white and yellow. It flies the Papal flag, seen on the seas for the first time since the loss of temporal power.

The first voyage will be to Buenos Ayres. The new Papal Nuncio will travel to the Argentine on this trip.

before starting that he would bring back a prisoner. As he dragged his miserable, terror-stricken victim over the parapet of the British trenches by the scruff of the neck, he claimed the "bet" but apologised for not bringing in a better specimen.

Siam Motor Works Ltd.,

Motor Car Repairs of Every Kind.

PAINTING AND UPHOLSTERY.

Large Stock of Motor Accessories
Suitable for all Sizes and Grades of Cars.

Siam Motor Works Ltd.

Removed to New Garage [at Back of
SIAM IMPORT COMPANY, LTD.

Sikak Phya Sri-City.

HAND MASSAGE.

An ingeniously made massage ready for use at any moment. Come and see it at our shop.

Prices.

Tos. 7 First quality
" 5 Second "

S. IKESAKI, Tapan Mon.

Phathanakorn Cinematograph.

Entirely New Programme.
From Saturday, the 5th to Tuesday, the 8th inst.
Pathe Presents.
WHO PAYS?
In twelve Chapters. Thirty six Reels.
"Blue Blood and Yellow"
The seventh series of twelve separate dramas.
Being the tale of a girl who idolized aristocracy, and wed it, and how she found her golden idol to have clay feet.
Also of a young man whose Blue Blood was tinged with ochre, and of another who studied the stars and learned of Hell.
An Ambrosio Masterpiece.
From A Fighter to A Detective.
In Four massive Reels.
Startling. Intense. Exciting.
A New Keystone Comedy. A New Number.
"Passing of Izzy" "Pathe Official War Gazette"

Paknam Railway Company Limited.

TIME TABLE.

PAKNAM-BANGKOK.					BANGKOK-PAKNAM				
Stations.	Train No.				Stations.	Train No.			
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Paknam Dep.	6.30	9.30	12.45	3.45	Bangkok Dep.	7.45	10.45	2.00	5.00
*Maha Wong ..	6.35	9.35	12.50	3.50	Sala Deng ..	7.52	10.52	2.07	5.07
*Ban Naug Greng ..	6.40	9.40	12.55	3.55	Klong Toi ..	8.00	11.00	2.15	5.15
Chorakhe ..	6.45	9.45	1.00	4.00	*Ban Kluai ..	8.05	11.05	2.20	5.20
*Samrong ..	6.50	9.50	1.05	4.05	Prakonong ..	8.10	11.10	2.25	5.25
Bangna ..	6.55	9.55	1.10	4.10	Bangjak ..	8.15	11.15	2.30	5.30
Bangjak ..	7.00	10.00	1.15	4.15	*Bangna ..	8.20	11.20	2.35	5.35
Prakonong ..	7.05	10.05	1.20	4.20	Samrong ..	8.25	11.25	2.40	5.40
*Ban Kluai ..	7.10	10.10	1.25	4.25	Chorakhe ..	8.30	11.30	2.45	5.45
Klong Toi ..	7.15	10.15	1.30	4.30	*Ban Naug Greng ..	8.35	11.35	2.50	5.50
Sala Deng ..	7.23	10.23	1.38	4.38	*Maha Wong ..	8.40	11.40	2.55	5.55
Bangkok Arr.	7.30	10.30	1.45	4.45	Paknam Arr.	8.45	11.45	3.00	6.00

*Trains stop only at the request of passengers.

Trains may leave intermediate stations 5 minutes before the stated time

No Household

can be really happy if any of its members are ailing. Sound health in a family is a boon priceless beyond words, and without it, success and liberty are practically impossible. Much disease is positively unnecessary and is occasioned chiefly by neglect. Much anxiety given on this account to wives and dear ones is, therefore, avoidable. It is of the utmost importance that a reliable remedy should always be at hand to relieve the earliest symptoms of indisposition. Beecham's Pills are an excellent household medicine, safe to take and sure in their curative results. No home

Should Be Without

them. They exercise a beneficial effect upon the liver, stomach, kidneys and bowels. They give speedy relief, and, in time, they remove most of the ailments connected with these important organs. Attacks of biliousness, constipation, flatulence, headache, dyspepsia and other disorders of the digestive system are speedily dispelled by

BEECHAM'S PILLS.

There is yet another point that you should mark on the tablet of your memory. Beecham's Pills, in addition to their acknowledged value in kidney, liver, and stomach disorders, have a specially beneficial effect in such ailments as are peculiar to women, many of whom endure needless pain and ill-health through ignorance of this important fact.

Sold everywhere in boxes.
Price 5d (10 pills) 1/6 (25 pills) 2/6 (50 pills)

Oriental Bakery.

Oriental Avenue.

Daily supply of:—

White Bread, Large and small loaves, French rolls, dinner rolls, saltzangen

Fresh Cakes, Plum, Currant, Plain, Madeira and assorted tea cakes. Cakes of all other varieties made to order.

Rusks, Biscuits, Croustades, etc.

The Signature.

To distinguish the original and genuine Worcester Sauce from the many imitations, see that the signature of LEA & PERRINS appears in White across the Red label on every bottle.

No other sauce has such an exquisitely delicate flavour, or such a reputation among discriminating people in every part of the world.

Lea & Perrins

Copperplate Printing

SIAM OBSERVER
SPECIALITY.

THE Only Printers in Siam to do
this kind of work.

SEND YOUR PLATES.
WE DO THE REST

Siam Observer Electric Printing Works.



Customs & Excise Department.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that section 11 of the Excise Law Ch. 8. 1244 is now strictly enforced within the limits of Bangkok.

Removal permits can be provided in advance to importers and wholesale dealers on application addressed to the Excise Central Office.

PROM PHONGSE ADHIRAJ.

