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# The Siam Observer.

FIRST DAILY TO BE PUBLISHED IN SIAM.

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and  
Stationery of  
Every Description.

VOL. 43. NO. 6.

BANGKOK MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1917.

PRICE 25 SATANGS

## STEAMER SAILINGS.

**K. P. M.**  
**JAVA-SIAM LINE**  
OF THE  
Royal Packet S. N. Co.  
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and clients that my  
business is now located  
at the new building at  
the corner of Klong  
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rak

Ah Seang, Tailor.

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we have just opened our shop in  
Jawarat Road, Nos. 104-109. We  
have received a large stock of Iron  
and Brassware, Paint and Oils, &c., &c.

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we allow a discount of 5 per cent on  
cash purchases





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Road, No. 184 to 189.

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ment of our well-known High Class  
Paints, Varnishes, Linseed, Oils, Brass-  
ware, Iron-ware, and Carpenter's, Black  
smith's, Silver smith's Tools, and  
various kinds of best Chinese Silks  
Always in stock.

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 <b>"EUREKA" MODEL WALK-OVER BOOT.</b> In black or tan, glove leather, shape as sketch, made by experts. Size and half-size 5 1/2 to 9 Price Tca. 19-50 per pair.	 <b>"METEOR" MODEL WALK-OVER BOOT.</b> Derby shape as sketch, in Black or Tan willow calf, perfect fit. Size and half-size 5 1/2 to 10. Price Tca. 19-50 per pair.
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s.s. Katori Maru	Dec. 15	s.s. Aisatsu Maru	Feb. 21
s.s. Kamo Maru	Jan. 5	s.s. Hikari Maru	" 28
s.s. Kishima Maru	" 10	s.s. Iyo Maru	Mar. 14
s.s. Mishima Maru	" 17	s.s. Miyazaki Maru	" 28
s.s. Suwa Maru	Feb. 6	s.s. Kitano Maru	April 11

### FOR HONGKONG AND JAPAN.

s.s. Aisatsu Maru	Jan. 6	s.s. Miyazaki Maru	Jan. 28
s.s. Hitachi Maru	" 8	s.s. Kitano Maru	Feb. 11
s.s. Iyo Maru	" 21	s.s. Fushimi Maru	" 15
s.s. Miyazaki Maru	" 30	s.s. Hiran Maru	Mar. 11
		s.s. Kaga Maru	" 25
		s.s. Katori Maru	April 9

### JAPAN-AMERICA LINE.

Steamers are due to leave HONGKONG for SEATTLE as follows:

s.s. Tambo Maru	Dec. 16	s.s. Yokohama Maru	Feb. 14
s.s. Shizunoka Maru	1917	s.s. Tambo Maru	Mar. 6
s.s. Kamakura Maru	Jan. 3	s.s. Shizunoka Maru	" 28

### JAPAN-AUSTRALIAN LINE.

Steamers will leave HONGKONG for MELBOURNE as follows:

s.s. Tango Maru	Dec. 12	s.s. Aki Maru	Feb. 13
s.s. Nikko Maru	1917	s.s. Tango Maru	Mar. 13

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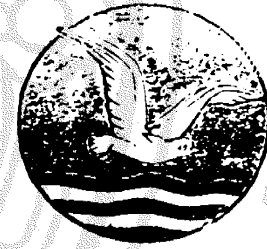
## History of the War

By JOHN BUCHAN.

Issued in Monthly Volumes.

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**Store.**

TELEPHONE 647.

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Bangkok-Europe Line

m/s "Selandia" ... Arriving End of February 1917

**THE SIAM STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD**

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West coast mail service.

For Koh Lak, Chumpoon, Tako, Langsuen, Bandon, Loo, Singora  
Patani, Panarat, Telupin, Banghara, Takbai, Kelantan, Pech, Sumrak  
Siant, Tringganu, Kretay and Singapore.

### Departures from Bangkok

s.s. "Boribai"	...	13.	1. 17.
s.s. "Asiang"	...	20.	" "
s.s. "Prachitipok"	...	27.	" "
s.s. "Boribai"	...	3.	2. 17.

### East Coast Mail Service

For Sriracha, Kohsichang, Koh Pui, Koh Pui, Rayong, Pui Som,  
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s.s. "Krot" will leave Thurs. ay 11 1 17 at noon.  
s.s. "Chababulch" " " Saturday 13 1 17 " "  
s.s. "Krot" " " Tuesday 16 1 17 " "

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33,000,000  
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**G. E. ALLEN,**  
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Bangkok, July 1, 1909.

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M. Edgard Stern	M. R. de Tregomain
M. Stanislas Simon	

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Hongkong	...	Tientsin
Noumea	...	Tourane
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Pekin	...	

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When you have a troublesome cough it does not mean that you have consumption or that you are going to have it, but it does mean that your lungs are threatened, and it is just as well to be on the safe side and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy before it is too late. For sale by British Dispensary.

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Actg. Manager.

Bangkok, March 27, 1909.

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Quarterly do " 8.

