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VOL. 13. NO. 1

BANGKOK TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1917.

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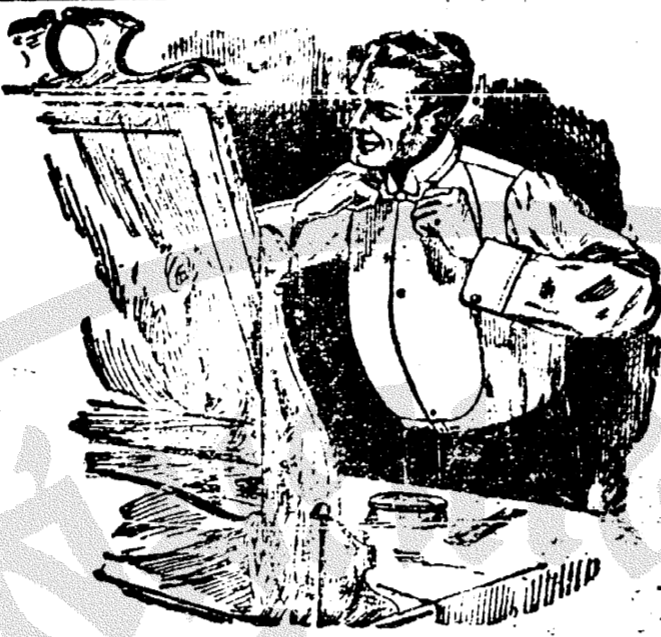
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s.s. "Malta" Dec. 7	s.s. "Malwa" Jan. 7	1917
s.s. "Nankin" Dec. 21	s.s. "Kaisar-i-Hind" Feb. 4	1917
s.s. "Novara" Jan. 4	s.s. "Karnata" Feb. 18	1917
s.s. "Somali" Jan. 18	s.s. "Karnata" Mar. 5	1917
s.s. "Nyanza" Feb. 1	s.s. "Karnata" Mar. 18	1917
s.s. "Nankin" Feb. 15	s.s. "Karnata" Mar. 18	1917

OUTWARD—1916-17.

For China.	Connection with	Leaving London
Due Singapore		1916
s.s. "Novara" Nov. 26	s.s. "Mooltan" Oct. 27	1916
s.s. "Somali" Dec. 11	s.s. "Kashgar" Nov. 10	1916
s.s. "Nyanza" Dec. 25	s.s. "Karnata" Dec. 8	1916
s.s. "Nankin" Jan. 7	s.s. "Nankin" Dec. 22	1917
s.s. "Novara" Jan. 21	s.s. "Medina" Jan. 5	1917
s.s. "Nankin" Feb. 4	s.s. "Mongolia" Jan. 19	1917
s.s. "Novara" Feb. 18	s.s. "Malwa" Feb. 2	1917
s.s. "Nankin" Mar. 4	s.s. "Kaisar-i-Hind" Feb. 16	1917
s.s. "Nankin" Mar. 18	s.s. "Kaisar-i-Hind" Feb. 16	1917

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s.s. "Kure" Jan. 12	s.s. "Iyo Maru" Mar. 14
s.s. "Kure" Jan. 26	s.s. "Miyazaki Maru" April 11
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s.s. "Iyo Maru" Feb. 9	s.s. "Fusuma Maru" Feb. 15
s.s. "Miyazaki Maru" Feb. 23	s.s. "Hirano Maru" Mar. 11
s.s. "Kure Maru" Feb. 27	s.s. "Kure Maru" April 4

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1916	1917
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s.s. "Shimoda Maru" Dec. 30	s.s. "Tamba Maru" Mar. 6
s.s. "Kamakura Maru" Jan. 13	s.s. "Shimoda Maru" Mar. 28

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s.s. "Asdag"	...	30. 12. 16.
s.s. "Prachitipok"	...	6. 1. 17.
s.s. "Boribai"	...	13. " "
s.s. "Asdag"	...	20. " "
s.s. "Prachitipok"	...	27. " "

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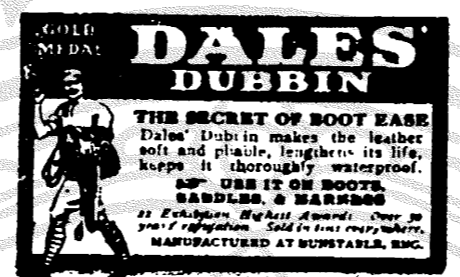
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TIDE TABLE.

DEPTH OF WATER ON THE
BANGKOK BAR.
FOR Jan., 1917.

Jan.	A.M.			Feet.
	H. W.	Ft. & in.	L. W.	
1	10 00	15 0	...	...
2	9 30	14 2	...	...
3	9 00	14 0	...	...
4	8 30	13 8	...	...
5	7 00	14 1	...	...
6	6 30	15 0	...	...
7	6 30	15 2	...	...
8	7 00	15 5	...	...
9	7 30	15 9	...	...
10	8 00	15 11	1.0	6.0
11	8 30	15 5	1.2	6.0
12	8 30	15 7	2.0	7.0
13	9 00	15 9	2.3	7.0
14	9 00	14 11	3.0	7.0
15	9 00	14 11	3.0	7.8
16	9 00	15 1	...	...
17	9 00	14 11	...	...
18	8 30	14 4	...	...
19	7 00	14 5	...	...
20	6 30	15 5	...	...
21	6 30	15 10	...	...
22	6 30	15 2	...	...
23	7 00	15 11	...	...
24	7 00	15 10	...	...
25	7 30	15 7	...	...
26	8 00	15 9	1.0	7.0
27	8 00	15 0	1.2	7.0
28	8 00	15 3	2.0	7.0
29	8 30	15 1	2.0	7.8
30	8 30	14 9	1.0	7.8
31	8 30	14 9	2.0	7.8

Jan.	P.M.			Feet.
	H. W.	Ft. & in.	L. W.	
1	9 30	11 5	...	...
2	10 00	10 4	...	...
3	...	...	9.10	7.8
4	...	...	9.10	7.0
5	...	...	10.11	7.0
6	...	...	10.11	6.0
7	...	...	12.0	6.0
8	...	...	12.0	6.0
9	4 00	13 3	...	...
10	5 00	13 4	...	...
11	6 00	13 5	...	...
12	6 30	13 7	...	...
13	6 00	12 9	...	...
14	6 00	12 6	...	...
15	10 00	12 3	5.5	8.0
16	...	...	8.9	7.8
17	...	...	8.9	7.0
18	...	...	10.11	7.0
19	...	...	11.0	7.0
20	...	...	12.0	7.0
21	3 30	12 11	12.0	7.0
22	4 00	13 2	12.0	7.0
23	5 00	13 1	12.0	7.0
24	6 00	13 1	...	...
25	6 30	13 5	...	...
26	7 00	13 5	...	...
27	8 00	12 11	...	...
28	9 00	12 8	...	...
29	9 00	12 6	...	...
30	10 30	12 6	...	...

PHASES OF THE MOON.
Jan. 8th O Full Moon 2.24 p.m.
16th O Last Quarter 6.24 p.m.
22nd O New Moon 2.22 a.m.
30th O First Quarter 7.44 a.m.

Peace Talk.

What People Say.

London, Dec. 21.—The passage in President Wilson's Note to which the greatest exception is taken here is the assertion that the declared objects of the belligerents on both sides are virtually the same: "Each side desires to make the rights and privileges of weak peoples and small states as secure against aggression and against denial in the future as the rights and privileges of the great powerful belligerent states." It is everywhere asked: When has Germany shown any regard for weaker states? It is pointed out that the actual evidence is absolutely to the contrary and President Wilson's ignoring this is keenly felt.

London, Dec. 21.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law refused to make a statement on the President Wilson Note. He declared that the question could only be dealt with in communication with our Allies.

The Press.
London, Dec. 23.—The papers, reverting to President Wilson's Note, emphasise the striking unanimity of the whole British press comments thereon. They consider that President Wilson and Mr. Lansing have done themselves less than justice.

The Chicago Daily News writes: "The purpose of the Note is most friendly to the Allies. President Wilson is seeking to induce Germany to state her real terms, upon which he will appeal to the people to join the Allies."

The "New York Times" says that President Wilson wrote the Note with the object of getting light as to Germany's real purpose as a response to the Allies' known advances.

"The New York World" says that if Germany resume ruthless submarine warfare the American people must decide between force and peace at any price.

America Puzzled.
New York, Dec. 23.—There is a feeling of bewilderment, bordering on indignation, especially in conservative financial quarters, at the effects of President Wilson's Note, which is upsetting the market and making a mournful Christmas for tens of thousands of hitherto prosperous Americans.

Lansing's "verge of war" pronouncement wholly transforms the character of the President's action. Neither President Wilson nor Mr. Lansing can now refuse to explain who is threatening the United States.

The "Boston Transcript" says that the effects of the unfriendliness which President Wilson's Note will generate among the Entente will plague the people of the United States so long as Mr. Wilson is President.

The majority of the newspapers, however, continue to support President Wilson on the ground of humanity.

A French View.

Paris, Dec. 23.—The "Temps" says that President Wilson has no fundamental mistake, disregarding the essential fact that on both sides deliberately broke peace and no other did their utmost to safeguard it. Whatever President Wilson's intentions may be he ought to have foreseen the consequences of his action.

Amsterdam, Dec. 26.—The "Cologne Gazette" says that the Quadruple will not go beyond the statement that the German proposals give a suitable basis for the re-establishment of a lasting peace. They must wait and see whether President Wilson will bring about a confidential discussion on this basis. If he tries to bring about the publication of terms it would play the British game.

Respect for Neutrals.

