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VOL. 43. NO. 84

BANGKOK THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1917.

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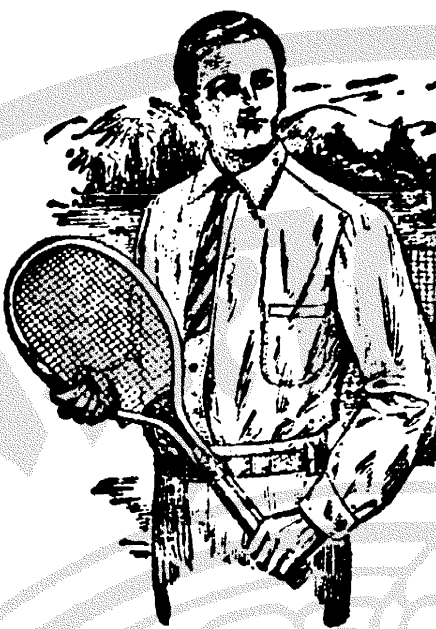
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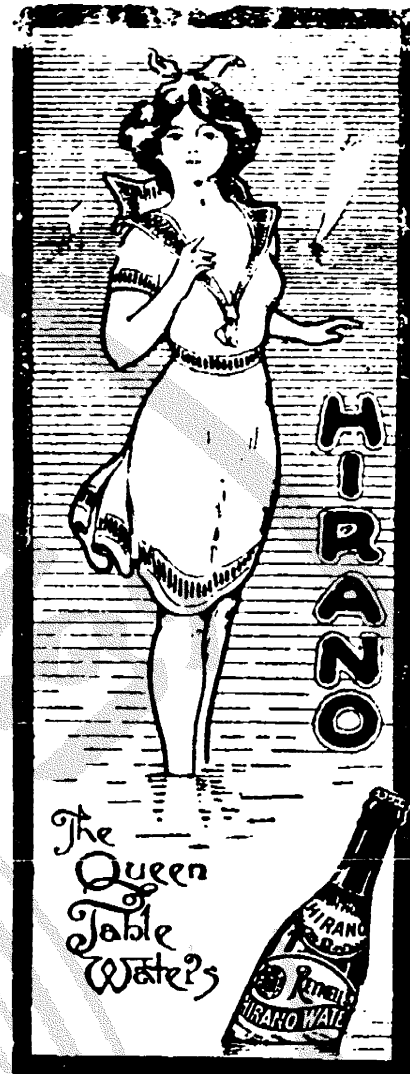
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are subject to disorders of the bowels
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2 7.00 11.2 ...

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4 4.00 11.4 ...

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6 5.00 11.8 ...

7 5.00 11.8 ...

8 6.00 14.10 ...

9 6.00 15.0 ...

10 6.00 14.10 ...

11 6.00 14.10 1.0 7.0

12 6.00 14.10 1.0 7.0

13 7.00 14.10 2.0 7.0

14 7.00 14.6 ...

15 7.00 14.6 ...

16 7.00 14.6 ...

17 7.00 14.4 ...

18 4.00 14.8 ...

19 4.00 14.10 ...

20 4.00 14.10 ...

21 4.00 14.10 ...

22 5.00 14.6 ...

23 5.00 14.6 ...

24 6.00 14.3 ...

25 6.00 14.3 ...

26 6.00 14.2 ...

27 6.00 14.0 ...

28 6.00 14.0 ...

29 6.00 13.8 ...

30 6.00 13.6 ...

31 6.00 13.6 ...

P. M.

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1 10.0 13.5 ... Feet.

2 11.0 13.3 ...

3 ... 3.0 7.0

4 ... 4.0 7.0

5 ... 5.6 7.0

6 ... 5.6 7.0

7 3.00 12.0 5.6 7.0

8 4.00 13.0 7.8 6.0

9 6.00 13.0 9.10 6.0

10 6.00 14.0 11.12 6.0

11 7.00 14.10 1.2 7.0

12 7.00 14.10 1.2 7.0

13 8.00 15.0 1.0 7.0

14 9.30 14.2 1.0 7.0

15 11.00 14.0 2.0 6.0

16 ... 3.0 6.0

17 ... 4.0 6.0

18 ... 5.0 6.0

19 2.00 11.0 5.6 7.0

20 3.00 11.6 5.6 7.0

21 4.00 12.6 7.8 7.0

22 4.30 13.0 8.0 7.0

23 6.00 14.0 9.10 7.0

24 6.00 14.6 10.11 7.0

25 7.00 15.0 11.12 6.0

26 7.00 15.0 11.12 6.0

27 8.00 15.0 12.0 7.0

28 9.00 15.0 ...

29 9.00 14.2 1.0 7.0

30 10.00 14.0 1.0 7.0

31 11.00 14.0 1.2 6.0

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1st O. Last Quarter 7 h 15 m p.m.

2nd O. New Moon 10 h 47 m a.m.

3rd O. First Quarter 5 h 18 m p.m.

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HONGKONG—

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Fatigue.

A Private's Point of View.

In England they called them fatigues;
in France they call them working par-
ties in a vain effort to make them
sound less threatening. We infantry
don't refer to them by either of those
names.I have always supposed that some
highly-placed gentleman saw us march-
ing back from the trenches one day
and, remarking our quick step, our
vigorous singing of rude and wholly
unprintable songs, and our ribald
laughter, said, "By gad. Fine fellows.
Splendid stuff. Just the lads for car-
rying those railway sleepers that R. E.
fellow wants in the front line."And thus it came about that no
sooner do we come out of trenches
for a rest than we are pitch-forked
again to do the heavy work for the
engineers; to remove the earth they
dig from mines, to carry their planks
or wire, or sandbags, to do anything,
in short, that they don't feel quite
strong enough to do themselves.I heard one infantryman ask another
the other day if he were attached (as
many permanently are) to the R.E.s.
"All the infantry are," he replied
wearily. One can't add anything to
that.Before I came to France I thought
that the infantry fought with rifles and
bayonets and machine-guns. They do
three parts of the fighting when there
is any done, but mainly they are
navies and general labourers to the
Army at large. I once wrote to my
brother (then at the front), telling him
I was a first-class shot. "That doesn't
matter," he replied. "Can you use a
spade?"

Importance of the Infantry.

My brother (previously mentioned)
used to say, "My lot always cheer like
blazes when they go back to trenches."
I never cheer myself, but it is true
that if trenches are the devil, then rest
bills just behind the line are the deep
sea. Because what usually happens
is this: You come out of trenches, let
us say, one night, and you get up next
day feeling very happy and very dirty.And if you are a cleanly animal you
shave off your beard and indulge in
a wash, and you scrape the mud off
your clothes and equipment. Being
now fairly presentable you seek out a
little cottage or cantinette, and you
drink very bad French beer or worse
wine, and consume numerous eggs—
usually six—and chips.Next you light a penny cigar or
cigarette (by the time you return to
trenches it is an Army issue called
a Red, White, and Blue), or something
like that, as bad as it sounds, and
wonder whether you will write letters
or play auction bridge. While you are
wondering a corporal strolls in, and
when he has got one of your Turkish
cigarettes fairly alight he says: "Oh,
by the way, there's a working party for
No. 430."Your cigarette at once goes out; you
say "—", I'd rather be in trenches
any time" (quite untrue), and you
speculate whether it is a carrying party
or a mining fatigues, or a pumping or
digging party. "I don't know," he
says, "but I think it's mining." Where-
upon you consign the R.E.s. to per-
dition, likewise all mines, and become
perfectly certain it's going to rain, and
that you'll be trench-mortared on the
way up. Unfortunately, these specula-
tions are only too often well founded.