The Director General
of Customs and Excise.

To Let.

From the 1st. proximo the offices in "Hang Sing Toi" at present occupied by Messrs. The Arracan Co., Ltd.

For terms and particulars please apply to

Falk & Beidek.

1, 5, 12, 19, 26

A LIMITED NUMBER

OF

Illustrated Full Page Advertisements

OF

Business Houses in Bangkok

will be inserted in the
Pictorial Life

OF

His Late Majesty King Chulalongkorn. wherein is included portraits and life sketches of all the Cabinet Ministers of His Late Majesty's reign.

The illustrations of the Advertisements are to be similar to the "Twentieth Century Impressions of Siam," issued by Lloyd's Publishing Co., Ltd. For further particulars apply to the publisher.

BENJAMIN A. PERIERA,

Bangkok.

5, 9, 12, 16, 17, 24, 26, 30

Notice.

The undersigned Exchange Banks will be closed to Public business on Monday next the 7th inst., being August Bank Holiday.

For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

E. W. TOWNEND,

Actg. Agent.

For the Chartered Bank of India Australia and China.

G. E. ALLEN,

Agent

For the Banque de l'Indo-China Agency in Bangkok.

CAMILLE HENRI,

Le Directeur.

3-5

Wanted.

Large second hand safe in good condition.

Reply "Z."

c/o this paper.

29-5 A

Expanded Metal

made from best **British Steel**
various sizes and sections in Stock.

Milners' Safes

Patent fire and thief resisting.
several sizes in Stock.

Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SIAM.

IN STOCK B. M. C. TO-DAY.

FISH

Dried Cod
Codroe Caviare
Filleted Fish
Kippers
Haddock

Pheasants
Boiled Ham on cut
French Ham
Raw Ham
Breakfast Bacon

CHEESE

Cheddar
Gruyere
Savoie
Full Cream Gruyere
(in small tins)
English Margarine

Fresh Australian Apples
Fresh Australian Butter

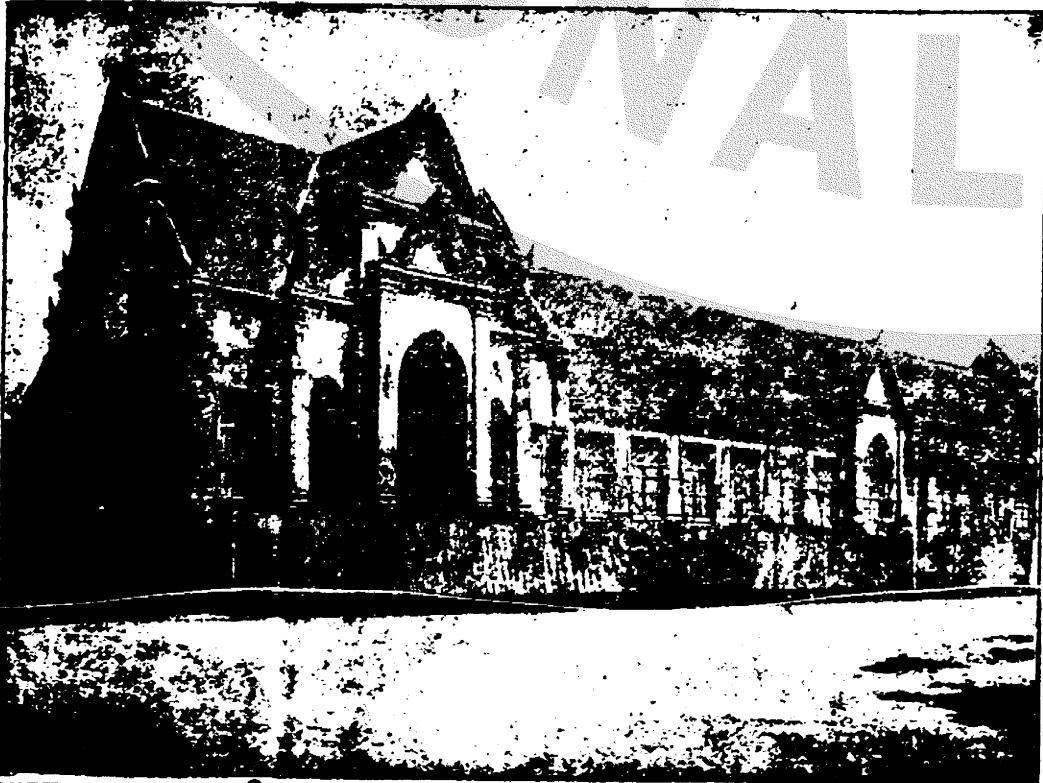
Pure Beef Dripping in 2lb Tins.

"White Horse" Whisky.

"An Easy First"

Obtainable Everywhere.

D. Anderson & Son Ltd.



WAT MAHA THARD

Roofed with "Rok" Roofing

Barrow, Brown & Co., Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS.

The Siam Observer.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1916.

OPIMUM SHOP ATTRACTIONS

The opium shopkeepers of Bangkok are drawn principally from the Chinese settled in Siam in recent years. In fact there are no Siamese engaged in this business, though it may be possible that some may have an indirect interest in the shops owing to the relations of landlord and tenant. In any case it has not been generally known that these shops engage Chinese females at large salaries as assistants. In the course of the evidence in a case recently heard it transpired that in one shop there were four of these assistants, one of whom was paid 100 ticals, two others 90 ticals and the last 60 ticals a month, the rate of salary depending on youthfulness and good looks. In fact it was stated that there were shops where as many as eight were engaged and in some cases the salary commanded by some of the beauties was in the proximity of 150 ticals a month. Whether these salaries carried free board and lodging did not transpire. Officialdom intervened to put down the heavy salaries which in the long run was bound to affect the revenue derived from the duty on opium. The result as disclosed in the course of the evidence was a three day's strike and there cannot be any doubt that the strike terminated in the employers giving in to the demands of the women, for one shop owner stated that he had to go to them to get them to return.

