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VOL. 43. NO. 64

BANGKOK SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1917.

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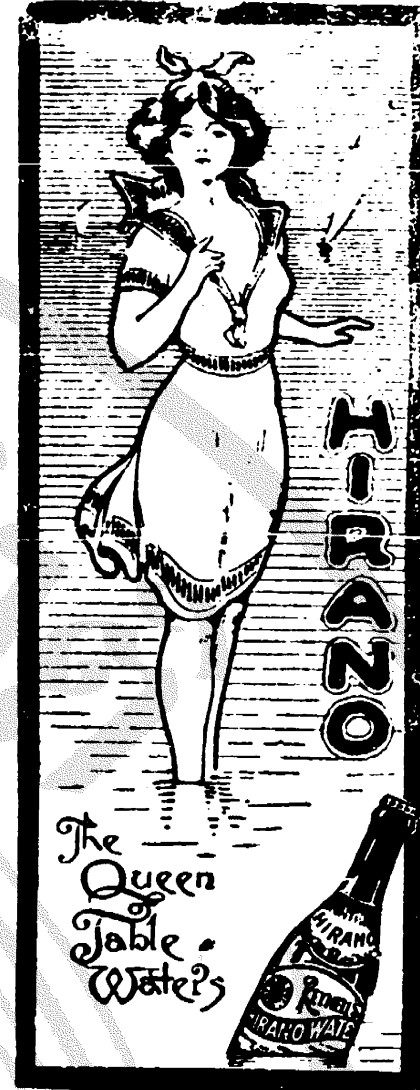
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## A Belgian Slave Raid.

(From the London Times.)

In X all the men were obliged to present themselves in the seminary, where they were examined by some German officers. I had my watch in my hand. The examinations lasted on an average exactly 10 seconds for each man. All the young ones had to go, without any distinction whatever; so had the skilled workmen, whatever their age. I saw very old men taken in this way.

The anxiety of the families cannot be described. From the time when the call was received everything has been done to try to comfort, if possible, the deported in their exile. The women have worked all night in order to prepare some clothes, they have spent their last reserve of money to buy some linen, a pair of boots, and a few provisions. During the long procession of the men, lasting from 7 o'clock in the morning till 1 o'clock in the afternoon, they have gathered in the market place awaiting the sentence which will take from them husband or son. They cry, moan, and protest.

In order to keep the women away from the buildings where the examination takes place and to conduct those to be deported to the station, some Uhlans have been especially called back from the front. The men of the Landsturm cannot be trusted for such cruel work. They lack decision, and some of them, worn down by long absence from their homes, have grown soft-hearted and are ready to pity these people among whom they have lived. They seem to understand that, whatever happens, their Germany, the Germany of their small homes, is ruined. I even heard some of them encouraging the Belgians in their resistance and advising them not to sign an engagement to work for Germany.

No such meekness can be feared from the Uhlans. I have seen them at work, and they proved to be the worthy companions of those whose mission it was at the beginning of the war to spread terror among the Flemish and Walloon peasantry. They are in line before the seminary where the human cattle are sorted, and revolver in hand, they face the women. Even after all we have heard about German atrocities the scene which occurred there seems scarcely believable, and if I had not seen it with my own eyes I should certainly have my doubts.

Listen to this, for instance. An old woman 75 years of age was pushing through the crowd in order to see if her son, her husband or her grandson were among those taken away. A Landsturm belonging to the garrison, who knew her, took her gently by the shoulder in order to keep her back. As the old woman went on waiting and tried to free herself a Uhlans came near her, a big young fellow, and deliberately, with all his strength, thrust his fist in the old woman's face. All the surrounding women burst out crying and protesting, but several Uhlans joined their comrades and began to beat the crowd with the butts of their rifles. The boom of the guns of Verdun could be heard during the whole scene.

When the Germans heard of the Kaiser's peace offer they lit large fires in the village to celebrate the occasion. And the Belgians? These are the words of a mother, talking of her son who is fighting on the Yser: "If he is not to come back to me victorious, I should prefer that he should never come back."

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t. f. n.

## Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the Agreement of Partnership dated the 22nd day of January 1916 between Ahmed Ebrahim Nana, Abdul Hooan in Gulam Hooan, Ahmed Ismail Nana and Mohamed Ebrahim Nana in respect of the firm of A. E. Nana and Company has, under powers contained in the said Agreement, this day been determined in so far as the said Abdul Hooan Gulam Hooan is concerned and that in terms of said Agreement the said Abdul Hooan Gulam Hooan has been so notified.

And notice is further given that from this date onwards the said Abdul Hooan Gulam Hooan has no power or authority to act in any manner whatsoever for or on behalf of the said firm of A. E. Nana and Company.

Bangkok, 15th March, 1917.

A. E. NANA.

A. I. NANA.

M. E. NANA.

16-19

Paddy Crop Report for  
Mondol Channai.

For February 15-21, 2459.

## Krong Deb.

Nondaburi.—The total area under cultivation is about 146,900 rai, the paddy is in better condition than last year. About 60,200 rai have been harvested yielding about 17,600 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 46 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 2 bahts per tang.

Minburi.—The total area under cultivation is 246,700 rai, about 15,900 rai more than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 47,350 kwien or about 1,100 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 48 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.75 baht per tang.

Phra Pradaeng.—The total area under cultivation is 95,900 rai, about 800 rai more than last year. The paddy is in better condition than last year. About 77,700 rai have been harvested yielding about 9,000 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 45 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

Samudprakar.—The total area under cultivation is 238,000 rai, about 87,500 rai more than last year. Harvesting is nearing completion.

The average local price of paddy is 46 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.37 baht per tang.

## Mondol Krong Kao.

Dhanaburi.—The total area under cultivation is 337,000 rai, about 10,000 rai more than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 87,200 kwien or about 2,400 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 47 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.75 baht per tang.

Pradum Dhan.—The total area under cultivation is 139,300 rai, about 1,500 rai more than last year. About 135,300 rai have been harvested, yielding about 10,770 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 50 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.82 baht per tang.

Ayudhya.—The total area under cultivation is 1,155,500 rai, about 82,000 rai more than last year. About 791,200 rai have been harvested yielding about 421,960 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 43 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

Angthong.—The total area under cultivation is 397,800 rai, about 69,200 rai more than last year. About 178,200 rai have been harvested yielding about 51,755 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 50 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.37 baht per tang.

Singhaburi.—The total area under cultivation is 195,300 rai, about 1,400 rai more than last year. About 131,600 rai have been harvested yielding about 59,400 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 40 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.37 baht per tang.

Saraburi.—The total area under cultivation is 142,600 rai, about 126,500 rai more than last year. About 338,900 rai have been harvested yielding about 141,000 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 33 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

Loburi.—The total area under cultivation is 405,500 rai, about 36,700 rai more than last year. About 327,300 rai have been harvested yielding about 157,900 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 43 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.37 baht per tang.