A Mining Fatigue.

So you parade at 2.30 under an offi-
cer and a N. C. O., or two, and, carry-
ing equipment and a rifle, you march
off to the rendezvous. At some given
spot you find a R. E. corporal looking
pleasantly tired beside a pile of planks.You each take a plank—always except-
ing the R. E. corporal, who has pre-
sumably enough to do to find his way
about—and you jog along through a
couple of miles of path and trench to
the mine. You suffer the journey
by a fearful indictment of an Army
that allows waggon drivers with a safe
job behind the line several times as
much pay as you (a never-failing sub-
ject this) combined with regret that you
did not join the Navy or the Army
Ordnance or Army Pay Corps, and with
most ungentlemanly and un-
whisperous to the moral and physical
defects of the particular R. E. corporal
in charge of you.Arrived at the mine, some of you go
down it and drag sandbags along a 4-
foot high shaft for six hours and some
of you dump them outside. It before
the war you were a lawyer or an ac-
countant or a civil engineer—as many
of us were—you enjoy yourself ex-
ceedingly, and when in the fourth
hour it actually does rain and the bags
become as slippery as trips and heavy
as lead, you simply tumble over your-
self in your joy. And you crawl down
the shaft and eat your bread and cheese
and drink your water, and then some-
body jokes about it and you laugh, and
suddenly it dawns on you that you are
doing the best job in the world to-day
and that war always is "—"—un-
pleasant anyway, and you cheer up a
bit. And when you come back you
get some hot tea—and may be, if you
are lucky, a lot of rum; and in half an
hour you have forgotten all about the
fatigue, and you are discussing the
latest news and the probable duration
of the war.Sometimes you merely carry things
up to the trenches and those fatigues
last only two or three hours; some-
times you stand up to your knees in
water for two or three hours and pump
till your back feels as if it will break
in two, and you lose all feeling in your
feet (depth of water reduced half an
inch). But in every case you ask why
on earth men are not sent into the
trenches to do their work.No good infantryman objects to do-
ing his own fatigues—and heaven
knows you need enough to repair and
improve trenches, carry up ammuni-
tion, and so on—but he detects more
than anything on earth a R. E. fatigue.
For he is turned out of bed in the
middle of the night for them, he is
sent on them at 4 A.M. to work eight
hours and go to trenches for another
8, all the same day, and he always suf-
fers great physical discomfort and often
pain in doing them.Yet can one finish this article as we
often finish our tirades against fatigues
by the phrase, but—*ad hoc* *quere*.
John Landale in the "Daily
Chronicle."

You Can Do It Yourself

If you know any one who suffers, if
you suffer yourself in the relentless
grip of rheumatism, if your joints are
stiff or swollen, your muscles weak-
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if you suffer from headache, neuralgia,
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your friends.No need to employ expensive re-
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headaches, sciatica and other bodily
pains and aches. A bottle should al-
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Societe Anonyme au Capital de 48,000,000 de Francs.

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During the summer months children are subject to disorders of the bowels and should receive the most careful attention. As soon as any unnatural looseness of the bowels is noticed Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy should be given. For sale by the British Dispensary.

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Bangkok, March 27, 1909.

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

TIDE TABLE.

DEPTH OF WATER ON THE BANGKOK BAR FOR March 1917.

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

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

PHASES OF THE MOON.

Mar. 9th 0 Full Moon 4 h 40 m a.m.
" 18th 0 Last Quarter 7 h 15 m p.m.
" 23rd 0 New Moon 10 h 47 m a.m.
" 28th 0 First Quarter 5 h 18 m p.m.

For Sale.

Singer Hand Sewing Machine, large and small side boards with mirrors, Chest of drawers with mirrors, large and small bookcases, almirahs, wall pictures, Dressing tables with mirrors, card table, writing tables, Bentwood chairs, tea tables, Iron Bedsteads, mattresses, washstands, dining tables, Electric table lamps and fans, clocks in good condition, door screens, glass ware, porcelain, tea-sets, metalware Kitchen stove etc., etc.,

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MONDHOI PATTANI
Saturday 14th 10 a.m. a.s. Asadang
SINGAPORE.
Saturday 14th 3 p.m. a.s. Katong
(European Mail)

Exchange Rates.

To-day's Quotations.

LONDON—
Bank Bills, demand 1/6 7/16
Bank Bills, 3 months' sight
PARIS—
Bank Bills, demand
GERMANY—
Bank Bills, demand
NEW YORK—
Bank Bills, demand U. S. A.
INDIA—
Bank Bills, demand
SINGAPORE—
Bank Bills, demand \$65 1/2
HONGKONG—
Bank Bills, demand, \$ 65
YOKOHAMA & KOBE... \$70 3/8
NOTE—The rate of interest on Advances Bills has been reduced to 6 per cent. per annum.
Equivalent of Exchange demand London in Siam Currency—
Tos. 13.08.—(Bank Rate)

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Siam Observer.

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NEWSPAPER IN SIAM.

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per annum or Ticals 5

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One insertion ... Tos. 2.00
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Three " ... " 4.50
Four " ... " 5.25
Five " ... " 6.00
Six " (one week) ... " 6.75
Two weeks ... " 9.15
Three " ... " 11.55
Four " (1st month) ... " 18.00

Contract rates can be obtained on application to the manager.

Fatigue.

A Private's Point of View.

In England they called them fatigues; in France they call them working parties in a vain effort to make them sound less despicable. We infantry don't refer to them by either of those names.

I have always supposed that some highly-placed gentleman saw us marching back from the trenches one day and, remarking our quick step, our vigorous singling of rude and wholly unprintable songs, and our ribald laughter, said, "By gad, fine fellows. Splendid stuff. Just the lads for carrying these railway sleepers that R. E. fellow wants in the front line."

And thus it came about that no sooner do we come out of trenches for a rest than we are pitch-forked back again to do the heavy work for the engineers; to remove the earth they dig from mines, to carry their planks or wire, or sandbags; to do anything, in short, that they don't feel quite strong enough to do themselves.

I heard one infantryman ask another the other day if he were attached (as many permanently are) to the R.E.s. "All the infantry are," he replied wearily. One can't add anything to that.

Before I came to France I thought that the infantry fought with rifles and bayonets and machine-guns. They do three parts of the fighting when there is any done, but mainly they are navvies and general labourers to the Army at large. I once wrote to my brother (then at the front), telling him I was a first-class shot. "That doesn't matter," he replied. "Can you use a spade?"

Importance of the Infantry.

My brother (previously mentioned) used to say, "My lot always cheer like blazes when they go back to trenches." I never cheer myself, but it is true that if trenches are the devil, then rest billets just behind the line are the deep sea. Because what usually happens is this: You come out of trenches, let us say, one night, and you get up next day feeling very happy and very dirty. And if you are a cleanly animal you shave off your beard and indulge in a wash, and you scrape the mud off your clothes and equipment. Being now fairly presentable you seek out a little cottage or estaminet, and you drink very bad French beer or worse wine, and consume numerous eggs—usually six—and chips.