This employment of women in opium shops is somewhat analogous to the employment of bar-maids in bars and restaurants which prevailed in Great Britain and may be prevails in some other countries of Europe at the present time.

Some years ago as the result of a strong agitation against the employment of women in bars the British Government put an end to bar-maids. The arguments against their employment were based chiefly on the grounds that young men were attracted to these bars by the presence of handsome women, and that otherwise well-conducted and abstemious persons were lured into the vice of drunkenness. In Siam also the fact that the opium shopkeepers are paying 300 or 400 ticals a month to these women clearly indicates that they are employed in order to attract customers and that here, as elsewhere, the attractions thus held out to young men become almost fatal to them, for who can deny that once a man becomes a habitual opium smoker he is only making for himself either an early grave or a career of crime in order to assuage the cravings for the drug.



Court Circular.

GRAND PALACE,
Friday, Aug. 4.

By the gracious command of His Majesty the King, the marriage was celebrated, at the Bhanunai Hall in the Grand Palace, between Second Grand Councillor His Serene Highness Prince Siddhara, son of His Royal Highness Prince Narai, and the Honorable Sri Brahman Nani, daughter of His Excellency Chao Suriyabongsa, Ruling (Chief of Nani), who has for sometime past been a Lady-in-waiting to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

In the evening, at seven o'clock the marriage ceremony was personally conducted by The King, who poured lustral water upon the couple and anointed them and was graciously pleased to present to the bridegroom a gold cigarette with His Majesty's autograph and the Royal Crown set in brilliant, to the bride a brooch with His Majesty's full name and to the couple jointly with the gift of 1,200 baht from the Privy Purse.

The couple signed the marriage Register in the presence of The King, who afterwards appended his signature thereto as witness.

The following also signed the register: His Royal Highness Prince Narai, Lord Privy Seal; His Excellency Chao Phya Dharma, Minister of the Royal Household; Lieutenant-General His Excellency Phya Deb Arjun, Chief Aide-de-Camp General; Second Grand Chamberlain and Major-General His Excellency Phya Prasiddhi Subhakar, A. D. C.; Lord Chamberlain and Assistant Chief Aide-de-Camp-General; Second Grand Court Officer His Ex-

cellency Phya Sri Kridakara, Deputy Marshal of the Court; Second Grand Court Officer His Excellency Phya Dharma Charya, Master of the Household to Her Majesty the Queen Mother; Third Grand Court Officer His Excellency Phya Sthira Suraprabeni, Comptroller of the Royal Household; Third Grand Court Officer His Excellency Phya Udaya Dharma, Director-General of the Royal State Robes Department; Third Grand Councillor and First Court Officer His Excellency Phya Mahibal Bariraksh; Deputy Grand Chamberlain Chao Mun Sarabedi Bhakdi, Acting Chief Steward to His Majesty; and Third Grand Court Officer Phya Abhai Ranariddhi, Chief Registrar of the Royal Household.

After the signing of the register the bridegroom retired from His Majesty's presence and returned home to await the bride. Then the bride took formal leave of His Majesty, and went away from the Palace in a Royal motor-car. By The King's command, Her Excellency Thao Soumakdi, Senior Dame of the Palace and their Excellencies Phya Sri Kridakara and Phya Dharma Charya accompanied the bride in her car to the residence of the bridegroom.

War Anniversary.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Singapore, August 5.

The war anniversary service at the Cathedral was attended by the Governor, the Admiral and the General commanding the forces. They were also present at a great mass meeting held in the theatre hall in the afternoon. The huge attendance was representative of all communities and the greatest enthusiasm was displayed. The speakers Messrs. Elliot, Lim Boon Keng and Darbishire referred to the feeling of gratification at the glorious change in the war situation since last year and emphasised the determination that the many German crimes must not be forgotten when victory is won.

Thes.s. Bred Returning.

The s.s. Bred is returning from San Francisco with a cargo of dredging machinery for the chartered Messrs. The East Asiatic Co. She is expected to arrive in Penang about the 11th instant.

Mishap to the s.s. Ban Ho Leong.

We learn that the Ban Ho Leong which arrived from Java with a cargo of molasses a few days ago had an accident while at her port of departure after she had loaded for her outward voyage. The vessel had to clear out of the way of another large vessel that happened to get adrift and in doing so collided with another ship with the result that she damaged some of her starboard plates. It then became necessary for the Ban Ho Leong to discharge some of her cargo to get temporary repairs effected to continue her voyage to Bangkok. We understand now that the ship has taken a sufficient cargo of rice as ballast as far as Singapore where she will be docked for repairs.

The Undesirables' Return.

It will be remembered that a number of Chinese undesirables were deported from here a short time ago. Four of these, according to rumour, have managed to return by the s.s. Drufer.

The authorities coming to hear of their intended return were in readiness to arrest the men on arrival at this port. Unfortunately the Drufer arrived in port at night time and anchored off Bangkok Point. When the officials boarded the ship the said undesirables managed to clamber down the ship's sides by means of ropes. One of the ropes gave way and the splash in the water gave away their attempted mode of escape. The men then took to swimming away from the ship but we learn that one of them was successfully arrested.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Siam Import Co., Ltd. have in stock motor trucks.

THE B. M. Co., Ltd. have received a fresh supply of Australian apples per s.s. "Kintong."

MR. Benjamin A. Periera has an advt. regarding illustrated first page advertisements in his book "A Pictorial Life of the late King."

THE Director General of Customs and Excise notifies that section 11 of the excise law is now strictly enforced within the limits of Bangkok.

THE Great War.

Casement Hanged.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Aug. 4.

Casement was hanged at 9 o'clock in the morning.