## Mondol Nagar Jayari.

Nagor Pathom.—The total area under cultivation is about 450,000 rai. Harvesting has been done on about 122,500 rai, the crop being about 32,855 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 56 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.62 baht per tang.

Samudra Sagor.—The total area under cultivation is 88,800 rai, about 4,700 rai more than last year. About 35,900 rai have been harvested yielding about 26,800 kwien or about 1,300 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 60 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.80 baht per tang.

Subarn.—The total area under cultivation is 554,400 rai, about the same as last year. About 306,700 rai have been harvested yielding about 102,000 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 45 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

## Mondol Rajaburi.

Rajaburi.—The total area under cultivation is 286,000 rai, about 56,200 rai more than last year. Harvesting has been done on about 293,800 rai.

The average local price of paddy is 50 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.75 baht per tang.

Samudra Songram.—The total area under cultivation is about 19,000 rai, harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 3,540 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 47 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.62 baht per tang.

Bejraburi.—The total area under cultivation is 155,300 rai, about 22,000 rai more than last year. About 40,960 rai have been harvested yielding about 11,370 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 56 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.37 baht per tang.

Kanchanaburi.—The total area under cultivation is 29,700 rai, about 1,500 rai more than last year. About 7,270 rai have been harvested yielding about 1,890 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 40 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

Prachuab.—The total area under cultivation is about 17,200 rai, harvesting has been done on about 11,100 rai the crop being about 2,280 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 50 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.62 baht per tang.

## Mondol Prachin.

Ohaxxengae.—The total area under cultivation is 497,000 rai, about 12,600 rai less than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 137,700 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 44 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

Prachin.—The total area under cultivation is 221,000 rai, about 7,100 rai more than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 73,650 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 48 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.30 baht per tang.

Nagor Nayok.—The total area under cultivation is 217,600 rai, about 102,800 rai more than last year.

Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 59,440 kwien or about 2,400 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 44 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

Jolburi.—The total area under cultivation is 133,870 rai, about 7,400 rai more than last year.

Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 36,430 kwien or about 9,140 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 67 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

Krabindra.—The total area under cultivation is 49,800 rai, about 18,000 rai more than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 13,190 kwien or about 4,300 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 39 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

## Mondol Nagor Svarga.

Nagor Svarga.—The total area under cultivation is 223,500 rai, about 8,600 rai more than last year. About 153,880 rai have been harvested yielding about 51,290 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 38 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.50 baht per tang.

Taya.—The total area under cultivation is 158,300 rai, about 18,200 rai more than last year. About 155,400 rai have been harvested yielding about 51,800 kwien.

The average local price of paddy is 38 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

Jaynad.—The total area under cultivation is 156,300 rai, about 40,200 rai less than last year. About 41,700 rai have been harvested yielding about 13,480 kwien or about 3,540 kwien less than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 45 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

Kaubaeng Bejra.—The total area under cultivation is 40,500 rai, about 7,000 rai more than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 13,620 kwien or about 7,220 kwien more than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 40 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

Tak.—The total area under cultivation is 31,500 rai, about 8,100 rai less than last year. Harvesting has been completed, the crop being about 11,670 kwien or about 110 kwien less than last year.

The average local price of paddy is 40 bahts per kwien and that of rice is 1.25 baht per tang.

(It is to be understood that the kwien in the various Mondols mentioned in this report are of equal size).

Between the 16th and 21st inst. the Krong Deb rice mills bought about 21,104 kwien of paddy which came in by river and about 1,253 kwien by rail, making a total of about 22,357 kwien (rice mill size). The prices at the mills of Kao Samrang were 68 bahts per kwien, Kao Na-muang from 70 to 71 bahts and Kao Na-muan from 71 to 94 bahts (rice millers' kwien).

Summary.—The total area under paddy is approximately 7,069,000 rai, about 190,000 rai more than last year. The area on which the crop has been totally destroyed by flood, drought, insect-pests and other mischance is about 201,000 rai. Harvesting has been completed in many Changwals, some 5,081,000 rai or about 1,783,000 kwien having been reaped.

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**Rumania's Oil Wells.**

Mr. Hamilton Fyfe, writing from Jassy on December 13th says:—During the last week I have been in bed only twice, so if these pictures and impressions are a little disjointed I think I may reasonably ask to be forgiven.

As I look back, these seven days seem like a nightmare born of the huge flames of burning petrol, lakes of petrol, rivers of petrol, set on fire of set purpose in order to prevent the enemy from getting lubrication oil.

I fancy it is the destruction of the petrol industry of Rumania which will leave the deepest imprint on my imagination. I have been with armies in retreat before. It is always a hateful experience. This retreat was hastier than the others I have seen, but in essentials not different. The attack on the oil fields was something entirely new. I had tried to picture it to myself beforehand, but without any success. The reality was such as no man's mind could have conceived in advance. Even to convey any idea of it is difficult after it has happened.

The whole business appears to me now so fantastic that I catch myself doubting if it really did happen. That it could be possible to wipe out so completely the slowly built-up result of years upon years of thought and labour, of highly trained intelligence and highly skilled labour, had never occurred to me. When I heard the talk first of what could be done to prevent the oil falling into the enemy's possession I had a vision of tanks set alight, of derricks at the well-heads demolished.

Destruction of that which has been created by man's energy for the satisfaction of the world's needs, of that which provides profit and wage for hundreds of thousands of people and so enables them to live, must be a hideous, saddening spectacle. That the wrecking was beyond all question necessary made the case no better. It added to it a horrid irony. We were forced to defend ourselves against barbarous means. To leave the oil wells untouched would have been a crime. The Germans and their dupes need lubricants very badly. These were the only oilfields from which they could get them in any quantity. They would have benefited by the products of the Rumanian wells for as long as they occupied the oil region. Then they would have destroyed the industry themselves, so as to prevent the Allies from making use of it.

It was therefore an urgent matter,

when the enemy flood came pouring over the Rumanian plain sweeping the Rumanian Army before it, to set about the destruction with vigour. Fortunately, a very vigorous man was sent out from England to direct it. Colonel Norton Griffiths surprised not only the Rumanians by his energetic methods, he surprised the Americans as well. To see him wielding a big hammer, swinging it round his head, and smashing up machinery with it, just to show how the work ought to be done, made one poetical mine manager describe him as being "in love with ruin."

Neither weariness nor danger could daunt him. When the petrol in basins would not light quickly, he took bundles of straw, thrust them into it, and set them alight, escaping just in time. His helpers were worthy of their chief. The task of destruction was worse for them, since they were wrecking what they had themselves helped to build; but they went at it with a fury of determination to leave nothing of what they had built to aid the enemy.