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

Apply: "A. B."

c/o "Siam Observer"

t.f.n

## TIDE TABLE.

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

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

Jan.	P.M.			L.W. (Approx.)
	H. W.	Ft. in.	Feet.	
1	9 30	11 5	...	...
2	10 00	10 4	...	...
3	...	...	9.10	7.8
4	...	...	9.10	7.0
5	...	...	10.11	7.0
6	...	...	10.11	7.0
7	...	...	12.0	6.0
8	...	...	12.0	6.0
9	4 00	13 3	...	...
10	5 00	13 4	...	...
11	6 00	13 5	...	...
12	6 30	13 7	...	...
13	8 00	12 9	...	...
14	9 00	12 6	...	...
15	10 00	12 3	5.6	8.0
16	...	...	7.8	7.8
17	...	...	8.9	7.0
18	...	...	8.9	7.0
19	...	...	10.11	7.0
20	...	...	11.0	7.0
21	...	...	12.0	7.0
22	...	...	12.0	7.0
23	3 30	12 11	12.0	7.0
24	4 00	13 2	12.0	7.0
25	5 00	13 1	12.0	7.0
26	6 00	13 4	...	...
27	6 30	13 5	...	...
28	7 00	13 5	...	...
29	8 00	12 11	...	...
30	9 00	12 8	...	...
31	10 30	12 6	...	...

## PHASES OF THE MOON.

Jan.	8th	O Full Moon	2 24 p.m.
	16th	(Last Quarter)	6 24 p.m.
	22nd	O New Moon	2 22 p.m.
	30th	First Quarter	7 41 a.m.

## British Aid For Italy.

The British-Italian League was recently inaugurated at a Mansion House meeting presided over by the Lord Mayor and attended by the Italian Ambassador and the Italian Ministers of Finance and Agriculture.

Mr. Runciman said, on behalf of the Government, that the league started with all the encouragement which a Government could give to a private institution. "We will be glad," he said, "to assist ourselves that the Italian people may be fed. Arrangements are being made with the Ambassador to share with them our supplies from Australia."

Mr. Runciman remarked amid loud applause that if Italy in commerce turned her attention more to London than to Berlin the City of London would make a ready response.

## "Submarines Can Conquer England."

Amsterdam:—The announcement in Berlin that 306,500 tons of Allied shipping were destroyed in October, and that 2,550,000 tons of English shipping have been sunk since the beginning of the war, caused a prologue of delight throughout the German Press. The *Rheinisch-Westfälische Zeitung* says:—

We come to the conclusion that the continuation of cruiser warfare with submarines to the present extent will bring Great Britain to the verge of ruin within a year. Britons feel that a life-and-death struggle has begun. Hence their attacks on the Admiralty, and hence the unexampled blizzard of their attacks against the German front in the West. British statesmen have realized that Germany cannot be starved out, and that every month of this modified submarine warfare brings England nearer to collapse. They have recognized that they can no longer defeat Germany at sea, and, therefore, contrary to all English traditions, hundreds of thousands of Britons must be sacrificed. It is estimated that every square kilometre of land won in the West costs 40,000 British casualties. If this unexampled butchery continues this last British hope must collapse. Our submarines can conquer England.

## Austria's Supreme War Lord.

Amsterdam, Nov. 24. According to a telegram from Berlin the Austrian *Streitkräfte Mittheilung* announces that the Emperor Charles has issued the following rescript to the Army and Navy:—

Soldiers! Your Supreme War Lord, my illustrious grand-uncle, the Emperor and King Francis Joseph, who for many years governed your grandfathers and fathers with love and solicitude and cared for you as a father, has been gathered to his ancestors. Always a shining example of soldierlike devotion to duty, his late Majesty with the greatest energy devoted himself wholly to the work of the Fatherland. As long as his strength lasted his thoughts were with you, his beloved and gallant warriors.

Soldiers! Up to the present I have endured with you the hard but glorious days of this gigantic struggle. In this great epoch and in the midst of you, I now, as the Supreme War Lord, place myself at the head of my trusty Army and Navy with an unshakable belief in

our sacred right and in the victory which, with God's help together with our faithful Allies, we shall gain for our righteous cause. The spirit of the illustrious dead will be near you to inspire you in further heroic battles in order that it may be given to us to lay a wreath of victory on his bier as a token of our loyalty and gratitude for all the love and solicitude which never ceased to animate his noble heart for his loyal Army and Navy.

## WHAT MEN NEED.

Here, as everywhere, are many men with nervous systems urgently in need of better tone. The feeling of exhaustion affecting such men is the result of thin blood, which has become devalued by the enervating effects of the climate, worry, malaria, and other causes.

To every man the loss of nerve force is serious, and should not be neglected. The symptoms of nervous exhaustion are depression, irritability, failing interest in work and recreation, pallor, lack of appetite, headaches, pains in joints and limbs, nervousness, and a sense of impending calamity.

Exhausted nerves need refreshing with new blood. By building up weak, thin blood the entire system is strengthened, the appetite revived, digestion restored, and the nerves reinforced with the elements they need. This is the reason Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have been used successfully in thousands of instances by exhausted nervous men; and by the power of the new blood which these pills create they have cured cases that did not yield to other treatments. FREE book on the nerves sent free by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Singapore.

The British Dispensary, Bangkok, sole wholesale agents for Siam, Tcs. 2.25 per bottle or Tcs. 12/- per 6 bottles.

## To Let.

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

Apply to:—

"S."

c/o Siam Observer.

## Oriental Bakery.

ORIENTAL AVENUE.

Daily supplies of white bread & rolls.

Fresh Cakes:—Plain, Currant, and Assorted tea cakes. Other cakes made to order.

Brown bread every Wednesday & Sunday.

## SOMETHING TO REMEMBER.

In buying a cough medicine for children, bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best for colds, croup and whooping cough, and that it contains no harmful drug. For sale by British Dispensary.



## WITH THE SALONIKA ARMY.

Wheeling the gun to a big tree. The fact that such heavy damage could be repaired without sending the gun to the base says much for the efficiency of the British Ordnance Workshops.



## Russia's Shells and Guns.

### Remarkable Increases in Output.

In the Duma recently the Ministers of War and Marine made statements which were received with great enthusiasm by all the members.