Next you light a penny cigar or cigarette (by the time you return to trenches it is an Army issue called "Tid, White, and Blue," or something like that, as bad as it sounds), and wonder whether you will write letters or play auction bridge. While you are wondering a corporal strolls in, and when he has got one of your Turkish cigarettes fairly alight he says: "Oh, by the way, there's a working party for No. 3 at 2.30."

Your cigarette at once goes out; you all say "—"; I'd rather be in trenches any time" (quite untrue), and you speculate whether it is a carrying party or a mining fatigue, or a pumping or digging party. "I don't know," he says, "but I think it's mining." Whereupon you consign the R.E.s. to perdition, likewise all mines, and become perfectly certain it's going to rain, and that you'll be trench-mortared on the way up. Unfortunately, these speculations are only too often well founded.

A Mining Fatigue.

So you parade at 2.30 under an officer and a N. C. O. or two, and, carrying equipment and a rifle, you march off to the rendezvous. At some given spot you find a R. E. corporal looking pleasantly tired beside a pile of planks.

You each take a plank—always excepting the R. E. corporal, who has presumably enough to do to find his way about—and you jog along through a couple of miles of path and trench to the mine. You lighten the journey by a fearful indigestion of an Army that allows wagon drivers with a safe job behind the line several times as much pay as you (a never failing subject this) combined with regret that you did not join the Navy or the Army Ordnance or Army Pay Corps, and with most ungentlemanly and audacious whippersnappers to the mental and physical defects of the particular R. E. corporal in charge of you.

Arrived at the mine, some of you go down it and drag sandbags along a 4-foot high shaft for six hours and some of you jump them outside. If before the war you were a lawyer or an accountant or a civil engineer—as many of us were—you enjoy yourself exceedingly, and when in the fourth hour it actually does rain and the bags become as slippery as ripe and heavy as lead, you simply tumble over yourself in your joy. And you crawl down the shaft and eat your bread and cheese and drink your water—and then somebody jokes about it and you laugh, and suddenly it dawns on you that you are doing the best job in the world to-day and that war always is "d—d unpleasant anyway," and you cheer up a bit. And when you come back you get some hot tea—and may be, if you are lucky, a tot of rum; and in half an hour you have forgotten all about the fatigue, and you are discussing the latest news and the probable duration of the war.

Sometimes you merely carry things up to the trenches and those fatigues last only two or three hours; sometimes you stand up to your knees in water for two or three hours and pump till your back feels as if it will break in two, and you lose all feeling in your feet (depth of water reduced half an inch). But in every case you ask why on earth more men are not enlisted into the Engineers to do their work.

No good infantryman objects to doing his own fatigues—and heaven knows you need enough to repair and improve trenches, carry up ammunition, and so on—but he detests more than anything on earth a R. E. fatigue. For he is turned out of bed in the middle of the night for them, he is sent on them at 4 A.M., to work eight hours and go to trenches for another spell the same day, and he always suffers great physical discomfort and often pain in doing them.

Yet can one finish this article as we often finish our tirades against fatigues by the phrase "but—c'est la guerre!"—John Lansdale in the "Daily Chronicle."

You Can Do It Yourself

If you know any one who suffers, if you suffer yourself in the relentless grip of rheumatism, if your joints are stiff or swollen, your muscles weakened, or your limbs drawn out of shape, if you suffer from headache, neuralgia, sciatica or other bodily tortures, it is within your power to cure yourself or your friends.

No need to employ expensive remedies or hire exorbitant physicians.

LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM

makes any man or woman his or her own physician. It gives instant relief to all rheumatic trouble, neuralgia, headaches, sciatica and other bodily pains and aches. A bottle should always be kept at hand.

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Agents for Bangkok,
THE BRITISH DISPENSARY
New Road and Sookak.

ROYAL STATE RAILWAYS.

(Broad Gauge Lines.)

TIME TABLE

In force from 1st April, 1916.

Bangkok	Dep.	a.m. 7.—	a.m. 9.48	p.m. 1.25	p.m. 3.33	Lampang	Dep.	...	...	a.m. ...	a.m. 7.33
Ayuthia	Arr.	9.3	11.41	3.33	5.45					...	p.m. ...
Ban Phaji	Arr.	9.47	12.20	4.24	6.30	Don Chai	"	...	...	...	12.38
						Tha Sao	"	...	...	7.1	2.21
						Utaradit	"	...	...	7.18	2.40
						Ban Dara	Arr.	...	...	8.16	3.22
Ban Phaji	Dep.	9.57	12.37	4.30	...					a.m. ...	p.m. ...
Lopburi	Arr.	11.5	1.55	5.48	...	Sawa'loke	Dep.	...	...	7.—	2.10
						Ban Dara	Arr.	...	...	8.1	3.11
Chengket	Dep.	12.33	3.38	...	7.25						
Pak'poh	Arr.	2.17	5.40	...	9.54	Ban Dara	Dep.	...	...	8.24	2.32
						Pitsa'loke	Arr.	...	...	10.43	5.30
Pak'poh	Dep.	2.26	6.30	...	...				
Pitsa'loke	Arr.	6.	11.5	...	...				
Pitsa'loke	Dep.	7.4	2.2	...	...	Pitsa'loke	Dep.	...	...	1.45	7.—
Ban Dara	Arr.	9.5	4.18	...	...	Pak'poh	Arr.	...	...	6.20	10.34
Ban Dara	Dep.	9.20	4.40	...	...	Pak'poh	Dep.	p.m. 3.52	a.m. ...	a.m. 7.20	a.m. 10.43
S'kaloke	Arr.	10.21	5.41	...	...				
						Chengket	Arr.	6.21	...	9.22	12.28
Ban Dara	Dep.	9.10	4.26	...	...	Lopburi	Dep.	...	7.10	11.6	1.58
Utaradit	"	10.6	5.29	...	...				
Tha Sao	Arr.	10.15	5.38	...	...	Ban Phaji	Arr.	...	8.30	p.m. 12.31	3.4
Don Chai	"	11.57	...	...	...			
						Korat	Dep.	p.m. 3.57	a.m. ...	a.m. 7.—	p.m. ...
Lampang	"	4.52	...	...	...	Lat Bua Kao	Ar.	5.55	...	8.40	...
						Gangkol	Dep.	...	7.12	11.32	1.53
Ban Phaji	Dep.	10.—	12.30	4.41	a.m. ...						
Gangkol	Arr.	11.7	1.28	5.51	...	Ban Phaji	Arr.	...	8.23	12.23	2.59
Lat Bua Kao											
	Dep.	...	4.2	...	8.2	Ban Phaji	Dep.	6.27	a.m. 8.37	p.m. 12.44	p.m. 3.14
Korat	"	...	6.8	...	10.3	Ayuthia	"	7.13	9.25	1.23	3.58
						Bangkok	Arr.	9.28	11.35	3.16	6.—
Bangkok	Dep.	7.45	...	...	p.m. 3.50						
Petrisu	Arr.	9.33	...	...	5.38	Petrisu	Dep.	a.m. 7.50	...	...	p.m. 8.55
						Bangkok	Arr.	9.38	...	...	5.45

Play by Kaiser's Post Laureate.