London, December 23.—The police have prohibited Socialist meetings in Leipzig, at which a resolution would be proposed demanding an immediate announcement of the peace terms, as the Peace Note will not secure an early peace.

The Hague, Dec. 22.—In the Second Chamber, the War Minister said that since the war began he had always felt that Holland's turn might come any day. He assured the House of the preparedness of the Dutch forces.

More of Wilson's Note.

London, Dec. 24.—Contrary to anticipation, instead of welcoming the German press generally bitterly attacks President Wilson and repudiates the idea of mediation. The Catholic and Krupp organs declare that the Note is part of a preconcerted game between the United States and Great Britain with a view to a business peace in favour of England.

Austrian comment keeps obscure. It believes that the Note will keep the

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" 70, 4 " 15-18 "

" 85, 4 " 25-30 "

" 65, 12 " 40-50 "

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Meklong Railway Co., Ltd.

TIME TABLE.

IN FORCE FROM 1st JANUARY, 1917 TO JULY, 1917.

BANGKOK-MEKLONG.					MEKLONG-BANGKOK.				
Distance from Bangkok.	STATIONS.	Train No.				Distance from Meklong.	STATIONS.	Train No.	
		I.	III.	V.				VI.	VI.
		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.			A.M.	P.M.	
Km. Bangkok Dep.		8.30	12.30	4.30		Km. Meklong Dep.	8.35	12.35	
33.1 Mahachai						B. Hame			
Terminus Arr.		9.50	1.50	5.50		33.8 Terminus Arr.	9.55	1.55	
The Company's Steam Launches will meet Trains to carry through passengers across the Tachin River at a fixed rate.									
Distance from S. Hame.	BANGKOK-MEKLONG.				Distance from Mahachai.	MEKLONG-BANGKOK.			
	STATIONS.	Train No.				STATIONS.	Train No.		
		I.	III.			II.	IV.	VI.	
		A.M.	P.M.			A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	
Km. B. Hame		10.20	2.20		Mahachai				
Terminus Dep		10.20	2.20	Km. Terminus Dep		6.45	10.45	2.45	
33.8 Meklong Arr.		11.40	3.40	33.1 Bangkok Arr.		8.08	12.05	4.05	
BANGKOK TERMINUS: Opposite The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Ltd									

BANGKOK TERMINUS: Opposite The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Ltd.

peace question in the foreground, strengthening the pacifists in the Entente countries, and compelling the latter to discuss a reasonable peace.

President Wilson's note was the theme of numerous sermons of all denominations, especially nonconformists, pointing out the perils of premature peace and the tragic mistake of confusing the objects of belligerents.

France and Switzerland.
Bern, Dec. 24.—The Federal Council has addressed a note to the Belligerents supporting the note of President Wilson with whom it says the Council got in touch five weeks ago. It says Switzerland is seriously threatened and struck in her spiritual and material interests and is ready to aid with all her feeble strength in ending the sufferings of war and establishing a lasting peace.

Paris, Dec. 24.—It is reported the Foreign Affairs committee of the Chamber is requesting M. Briand not to reply to President Wilson's note.

The Paris newspapers accord to the Swiss note the same reception as to President Wilson's. They point out how Germany trampled on neutrals at the beginning of the war in order to attain her aims of crushing and subjugating others. The conflict should be viewed from this standpoint not from to-day's situation.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The Senate has concluded several days secret sittings by voting confidence in the Government, in a resolution partly repeating the words of the Revolutionary Convention in 1793, namely, that France is unable to make peace while the enemy is occupying her territory. The Senate resolved to bring the war to a victorious issue. The resolution further relied on the Government to take, under the control of Parliament, the most vigorous measures to assure our superiority to the enemy, to defend the dignity and prestige of France abroad.

Mr. Hughes' Views.

Melbourne, Dec. 24.—Mr. Hughes regards the Wilson note more as an ultimatum than an effort at mediation. In view of Mr. Lansing's statement regarding the "verge of war," the new 44 per cent war loan of eighteen-million sterling has been issued, redeemable in 1925. The list closes on Feb. 8.

The Manchester Guardian believes that the Note, if wisely answered, will only help the Allies cause. It says that it seems to be forgotten in this country that the Note is addressed to all belligerents and that President Wilson in the passage suggesting that both sides in fighting for the same objects, said that this was what the belligerents tell their own countrymen. This might be regarded by a German of any humour as severe sarcasm. The Guardian warns the Allies against being betrayed into playing Germany's game, if they put themselves wrong with America.

New York, Dec. 27.—Germany has proposed an immediate meeting of the belligerents to discuss peace.

Germany's proposal is contained in the German reply to President Wilson and says that the high minded suggestion made by Wilson in order to create a basis for the establishment of lasting peace is considered by the German government in a friendly spirit. It thinks the best way to realise the President's aim is for an immediate conference of the belligerents in a neutral place. The great work of preventing future wars can be begun only after the end of the present struggle, when Germany will be pleased to collaborate with the United States in this exalted task.

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Second-Hand Furniture Store.

t.f.n.

THE OFFICE MAN

leads a sedentary life: his brain grows sluggish—so does his liver. His health suffers—so does his business.

PINKETTES

the tiny laxatives, gently stimulate the bowels, thus toning up the system and nerves which lead to sparkling good health. Do not gripe.

Of chemists, The Upper Pharmacy, Wholesale agents for Siam. The British Dispensary, Bangkok.

To Let.

Spacious Godown on Westbank of River at Toek Mui suitable for Rice, Produce, etc.

Apply to:—

"S."

c/o Siam Observer.

Godown Wanted.

6,000 sq. feet or larger, in the neighbourhood of Rachawongse Road.

Apply to:—

"P."

c/o Siam Observer

To Let.

Buildings & yard in Unakam Road to let—Main Building 18x12 metres suitable for Carpenters Shop, godown or could be adapted for Cinema Theatre.

Apply: "A. B."

c/o "Siam Observer"

t.f.n.

LOTTERY.

IN AID OF THE

FRENCH RED CROSS.

First Prize One Ford Car,

20 H. P. 4 CYL. 5 SEATER

With all Accessories Including Electric Light.

Over One Hundred Other Prizes

Which are on show at the International Store.

Tickets Sold at:

BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE, INTERNATIONAL STORE, PHARMACIE FRANCAISE, BRITISH DISPENSARY.

HARRY A. BADMAN TOWN STORE, FUAN SOON LEE & CO., KIAM HOA HENG & CO., SIAM STAMP CO.

KWONG ON CHEONG

HIGH CLASS TAILOR,

Opposite Oriental Avenue on the NEW ROAD.

Executes all kinds of Tailoring in the latest fashions. Send Post Card, and he will wait on you personally

Repairs
Repainting
Reupholstering

Siam Motor Works Ltd.

Motor
Accessories
of all
kinds.

HAND MASSAGE.

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

Prices.

Top. 7 First quality

" 5 Second "

S. IKESAKI, Tapan Mon.

Oriental Bakery.

Oriental Avenue.

We beg to inform our customers that we are now booking orders for Cakes, Puddings, Layer Cakes, Mince Pies, etc., etc. for X'mas and New Year, and would kindly request that orders be sent in early.

Motor-Cars for Hire.

I beg to inform the Public that I have in my garage

Several Motor-Cars in Good Condition and Order for Hire at all hours Day and Night.

Also Motor-Cars can be had on hire monthly at a very Moderate Charge. Arrangements can be made with the Manager who will call at any residence on being requested to do so.

ARBIB SHAH,

Opposite Europe Hotel, New Road.

Telephone No. 687.
24 O.—25 Jan.

ESTABLISHED 1890.

The
Bangkok Auctioneering Society.

T. S. APCAR.

Thoroughly experienced and well known to the general public as Auctioneer, Broker, Commission Agent. The above Company is ready to buy Furniture or to advance money to any gentlemen wishing to leave Siam in urgent haste.

Dealer in Motor Cars, Carriages, Ponies, etc.

T. S. APCAR.
3 m. e.o.l. New Road.

The Signature.

To distinguish the original and genuine Worcestershire 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.

BEAR BRAND

NATURAL SWISS MILK.

Guaranteed Purity and highest Standard.

Trying it means adopting it.

From leading Stores

AND

Dispensaries.

Royal Bangkok Sports Club.

Prospectus of Race Meeting to be held on the 10th, 13th, 15th and 17th February, 1917.

First Day. Siam Ponies race: 1 mile. If more than 12 Entries two races. Subscription Grifins: (i) 5 fur: (ii) 6 fur: Open class: 14 2 and under: 6 fur: If more than 12 two classes. If more than 13 three classes.

Second Day. Siam Ponies: 5 fur: If more than 14 two classes. Subscription Grifins: (i) 6 fur: (ii) 7 fur: Open Class: 14 2 and under: 7 fur: If more than 12 two classes. If more than 18 three classes.

Third Day. Siam Ponies: 6 fur: If more than 14 two classes. Subscription Grifins: (i) 4 1/2 fur: (ii) 6 fur: Open Class: 14 2 and under: 5 fur: If more than 12 two classes. If more than 18 three classes.

Fourth Day. (i) Kings Gold Cup (usual conditions) (ii) Siam Ponies (i) R. C. (ii) 5 fur: consolation. (iii) Subscription Grifins (i) R. C. (ii) 5 fur: consolation. (iv) Open Class 14 2 and under (i) R. C. If more than 12 two classes. (ii) 5 fur: consolation.

N.B.—All Races except the Kings Gold Cup are handicap.

Notice.

CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:—

Ex s/s "Jingu Maru" and "Tamba Maru" are hereby notified that same arrived per s.s. "Kumakata Maru", on 23rd ulto, and were landed and stored at Messrs. The East Asiatic Co.'s Wharf at the risk, expense and responsibility of consignees.

