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The Siam Observer.

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BANGKOK THURSDAY MAY 3, 1917.

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s.s. "Ardang"	5. 5. 17.
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Opposite Oriental Avenue on the NEW ROAD.

Executes all kinds of Tailoring in the latest fashions.
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TIDE TABLE.

DEPTH OF WATER ON THE BANGKOK BAR FOR APRIL 1917.

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

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

PHASES OF THE MOON.

April 7th 0 Full Moon 8 h 31 m p.m.
15th (Last Quarter) 2 h 52 m a.m.
21st 0 New Moon 8 h 43 m p.m.
29th 1 First Quarter 0 h 4 m p.m.

To End Suffering

seems too good to be true, doesn't it?
It is good to be sure, but it's true, TOO.

LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM

soothes the stinging, biting nerves.
Brings instant relief to pain and continued use bring permanent relief.
Take a little in your hand and rub it in where the pain is. The pain is there no more.

Many thousands of sufferers have already blazed the path in using this miraculous remedy. To-day they boast about their good health and freedom from pain. You will be able to boast yourself. Little's Oriental Balm will do the work.

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Saturday 5th 10 a.m. s.s. Asiang
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Saturday 5th 10 a.m. s.s. Krat

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LONDON.
Bank Bills, demand 1/6 7 1/8
Bank Bills, 3 months' sight —
PARIS.
Bank Bills, demand 205
GERMANY.
Bank Bills, demand —
NEW YORK.
Bank Bills, demand U. S. A. 36
INDIA.
Bank Bills, demand 113 3/8
SINGAPORE.
Bank Bills, demand \$65 1/2
HONGKONG.
Bank Bills, demand \$ 64
YOKOHAMA & KOBE.
Bank Bills, demand Y70 3/8
NOTE.—The rate of interest on Advance Bills has been reduced to 6 per cent. per annum.
Equivalent of Exchange demand London in Siamese Currency —
10s. 13.08.—(Bank Rate.)

A City of Memories.

To most of us Bagdad is a city of memories—a city of dreams even as it was to Tennyson, who, in his "Recollections of the Arabian Nights," is borne adown the Tigris.

By Bagdad's shrines of fretted gold, High-walled gardens green and old, But we are living in a world of reality and not of dreams to-day—not in the time of good Haroun Alraschid but in the time of the Great War, and Bagdad has a new interest for us. Bagdad has fallen to British arms; and we doubt not some of our own Australian soldiers, who have been taking part in the Mesopotamian campaign, are among those who have entered as victors into the ancient city that is called the City of the Caliphs.

It was founded in 764-767 A. D. by the Caliph el-Mansur and for nearly 500 years it remained the chief seat of learning, trade and art in the East, and each of the successive caliphs added some new glory to its abundant works of art. There was once a time, indeed, when it was sought to make Bagdad the capital of the world, but in the year 1258 there swept over Persia and Mesopotamia an invasion of wild Mongol tribes, led by the Emperor Hulaku, grandson of the famous Genghis Khan, and the palaces and public buildings which it had taken the dynasty of Abbaside rulers five centuries to erect were destroyed by fire and axe, and the long line of Caliphs cut off. Then, later, this part of Asia was swept by the wild Turkomans under Timur—or Tamerlane—and in the year 1400 the city was taken and the reigning Sultan driven out. Seventeen years after that it was again besieged by the Turkomans under Kara Yusuf, and for 60 years the family of this Chieftain held the Throne. Then they, in turn, were driven out by Osmu Kasim, whose reign of 39 years was brought to an end by Shah Ismail I, who founded the Royal House of Sefe in 1516. The next aggressor was the Sultan Suleiman I. of Turkey, who, in 1544, added the city to his already vast domains. In the year 1602, however, it reverted to Persia after its capture by the troops of the famous Shah Abbas. Thirty-six years later the Turks, under Murad IV, again took possession of it; and since that time, with many vicissitudes, it has nominally remained under the jurisdiction of the Osmanli Sultans. After the Russo-Turkish war its Government was reorganised and its position in the Turkish Empire made clear.