"The German Armourer (Schmied): A Patriotic Play," has just been produced with wonderful eclat and a magnificent display of properties at Mohren's circus in Berlin. As the Crown Princess was present, as well as a vast array of Court, military and society notabilities, and as the proceeds of this premiere were to be devoted to a war charity, the Press is full of lengthy and adulatory notices of the performance.

The author of play was a certain Major Lauff, who, in pre-war days, was the Kaiser's own particular post laureate. He has written very purple plays about Hohenzollern which the Kaiser has always insisted on producing with elaborate historical settings. They are, of course, of no merit from a literary point of view.

It is clear that the "German Armourer" has puzzled the newspaper critics. Not one of them is able to give any coherent account of what it is about, and satisfy themselves with glowing descriptions of the gorgeousness of the circus and of the elevation of those present. But the probable meaning of the piece is this—an attempt to display historically and with the necessary trappings the rise of German arms and their growing strength and varying fortune from the time of Barbarossa to the field grays of the present war. One paper says this is done with "conscientious symbolism"; another that the spectacle is a "full of flesh and colour"; another that it will "mightily attract our youth and spur them to deeds of daring and adventure."

Contrast in Credit.

Amsterdam, Feb. 19.—The semi-official "Nieuws-Beilage" of the "Algemeen Handelsblad" prints to-day prominently on its front page, and in heavy type, an appeal by the President of the German Imperial Bank urging all German men and women to sell their gold valuables to the Imperial Bank, and to dispose of all jewels held in neutral countries through the agency of the Diamond Bourse.

Paris, Feb. 19.—Several people having written to the Bank of France asking if the moment had not come to organize the collection of gold in jewelry and art wares, the bank has issued a statement expressing its thanks, but declaring that it would be regrettable to ruin private collections for the purpose of obtaining gold, especially as France's credit has no need of such a sacrifice.—(Reuter.)

China's Army.

After consulting with the Vice-President and other important military officers, the Chinese Government has made the following decisions in connection with the disbandment and reorganization of the troops in Kwangtung, Kweichow, Yunnan and Kweichow:

(1) In Kwangtung there shall be an army of 35,000, viz., two Army Divisions of regular troops of 21,000, two Mixed Brigades of 11,000, and twelve Battalions of Precautionary and Patroling troops 6,000 strong.

(2) In Kweichow there shall be 25,000 troops, viz., one Army Division of regular troops of 10,000, three Mixed Brigades of 10,500 (including one brigade of Kweichow troops), and one independent regiment of 3,000 strong.

(3) In Yunnan there shall be 25,000 troops, viz., two Army Divisions of regular troops of 20,000, and ten Battalions of Precautionary troops 5,000 strong.

(4) In Kweichow there shall be 18,000 troops, viz., one Army Division of 10,000, one Mixed Brigade of 5,500, and five Battalions of Precautionary troops of 2,500 strong. The expenditure shall be decided when the Military Conference is called.

Smallpox in Germany.

Amsterdam, Feb. 24.—German newspapers announce that a smallpox epidemic has broken out in Essen, Magdeburg, and Berlin. It is believed to be due to immigrants.

Notice.

I, the undersigned beg to notify all customers and clients that my business is now located at the new building at the corner of Klong Poh Yome and Bangrak

Ab Seang, Tailor.

Siam Observer
Special War Edition
Subscription Tcs 4 per mensem.

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BEAR BRAND
MILK

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IN BANGKOK

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NATURAL SWISS MILK.

Hygienic products of the greatest merit.

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Rich in cream and highly nutritious.

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Studebaker
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"18" CARS
NEW MODEL 1917.
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It is advisable to book in advance in order to obtain prompt delivery.
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One of
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Daily supplies of white bread & rolls.

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Other cakes made to order.

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Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

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By ASVABAHU.

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Notice.

On account of the Krut Songkran Festival The Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd. will be closed to public business on Saturday, the 14th April 1917.

The Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd.
A. WILLEKE,
Actg. Manager.
12-13

Notice.

The twenty-first General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd., will be held at its Office on Thursday the 26th April 1917, at 4.30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving and adopting the Director's report and accounts, declaring a dividend, and transacting other ordinary business.

By order of the Board of Directors,
A. WILLEKE,
Secretary.
12, 19, 25.

Notice.

Consignees are hereby notified that goods ex s.s. "Faltana" "Faltala" and "Orenar" have arrived here per s.s. "Mata Hari" on the 12.4.17 and will be landed at Messrs. The East Asiatic Co.'s wharves at Wat Phya Kral at the risk, expense and responsibility of Consignees.

No claims will not be entertained unless made within 10 days after final discharge of the steamer.

Godown-rent will be liable on all goods not cleared within 3 days after final discharge of the steamer.

The Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation Limited.
12-13

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CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:-

Ex s/s "Neleus"
"Ajax"
and Balances ex s.s. "Kamo Maru", "Hirano Maru", "Keemun", "Glaucus" and "Euryades",

are hereby notified that same have arrived per s.s. "Katong" on 12th inst., and will be landed at our Wharf, at the risk, expense and responsibility of consignees.

CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:-

Ex s/s "Glenstrae"
"Yat Shing"

and Balances ex s.s. "Cardiganshire", "Glengyle" and "Nippon", are hereby notified that same have arrived per s.s. "Mata Hari" on 12th inst., and will be landed at our Wharf, at the risk, expense and responsibility of consignees.

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Watches, clocks, Ward robes with mirror, E. fans, Tables, Chairs, Bedsteads, Ice chests, Hat Stands, Meat safes, Dressing tables, Writing desks, Book cases, Dressing room mirrors, Type writer, Cooking stoves, Gramophones, Ladies shoes, Cigarettes, Rattan tables, chairs, Show cases, Pictures.

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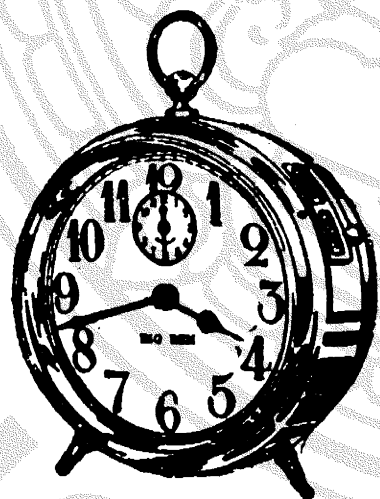
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Dried Cod
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Haddock
Bloaters
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French Ham
Raw Ham
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The Siam Observer

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1917.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION.