British Guns Active.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Aug. 4.

General Haig reports that the work of consolidating the ground gained continues. Our guns were active and the enemy retaliated briskly from Maltzborn farm to Longueval, also from Mametz, Fricourt and Becourt woods and Pozieres. His fire has slackened down.

The Fight Near Fleury.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Aug. 2.

Yesterday on the right of the Meuse we took trenches and points d'appui east of Vasserville. South of Fleury we captured prisoners and a dozen machine-guns.

To-day we repulsed attempted attacks on the banks of the Somme. We broke down violent counter-attacks on the right of the Meuse.

We made important progress south of Fleury the approaches of which place we have reached. In this region we have taken 1,100 prisoners since the 1st instant. We brought down three aeroplanes.

M. Roume.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Aug. 2.

M. Roume (the Governor of Indo-China) has arrived in Paris.

The Air Raid.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Aug. 2.

London.—Several dirigibles flew over the east and south-east counties without doing any military damage.

The Deutschland.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Aug. 2.

London.—The submarine "Deutschland" has left Baltimore.

In Other Days.

Glimpses of Bangkok Twenty-Two Years Ago.

(Week Ending Sunday Aug. 5, 1894.)

Our Anniversary (Aug. 1).—Our readers will, we trust, extend to us a kind indulgence if on the present juncture in our eventful history, we pause to contemplate a successful past and, so to speak, shake hands with ourselves in reviewing our many virtues. Great newspapers, any more than great men or cities, do not spring up in a day, the process of building laborious and tedious beset with difficulty and surrounded by perils. We may not yet be a great newspaper, but we are growing—growing in importance and increasing in usefulness. Just a year ago we raised our infantile wail in the sylvan glades of classic Bangkok...

The policy of the "Siam Observer" is to-day more pronounced than it ever was before. Its guiding principle is to be useful to all, and injurious to none. The "Siam Observer" is anxious to promote that harmony and good feeling, which should exist in this realm between Siamese and foreigners, between the Foreign representatives and H.M. Government and between all the Treaty Powers and the land of the White Elephant to the general increase of international commerce and prosperity. We feel that the Siamese are capable of great things, that they are of that stuff of which great nations are composed and that all they need is a fair field, a little favour, and kindly advice to develop their national characteristics and natural abilities to the credit of their country and the benefit of their people. To this end we shall contribute as far as in us lies the power; and in following this programme we shall be benefiting both European and Siamese in an equal degree, and assisting in bringing peace and harmony between Siam and her good neighbours.

Another Lawyer.—Monsieur A. Ten

"Driftwood"

BY Nemo.

The Maha Chakkri is going to Japan. A Japanese crew has already arrived to take her away. She is evidently part of the value of a new yacht, the building of which, after some years of negotiation, the Royal Navy has placed with the Kawasaki Dockyard, whose representative Mr. Katori is deservedly popular here.

I met Mr. Boyle three or four years ago at the Oriental Hotel where he made a somewhat prolonged stay. He was formerly a British Naval officer and having retired had joined one of the big British shipbuilding yards and was keen on getting this order. I suppose his firm has no time to give to foreign orders at this time. He told me he had a son in the Navy and I have often wondered whether the British submarine commander who entered the Sea of Marjura bearing this name was a chip of the old block.

I have had some conversations with local capitalists and am still sanguine that a shipbuilding yard in Siam is a possibility, and I have no doubt if established it is bound to have the support of the Government and shipping firms in this country, and may be even from neighbouring foreign ports.

Mr. C.P. Norman who left yesterday for good does so after a very lengthy residence—nearly eighteen years, and I think he has only been twice to Europe during this time. He was much liked and will be greatly missed among sporting men. As a measuring steward he was great and severe, but nobody had a word against him. His cartoon published when Mr. Davy, was your Editor, with the words below "Square Bottle, boy! Damme! What?" rather picked him off well. This was in 1910 and the succeeding six years did much to reduce his gigantic proportions and when he left Siam yesterday he was apparently in need of a rest and change of air, which I hope will be his.

The seizure of the mails of incoming steamers bound for Bangkok from Swatow and other ports will have an effect on the German telegrams you have been publishing. I think the last lot you had was the same as in one of the Shanghai papers. I must say I liked reading them as it gave me the German story of the various engagements and generally their views on the war.

It was not generally known that the generating plant of the Siam Railway Company at Wat Samokrang built at a heavy cost—over a hundred thousand ticals I think, was sold recently by auction and realized some twenty or thirty thousand ticals, thanks to the large quantity of galvanized iron sheets on many of the roofs. I hear these were sold at a price over that ruling in the market at the time. The intelligent speculator who made the purchase was hoping to see the price running up in leaps and bounds but unfortunately for him it has been at a standstill for a month now.

tesh, writes from Chantaboon to the British Consulate asking for permission to practice in the Consular Court. He states that he holds the necessary French qualifications. A gentleman of the same name was in Bangkok for a short time about eighteen months ago.

The Maha Chakkri Dinner.—Commodore and Madame de Richlieu entertained at dinner yesterday evening the officers of the Aspic. There were also to meet them the officers of the Swift, and a goodly number of guests including Mr. and Mrs. Rolin-Jacquemyns, M. Pelinsky, Hon. John Barret, Mr. and Mrs. Wiede, Messrs. Beckett, Hardouin, Caddell, and Mr. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. de Muller, Dr. and Mrs. Hays, Mr. and Mrs. Loftus, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Capt. Anderson, Major Schan, Messrs. Lyle, Carlisle and others. After a recherche dinner, an impromptu dance was got up and the guests did not leave till 1 a.m. having spent a most enjoyable evening.

