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VOL. 43. NO. 33

BANGKOK FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1917.

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s.s. "Ardang"	10 . 2 . 17 .
s.s. "Boribat"	17 . " . "
s.s. "Prachatipok"	24 . " . "
s.s. "Ardang"	3 . 3 . "
s.s. "Boribat"	10 . " . "
s.s. "Prachatipok"	17 . " . "

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s.s. "Chutalut"	" " Thursday	15 . 2 . 17 . " "
s.s. "Krai"	" " Saturday	17 . 2 . 17 . " "
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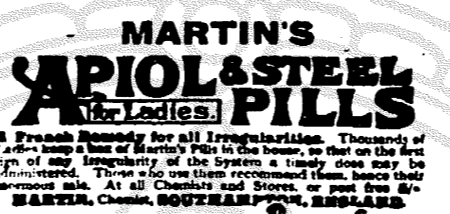
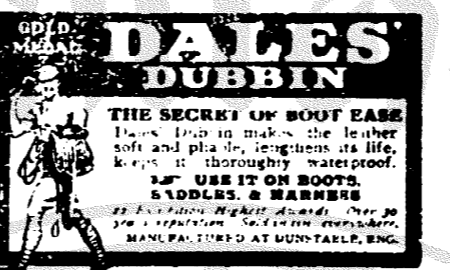
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Attorney.

27-9 F.



TIDE TABLE.

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

Feb.	A.M.			Feet.
	H. W.	Ft. in.	L. W.	
1	8 00	14 7	...	...
2	8 00	14 3	...	...
3	8 00	14 5	...	...
4	8 00	14 10	...	...
5	8 00	15 2	...	...
6	8 00	15 5	...	...
7	8 00	15 8	...	...
8	8 00	15 5	...	...
9	8 00	15 4	...	...
10	8 00	15 2	...	...
11	8 00	15 2	...	...
12	8 00	15 1	1-0	7-0
13	8 00	15 0	1-2	7-0
14	8 00	14 8	2-0	7-0
15	8 00	14 6	...	...
16	8 00	14 3	...	...
17	8 00	14 2	...	...
18	8 00	14 8	...	...
19	8 00	15 1	...	...
20	8 00	15 4	...	...
21	8 00	15 8	...	...
22	8 00	15 4	...	...
23	8 00	15 1	1-0	7-0
24	8 00	15 1	1-0	7-0
25	8 00	15 1	1-0	7-0
26	8 00	14 9	1-2	7-0
27	8 00	14 9	...	...
28	8 00	14 9	...	...
29	...	...	...	...
30	...	...	...	...
31	...	...	...	...

Feb.	P.M.			Feet.
	H. W.	Ft. in.	L. W.	
1	11 00	12 6	4-5	7-0
2	...	...	5-6	7-0
3	...	...	5-6	7-0
4	...	...	6-7	7-0
5	...	...	6-7	7-0
6	...	...	9-10	7-0
7	3 30	12 8	10-11	7-0
8	4 00	13 1	11-12	7-0
9	5 00	13 6	12-0	7-0
10	6 00	14 1	12-0	7-0
11	7 00	14 0	...	...
12	8 00	13 10	...	...
13	9 30	13 7	...	...
14	10 00	13 3	2-3	7-0
15	11 00	13 4	2-3	7-0
16	...	...	4-5	7-0
17	...	...	5-6	7-0
18	...	...	6-0	7-0
19	...	...	8-9	7-0
20	2 30	12 7	9-10	7-0
21	2 30	13 0	11-12	7-0
22	3 30	13 8	12-0	7-0
23	4 00	14 1	...	...
24	5 00	14 3	1-0	7-0
25	6 00	14 2	1-2	7-0
26	7 00	14 2	2-0	7-0
27	8 30	14 2	2-0	7-0
28	10 00	13 10	2-3	7-0
29	...	...	...	...
30	...	...	...	...
31	...	...	...	...

PHASES OF THE MOON.

Feb. 7th O Full Moon 10.10 a.m.
15th (Last Quarter) 8.35 a.m.
22nd New Moon 0.51 a.m.
28th First Quarter 11.26 p.m.

Smuggling to Germany.

How It Is Done.

A Stockholm correspondent says Sweden, and to a less extent Denmark and Norway, are struggling against a sudden increase of attempts to smuggle to Germany and her allies goods whose export is prohibited. Within the past few weeks there have been scores of cases of detection, and it is admitted that there have been many successful evasions. The revived zeal and ingenuity of the smugglers result partly from the great increase in the prices obtained owing to greater scarcity in the blockaded countries, and partly from the ever-growing length of the export-prohibition lists. The list of goods which may not be exported from Sweden counts several hundred items, covering practically all food products, textiles, raw materials, metals, and industrial chemicals, also all machines of even indirect use for the preparation of war material. By granting licences to export goods on the list, Sweden has so far exacted reciprocity from belligerent countries, and obtained from them products which she cannot do without; but the licence system grows stricter, and for goods which are scarce at home practically no licences are now granted. Hence the temptation to smuggle increases. The authorities take precautions—the number of Customs officials employed is three times greater than in peace time—but new means of evasion are daily invented; and the smugglers, judged by the number of successes if not by volume of transactions, are to-day probably more successful than at any period of the war.

So systematised is the smuggling that newspapers friendly to the Entente declare that it is being organised by German officials. That Germany pays the heavy fines which are imposed in detected cases is concluded from the fact that, though most of the offenders are petty traders without means, fines amounting often to tens of thousands of crowns are usually at once paid. Nearly all the smuggling is now done on the principle of small quantities at a time; but the total of successful attempts is great enough to make the encouragement of the system worth Germany's while.

False Declarations.

A Customs officer specially interested in preventing of smuggling has given me some instructive facts. He says that three-quarters of the attempts to smuggle out export prohibited goods to Germany are made merely by falsely describing contents of cases, bales, and parcels. In exceptional cases the goods are tampered with or doctored so as to deceive. The following are instances. In a cheap machine certain stationary parts, supposed to be made of iron painted black, were discovered to be copper. The Customs authorities discovered that leather, export of which is forbidden, was going to Germany in the guise of "artificial leather." The Swedish artificial boot-leather industry has developed to considerable dimensions, and the new surrogate is not on the prohibition list. A merchant exported to Budapest cases of real leather boot-soles. On both sides of each sole was pasted paper resembling artificial leather, while the edges were painted.

As a rule the smugglers simply hand in false declarations of contents, and trust to the cases or bales not being opened. German firms in Copenhagen have lately been caught exporting rubber in very large quantities—as much as thirty tons, in one consign-

ment—in the shape of "tinned fish." The rubber was made up in small parcels and sealed in fish tins. For this offence, the chief organiser, a German merchant, and his helpers were fined over £22,000. In Sweden the parcel post is being used more and more for smuggling to Germany. A vast staff of officials is kept busy opening parcels and checking the contents with the declarations. This has had the effect of reducing smuggling; but when the check was first imposed one parcel out of seven was found to contain export-forbidden goods.