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.

BORNEO CO., LIMITED.
Agents

Notice.

The sale by public auction of Machinery, godowns etc. of the two Steam Rice Mills, the property of the Ministry of Finance, situated at Paknampoh Mondol Nagor Sawan, and at Klong Soi No. 7 Tanyaburi Mondol Krang Kao, respectively, will take place on the 29th January 1917 at the office of the Inspector General of Finance, Krok Wat Muang Kao Bangkok, at 2 p.m. Full particulars can be ascertained from the above mentioned Department on any day during office hours.

CROUP.

Every young child is susceptible to croup. Don't wait until this dreadful disease attacks your little one before you prepare for it. It comes in the night when chemists' shops are usually closed, and this alone should be a warning. Get and keep Chamberlain's Cough Remedy on hand. It never fails, acts quickly and is absolutely harmless. For sale by British Dispensary.

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
Oodroe Caviare
Filletted Fish
Haddock
Bloaters

Boiled Ham on cut
French Ham
Raw Ham
Breakfast Bacon

CHEESE
Roquefort
Australian
Stilton
Savoie
Cheddar (English)

Fresh Australian Butter and Best English Margarine
Pure Beef Dripping in 2lb Tins.

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



BY
APPOINTMENT

H.M. THE KING and H.M. THE QUEEN MOTHER



S. A. B.
JUST ARRIVED
A SELECTED STOCK OF
Icy Hot Bottles

Perfect Construction
Highest Efficiency

Keep Contents icy cold three days or steaming hot 24 hours.
Various Prices and Sizes.

D. Anderson & Son Ltd.



WAT MAHA THARD
Roofed with "Rok" Roofing
Barrow, Brown & Co, Ltd.
SOLE AGENTS.

C.A.V. CAR LIGHTING AND STARTING

BRITISH MADE THROUGHOUT
A girl can start the heaviest engine without effort when C.A.V. equipped.



The C.A.V. System of Electric Lighting and Starting is so simple that the veriest novice can control it. The combined Lighting and Starting run from the ONE BATTERY—there are no complicated mechanical or electrical devices—nothing to go wrong, nothing to get out of order.

Full particulars from
Siam Electricity Co. Ltd., Bangkok.
C.A.V. Vandervell & Co. Ltd.
ACTON, LONDON, ENGLAND.

THE

Great War.

The Blockade of Greece.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Dec. 30.

The Greek Government has presented a Note to the Entente requesting the raising of the blockade.

Scandinavia and Peace.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Dec. 30.

Copenhagen.—Sweden, Norway and Denmark have each sent a Note to the belligerents with an expression of Scandinavia's strongest adherence to President Wilson's proposals.

The French Front.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Dec. 30.

The French communiqué says: After intense bombardment the Germans strongly attacked on a front of over three kilometres from west of Hill 304 to east of Deadman Hill. The attack was broken by our fire. Only some fractions of the enemy penetrated a trench south of Deadman Hill. Five enemy aeroplanes were brought down on the 27th December.

London, Dec. 31.

Paris.—The communiqué says the French wrecked German trenches between the Oise and the Aisne. The Germans violently bombarded French positions between the Meuse and Avocourt. The French frustrated several bombing attacks on this front. French aviators bombed different German munition works including those at Neunkirchen and Neyvory.

A Threatened Strike.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Dec. 31.

Four hundred thousand railway men threatened to strike on the 1st January if the operation of the new law establishing eight hours a day and other concessions are delayed.

Coronation of King and Queen of Hungary.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Jan. 1.

The coronation of the King and Queen of Hungary was accomplished at Budapest in accordance with ancient pomp and solemnities.

Allies Reply to German Peace Note.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Jan. 1.

A joint reply of the Allies to the German peace note was today communicated by the French Government to the United States ambassador at Paris. It begins by stigmatising the proposal as illusory and protests strongly against two material assertions thereof, namely, professing to throw on the Allies the responsibility of the war and proclaiming a victory by the Central Powers, both of which assertions are not true. Such claims alone are sufficient to render sterile all attempts at negotiation.

Battleship Sunk.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, Jan. 1.

Paris.—The Naval communiqué says that the battleship *Gaulois* was torpedoed by a submarine in the Mediterranean on the 27th December and sank after half an hour.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Dec. 31.

The battleship *Gaulois* was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean on the 27th December. All on board were saved except four, who were killed by an explosion.

Anglo-French Conference.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Dec. 30.

The French representatives among whom were M. Ribot and Thomas Deloré for three days in London with the British Ministry and were in perfect agreement on all subjects concerning both Governments.

Germany's Shipping Losses.

(Havas Telegram.)

Paris, Dec. 30.

It is announced from a German source that Germany lost since the opening of hostilities 414 ships with a total capacity of 1,259,000 tons by either destruction or seizure.

Tin and Rubber.

(“S. O.” SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Singapore, Dec. 30.

At the rubber auction the demand was only fair and prices were somewhat irregular. Pale crepe was four dollars up and smoked sheet five dollars down.

Tin is quoted at \$83.50.

Donations By The King.

In connection with the celebration of the Royal Birthday we learn that His Majesty the King has been pleased to make donations from the Privy Purse to the following institutions:—

	Bahts
The Royal Navy League Fund	40,000
Siriraj Hospital	30,000
Vajira Hospital	10,000
St. Louis Hospital	8,000
Bangkok Nursing Home	8,000

Golf Notes.

Members are reminded that the annual meeting will be held tomorrow night at the Sports Club at 6.0 p.m. for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year and to discuss a proposed revision of the hazards of the course and an alteration to the arrangement of the holes.

It is hoped that there will be a good attendance.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

MESSRS. the Borneo Co. have a notice to consignees.

MESSRS. the Siam Import Co. have just received another shipment of Ixion motor bicycles.

MESSRS. Kiam Hoa Heng Co. have a large stock of water filters, ladies' and gents' bicycles etc.

Mrs. Chodbourne, Miss La Methi and Mr. Rousseau (Superintendent Messenger boats) arrived by the s.s. *Jade*.

THE prospectus of the F.D.S.C. race meeting to be held next month beginning from 10th February, will be found in another column.

THE s.s. *Katong* left Singapore on Sunday morning the 31st ulto, with the mail and may be expected to arrive at the Borneo Company's wharf on Wednesday morning about 10 a.m.

OWING to pressure on our space we have held over the advertisement of the S.E.C. re Exide batteries and that relating to Fire, Life and Marine Insurance of Messrs. L. T. Leonowens Ltd.

THE H. B. M. Consulate General has received a copy of the most recent “Newspaper Press Directory and Advertisers Guide.” This publication contains particulars of every newspaper, magazine, review and periodical published in the British Isles. The Continental, American, Indian and Colonial papers are also shown. By means of this directory those who may wish to advertise or make inquiries in any part of the British Empire may find a newspaper or periodical which will provide a medium of publicity suitable to their requirements. The volume may be consulted by the public at any time during the usual business hours at H. B. M. Consulate General.



Court Circular.

GRAND PALACE,
Saturday, December 30.
To-day is the commencement of the celebration of the Natal Day of His Majesty the King.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon His Majesty drove in a State Carriage issued from Vises Jaisri Gate, escorted by the 1st Cavalry of the Guard, preceded by two officers bearing the Royal Standards and attended by Aide-de-Camps, Master of the Horse and Equerries on horseback and by other members of the Royal Household following in carriages. His Majesty proceeded by Na Phralan Road, Sanam Jaya Road, Charoen Krung Road and Hua Luang Phong Road, then stopped at the construction of which has been met by His Majesty's Privy Purse, His Excellency the Minister of Local Government read an address, inviting His Majesty to declare the bridge open to traffic. His Majesty was graciously pleased to reply to the address and named the new bridge "Charoen Svasti." His Majesty then cut the ribbon stretched across the bridge and declared the bridge open to traffic. The procession then crossed the bridge and returned to the Grand Palace.

His Majesty entered the Chapel Royal, presented robes and bags to five High Priests, and then lit the candles and incense before the altar of the Emerald Image. The five priests thereupon commenced the celebration of a religious service. His Majesty next lit the candles of a special candlestick, and in accordance with tradition the Royal Astrologers recited propitiatory incantations to the nine tutelaries.

His Majesty then proceeded from the Chapel Royal to Amarindra Hall, where he presented robes and royal warrants conferring various ranks upon twenty-four priests. The latter, having returned thanks and recited a blessing retired. The King then sprinkled the image of Our Lord lately cast for this year and also the image of the Buddha executed of white stone presented to His Majesty by His Royal Highness the Holy Prince Vajirana. By special order of the King, this image was now to be consecrated. The officials of the State Robes Department placed the images on a special altar before the throne.

During the sprinkling and anointing of the images, officials of the Ecclesiastical Department conducted into the hall thirty-seven high priests of the Maha Nikaya Sect, who each received from His Majesty robes and bags of gold cloth. While the priests were donning their robes, the King entered the Baisai Hall to light candles and incense, afterwards returning to the Amarindra Hall and lighting candles and incense there. The High Priests then commenced the celebration of a religious service, including the recitation of the "Dhammachak Kapavatana Sutta" and the "Seven-part Protective Stanzas."

During the service the King has been pleased to make donations from the Privy Purse to the following institutions:—The Royal Navy League Fund 40,000 Bahts; Siriraj Hospital 30,000 Bahts; Vajira Hospital 10,000 Bahts; St. Louis Hospital 8,000 Bahts; Bangkok Nursing Home 8,000 Bahts. His Majesty has been also graciously pleased to make certain promotions to the higher ranks of Knighthood, the official list of which will be issued separately. After the service the King commanded fireworks to be set off in honour of the consecration of the new images.