The Vacuum Oil Co.—Mr. Russell, agent of this company, who left this some days ago for Saigon to push the oil trade there returned on Wednesday evening. He has found out that the Saigon people don't want very much of the Vacuum oil. Mr. Daunt the Chief agent of the Company at Singapore and well known in Bangkok, has gone to Kobe as Chief Agent there.

Personal.—Captain Vil, Harbour master, leaves to-day by the Chamroen for a short holiday and hopes to be back by the end of the month.

Another Pleasure party.—Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Rolin-Jacquemyns and party will leave in a day or two in one of the Government yachts, for a short cruise.

The Korat Railway Contractor.—Mr. G. Murray Campbell arrived in Singapore on the 31st ultimo, and after transacting a little business there will come up direct to Bangkok. Mr. F. D. Mitchell who went for his health to Hongkong will most likely join Mr. Murray Campbell at Singapore and come up together.

Report on the Budget.

For the Year 2457 (1916-17).

We have to thank His Royal Highness Prince Chandaburi, Minister of Finance, for a copy of a report by Mr. W. J. F. Williamson, the Financial Adviser, on the budget estimates of the Kingdom of Siam for the year B.E. 2457 (1916-17).

To the report is added a statement on the actual revenue collections and disbursements of the year B.E. 2457 (1914-15) which is as follows:

Accounts for 2457 (1914-15), Compared with Estimates

	Estimates	Actuals	Difference
	Ticals.	Ticals.	Ticals.
Ordinary Revenue	68,000,000	78,903,670	+ 10,903,670
Ordinary Expenditure	67,997,096	65,585,598	- 2,411,498
Surplus	2,002,904	8,368,072	+ 6,365,168

(The surplus is not chargeable to current revenue.)

It will be seen at once that the year closed with the considerable surplus of Tes. 8.3 millions, following the still larger one of over Tes. 11 millions in the previous twelve months—the effect of these two excesses of revenue over expenditure being to augment the Treasury Reserve by close on Tes. 20 millions in the short space of two years. This result constitutes a record in the financial history of Siam, and as will be seen from later paragraphs, the large additions to the Reserve, thus realized, have been earmarked by the Government for the purposes which cannot fail to be of the utmost benefit to the country.

The surplus of Tes. 8.3 millions was, it will be observed, made up of Tes. 5.9 millions, representing an excess of revenue collections over the estimates, together with Tes. 2.4 millions, due to short expenditure under service heads.

On the revenue side of the account the principal increases were: Opium, Tes. 2.3 millions; Land Taxes, Tes. 1.2 millions; Railway Traffic Receipts, Tes. 770,000; and interest and profit on Exchange, Tes. 715,000; while the reduced expenditure occurred mainly under the following heads: Ministry of Interior, Central Administration, Tes. 195,000; Ministry of War, Tes. 658,000; Ministry of Marine, Tes. 380,000; and Ministry of Local Government, Central Administration, Tes. 130,000.

The excess revenue of Tes. 2.3 millions under Opium was due almost entirely to the reduced cost of the raw drug, the expenditure on which is deducted from the gross sale-proceeds of the prepared article when calculating the revenue derived from the monopoly. Owing to the uncertainty of the opium market, the estimates for 2457 (1914-15) were based on the same figure, as regards the purchase of the raw drug, as those of the previous year, whereas, owing to the price being lower than anticipated, by about Tes. 330 per chest, the actual expenditure was less than the estimate by Tes. 2 millions. This was a pure windfall, and accounts for over one-third of the total excess revenue realized.

The increase of Tes. 1.2 millions under Land Taxes was due to improved agricultural conditions, resulting in larger collections in several of the principal rice districts, notably the Provinces of Krung Kao and Nakon Sawan, where more than three-fifths of the total increase was realized.

Of the advance of Tes. 770,000 under the head Railway Traffic Receipts, the Northern line contributed Tes. 473,000 and the Southern line Tes. 297,000. About three-quarters of the former figure was due to larger receipts under Goods traffic—the balance being supplied by Passenger receipts, and the explanation for the substantial advance over the budget is that the estimated revenue was framed on cautious lines, although there were indications that the increase of earnings was likely to be at a higher rate than for the past year or two. For the Southern railway, the larger takings were due partly to the development of traffic on the recently opened lines having been greater than was expected, and in part to receipts from new sections not provided for in the budget.

The reason for the increase of over Tes. 715,000 realized from Interest and Profit on Exchange was the considerable addition made during the year to the funds of the Government in Europe, owing to the continued sales of sterling by the Banks against ticals required in Bangkok for trade purposes. As has been explained in previous reports, the amounts so sold, after the tical portion of the Gold Standard Fund is exhausted, are credited to the Treasury, and in the year 2457 (1914-15), the sterling Treasury balance was thus augmented by over £520,000. This represented the conversion of a tical cash holding in Bangkok into a sterling banking credit in London, and resulted in a substantial increase in the amount realized as interest.

Of the short drawings under expenditure heads (Tes. 2.4 millions out of a total of Tes. 67.9 millions), little need be said, though the amount is rather larger than usual, being about

(Continued on Page 8.)

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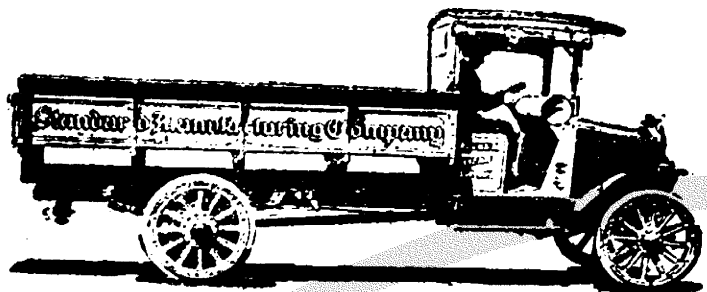
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Salonika Forces Keeping Cool.

