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VOL. 13. NO. 62

BANGKOK THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1917.

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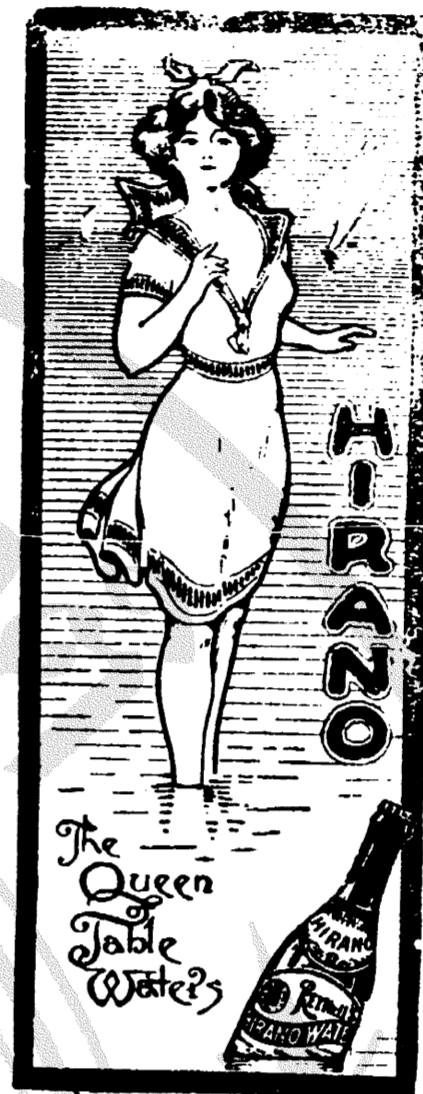
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s.s. "Asdang"	24.3.17.
s.s. "Boribat"	31.3.17.
s.s. "Prachaitpok"	7.4.17.

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proval of Parliament, which was the final authority.

Mr. Redmond, following Mr. Asquith, said that if the constitutional movement in Ireland disappeared Mr. Lloyd George must govern Ireland with the naked sword. He asked why Mr. Lloyd George did not appeal to Sir E. Carson to make sacrifices and agree to a proposal acceptable to the whole of Ireland.

Mr. Wardle (Labour) regretted Mr. Lloyd George had moved the amendment. The House should not have been asked the unfair question whether it was prepared to coerce Ulster in the actual circumstances.

Mr. Lloyd George, replying, said he had suggested two methods of dealing with the details of the Government's proposal—either by a conference of Irishmen, or by the establishment of a commission. The latter was practically identical with Mr. Asquith's idea, but it was impossible to introduce a controversial bill on such a basis in the middle of a great war.

London, March 8.—The Irish debate was adjourned till to-day.

London, March 8.—Mr. Bonar Law said he saw no advantage in resuming yesterday's Irish discussion.

London, March 8.—The Nationalists have issued a manifesto that they can never assent to the previous principle regarding Ulster. They accuse the Premier of a breach of faith, and declare his speech will seriously strengthen the revolutionary movement.

London, March 8.—The Nationalists have issued a manifesto announcing their intention to oppose the Government by all the means in their power, but their attitude towards the war and allegiance to the cause has not altered.

China and Germany.

London, March 6.—In connection with the Peking situation, Renter learns that the Allies are closely co-operating in advising China. Conversations are proceeding in connection with financial assistance in the event of breaking off relations with Germany. This will probably take the form of postponement of the Boxer indemnity and revision of the customs tariff. Leading people in China favour the severance of relations, but there are technical difficulties in that respect which the President desires to overcome before assenting.

Late Wires.

Paris, March 6.—La Liberté's correspondent says the British have been fighting a ceaseless fierce battle from Gommecourt to Ipres in the last forty-eight hours on an eight kilometres front. Saturday particularly was marked by a whole series of very violent artillery and infantry actions. The Tommies appreciably advanced despite a resistance which grows daily more powerful. The German retirement has been unceasingly harassed and the abnormal bulge in the German line between Arras and Bapaume is becoming increasingly difficult to defend, and the fall of this salient may be expected very soon. The British artillery has begun an intense artillery attack on the positions below Bapaume. The correspondent says the brilliant action at Bouchavesnes mentioned in yesterday's British communiqué was a surprise movement and its success constituted an important step in the direction of menacing Peronne.

New York, March 6.—The police at Hoboken have arrested Fritz Kolb who confessed he was implicated in a plot to blow up President Wilson and had been concerned in explosions in New York harbour. Two complete bombs were found in his room, in the hotel opposite the piers where German steamers are laid up. The bombs were to have been sent to President Wilson to-day. Kolb's confession has led to the arrest of two accomplices. The police believe they are on the track of an extensive plot for the destruction of Tampico oil works and munition plants in the United States.

London, Mar. 6.—Mr. Bonar Law's reply on the army estimates was followed by a sensational statement by Mr. Dillon who denounced the late Government's policy towards Rumania. He declared he was in possession of good evidence that Brussiloff and other Russian generals operating in Bukovina opposed Rumania's entry and prophesied a disastrous ending.