GRAND PALACE,
Sunday, December 31.

This morning at 10 o'clock His Majesty the King proceeded to the Amarindra Hall, where he lit the candles and incense, and the morning service was presented to the fifty-three priests who took part in His Majesty's Natal Day celebration. While the priests were partaking of their meal, an official of the Royal Scribes Department read the sacrificial invocation. When the repast of the priests was ended, His Majesty presented robes and other gifts to the priests. The priests then recited the blessing and took leave, after which the King retired.

After the morning service, the Brahmin priests of the Court celebrated the Brahminical service to bless the new images, including the rite of "Pradakshina with the Holy Agni."

This afternoon at 4 o'clock His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to grant a special audience to the representatives of the Muhammadan communities. The Minister for Foreign Affairs introduced into His Majesty's presence, before the Abhorn Bhinnokkha Pavilion the Imams and Hajis, who are the heads of the mosques in different districts of the Country together with several other representative men of the Muhammadan communities, under the leadership of Colonel Phya Kalya Bhakdi (Commanding Officer of the 1st Army Corps) official Chief (Chang Wang) of the Sani Muhammadan communities.

The Hajis and representatives having been duly introduced, Colonel Phya Kalya Bhakdi read a loyal address on behalf of his co-religionists expressing their deep gratitude for the benevolent protection which they had enjoyed under His Majesty's rule since His Majesty had deigned to become "Protector of the Faith of Prophet Muhammad" on the last auspicious occasion of His Majesty's Birthday. The Hajis always had at heart their unalterable loyalty to the Throne. They would, when occasion should arise serve the King against all foes, for laying down their lives in the King's service is but to follow the precepts of the Prophet. They prayed the King to accept the "Aden Staff of Islam" which is a holy emblem of Faith entitling the holder to the loyalty of all the Faithfuls. Finally all of them invoked the Blessing of Allah upon His Majesty the King "The Protector of the Faith of the Prophet Muhammad."

The King was graciously pleased to accept the "Aden Staff of Islam" and to reply to the address, thanking the Muhammadan communities for the expression of their loyalty and assured them of his benevolent protection.

The King then conferred sacramental cloths upon each of the three high Hajis and upon the Imams, who are heads of the mosques, gowns of office in different colours according to their grades, each gown having on the breast the Royal Monogram surmounted by the Royal Crown all embroidered in gold and silk.

The function was brought to a close by the Hajis and representatives invoking the Blessings of Allah upon the King.

The King then proceeded to the Chapel Royal, where the same ceremonies as on the previous day took place. From the Chapel His Majesty proceeded to the Amarindra Hall, where he lit candles and incense, after which the King entered the Baisai Hall.

The five priests who were to celebrate a special service, as well as the Princes and Household officials, entered the inner precincts of the Palace by the Sanam Rajakich Gate and proceeded to the Baisai Hall. There the King presented robes and bags of gold cloth to the five priests, who retired to don the robes and re-entered immediately afterwards. The King lit the candles and incense. The five priests then celebrated a special service, consisting of the nine special sets of text from the Holy Scripture, while the Royal Astrologers recited propitiatory incantations to the nine tutelaries, the recitation being alternate.

At the end of the service the King presented gifts to the priests, who recited the blessing and took leave.

In the evening His Majesty the King drove in a motor-car to witness the illuminations in the town.

GRAND PALACE,
Monday, January 1.

To-day at twelve o'clock noon, the Army and the Navy fired a Royal Salute of one hundred and one guns. The King seated himself upon the Throne in the Amarindra Hall, whereupon the state trumpeters blew a fanfare and the state drummers beat the metal drums, while the military guard of honour presented arms and the military band played the National Anthem. Then the Princes of the Blood and the officials assembled presented their address of congratulations to His Majesty, who was pleased to make a speech from the Throne in reply. At the end of the speech, the state trumpeters once more blew a fanfare and the band played the National Anthem, while the King retired to the Baisai Hall to receive the congratulations of the Princesses, Ladies of the Palace, and wives of officials.

At one o'clock the King received the Diplomatic and Consular Corps and representatives of foreign Powers in the Central Hall of Chakri Palace. The Dean of the Corps read an Address of congratulations, to which His Majesty made a reply.

At 3.30 o'clock His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to grant audience to all the officials of the Royal Chamberlains' Department on the occasion of their presenting to His Majesty a Birthday present in the shape of a motor car.

First Grand Chamberlain His Excellency Phya Prasiddhi Subhakar, Lord Chamberlain, made a loyal address on behalf of the officials wishing His Majesty a long and prosperous reign and praying His Majesty to accept upon this auspicious occasion a motor-car, to the purchase of which they had all subscribed. The King was graciously pleased to reply thanking them for their good wishes and to accept the car.

Later in the afternoon His Majesty, at Abhorn Bhinnokkha Pavilion, presented the Standards to the different Regiments of the Honourable Corps of the Wild Tiger Scouts. After the presentation of the Standards, which were received from His Majesty's hands by the Commanders of the different Legions hereafter named, the King was pleased to address them words of exhortation. After the address the Commanders bearing Standards proceeded to their allotted positions and the various representative Companies following the Standards, marched past His Majesty.

The Regiments, which received the Standards from His Majesty's hands, were as follows:—

1. The King's Own Scout Rifles.
2. The King's Own Regiment of Scout Guard Infantry.
3. The King's Own Regiment of Mounted Scouts.
4. The King's Own Corps of Wild Tiger Cadets.

5. The King's Own Territorial Regiment of Bangkok.
6. The 2nd Territorial Regiment of Bangkok.
7. The 3rd Territorial Regiment of Bangkok.
8. The King's Own Territorial Regiment of Ayudhya.
9. The Territorial Regiment of Bismulok.
10. The Territorial Regiment of Nagon Svarga.
11. The Territorial Regiment of Roi Eoh.
12. The Territorial Regiment of Ubol.
13. The Territorial Regiment of Nagon Rujima.
14. The Territorial Regiment of Uttar.
15. The Territorial Regiment of Chantaburi.
16. The Territorial Regiment of Prachinburi.
17. The King's Own Territorial Regiment of Nagon Sri Dhanaraja.
18. The Territorial Regiment of Pattani.
19. The Territorial Regiment of Surath.
20. The 1st Territorial Regiment of Bhuket.

21. The 2nd Territorial Regiment of Bhuket.
22. The King's Own Territorial Regiment of Nagon Jaisri.
23. The Territorial Regiment of Rajburi.
24. The King's Own Territorial Regiment of Bayab.
25. The 2nd Territorial Regiment of Maharash.
26. The 3rd Territorial Regiment of Bayab.
27. The 4th Territorial Regiment of Maharash.

At 5.30 o'clock the King proceeded by state palanquin to the Temple of the Emerald Image and entered the Chapel, where a ceremony like that of the previous day was celebrated. His Majesty then returned to the Amarindra Hall.

There His Majesty presented robes and bags of gold cloth to sixty priests of the Dhamma Yutika Sect, who celebrated a service including the recitation of the "Maha Samaya Sutta" and the "Seven-part Protective Stanzas." The service was concluded with the blessing.

In the evening His Majesty the King honoured the Minister for Foreign Affairs with his presence at the Ball given by the Minister at Saranromya Palace.

Official List of Promotions.

In the Orders of Knighthood and in Rank by Letters Patent.

On the occasion of His Majesty's Natal Day, the King has been graciously pleased to make the following promotions to higher ranks in various Orders of Knighthood.

ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 30.

The Ratna Varabhorn Order of Merit.

Second Grand Court Officer His Excellency Phya Boran Rajathanindra, Viceroy of Ayudhya.

The Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant.

TO BE KNIGHT COMMANDER.

(SECOND CLASS)

1. Third Grand Chamberlain Phya Bibidh, Assistant Director, Major Domo's Department.

TO BE COMMANDERS.

(THIRD CLASS)

2. Third Grand Councillor Phya Bejra Paul, Director-General of the Local Government Department, Ministry of Local Government.

3. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Jayananda, Nibaddhabongsa, Royal Chamberlains' Department.

4. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Varasiddhi Sovitratra, Chief Steward to His Majesty.

5. First Court Officer Phya Anurak Sombati, His Majesty's Privy Purse Department.

6. First Court Officer Phya Amaratna Somburna, His Majesty's Privy Purse Department.

7. Colonel Phya Damrong Badyaguna, Surgeon General of the Sanitary Department of the Royal Army.

8. Colonel Phya Varadej Sakdavyudh, A.D.C. Chief of Staff of the 3rd Division of the Royal Army.

9. Colonel Phya Abhai Songram, Adjutant of the 1st Army Corps.

10. Police-Colonel Phya Indra Dhibadi, Divisional Superintendent of Police.

11. First Councillor Phya Sri Samruach, Assistant Comptroller-General.

12. First Court Officer Chaman Chong Bhakdi Ong, Ministry of the Royal Household.

13. First Court Officer Phya Bibulya Barnakich, Ministry of the Royal Household.

14. Second Court Officer Phya Rajagru Vansodeh, Ministry of the Royal Household.

15. Mr. E. S. Smith, Assistant Director General of Education.

16. Mr. R. Belhomme, Superintendent Engineer of the Sanitary Department, Ministry of Local Government.

17. Dr. M. Carthew, Assistant Medical Officer, Ministry of Local Government.

The Most Honourable Order of the Crown of Siam.

TO BE KNIGHTS GRAND COMMANDER.

(FIRST CLASS)

1. Third Grand Councillor Chao Chakragam Khacharasakdi, Ruling Chief of Lam Phoon.

2. Colonel Chao Uparaj of Nan.

3. Mr. E. Florio, Director-General of Financial Inspection Department.

TO BE KNIGHTS COMMANDER.