Eventuations in Mesopotamia have necessarily brought the question of the Baghdad Railway and its future into prominence of late, and fresh interest has been taken in the project of railway communication between the Far East and Europe by way of Persia and the Land between the Rivers. Steps are being taken to complete the connection between India and Burma, Siam is now linked with the Federated Malay States, and undoubtedly in time we shall see the formation of a great through line from the extreme West to the remote East, right up to China. The policy of future construction by the Indian Government contemplates the establishment of a uniform gauge throughout India, and the Indian standard gauge will be adopted for the line from Karachi to Baghdad. It will not be a difficult matter to convert the narrow gauges at present existing in India. There are only about a thousand miles of these, and the conversion of four hundred miles has already been put in hand. It is proposed that the railway should enter India at Sadiya in Assam, and thence proceed by way of Tinsukia and Gauhati to Sara Bridge, from which it would go to Nalhati near Calcutta, then turn in a westerly direction to Katni in the Central Provinces. Thence it would follow the Peninsular and North Western routes to Haiderabad (Sindh) and Karachi. The section between Kotah and Marwar is still to be constructed, but the length of this is only one hundred and fifty miles and there are no natural obstacles to be overcome. From Karachi the line would go on to Baghdad. It is probable that the railway will be under a joint international control. The scheme is a grandiose one, but far from being merely visionary, and when it has been carried out its influence will be great and far-reaching. Efficient means of communication are the best aids to the spread of civilisation, and are of the highest value in assisting the development of a country. Although already possessing most excellent water-communications everywhere throughout the land, Siam has shown the true spirit of progress in perfecting her railway system so that it is now a part in actual being of the future Trans-Asiatic line. Judging hastily one might say that few things could be thought of that were more prosaic than a railway. But there is always romance even in connection with the commonplace, if only we will take the trouble to look for it; and there is true romance in the story of railways and how the shining lines of metal have been laid down through virgin forest and trackless wastes, flung boldly across river and gorge, and carried through the heart of the mountain.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE s.s. *Katong* will leave from the Borneo Company's wharf at 5 p.m. sharp, on Saturday the 14th inst., and should arrive in Singapore on Wednesday morning.

THE s.s. *Mata Hari* is expected to sail for Singapore direct on Saturday afternoon 14th April at 3.30 p.m. and connect with the B. I. Homeward Mail of 20th April from Singapore.

THE Post and Telegraph Department reports that Malay Peninsular mail line is still in good order as far as Surashtra, while Local line is not properly working between Singora and Bangkok. Other lines are available.

NEW Aids.—Mr. Malcolm Barranger has just received a shipment of French Beer. The Borneo Co., Ltd., and the East Asiatic Co., Ltd., have notice to consignees. The Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd., announce their General Meeting of Shareholders on the 26th instant, and also that the Bank will be closed to public business on Saturday the 14th. Tennis Shirts, also Rackets and Balls, are to be obtained at Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw and Co., Ltd.

THE**Great War.****Panama.**

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, April 11.
Panama.—The President has issued a proclamation to the effect that Panama will unreservedly assist the United States, particularly as regards the defence of the Canal.

United States and Austria.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, April 11.
Washington.—The Austro-Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires has demanded his passports.

(Havas TELEGRAM.)

Paris, April 10.
Austria-Hungary has officially severed diplomatic relations with the United States.

British in France.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

London, April 11.
Reuter's correspondent, telegraphing from headquarters on April 9th, states that the battle is raging with unabated vigour roughly from opposite Lens to St. Quentin. The day has gone well for the troops, which have made substantial progress. There were big captures of prisoners, who were brought back in an endless procession, 3500 being counted in one Army area alone up to mid-day.

Control of Foodstuff in France.

(Havas TELEGRAM.)

Paris, April 10.
A decree of the French Government orders the control of wheat, rye, barley and other cereals, and fixes the purchase price of wheat at Frs. 36 per 100 kilogrammes, with a possible increase for cost of transport.

Brazil's Decision.

(Havas TELEGRAM.)

Paris, April 10.
Rio de Janeiro.—Brazil has decided to break off diplomatic relations with Germany.

French Communiqué.

(Havas TELEGRAM.)

Paris, April 10.
The British have taken the German lines at Heulin-sur-Cajenne, to the south of Givenchy-en-Gohelle, to a depth of from three to five kilometres. We took the crest at Vimy and several fortified villages, advancing in the direction of Cambrai. To-day we threw back the enemy on the extreme north of the Vimy crest. We captured yesterday more than nine thousand prisoners and forty guns. The fight is being continued along the whole front.

Hindenburg's Efforts.

New York, Feb. 19.—The United Press has received the following Bernese despatch from Mr. Carl W. Ackerman its former Berlin correspondent, who accompanied Mr. Gerard from Germany:—

The food and economic situation in Germany has grown steadily worse and the people are much undernourished. This was evidenced by thousands of requests to departing Americans for their food. One woman offered the Embassy 100. for a pound of fat. A German doctor asked an American to pay his bill with food-stuffs.

Many businesses are paralysed through the lack of transport. But the transport difficulties are not affecting Hindenburg's plans. Disregarding everybody and everything but the Army, he is bending every utility to his purpose. American experts say that Germany's efforts this year will exceed any in the past, because it is Germany's final effort. The Germans believe they will win, confident that their submarines will paralyse the Entente's war industries. They are prepared for gigantic offensives by land, air, and water. Germany is today stronger militarily than at any time since the war began.

Under Hindenburg's command, munition work has doubled; every possible man and woman is doing war work or helping to get supplies to the west.—(Exchange).

U. S. Begins.

Washington, April 5.—The Senate passed the war resolution, slightly amended, passed at eleven in the evening, amid a solemnity, with no demonstration and no debate. The thirteen hours continuous debate reached a climax by Senator Williams spiritedly affirming that America should stay in the war until the Hohenzollerns and Hapsburgs were dethroned and the Turks driven out of Europe. Senator Hastings, the Wisconsin colleague of La Follette, deserting the latter, stated that if the question: Shall the United States support Wilson? were submitted to the people, they would affirm it overwhelmingly. The resolution goes to the House of Representatives on April 6.

The Mexican Plot.

Washington, April 6.—A debate on the war resolution has opened in the course of which a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee declared that an unpublished paragraph of Herr Zimmermann's note offered to establish submarine bases in Mexican ports, supply Mexico with arms and ammunition, send German reservists in the United States to Mexico and arrange for an attack all along the border.

Washington, April 5.—The executive departments have requested Congress to make an immediate appropriation of 3,400,000,000 dollars for the army and navy of which over 2,930 millions are for the army alone.

Germany's "Heavy Task."

London, April 5.—Vorwaerts, referring to America's entry, says that in order to enable Germany to fulfil her heavy task of emerging from the war unbroken, German statesmen must plainly prove that Germany is neither autocratically governed nor warring for conquest.

The Blockade.

London, April 5.—Commenting on the returns of submarine, the Times' naval correspondent remarks that some of the features indicate that the German "blockade" has its limits. The volume of trade passing through the danger zones shows no great difference since its increase in the middle of March. Thus it may be assumed that neutral traffic is being resumed. Losses from submarines and mines do not show any decided tendency to increase, and they are apparently much below the total which the enemy confidently anticipated, and Bethmann Hollweg claimed.

Meanwhile the number of armed ships which escape or beat off attack is growing. It may reasonably be expected therefore that the fortitude of the merchant seamen and the energy of the Navy will shortly reap their reward. The tables of the Allies' losses do not show any sign that their mercantile marine is suffering very heavily, either from interference of traffic or undue percentage of loss.

Economy in Tonnage.

London, April 5.—In the House of Commons, Sir Chiozza Money said that the Shipping Controller was endeavouring to map out the world trade of Britain and provide that the best use was made of the tonnage available. Traders could help by keeping the department in touch with the needs of particular interests. The controller was endeavouring also to survey the whole field of imports in relation to the tonnage estimated to be available during the remainder of the year, and as it were to form a balance sheet.