Mr. Dillon read an alleged letter from Lord Hardinge to Ambassador Buchanan at Petrograd describing the Rumanian premier Bratianu as an elusive fellow trying to wriggle out of his pledges. Mr. Dillon admitted he got the letter from a German paper and did not know whether it was genuine.

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Tcs. 7 First quality
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GENUINE SWISS MILK

Pure
and
Reliable

The Lancet, London, states:
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MRS. G. K. WRIGHT,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

"Clogs on Our Wheels."

By ASYABAHU.

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" 85, 4	" 25-30	"
" 65, 12	" 40-50	"

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The Rajah Hitam Coconut Estate, Ltd.

Notice is hereby given that the Sixth Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in The Rajah Hitam Coconut Estate, Ltd. will be held at the Company's Office, Bush Lane, on Friday the 23rd. March 1917 at 5.30 p.m.

BUSINESS:

To receive and consider the Balance Sheet and the Reports of the Directors and Auditor, and adopt same if approved.

To elect two Directors in place of two retiring.

To elect an auditor.

Any other business that may be transacted at an Ordinary Meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors.

A. Lovas Svendsen.

Secretary.

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For Sale
Ticals 4500 Only.

Situated off Windmill Road, near Indian Mosque, monthly rent about Ticals 45. Pipe water supply installed. Land or house sold separately if wanted. No reasonable offer refused. For particulars apply,—To the House and Land agents etc.—

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Sungei Bagan Rubber Company, Limited.

(Incorporated in the Straits Settlements.)

Notice of Declaration of Interim Dividend

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a second interim dividend of 7 1/2% has been declared by the Directors on account of the year ending 30th June, 1917, payable on the 31st March, 1917. AND NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the transfer books of the Company will be closed from Wednesday 28th to Saturday 31st March, 1917, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board,
BARKER & Co.
Secretaries.

Chartered Bank Chambers,
Singapore 10th March, 1917.

14—16

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Milners' Safes

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several sizes in Stock.

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

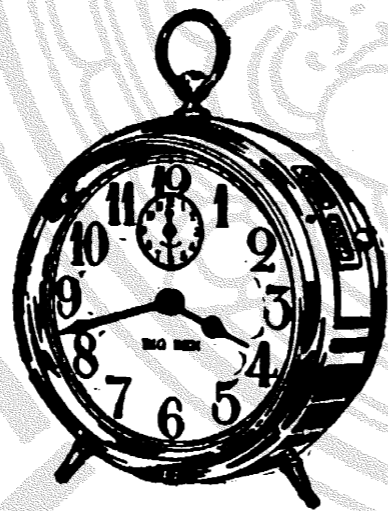
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Dried Cod
Codroe Caviare
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Bloaters
Kippers
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RABBITS
Pheasants
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H. B. Bulmer & Co's Champagne Cider.

Picnic cases containing Ice, Aerated Water and Well Water for travellers by Railway or boat delivered free at Railway Station or any Bangkok landing.

BIG BEN Reliability.

The best Alarm-clock ever made.

See him at

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PINKETTES taken after meals
aids digestion and prevents congestion.

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The Siam Observer

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1917.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

The vexed question of Home Rule for Ireland is once again clamouring for solution in Great Britain, and is seriously engaging the attention of Parliament, in spite of the still greater claims of the War. The situation is curious and perhaps unique, and the politicians who are called upon to deal with it are not to be envied, as the feeling appears to be so strong on both sides that there seems little possibility of their being able to arrive at a settlement which will approach giving satisfaction to either party. Ulster stoutly declines to have Home Rule, and if the latter be granted to the rest of Ireland it will not be content, as by the exclusion of Ulster that part of the country which is the great source of revenue will be severed from the larger but poorer part. To the foreigner the bitterness displayed by the two main political parties in Ireland often occasions wonder. One frequently hears it ascribed to religious difference, Ulster being Protestant and the remainder of the country Roman Catholic. But the real difference is a racial one, and were it not for this fact Roman Catholics and Protestants would be able to live together amicably in Ireland, just as they do elsewhere. The Ulsterman is, generally speaking, of Scotch or English descent, mostly the former; and in type of character and inherited qualities he is a very different individual from the descendants of Brian Boru and the other ancient Irish Kings. The true Celt is a genial and engaging person, gifted with a keen sense of humour, ready of wit, and often brilliant; but he is above all things a dreamer, a mystic, an idealist, largely contemptuous of the practicalities of life, and preferring to expend his energies on behalf of some romantic cause, even if it be hopeless or extravagant. He has little or nothing in common with the calculating sagacity, the prudence and regard for eventualities, and the eager grasp of opportunity which have helped the Ulsterman to bring wealth and prosperity to his province. To make of Ireland a united nation will be about as difficult as to make oil and water mix together, and the lot of those who are called upon to essay the attempt is not a happy one. In the spring and summer of 1914 Ireland was divided into two armed camps, and civil war would almost certainly have ensued had not a greater struggle broken out, in it both parties being claimed for a common cause. The opposing parties were in a state of the highest tension. There actually was bloodshed, and there is small doubt that there would have been a great deal more but for the epoch-marking event of August 4. Mr. Lloyd George will add vastly to his reputation as a statesman if his name is to be handed down to posterity as that of the Prime Minister who succeeded in solving satisfactorily a problem that has for so long disturbed the political life of the British Empire.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

HER Majesty the Queen Mother, H.R.H. the Princess of Petchaburi and their suites are returning to Bangkok to-morrow from Rajaburi.