Swedish Evasions.

Sweden lately had to issue a special decree against another form of smuggling out under false description. This consists in the export in specially manufactured forms of materials which in the raw are on the prohibition list. When the decree was issued thousands of cisterns and other liquid-holders of copper and zinc or their alloys were being manufactured for export. This was done on the principle of the famous bronze Hindenburg statue, of which 20,000 were ordered here in evasion of the copper export prohibition. Another flourishing evasion branch was the manufacture of latent weight for lifts. Special decisions have lately been given against the export of "used copper-plates," manufactured "ad hoc," and of "sand" and "sawdust," the value of which for Germany was that they were enclosed in new jute sacks. Into this class of evasion comes the export of paper impregnated with rubber and of tinned fish which consists mainly of oil.

In spite of close watching and heavy penalties, smuggling in the common sense of secret transport of goods is flourishing in all Scandinavian ports. The smugglers (Continued on page 7.)

Telegraph Lines.

The Post and Telegraph Department reports that Malay Peninsula Local line is not properly working between Chumpon and Bangkok. Other lines are in good order.

Bangkok Mails Close.

CHANDABURI
Saturday 10th 10 a.m. s.s. Chutatch
SONGKHLA
Saturday 10th 10 a.m. s.s. Aedang
HONGKONG
Saturday 10th 3 p.m. s.s. Kanchow

Exchange Rates.

To-day's Quotations.
LONDON—
Bank Bills, demand 1/6 7/16
Bank Bills, 3 months' sight
PARIS—
Bank Bills, demand 2.05
GERMANY—
Bank Bills, demand
NEW YORK—
Bank Bills, demand U. S. A.
INDIA—
Bank Bills, demand Rs.
SINGAPORE—
Bank Bills, demand \$60
HONGKONG—
Bank Bills, demand \$84 1/4
YOKOHAMA & KOBE...
Bank Bills, demand Y70 3/4
NOTE—The rate of interest on Advances Bills has been reduced to 6 per cent. per annum.
Equivalent of Exchange demand London in Siamese Currency—
Tcs. 13.08 (Bank Rate)

PINKETTES clear the complexion sweeten the breath
These dainty laxatives act gently with no griping.
Tic 1/- per phial at your druggist's or direct by mail on receipt of price from The BRITISH DISPENSARY, Bangkok, Siam.

Meklong Railway Co., Ltd.

TIME TABLE.

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

BANGKOK-MEKLONG.				MEKLONG-BANGKOK.			
STATIONS.	Train No.			STATIONS.	Train No.		
	I.	III.	V.		VI.	VI.	
A.M. P.M. P.M.				A.M. P.M. P.M.			
Km. Bangkok Dep.	8.30	12.30	4.30	Km. Meklong Dep.	8.35	12.35	
33.1 Mahachai				B. Hlame			
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.							
BANGKOK-MEKLONG.				MEKLONG-BANGKOK.			
STATIONS.	Train No.			STATIONS.	Train No.		
	I.	III.	VI.		II.	IV.	VI.
A.M. P.M. P.M.				A.M. A.M. P.M.			
Km. B. Hlame				Km. Mahachai			
Terminus Dep.	10.20	2.20		Terminus Dep.	6.45	10.45	2.45
33.8 Meklong Arr.	11.40	3.40	33.1 Bangkok Arr.	8.05	12.05	4.05	

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

Earthquake in Dutch Indies.

A telegram from the Resident of the Dutch East Indian Islands of Bali and Lombok received at Batavia on Friday reports the occurrence of a severe horizontal earthquake at 6-15 a.m. on the 21st instant. The shocks travelled from north to south or vice versa. The whole of both islands were affected by shocks. In the Boeleleug and Djelubrand districts of Lombok little damage has been reported, but in the South of Bali severe damage has been done. The total of Baliers killed or missing must at least be 50 and the wounded 200. No European casualty has been reported. The total damage done cannot yet be estimated, but it is known that at least 1,000 houses have been demolished, including the Regent's houses at Bangli and Geanjar, as well as many rice godowns and temples.

In south Bali all the stone houses have collapsed, including the Controller's house and office at Tabanan and the Opium depot at Den Pasar. Many bridges have been destroyed. There was no panic among the natives.

The Resident has already placed a sum of 20,000 guilders to the relief funds.

News received on Saturday from the Resident states that in the districts of Kintamani, Bangli and Besaoet the loss of life is very heavy. In Bangli 550 are dead or missing as the result of an enormous landslide. In Desa Boeban near Lake Batoer all the houses with the exception of fourteen have been buried. Three hundred are either dead or missing here. The roads between Bangli and Kintamani have been torn up and will take many months to repair. At Panjangan, the headquarters of the Gianjar district, much damage has been done. The total of dead and missing have not yet been ascertained. Only two buildings remain standing; the police quarters and the Controller's office.

The opium depot at Singapol has been damaged and a quantity of opium lost. At Karang Asem, Moentjan and Serat many casualties are reported, but the exact totals are unknown. All the principal buildings have been destroyed here.

The origin of the earthquake is at present in doubt as the two Bali volcanoes are not in eruption.

Information from Buitenzorg, Soek-boemi and Bandoeng states that the earthquake was felt in those centres on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 4.30 a.m. The shock was felt at 2.30 in the morning and lasted some few seconds, the vibra-

tion proceeding in an East to West direction. The Seismograph on Malebar Estate (Garret) was put entirely out of order, the vibration which preceded the actual shock being very strong. The Batavia Observatory also recorded the shock, the distance being about 100 to 200 kilometres. Much material damage has been done throughout the Praanger, the centre of the shock. No fatalities have been reported up to now.

Harden's Article.

London, Feb. 2.—The German censor has permitted Herr Maximilian Harden to publish in "Die Zukunft" an article describing the Entente's peace terms as moderate, compared with those of the Jingoists, who demand Belgium, Northern France, Belfort, Poland, Rouland, Serbia, Rumania, even Venetia and Egypt. The article regrets that the Central Powers, instead of boasting about their victorious armies did not mention reasonable terms on which they were willing to end the war, and declares that the German people want peace, and must have it, even though potentates have to descend from high horses. The article also foretells that, although a settlement regarding Alsace Lorraine will be difficult, peace possibilities will not be smashed on the walls of Straesburg.

A Stomach Tonic.

A tonic dyspepsia is probably the commonest form of indigestion met with in the East.