"It was not to be marvelled at," says Mr. W. B. Harris F.R.G.S., in his book "From Batoum to Bagdad," "that a city which in the course of a few centuries has been the scene of so much pillage, warfare and destruction should to-day boast little of what once gave it a title to being perhaps the greatest capital in Asia, and certainly the greatest emporium of trade in the world. Probably the population of Bagdad does not reach much over 100,000 persons, but, whatever the actual number may be, it can safely be stated that almost all the nationalities of the world can be found living within its walls. Arabs, Persians, Turks, Europeans, Jews, Oriental Christians of many races and denominations, Afghans, Indians, Africans, Turkomans, and Kurds are met daily in the bazars, engaged in trade or manual labour, or visiting the neighbouring shrine of some long defunct saint.

Bagdad lies on both banks of the Tigris, about 500 miles from the mouth of that river in the Persian Gulf, and some 300 miles above Basra, which may be regarded as its port. The main portion of the city is built on the left bank of the river, the quarter on the west side being little more than a suburb. Both portions are walled, but the walls have been allowed to go to ruin. They might be good enough to with-

stand attack from ill-trained and badly-armed hordes, but as a defence against well-organised troops, equipped with modern artillery, they are scarcely worth consideration. At all events, they have not prevented the entrance of the British Army.

The principal buildings, the bazars, mosques, etc., are situated on the eastern side of the Tigris, and here, too, are most of the residences of the Consuls and merchants. The famous bridge of boats connects the two towns: a rough wooden causeway, upheld upon pontoons, of which there are some five and thirty. The Tigris is here about 300 yards wide, and from the bridge the most imposing view of Bagdad and its surroundings is to be had.

"On one's right as he turns his sight downstream," writes Mr. Harris, "lies the old city, its dull, yellow buildings indistinct in outline from the irregularity of their building and their monotony of colour, stretching out great latticed windows towards the still, yellow river. Amongst the houses, both above and below the bridge are the great forests of date palms that line both banks of the Tigris in the vicinity of the city, and here and there are obtained groups of orange and pomegranate trees, often only their heads visible over the high garden walls. Above the town, both to east and west, rise the domes and minarets of the mosques, breaking the flat outline of the level roofs of the terraced houses. Nor is the stream itself devoid of interest, for some way down below the bridge lie the steamers that ply upon its waters between this spot and Basra, while nearer at hand are the sailing boats with their elevated sterns and enormous rudders, and here, there, and everywhere dodge the 'kufas,' those strange basket-and-pitch conical peculiarities of the Tigris. A short walk from the east end of the bridge takes one to the bazzars, and these the lovers of the study of Eastern peoples' ways and customs will find the great attraction of Bagdad, for so private is the home life of the people that it is practically impossible to gain any idea of what sort of an existence is lived within doors. There are miles of the great covered arcades, miles of the arches and domes, under which all the native trade of the city is carried on. Some of these bazars are tolerably new, others are begrimed with the dust of ages."

Such is Bagdad, the city we have taken. And we may here quote from Mr. Asquith's speech at the Guildhall, on November 9, 1914:—"We have no quarrel with the Mussulman subjects of the Sultan. Our Sovereign claims amongst the most loyal of his subjects millions of men who hold to the Mussulman faith. Nothing is further from our thoughts or intentions than to initiate or encourage a crusade against their creed. Their holy places we are prepared, if any such need should arise, to defend against all invaders, and keep them inviolate. The Turkish Empire has committed suicide, and dug with its own hands its grave."

MARTIN'S APIOL & STEEL PILLS
(For Ladies) PILLS
A French Remedy for all Irrregularities. The only safe and reliable remedy for the treatment of the female system. It is a purely vegetable preparation, and is entirely free from any harmful effects. It is sold by all Chemists and Druggists, and is also sold by the British Dispensary, Ltd., 139, Si Phya Road, Bangkok.

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Paknam Railway Company Limited.