The idea was to arrange a priority of imports. Every effort would be made to make the inevitable dislocation as light as possible. The Controller had so far requisitioned a thousand vessels, including eight hundred cargo steamers trading in well-established lines of communication. The department was "combing out" vessels from distant parts of the world and employing them on shorter voyages nearer home, so that the largest available amounts of imports for the civilian population would be secured. The Dominions had loyally accepted the position, despite loss to them.

Alnwick Castle Survivors.

Madrid, April 5.—Twenty survivors of the Alnwick Castle have arrived at Carino. They describe their terrible sufferings from cold, hunger and thirst in open boats during the ten days voyage, of thirty persons, including a French woman with a four months old baby and an English nurse. The rations were water and two biscuits apiece daily; latterly the water was short and rain water was collected. An Italian cook died on March 21; an Englishman went mad and died on the 22nd; a passenger, a stoker and a seaman succumbed on the 23rd; a steward died on the 24th; a cabin boy on the 25th. The same day a seaman jumped overboard and it was impossible to rescue him owing to the rough sea. An officer and a steward died while landing at Carino. The survivors declare that if they had been another day at sea they would all have been dead. The mother, baby and nurse survived, thanks to the constant kindness of other survivors, who are all Britishers.

The House Adjourns.

London, April 5.—The House of Commons has adjourned until April 17.

Labour Greets Russia.

London, April 4.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour stated that the Russian Government had said nothing to Great Britain regarding a statement of the Russian Minister of Justice that Russia would be content with the internationalization of Constantinople.

Mr. Bonar Law stated that two Labour members were going to visit Russia at the request of the Imperial Government with the object of conveying the congratulations and sympathy of British labour to their comrades in Russia, and of encouraging the Russian Government in the prosecution of the war. The Russian Government had stated that the visit would be most welcome. A similar delegation was going from France.

Petrograd, April 4.—Six of the Social Democratic members of the Duma had an enthusiastic welcome on their arrival from Siberian exile.

Petrograd, April 5.—The Union of R-publican Soldiers has passed a resolution pledging support to the Government and urging the most vigorous continuance of the war until a durable peace, assuring the Russian Republic.

Russians in Khanikin.

London, April 5.—Wireless. Russian Official. The enemy attacked in the Zolotcher region and made six assaults near Tohepel village. We eventually dislodged the enemy, completely restoring the position.

We occupied Khanikin and Kasir-Shirin. A battle is proceeding with the Turkish rearguard, which is making an effort to hold the Diale River crossing. A Cossack detachment has left Khanikin for Kyzylotrat, for the purpose of joining the British.

London, April 5.—The reverse admitted by the Russians in Volhynia is purely of a local character, and does not seem the prelude to a big German offensive, as the country is very marshy and wooded and is suffering from a thaw.

Britain's Man-Power Resources.

London, April 5.—The newspapers welcome Sir Wm Robertson's plain speaking and do not doubt that the nation will respond all the better for knowing the truth. They point out that the British troops have already proved their ability to break any line the Germans can create; if the nation provides additional men our superiority will grow till the enemy cracks. They state that the medical re-examination bill will not go far in providing an additional half million. It is increasingly clear that resort must be made to more than forty-one. It is suggested that these should be formed into battalions to work or fight at home, releasing young badged men for service in the field.

Hospital and Relief Ships.

Ymuiden, April 5.—A German submarine torpedoed without warning on April 4, two miles off Schoeveningen, the Belgian relief steamer Trevier, New York to Rotterdam with a cargo of grain. Twenty-four of the crew were brought to Ymuiden, eight wounded, owing to the submarine shelling the boat.

London, April 5.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Macnaghten stated that hitherto the enemy had mined or torpedoed six hospital ships; 247 people had been killed and 73 injured thereby.

Possibilities in Bulgaria.

London, April 4.—Reuter's representative at French Headquarters in Macedonia says that in view of Bulgarian misrepresentations of the Russian revolution French aviators dropped pamphlets in the Bulgarian lines stating the facts and calling on the Bulgarians to imitate Russia's example and shake off German influence which is leading Bulgaria to destruction. It would not be very surprising if events in Russia led to a reaction in Bulgaria, where M. Miliukoff spent many years in exile and enjoys great influence.

Dissension in Austria.

Amsterdam, April 4.—According to Berlin newspapers, the profiteering case which caused the resignation of Baron Schenck, the Austrian Minister of Justice is developing into an important political affair. It transpires that the report of the Court of Enquiry on the matter was actually altered by several Ministers without the knowledge of the Court. The Vorwaerts says that the Austrian War Minister has also resigned.

U. S. and German Ships.

London, April 5.—A part from benefiting by 600,000 tons of German shipping in American ports, the Allies will profit by a huge development of American shipbuilding. There is seven times the tonnage now being built compared with the total output of 1914. Great orders were recently placed in the United States on behalf of Great Britain.

Race for St. Quentin.

London, April 5.—The progress reported in yesterday evening's French communique is part of a great French encircling movement south of St. Quentin, the fate of which place is already sealed. The situation is dramatic, as the British in the north are only two miles from the town, and the French in the south are 24 miles distant. It is expected that the honour of the capture will fall to the French, who are at Moy, on the Hindenburg line. The suddenness of the British advance disconcerted the enemy, whose over-confidence in employing artillery forced him to abandon six guns. His attempt to recover the lost to a most dramatic close-quarter fight with bombs, bayonets and clubbed rifles, in which the British steadily drove back the Prussians through Savy Wood.

London, April 5.—Wireless. German official. The English strongly attacked north of the Peronne-Cambrai road. We inflicted heavy losses before retreating.

The French occupied our evacuated positions south-west of St. Quentin. Our batteries exploded a munitions depot near Vendresse. The explosion was heard and felt forty kilometres behind the front. We inflicted a defeat north of Rheims and took over 800 prisoners. We captured French trenches west of Monastir.

Europe on Rations.

London, April 4.—The Press Bureau says: Lord Devonport has issued a new public meals order applicable to hotels, clubs, boarding-houses and other public eating-places declaring a meatless day in London on Tuesdays elsewhere on Wednesdays, and no potatoes on Fridays. It fixes the following scale for four meals daily: Two ounces of bread and two sevenths of an ounce of sugar at each meal; meat, two ounces for breakfast, five ounces each at luncheon and dinner; an allowance of two ounces of flour daily for pastries. The order does not apply to boarding-houses under ten bedrooms or eating houses charging a maximum of fifteen-pence a meal.

London, April 4.—In the House of Commons, Capt. Bathurst stated that a further reduction in the consumption of bread was absolutely essential.

London, April 5.—The Food Controller has proposed to the Cabinet that the price of wheat be immediately fixed substantially lower than at present, and that the price of bread be fixed on the basis of the new price of wheat; also that the Government entirely control bread stuffs in the country.

Berne, April 5.—Bread tickets will be issued in Switzerland on May 1.

Rome, April 5.—The American representative in the Institute of Agriculture states that the world's food situation is worse than was expected in October. America must help to relieve the Allies. He has urged President Wilson to mobilise agriculture.

Argentine Corn.

Buenos Aires, April 5.—Officials expect that a hundred thousand tons of corn will be available for export after the needs of the country are satisfied.

Discount Rate.

London, April 5.—The Bank of England discount rate is five per cent.

The Peace Talk.