"It was pretty hard," one of them said, on the morning after the finish of the wrecking process at Moreny, the most productive of the oil districts: "it was pretty hard to break up one's home, furniture, books, grand piano, everything. But we did it thoroughly by Jove! Millions of pounds' worth of property destroyed in a few days. Oil burnt, wells blocked, machinery demolished, and refineries put out of action."

**For Sale.****At Reduced Prices.**

On account of Removal to New Premises.

Large and small side boards with mirrors. Chest of drawers with mirror, large and small bookcases, almirahs, wall pictures, dressing tables with mirrors, travelling boxes, writing tables, bentwood chairs, tea tables, iron bedsteads, mattresses, washstands, dining tables. Electric table lamps and fans, clocks in good condition, door screens, glass ware, porcelain, tea-sets, kitchen stove etc., etc.

Apply:

D. FROIMAN,

138, Si Phya Road,

Next to Whiteaway Laidlaw & Co., Ltd.

**Siam Motor Works Ltd.**

**LARGE  
SHIPMENT  
JUST ARRIVED**

**MOTOR HORNS**

**of  
Special pattern  
and  
Inexpensive in Cost**

**Siam Motor Works Ltd.****HAND MASSAGE.**

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

**Prices.**

**Tos. 7 First quality  
" 5 Second "**

**S. IKESAKI, Tapan Mon.**

**Oriental Bakery.**

ORIENTAL AVENUE.

Daily supplies of white bread & rolls.

Fresh Cakes:—Plain, Currant, and Assorted tea cakes. Other cakes made to order. Crown bread every Wednesday & Sunday.

**BANGKOK LIBRARY.**

Suriwongse Road

(Near the Lawn Tennis Club.)

Open daily, Sundays excepted. Sept. 1st to Feb. 28th—4 to 6.30 p.m. March 1st to Aug. 31st—4.30 to 7 p.m.

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Subscriptions, payable in advance, date from day of payment, and may be handed in at the Library any time in the year or sent to

MRS. G. K. WRIGHT,  
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

**"Clogs on Our Wheels."**

By ASVABAHU.

Reprinted from the pages of the Siam Observer.

**FOR SALE**

AT

The Siam Observer Offices.

Ticals 2.50 each.



UNDER ROYAL PATRONAGE

**SHAVE and SAVE**



Your GILLET or Similar BLADES.

Do not throw them away There is a way, and the only way of sharpening them is by using the "QUAD" Stropper.

Only turn the handle a dozen times and it's done, you will have the Blades as sharp as when they were new.

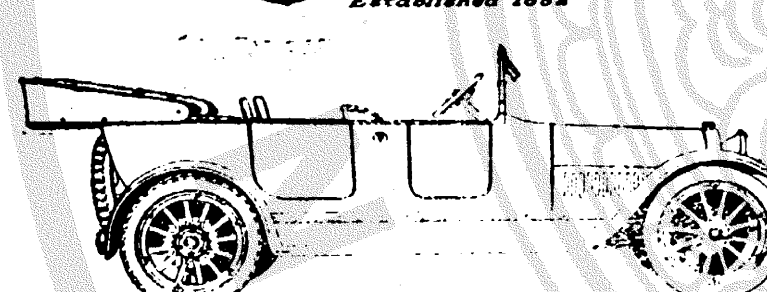
In convenient nickel case. Tics. 5.50 each.

ONLY SOLD AT

**Kiam Hoa Heng & Co., Ltd.**

TELEPHONE 180.

**Studebaker**  
Established 1868



**STUDEBAKER SERIES  
"18" CARS**

**NEW MODEL 1917.**

Another consignment expected shortly.  
It is advisable to book in advance in order to obtain prompt delivery.

**G. KLUZER & Co.**  
Agents.

**FOR SALE.**

An English translation by His Majesty the King of a booklet entitled

**"The Buddhist Attitude towards National Defence and Administration"**

BY

**His Holiness The Supreme Patriarch**

OF

**The Kingdom of Siam**

Price 65 Satangs per Copy.

FOR SALE AT

The Siam Observer Press;  
Messrs. H. A. Badman & Co.; The Oriental Hotel;  
The British Dispensary; Messrs. John Sampson & Sons  
Oriental Store; & Messrs. Whiteaway Laidlaw & Co., Ltd

**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.*



### Notice.

A new railway landing at Ayuthia station is now completed and will be leased out for the year 2460 for steam or motor launches.

Tenderers are requested to send their offers up to 25th inst. to  
ROYAL RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.  
Bangkok, 17th March 1917.

17-24

### Notice.

Messrs. Kiam Hoa Heng & Co., Ltd. beg to notify their clients and public that in future, their premises will be closed on every Saturday from 4 p.m.

17-24

### Second German Red



### Cross Bazar 1917.

A Bazar in aid of the Red Cross will be held on the grounds of the  
**German Legation**  
On Saturday, the 24th, & Sunday, the 25th instant, from 6 p.m.

There will be attractive stalls with beautiful selections of first-class artistic amateurs' fancy-work and embroideries, mediaeval cross-bows, valuable and peculiar toys, (sailing-yachts, screw-steamers, lighters, sailing vessels, light-houses, Zeppelins, merry-go-rounds, see-saw dolls, railway engines and cars), European and Siamese bronzes, oil and water-colour paintings, artificial prints, carvings, Siamese curios and handi-crafts, orchids, palms and other flowers for sale at particularly reasonable and very moderate prices.

Amongst other attractive features there will be an exciting naval engagement between a 42cm coast-mortar and a cruiser, the original "Hau den Lukas", the submarine merchantman "Deutschland" with motors and periscope, a Siamese snail, a Chinese ngin, a high slide, a hall of laughter as well as German war films. Besides various stalls, such as archery and shooting at the popinjay, figure targets, plates and rings, etc., a fountain of youth, lotteries in the hall of chance, dice-playing, a gambling hall etc. will provide ample amusement.

A famous orchestra will be in attendance. Drinks and choice refreshments will be available at a well assorted restaurant "Zum Lochl" with its original "Nurelhaul", vocal and instrumental music, and zither-playing, at a cold buffet with stengah and fassier-bar, at a Dutch waffle-bakery and an Oriental stall.

In remembrance of the bazar there will be sold small flags, models of the submarine-merchantman "Deutschland", ship-anchors, flag-staff, portfolios, albums with photographic views of Siam, and a gilded cross-order.

Admission to the grounds 1 Tical for every body, payable in cash at the entrance-gate; children free.

All allies and neutrals friendly disposed towards this charitable undertaking will be cordially welcome.

Bangkok 11th March 1917.

DR. F. REMY.

Chargé d'Affaires for Germany.  
17-20-23

### For Sale.

A lot of Meklong Railway Co. Shares. Any reasonable Offer Accepted.

Apply to:

"X"

c/o this Paper.  
t. f. n.