THE sixth annual general meeting of shareholders of the Rajah Hitam Coconut Estate, Ltd., will be held on Friday, March 23, at 5.30 p.m.

WE understand that the Royal Italian Legation in Bangkok is authorized to receive subscriptions to the Italian War Loan, 5 per cent., now being issued.

THE s.s. *Kalong* will leave from the Borneo Company's wharf at 4 p.m. sharp, on Friday the 16th inst., and should arrive in Singapore on Tuesday morning.

NEW a.s.—The S.E.C., sole agents for the Maxwell motor car, have received the first consignment of these cars. Mr. D. Froman is selling a collection of household furniture, etc., at reduced prices.

H.E. PHYA Intaravichit, the Assistant High Commissioner of the Patani Circle, arrived in Bangkok to-day by the s.s. *Frackatipok* with Tre. 1,400,000 Government Revenue collections, and several chests of opium.

THE**Great War.****Western Front.**

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 14. Yesterday we carried up to Maisons-de-Champagne all the enemy trenches on a front of 1,500 metres. We conquered Hill 165.

To-day we made three surprise attacks between the Avre and the Aisne and brought back prisoners. We stopped a strong counter-attack to the west of Maisons-de-Champagne and Hill 165. We maintained all our positions. The number of prisoners taken yesterday was 150.

China Breaks with Germany.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 14. Peking.—The Senate has approved the rupture of diplomatic relations with Germany.

Duma Adjourned.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 14. Petrograd.—The Duma and the Council of the Empire have been adjourned.

In Persia.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 14. Petrograd.—We occupied Bizoutum in Persia.

Arming American Vessels.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 14. Washington.—Mr. Lansing has officially notified the Embassies and Legations at Washington and the United States' representatives abroad that American vessels will in future be armed when traversing the German blockade zone.

Bulgaria's Prisoners.

Bulgaria is said to have at the present time nearly 90,000 prisoners of war, including Russians, Rumanians, Serbians, French, Italians, British, Austrians, and Canadians, and even a few Japanese.

The Balkan correspondent of the "Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant" gives some interesting details of the fate of these unfortunate. In so far as approximately correct data are available—no lists of prisoners of war are issued in Bulgaria—there are at this moment in that country about 37,000 Serbian prisoners, 12,000 Russians, 20,000 Rumanians, 900 French of various races, 200 Italians, 500 British, a few Japanese, and a few Greeks of the Venizelist army.

The British prisoners are the best taken care of by their relations at home. As long as the Danube was open big consignments arrived promptly every week.

Imperial War Conference.

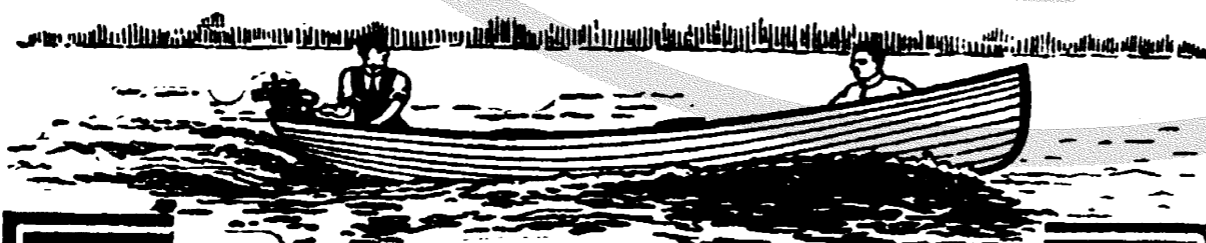
Mr. Macfadyen's suggestion that the Crown Colonies should be represented at the Imperial War Conference brings a reply from Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, Secretary, West India Committee, to the effect that the question of the representation of the Crown Colonies and Dependencies at Imperial Conferences has frequently engaged the attention of the West India Committee. If all the lesser colonies were invited to send delegates it is obvious that the Conference would assume unwieldy proportions, and a difficulty has been to suggest the name of any individual sufficiently acquainted with the conditions prevailing in the various colonies to be in a position to represent their interests adequately.

German Rations.

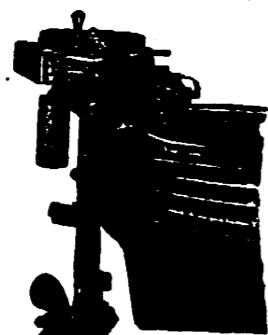
We had an opportunity the other day of submitting a full list of the latest German rations to an expert in the chemistry of food. He took a piece of paper, made an elaborate calculation, and finally reported as follows:—

"This works out to be 980 calories a day. I eat 2,000 or 2,500. Most people eat 3,000. Our Army rations are 4,500."

And yet there are people who persist in asking: "Do you think the Germans are really badly off for food?"—*Pinnang Gazette.*

**Take One With You**

HERE is a portable detachable motor that fits any rowboat and in less than one minute turns it into an eight mile an hour motor boat. You can carry it everywhere as it weighs but 50 lbs. You can enjoy the pleasures of motor boating wherever you go if you have one.