London, July 10.—The Balkans are the only stationary front. Mr. Ward Price's latest report seems designed to convey the impression that the Salonika forces' sole concern is keeping cool, despite the weather.

London, July 11.—The Central News correspondent says that, according to a Salonika telegram, General Sarrail spent five hours in an aeroplane, inspecting the enemy's positions.

A Berne wireless message says that Rumania has refused a Teuton invitation to a conference of the Danubian Powers.

A Montenegrin official statement says that a rising in Montenegro is spreading into Albania. The Austrians have retreated towards Cetinje, and Scutari is threatened.

The Russian successes in Bukovina have caused a distinct change in the attitude of certain Greek circles.

British Attacks.

London, July 11.—The Times understands that the London Territorials on the British left on July 1st reached the third line, but were obliged to retire owing to barrage fire cutting off the supplies.

The Vossische Zeitung's correspondent on the Western front says that the Germans have the toughest job of the war against the British who are throwing in masses of troops and appear determined to achieve success at any cost.

A Central News telegram from Amsterdam says that placards order the inhabitants of Lille, Roubaix, and Tourcoing to be prepared for deportation to the rear.

Bagdad.

Bagdad, according to private messages, has been put into a strong state of defence after the best German methods, but as matters have now developed it would appear as if the fight for the mastery of the rich territory of Mesopotamia would be decided at Mosul rather than at Bagdad. If the Turco-Germans are in a position to bring up any considerable forces by rail from Damascus, Mosul, and not Bagdad, is the strategic pivot of the whole situation. The railroad of the Bagdad Railway, if it is still—as is somewhat gratuitously assumed—only at Nisibin, is distant no more than 120 miles from Mosul. This railway is the most valuable military asset the Turks have in Mesopotamia.—Ex.

"Devils Wood."

Mr. Philip Gibbs says that Devils wood has been nicknamed by the troops "Devils wood." An officer said "I wish to goodness we could wipe off the place from the map and cleanse the ground of the filthy wreckage of trees which were a death trap to so many good fellows. The look of the small wood crowded with corpses made it easily the worst place on earth."

When the British infantry advanced on Thursday they had to stumble over corpses, and logs across the sunken road which the South Africans and afterwards the Scots converted into a trench, nicknaming it Princess Street. Simultaneously another attack was made from Longueval with the object of joining men advancing through the wood.

The history of the fighting in Devils Wood since July 14 was one of the most wonderful things for sheer stubborn courage in the whole of the great battle.

The Munitions Speech.

A telegram received by the Viceroy from the Secretary of State of India, dated July 14th, says:—Mr. Lloyd George, speaking at the Munition Conference, said that the combined offensive east and west had wrenched the initiative from the hands of the enemy. The improvement in our prospects was due to the improvement in the equipment of our armies. The navy until recently absorbed half the metal workers in this country, building new ships and repairing old ones. Fitting and equipping them occupied the energies of a million men. We had to set up new factories. Most of these were now complete and the machinery had been set up. Hundreds of thousands of men and women had been trained for munition-making. Heavy guns are rolling in at a great rate and we are turning out nearly as much ammunition in a single week and nearly three times as much heavy shell as we fired in the great offensive last September. The new factories have not yet attained one-third of their full capacity, and our supplies will soon be overwhelming.

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The Franco-British Line.

The "Petit Parisien" published a photograph of Sir Douglas Haig and M. Briand together on the British front, and in a leading article comments on the fact that for two days past the Germans have drawn special attention to the activity of the British artillery, one of the German newspapers using the sentence: "The guns are thundering furiously from one end to the other of the line held by the English on the Western front."

The "Petit Parisien" prints these German statements, together with the text of the British communiqués, and remarks: "At present we can conclude nothing from these notes, which, however, agree so closely, for precise details are lacking; but it is possible that there may be some connexion between the suspension of the German offensive on the banks of the Meuse and the British activity."

The "same paper" adds: "The British Army is a formidable one, and the Germans will soon find themselves unable longer to deny the offensive power of the armies created by Kitchener, whose line now stretches from north of Ypres as far as the Somme."

The "New York Sun" publishes a special article on the defence of Verdun written by M. Gabriel Hanotaux, former French Minister of Foreign Affairs, who says:—

"Verdun is defended not by ruined walls, not by its forts, not by its hills, not even by the batteries or the other arms crowded into this little corner of the country, not even by the enormous anthill full of men who crowd forward to every menaced point, but by the heart of France, which animates this multitude which has built these houses, these villages, this cathedral, and this city. And here I felt the pulsation of this heart of France dominating in its rhythmic measure the noise of the cannonade. The heart of France is there now; it will be found elsewhere to-morrow, perhaps, wherever it is needed. Leaders and soldiers all know it, they feel it beating in them and around them, saying:—

"You shall not pass."

"My psychological impressions of what is happening at Verdun can be given in a word, which, it seems to me, can apply to the whole war. This formidable struggle is that of German pride, swollen by fifty years of success, with French moderation, made wiser by unmerited reverses. The German effort of a parvenu, magnificent, showy, heavy, and superabundant; the French effort is careful, well considered, and well adjusted, just what is necessary and never too much."

"The admirable thing that one notices first at Verdun is the perfect subordination of the arm which executes the work to the mind which orders it. One feels the ability of the high command everywhere."

"The battle of Verdun is a terrible

Fighting the Bulgarians.

The Bulgars are now working night and day, writes Mr. Ward Price from Serres, entrenching themselves along the line stretching from a point north of Vetrina across the Struma to north of Pulyovo, then north-easterly along the course of the Valoviska river. Contrary to previous reports, they have not yet entered the Greek fort Faia Petra, where a company of Greek soldiers still mounts guard. The nearest Bulgar force is a mile north of Krushovo, which is five miles north-east of Petra Fort.