London, April 4.—In the House of Commons, in reply to Mr. Byles, Mr. Bonar Law said he was not aware that the Central Powers had suggested any peace terms.

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(For Ladies)
A French Remedy for all Irregularities. This is the only medicine which cures the most obstinate cases of irregularity of the monthly flow, and restores the system to its normal state. It is a powerful and reliable remedy for all cases of irregularity of the monthly flow, and restores the system to its normal state. It is a powerful and reliable remedy for all cases of irregularity of the monthly flow, and restores the system to its normal state.

DALES' DUBBIN
THE SECRET OF BOOT EASE
Dales' Dubbin makes the leather soft and pliant, gives it a rich, warm glow, and keeps it in perfect condition. It is the only leather dressing that is really effective. It is a powerful and reliable remedy for all cases of irregularity of the monthly flow, and restores the system to its normal state. It is a powerful and reliable remedy for all cases of irregularity of the monthly flow, and restores the system to its normal state.

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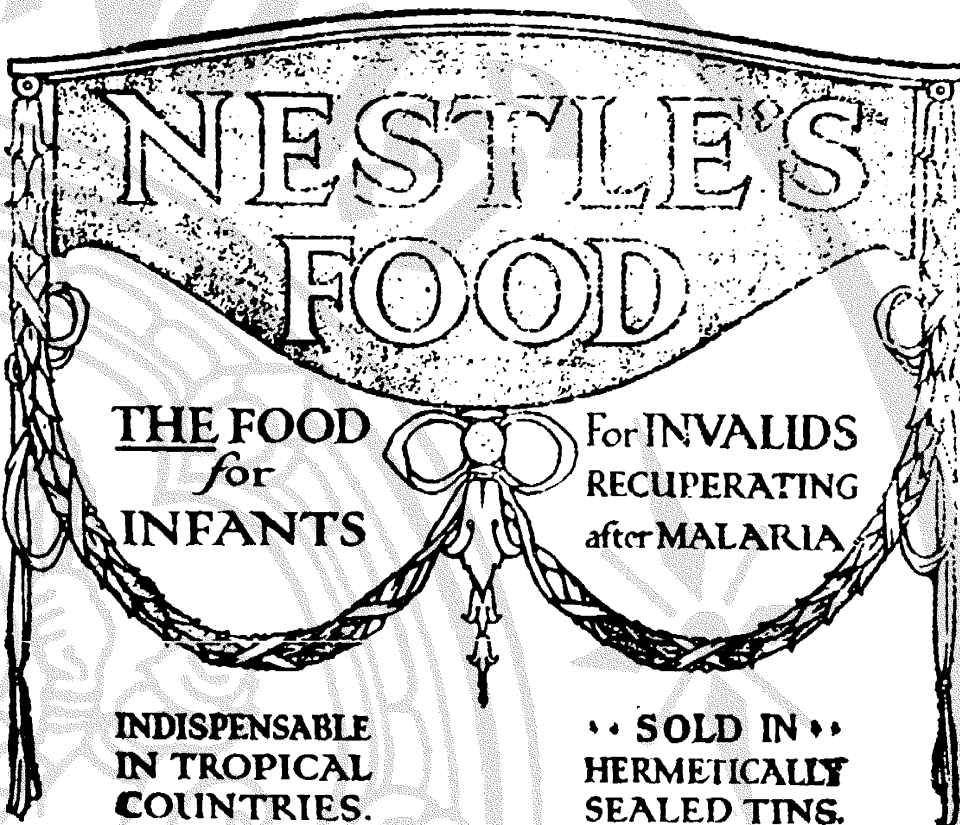
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Freedom for Germany.

(By HOLBROOK JACKSON.)

Most war books fill one with despair, because they are written mainly by men who look upon war as a spectacle—what Americans call a "stunt," and journalists "copy"—that is to say, something to write about. Few are the volumes which are sprung from the inner vision and human compassion. But such books do exist. They tell not of armies ranged in battle, of brilliant deeds in the great adventure. They record the soul's adventures among the coarser realities of contest. War is inevitably noisy, but noise is not its essence; noise is an accident of warfare. The greater war books do not record this noise, they interpret the long silences in which war bears or transfigures the soul of man. I have been reading such a book. It is called "The Diary of a French Private, 1914-1915," by Gaston Riou (Allen and Unwin, 5s. net), and even if it were not my pleasure in these weekly talks about books to tell my readers what books I have read and why I like or dislike them, it would be my duty to recommend this work of genius.

The title of the book is somewhat misleading, as M. Gaston Riou is something more than a French Private: not more in courage or patriotism, but certainly more in intellectual ability. He is, in short, one of the most distinguished of the younger school of serious French writers. He was born in 1883 in the Cévennes, the region which gave to France the three most distinguished of her modern psychologists, namely, Melchior de Vogüé, Auguste Sabatier, and Paul Bourget. He comes also of a family which produced thinkers and men of action. Notably Jacques de Vaucanson, the leading French mechanical engineer of the eighteenth century, and also Majal Desbaras, the last Huguenot martyr, who was executed at Montpellier in 1747. By tradition, he is liberal, nonconformist and republican. He completed his education at the Sorbonne, and his early studies were devoted to philosophy and Christian origins. At the University he wrote a thesis on the "De Unitate" of St. Cyprian. His first published works dealt with the Modernist movement of Loisy, Murri, and Tyrrell. There was an inspired ardour about these books which attracted wide attention. He took no sides in the theological discussion of the hour, and adopted for his motto the words "Whatever is Christian is ours." His aim was to conserve the greatness of Christianity and to apply it to the actual but changing conditions of modern thought and social life, his idea being that the non-Roman churches scattered throughout the world might

well constitute the basis of a new Catholicism. Above all it was the dream of this young enthusiast to reconcile the revolutionary ideals of 1789 with Christianity, a combination which he believed would aid the renaissance which was moving his country to its very depths in the few years before the war. That great French critic, the late Emile Faguet, said that "His ardour, his impetus, the rush of his blood, are all instinct with the passion of patriotism." Gaston Riou rapidly became a writer of European distinction. He had travelled in Germany and had won the appreciation of the best minds in that unfortunate country. He collaborated with Bergson, Henri Poincaré, and Charles Glide in the publication of a historical study entitled "Le Matérialisme Actuel," which summarised the tendencies of contemporary thought, and was said by an eminent critic to celebrate for France the close of an age of negativism and to herald the epoch of affirmation and lyrical effort.

When these peaceful and inspiring pursuits were brought to a standstill by the upheaval of August, 1914, Gaston Riou had just returned to France from a prolonged visit to the British Islands. He was one of the first to go to the front, and took part in the heroic and for some time victorious fighting in Lorraine. He was mentioned in despatches, wounded during the battle of Dieuze, taken prisoner, and passed eleven months in a Bavarian fortress at Ingolstadt. In the summer of 1915 he was among a batch of wounded prisoners exchanged and domiciled in Switzerland. His book records his experiences and impressions during his imprisonment. It is a work of irony and satire, brimming over with characteristic French clarity of critical thought, but steeped in a kindly and humane sanity which has always characterised the best French literature, but is by no means unknown among the most profound writers of all lands. This book is far more than a mere diary. It is the expression of a profound and distinguished point of view, and in addition it is a work of literary art and a criticism of the German mind. Gaston Riou does not deal in violent recrimination, even when suffering the indignities and inconveniences of a prisoner of war. Above all his book is absolutely free of bitter diatribes against Germany. He reveals the soul of Germany for what it is, and his revelation invokes our pitying contempt of a nation which has been perverted by its military governors and its rich men.