This lack of tone in the digestive organs means that the stomach is no longer able to do its work as nature intended. The nerves that control it are weak, the glands that supply the digestive fluids are not working properly. Gas on the stomach, sour risings in the throat and constipation result. The cause of the trouble is thin blood. Stomach, nerves and glands are all dependent on the blood and when it gets thin and watery they are at once weakened. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills act directly on the blood and the first response from the stomach is a better appetite, freedom from distress after eating and an increase in ambition and energy generally. Try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills as a stomach tonic and see how your general health improves. Write the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Singapore, for the free Diet book.

Of Chemists, Tics. 2.25 per bottle or 6 bottles Tics. 12 The British Dispensary, Bangkok, sole wholesale agents for Siam.

SEVERAL MAKES OF MOTOR CAR TYRES

have been raised in price

but

DUNLOP TYRES

are still sold at reduced prices

also

Goodrich & United States

at

Siam Motor Works Ltd.

HAND MASSAGE.

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

Prices.

Tcs. 7 First quality
" 5 Second "

S. IKESAKI, Tapan Mon.

FIAT MOTOR CARS.

NEW MODELS 1917.

Including:

Mod. 62, 4 cylinder 10-12 H.P.

" 70, 4 " 15-18 "

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All models fitted with electric light and self starter.

A consignment of mod. 62 (4 seater and 2 seater) and mod. 70 will arrive shortly.

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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.

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Save brokerage, worry, trouble, besides the uncertainty of obtaining good value at the hands of the Auctioneer by handing over all your furniture and other effects at the most favourable prices with immediate settlement by cash.

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House in Suriwongse Road at present occupied by Dr. Ayer.

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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.

BEWARE OF COLDS.

Children are much more likely to contract the contagious diseases when they have colds. Whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever and consumption are diseases that are often contracted when the child has a cold. That is why all medical authorities say beware of colds. For the quick cure of colds you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It can always be depended upon and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by the British Dispensary.



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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. Sriracha Co., Ltd.

Notice is hereby given that a General Meeting of Shareholders of the above Company will be held on the 7th February 1917, at 4 p.m. at the Company's Office, Bangplue, Changwat Thonburi.

BUSINESS:

- 1) To adopt the accounts and Balance Sheet up to 31st Dec., 1915.
- 2) To appoint an Auditor.
- 3) To transact any other ordinary business.

By order of the Board,

NAI BEUN,

Secretary.

9-16

Notice.

The undersigned Exchange Banks will be closed to Public Business, at noon on Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th inst. respectively being Race Days. For the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

E. W. TOWNEND,

Agent.

For the Chartered Bank of India Australia and China.

G. E. ALLEN,

Agent.

For the Banque de l'Indo-China Agency in Bangkok, CAMILLE HENRI, Le Directeur.

9-12



Wanted.

A reliable stores clerk with good knowledge of English and accustomed to keeping accounts. Apply in writing enclosing copies of testimonials to Chief of Central Office, Royal State Railways, Southern Line, Bangkok.

8-10



Notice.

The SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION of Machinery, goldowns etc. of the TWO STEAM RICE MILLS, the property of the Ministry of Finance, situated at PAKNAMPOH, Mondol Nagon Sawa, and at KLONG SOI No. 7, Tanyaburi, Mondol Krung Kao, respectively, lately advertised to take place on the 29th January, 2459 (1917) at the Office of the Inspector General of Finance, Krok Wat Muang Kae, Bangkok, at 2 p.m., will take place on the 19th February 2459 (1917) at the same place. Full particulars can be ascertained from the above mentioned Department on any day during office hours.

27 13 F.

Notice.

"In the matter of the Estate of the late John Ewen Dalgleish Esq."

"Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against, or owing money to, the above John Ewen Dalgleish Esq., who died at Chienmai on the 13th January 1917 should communicate with the Borneo Company Limited, Chienmai, on or before the 31st March 1917, after which date no claims against the deceased's Estate will be entertained."

19. J. c.o.d. 28 F.

Auction Sale.

SIAM AUCTIONEERING CO.

Favoured with instructions.

Will sell at the premises lately occupied by

W. Graehert & Co.

On Saturday the 10th Feb. 1917, Commencing at 2 p.m. sharp.

Glass show cases with reflecting mirrors, E. Ceiling and desk fans, Hanging Electrolier, E. table lamps, Copy press, Large fireproof Cash box, Writing desks, two 400 gallons water tanks, etc., etc.

TERMS.—Cash on fall of hammer, apply.—

E. M. PEREIRA & Co

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
Godroes Caviare
Haddock
Bloaters
Kippers
Filleted

Boiled Ham on cut
French Ham "
Raw Ham "
Breakfast Bacon

CHEESE
Roquefort
Australian
Stilton
Cheddar (English)
Canadian
Gruyere

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.



S. A. B.

BY APPOINTMENT

TO

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

NEWLY ARRIVED.

A SELECTED STOCK OF

SMOKER'S REQUISITIES.

Cigar- and Cigarette cases, boxes, holders

Match boxes, Cigar cutters

made in electroplate, silver and gold.



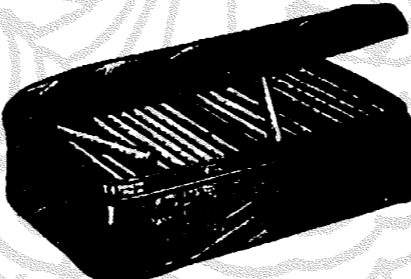
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"FATMA"

AND

"STELLA"

Egyptian Cigarettes.



Guaranteed fresh arrivals, packed in airtight tins of 100 at Tcs. 2-75 per tin.

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The State Assurance Company, Limited.

The China Fire Insurance Company, Limited.

Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co., Ltd.

LIFE.

China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Limited.

MARINE.

World Marine and General Insurance Company, Ltd.

MOTOR CAR RISKS.

Employers Liability Assurance Corporation Limited.

Louis T. Leonowans Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SIAM.

THE Great War.

Havas Telegrams.

Paris, Feb. 7.

We completely re-established our line in the region of Embermenil, where the enemy had penetrated yesterday into advanced elements of trenches. Our artillery stopped an attempted attack by the enemy in the Seppois region.

Rio de Janeiro. The Government has ordered the closing of all the ports of Brazil during night.

Geneva.—A cable message says that the Turkish Ministry of Sald Halim has resigned. Talaat Bey has reconstructed the Cabinet. Enver Pasha remains Minister of War and Djemal Pasha, Minister of Marine.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Mr. G. W. Ellis is leaving by the s.s. Kuala to-morrow.

THE B. M. C. have received fresh stocks of Canadian and Gruyere cheese and filleted fish.

THE s.s. *Teng Lee* arrived from Singapore yesterday evening with the European mail on board.