The Minister of War said: "This sanguinary and atrocious world-war has lasted twenty seven months. It was not our well-beloved Sovereign who desired to begin this war. We all know that neither the Emperor nor our gallant Allies received any support from the hostile camp in their efforts to avoid this world conflagration. For decades there has been cultivated in the hostile camp the idea of the necessity of seizing by force the domination and first place among all the people. "In this enemy camp the swords were sharpened and the arms prepared for decades, and only the desired hour to surprise its neighbours, to attack them, and finally to crush them with a shattering blow so as to force them to submit to its will was awaited. (Cheers.) But intentions do not always correspond to reality. The shattering blows have disappeared like smoke. The war has lasted twenty-seven months. God alone knows how long it will still last. As an old soldier, I am profoundly convinced that each day brings us nearer victory. Each day our wicked and insolent enemy is nearer defeat.

#### Striking Figures.

"Everyone whom it has been possible to take for the manufacture of munitions of war has been taken. Not only men and boys, but women and young girls. Figures will testify to the results of this general effort. The following figures show, first, the surplus output on January 1, 1916 and, secondly, the surplus output at the present moment, as compared with January 1, 1915.

	Jan. 1916.	Nov. 1916.
3-in. guns	3.8	8 times
Repairs	5.7	3.2 "
4.2-in. howitzers	2	4 "
Rifles	3	4 "
3.6-in. shells	6.5	7.5 "
4-in. shells	2.5	9 "
6 in. shells	2	5 "
3-in. shells	12.5	19.7 "
Bombs	4	16 "

"I am not going to enumerate everything, but shall confine myself to stating that in certain cases the increase of output has been forty times. (Loud cheers.) As for asphyxiating gases, the output has increased thirty-three and sixty-nine times.

"I shall draw the attention of the Duma to the artillery munitions without touching upon the question of supply, and I shall emphatically declare that, although defects still exist, the position is supportable. The difficulties which we are meeting as regards motor cars do not depend upon us. Aviation is developing.

#### "The Enemy Is Caught."

"I can, of course, rely upon you and your aid in the future for the common work for our gallant army. The enemy is caught, and will not escape. As the President of the Duma has declared we must conquer at all costs. That is the order of the august commander of our gallant army. The welfare of our country, which comes before everything, requires it. Not only must we conquer, but we shall gain the victory. No power on earth is capable of conquering Russia."

The Minister of Marine said: The war will be waged until the end. (Prolonged cheers.) The national defence imperatively calls for your united effort. After the Minister of Marine had taken his seat the cheering increased, and reached unusual fervour. The members rushed from their seats and surrounded the representatives of the Government, continuing to cheer frantically.

M. Rodicheff said: The army will fight to the end. The Duma desires nothing else, and has only assembled to further that object.

## LOTTERY.

IN AID OF THE

### FRENCH RED CROSS.

#### First Prize One Ford Car,

20 H. P. 4 CYL. 5 SEATER

With all Accessories Including Electric Light.

#### Over One Hundred Other Prizes

Which are on show at the International Store.

#### Tickets Sold at:

BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,  
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BRITISH DISPENSARY,  
HARRY A. BADMAN TOWN STORE  
BUAN SOON LEE & CO.  
KIAM HOA HENG & CO.  
SIAM STAMP CO.

## Godown Wanted.

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

Apply to:—

"P."

c/o Siam Observer

## Motor-Cars for Hire.

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

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

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

#### ARBIB SHAH,

Opposite Europe Hotel,  
New Road.

Telephone No. 687

24.0.—25 Jan.

Repairs  
Repainting  
Reupholstering

Siam Motor Works Ltd.  
Motor  
Accessories  
of all  
kinds.

## HAND MASSAGE.

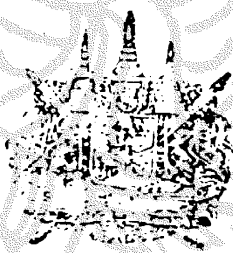
An ingeniously made massage ready for use at any moment. Come and see it at our shop.

### Prices.

Tcs. 7 First quality

" 5 Second "

S. IKESAKI, Tapan Mon.



## A LARGE STOCK

Ladies' and Gent's  
Bicycles and Cycle  
Covers.

BROWNLOW WATER FILTERS—TO ENSURE A CLEAN & HEALTHFUL DRINK.

Plain Cups and Saucers,  
Children's Shoes, etc.

AT

Kiam Hoa Heng & Co.,  
Limited.  
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NEW ROAD.  
Executes all kinds of Tailoring in the latest fashions.  
Send Post Card, and he will wait on you personally.

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Rice Mills, the property of the Minis-  
try of Finance, situated at Paknamphol  
Mondol Nagor Sawan, and at Klong  
Sot No. 7 Tanyaburi Mondol Krung  
Kao, respectively, will take place on  
the 29th January 2459 (1917) at the  
office of the Inspector General of Fi-  
nance, Krok Wat Muang Kae Bangkok,  
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certained from the above mentioned  
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### Court Circular.

GRAND PALACE,  
Saturday, January 6.

This afternoon at 4 o'clock His Ma-  
jesty the King went to open the  
National Library at Na Phra Dhatu  
Road.

On arrival the King was received by  
His Royal Highness Prince Damrong,  
President of the National Library and  
the committee of the Library, name-  
ly:—His Highness Prince Biddya-  
longkorn, His Serene Highness  
Prince Piya Bhakdiwarth, Their Exce-  
llencies Phya Dharmasakdi, Phya Boran  
Rajadhamindra, Phya Sri Buri Prija  
and His Highness Prince Kavibachna,  
Secretary of the National Library.