The Great German Illusion.

He begins by recollecting his first visit to Germany; a visit which was something like a triumphant intellectual progress for the young French

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stamp and shake their fists, making signs that they would like to cut our throats and tear out our eyes. From the streets and country towns, lost amid the sweltering plain, troops of children assemble, waving their flags. They form up in a line besides the track. When the train comes in, moving slowly like a funeral convoy, they beg for our kopeik; they vociferate in their own language, "Paris, kaput! Death to the French!" The sight of the Red Cross armband produces paroxysms of fury. "Death!" they scream, "death to the Red Cross men! These are they who finish off our wounded!"

"The women are even more horrible than the men. The murderous glance, the clawed fingers, working and tearing us if. In the dream of a aggress, the nostrils dilated and twitching, the lips curled, grimaces hatred—never before known, such as such damned souls, such Medusa heads. Who could believe that women should appear so horrible! . . . When the trains stop for any time, richly-dressed matrons parade beside it, offering our guards mugs of beer, cigars and cigarettes, bread-and-butter, jam, and steaming sausages. Sick with hunger and fatigue, we look on at this prodigality. "Above all," they say, "give nothing to the French! Let them starve!"

"Bells are ringing and flags flying and Germany is holiday-making, drunk with blood, thrilling with the prospect of victory, and that is how she behaves to the fallen."

"That was in the early days. But nearly a year has passed away, and note the difference. Gastor, Rico is still a prisoner in the Bavarian fortress. But prison life has settled down into a normal routine, and he is able to observe his gaolers, and on the occasions when the prisoners are allowed to visit the town in guarded batches for the purpose of making purchases, to observe the change of manner in the wider public. The Germans have tasted death and deadlock. The plan to stampede Europe has failed. Millions of Germans bodies are disintegrating in the soil of France and Flanders, East Prussia and Galicia. Broken soldiers throng the streets. Food is becoming scarce, businesses are ruined, the grip of military law has them by the throat and they are lost. They are now quiet time."

"No longer do they laugh upon their French captives. *Kaput* has become a joke. Shyly at first they praise the brave French soldiers, the children offer them sweets, the poor women bring offerings of apples and eggs out of their scanty store. Arrogance gives place to subservience. It is the coward's change of front, the devotion

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Cold Storage.

An article must have exceptional merit to survive for a period of forty years. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy was first offered to the public in 1872. From a small beginning it has grown in favor and popularity until it has attained a world wide reputation. You will find nothing better for a cough or cold. Try it and you will understand why it is a favorite after a period of more than forty years. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy not only gives relief—it cures. For sale by the British Dispensary.

[illegible]

of the bully. So long as the German is powerful and victorious he is brave and insolent, but he does not understand the upright heroism of unprepared France and Britain, which in the twilight of defeat sees the dawn of victory and slogs on with cool invincibility. Gaston Riou would lead us to believe that Germany is learning the lesson.

The transfiguration is amazing. Read how the Boche treats the Poffu to-day.

Yesterday some of the gang were taking to a hoary-headed postman.

"Well, Daddy, how goes it?" said Bracke, who can speak the Franconian patois.

"Very well, gentlemen, very well!" There he stood, not knowing what to say. He had taken off his *Mütze* and was wiping his forehead to keep himself in countenance. Then, all at once:

"It grieves me," he said, stammering slightly, "to think we are at war with you."

"Non, non, old chap, we're not at war yet! Our quarrel is with the big guns of your country. They're a bad lot! they oppress you, and would like to oppress the whole world. But you're *poteau*!"

"Poteau, what's that?"

"A comrade, a chum."

The postman had tears in his eyes.

"Ah," he exclaimed, "it does me good to hear you say that. I love the French. You are so awfully nice to everyone. You don't despise the common people."

"Here, old general, here's a cheroot which my mistress has sent me. Happily France keeps us supplied, as you know. All the same, we intend to give a good hiding to your old Kaiser and all your bigwigs. We are republican. Liberty, equality, and fraternity. Live and let live is our motto. But anyone who meddles with us had better look out. Damn it all! Why don't you kick your dirty old Kaiser into the sewer? Never mind! We shall set you free, and be jolly quick about it."

The postman, dumb founded, lit his cigar at the wrong end.

In the early days of their imprisonment and of the war such a conversation would have been impossible.

Gaston Riou explains this curious change of attitude. In France liberty of mind exists. There is free criticism of politicians and much taking of sides. Everyone of our village orators, he says, has good advice to give to our Admirals, Generals and Diplomats. A Frenchman, whether he knows it or not, and even if he believes himself to be a Monarchist, reasons like a leader.

How different is Germany! The country possesses an elite of persons well equipped for administration and rule, and this endows her national life with a fine aspect of cohesion. But directly we examine more closely, doubts arise; we see that the cohesion

is no more than apparent. There are those who theorise about Germany as a whole, but there is not one Germany; between the people and the leaders there is no intimate solidarity, no communion of love, hope, and will.

Doubtless, in the lower regions, respect is felt for the empyrean; people tremble before it, as before the eye of God; but there is no risk that they will attempt to penetrate its designs. They are faithful subjects, and they obey. They are soldiers when the time comes for enrolment, and good soldiers: when the order for mobilisation is issued, they go to war: when the ritual demands it, they about burials for King and country. But at bottom, if words have any meaning, they are not patriots. Militarists, yes; easily regimented, yes; patriots, no.

The effect of this regimentation is emphasised in the anecdote of how Gaston Riou reprimanded a German sentry, secretly laughing, while the sentry trembled and stood at attention, as if the prisoner had been his commandant. There he was, says Riou, stupefied into willingness. Militarism has had the same effect on the whole German people, so by destroying it we are not only freeing Europe from a like stupefaction, we are freeing Germany.

I think I have given enough from this penetrating work to prove my contention that it is eminently a book to be read and pondered deeply. And even now I have no space to sample the human side of the book dealing with the incidents of captivity. The life in the old fortress, the effect of hunger on the mind of the prisoner, the clever evasion of German routine by the Frenchman, and above all the beautiful description of the genial old Bavarian Commandant, who was a soldier and a gentleman and a large-hearted human being—obviously a relic of that kindly old Germany which militarism has killed. And, finally, there was the coming of the Russian prisoners. Here, perhaps, is the most moving chapter in the whole book. These strange, big fellows, Slavs and Tartars, Poles and crushed and frightened Jew, are symbolic of that great and mysterious Empire of the North and East, now our Ally. The Russians were staggered by the opulence and generosity of the French prisoners, and it was all the Frenchmen could do to prevent themselves being worshipped as though they were gods. Surely such a strange camaraderie is unique. And Gaston Riou, with that splendid Christian tolerance of his, does not fail to note the Russian attitude towards the Jew, even in captivity. They treat him with contempt and disgust, and the silent and retiring representative of the Jewish race is the most tragic figure in this inspiring book, as he is the most tragic figure in Armageddon.



BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH.

Little children are compelled to wear lifebelts on board all liners to-day, because of the German Submarines.

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