THE local European exchange banks will be closed at noon on the 13th and 15th inst. owing to the races.

MR. and Mrs. R. H. Brown had booked passage for Bangkok by the s.s. *Hirano Maru* which left London on 27th January.

A GENERAL Meeting of shareholders of the Sriracha Co., Ltd. will be held on 17th Feb. at the Company's office at Bangplue, Changwat Thonburi.

MESSRS. Kennedy and Co., Singapore, have received a cable from London stating that the latest date up to which holders of the 4 per cent. war loan and various issues of Exchequer bonds resident abroad can exercise their conversion rights to the new 5 per cent. war loan is April 30, 1917.

AMONG the passengers who arrived by the s.s. *Kuala* on Wednesday was Mr. Denitzky, a brother of Madame de Bhanulok and Secretary of the Imperial Russian Legation, at Peking. His Royal Highness the Prince of Bhanulok and Madame de Bhanulok, Mom Chao Thong Dighay and Mr. N. de Berg, Chargé d'Affaires for Russia were on board to welcome the distinguished visitor.

THE earliest Chinese banknotes which antedated the first European ones by about 37 centuries, were curiously, says a contemporary, similar to ours in the information which was printed upon them. They were dated, their values indicated by both letters and figures, and to it all was appended the secret signature. But there is no radical difference between the earliest and latest Treasury note: the Chinese Government did not allow the chance to slip of pointing a moral to adorn their "taels," they bordered the note with the maxim: "However much you possess, strive to be thrifty." Possibly Sir Hedley Le Bas may act upon this precedent, and adorn our new notes with maxims of economy.

MAIL despatches to hand say that the United States Admiralty has had a survey made of Catalina Island in the Pacific with the view towards making it a second Gibraltar. The island is so well situated in the Pacific and its natural configuration is so favourable that it could be easily converted into the naval base which the American Fleet is badly in need of in those waters. It is known that for a considerable time Washington has been casting round for a better naval base in the Pacific, and Catalina Island possesses every essential in that respect. The island is well known as the best rendezvous in the Pacific for tuna fishing, and the headquarters of the Tuna Fishing Club is established there.

IN an article dealing with pneumatic tyres, the German paper *Sport* states that the bicyclist has become almost extinct since the seizure of rubber tyres. A substitute for these has been found, however, in the form of corks out of bottles, and the fact that it is seriously recommended is a striking commentary on the vaunted success of synthetic rubber. "One needs about a hundred of these," says the writer "four or five centimetres long, for both wheels, wine corks of equal breadth, not sharply pointed, and about 23 millimetres thick. These corks one simply presses tightly together round the wheel into the rims. The cost for both wheels is only between two and three marks. The cork is very elastic; it travels a little heavier to be sure, especially on rough pavements, but on good roads it goes excellently."

Neutral Steamers Unable to Leave Singapore.

There was a rumour in town last evening that neutral steamships were not allowed to leave Singapore for Bangkok. This morning we ascertained that two local firms, the charterers of Norwegian vessels now loading in Singapore, had received cable messages from the masters that they could not buy coal and that no clearance papers were obtainable. On interviewing the Consul for Norway our reporter learnt that this was the only information he had and that there had been no communication with him from Singapore on the subject. At the British Legation we were able to get no further news but the Consul General had sent an official message to Singapore regarding this rumour but up to time of going to Press no reply had been received at the Legation from the Singapore Government.

It is most probable that the Norwegian vessels cannot obtain coal at Singapore the Government there having evidently requisitioned all local stocks of coal. It is rather hard on local trade, but in war times things of this kind must be expected.

Rubber Cultivation in Siam.

The United States Vice-Consul, Mr. Carl C. Hansen, Bangkok, notes, in a report, that hitherto Siam has not acquired any distinction as a rubber-growing country, and during the last five years the export of this product through the port of Bangkok has been comparatively small. The only rubber plantation of any importance in Southern Siam is located at Chantaboon, and consists of 25,000 trees, planted about six years ago, of which 20,000 trees are now ready for tapping. Considerable quantities of rubber, however, are said to come from Northern Siam, the product of rubber-yielding trees of the jungle. In the Siamese Malay States some attention has been given to rubber cultivation in the districts of Trang and Setul. Reliable information is not obtainable here, but it is said that the output of rubber has been insignificant so far in these Provinces.—L and C. Express.

Death of Captain H. M. Jones.

Captain Henry Michael Jones, V.C., late of the 7th Royal Fusiliers, the King's Dragoon Guards, and His Majesty's Diplomatic Service, died at Eastbourne on 18th Dec., aged 85. He was the oldest surviving wearer of the Victoria Cross, which was awarded to him for bravery in the Crimean War on June 7, 1855. He was wounded dangerously at the assault on the Redan. He entered the Consular Service in 1858, and became Minister Resident in Bangkok in 1889. This post he held for five years, when he went to South America, and retired in 1898. Captain Jones was the youngest of six brothers, of whom five were all, antecedently to the Crimean War, killed in action. He himself carried the Queen's Colours of the Royal Fusiliers at the Alma, where he was shot through the jawbone and he was known as "Alma" Jones.

British Navy's New Heads.

There is a feeling throughout the Fleet that with "Fighting Beatty" at its head—the man who has been in the van wherever fighting was to be had, and who was never hampered by "low visibility" or other technical matters, but laid within range of the biggest enemy ship he could see—and Sir Edward Carson—the brilliant, resolute Irishman—at the Admiralty, the Fleet's operations will be marked by a more "forward" policy. It is rather a coincidence that the two chief brains of the Fleet are loyal Irish ones, men who are more British than the British themselves. Beatty is a Wexford man and Ulster by extraction; Carson is a Dubliner by birth and of Ulster by extraction and, needless to say, of Ulster sympathies. A more forward policy is confidently looked forward to under the Beatty-Carson regime, and certainly there will be a more strenuous tightening of the blockade on Germany and a more vigorous imposition of the laws of war is contraband and what is not. For the first twelve months of the war the blockade of the German coast was or more less of a farce, as witness the cotton and other scandals.—Ex.

THE London share market report in to-day's mail papers says: Rice is quiet, but prices show little alteration. Bangkok two stars on the spot 20s., Straits Quality 19s. 6d., Japan 24s., and No. 1 Garden Siam 20s. 6d. Broken Rice has been inactive. Rice is quiet, but previous prices are maintained. Bangkok two stars on the spot 19s. 9d. to 20s., Straits Quality 19s. 6d., Japan 24s., and No. 1 Garden Siam 20s. 6d. Broken Rice continues steady but quiet.