### Notice.

CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:-

Ex s/s "Suisang"  
"Kumsang"  
"Foehsing"  
and "Balances ex s.s. "Cardiganshire" and "Carmarthenshire".  
are hereby notified that same have arrived per s.s. "Mata Hari" on 15th inst. and will be 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.

## Expanded Metal

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

## Milners' Safes

Patent fire and thief resisting.  
several sizes in Stock.

**Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd.**

SOLE AGENTS FOR SIAM.

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

**FISH**  
Dried Cod  
Codroe Caviare  
Haddock  
Bloaters  
Kippers  
Filleted

**RABBITS**  
Pheasants  
Boiled Ham on cut  
French Ham  
Raw Ham  
Breakfast Bacon

**CHEESE**  
Roquefort  
Australian  
Cheddar (English)  
Canadian  
Gruyere

Fresh Australian Butter and Best English Margarine No. 1 & 2.  
Pure Beef Dripping in 2lb Tins.  
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.

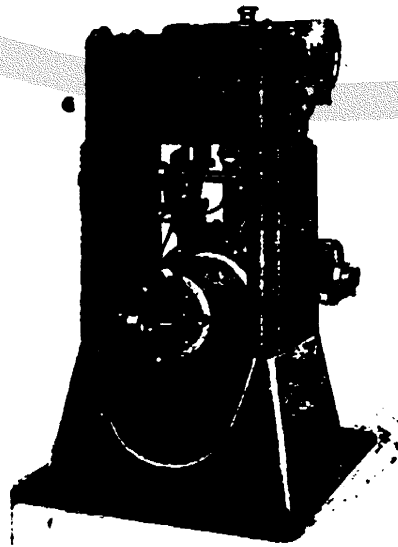
# "White Horse" Whisky.

## "An Easy First"

Obtainable Everywhere.

## Uni-Lectric

Lighting System



**Barrow, Brown & Co.**

Sole Agents.

**C.A.V.**  
**Lighting & Starting**

Touch the Switch, and you have a luxurious abundance of light that dispels the darkest night. Press the pedal, and the engine starts under its own power.

Comfort in Starting.  
Safety in Driving.  
Immunity from Risks on Treacherous Roads.

British made throughout.

The Siam Electricity Co., Ltd. Bangkok.  
**C.A.V. Vandervell & Co. Ltd.**  
ACTON, LONDON, ENGLAND.

### The Siam Observer

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1917.

### A DESIRABLE INNOVATION.

Efforts are again being made to induce Great Britain to adopt a decimal coinage, and a Committee of the Associated Chambers of Commerce is introducing a bill to this effect into the House of Commons. The reformation is one that may well be extended further. The weights and measures used by Great Britain are of such an eclectic nature, and so complicated and various, that even amongst the British only the technically instructed comprehend them, and the ordinary individual often finds it necessary to have recourse to the invaluable Whitaker in order to arrive at the interpretation of some recondate term. Only the high place as a trading nation held by Britain has enabled her to retain her antiquated usages. Had she been of less importance, sheer force of circumstances and pressure from without would have compelled her to bring about a much-needed reform long ago. It is not wise to be too ready to thrust away the guiding hand of the past, but that hand may become too heavy or too erratic, in which case it should not be endured merely by reason of a feeling of respect for the sanctity of age. Other nations will be much concerned about this bill, as it will greatly simplify commercial transactions between countries and save much unnecessary trouble, and the sanction of the British Parliament, if given to the measure, will be accorded a general welcome. It is proposed to make the standard unit a florin of two shillings, and to contrive that a florin shall be divided into one hundred cents or farthings. Under the existing system a florin, of course, contains or is equivalent to ninety-six farthings, but the promoters of the bill appear to perceive no difficulty in making the requisite adjustment.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Royal Railway Department calls for tenders for the leasing of the new railway landing at Ayuthia station.

PHRA Duk Damban Banchong of H.M.'s Royal Entertainments Department who had been in bad health for some time past, died at his residence near Wat Buppharam last night.

THE Post and Telegraph Department inform us that the Malay Peninsular main line is good as far as Chumpoon, while the local line is in order as far as Sarashiradham. Other lines are all right.

NEW ads.—Messrs. G. Kluzer and Co. notify that a new consignment of Studebaker cars is expected shortly. "The Spoilers," the million dollar picture, will be one of the attractions at the Phathanakorn to-night. Messrs. Kim Hoa Heng and Co. notify that their premises will in future be closed every Saturday from 4 p.m. The Berneo Co., Ltd. have a new notice to consignees.

THE Brit. s.s. *Halsbury*, 1267 tons, has been chartered by Messrs. Koon Seng for three trips between Bangkok and China ports, via Singapore, the charterers paying \$43,000 (Hongkong) per trip. The owners are The Douglas Steamship Co. of Hongkong. This vessel which has just arrived is here for the time. She is 18 years old and so good is her condition that she can still make 18 knots an hour.

### H. M. the King and the Royal Pages College.

In order to mark the occasion of the closing of the Third Cycle of the Royal Birthday, the Royal Princesses and the ladies of the Court have presented His Majesty with a sum of Ticals 20,162 to be used as His Majesty may be pleased to direct.

His Majesty has graciously authorized the sum to be devoted to the purposes of the Royal Pages College.

### Turf Club Lotteries.

The following prices were realized at the lotteries held last night at the Royal Siam Turf Club:—

First Race.—Sib Bok, Samardh and Poo Thalay Tcs. 45 each, Maprik Tcs. 25, Pimbiran Tcs. 60, Yanno Tcs. 10.

Second Race.—Morakat Tcs. 50, Shy Tcs. 6, Max Linder Tcs. 5, Ling Dunn, Tcs. 55, Phra Rot Tcs. 25, Little Imp Tcs. 40.

Third Race.—Un Chon Tcs. 45, Nilanon Tcs. 20, Hiri Tcs. 30, Dao Tcs. 35, Thong Chai Tcs. 75.

Fourth Race.—Son Chai Tcs. 17, Neuter Tcs. 15, Hirun Ratana Tcs. 35, Sang Chandra Tcs. 25, Ling Deng Tcs. 16, Bluff Tcs. 14.

Fifth Race.—Silver Cross Tcs. 20, Say When Tcs. 40, Yot Rak Tcs. 50, Merry Legs Tcs. 75, Molly Tcs. 15.

Sixth Race.—Ella T. Tcs. 30, Nai Pradit Tcs. 25, Kop Tcs. 60, Aminta Tcs. 65, Icaro II Tcs. 40, Vanida Tcs. 14.

Seventh Race.—Marie L. Tcs. 25, Lady de Melba Tcs. 25, Mad Meg Tcs. 100, Sandfly Tcs. 35, Thong Dee Tcs. 18.