Handsome illustrated book will be given away free. All motors are guaranteed. Call to see one at

Sole Agents: **Barrow, Brown & Co.**



Big Shipowning.

For the eighteenth consecutive year the "Smyth and Shipping" publishes the annual table showing British fleets of over 50,000 tons. The 61 companies which figure in the list own between them over 2,000 vessels, representing a tonnage of 12,000,000 tons gross. Lloyd's Register gives total tonnage of the British Mercantile Marine as 18,825,356 tons gross. But of even greater interest is the fact that for the first time in the history of the world one management alone controls over one and a half million tons of British shipping; or, in other words, a twelfth of the Mercantile Marine. To Lord Inchcape is due the enterprise which has brought about the fusion of interests of the P. and O., B. I., and the New Zealand Federal Companies, whose fleets individually consist of: P. and O. 59 vessels, of 433,991 tons; B. I., 143 vessels, of 693,320 tons; New Zealand Shipping Company, 16 vessels, of 146,140 tons; and the Federal Steam Navigation Company, 22 vessels, of 195,372 tons, giving a gross total of 1,528,823 tons. But the tendency to amalgamate does not stop here. The million ton mark is passed by the Ellerman Lines, Ltd., whose total is 289 vessels, of 1,310,362 tons. Included in these figures is Sir John Ellerman's latest acquisition—the Wilson Line, of Hull, whose fleet consists of 80 vessels, of 217,524 tons; the Ellerman and Bucknall Steamship Company, 28 vessels, of 132,941 tons; the City Line, 43 vessels, of 274,131 tons; the Ellerman-Hall Line, and others. Just under the million mark are the Furness Lines, with 220 vessels, of 960,424 tons, which include the Prince Line fleet of 39 vessels, of 181,311 tons. Big shipowning this; for if we bracket the three amalgamations, we get a total of 3,359,443 tons of shipping, which equals about 18 per cent, or very nearly one-fifth of the total British Mercantile Marine under the control of three managements?

Germans and Turks.

I am indebted to a correspondent for some particulars of a remarkable book, entitled "The Turks and the Germans after the War," which has lately been published in Berlin. The author, Ernst Marre, is a business man with wide experience of the Orient, and his unadorned but unmistakable purpose is to dispel the illusions of his compatriots about the Ottoman Empire as a profitable field for German commercial exploitation. Of course, he tickles their ears with abuse of the English, who, among other wickedness, are responsible for Turkish dislike of the German yoke. Still, there it is: "We shall have a hard struggle," he pathetically confesses, "before we can make the distrustful Turk realize that German civilization does not aim at extortion and oppression, but is, with a few exceptions, most altruistic."—*Truth*.

Law Suit Over German Vessels in the Philippines.

Following the break of relations between the United States and Germany, and the possible seizure by the American Government of German steamers detained in Philippine waters, suits involving the recovery of nearly half a million pesos for money and supplies given by Behn, Meyer and Company to the 21 German steamers detained in Manila, Cebu and Zamboanga Bays were filed recently in the Court of First Instance against the steamship companies owning those vessels, says the "Manila Times." The suits, 21 in all, one for each vessel, allege that on August 1, 1914, on account of the declaration of war by Germany against a number of European nations, it became necessary to detain German vessels plying on high seas in neutral ports. The plaintiff claims that it has been acting as agent in the Philippines for those steamers. It asks for the attachment of the vessels pending decision by the court, for which it has filed bonds equivalent to the amount sought to be recovered, in each case. Judge Ostend had issued the writs of attachment prayed for.

The defendant companies are Norddeutscher Lloyd S. S. Company, owning eleven of the vessels in question, the Hamburg-Amerika Line, owning four of them, the Deutsche Australische Dampfschiff Gesellschaft, owning three of them, M. Jenson, owning two, and the Deutsch Suesee Phosphat A. G. owning one. It is alleged that these firms have their central offices in Germany, and have no other property in the Islands than the ships they own.

The amount sought to be recovered includes not only the sum of money and cost of provisions given to each of those steamers for their maintenance and support of their crew, but also the expenses incurred by Behn, Meyer and Company in transporting their cargoes.

The Scheldt Question.

The German prize ship *Urgula Fischer*, which had attempted to pass along the Scheldt from overcrowded Zeebrugge to Antwerp and was stopped by a Dutch naval vessel, has had to return to Zeebrugge. The Netherlands Government evidently stands firm in its refusal to open the river to prizes of war just as it would oppose by force any attempt of warships to use the Dutch part of the river.—*Ex*.

Wire News.

London, March 8.—Reuter learns authoritatively that the Chinese Premier has withdrawn his resignation.

London, March 7.—It is announced that the campaign for National Service Volunteers ends on March 31.

London, March 6.—Wireless. Russian Official: In the Caucasus we are pursuing the Turks who are withdrawing to Bidjarsonne. We occupied the villages of Huseinabad and Chariak. We attacked the summit of Asadabad in the direction of Hamahar, southeastwards of Abzol Lake, pursuing the Turks towards Dovletabad.