The German Note.**How it is Viewed by Neutrals.**

London, Feb. 2.—New York: The evening papers generally consider it possible that the German Note is the last desperate bluff and that Germany will break out on finding that the American temper cannot be tried too far, but they are unanimous in declaring that the Note demands instant and alert attention. The whole nation must support Mr. Wilson even in the event of war.

Mr. Roosevelt's View.

Mr. Roosevelt in a statement demands that Mr. Wilson should act instantly to prevent the murder of non-combatants. He urges the seizure of the German interned ships on the first atrocity.

London, Feb. 2.—To-day's New York newspapers almost unanimously declare that a break with Germany is only a matter of hours. This is based on unofficial conjectures and gleanings from Washington. There has been no official statement. The mark has fallen in New York to 66½ the lowest on record.

British Press Opinion.

London, Feb. 2.—The British press does not conceal its belief that the German threat implies a real and formidable peril demanding all the nation's endurance. It is of opinion that this frightfulness has long been anticipated and that the Allies considered it at the recent naval conference in London. Confidence is expressed that preparation has been made to meet it. The greatest difficulty will be the submarine mine layers.

The German situation is compared with that of Napoleon in 1812 when he vainly tried to achieve a decision by commerce destroying. There is no doubt that the Kaiser's declaration of war on the civilised world will not succeed in saving the Hohenzollern dynasty. It is anticipated that the United States, like Britain in 1914, will prove that Germany has made another psychological miscalculation.

The Morning Post suggests that high German prisoners be placed in hospital ships as hostages.

The Daily Chronicle urges that the Allies should agree to the penalties they will exact after the war, specifying the persons they will penalise collectively, and should notify Germany thereof now.

Official Opinion.

London, Feb. 2.—Sir E. Carson, in a letter regretting that a cold did not permit him to attend a War Loan meeting at Hull, said he did not conceal the grave danger of German submarine warfare, but the Admiralty was tirelessly grappling with the problem day and night.

London, Feb. 2.—The Attorney-General F. E. Smith, speaking at Cardiff said that no belligerent in the world's history had ever dared such a challenge to a proud and powerful neutral. "We believe that we Allies are strong enough to fight out the quarrel ourselves. We have been the custodians of the honour of neutrals and now we tell them to be the custodians of their own. We only ask that when the time of settlement comes, those who have been sacrificed shall decide."

Spanish Action.

London, Feb. 2.—Madrid: The Minister for Marine has telegraphed to Spanish port authorities temporarily prohibiting sailings.

The Hague: A conference of the Government and shipowners discussed the possibility of continuing neutral shipping, especially to the Dutch East Indies. The Government promised to support this and also to protect vessels now afloat. Meantime the Government suggested that ships should not sail unless the Government was consulted.

London, Feb. 2.—Amsterdam: Commenting on the German Note the Dusseldorfer Generalanzeiger says that the prey from unresisted submarine is problematical owing to fewer sailings. Germany's welfare is the most urgent law and neutrals do not matter. The Rheinisch Westfaelische expects that Mr. Wilson will warn Americans not to enter the war zone. The North-Sea and the Mediterranean must be the grave of British greatness.

London, Feb. 2.—Amsterdam: The Cologne Gazette's Berlin correspondent says: Should America join the Allies our weapons will become sharper. Neutrals must now show their true colours.

Effect of Arming Liners.

Paris: It is stated that British statistical records show that out of a total of seventy-eight armed liners attacked by submarines seventy-two escaped and that out of a hundred unarmed only seven escaped.

Madrid: Spanish ships trading with France and England have been diverted. The first victims of the blockade are the Canary Islands which neutrals and belligerents have alike abandoned.

Stockholm: Railway traffic has been restricted owing to a coal shortage. The Government is taking other measures to limit consumption.

London, Feb. 2.—Amsterdam: The Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant is of opinion that the prospects of Holland being drawn into the war are considerably increased.

London, Feb. 2.—Amsterdam: The Telegraaf states that shippers are of opinion that British and Dutch trade may be completely brought to a stand-

Patriotic League of Britons Overseas.**Up-Country Siam Branch.**

The following is the report on the working of the Patriotic League of Britons Overseas, Up-country branch, for the period April 30th to December 31st, 1916:—

The Annual Report and Accounts for the first year's working not having gone in until April 30th, 1916, leaves only a period of eight months to be now reported upon. During this time the Up-country Siam branch of the League collected the sum of Rs. 11,020.09, which with the balance in hand from the first year's working enabled us to send our 4th and 5th Donations to the Sea Plane Fund of Rs. 4,500 (£300) each, making a total amount to date from the Up-country Siam Branch of Rs. 25,000 to this Fund.

Four Beds were also subscribed for in Queen Alexandra's new Star and Garter Hospital at Richmond. These Beds were originally destined for Netley Hospital, where the estimated cost was £52 per Bed, but we were advised by the Central Office in London that the Red Cross Society had informed them that funds were urgently required to provide beds in the new Star and Garter Hospital for Disabled Soldiers at Richmond, and we were asked to allow our donation to be transferred to this Hospital where the cost of a Bed is £30. This request was agreed to by the Up-country Branch Committee and funds for four Beds at £30 each were remitted Home as shown in the statement of account.

The cost of these Beds was Rs. 4,800, which was remitted Home, but the whole of this amount has not yet been collected here, as a large proportion of the local subscriptions comes in the form of monthly payments. The Committee therefore advanced the amount out of the general fund to which it will be repaid as received month by month. Up to date we have received Rs. 3,519.94 against the cost of the Beds, leaving Rs. 1,480 still to be repaid to the general fund as the monthly subscriptions come in.

When the full cost of the Beds has been covered it is proposed to use any further funds received for another bed, if sufficient, or for some other form of assistance to the Red Cross Society, if not.

The number of Members of the Up-country Branch on December 31st 1916 was fifty three (Donators of Rs. 15 and upwards ranking as Annual Subscribers for 1916) and the Branch has since its inauguration in March 1915 collected an amount of Rs. 31,155.34 for patriotic purposes.

The Committee earnestly request the support of all British subjects Up-country in Siam in continuing the Up-country Branch during 1917, as it forms a means whereby men out here can assist their country and men who are fighting for it, although they are themselves debarrd by circumstance from a more active part.

German Colonies.

London, Feb. 1.—The newspapers generally welcome Mr. Lloyd's announcement regarding the German colonies. The Daily Chronicle suggests that it might be usefully supplemented by a similar announcement regarding Mesopotamia.

Eastern Campaign.

London, Feb. 1.—Petrograd: Except in the Riga sector, where three divisions of German reinforcements have arrived, the enemy is transferring considerable German troops on the Russian fronts to the Western front in view of an impending clash there.

London, Feb. 2.—The Allies are temporarily arranging to mitigate the blockade and to relieve the poorer Greeks in view of the fact that most of the demands have been carried out.

still, thus greatly prejudicing the Dutch coal supply.