His Majesty proceeded to the Com-  
mittee room and the Secretary room  
and then entered the Central Hall  
where His Royal Highness Prince  
Damrong read an address outlining the  
history of the National Library which  
began with the reign of His Late Ma-  
jesty when the King, then Crown  
Prince, was its President. At that  
time the Library had not been endowed  
with a suitable building. His Majesty,  
on ascending the Throne, was graci-  
ously pleased to command the repairs and  
improvements of a Government build-  
ing situated in front of Mahadhatu  
Monastery to be used as a new National  
Library. And now the building has  
been completed and His Majesty  
was therefore pleased to declare it  
open on this auspicious  
occasion of the celebration of  
His Majesty's Natal Day. The King  
was graciously pleased to reply ex-  
pressing his pleasure in opening on  
this auspicious occasion the building  
of the National Library which is a  
national institution for the collection  
of old Siamese literature. The wel-  
fare of the National Library was a  
cause of constant solicitude to His  
August Parent and to have assured  
that welfare in this way was extreme-  
ly gratifying. Finally His Majesty  
congratulated the committee and de-  
clared the building open.

The King was graciously pleased to  
present the Library with his life size  
portrait. His Royal Highness Prince  
Damrong, Vice President of the  
Academy of Literature, then prayed  
His Majesty to accept a certificate of  
the Academy and a Vajiravanna Medal  
(founded in the Reign of King Chu-  
lalalongkorn) for His Majesty's classical  
work "Fate of Nala" which was re-  
cently published. His Majesty ex-  
pressed his pleasure in receiving the  
Certificate and the Medal.

The King then was graciously  
pleased to confer decorations on cer-  
tain officials of the National Library  
whose names are hereafter mentioned.  
His Majesty then proceeded to inspect  
the books and various rooms of the  
Library.

Refreshments were served after  
which the King took his departure.

**The Most Exalted Order of the White  
Elephant.**

**TO BE COMMANDER.**

(THIRD CLASS)

1. Dr. O. Frankfurter, Chief Libra-  
rian.

**TO BE MEMBER.**

(FIFTH CLASS)

2. Luang Namvijitra, Text Book  
Department.

**The Most Honourable Order of the  
Crown of Siam.**

**TO BE COMPANION.**

(FOURTH CLASS)

1. Luang Dharma Bhimonda, Text  
Book Department.

**TO BE MEMBERS.**

(FIFTH CLASS)

2. Khoun Bavara Varnakich, Text  
Book Department.
3. Khoun Binich Varnakara, Text  
Book Department.

**Dusdhi Mala Medal.**

(SCIENCE AND ART CLASS)

1. His Highness Prince Kaviba-  
chana, Secretary.
2. Phya Bachana Sundara, Ministry  
for Religious Affairs and Education.
3. Luang Chen Chin Akshara, Min-  
istry for Religious Affairs and Education.

**GRAND PALACE.**

Sunday, January 7th

The Ananta Samagom Palace, which  
had been in the course of construction  
since the year B.E. 2451 during the  
reign of His late Majesty, had not been  
finished. His Majesty the King was  
therefore pleased to command the con-  
tinuation of its erection to be proceed-  
ed with.

Now the Palace has been completed.  
By command of His Majesty the King  
ceremonies for its inauguration and  
consecration were celebrated in con-  
junction with the auspicious occasion  
of His Majesty's Natal Day.

At 4 o'clock in the afternoon the  
King drove in a motor car to Benchama-  
pabitra Monastery where he did rever-  
ence to the Image of Phra Buddha  
Jinaraj and to the relic of His late  
Majesty King Chulalongkorn of be-  
loved memory. The King presented  
the customary gifts to the priests of  
the monastery and then drove to Dusit  
Palace.

At 4.30 o'clock His Majesty the King  
granted audience at Ananta Samagom

Palace to the Princesses, Ladies of  
the Palace and wives of officials and  
Ladies of gentle birth who presented  
to His Majesty candles, incense and  
fresh flowers according to ancient  
custom.

After the audience the King lit  
candles and incense at the altar and  
attended a religious service of blessing  
the new Palace. At the end of the  
service the priests took leave.

To-day the King was graciously  
pleased to confer decorations on certain  
officials whose names will appear in an  
official list which will be issued separa-  
tely.

In the evening the King proceeded  
to Dusit Park ground to open the fair.  
The committee of the Exhibition of  
the miniature Naval battles presented  
His Majesty with a dirk. The King  
expressed his pleasure in accepting the  
present and thanked the committee.

It is expected that His Majesty will  
visit the fair every night during the  
whole festival.

### Havas Telegrams.

Paris, Jan. 4.

The Grand Orient of France (of the  
Masonic Franchise) has solemnly  
joined in the protestations against the  
deportation of the inhabitants of  
France and Belgium which is be-  
ing carried on by the Germans.

Paris, Jan. 5

Mr. Briand, M. Thomas, General  
Lyantey, Mr. Lloyd George, Lord  
Milner, General Rodston (British),  
and M. Galitzin (Russian) have arrived  
at Rome where the conference of the  
Allies will be held.

Paris, Jan. 5.

Rome.—The Allies conference held  
their first meeting to-day.

### Tin and Rubber.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Singapore, Jan. 6.

At the rubber auctions 317 tons  
were sold. The price was much strong-  
er. Smoked sheet reached \$152 the  
average being \$115 per picul. Pale  
crop fetched \$151.

Tin is now at \$87.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE latest Reuter's and Havas Tele-  
grams will be found on pag. 8.