Our airships bombed Buranovitchi. Washington, March 7.—The Supreme Court has finally confirmed the British ownership of the Appam, which was kidnapped last year.

London, March 5.—Silver is featureless and the market is steady.

Amsterdam, March 6.—In the Reichstag the War Minister alleged that prisoners in the hands of the Allies were exposed to fire. He announced the institution of similar reprisals and other restrictions on prisoners. The Press Bureau exposes many of the Minister's misstatements and demonstrates that the allegation is made to disguise the fact that prisoners in German hands were employed in the danger zone long before the French employed German prisoners on their front.

London, March 5.—Lord Milner interviewed by Reuter said that the results of the Allied Conference at Petrograd exceeded his expectations. The results were largely owing to the support of the Tsar, who was particularly gracious to his lordship and insisted that the war spirit of Russia was unanimous. The only controversy regarding waging the war dealt with the most effective form of administration.

London, March 5.—Mr. Neville Chamberlain speaking at London said that he had now a hundred thousand National Service Volunteers and wanted half a million.

Rome, March 7.—A new anti-submarine department under an Admiral has been created. Its functions include the arming of merchantmen and rewarding of those sinking or disabling submarines.

London, March 7.—In the House of Commons Sir Kinloch Cooke asked whether Government intended to hold a series of imperial war cabinets; and would they be continuous?

Mr. Bonar Law said that an imperial war cabinet meets in the near future. Until the delegates arrive he cannot answer the point.

London, March 7.—Wireless. Italian official: We repulsed with heavy losses night attacks at Costabella and penetrated the lines at Mesciagh on the Asiago Plateau.

London, March 7.—The Press Bureau states that the arrivals for the week were 2,528, the sailings 2,477 vessels. Sunk:—of 1.6.0 tons and upwards, fourteen; under 1,600 tons nine; unsuccessfully attacked, twelve; fishers sunk, three.

Paris, March 8.—Official. The destroyer Cassini was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on Feb. 25. The magazine exploded and the ship sank in two minutes. 70 officers and 100 men perished, and 2 officers and 32 men were saved.

Paris, March 8.—The captain of the Cassini perished. The survivors state they were struggling in the sea and darkness striving to reach floating rafts when they heard voices shouting in French "This way, comrades," then a submarine appeared and fired on them with rifles or a machine-gun, while a shell just missed the rafts.

New York, March 7.—The newspapers comment scathingly on the Austrian note. The New York Times says that the reasoning therein surpasses in hardboiled the most daring exploits of the German mind in the whole war. The New York Herald says that Austria was given an opportunity to choose between Prussianism and decency and chose Prussianism. Therefore relations must immediately be broken off.

Amsterdam, March 7.—The Telegraaf says the Germans have ordered a complete stoppage of Belgian industries, thus practically throwing out of employment the whole population. They allege the reason is the inadequacy of coal and transport. Store-houses at Hasselt, containing twenty thousand kilograms of coffee besides other foodstuffs belonging to the Belgian-American relief committees, have been destroyed by fire.

London, March 7.—The Press Bureau announces that Mr. Neville Chamberlain has issued a list of trades of primary importance, in which National Service Volunteers are utilisable. The list includes mining, metal work, shipbuilding, agriculture, transport, engineering, aircraft, textiles, chemicals, leather, food, home miscellaneous metal, and other trades.

London, March 7.—In the House of Commons Mr. Balfour stated that the evacuation of troops and artillery from North Greece is proceeding satisfactorily, but certain demands are still unfulfilled. About 6,000 regulars and 3,000 gendarmes are still north of Peloponnese. The Greek Government has released the Venezuelans and promised to abandon proceedings against them.

New York, March 7.—There is a growing agitation against the eleven obstructionist Senators. A mass meeting was held at New York and resolved on demanding a coalition cabinet, inclusive of Mr. Root. Mr. Roosevelt has collected thirty pieces of silver for presentation to Senator Stone.

N.Y.K. Fleet to be Armed.

A Tokio wire of February 21 says:—The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has recognised the necessity of arming its fleet of merchant steamers and has sought the advice of the Government. It is reported that the steamers will be armed shortly. The Suwa Maru and fourteen other vessels of the European line which are under Government charter, the Toyoma Maru and fourteen other vessels of the same line but not under Government charter, will be armed for the present. The ways and means to arm Japanese steamers even by car load only after arrangements had been made by the Departments of Communication and Navy owing to economic and other reasons. The guns to be mounted will differ according to the nature of the steamer and a place where the shells will be stored will also be provided. It will take one year to arm the 25 vessels of the N.Y.K. alone.

German Newspaper's Troubles.

The "Cologne Gazette," in the course of some discussion of the employment of women in newspaper offices, says:—

The difficult position of the trade is illustrated, better than by many words, by the fact that, according to the last statistics no fewer than 1,430 German newspapers and periodicals are no longer able to appear. In addition to the reduction of revenue—it is said that during the last year of war the advertisement revenue of a widely circulated Berlin local paper has been reduced by 450,000—there are the increased costs of production, the extraordinary rise in the price of paper, ink, and so on. The small addition to the sale price, which most newspapers have made for some time past, is very far from making up for the increased costs.

Sinking of the "Worcestershire."