Danger to Spain.

Madrid: The newspapers declare that the new submarine warfare threatens Spain with hunger and ruin. They significantly remark that they are waiting to see what the United States will do.

London, Feb. 1.—Amsterdam: The Dutch press dwells on the risks of cutting off her seaborne imports. Experts think there will be an entire paralysis of industry through Germany's latest threat. Telegrams state that Germany is resorting to new and desperate action because she is aware she cannot win.

The time has come, now or never, when Holland will seriously ask where her interests lie safest, the reply to which is not doubtful. The Allies are fighting for the freedom of our country.

The Handelsblad associates the recent rumours of German troop concentration and fortifications on Holland's eastern frontier with the new German measure and deduces that Germany is convinced that Holland will be forced to take up arms.

London, Feb. 2.—Amsterdam: Dutch shipping is forbidden to leave territorial waters.

A Copenhagen company carrying agricultural products to Britain has suspended sailings.

Situation in China.**Certain Grave Faults Not Yet Corrected.**

Mr. B. L. Putnam Weale writes in the Peking Gazette:—

The conviction which the writer has consistently cherished that the situation in this country is as poor as could possibly be expected—and gives reasonable promise of peaceful development in the future—seems during on sound premises. Although during the last fortnight we have again seen a light-hearted attempt to use what may be called the Heuchow argument in Chinese politics—that the vague threat of armed force directed from the Yangtze Valley—careful inquiries tend to prove that there is a good deal of stage thunder about this business, and that if Parliament will give up the rather stupid use of the impeachment procedure as an everyday lobbying argument, the Yangtze Valley will also give up doing what the soldiery of the once famous King Bombs of Naples delighted in—that is making facia ferocis or terrible grimaces. When all is said and done it has to be remembered that representative government in this country is still in its embryonic stage—not experimental as wrong headed people state—and that because it is that it cannot exhibit its true character for some time to come. The Chinese as a people are, however, temperamentally suited to representative government: they are reasonable, tactful, conciliatory and humorous, four saving graces which will carry them very far along the road to political success. Like a solid piece of iron that binds the nation together is its immense, majestic, abiding common sense.

Grave Faults.

Whilst these things are abundantly true, the writer feels it his duty to point, in the most emphatic manner, to certain grave faults which have not yet been corrected. The first and worst of these are the inspired hints which are always being dropped that Parliament as a whole is to be re-organised, or that a new Parliament is to be summoned and the present one got rid of. The Parliament of China now sitting, having been re-constituted in the form it was originally constituted in 1913, has the statutory right to sit until the spring of 1918—and must sit until then: and any attempt even to hint at other things should be harshly suppressed. It is the duty of the executive branch of the government to place the case of many vernacular newspapers which have been conducting a subversive campaign against Parliament in the hands of the Chief Procurator and to have such offending newspapers bound over by proper guarantees. Parliament is the priesthood of every modern nation: even to hint at tampering with it should be punished in such an exemplary manner that a real fear and a real sense of responsibility are inspired—and never forgotten. On this point no argument is permissible: it is a political absolute.

The second point is the extent to which the most important office in China to-day—the Ministry of Finance—is made a sort of political prize which everyone is desirous of seizing and which practically no one sees in its true light, namely, that of being the true touchstone of China's success or failure as a modern nation. We hold no brief for Dr. Chen Chin-tao; but it should be evident to the simplest mind that it is absolutely essential to place his office outside the political arena and to leave him severely alone for a few years to see whether or not he can radically reform the shattered finances. Any policy which make his tenure of office depend on political gambling is a bad policy and must be condemned; for all of the Ministries in Peking it is the Department of Finance which requires the loyal support of everyone without distinction as the one remaining bulwark against foreign interference. China is fortunate in having several of her departments in the hands of good men, and the Cabinet, as a whole, may be called well representative of the country.

A Dark Spot.

That Cabinet has, however, one dark spot which cannot be tolerated any longer. Every one is agreed that the continued presence of the present incumbent of the Ministry of Communications in the Cabinet is nothing short of a national humiliation. It is notorious that ever since the present Cabinet was first organised the Ministry of Communications has been crudely and dishonourably exploited by the Minister of Communications. Not only have men with honourable records been summarily discharged, but almost every reform painstakingly inaugurated in the past has been destroyed, whilst railways and other posts are said to have been the objects of traffic.

Wherever the Minister of Communications has put his hand he has blighted something. Thus the new American successor to Dr. Adams—who inaugurated a proper statistical department—finds the department so entirely obliterated that no trace of it is left. The Tongshan Technical College has been turned upside down and its value almost destroyed. On every railway inefficiency reigns supreme, bad men being jobbed into departments about which they know nothing, good men

thrown out. The biggest money-earner, the Peking-Hankow railway, has been so starved and every possible cash so wrung from it, that there are not sufficient freight cars on it to move coal. The Tientsin-Pukow Railway is an even greater disgrace: what with the manner in which Chang Hsun's soldiery monopolise and menace the line and the dirt and discomfort which bad administration have brought, it is now considered unusable for foreign ladies to travel on it. And this is the railway which is the essential link between Peking, the National Capital, and Shanghai, the National emporium. Not content with the destruction he has already wrought, the Minister of Communications is now trying to destroy the Chinese Post Office with his same methods of "substitution." Foreigners are to be reduced in rank wherever possible, and untrained and incompetent underlings put over them, a course of action which will infallibly bring China into collision with foreign Powers. The telegraph administration has likewise been so tampered with that its efficiency is being continually lowered, and the foreign expert help—foreigners in Chinese employ being simply schoolmasters of new methods—made without value.

Notice.**CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:—**

Ex s/s "Hyson"
"Iyo Maru"
and Balances ex s/s "Phenix", "Toucer", "Euryptus", "Euryades", "Telamon", "City of Madras", "Benledi", "Kaka Maru", "Pelus" and "Hitachi Maru".
are hereby notified that same have arrived per s.s. "Kuala" on 7th, inst., and will be landed and stored at our 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.

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**Thursday, Feb. 8th until
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At 8-30 p.m.**

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Big naval guns in action etc., etc., etc.
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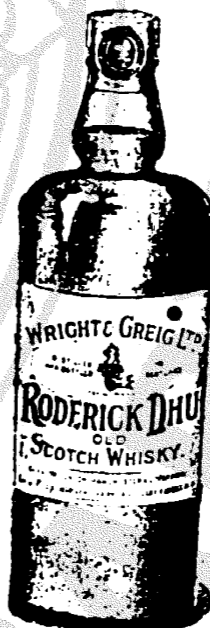
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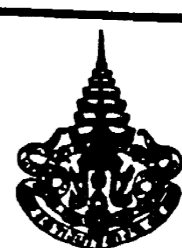


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NOTICE.