THE Great Winsom Company, illus-  
trators, acrobats, etc. will give a series  
of performances at the Phathanalai  
theatre commencing from 10th inst.

THERE was one fatal case of bubo-  
nic plague in Bangkok during the  
week ended 30th December according  
to the report of the Medical Officer of  
Health.

THE s.s. *Kumming* will leave from  
the Borneo Company's wharf at 3 a.m.  
sharp, on Wednesday the 10th inst.,  
and should arrive in Singapore on  
Saturday evening.

THE s.s. *Kuala* left Singapore at noon  
on Sunday the 7th inst., with the  
mail and may be expected to arrive at  
the Borneo Company's Wharf on  
Wednesday about 1 p.m.

THE British Minister has received  
from Hiral Singh of Baheng a dona-  
tion of Rs. 341 and 4 annas which is  
being forwarded to the British Red  
Cross working in India.

MR. T. F. Carlisle, Consul at Saigon,  
has been transferred from the Siam  
Consular establishment to the General  
Consular Service and has been appoint-  
ed Consul General at New Orleans.

NEW Ads.—Mr. Froiman is prepared  
to buy furniture and other household  
effects at reasonable prices. Changes in  
the dates of departure of the Siam Steam  
Navigation Co's coast boats are notified.  
The Borneo Co. have a new notice to  
consignees.

### New Year of Hope.

London, Jan. 1.—The King has sent  
a message to M. Poincare for the New  
Year that His Majesty is as "confident  
as ever of the vicarious issue of the  
struggle." He would pray that the  
noble French nation, whose sons have  
strikingly and freshly proved their will  
to victory, may by the triumph of the  
Allies re-enter the path of peaceful  
progress, secured against aggression.  
M. Poincare, replying to the King of  
Italy said that victory was assured  
with the New Year.

### The Kaiser's Views.

London, Jan. 2.—The Kaiser, in a  
New Year's greeting to the Empress  
speaks of the clearing of Russia de-  
spite stubborn Russian resistance, and  
thinks God therefore. He expresses  
confidence that the year will bring new  
victories, but adds in a minor key,  
"We shall hold on."



## British Legation Telegrams.

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

### On Various Fronts.

London, Jan. 5.

Except in Rumania there have been no important operations in any theatre of war. In Rumania the enemy continues to press forward, but slowly and with increasing difficulty.

The Russian counter stroke may be delayed but is undoubtedly preparing. The ultimate importance of this campaign will not be decided until after the spring or the early summer operations. Elsewhere Germany has been unsuccessful and the balance is against her. In France the fighting is decidedly of a winter character but is being waged as vigorously as conditions allow.

The Entente's great weight of artillery and superior air direction causes the enemy continual appreciable loss which is steadily damaging his morale. It is noticeable that Sir Douglas Haig's despatch on the Somme campaign clearly disproves the German contention that the offensive has failed to accomplish its purpose.

Over half the German Army has been in action and is continually worsted. The effect on the morale of both sides is obvious, while the fact that to large a proportion of the total German force is permanently pinned to the spot, continues to have a seriously crippling effect on the enemy's whole strategy.

At Verdun and on the Somme the British and French, besides valuable gains of territory and position, have captured considerably over one hundred thousand prisoners.

There is growing weight of evidence that the Central Powers are experiencing an increasing shortage of the raw materials necessary for producing essential military material. Doubtless this has been one of the main considerations imposing on them the endeavour to obtain an early peace.

The Greek Government still hesitates in face of the Allied demand for reparation and strong guarantees against repetition of the recent atrocities. A hope is possibly entertained in certain quarters that the German Army in Rumania may shortly be at leisure to turn toward Salonika and enable the Pro-German element of King Constantine's Government at length to definitely throw off the mask. Meanwhile for the moment the Allies' note is unaccepted but it is considered probable that Greece will ultimately yield a passive consent.

Terrorism continues against the Venizelists in Athens and all communications are suspended. But the temporary occupation of Rumania by Germany is no real symptom of the present German position. For while the Russian counter stroke is gathering weight to fall, the internal condition of the Central Powers is such as no amount of brief apparent military triumphs can help. Well may the Central Powers call for peace; since the mightiest armies are useless if there is no food to support them. From all sources we now hear from indisputable witnesses of the economic deterioration of the Central Powers. It is now realised that the expected relief from Rumania will not be forthcoming owing to the systematic destruction of corn and oil.

This is generally acknowledged in Germany where the failure of the potato crop adds a further element of gloom to the situation, while Austria-Hungary are torn by mutual jealousy over the distribution of Hungarian supplies. Information from various sources confirm the fact of increasing destruction in Germany where the populace is in the grip of such necessity that many districts are starving, while even in Berlin there is real want of food and in Hamburg the situation is described as "terrible" with food riots occurring constantly throughout the famine-stricken country.

No wonder Germany still hopes to secure peace, while even franker are the wishes of Austria-Hungary. The Allies' reply is not considered to close the door to the possibility of peace, but the Allies themselves cannot consider terms till terms are offered. At present Germany has only suggested a conference; but the Allies require more definite proposals as evidence of German sincerity, and of the possibility to arrange such peace as shall prevent future violations of international law. At present the Prime Ministers of the Allied Great Powers are holding a conference in Rome and further development may be expected though no reply has yet been delivered to President Wilson's note against which considerable feeling exists in the United States, while Spain and the most important states of South America have declined to join Switzerland and the Scandinavian Powers by endorsing it with similar protests.