The enemy thus occupies a strong position on the southern slopes of the mountains commanding the plain of the valley of the Struma, their artillery being on the slopes of Petrina by Ardijders and the hills on the other side of the Struma by Pulyovo. But while most of the advanced post of the regular Bulgarians is 200 yards from Demirhisar Town, their collaborators, the Comitaljis, who are drawn from the Bulgarian peasantry in the occupied districts, are finding congenial occupation raiding Greek villages within their reach.

Recently 25 of them tried to carry off cattle belonging to Greek residents at Spatovo west of Demirhisar. Fifteen Greek soldiers on guard engaged them, and after two hours' fighting drove them off. Ten Bulgarians suspected of collusion with the raiders were brought to Serres.

There is no doubt that the feelings of the people of Serres are those of great dread of the Bulgars. The town have not forgotten the massacres committed here three years ago. As many as possible of the inhabitants are leaving for Kavalla by train, and bivouacs of refugees are on all roads round the town. Demirhisar is almost entirely deserted. These last two days French aeroplanes have bombed the Bulgar positions and working parties on their new line.

experience for France, but the entire country will come out of it consecrated and greater. These men are the sons of a healthy nation; they will bring back to their mother, France, the health and force and what will not do any harm—glory.

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Report on the Budget.

(Continued from page 5.)

3.5 per cent. of the aggregate sanctioned budget. Such shortages are of regular occurrence, and are due to the savings of the several Departments on their estimates, whether for salaries of staff, contingent charges, or expenditure on works. In this year the largest savings were effected by the Ministries of War and Marine, a circumstance which is explained by the fact that the budgets of these two Ministries, for the year now being dealt with, showed an aggregate advance of Tcs. 1,170,000, for the reasons mentioned in the report of that year. The actual drawings for all purposes were, however, short by no less than Tcs. 1,038,000 mainly owing to the fact that the sanctioned establishments were not fully filled.

11. The short expenditure of Tcs. 5 millions odd, from sources other than the current revenue of the year, was mainly due to the charges for railway construction being less than anticipated. On the Northern railway there was a saving of Tcs. 1.9 millions on an estimate of Tcs. 3.9 millions—over Tcs. 1 million of this being due to the substitution of local labour in place of the Chinese labour formerly employed, and to a re-alignment of the track which resulted in a saving in the cost of construction. The balance is accounted for by short payments mainly due to the difficulty of obtaining materials from abroad, owing to the war. The last mentioned reason also accounts for the short drawings by the Southern railway, of Tcs. 1.6 millions on an estimate of Tcs. 3.1 millions, for the main line, and of Tcs. 470,000 out of Tcs. 940,000, for the branch lines, as also for the reduced expenditure on Waterworks, Irrigation and the Government Electric Power Station.

Budget Estimates for 2459 (1916-17).

12. The following statement shows, in concise form, the estimated ordinary revenue and expenditure of the current year, compared to the corresponding figures of the previous twelve months:

Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure.			
	2458 (1915-16)	2459 (1916-17)	Difference (plus or -)
	Ticals.	Ticals.	Ticals.
Ordinary revenue	70,000,000	69,000,000	-100,000
Transfer from Treasury Reserve			
Ordinary expenditure	70,000,000	72,141,529	2,141,529
Deficit			2,141,529

13. It is necessary to remark, in

the first instance, that the figure given above, for the ordinary expenditure of the year 2458 (1915-16), includes a supplementary budget sanction of Tcs. 280,200 for the maintenance branch of the Irrigation department. The Bangkok Canal system, which was constructed and operated by a private Company, on a 25 years' lease, reverted to the Government on the 1st April 2458 (1915), and it was found that parts of the system were not in good order, while some additional expenditure was necessary to complete the canals and their connected works. Hence the supplementary grant, which raised the total authorised disbursements of 2458 (1915-16) from Tcs. 69,991,604, as shown in the report for that year, to Tcs. 70,271,804, and converted the anticipated budget surplus of Tcs. 8,396 into a revised estimate deficit of Tcs. 271,804.

14. As regards the current year, it will be at once observed that equilibrium between the estimated incomes and outgoings has only been established by the transfer of Tcs. 2.2 millions from the Treasury Reserve. But for this addition, the budget estimates would have shown a deficit, as the actual revenue to be collected during 2459 (1916-17) is expected to fall short of the sum budgeted for the preceding year by Tcs. 100,000, while the expenditure is estimated to be Tcs. 2.1 million in excess of last year's original budget sanction. The reason for the falling off of current revenue is due solely to the abolition of the Lottery Farm, whereby the Government has sacrificed a sum of over Tcs. 3.5 millions, for which the Farm was let last year. This is the outstanding feature of the present budget, and the event is of sufficient importance to warrant a short statement on the subject of the revenue derived by the Government from public gambling, and the policy adopted towards it of recent years.

Abolition of Public Lottery.

15. Up to a dozen years ago, two of the main items of State revenue were the amounts derived from the annual sale, by public auction, of the exclusive right of establishing Gambling houses in specified localities throughout the country, and of working the Lottery operating in the Capital and in a portion of the surrounding districts. By these means the opportunities for indulgence in one or both of these forms of gaming were brought within the reach of a large proportion of the population, and there can be no doubt that these opportunities were freely availed of, judging from the considerable sums which the Farmers, as the licensed monopolists were called, annually paid into the State Treasury. In the year 2447 (1904-05), the actual realisations from the Gambling and Lottery Farms amounted to Tcs. 9,170,000,

or close on 20 per cent. of the total revenue of Tcs. 46,046,000 from all sources.