We beg to inform the public that we have this day taken over all the valuable stock of Jewellery and Sundries together with the workshop of the wellknown firm of

**Messrs. F. Graehlert & Co.
Gold & Silversmiths.**

The business is being transferred to our premises at Pratu Samyot, 1st floor. It will be carried on as heretofore under the same skilful management assisted by the same old expert staff.

We are thus now in a position to execute promptly on the spot any orders which may be entrusted to us at moderate prices.

Bangkok, 15th January, 1917.

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Terrible Colliery Explosion.

The Osaka Asahi's special correspondent at Mukden wires that a great explosion of gas occurred in the Oyama pit of the Fushun coal mine on the night of January 11. Columns of flames rose from the pit and the scene was terrifying. The entrances to the pits were closed after much difficulty and the flames were got under control on the afternoon of the 12th. The daily output of the pit was 7,000 tons. At the time of the explosion there were 1,188 miners working in the galleries. Those escaped number only 191, including 2 Japanese. Nine hundred and ninety-seven miners, including 16 Japanese, were lost.

A Dairen message to the Osaka Mainichi says:—At 10.50 p.m. on January 11 all the electric lamps in Fushun went out and immediately afterwards a noise as of exceptionally heavy thunder was heard. About 30 minutes or later, columns of black smoke and flames began to rise from Oyama pit. Smoke and flames soon covered the town. A series of explosions were heard at intervals. The scene was horrible, beyond description. Out of 1,000 miners—about 10 Japanese and 1,000 Chinese—only 150 escaped by the elevators. The others had to be abandoned owing to some defects in the elevators. The entrances of the pits were closed from 12 p.m. to 7 a.m. (12th), this measure serving to extinguish the flames. The damage is put down at \$6,500,000.

The Mainichi's special correspondent at Mukden wires that smoke was seen rising from Oyama pits at first, but after the lapse of 30 or 40 minutes, it was transformed into a huge column of flame quite a hundred feet high. Extreme confusion prevailed in the town. The flames subsided at 3.30 a.m. on the 12th. Out of 1,000 Chinese miners 157, who were near the elevator, managed to get out of the pits, but 17 Japanese and 980 Chinese are missing. Some days must elapse before the pit can be reopened. The loss of life is quite a thousand.

Spontaneous Combustion.
At 10.50 on Thursday night, the electric lights went out at Fushun all of a sudden. At the same moment a deafening detonation was heard and, in about half an hour's time, a column of black smoke was noticed issuing from the lower air shaft of Oyama shaft. The sparks were blown about thickly through the sable smoke. About 11.40 p.m. the flames shot up furiously with maddening cracklings, says M.D. News of January 13. Those inside the shaft were partially lifted up to the surface by the lift, but, after

it discharged two full loads of human freight, the lift went out of order. Many died out of the openings for sand flushing and out of the east shaft with which the shaft in flames is connected.

Mr. Teijima, in charge of the Mining Affairs of the Fushun Collieries, took prompt action to combat with the awful emergency. He was assisted by the railway guard, the police and the fire brigades. At midnight, the upper air shaft was completely sealed and the fire was observed to have begun to abate in its furies. By 5 p.m. yesterday, the hermetical sealing of the lower air shaft was also finished.

It appears that the disastrous outbreak originated under the lower air shaft, and it is thought that the extent of loss is not so large as may be gauged by the great shafts of lurid flames, which, according to Mr. Teijima, may be held as among the worst yet known in the annals of coal mining of the world. The nearness of the place of the outbreak and the quick suspension of the ventilating fans from operation facilitated the checking of the progress of the fire farther inside.

Advices reaching the S.M.R. Co. General Offices say that only steam was seen issuing from the mouth of the shaft, indicating the approach of a complete extinguishment of the flames.

The recent spontaneous combustion is considered as the worst in the history of collieries.

The Coal Sales Section of the Mining Department, the S.M.R. Co. is of opinion that, as there is a storage of over 50,000 tons of coal at Fushun, the present fire is unlikely to cause shortage in stocks for some little time to come.

Seventeen Japanese and hundreds of Chinese mining coolies were not accounted for.

Shipping Losses.

London, Feb. 1.—Paris: The Bureau Veritas publishes statistics of losses of merchant shipping during the war. Germany has lost 409 or 24 per cent. of her total. The Allies have lost 1,646 of which 1,520 were submarines, the latter including 1,100 British or 11 per cent. of the British pre-war fleet. The losses of the Allies are practically made good by building and captures. Germany's loss of 1,280,000 tons is counterbalanced by the construction of 676,996 tons, while 900,000 tons are building.

German Ship Scuttled.

London, Feb. 2.—Washington: It is believed that the scuttling of the Liebenfels is due to the German admiralty ordering the destruction of interned German merchantmen if war appeared imminent.

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Finest Very Old

SCOTCH WHISKY

The same as Supplied to the

P. & O. S. N. COMPANY

Supplies can be Obtained

FROM

The Borneo Company, Limited

(Continued from Page 2.)

"The Black List."

During a recent visit to Copenhagen I was assured by business men that the English "black list" system is of very qualified value in preventing illicit trade with Germany. All over Denmark are "white list" firms which have been created by, or with the capital of, the black-listed. Often the foundation involves only a change of name. The German firm which was penalised for exporting rubber in fish-tins had among its confederates two firms which were not on any black list. The same business men agreed that the Scandinavian system of repression is ineffective. This is not because of leniency—in Denmark in six months

Women's National Service.

Food Supplies.

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*Trains stop only at the request of passengers.
Trains may leave intermediate stations 5 minutes before the stated time