## The National Library.

### Its New Home Opened By His Majesty.

On Saturday His Majesty the King formally opened the new home of the National Library opposite Wat Maha Thard when His Majesty was graciously pleased to confer decorations on the officials of the Library and make a present of a life-size picture of himself. The Council of the Library presented His Majesty with a diploma of the Royal Literary Institute and the Vajiravudh Medal for his work "Tale of Nala", a classical work published in two volumes.

For many years, in fact from the very inception of the National Library, the Council of the Library was faced with the difficulty of obtaining a suitable place to carry on its work and a building in the Palace grounds was temporarily occupied. The present new abode of the library is one that has been found to suit the requirements of the library admirably. It is that long and solid structure facing the Promenade ground and which for many years had been left uncompleted.

In an interview granted to representatives of the Press H. R. H. Prince Damrong, President of the National Library, was kind enough to give an outline of the history of the library and the progress it has made since it was first opened about eleven years ago.

### What the Library has Accomplished.

In the year 1905 His late Majesty King Chulalongkorn wishing to commemorate the centenary of his father by establishing a useful institution formed the National Library and appointed a Council of five to take charge of same. The Council was then represented by His Majesty the King, (then Crown Prince), H. R. H. Prince Somot, H. R. H. Prince Damrong, the late Phya Prachetkit and Phya Boranupatt. By a decree His late Majesty decided that the literature of the library should be divided into three main sections, namely, Pali, Thai and foreign literature. When the above Council was instituted under the Presidency of His present Majesty the necessary steps to be taken for the advancement of the library were considered and His Majesty sketched out the work to be carried out. It was decided that Pali and Thai literature should form the most important sections of the National Library of Siam. The Council was concerned with Pali manuscripts and Thai literature exist in large quantities and are scattered all over the country. The Council therefore found that the collection of these manuscripts was of the greatest importance and made this their principal work.

As regards foreign literature, which naturally embraces a wide field of knowledge, the Council decided that they should try to obtain reference works as would be required by the various Government departments before considering other branches of literature. In the collection of foreign books English was to be taken as the standard language, as is well known, English is the most widely known in the East.

The Council was also of opinion that if works of utility could be published, the library could render itself more useful to the public. The library was however not over-rich. Funds for the publication of such works had to be considered and it was decided to publish books on merit-making to begin with. Another point considered was about securing book-cases, as with the collecting of manuscripts book cases would be required. The Council adopted the suggestion made by His late Majesty to collect and make use of old Siamese book-cases some of which were the finest works of art of this country.

A difficulty that presented itself before the Council at the start was the securing of a suitable building for the library. No place as large as what they wanted could be had and the largest building available in the Palace was taken up temporarily. The official staff of the library was also strengthened by the selection of a qualified man in Dr. Frankfurter who was transferred from the Foreign Office and made Chief Librarian.

The Council then proceeded to carry on the work of the library as sketched out by His present Majesty who served as President for five years until he ascended the throne when he appointed H. R. H. Prince Somot, President. One of His Majesty's intentions on ascending the throne was to accomplish all his father had left unfinished. Among the things left unfinished was the building known as the Wat Mahadathu building. His Majesty saw that this was a handsome structure on an excellent site and worthy of being put to some useful purpose. He remembered the needs of the National Library and ordered that sufficient funds be given for its completion and gave it over to the National Library.

H. R. H. Prince Somot served for five years as President and died and his place was taken by H. R. H. Prince Damrong.

### Publications.

The library has during the past eleven years collected 105,880 works of national manuscript in the Pali

and Thai languages. This large collection was mainly due to the assistance given by His Majesty the King, Prince and several people all over the country. Up to the end of the year 1916 the library had published 190 works consisting of 107,801 volumes, while when 841 more are added, the total number of publications is rapidly increasing. Regarding foreign literature, the library is looking to collect more and more, including to some of all kinds of books, including script having connection with the history of Siam. In so far as the latter is concerned the library has been rather successful. The Council has even permitted the British Consul and the Director General to copy a lot of works having as far back as the 17th century from the national archives. Several works have been acquired and some of them published. As regards modern foreign literature as the Council intend to have works of reference, they had asked various departments to send them lists of works they require. These lists have been received but unfortunately the war has prevented them from getting all they want.

The library has got the fullest collection of books on Siam in the Foreign Department. It is the intention of the Council to open the library to the public for one day in the week and if this would meet with success they would open it for a few days more.

### Books and Ancient Records.

His Royal Highness very kindly conducted the representatives of the Press through the various departments of the library. At one end of the building is the section given over for foreign works which include Chinese and Japanese literature and national records. The collection of the literature of China and Japan, compiled in itself one of the big sections of the library. There were besides works on Siam, Burmah, Ceylon and a long range of other works on various subjects having some connection with Siam or of use to this country. The long corridor facing the Wat behind the building has been utilized for exhibits. These form quite an interesting collection some of them being centuries old. The show-cases ranged along the walls contain many manuscripts and other things where one with a knowledge of Siamese can spend an interesting hour or two reading olden records and gaining an insight into the whole of the people of this country in days gone by. Some of the manuscripts on palm leaf are very old, dating back to 200 years ago, while the other paper also belong to old times. Besides there are ancient miniature drawings, maps, specimens of Siamese penmanship from old times up to the present day, or ancient Siamese handwriting, a curious book of Siamese, compiled by the Siamese hundreds of years ago, called "Luk", the document reminding the Siamese to come and settle in this country and various other documents. The other end of the library and in fact a great part of the left wing of the building contains rows and rows of beautifully gilded Siamese book-cases. When it was known to the priests of the various Wats that the library was prepared to receive book-cases thus preserving them from being destroyed through likely fires and other causes, a large number of these were sent to the library. The library has now about 190 of these book-cases and more are coming in. Among the various paintings the album one of the Siamese in this wing was the life-size picture of His Majesty the King which was to be presented to the library. The painting was the work of Professor Gregory.