(SECOND CLASS)

4. Third Grand Chamberlain Phya Dhanaratna Badi, Accountant General of the Lord Chamberlains' Department.

5. Major-General Phya Viji Narong, Paymaster General of the Royal Army.

6. Third Grand Councillor Phya Raja Sena, Ministry of the Interior.

7. Third Grand Court Officer Phya Bedaraja, Ministry of the Royal Household.

8. Mr. A. J. Irwin, Adviser to the Royal Survey Department, Ministry of War.

TO BE COMMANDERS.

(THIRD CLASS)

9. First Court Officer His Serene Highness Prince Jotirasa, Ministry of the Royal Household.

10. Colonel Phya Narindra Rajaseni, Assistant Director General of Artillery, Department of the Royal Army.

11. First Councillor Phya Nondaburi Sri Kshetraram, Governor of Nondaburi.

12. First Councillor Phya Sundarabhidh, Legal Adviser to the Ministry of Local Government.

13. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Sudeb Bhakdi, Major Domo's Department.

14. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Avaraja Sombati, Master of the Horse Department.

15. First Court Officer Phya Sombatyadhibala, Ministry of the Royal Household.

16. Colonel Phya Kalya Bhakdi, Commanding Officer of the Military Reformatory Corps, of the 1st Army Corps.

17. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Chandra Bhumi Bidaksha, Major Domo's Department.

18. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Badyabongsa, Surgeon to the Royal Household.

19. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Chao Mun Sarabodh Bhakdi, Senior Gentleman of the Bed Chamber.

20. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Chao Mun Sri Sararaksh, Senior Gentleman of the Bed Chamber.

21. Colonel Phya Krairasiddhi, A.D.C., Acting General Officer Commanding the 3rd Division of the Royal Army.

22. Colonel Phya Raja Argniraksh, Director of Ordnance Store of the Royal Army.

23. First Court Officer Phya Sri Vikaramaditya, Member of the Judicial Committee of the Royal Household.

24. First Councillor Phya Satyadara Vinichaya, Lord Justice of Appeal.

25. First Councillor Phya Brahma Mandhadul, Lord Justice of Appeal.

26. First Councillor Phya Inda Mandhadul, Lord Justice of Appeal.

27. First Councillor Phya Anubondha, Director of General Education in the Department of Education, Ministry for Religious Affairs and Education.

28. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Vijitra Jadhara, Director of Motor Launches Department.

29. First Court Officer Chamun Siri Wang Ratna, of the Household to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

30. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Binich Debarasa, Royal Buttery and Kitchen.

31. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Adara Bhatra, Royal Buttery and Kitchen.

32. First Court Officer Phya Nibith Rajakara, Ministry of the Royal Household.

33. Second Court Officer Phya Sidhijaya Badi, Ministry of the Royal Household.

34. Second Court Officer Phya Prakob Rajavitra, His Majesty's Privy Purse Department.

35. Police Colonel Luang Bejra Indra, Inspector of the Gendarmerie.

Dushdi Mala Medal.

(SCIENCE AND ART CLASS.)

1. Lieutenant-Colonel Phya Anuraksha Yodha, Director of Central Military Hospital.

2. Lieutenant-Colonel Luang Salvidhan Nides, Assistant-Director of the Military Instruction Division.

3. Second Councillor Phya Bibidh Sombati, Assistant Chief Auditor of the Southern Line, Royal State Railways.

4. First Deputy Councillor Luang Prakrit Kalasatra, Assistant Engineer of the Southern Line, Royal State Railways.

5. Second Deputy Councillor Khun Suwabandha Bidyakara, Assistant Engineer of the Southern Line, Royal State Railways.

Elevations in Rank.

BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

TO BE PHYA.

- Phya Saraprasoeth to be Phya Sri Sundara Yodha.

- Phya Bibulya Biriyaabha to be Phya Raja Bhabana Barihara.

- Phya Prakas Aksharakich to be Phya Prakas Aksharakich.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 31.

The Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant.

TO BE KNIGHT COMMANDER.

(SECOND CLASS)

- Third Grand Court Officer Phya Sukhara Saraprabeni, Comptroller of the Ministry of the Royal Household.

(Continued on Page 2.)

The Birthday Celebrations.

Yesterday morning His Majesty the King held a levee when officials of the Siamese Government were received. In the afternoon His Majesty received the members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps when H.E. Mr. Domela Nieuwenhuis, Minister of the Netherlands, as doyen of the Corps, read the following address to His Majesty:

Address of Diplomatic Corps.

SIRE,
C'est avec grande joie que le pays tout entier célèbre aujourd'hui le trente-sixième anniversaire de la naissance de Votre Majesté, sixième Souverain de la dynastie nationale.

Le Corps diplomatique et consulaire s'empresse de joindre ses très sincères et respectueuses félicitations aux témoignages de reconnaissance et d'affection que Votre Majesté recevra de la nation qu'Elle gouverne avec une si haute sagesse.

Daignez, Sire, agréer avec bonté l'assurance des souhaits ardents que nous formons pour le bonheur de Votre Majesté et pour la prospérité de Son règne et pour la félicité de Son Royaume.

His Majesty's Reply.

Translation of the reply of His Majesty the King to the congratulatory address of the Diplomatic Corps:—

MR. MINISTER.

It is with sincere pleasure and satisfaction that I listen once again on the occasion of my birthday to the cordial good wishes expressed by Your Excellency on behalf of all the members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps assembled here for that purpose. I thank, gentlemen, to return my hearty thanks for those good wishes and to express to you in turn my hopes for your continued personal welfare and for the happiness and prosperity of the countries you represent.

The Illuminations.

Bangkok was a veritable fairyland yesterday, both the city and the river banks being a blaze of light. The displays were eloquent of the affection and esteem for His Majesty the King, demonstrating how deep is the regard in which he is held by his subjects. Whilst the Ministries, public buildings, and homes of the great glittered in gorgeous displays, the decorations and illuminations at the humble abodes of the people were also a specially attractive sight.

There was hardly a dwelling in Bangkok that did not display some illumination or bunting and often one saw a photo of His Majesty tastefully set out, surrounded with flowers and candles. The trees in the gardens of the princely abodes were festooned with garlands of coloured electric lights, presenting a most beautiful sight. Many buildings too were outlined with lights, forming brilliant pictures. The scene of the Foreign Office Ball was a specially notable display, gay with banners, bunting, illuminated crests, coloured lights, etc. The New Road looked quite imposing, the merchants vying with each other in the wealth of their decorations.

In the vicinity of the Palace the display was dazzling, the walls of the Palace being aflow with lamps.

The scene at night was charming and animated, all Bangkok being abroad to see the sights. The decorated trams too, added to the festive gaiety of the scene.

Apart from the displays on the main thoroughfares there were many grand schemes of illuminations at places apart, these being linked up with the chief displays by the humble though equally meritorious decorations of the population at large.

The river banks presented a wonderful spectacle as seen from the water, the illuminations showing out at night with beautiful effect. The chief centre was naturally the neighbourhood of the Palace and the Royal Landing, where everything was on a lavish and artistic scale. The Ministry of Marine, Naval Yard, and Workshops were gay with flags and bunting and aflow with coloured lamps and lanterns. There were also many beautiful mottoes, bearing loyal and hearty wishes to His Most Gracious Majesty the King.

The Foreign Office Ball.

H.R.H. Prince Devawongse and officials of the Foreign Office have to be congratulated on the successful Ball which was held at the Sanam Palace this year. The Minister's guests represented members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, high Siamese officials and almost the whole of the foreign community in Bangkok. Dancing was kept up with great *éclat* till the small hours. Before supper H.M. the King paid a visit to the place. His Royal Highness led in Madame na Bismulok to supper during the course of which the loyal toast to the King was drunk amid cheers and the strains of the national anthem.

An interesting function at the Ball might be mentioned and that was the decoration of Mr. Eric Leith, the popular manager of the East Asiatic Co., who received at the hands of His Majesty the Ratnabhorn Personal Order.

MOTOR BICYCLES.

IXION
IXION
IXION

MOTOR BICYCLES

Another Shipment Just Arrived

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Sikak Phya Sri-City.

Christmas Shells.

London, Dec. 23.—Egypt official: Our aircraft dropped a ton of high explosives on an enemy concentration at Maghdabab, causing many casualties, attacked Beershiba and Anja, and seriously damaged an important railway-bridge at Telelsharia, northwards of Beershiba.

London, Dec. 22.—Killed on Nov. 13, at Beaumont Hamel, Baron Hubert De Reuter, only son of the late Baron, while serving as a private in the Black Watch. Through his persistent bravery and resource his platoon of twenty men captured a German officer and ninety-seven men. He was killed while carrying a third comrade to a place of safety. The Colonel writes that he intended to recommend him for very high distinction if he had lived.

London, Dec. 22.—The British military mission satisfactorily reports the destruction, under the Roumanian Government's orders, of the oilwells and refineries at the chief centres.

London, Dec. 24.—The French communiqué says there is calm in the west with moderate artillery work in Macedonia.

London, Dec. 25.—The German official claims a repulse of British attacks at Ypres and in Macedonia.

London, Dec. 25.—General Haig says: We raided trenches in the neighbourhood of Hebutern taking prisoners. We successfully discharged gas westwards of Meuse. The enemy fired a camouflet at Mount Sorrel, doing no damage. We shelled a working party northeast of Morval.

Details of the raid northwards of Arras on Dec. 23 show that two lines of trenches were penetrated in broad daylight on a four hundred yards front and all objectives were attained.