Eighth Race.—Gladys C. Tcs. 90, Moment Tcs. 35, Royal Page Tcs. 110, Mars Tcs. 100, Sunflower Tcs. 30, Phung Boon Tcs. 20.

Second Sheet Eighth Race.—Gladys C. Tcs. 85, Moment Tcs. 30, Royal Page Tcs. 55, Mars Tcs. 65, Sunflower Tcs. 18, Phung Boon Tcs. 11.

### German Red Cross.

A Bazaar in aid of the German Red Cross Fund will be held on the grounds of the German Legation on the 24th and 25th instant when a large and varied collection of artistic and fancy articles will be on sale at very moderate prices.

A number of stalls are now in course of erection and ample amusement will be provided in the way of a shooting gallery, a gambling hall, figure targets, lotteries in the hall of chance, dice-playing, a fountain of youth etc., etc. Among the attractive features will be an exciting naval engagement between a 42 cm. coast mortar and a miniature cruiser, the submarine merchantman *Deutschland* in miniature with motors and periscope, and German war films.

As mementoes of the occasion small flags, models of the *Deutschland*, albums with photographic views of Siam and other interesting things will be sold. Drinks and light refreshments will be available and an orchestra will be in attendance during the course of the evening.

Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

### The Ross Rifle.

Official correspondence on the use of the Ross rifle by the Canadian troops in France, issued as a White Paper yesterday, shows that Lord French, when in command in the field, ordered the re-arming of the infantry of the (First) Canadian Division with the Lee-Enfield rifle. His reasons were that owing to lack of confidence in the rifle over 3,000 Canadians had exchanged their guns for those of wounded British soldiers, and that the Ross rifle did not work efficiently with ammunition of other than Canadian manufacture of which there was not a sufficient supply available.

These opinions were subsequently confirmed by Sir Douglas Haig, who advocated re-arming. The War Office in July 1916 approved this proposal and stated that the discarded Ross rifles would be used for other purposes in connection with the war.

THERE is something very attractive about the flourish and punctiliousness of Mr. Balfour's signature to his Note to the British Ambassador at Washington: "I am, with great truth and respect, Sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant." Of course, Mr. Balfour is nothing of the sort; rather the contrary. But it is a long-standing approach against our epistolary clichés that they bear no relation to reality. Only people of high and established position ever venture to call themselves anybody's humble servant. And even the difference between "Yours faithfully" and "Yours very sincerely" is much greater than could be guessed by comparing the dictionary meanings of the words.—Ex.



**Central Powers Lose 9,700,000.**

Germany's losses, according to diplomatic information obtained by the "Corriere d'Italia," are said to have amounted to 4,100,000 men at the end of last December. To this 100,000 must be added for the losses during the last month. The Austrian losses are set at 8,000,000 men, the Bulgarian at 200,000 and the Turkish losses at 400,000, the general total loss of the Central Powers thus being nearly 10,000,000 men.

**£1,000,000 by Advertising.**

It is understood that the estate of the late Sir Joseph Beecham has been provisionally valued for the purposes of probate at £1,000,000 and that death duties amounting to £200,000 have already been paid on this amount.

The will is stated to be a purely family document, there being no public bequests. Handsome legacies are given to several of the employees at the great pill factory at St. H. lens.

As stated at the time of his death, Sir Joseph Beecham's great fortune was largely built up by a policy of bold and judicious advertising, as were also the fortunes of Mr. J. Crossley Eno (Eno's Fruit Salt), £1,611,607; Mr. G. Taylor Fulford (Dr. Williams' Pink Pills), £1,311,000, and many others.

**The German Prisoners.**

Petrograd, February 18.—The majority of the prisoners captured lately on the Russian southwestern front are educated men, who, prior to the war occupied prominent social positions. All bear witness that they were several times called to the colors and again released, eventually receiving their billets in the armies in the rear.

When the operations were commenced against Rumania they were sent to the front, their posts in the rear being occupied by women.

The prisoners say that a belief in a speedy end to the war is rife in the German army, where there is a universal desire to return home for the harvest season. Otherwise it is feared that both Austria and Germany will face the menace of famine.

**Strong Rumanian Armies Ready.**

A prominent Rumanian general has informed the "Times" special correspondent at Jassy that in the coming resumption of activity on the Rumanian front King Ferdinand's armies will be seen strongly reorganized and amply supplied with heavy artillery and every instrument of modern warfare. He regarded the future with complete confidence.

"Owing to the weather we have some weeks of forced inactivity before us," he said, "and the time is being used in reorganization behind a strongly established line. We have thousands of fresh troops ready to go to the front."

"Our soldiers are nearly all peasants who cannot suffer the thought of their villages being in the hands of an enemy, and they are determined to reconquer them or die."

"At present on both sides the armies are held up by the weather. We are firmly holding our ground, and all the recent efforts of the enemy on the Trots and Soreth have been broken. Our line is so strong that the enemy appears to be unable to strike a fresh blow. He seems to have understood the situation and has removed some of his forces, leaving only four or five German divisions. The other German troops have been replaced by Austrian and Turkish troops."

"On the front south of Galatz and in the Trotus valley all that remains of the Bulgarian army is its artillery."

"I have seen many German prisoners and it is evident that a winter campaign was not expected. They are still wearing light summer uniforms. Several have died of cold on their way to internment camps."

**Church Services.****Christ Church.**

Service for 18th March—4th Sunday in Lent.  
Evening and Holy Communion 6.0 p.m.  
Processional 242 We love the place, O God.  
Hymn 230 There is a blessed Home.  
231 For ever with the Lord.  
316 Alleluia, sing to Jesus.  
Special Psalm 94.  
Nunc Dimittis.  
Kyrie, Calkin.

**S. Mary's Mission.**

Sunday, March 18—4th Sunday in Lent.  
7 a.m.—Mattins and Sermon.  
Hymns. O for a closer walk with God.  
Our Blest Redeemer ere He breathed, O Holy Ghost, Thy people bless.  
6 p.m.—Evening and Sermon.  
Hymns. O Thou Who dost to man accord, Redeemed, restored, forgiven, Jesu, Lover of my soul.  
Wednesday—March 21.  
6.30 p.m.—Short Service of Prayer for those engaged in the War.

**PAUDY REPORT FOR MARCH 16.**

Nasran 1980 Coyans at Tos. 63/85 each  
Samrang 730 " " 61/68  
Namsang 420 " " 63/65  
Total 3130 Coyans "

**A Labourer's Generosity.**

A Taunton labourer sent £250 (practically his life savings) to the Y.M.C.A., because of the stories he had heard of their good work. Mr. W. E. Hazell, of Tavistock Square, writes that it is the most generous donation he has known during the war, and offers £250 if eighteen similar gifts are forthcoming for a £1,000 hut, to be called a "Taunton Labourer's Hut."