The *Malaya Mail* of February 24th states:—

We have to-day received the following press communication from the Government of Madras:—"As rumours of an alarming nature are understood to be in circulation in the city of Madras, the Government of Madras are in a position to state that the evidence as to the cause of the sinking of the Bibby liner, 'Worcestershire,' indicates an internal explosion. So far as the Government are aware, there is at present no reason to suppose that any hostile vessel is in the Bay of Bengal, and the military preparations that have been taken are purely of a precautionary character and afford no ground for any alarm on the part of the public."

Dresden Arsenal Blown Up.

A letter, dated December 30, which was found by the French authorities on a German prisoner, says:—

"Have you heard that the Dresden arsenal has been blown up? They say it was terrible and that it is recalled the 'frommelfeuer' on the Somme. A thousand women and young girls were killed. But the news is being kept absolutely secret."

"No one can obtain railway tickets for Dresden, except in urgent cases, and then it is necessary to be provided with a safe conduct."

"Yesterday all the windows were broken within a radius of eighteen kilometres, and if the fire spreads to the munitions depots, Dresden will certainly be blown to atoms."

"Trees are being felled night and day in the Raddehul, wood, in the direction of Redebul, in order to prevent the fire from spreading."

"One fire has been burning from 11.30 on the day before yesterday and another broke out to-day at the same hour. 'Some hospitals filled with badly wounded have already been blown up.'"

Caillaux's Passport Withdrawn.

M. Joseph Caillaux, the former French Premier, has had his diplomatic passport withdrawn by the French Government and is thereby restrained from travelling freely in Allied and neutral countries. It is said that this action was taken because of suspicion that M. Caillaux went to Rome recently to plot a separate peace whereby France and Italy were to make peace with Germany, deserting Great Britain, Russia and the other Allies.

Joseph Caillaux, who employed his wife to murder the editor of the *Figaro*, is the most sinister figure in French public life. He has been exposed as a willing instrument of cosmopolitan finance when he was Premier, and a pro-German rather than a supporter of the "Entente" in the foreign policy which he conducted secretly but parallel to that of his own Foreign Minister. Quite recently the *Times* unveiled the intrigues for a separate peace in which he was engaged in Rome. Yet he still wields enormous influence and quite inexplicably remains the leader of the Radical Socialist party, the strongest group in the Chamber of Deputies, and this though there is no more thoroughly detested personage in France, as several popular demonstrations have shown. Happily M. Briand has had the courage to cancel the passport which allowed the ex-premier to visit neutral and allied countries, and his capacity for mischief-making has thereby been greatly reduced.



Auction Sale.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE.
6th March 1917.

Case No. 15/2153.

Re Phra Aphai Vanit
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Acting under instructions from the Official Receiver in the above bankruptcy the undersigned will sell by Public Auction on SATURDAY 17th March 1917 commencing at 1 p.m. sharp at the house of the above-named bankrupt situated in the WIRELESS TELEGRAPH STATION ROAD at Sapatoom, Bangkok the VALUABLE household furniture and other effects of the above-named bankrupt as follows:—

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Filibusters at Work.

Washington, Mar. 5.—President Wilson in a statement yesterday evening informed the country he is without power to arm merchantmen or take other steps to meet the submarine menace without the authority of Congress. An extra session is required to give him the authority but it is useless while the Senate works under the present rule permitting a small minority to keep an overwhelming majority at bay. He proposes therefore to call a special session of the Senate to-day to revise the rules and supply means of action to save the country from disaster.

Washington, March 5.—The Senate meets to-day in extraordinary circumstances. President Wilson delivers in the morning his inaugural message from the steps of the Capitol, but meanwhile he has stirred the nation to the core by a manifesto denouncing "a little group of wilful men representing only their own opinion" who have withstood five hundred supporters of the Government policy at a crisis fraught with more far-reaching possibilities of national danger than any Government has ever experienced.

President Wilson emphasises that the whole nation supports the Government with unprecedented unanimity; but the impression may be created abroad that other Governments may do as they please without fear of America doing anything. The great Government of the United States has been rendered helpless and contemptible and the only remedy is to alter the rules of the Senate. The country can be relied upon to draw the needful moral.

Washington, Mar. 6.—President Wilson gave an eloquent inaugural address from the steps of the Capitol. He dealt at length with the present situation and said: "We have been deeply wronged upon the seas. Some of the injuries done us have become intolerable. We wished for fair dealing and justice, freedom to live and be at ease against organised wrong. With this thought we have grown more and more certain that the part we wished to have played was the part of those who mean to vindicate and fortify peace. We have been obliged to arm ourselves and make good our claim to a certain minimum of right and freedom of action. We stand firm in armed neutrality. We may even be drawn on by circumstances to a more immediate association in the great struggle itself."

London, March 5.—The fact that the Neutrality Bill was talked out in the Senate by the Filibusters in nowise affects President Wilson's position, since it merely means that a handful

of obstructionists talked against the bill until noon, when Congress automatically expired. President Wilson then took the oath for a new term and inaugurally addressed the new Senate.

To-day the most important pronouncement is expected. Meanwhile, as an example of "German insolence," the Mexican intrigue is stirring up American feeling to a boiling point. Attention is called to the point that Germany calmly battered American States, of which Texas alone is larger than the whole of Germany.