London, Dec. 25.—The French communiqué of the evening of Dec. 24 and the afternoon of Christmas Day record lively artillery work, especially on the right bank of the Meuse.

Small enemy attacks in Champagne and south of the Aisne are reported. A French detachment in the region of Roye penetrated a German trench and the occupants fled after losses.

London, Dec. 25.—General Haig says: We successfully raided trenches southward of Lens and eastward of Armentieres taking some prisoners. The enemy blew a camouflet southwards of St. Eloi but the damage done was slight. We systematically shelled the enemy defences and headquarters north of the Somme, doing much damage.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The communiqué says:—The day was comparatively quiet everywhere. Three enemy machines were brought down yesterday on the Somme.

There was a violent artillery struggle north of Monastir.

London, Dec. 25.—Italian Official: Enemy patrols attacking southeast of Gorizia were driven off and some were made prisoner.

Salonica.—Dec. 25.—Official: We successfully raided main line trenches between lake Doiran and Doldgill and inflicted serious loss. We destroyed several gun-emplacements.

London, Dec. 25.—Egypt Official: Our mounteds captured a stronghold at Maghdabab, capturing 1,130 men, two guns and a large booty. The enemy's casualties were considerable.

Our aircraft co-operated with bombs and machine guns and aeroplanes were continuing to harass the enemy.

London, Dec. 25.—The Russian communiqué says that the enemy repeatedly failed to recapture heights in the Usa Valley on the Moldavian frontier, the slopes thereof being covered with corpses. The Roumanians were pushed back in places in the region of Kasinoriver, Vrancea Mountains.

All enemy attacks left of the Danube were repelled, except one height lost. Our left abandoned Isakchea and Tulcea in the Dobrudja.

Jassy, Dec. 25.—The King of Rumania in his speech at the opening of Parliament said: Our army has sustained a struggle according to the glorious tradition of our ancestors in a manner justifying our looking forward to the future with absolute confidence. The King continued: Rumania will bear the great hardships and sacrifices of the war courageously. He was absolutely confident of the victory of the Allies side on which Rumania is determined to struggle with every energy unto the end.

London, Dec. 25.—The Kaiser has sent this message to the troops for Christmas: "To the honour of God above and peace on earth. God bless the third war Christmas."

Important Russian Statement.

Petrograd, Dec. 25.—M. Pokrowski, the new Foreign Minister, made an important statement to press representatives. He said that after the war the military alliance between Russia, France and Great Britain will be consolidated by a close economic union. The war will be continued a *l'outrance* until a decisive victory. President Wilson's note could not alter the situation. The Allies would reply fully but would refuse Wilson's proposal and then would reiterate that they would continue war until the restoration of the ravaged territories and the existence of small nations was secured and a new world conflagration had become absolutely impossible.

M. Pokrowski indicated further military measures "finally to end Greek vacillations."

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London, Dec. 26.—Egypt Official. In the Maghabah engagement the total captured was 1,350 of whom forty-five were officers. Seven guns were taken. The total enemy force engaged was about two thousand and therefore the force was practically destroyed. Southward our mobile forces penetrated the Milla pass and destroyed the defences at the eastern end and burned camps in the neighbourhood.

Salonika, Dec. 26.—No fewer than four fresh German regiments with a number of heavy guns have appeared on the Serbian front. The Germans are striving hard to regain the ascendancy of the air and have brought up several new aeroplanes of the latest type, each with two machine-guns and are again crossing our lines with comparative impunity.

London, Dec. 26.—Mesopotamia official: British detachments advanced to the right bank of the Tigris and consolidated their position south and east of Kut. Our cavalry destroyed Gassaba which was a base for hostile Arabs.

Lisbon, Dec. 26.—It is officially announced that the whole right bank of the Riguema river is in the hands of the Portuguese besides the most important post on the left bank in German territory.

London, Dec. 26.—The French communiqué says: Ten French aeroplanes bombed the railway station and huts at Nesle, bivouacs in Chapitre and Ourscamp woods.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The communique says: There is great artillery activity reciprocally in the sectors of Belloy en Santerre, Fouquescourt and intermittent cannonading elsewhere.

London, Dec. 27.—General Haig says we took prisoner eighteen of a party of fifty approaching Les Bœufs. Our machine-guns caused heavy casualties amongst the remainder.

We raided positions northeastward of Armentieres and eastward of Ploegsteers, where prisoners were secured.

Petrograd, Dec. 27.—The communiqué says: The Romanians by a brilliant attack recaptured the height in the Rasin river valley on the Moldavian frontier. Fierce enemy attacks on the Roumanian front in the region of Dragoslave were repelled. The Rumanians counterattacked and took three machineguns. The Russians repulsed

strong attacks elsewhere inflicting heavy losses, except in one area. They abandoned Filipesi after a particularly sanguinary struggle in consequence of enemy artillery causing conflagrations

Rome, Dec. 27.—A naval communique says: Several enemy ships on the night of Dec. 23 attacked the small guardships of the Otranto Canal.

French destroyers espied them and a sharp engagement ensued. The enemy fleet pursued by its allied forces but escaped in the darkness. The enemy loss is unknown. One French destroyer and one guardship were slightly damaged.

London, Dec. 27.—General Joffre has been appointed Marshall of France, the first time the dignity has been revived since the Empire.

London, Dec. 26.—The death has occurred of Sir William Bigge.

London, Dec. 26.—Sinking: Spanish steamer Marques Deurquijo.

London, Dec. 26.—The Secretary for the Colonies telegraphed to the Premier yesterday: "His Majesty's Government does not contemplate that the session will be an ordinary Imperial conference but a special war conference of the Empire. Therefore, we invite your Premier to attend the series of special continuous meetings of the war cabinet to consider the urgent questions of the prosecution of the war and the possible conditions under which, in agreement with the Allies, we could assent to peace and other problems thereon arising. For the purpose of these meetings your Premier will be a member of the war cabinet so as to view the urgency and importance of subjects under discussion. It is hoped that your Premier will attend no later than the end of February. If he is unable to attend he should appoint a substitute."

The Secretary for India has telegraphed to the Viceroy similarly stating that he is to represent India in these sittings and desiring the assistance of two gentlemen specially selected in consultation with you, as foreshadowed in Lord Hardinge's speech on September 22, 1915.

London, Dec. 26.—All Dominion Premiers are invited to the Conference which it is believed will take the form of a series of meetings with the War Council, to discuss war organisation and postwar problems. It will probably be consulted as to peace conditions.

All the papers warmly and enthusiastically welcome the Empire War Council as a landmark in the history of the Empire and the fulfilment of the aims of the greatest Empire builders. It is hoped also that it will facilitate an Irish settlement.

London, Dec. 26.—The French Ministers MM Ribot and Thomas have arrived in London.

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		Tues. Thurs. Sats.	daily	daily	daily	daily				daily	daily	daily	Weis. Fris. Suns.	daily
		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.				a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.
Bangkok Noi ...	Dep.	7.30	8.25	1.20	2.10	Chumpon ...	Dep.							7.45
M. Nakon Patom ...	"	8.56	10.13	2.15	4.27	Prachuap Kirikan ...	Arr.							p.m.
N. Tong ...	"	9.33	10.55	3.26	5.38	" ...	Dep.							2.26
Potaram ...	"	9.55	11.22	4.40	6.17	Pran Kao ...	"					6. 5	9. 5	2.41
Ratburi ...	Arr.	10.26	11.57	4.31	6.59	Wang Phong ...	Arr.					6.10	10.59	4.59
" ...	Dep.	10.36	12.10	4.41		" ...	Dep.					6.13	11.14	5. 5
Petchaburi ...	Arr.	12—	1.45	6.29		Hua Hin ...	Arr.					6.57	11.46	
" ...	"	p.m.				" ...	Dep.					7. 5	11.54	
" ...	Dep.	12.12	2.17			Petchaburi ...	Arr.					9.37	1.43	
Hua Hin ...	Arr.	1.59	4.47			" ...	Dep.					7.10	9.52	1.56
" ...	Dep.	2. 5	4.57			Ratburi ...	Arr.					9.10	11.40	3.18
Wang Phong ...	Arr.	2.37	5.37			" ...	"					p.m.		
" ...	Dep.	2.48	5.42		6.25	" ...	Dep.	6. 5	9.22	1.30	3.28			
Pran Kao ...	Arr.	5.17			6.33	Potaram ...	"	6.59	9.56	2. 6	4. 1			
Prachuap Kirikan ...	Arr.	4.38			8.46	Ban Phong ...	"	7.43	10.19	2.43	4.25			
" ...	"				8.56	M. Nakon Patom ...	"	9. 2	11—	3.17	5. 6			
" ...	Dep.				p.m.	" ...	"					p.m.		
Chumpon ...	Arr.				3.53	Bangkok Noi ...	Arr.	11.12	12.23	4.53	6.28			
Chumpon-Tung Song on Tuesdays,Thurs. & Sats.		a.m.			a.m.	Tung Song-Chumpon on Mondays, Weeds and Fri.								
Chumpon	Dep.	6.45			6.45	Tung Song	Dep.	2.20					a.m.	
Langsuen	Arr.	9.18			11.37	Trang	Arr.	5.30					8.20	
"	Dep.	9.28			12. 2	"							11.22	
Sarashtra Dhani	Arr.	1. 4			3.37	Tung Song-Singora		a.m.						
"	Dep.	1.29			3.47	Singora-Tung Song								
Tung Song	Arr.	6.23			6.19	Wed. Fridays & Sundays	Tuesdays, Thursdays & Sun.							
Tung Song-Nakon Srihanaraj daily except Monday		a.m.			a.m.	Nakon Srihanaraj-Tung Song daily except Monday								
Tung Song	Dep.	6.30			6.30	Tung Song	Dep.	11.50					a.m.	
N. Junction	Arr.	7.37			11—	N. Junction	Arr.	12.10					7.30	
N. Srihanaraj	Dep.	12.12			1.18	Patalung	Dep.	12.55					10.48	
Tung Song	Arr.	5.20			5.20	"	Arr.	2.47					10.58	
"	Dep.	2.57			3.00	Singora	Arr.	6.13					12.60	
"	Arr.	1. 5			1.55	"	Dep.	2.57					1. 5	
"	Arr.	1.55			1.55	"	Arr.	6.13					1.55	

Court Circular.