**The Incurruptible Cartoonist.**

M. Louis Raemaekers, the famous Dutch cartoonist, told an extraordinary incident at Liverpool.

M. Raemaekers said among the possessions he treasured were several letters from the German Ambassador in Holland, who was stupid enough to think he was for sale, and that he (the Ambassador) could buy him. His Excellency complained that he was always criticizing Germany in his cartoons, and suggested that he should criticize England, France, and Russia in turn, because then some of his pictures would have a big vogue in Germany. He was also threatened with violence, but the hardest thing to bear was the suspicion of his friends that he had been bought with English gold.

**A Useful Tip.**

Local tradesmen with overdue outstandings may find a useful "tip" in the following story of a young Japanese clerk who applied for a situation in a London merchant's office. He was told that he might come on trial, and if in the course of a week he could do anything to justify it, he would receive a permanent appointment. As a test he was told to write polite but firm letters to twenty of the most notoriously long-winded customers on the firm's books. That was on the Monday.

On the Wednesday morning there were twenty replies, one from each customer, enclosing twenty cheques and twenty abject apologies for the delay. The Japanese was called into the principal's office and interrogated. He replied that he had written politely and firmly as instructed. The letter-book was produced and this was the form of letter he had adopted:—

Dear Sir,—It is with great regret that we find you have not paid your honourable account. We have carefully regarded the case, and are pained to inform you that, unless you send us a remittance by Wednesday morning, we shall have to take a course of action that will cause you the utmost astonishment.

It was only the horrible uncertainty of what might be the consequences of non-payment that produced those twenty remittances.

**Teaching Humanities.**

Mr. A. Clutton Brock delivered an address on "The Spiritual Values of the Humanities" at the annual meeting of the University Women Teachers' Association.

"It was," Mr. Clutton Brock said, "ritually important that the Humanities should be taught, not for some material value, but for their own sake. Teaching to earn a living was not teaching the Humanities. Scholarships and fellowships had existed, in the view of business men, as interesting luxuries and lately it had been said that we could not afford these luxuries. Another curious view was that it was part of education and was required to beat the German in commerce."

"The enormous efficiency and energy of the Germans were recognised by people who did not believe in the spiritual value of the Humanities, and in some confused way they attributed the war of 1870 and the present war to German study of the Humanities. The wisdom resulting from the intense study of the Humanities, 50 or 60 years ago, for their own sake had made for efficiency; but the perversion of the Humanities had placed Germany in her trouble and danger. But for that perversion Germany would not have tried to obtain the mastery of the world."

**Gladstone and Belgium.**

The "Scotsman" recalls how Gladstone stood guard over Belgium in 1870.

"That the Belgians, whether they would or not, should go 'plump' down the maw of another country to satisfy dynastic greed is, Mr. Gladstone said in a letter to Bright in August, 1870, 'another matter.' The accomplishment of such a crime as this implies would," he added, "come near to the extinction of public right in Europe and I do not think we could look on while the sacrifice of freedom and independence was in course of consummation."

"As he stood guard over Belgium at the beginning of the war in 1870, so he pleaded for France at its close."

"I have an apprehension," he wrote to Lord Granville, "that the laceration of France is to lead from bad to worse; and to be the beginning of a new series of complications in Europe."

"These utterances, which may at the moment be taken out of a setting of critical commentary, bring the spirit of the great statesman into unison with the spirit of his countrymen," says the "Scotsman."

**Humanities of the War.**

"Well," said the man with the newspaper, "I see that Lloyd George has gone over to Rome. 'Oh, dear! oh, dear!' said the old lady, 'and I always thought he was such a staunch Non-conformist!'"

Knowing a little of what farming really means, some of the pictures of women workers on the farm at home make us very waxy. The yuck of the studio and the scene shifter. A recent one is that of girls loading a cart with turnips, and there is a young lady in breeches and leggings in the cart, stacking the turnips up, we suppose. This would make a far more star. The infancy of some of the pictures brings to mind an anecdote of the visit of an agriculturist to a famous agricultural college where there are women students. He was a very polite man, and coming upon some of the ladies in the kitchen garden, busily forking about some clean straw-like stuff, he raised his hat and said, "Haymaking, I presume?" "Oh, no," replied his conductress; "they are spreading farmyard manure." He had not recognised it.

An interested crowd in the street watched the unloading of a van containing a number of big cardboard drums, which were being laboriously shouldered by carmen and taken into the House, under the supervision of the "waiters," writes Albert II in the "Financier." The rumour got round that the packages contained prospectuses of the new loan and that the Settling Room had been prepared for their reception. Hungry-eyed financial journalists were peering at them and hoping that one of the drums would burst. What a chance for a "scoop" if a stray copy of the prospectus should flutter down into the street! Well, one of the mysterious drums did burst, and revealed its contents. They consisted of toilet paper.

Here is a well-authenticated story from the Western front. On Christmas Day one of our gallant young officers in the trenches had celebrated the festival with more zeal than discretion and was asleep on a stretcher when the General of the Division announced his intention of paying a Christmas visit to his men in the trenches. The sleeping youth was at once covered up with a blanket. The General arrived. Catching sight of the stretcher, he halted in front of it, stood to attention, and solemnly saluted the supposed corpse with the words, "I always pay homage to the honoured dead." The company commander looked as grave as he could, and when the General had passed on his way he roused the corpse, and gave the young officer an extra turn of trench duty to shake off the soporific effect of his Christmas dinner.

Because she considered unladylike the jacket and trousers she was asked to wear when acting as a crane-driver for a large firm in Sheffield, a young woman applied at the local munition court for her leaving certificate. She stated that the dress was too much like a man's and was altogether unlike those that the girls in other shops had to wear.

The firm contended that this was the regulation dress, and it was stated that it had been adopted for the safety of the women. One had recently been killed at the works through her clothing catching in the machinery.

The case was adjourned for the court to make inquiries and for the lady assessor to inspect the dress.

"The wife of an officer, now in the fighting line, has taught her little boy of three to sing before he sleeps at night the National Anthem," says a correspondent of the "Spectator." "He adds a verse of his own, in the same metre:—

"God bless my father dear,  
And bring him safely here  
(After his soldiering)  
To give my mother joy,  
And cheer his little boy,  
And sing the old Envoi,  
'God Save the King.'"

"The father, I should explain, has won renown in the trenches as a singer of good songs."

Mrs. Nott, of Southfield Park, Pinner, writes to the Daily Express—Like countless other mothers, I am fretting for a word of my son, "somewhere in France." I bought a New Year's greeting last night, and opening my Bible by chance, I read these words: "I will give peace." Startled, I read the context (Haggai, chap. ii., v. 1-9, inclusive). The first verse gives the date:—"In the seventh month, in the one-and-twentieth day of the month"—in up-to-date language July 21. Thus directly, and almost uncannily, came my New Year's greeting:—"On July 21, 1917, I will give peace."