TIME TABLE.				
PAKNAM—BANGKOK.				
Stations.	Train No.			
	1	2	3	4
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Paknam Dep.	6.30	9.30	12.45	3.45
*Maha Wong ..	6.35	9.35	12.50	3.50
*Ban Nang ..	6.40	9.40	12.55	3.55
Chorakhe ..	6.45	9.45	1.00	4.00
*Samrong ..	6.50	9.50	1.05	4.05
Bangna ..	6.55	9.55	1.10	4.10
Bangjak ..	7.00	10.00	1.15	4.15
*Prakonong ..	7.05	10.05	1.20	4.20
*Ban Kluei ..	7.10	10.10	1.25	4.25
Klong Toi ..	7.15	10.15	1.30	4.30
Sala Deng ..	7.23	10.23	1.38	4.38
Bangkok Arr.	7.30	10.30	1.45	4.45
BANGKOK—PAKNAM				
Stations.	Train No.			
	1	2	3	4
	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Bangkok Dep.	7.45	10.45	2.00	5.00
Sala Deng ..	7.52	10.52	2.07	5.07
Klong Toi ..	8.00	11.00	2.15	5.15
*Ban Kluei ..	8.05	11.05	2.20	5.20
*Prakonong ..	8.10	11.10	2.25	5.25
Bangjak ..	8.15	11.15	2.30	5.30
*Bangna ..	8.20	11.20	2.35	5.35
Samrong ..	8.25	11.25	2.40	5.40
Chorakhe ..	8.30	11.30	2.45	5.45
*Ban Nang ..	8.35	11.35	2.50	5.50
*Maha Wong ..	8.40	11.40	2.55	5.55
Paknam Arr.	8.45	11.45	3.00	6.00

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

England in Chains.

Let it be here repeated that the one thing of paramount importance is that we should win the war and that beside that every other consideration sinks into comparative insignificance. But, having said so much, do not let us allow that tremendous fact to obscure all perception of these subsidiary matters. After all, we have to remember what it is we are fighting for, and take care that in delivering ourselves and those who shall come after us from the chains the Hohenzollern would rivet on our necks we do not lose that freedom which we have slowly won through the struggles of a thousand years. The tyranny of the soldier is bad, but the despotism of the bureaucrat is not much better, and, since it is far more insidious, it is much more difficult to resist. It is of the essence of a bureaucracy that its members invariably believe that they can order the life of the community much better than the individuals composing it can organise it for themselves, and that belief, to put the matter plainly, is always fatal to liberty when it is not sharply checked. Since the war began we have created the most gigantic bureaucracy ever known in these islands, and we have endowed it with powers far beyond any which the most despotic of our kings have claimed in the past. Is it quite certain that victory cannot be attained without such an army of officials, or that all these exceptional powers with which they have been furnished are used for no other end than the prosecution of the war? If we have multiplied officials beyond our real needs we have surrendered to the worst vice of bureaucracy; if we have allowed them to override the laws for the benefit of their private fads, we have sacrificed the most precious boon which freedom gives.

At this moment we are the most despotically governed country in the world. The Englishman's house is no longer his castle, for he may be turned out of it at any minute if a Government Department fancies the rooms or the situation. We may not arrange our meals as we please, drink when we are thirsty, or do our own business in our own way. The Government demand money from us in ever-growing amounts, and yet forbid us to make it in any enterprise which is not hampered by Government control. Our newspapers are muzzled, and we have seen the Censorship so arrogant in the exercise of its powers as actually to

mutilate our King's own words to make them, in the opinion of the bureaucrat, fit for our brethren overseas to read. To all this and more we have submitted without a murmur, because we were told that it was necessary to victory, and because we know that without victory neither our liberties nor our lives could be saved. But to imagine that it is good in itself would be the extremity of folly, and we can only view with dismay the prospect that this enormous entanglement of red tape may never be uncoiled, that this monstrous regiment of officials may never be disbanded in our time, or their powers brought within the purview of the ordinary law. Only by a despotism, whether the despotism of Departments or of a Dictator, can such a war as that in which we are now engaged be brought to a successful end. That everyone who realises the nature of the struggle will most readily grant. But we have the right to ask for some assurance that when the peril is past the despots shall lay down their powers, and that our ancient freedom shall be restored. Else we may find that in shattering the domination of the Prussian we have sold ourselves into bondage to a system Prussian in its tyranny but British in its blundering.—Ex.

The Neutrals.

Stockholm, April 27.—The Foreign Ministers of Sweden, Norway and Denmark confer at Stockholm from May 9th—May 14th.

Madrid, April 27.—A Reformist Party manifesto demands the abandonment of neutrality and rupture with Germany.

Amsterdam, April 27.—A Berlin wire says that Germany has offered a safe conduct to neutral vessels sheltering in British harbours with foodstuffs for their countries.

Zurich, April 27.—The Austrian Iron Trust is dissolved. This is a blow to German industrial influence in Austria, as the Trust has been backed by German capital.

Oppression in Flanders.

The situation in Flanders is getting worse and worse, learns the Telegraph. Even women and girls are being forced to work. In the first year of the war soldiers were put to work on the abandoned fields, but now compulsory female labour is being employed. The women and girls are allowed to return home every evening, but the men, who are forced right up to the firing line, may only go home once or twice a month.