(Continued from Page 5.)

TO BE COMMANDER

(THIRD CLASS)

First Court Officer Phra Manojkarana Nitthada, Assistant Legal Counsellor to His Majesty.

The Most Honourable Order of the Crown of Siam.

TO BE COMMANDERS.

(THIRD CLASS)

1. First Counsellor His Serene Highness Prince Vibulya, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.
2. Third Counsellor His Serene Highness Prince Thong Jambunad, Ministry of Finance.

The Ratanabhorn Personal Order.

(FIRST CLASS)

1. Lieutenant General His Royal Highness the Prince of Kamphaeng Bejra, A.D.C., Inspector General of His Majesty's Land Forces.

(SECOND CLASS)

2. His Royal Highness Prince Nam Dhipa.

(THIRD CLASS)

3. Third Grand Chamberlain Phya Busayarattha Badi, Director of Motor Vehicles Department.

4. Colonel Phya Phra Krishnaraksas, A.D.C., General Officer Commanding the 6th Division of the Royal Army.

5. Colonel Phya Bijaya Songram, A.D.C., Director of the Strategic Department, General Staff of the Royal Army.

6. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Deb Dvaravali, Chief Secretary to the Board of Grand Chamberlains.

7. First Court Officer Phya Adara Dhurasilpa, Director of the Royal Arts Department.

8. Police-Colonel Phya Birendra Dhibadi, A.D.C., Divisional Superintendent of Metropolitan Police.

9. Police-Colonel Phya Adhikarana Prakas, A.D.C., Divisional Superintendent of Police, Special Branch.

10. Police-Colonel Phya Throng Balabhaha, A.D.C., Deputy Commissioner of Police and Gendarmerie.

11. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Deb Sombati, Royal Entertainments Department.

12. First Court Officer Phya Bhubala Bantthoen, Ministry of the Royal Household.

13. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Nadaka Nuraksha, Royal Entertainments Department.

14. Deputy Grand Chamberlain Phya Ribulya Aisvarya, Major Domos Department.

Dusdhi Mala Medal.

(SCIENCE AND ART CLASS)

Captain Luang Sakda Balaraksha, Staff-Surgeon of the Central Military Hospital.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1.

The Most Honourable Order of the Crown of Siam.

TO BE COMMANDER.

(THIRD CLASS)

Mr. P. R. Kemp, Superintendent of the Royal Survey Department.

Royal Speech.

On the Occasion of His Majesty's Birthday Anniversary, 1st January B.E. 2459 (1917).

(TRANSLATION)

Princes and Officials,

The anniversary of My Birthday in this year B.E. 2459 being coincident with My Natal Year, Marong, and marking the completion of its third cycle since My birth, I have felt great pleasure and satisfaction in listening to the congratulations which you have just offered Me on this auspicious occasion and to your unanimous expressions of steadfast loyalty and devotion towards My Person. My satisfaction is enhanced when I also call to mind the various affairs of State under My control which have been dealt with during the twelve months which have just elapsed. They show that the time has not been wasted, but that during its course many things useful to the Government of the country which ought to be done have been accomplished and others which ought to be introduced have been taken well in hand, as I will now proceed to briefly describe.

In connection with General Administration some further changes have been made. The duties of the Public Prosecution have been transferred from the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Local Government to the Ministry of Justice. Regulations prescribing the dress to be worn by judges and advocates in the Courts of Justice have been issued. A decree amending the procedure in the trial of offences against the law relating to Inland Tax has been promulgated, making that procedure the same as in criminal prosecutions, thus lessening the difficulties experienced by the Public Prosecution with regard to fees and the conduct of the cases. The Courts in the districts of Bejraburna and Lomsukhi have been placed under the jurisdiction of the Monthon Court of Bienuk Circle. The Courts in the districts of Dhanyaburi and Pradandhani have been trans-

ferred from the Metropolitan Circle to the jurisdiction of the Monthon Court of Ayutthia Circle. A Monthon Court has been established in Mahasarakham Circle and the Courts in the districts of Nan, Nagor Lampang and Phrae have been placed under its jurisdiction.

Three Viceroys have been appointed, namely, one for the Western Provinces, to control the administration of the Circles of Nagor Jaisri and Rajaburi; one for the Southern Provinces, to control the administration of the Circles of Nagor Sridhammaraj, Patani and Surashtra; and one for the Circle of Ayutthia.

In the matter of Land Registration, during this year a law supplementary to the Law relating to Land Registration of the Year B.E. 127 has been introduced for the protection of the estates of deceased persons and the interests of their rightful heirs. A new Land Registration Office has been established in the district of Smud Prakar.

The law relating to Conservation of Forests which has been in operation in 9 Circles has this year been extended to 3 other Circles.

Public health and welfare has received further attention by the extension this year of limits of the district controlled by the Local Sanitary Department of the Metropolitan to the Padung Krung Kasem Canal.

In the provinces municipal government has been introduced in the city of Ayutthia, at Song Bhihong in the district of Sattarnaburi, and at Ban Pong in the district of Rajaburi. The municipal government at Nagor Rajasima has been extended to include another quarter of that city, and that at Tha Chalom in the district of Smud Sagor has been extended to include the township of Smud Sagor.

Free vaccination against small-pox has been carried on in 10 Circles, in which a total of 512,000 persons have been vaccinated during the year, making a grand total of 1,226,000 since the introduction of free vaccination.

At the Pasteur Institute 75 persons were treated for dog bite, 28 for snake bite and 184 for other diseases.

During the year 8 more Government medical depots for the distribution of medicine have been established in the provinces.

The Leprosy Hospital of the Christian Mission in Chienmai, towards which our Government also contributes financial support, experienced some difficulty during the year from lack of sufficient funds for its maintenance, through the falling off, on account of the war, of charitable contributions which it used to receive from abroad. To meet this difficulty special financial assistance was given by our Government, in order that this useful institution may continue to be maintained for the benefit of the public.

Public Education has continued to make good progress throughout the country. The model schools established by the Government have been the means of spreading education in all directions. The public have shown their appreciation by coming forward and assisting in the promotion of education in increasing numbers of districts, with the result that a large number of new schools supported by the public have been established.

In this year the Education Department established 3 public reading-rooms as an experiment. They have proved useful, and, as more people appreciate such institutions, they will be extended to other parts of the Kingdom.

Means of communication have been further developed. In the Metropolitan altogether 6 bridges have been constructed and repaired; 2 new roads have been cut and several old roads have been improved and put into good order.

In the provinces, a road from the city gate of Nagor Lampang to the railway station at Sobtui, 39 Sen and 10 Va in length, has been constructed.

On the projected road between Nagor Lampang and Chienmai a road 1,531 Sen in length, has been cut between Sadet and Sobtui in the district of Nagor Lampang, and on the projected road between Bejraburn and the railway station at Bang Nul Nang, in the district of Bichit, a road 1,775 Sen in length has been cut. A roadway 1,675 Sen in length has also been cut on the projected road between Jumbor and Kraburi. The old R-jula Bhiak Bridge across the Mewang River at Nagor Lampang, which was in a state of ruin, has been rebuilt as an iron bridge with masonry supports.

Regarding the State Railways, on the Northern Line, which is approaching Chienmai, 2 new sections have been completed during the year, one from Mechang to Nagor Lampang, 42 kilometres in length, which was opened to traffic on 1st April last, and one from Nagor Lampang to Pang Hua Bhong, 32 kilometres in length, which was opened to traffic on the 20th December last. These two sections have a total length of 74 kilometres.

The piercing of the large tunnel at Khun Tan has been completed, and the work remaining to be done there now consists only of preparing the track and shaping the walls of the tunnel.

The work of providing a larger terminus in Bangkok to meet the increasing development of railway traffic has been completed and a new terminal station adequate for the purpose has been constructed, and was opened to the public on 25th June last.

On the Southern line several sections have been completed, namely, from Thung Song, in the district of Nagor Sridhammaraj, to Ban Na, in the district of Surashtra Dhani, 95 kilometres in length; from Ban Krud to Bangsaphan Yai, in the district of Prachabkirkhand, 18 kilometres in length; from Bangsaphan Yai, to Jumbor, 90 kilometres in length; and from Ban Na to Surashtra Dhani and Jumbor, 194 kilometres in length. All these four sections have been opened to traffic. A section 91 kilometres in length from Utubasa, in the district of Songkhla, to Na Pradu, in the district of Patani, has also been completed and opened to traffic from to-day, the 1st January. The five Sections mentioned have an aggregate length of 488 kilometres. Besides these several other sections are still under construction.

The Inland Postal, Telegraph, Parcel Post and Postal Money Order Services have all shown increases as compared with the previous year. The Postal and Parcel Post Service between Nagor Lampang and Chienmai, which used to be a weekly service, has since the opening of the railway, been made a bi-weekly service, and that between Bangkok and Nagor Lampang, which used to be a weekly service has been made a daily one. These increased facilities have proved a great convenience to the general public.