Here is a vivid little glimpse of a soldier's experience while under fire, told by Jacques Roujon in "Battles and Bivouacs."

"I imagine my head to be as large as a pumpkin. What a target! I notice an ant right in front of me scaling some cartridge cases, and the thought comes to me: 'What an advantage to be quite small.'"

"Ploughing one's way through fields of beetroot is enough to make one hate the war. Your foot twists and

slips about in all directions. Hurling forward, you bruise your nose against the haversack of the man in front. Pulled backward, you receive from the man behind a blow in your ribs with the butt-end of his rifle."

"The Office of Works, we are assured, have made a survey of all the big hotels in Central London, and have a complete plan, showing the measurements of each, to put before any Government Department in need of fresh office accommodation."

"The image which crosses our mind," says the Westminster Gazette, "is Mr. Parnell's delicious picture of Skibo Castle, around the bell of which Mr. Carnegie had inscribed: 'Please do not ring unless a Free Library is required.'"

"We shall be curious when next we pass the Office of Works to see if its bell has a similar legend—for 'Free Library' read 'Hotel'."

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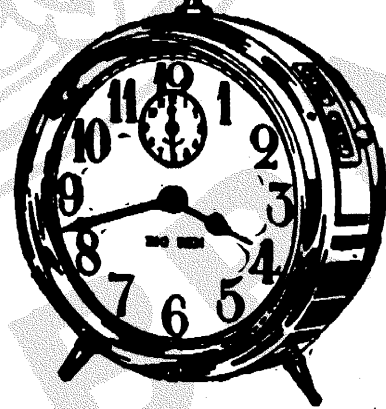
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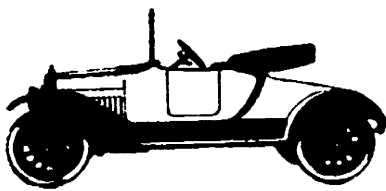
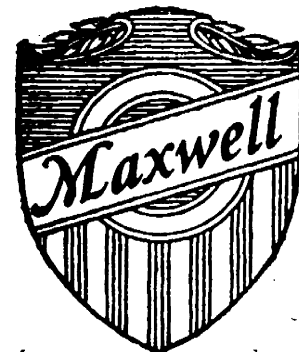
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### Between the Tigris and the Indus.

#### The Ben-I-Israel.

The following extracts are taken from a lecture given by Colonel Sir Thomas H. Holditch, K. E., K. C. M. G., F.C.I.E., C.B., D.Sc., to the Indian Section of the Royal Society of Arts on Jan. 18th.

After describing the Ben-I-Israel clan in Mesopotamia and their methods of trade he went on to say:—

Now, once again, does there appear to be in a not very remote future the chance of a revival of that old-world, honoured overland trade which existed before the days of Israel, which brought the treasures of the East to the maris of the West. There is abundant evidence before us that this desire of the nations—the acquisition of the highway to the East—is again a powerful force in international politics. Who can very well doubt that the centre of conflicting interests in the present war is gradually shifting eastwards and trending towards Constantinople (with all it stands for in the Mediterranean, in Egypt, in Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, and ultimately in Persia), as the final issue to be fought to a finish between Germany and Russia? Two notable events have lately been recorded in the progress of Eastern affairs which bear directly on this important question of overland communications—they are signs of the times and portents of the future. The first railway has been opened in Persia. For the first time has the blue-coated agriculturist of Northern Persia stared open-mouthed at a locomotive bearing a huge national emblem traversing his fields. This is the Russian military line which connects Batum on the Black Sea with Tabriz. The other event is the piercing of the Taurus tunnel by the Germans, which will rapidly bring Constantinople and Bagdad into direct communication by rail, and place a rival enterprise on the Mesopotamian field.

**Armenia's History.**  
The lecturer then went on to describe Armenia. Armenia is to us, quite apart from its ethnographic association, a deeply interesting country, for we are here face to face with political problems of the future which may greatly affect our position in India. Armenian is not politically to be recognised as a nationality. It is not a kingdom, nor an autonomous state, but simply a wide mountainous region comprising the eastern provinces of Asia Minor to the south and south-east of the Black Sea, which forms a western continuation of the great Iranian plateau. On the north it descends abruptly to the

Black Sea, on the south it breaks up into rugged terraces which form steps to northern Mesopotamia, whilst it sinks more gently to the west to the lower plateau land of Asia Minor. The general average level of the floor of the Armenian highlands is about 6,000 ft. but the great barren ranges which intersect the country closely from north-east to south-west rise to 12,000 ft. They may be said to culminate in Mount Ararat, which is 17,000 ft. Between these ranges are broad upland valleys with narrow outlets for the rivers where they emerge from the plateau to lower levels south and west. Thus the chief roads through Armenia following the valleys afford that opportunity for military advance which is now being utilised by Russia. Directly northwards from Armenia there is no highway, the Black Sea and the Caucasus shutting off the country from the Russian steppes, so that the flow of human movement in this part of Asia has generally set southward and eastward into Northern Persia, to the south of the Caspian. Until lately Armenia was divided between Persia, Turkey and Russia; but the progress of the war has seen Russia in possession of the greater part of Armenia, and one may venture to prophesy that she will eventually dominate the whole. Such an event in the interests of the Armenians is to be most cordially welcomed, but we must at the same time not lose sight of the remarkable advance towards Russian dominance over the routes that lie between the Tigris and the Indus that is indicated by such an occupation. Clearly, the new line from the Black Sea to Tabriz, of which I have already spoken, would be doubly safeguarded by its geographical position with regard to the Caucasian mountains to the north-east and the Russian occupation of Erzerum and Bitlis to the south-west. But this is not all, nor is it nearly all, the strategical advantage which Russian Armenia suggests. Bitlis and Diarbekr dominate the Tigris, and they are within a measurable striking distance of the upper Euphrates in northern Mesopotamia. Here lies another problem of the future, into which I will not enter.