A few more things attract the visitor's attention before he leaves the building. One is a handsomely gilded Siamese book case, the best of the collection, placed in the entrance hall. It was sent from Ayudhya and although about 200 years old is yet in very good condition. A glass altar here contains several works by His Majesty the King in his own handwriting, also some books published by the library.

### A Useful Institution.

The library has for the past eleven years made great progress but there is still much that it would like to do and for this more funds are needed. Considering the benefit the library is doing to the country and its people it is hoped that the public would give their generous support to the institution and help it to increase its usefulness.

### Sad Plight of Siam Prisoners.

Corfu, Dec. 31.—Escaped Serbian prisoners from Germany and Austria tell of shameful treatment. Not only were they put on the hardest tasks insufficiently fed and clad, but there is corroborative and trustworthy evidence that the Austrians are employing them as combatants against the Russians. Many of these succeeded in surrendering, thus escaping.

### Telegraph Lines.

The Post and Telegraph Department reports that many Peninsular Local line is interrupted between Prachinburi and Chumpon. Other lines are all right.

## The Dusit Park Fair.

### A Great Success.

As one drives along the boulevards towards the Dusit Park, the spectacle is very imposing. The boulevards from a distance look like a beautiful garden, decorated with flowers, with those of Japan and Europe. Coming up to the entrance one cannot help admiring the beauty of the surroundings, especially the New Thompson Hotel with its walls and entrance, looking into the Dusit grounds is like getting into a veritable fairyland. The stalls this year appear to be a much larger size and the number has also been increased. There are many new features and attractions. The precincts were crowded with sight-seers from the highest to the lowest, enjoying themselves heartily, and admiring the many novelties that most one's eye on every side. We hope in a future issue to give a full list of the stalls and shows. Passing through the "Sam-peng" Fair where one finds the usual "hook bait" and the display of cheap wares which, nevertheless, form a most interesting side-show of the Great Fair, one comes to the end where is exhibited the handwork of Young Siam. The different girls' colleges and schools have each a stall where one can spend a most useful hour or two examining the clever work turned out by the students. In the centre of the enclosure there is ample sitting accommodation and refreshments of all kinds are also obtainable here.

One of the outstanding features of the Fair is the

### Miniature Naval Engagement.

which alone is well worth going a long way to witness.

Enclosed by the great success which attended last year's endeavour, the management has spared no pains and expense in entirely re-building and making a new Miniature Fleet, with the addition of new features, in order to show once more, how a Navy works during Peace and at War. The scale of this year's boats are 1/15 of the real size and 1/10 in case of the Air Fleet. The performance given last evening was very successful indeed, and those in charge spared no pains in trying to amuse, entertain, and make their patrons comfortable. The scenes created, as by the means of a production of any historical happenings, were either ancient or modern. The scenes are mostly shown the Navy at Peace and at War in a manner most thoroughly realistic. The whole show is not only entertaining but also very instructive.

The following conventional notes regarding the boats will be found interesting.

The boats have been entirely reorganized and reconstructed, little or nothing being the same as in last year's display. Most of the boats as at last year have been scrapped, but two or three have been considerably improved and entirely altered, being now quite more cogized by those who had the pleasure of seeing them last year. All types of boats are built to a high standard, they were at last year's engagement, and there are also more boats and more types in use this year. The new fleet consists of three submarines, four torpedo boat destroyers, a Scout cruiser and five battleships of the various types now in use in the large navies of the world. One of these battleships is electrically propelled, the power to drive the motor being obtained from electric storage accumulators carried inside the vessel. Most of the other surface ships are propelled by petrol motors with the usual equipment used in ordinary motor boats. One or two vessels are worked by wires on shore and under-water cables, as for instance the battleship which is sunk by gunfire near the shore, and also the submarines.

In addition to these watercraft there is an air fleet consisting of two hydroplanes and two Zeppelins, all of which have electric motors in their interiors for propulsive wire purposes. The aircraft run on a wire over the lake and over the spectators' enclosure.

The shores of the lake on either side of the spectators have been enclosed by represent European scenery, showing light-houses, villages, etc., and electric batteries have been built along the front which play a most important part in the Naval display.

The management ought to be congratulated on the wonderful way in which the boats etc., were handled, considering that on each boat there are only two operators who have to fire, steer, look out, the motor, and the success of the manoeuvres, the flying and the changing of the vessels. On the same night as the Naval engagement there

### Royal Miniature Railway.

which is quite a novel attraction of the Fair. Located with a number of the miniature railway, the Royal Miniature Railway is a most interesting sight, with all the necessary signals, crossings, switches, etc., and the trains and all things having been built by the Royal Engineers.

The railway runs round the grounds of the Fair and is about a mile long. The enclosure from which the Naval Engagement is to be witnessed, is left, gauge and is complete with all the necessary signals, crossings, switches, etc., and the trains and all things having been built by the Royal Engineers.

The rolling stock consists of two locomotives and a number of open coaches. The locomotives have been specially built in Bangkok for the Fair, having been modelled from an English type of express goods locomotive. Each locomotive has six coupled driving wheels and two trailers and draws a tender with four wheels. The propelling machinery consists of a 20 h.p. "Ford" petrol motor of the usual type used in the cab of the locomotive and driving through reduction gears into the front axle. The motor exhaust pipe passes through the locomotive's boiler, thence through a silencer in the smokebox and out through the funnel, in which is fixed an exhaust whistle. Some of the heat from the exhaust gases is used to boil the water in the boiler, and the steam so generated is let out through the safety valve fitting on the boiler top, thus giving a somewhat realistic steam engine effect when running. The cylinder cooling water is stored in the tender and is pumped through the motor cylinder jacket and thence led through a radiator in front of the smokebox and a branch on the tender back to the storage tank. The boiler and other parts on the engine and tender are lit electrically from a main convenient in the motor.