The Postal Money Order Service between Bangkok and the provinces has been extended to 3 more places, and 3 new Post and Telegraph offices have been opened in the provinces.

The Telephone Service has shown considerable development, and it has become necessary to build a new Central Exchange to meet the increased requirements of the service.

The International Telegraph Postal, Parcel Post and Money Order traffic with foreign countries have also all shown extension notwithstanding the unsettled conditions due to the great war in Europe.

With regard to Financial matters, the system of exchanging money Drafts between our Southern provinces and Singapore and Penang has been extended to Jumbor, in order to afford increased facilities to the mercantile community.

Six more Savings Banks have been opened in the different Revenue Stations and four in different Post offices in the districts of Bangkok and Dhauaburi, and also in the treasuries of six districts in Bangkok.

In connection with Commerce and statistics in this year a law supplementary to the Law relating to Associations has been promulgated to provide for the registration of Cooperative Societies which the Government desires to encourage the public to form among themselves in the future. Comparative statistics of all kinds, including those of several years back, have been collected and compiled in the form of an annual publication and printed in the present year for the first time. This will prove very useful both to the Government and the public.

There is also another measure regarding which I feel extreme satisfaction, namely, the abolition of the Lottery Farm, which took effect from the 1st April last. With regard to the Gambling Farms whose complete abolition has hitherto been a matter of much uncertainty, I have already given definite orders that they shall be totally abolished at the end of the present year. These two measures, together with the amnesty I have granted to prisoners by proclamation on the 31st December just ended, are Acts of Grace by which I desire to signalize the feelings of compassion and solicitude which I constantly entertain towards all my subjects; and it is most gratifying to Me that I have had the opportunity to carry them into effect during the auspicious period which completes the third cycle of My Natal Year.

With regard to matters relating to our Holy Buddhist Religion, during the present year His Royal Highness the Supreme Patriarch has made tours in the provinces to inspect and reorganize the priestly communities. He has also issued religious instructions in the Circle of Prachin where he has introduced reforms in clerical administration and selected the most capable from among the priesthood to whom the same may be entrusted to be carried out in conformity with modern conditions.

The study of the Holy Scriptures by priests and novices has, under His Royal Highness' direction, been further extended in the provinces. The system of examination of the students has been introduced into two more Circles and the number of graduates and scholars has been largely increased. The reorganization of the revenues of religious institutions, which has been commenced in Bangkok and will be gradually extended to the provinces, has produced good results and considerable funds have been obtained for religious purposes.

It gives Me much satisfaction to state that the friendly relations between the Kingdom of Siam and all Foreign Powers continue to be cordial and firmly maintained.

In conclusion I desire to say to you all that, when everything is considered, it will be seen that the affairs of our country during the year just ended have been conducted with efficiency and without impediment of any kind, like the smooth working of well-adjusted machinery under careful control. There has been no extraordinary features in connection with the work of

administration and their absence may perhaps make a casual observer fail to realize the full extent of the progress which has been made. Take the administration of the Army as an instance. To the ordinary outsider the improvements in this direction are not fully apparent, but, on closer observation, it will be found that much progress has been achieved. This has been proved by the fact that the military manoeuvres held at the end of last year were on a scale greater than any that has ever been carried out before, and also by the most remarkable development which has taken place in the Aviation Service. This branch of the Army, whose accomplishments are still understood by few people, is now able to manufacture aeroplanes in its workshops entirely by Siamese workmanship.

I have mentioned but this one instance in order to show, what those concerned are already conscious of, that the authorities in charge of the various duties of our Government have not been idle, and I take this opportunity to express My appreciation and thanks to the officials of every Department for the efforts which they have loyally put forth in the discharge of their duties to the best of their abilities for the benefit of our Nation and Fatherland and for the advancement and prosperity of the Kingdom of Siam. Pleasure and happiness comes to him who has conscientiously performed his duties with honesty and good intention. To Me as the Ruler of the State My happiness can only come from your united co-operation in carrying out expeditiously all the affairs of State which I desire may be accomplished.

I desire to thank you all once more and to remind you not to relax your efforts or look upon what has already been accomplished as sufficient, but always to remember that very much more still remains to be done for the good of our Nation and country. Let therefore everyone continue to use every effort in the discharge of his official duties.

I ask you all to accept My best wishes for your happiness and prosperity.

British Legation Telegrams.

(British Legation telegrams are not to be regarded as official communications from His Britannic Majesty's Representative, unless they are marked "official.")

On the British Fronts.

London, Dec. 30.

Operations of magnitude on the British Front in France are still impracticable. The reason is not so much the softness of the ground as the extraordinary extent to which it has been pitted by shell holes in the whole Somme area. There are few holes less than five to six feet deep and as they cover ground almost uninterruptedly filled with unfrozen water impossibility of Infantry action will be readily understood.

Elsewhere there has been considerable activity in trench raids.

Many have been carried out with the utmost vigour and notable success. In one case the enemy's lines were occupied for considerably over one hour, besides which casualties were inflicted, prisoners captured and the local defences very thoroughly destroyed. The full in operations assisted the transfer to the British of a further section of the French Front.

This was taken over successfully without a hitch. A significant movement has been the eastward advance of the British in the Sinai peninsula. This has been carried out with complete success without encountering serious resistance. The capture of El-Arish in the north marks a progress of about 99 miles from the canal.

Admirable organization overcame the natural difficulties of the advance over the waterless desert.

It was somewhat surprising that the enemy made no attempt to defend this important position. Further south the capture of Magdhaba resulted in a large haul of prisoners of the enemy forces, estimated approximately at two thousand; no less than 1,350 including 45 officers, were captured with several guns, and many rifles and ammunition.

Still further south a column advanced through the Mitla pass and destroyed two enemy camps in the direction of Nakhil.

In Mesopotamia there has been fresh progress. The British forces continue to gain ground south and east of Kut and the Turks have moved their chief base north of the Tigris to a safer distance behind the front.

In Rumania the enemy advance has been slow and much hampered by the increased stiffening in the resistance, except in the Dobrudja.

The first Rumanian army is being reformed in Moldavia.

Russian troops have taken over the greater part of the lines of defence. By direction of the Rumanian government the oil wells and refineries in nearly all the principal oilfields have been destroyed.

Allies Refuse to Listen to German Peace Suggestions.

The Allied reply to President Wilson's Note is expected to be delivered shortly but the Germans have already made haste to answer it in warm but perfectly vague terms indicating no conditions and therefore affording no hope of any result. Switzerland also sent in a peace note and the Scandinavian Powers are in consideration of one but it is believed that Spain will probably refuse to join in the untimely step. The feeling among the Allied Powers now very clearly shows no inclination to lend itself to German intrigues, and the Russian Emperor's striking manifesto to the Army quite definitely voices to the whole world the insuperable determination of the Allies to persevere to a complete victory. That this now is plain is the view evidenced not only by Sir D. Haig's recent most encouraging review on the whole summer's campaign on the Somme but by the obvious desperate distress of the Central Powers of whom one or more now is rumoured to be eager to make separate proposals for peace, while the latest advice reports that the universal clamour of German crowds for peace have reached such a pitch that the Kaiser has been forced to abandon his public engagements. The change of Ministry in Austria and the growing influence of Count Berchtold is also suggested possibly to indicate the anxiety of the new Emperor to throw off German claims and restore peace to his distracted Empire.

Events in Sinai too with the most important triumph at Magdhaba following up that at El-Arish now establish the safety of the Suez canal and strike the heaviest blow to Turkish power.

The Germans meanwhile continue pressure on Rumania but their campaign has proved an empty failure as regards the essential objects of revictualing and refuelling Germany, for the oilwells were completely destroyed and the booty in corn was found quite inadequate for the needs of the starving German people.

In Greece the devious royalist policy continues and the Government actually requests the Allies to lift the blockade on the plea of ancient friendly relations.

This ironical suggestion is best answered by the recognition of M. Genadieu, who resigned his service King Constantine's Minister in London and is now occupying the same position as Minister here for the Venetian government. Meanwhile the Government is proving the sin of its friendly professions by the most dubious movement of forces and the Greek press claims that Constantinople was promised by Germany as a reward for Greece's adherence to the Central Powers, a suggestion which must appear eminently pleasant to Germany's Turkish Allies.

Meanwhile the situation and spirit in Great Britain are higher and better than ever under the energetic leadership of the new Government, and the whole of the Somme front is now in charge of the British army, leaving the French forces free to continue their further smashing blows round Verdun. Considering the previous German record England finds it difficult to feel surprise at the otherwise unspeakable German outrage in shelling open boats containing the helpless officers and men of the a.s. "West Minister" endeavouring to escape with life from the vessel torpedoed at sight by the Germans; and of the same kind is the policy of calculated and shameful brutality of Germans to captured British prisoners at Tabora in East Africa who, until the place was in sight of capture by the Belgians, were treated in an ignominiously abominable manner and compelled to work under negro taskmasters and penned up in prisons under a negro guard in circumstances regardless of decency and humanity, both men and women alike.

Empire's Raw Material.

London, Dec. 21.—In the House of Lords, replying to a question, Lord Islington said that the Imperial Institute aimed at being a clearing house for information with regard to raw material produced in the Empire. He emphasised especially the steps being taken in India to develop raw materials.

A large representative committee had been appointed for India, charged to inquire concerning the promotion of inter-imperial trade. It had appointed a special sub-committee to investigate special trades. One of the main objects of the inquiry was to find Imperial outlets for products which formerly went to Germany, especially hides from which the best leather was produced.

The committee had made great progress in preparing a scheme, which he hoped would result in hides being made into leather in this country more largely than before.

Lord Islington expressed the hope that the Government would largely contribute to the Institute, and that the Dominions would make larger contributions.

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