**Rail Developments.**  
The subject of railways was then discussed, and he said:—I have already drawn your attention to the fact that the iron rails of two great systems emerging from Europe now point eastwards, and that neither of the two belong to England. One is Russian from the Black Sea, the other is German from Berlin and Constantinople. We, in our small way, never consider any great political or economic proposition except from the stand point of its immediate effect and its possibilities in

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In conclusion, I would suggest that, apart from these war questions, which are necessarily of vital and immediate interest to us, there is ample and most interesting opportunity for inquiry and research into the academic fields of the history and ethnology in the region which lie between the Tigris and the Indus. There is, I hope, a prospect that opportunity for such investigation is not far distant. We want to know more than we know at present of the Armenians and their records as well as of the Ben-i-Israel: and we want a closer geographical knowledge of all that lies between Herat and Kabul. Above all do we want a scientific examination of the site of the city of Balkh, which would surely yield results of importance and historical interest such as would rival even those of Nineveh. As for the field which presents such thorny problems to European politicians and which will inevitably in the not distant future be subject to the impress of action, political, military and commercial, which will frame new pages of history—the lands which lie between the Tigris and the Indus, and the right of way across them—I have endeavoured to show you that at one end of it lies Armenia and the hills beyond the Euphrates, and at the other the land of a strong and self-contained people who

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M. Nakon Patom ...	"	8.56	10.13	2.46	4.27									p.m.
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Potaram ...	"	9.55	11.22	4.—	6.17		" ...	Dep.				9. 5		2.41
Batburi ...	Arr.	10.26	11.57	4.31	6.59		Pran Kao ...	"			6. 5			4.59
			p.m.				Wang Phong ...	Arr.			6.10	10.59		5. 5
" ...	Dep.	10.36	12.10	4.41			" ...	Dep.			6.13	11.14		
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				Batburi ...	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.	—	5.47		6.33		Potaram ...	"		6.59	9.56	2. 6	4. 1	
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" ...	Dep.				8.58		M. Nakon Patom ...	"		9. 2	11.—	3.17	5. 6	
					p.m.						p.m.			
Chumpon ...	Arr.				3.53		Bangkok Noi ...	Arr.	11.12	12.25	4.53	6.28		

Chumpon-Tung Song on Tuesdays, Thurs. & Sats.				Tung Song-Chumpon on Mondays, Weds and Fri.				Tung Song-Trang daily				Trang-Tung Song daily			
		a.m.				a.m.				p.m.				a.m.	
Chumpon	Dep.	6.45		Tung Song	Dep.	6.45		Tung Song	Dep.	2.20		Trang	Dep.	8.20	
Langsuen	Arr.	9.18		Surashtira Dhani	Arr.	11.37		Trang	Arr.	5.30		Tung Song	Arr.	11.23	
"	Dep.	9.28		"	Dep.	12. 2									
Surashtira Dhani	Arr.	1. 4		Langsuen	Arr.	3.37									
"	Dep.	1.29		"	Dep.	3.47									
Tung Song	Arr.	6.23		Chumpon	Arr.	6.19									

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		a.m.	p.m.			a.m.	p.m.			a.m.				a.m.	
Tung Song	Dep.	6.30		N. Srithamaraj	Dep.	11.—	8.—	Tung Song	Dep.	11.50		Singora	Dep.	7.30	
N. Junction	Arr.	7.37	1.20	"	Arr.	12.12	4.18	N. Junction	Arr.	12.10		Patalung	Arr.	10.48	
N. Srithamaraj	Arr.	8.50	2.52	Tung Song	Arr.	—	5.20	"	Dep.	12.55		"	Dep.	10.58	
								Patalung	Arr.	2.47		N. Junction	Arr.	12.50	
								"	Dep.	2.57		"	Dep.	1. 5	
								Singora	Arr.	6.13		Tung Song	Arr.	1.55	



believe themselves to be Ben-Israel. In Armenia it seems to me are still to be found the evidence of Hebrew survival which might easily be traced to the lost tribes of 1800 years ago. The Armenians may be but the dregs of a once great people and anything but pure in lineage, but the Hebrew characteristics are still predominant. Over these people is rapidly spreading a new and Christian domination in the shape of Russia, and under Russia we may confidently hope that the hard-ried Armenian will eventually rest "quietly and peaceably governed," and once again lift up his head. Scattered along the highway to Afghanistan are isolated communities of Armenians, holding themselves distinct from their Persian surroundings, engaged in trade, the men with a leaning towards horse-dealing, and the women workers for wonderfully fine silk embroidery much appreciated by the Kabul aristocracy. The Armenian schools are said to be excellent, but I have never visited one of them. At the Afghan end of the highway we find the Ben-Israel, strong and amazingly self-confident, calling themselves by the old names Ibrahim, Ishak and Yakub, and holding the gates of their enemies—the passes of the Hindu Kush and of the Indian Frontier—with grim determination; a truly important people—the dominating tribe in a great kingdom. Their King Habibulla is a strong ruler and an astute statesman. His speech to the Mohammedan leaders in India gathered within the walls of the great Mosque at Delhi on the occasion of his visit to India, was, for eloquence, for direct good sense and tactful diplomacy, equal to some of the best efforts of his European contemporaries and far superior to most of them. Habibulla may well be regarded as the warden of our Indian Marches during this great war. It is a sure thing that our turbulent neighbours on the Frontier think much more of the Afghan Amir than they do of any British Commissioner since the days of John Nicholson; and, although we have had our frontier troubles since the war began, there is no suspicion that the Amir has been other than a good and useful ally to us, disdaining the overtures of our enemies, whilst treating them with true Afghan courtesy and hospitality—so long as they were strangers within the gate. As the war winds on, and slowly one by one we gain those points of vantage which will ultimately lead to victory, I think upon the old battle cry of the Hebrews, which must have often echoed over the hills of Canaan as Joshua led his hosts to victory—"Israel, Jehovah fights for us."



BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN MESOPOTAMIA.  
Motoring in Mesopotamia. This Wilsley Car, the private property of General Nixon, has been in constant use here now for many months. The car is seen passing through a palm grove, over a bit of bad road.

#### Missionary Politicians.

The German Colonial Secretary, Dr. Solf, delivered an extraordinary harangue recently at a "Colonial Mission evening" in an Evangelical church in Berlin.

After speaking of the refusal of Germany's "cordially offered hand of peace," and saying that nobody could now know "when the hour of deliverance will strike for suffering humanity," Dr. Solf expressed the thanks of the German Government to the German missionaries as "the brave pioneers of the Christian faith and German civilisation." He then proceeded to define

as follows the duties and uses of the German missionary:—

I should like to say here what great importance attaches to the missions, not only for the propagation of Christianity in the sense of Our Lord and Saviour, but also for our whole practical colonial policy. The conversion of natives from heathen customs and excesses of superstition, and their education for Christianity and Kultur—that is the only way by which native races can be permanently and securely made into useful members of the human community of Kultur. The natives are our most valuable capital in the colonies. Anybody who helps them on by the proclamation of the Divine message and by the works of Christian charity is serving not only Our Lord and Saviour, but also the State

idea and the Fatherland.

Dr. Solf went on to declare that Germany will recover her colonies. He said:—

We have not lost our colonies. Their occupation by the enemy does not mean their final loss. Although our enemies may have the intention to extend their own Colonial Empires, or to keep our colonies as pledges for the country that we have taken from them, that does not in the least alter the fact that the fate of the colonies will be sealed at the European conclusion of peace. The fate of our colonies is entrusted to our Army and our Navy, and so we will not doubt about the decision. We shall get our colonies back, and I should like to give a share of my confidence to those who have come here doubting.

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