Russia's Advance.

London, March 7.—Russian communiqué: "We took possession of Asadabad summit and pursued the Turks who are retiring towards Kangavar. We are fighting the fleeing enemy near Sinna in the direction of Bidjar and are continuing the pursuit in the direction of Dowlatabad."

[Asadabad is at the top of the range of hills to the west of Hamadan; Kangavar is down in the valley on the way to Kermanshah; Sinna and Bidjar are right away to the north. All are in Persia, but approaching the western border.]

Sensational Trial Opened.

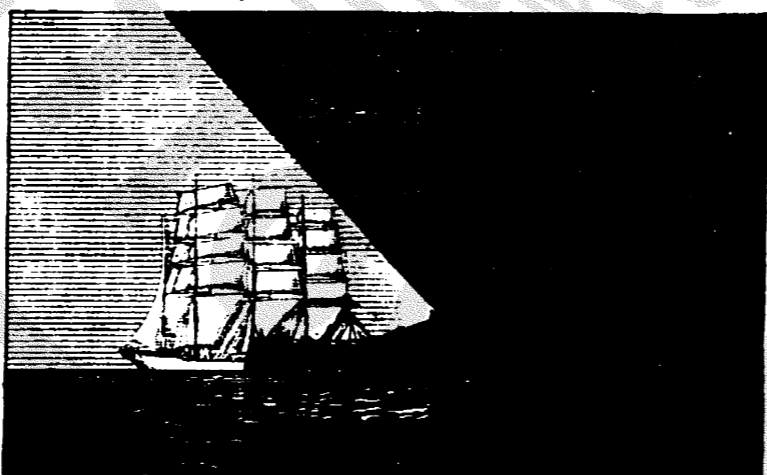
London, March 6.—The Trial of the alleged conspirators against the life of Mr. Lloyd George opened at the Old Bailey before Mr. Justice Low, the Mahomedan Barrister, Mr. Risa, defending.

The Attorney General prosecuting suggested that the attitude of mind and conduct of the prisoners was due to an unreasoning and inveterate hatred of Britain, profound dislike to compulsion and other measures for the defence of the country, and a hatred of the statesmen whose duty it had been to recommend the adoption of such measures. He maintained that the prisoners were a gang of dangerous revolutionaries, and the State would be lacking in its duty if it had failed to get in touch with them by means of secret agents.

London, Mar. 7.—At the Old Bailey in the conspiracy trial, Mrs. Wheeldon gave evidence of a secret service agent, Gordon, who told her that he was a conscientious objector and had been helping interned people to escape. This naturally interested her, owing to her sympathies with conscientious objectors. She bargained with Gordon that she would get him poison to kill dogs in the internment camps, to enable his friends to escape, if he would help her son and two other youths to flee the country to avoid conscription.

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A technical newspaper estimates at £1,000,000 the damage done by the recent munitions explosion in London district.

It is announced from a diplomatic source in Rome that the late Emperor Francis Joseph signed 21,000 death sentences during his reign. This total does not comprise military executions.

. Another enormous dividend has been declared by the Nippon Kisen Kaisha, a steamship company of Kobe managed by some business men connected with the Kuhara Mining Co. of Osaka,—153 per cent. per annum.

We learn on excellent authority, says the P. and T. Times, that a meeting of merchants, bankers, and other business men in Tientsin City resolved to withdraw all monies lodged with the German Bank in Tientsin.

A message has been received at divisional headquarters, Maymyo, from army headquarters, India, and circulated to all volunteer corps in Burma that no more men are to be enlisted. The order, it is understood, refers to the whole of India.

The Nord-Sud Agency says that the Russian Finance Minister has, as an experiment, organised 115 savings banks on the various fronts of the Army, hoping that subscriptions to the loan will be forthcoming, and recalling that ten million roubles were subscribed to the last loan in the Treasury Bureau at the front. The total amount received at the savings banks during December throughout the whole empire was 35,200,000 roubles notwithstanding the subscriptions to the loan.

It is reported on good authority that the American steamers Ausable, Maumee and Winnebago, which left Norfolk respectively on December 24th, December 29th and January 1st for Buenos Ayres, presumably loaded with coal, carried several millions of dollars in gold for Germany, which it was intended to tranship at sea to German raiders. None of the steamers are reported as arriving at Buenos Ayres. All are owned by an enterprise which has steamers on the British black list.

Says an American paper :
According to reports from Rome, the Duke and Duchess d'Aosta are to be placed upon the throne of Greece by the Entente Allies, driving King Constantine into exile. Constantine has been a thorn in the side of the Allies ever since Allied troops were landed at Salonika. It is said that in exchange for placing the Duke d'Aosta, who is a relative of the King of Italy, on the

throne of Greece, Italy has agreed to land a large army in the Balkans to aid in the coming Allied Balkan offensive.

Salonika Position.