		Tues. Thurs. Sats.	daily	daily	daily	daily						daily	daily	daily	Week- Frie. 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	2.45	4.27		Prachuap Kirikan ...	Arr.								p.m.
Ban Pong ...	"	9.33	10.55	3.26	5.38		Pran Kao ...	Dep.						9.5		2.41
Potaram ...	"	9.55	11.22	4.—	6.17		Wang Phong ...	Arr.				6.5				2.26
Ratburi ...	Arr.	10.26	11.57	4.31	6.59		Hua Hin ...	Dep.				6.10	10.59			5.5
"	Dep.	10.36	12.10	4.41			"	Arr.				6.13	11.14			
Petchaburi ...	Arr.	12.—	1.45	6.29			"	Dep.				6.57	11.46			
"	Dep.	12.12	2.17				"	Dep.				7.5	11.54			
Hua Hin ...	Arr.	1.59	4.47				Petchaburi ...	Arr.					p.m.			
"	Dep.	2.5	4.57				Ratburi ...	Dep.			7.10	9.37	1.43			
Wang Phong ...	Dep.	2.27	5.37				"	Arr.			9.10	9.52	1.56			
"	Arr.	2.48	5.42				"	Arr.				11.40	3.18			
Pran Kao ...	Arr.	5.47			6.25		"	Dep.	6.5	9.22			p.m.			
Prachuap Kirikan ...	Arr.	4.38			6.33		Potaram ...	"	6.59	9.56		1.30	3.28			
"	Dep.				8.46		Ban Pong ...	"	7.43	10.19		2.43	4.1			
					8.56		M. Nakon Patom ...	"	9.2	11.—		3.17	5.6			
Chumpon ...	Arr.				p.m.		Bangkok Noi ...	Arr.	11.12	12.23	4.53	6.28				
					3.53											
Chumpon-Tung Song on Tuesdays, Thurs. & Sats.		a.m.					Tung Song-Chumpon on Mondays, Weds and Fri.									
Chumpon	Dep.	6.45					Tung Song	Dep.	a.m.							
Langsuen	Arr.	9.18					Sarasstra Dhani	Arr.	11.37							
"	Dep.	1.4					"	Dep.	12.2							
Sarasstra Dhani	Arr.	1.99					Langsuen	Arr.	3.37							
"	Dep.	1.29					"	Dep.	3.47							
Tung Song	Arr.	6.23					Chumpon	Arr.	6.19							
Tung Song-Nakon Srithamaraj daily except Monday		a.m.	p.m.				Nakon Srithamaraj-Tung Song daily except Monday		a.m.	p.m.						
Tung Song Dep.		6.30					N. Srithamaraj		11.—	3.—						
N. Junction		7.87	1.20				"	Dep.	12.12	4.18						
N. Srithamaraj							Tung Song Arr.		5.20							
Arr.		8.50	2.33													
							Tung Song-Trang daily									
Tung Song	Dep.	p.m.					Tung Song	Dep.	2.20				a.m.			
"	Arr.	5.30					Trang	Arr.	5.30				8.20			
							Trang-Tung Song daily									
							Tung Song-Singora Wed. Fridays & Sundays									
							Singora-Tung Song Tuesdays, Thursdays & Sun.									
Tung Song Dep.		a.m.					Tung Song	Dep.	11.50		Singora	Dep.	7.90			
N. Junction		12.40					N. Junction	Arr.	12.40		Patalung	Arr.	10.48			
N. Srithamaraj		12.55					"	Dep.	12.55		"	Dep.	10.58			
Arr.		2.57					Patalung	Arr.	2.57		N. Junction	Arr.	12.60			
		6.13					Singora	Arr.	6.13		"	Dep.	1.5			
											Tung Song	Arr.	1.53			

Cable Messages Received By Ear.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A technical discovery expected to revolutionise cable communication was announced by the War Department today. The discovery, the results of experiments initiated and carried out under the direction of Lieut. Col. George O. Squier, U. S. A., Chief of the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps, will permit the reception of Morse signals in cable communication audibly instead of visually by flashes, as at present.

The principal drawback to cable communication has been the necessity of employing the visual recorder, requiring the employment of highly trained cable readers. The new invention—the "audion cable receiver"—is expected to do away with cable readers and bring the operation of ocean cables in line with land line and radio telegraphy.

The official announcement regarding the invention follows in part:

"The preliminary experiments, which have been in progress for some months, were made at the Government radio laboratories, and the actual tests on an ocean cable have been completed recently. The improvement consists essentially in the adaptation of the 'ticker' and audion types of instrument used for receiving the signals in radio telegraphy.

The tests have been made on the Government Signal Corps cable from Sitka, Alaska, to Seattle, Wash., and the receiving apparatus was installed in the Seattle office. This cable is 1,086 miles in length and has a K. R. approximately equivalent to one of the Atlantic cables.

The actual receiver is an ordinary telephone. The feeble current received is normally inaudible in the telephone. It is broken up by means of a slipping contact 'ticker' and rendered audible. In order to secure greater sensibility a tuned audion amplifier is used in connection with the ticker. The sensitiveness of this apparatus is so great that less than one-twentieth of the voltage necessary for operating the siphon recorder is sufficient to give good traffic signals.

"The significance of this development may be realised when we remember that at present all the traffic for ocean cables has to be translated into an entirely different code at each end and that highly paid cable readers are required to decipher these messages. The present discovery brings the operation of ocean cables in line with land line telegraphy as well as radio telegraphy. The increased sensitiveness obtained by this method guarantees the operation of ocean cables under conditions when they would be totally interrupted as at present used and forecasts radical improvements in the world engineering practice of cable telegraphy.

"The experiments have been initiated and carried out under the personal direction of Lieut. Col. George O. Squier, Signal Corps, United States Army, by Dr. Louis W. Austin, in charge of the Naval Radio Laboratory, Bureau of Standards, and Dr. Louis Cohen, Consulting Engineering of the Signal Corps."

The Russian Nobles.

Petrograd, Dec. 14.—By an overwhelming majority the conference of the Russian nobility has decided to add its voice to those of the Imperial Council and the Duma. The form of its manifestation has not yet been decided,

but its substance is predetermined by the constitution of the committee appointed to draw it up. This body comprises all the speakers who had expressed themselves in the most unambiguous terms on the banefulness of the "esoteric forces" and on the necessity of doing something to ensure the harmonious and effective co-operation of the Government and the nation. The resolution will be submitted to ballot at to-day's sitting.

Concurrently with the question of petitioning the Throne on the subject of the present general political situation, the conference considered the letter addressed by its then president, Strukoff, to M. Goremykin in the autumn of last year. This communication was filled with gloomy forebodings as to the consequences of the

speeches then being delivered by adherents of the Block, and hinted plainly at the desirability of shutting up the Duma and all the other representative corporations. By twenty-three Governments to eleven, the conference decided that this letter did not express what were the sentiments of the nobility at the time when it was written. It was made quite clear that still less does it express what they are to-day.

One of the most striking of yesterday's speeches was that of Count Olsuveff, who said that in his opinion the error of M. Strukoff lay in this, that he applied to the situation of last autumn the standards of 1905 and 1906, seeing in the legislative chambers and the other public bodies only seditious revolutionary organisations. In reality, where revolution was seen there was

merely opposition. But to combat that opposition would be purposeless and ridiculous, for it consisted of the entire country, the Imperial Duma, the Imperial Council, the zemstvos, the municipalities, the public organisations, the workmen, the commercial classes, and even the Holy Synod. Why such of Radical Ministers? Were not Mr. Lloyd George and MM. Briand and Thomas all Radicals? And very flattering words had been spoken of their activities in governing circles in Russia.

A FORTY YEARS' TEST.

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