The driver of the locomotive sits on the front of the tender, and all the motor controls are so arranged as to be readily accessible to him.

When running under full load the locomotives attain a speed of from 8 to 10 miles per hour.

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## MOTOR BICYCLES

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### Rupprecht and Somme.

Amsterdam.—The Bavarian Crown Prince Rupprecht, on a short visit to Munich, gave an interview to the editor of the Munich "Neueste Nachrichten."

He admitted that the German losses on the Somme were heavy, but declared that those of the Allies were heavier, this being particularly true of the English losses in the latest assault. He asserted that they had conclusive proof of the French 1917 class having been already engaged on the Somme.

"We must be prepared," he said, "for further heavy attacks. It is always a mistake to under-estimate one's enemy. It is impossible to prophesy how long these attacks will last, but I can assure you that we are prepared for everything. We do our utmost. Since the beginning of the Somme fighting conditions have become much more steady, particularly we have become very strong in artillery."

The interviewer asked, "How is it that contrary to all expectations here at home the French are still able to attack so often and with such continuous pressure? Is their infantry equal to ours?" The Crown Prince replied with great gravity and emphasis: "The French are excellent soldiers and the English, too, are very brave. It is thus double glory for our incomparable troops to have resisted so successfully very respectable opponents in superior numbers."

The correspondent then said: "All eyes in Germany and the whole world are directed to the Somme and Amiens districts. Can we place the same confidence as before in the firmness of the western front, in spite of the operations in the east and south-east?" The correspondent says the Crown Prince replied immediately to this important question with the short and confident statement: "There will be no break through."

### U-Boat News.

Amsterdam, "If the thunder of German guns on the English coast cannot draw the British warships from their holes, then Albion's pretended mastery of the sea must be in a worse way than could be imagined." Thus the "Vossische Zeitung" comments on the attempt of six German vessels to raid the east coast of Kent. Other papers comment in the same strain with the object of proving that the British Navy either dare not or is not in a condition to challenge the German raiders.

More importance, however, continues to be attached to the submarine

campaign, though naval critics—no doubt acting under instruction—are warning their readers not to indulge in excessive optimism so long as German submarines are bound by the present restrictions. Captain Persius in the "Berliner Tagblatt" says: "One must avoid arousing excessive and therefore harmful optimism, but in view of our recent successes, England's fear lest she should be forced into a condition of blockade is not altogether unjustified. Her continuation of the fight depends to a large extent on whether her losses in merchant ships can continue to be borne, or whether they must lead to a catastrophe."

Captain Persius says that England had before the war roughly 20 million tons of shipping. She is building about 400,000 tons annually and losing 300,000 tons every month. Five million tons are required for transport purposes, while the losses up to the present amount to 2½ million tons. A simple subtraction sum shows the inevitable consequence.

### Marvellous U.S. Wealth.

New York.—The remarkable prosperity of the United States created by the war is shown by the income-tax returns for the year ending June 30. The receipts from individual income-tax payers total £13,588,712, compared with £8,207,232 for the previous year. The receipts of corporation income-tax amounts to £11,398,711, against £7,830,019 in the previous year.

The returns show that the taxes paid by persons with an income of over £200,000 have doubled in the past year. There are 120 persons in the United States with incomes of that amount or over and 3,821 persons with incomes of £100,000 or more.

A comparison with the British returns for the year ended 1915—the latest available—shows:

Incomes of	U.S.	Britain.
£200,000 or more	120	No return.
£100,000 or over	3,821	75
In Great Britain in 1913-14 there were only 2,339 with incomes between £10,000 and £15,000. On this basis of individual riches of the wealthy the United States is now about 50 times richer than Great Britain was before the war.		

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										•	
Pitsa'loke	Dep.	7.4	2.2	...	...					p.m.	a.m.
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						Pak'phoh	Arr.	...	...	6.30	10.34
Ban Dara	Dep.	9.20	4.40	...	...	Pak'phoh	Dep.	p.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.
Sa'loke	Arr.	10.21	5.41	...	...			3.52	...	7.30	10.43
Ban Dara	Dep.	9.10	4.25	...	...	Chengkot	Arr.	6.21	...	9.22	12.28
Utaratit	Arr.	10.6	5.29	...	...	Lopburi	Dep.	...	7.10	11.5	1.56
Tua Sao	Arr.	10.15	5.38	...	...						
Den Chal	"	11.57	...	...	...	Ban Phaji	Arr.	...	8.30	12.21	3.4
Lampang	"	4.52	...	...	...						
						Korat	Dep.	p.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
						Lut Bua Kao	Arr.	3.57	...	7—	...
Ban Phaji	Dep.	10—	12.30	4.41	...	Gengko	Dep.	5.55	...	8.40	...
Gengko	Arr.	11.7	1.26	5.51	...			7.12	11.32	1.52	
Lut Bua Kao						Ban Phaji	Arr.	...	8.22	12.29	2.59
								•	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Korat	Dep.	...	4.2	...	8.2	Ban Phaji	Dep.	6.27	8.37	12.44	3.14
		...	6.8	...	10.3	Ayuthia	"	7.13	9.25	1.23	3.58
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