Paris, March 7.—The deputy M. Chappedaineau, who was sent on a mission to Salonika by the Foreign Affairs Committee, states that if Sarraïl had had two more divisions when Monastir fell, he could have gone to Uskub, liberating half of Serbia and threatening the high road to Constantinople. How ever, gigantic work had been accomplished and the army was now reinforced. He urges that the blockade of the Otranto Channel should be completed and the road—Santi Quaranta to Monastir—should be finished, thus enabling troops and material to be brought up more quickly. He concludes "a tremendous task confronts the eastern army."

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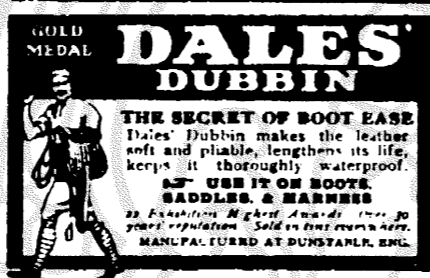
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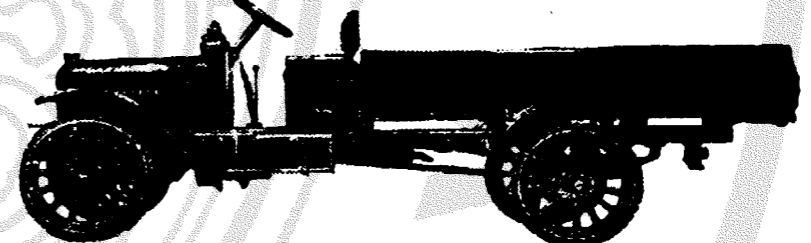
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Australian Politics.

Melbourne, March 6.—Two Senators, supporters of the Government, declined to vote on the prolongation of Parliament until the charges of corruption in connection with the Senate vacancies were cleared up. The Government finding itself in a minority decided to dissolve the House of Representatives thus enabling the elections to be held simultaneously with the elections for the eighteen Senate vacancies due by effluxion of time.

During the debate in the Senate it was suggested that Mr. Andrew Fisher and Sir George Reid temporarily represent Australia at the Imperial War Conference. Anyhow it is certain the visit of Mr. Hughes and other Australian delegates to England is indefinitely postponed.

The Prince of Wales's Future.

London, March 6.—In the House of Commons Mr. Bonar Law announced the Prince of Wales had resigned the chairmanship of the Pensions Committee, which the Pensions Minister now controlled.

He paid a tribute to the Prince of Wales's zeal for the welfare of soldiers and sailors as giving great promise of the part he will play in public affairs with increasing years.

Mr. Asquith associated himself with the tribute.

America and Germany.

London, March 6.—The revelation of the German overtures to Mexico has occasioned considerable heart-searching in Germany and there are numerous questions on the subject in the Reichstag. Herr Zimmermann said the despatch was sent in code and he was not aware how the Americans obtained and deciphered it. It was a misfortune that they did, but he was not sorry that the overtures had become known in Japan, through the publication in America.

New York, March 6.—A Hindoo and some German doctors are accused of conspiring to get up a military expedition. The police say prisoners confessed to having plotted under the direction of von Igel, formerly of Bernstorff's staff, to invade India via China. The Hindoo posed as a Persian merchant and fraudulently obtained a passport to Berlin, where he conferred with prominent officials then returned to New York, and assisted von Igel in the preparation of literature in various Indian languages and carried on an active campaign. Accused received sixty thousand dollars.



BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN ON THE WESTERN FRONT.
Big German Ammunition left in a trench at St. Pierre Division.

British Line of 130 Miles.

London, Mar. 5.—The communiques reveal that the British line now extends as far south as Royen near Noyon, which is the nearest point of the German line to Paris. The British line Ypres to Roye is 130 miles.

The special correspondents describe the appalling state of the evacuated German ground. Every possible gun and store were removed but the whole battlefield is matted with bodies, unburied for months. Many were drowned in the mud through which they were unable to walk.

London, Mar. 5.—Wireless. German Official. The English attacked southward of St. Pierre Vaast wood and captured a French sector on the Bouclaves.

nes Moislains road.

We stormed and captured a French position in Caurieres wood on a front of 1,500 metres and repulsed nocturnal counter attacks.

We captured an important position in the south-east corner of Fosses wood taking prisoner 578, with sixteen machine-guns, twenty-five quick loaders.

There were numerous airfights and the enemy lost eighteen aeroplanes yesterday while we lost four.

London, Mar. 5.—A French communique says: After a very intense bombardment in the region of Caurieres wood on the right bank of the Meuse, the enemy violently attacked on a front of three kilometres between Chambrettes farm and Bezonvaux. Repeated assaults between Caurieres wood and Bezonvaux failed but the enemy gained

a footing in our advanced elements north of Caurieres wood but our fire smashed all attempts to penetrate the wood with heavy enemy losses.

Double Income Tax.

London, March 6.—In the House of Lords replying to several members who had drawn his attention to the great injustice done to the Dominions, especially New Zealand, owing to the double income tax, Lord Hylton admitted the hardship and said that doubtless Parliament would have to consider the question before long. He contended that the colonies wanted the best of both worlds and submitted that

the development of the Dominions was secured in the first instance at least by British capital. Therefore the Dominions should consider the question of making some reduction or agreeing to a compromise in the case of persons in Great Britain who have invested in colonial undertakings and he assured the House that the Treasury would consider the question.

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