16. The moral and material evils resulting from such wholesale indulgence in the vice of gambling were duly realised by the Government, and, by a Decree promulgated by His late Majesty, King Chulalongkorn, in February 2447 (1905), the abolition of all provincial Gambling houses was commanded to be carried out in the two succeeding years, 2448 (1905-06) and 2449 (1906-07). The financial result of these measures was to reduce the revenue from the Gambling Farms by over Tcs. 3 million, or one-half, and the only remaining Gambling houses were those in Bangkok itself. As to these, the Decree above mentioned declared that, for financial reasons, the Government felt unable to abolish them until some other sources of revenue had been found, and it was stated to be the intention of His Majesty's Government to commence negotiations with the Treaty Powers for a revision and enhancement of the general import and export duties which had been fixed half a century previously. In the meantime, it was declared, the Government voluntarily surrendered a considerable amount of revenue, as an earnest of its intentions to reduce the facilities heretofore offered by the State for indulgence in gambling.

17. For various reasons, no progress has been made in the negotiations for the revision of the Customs Tariff, but the Government has taken what steps were possible to reduce still further the number of licensed gaming establishments in the Capital. At the time of the abolition of the provincial Gambling houses, those in Bangkok were 11 in number, but have since been reduced to 5 establishments. By these means, and owing to the general growth of revenue under other heads, the proportion of the public revenue derived from gaming has fallen considerably, as will be evident from the fact that, for the year 2457 (1914-15), the actual collections on account of Gambling and Lottery Farms amounted to about Tcs. 6,74,000 out of a total realised revenue of Tcs. 75,903,000 odd. This represents only 9 per cent. against a figure of 20 per cent. ten years previously.

18. Satisfactory as these figures are, the Government felt that a further decided step forward must be taken if the country was to be entirely freed, within a reasonable period of time, of the evils incidental to the retention of large gambling and lottery establishments in the Capital of the Kingdom; and much consideration has been given by His Majesty and his Ministers to the best means of attaining the desired object. The financial difficulty has,

however, hitherto supervened, but the large realised surpluses of the years 2456 (1913-14) and 2457 (1914-15), amounting to a total of nearly Tcs. 20 millions, have so strengthened the resources of the Treasury that it was felt the Government need no longer hesitate, for financial reasons, to take another step forward in carrying out its declared policy. The surplus of the year 2456 (1913-14), which amounted to the very considerable figure of Tcs. 11 millions odd, has been earmarked for another purpose, which will be mentioned later in this report, but when this was followed by the further large surplus of over Tcs. 8.3 millions, His Majesty at once decided to utilise it for the purpose of abolishing the Lottery Farm, the estimated revenue from which was Tcs. 3.5 millions—the corresponding figure for the Gambling houses being Tcs. 3.2 millions. The Lottery Farm was selected for immediate suppression in view of the consideration that it could not be dealt with piecemeal (as it might be possible to do, in case of necessity, with the Gambling houses), and the feeling that, as the financial situation permitted, it was better to take advantage of the present favourable position of the reserve funds of the Government and to do away entirely with the largest item in the remaining sources of revenue from gaming. That this is a wise decision can admit of no doubt.

19. The Lottery Farm, which for many scores of years has been a prominent institution in this country, has thus ceased to exist since the 1st April last, and there remain now only 5 Gambling houses in Bangkok, estimated to bring in a sum of Tcs. 3.2 millions, or only 4.5 per cent. of the total revenue of Tcs. 69.2 millions budgeted for the year. That these Gambling houses will be abolished as speedily as possible may be regarded as certain, and the fact that they can be dealt with one at a time, should it be necessary to do so, tends to make it easier for the Government to carry, to a final conclusion, its policy of purging the country of the evils of State-recognised gambling. This, however, is a question for the future, and, if the financial position admits of it when the time arrives for the next step to be taken, the simultaneous closing of the whole of these houses will, doubtless, be regarded as the most satisfactory line to adopt.

Financial Effect of Loss of Lottery Revenue.

20. Before leaving this subject, it may be advisable to say a further word as to the financial effect on the budget of the loss of Lottery revenue, and the manner in which it is proposed to meet the situation. It has already been remarked that, by His Majesty's com-

mand, the realised surplus of the year 2457 (1914-15), amounting to Tcs. 8.3 millions, is to be utilised to make up any shortage of receipts resulting from the abolition of the Lottery Farm. The revenue which would have accrued from that source may be taken at a figure of Tcs. 3.5 millions, but, owing to normal increases under other heads, it has been found necessary to budget for a transfer of only Tcs. 2.2 millions from the reserve. This leaves a balance of over Tcs. 6 millions still available for future years, but it is hoped that the whole of this sum will not have to be drawn upon. The natural growth of the revenue, in the course of a couple of years or so, ought to enable the receipt and disbursement sides of the budget to be balanced, without exorbitant aid, even after making due provision for the automatic growth of expenditure.

(To be Continued.)

Church Services.

Assumption Church.

August the 6th, 8th Sunday after Pentecost. The Transfiguration of Our Lord.

5.20 a.m. 1st Mass.

6.10 a.m. 2nd Mass for the Native Community.

8 a.m. 3rd and last Mass for the Foreign Community.

4 p.m. Rosary. Instruction. Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament.

Christ Church.

Service for 7th Sunday after Trinity.

Early Celebration at 8 a.m.

Evensong at 6 p.m.

Processional Blessing of the poor in Hymn.

Psalm: 32 Chant Lord Mornington in D.

Magnificat: Foster's Chant in E.

Nunc Dimittis: Wickes' Chant in E.

Hymns: Hark! my soul! it is the Lord. Off in danger, off in woe. As now the sun's declining rays.

S. Mary's Mission.

Sunday, Aug. 6.—7th Sunday after Trinity (Feast of the Transfiguration.)

9 a.m.—Matins and Sermon.

Hymns: Blessed are the pure in heart. For ever won't we gaze on Thee. At the name of Jesus.

4 p.m.—Sunday School.

Wednesday, Aug. 9.

6.30 p.m.—Devotional Service for the Communicants' Guild.

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