BEAR BRAND  **BEAR BRAND**

GENUINE SWISS MILK

Pure
and
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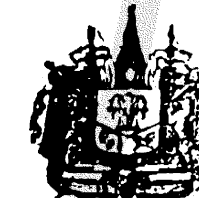
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3-10

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3-4

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The Siam Commercial Bank, Ltd.

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2-3

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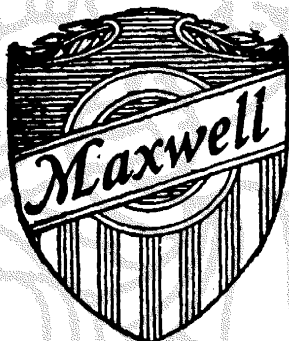
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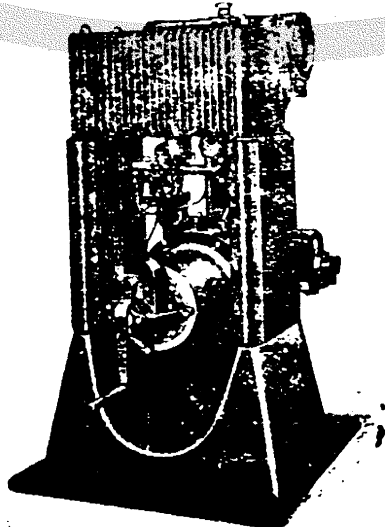
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The Siam Observer

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1917.

ARGUMENTUM AD JUDICIUM.

There has just been published a curious book entitled "The Sexes in Science and History," written by Eliza Burt Gamble—whether "Mrs." or "Miss" is not stated on the title-page, but presumably the latter, judging by the internal evidence afforded by the incubation. Anyhow, she is an American feminist, and in 1894 wrote another volume, called "The Evolution of Woman," wherein she argued that ever since that lamentable period—she is unable, however, to indicate at what approximate time in primitive history the unhappy event occurred—when man usurped woman's former ascendancy the world has suffered moral deterioration and all true progress has been and will be barred until woman resumes the superiority that was filched from her by the brutal male. Miss—or is it Mrs?—Gamble's works are very much on a par with the writings of the late Dr. Anna Kingsford, the gifted but eccentric authoress of "The Perfect Way" and other volumes. She also stoutly maintained the essential superiority of her own sex over that of the other, but no one had any serious regard for a woman who claimed with all solemnity that she was the reincarnation of Joan of Arc, Boadicea, Cleopatra, and most of the other famous women of history, and professed to remember clearly all the incidents of her past lives—amongst which we are not sure that she did not include those spent as Ninon de l'Enclos and Aspasia—she certainly contended that she had been Mary Magdalene. Our American heroine of the pen does not do anything like this, but she manifests in her new book a spirit that is little calculated to advance her cause, and is, to say the least, uncharitable. It rather takes our breath away to be told that the hecatomb occasioned by the present war is "a welcome sweeping away of the useless elements in human society," and when she represents her sex as surveying with satisfaction the removal of vast numbers of "superfluous men" as paving the way for the coming millennium when Woman, restored to her rightful supremacy, shall hold the reins of power and drive the chariot of the world on its course with sure and capable hands. In ranting thus she writes like a soured spinster, and can only draw upon herself ridicule. We would recommend to her a long and conscientious study of Otto Weininger's "Sex and Society," after which she might be inclined to hide her diminished head. We wonder what authority she thinks she has to speak on behalf of all womankind. Of late years woman fanatics of this description, particularly in America and England, have done their utmost to provoke a sort of sex-war by drawing between their and the male sex a comparison extremely invidious to the latter. Fortunately they receive small attention, and are looked upon in the main as peculiar and not unamusing phenomena, which is as it should be. What good purpose do they expect to serve? The two sexes are complementary to one another in the scheme of existence, but they have totally different and irreconcilable qualities. There is nothing in these differences, however, to prevent perfect equality and amicability of intercourse, nor are they in any danger of being prevented by the writer under review. Woman has her sphere and man his, and all this talk of superiority of one over the other is hateful. As a matter of fact there can be no question involved, since history and experience have already solved it. In the kingdoms of nature, with such few exceptions as but prove the rule, it is always the male who takes the prior place, and it is the same with humanity taken en masse, though it by no means follows that it is not possible to single out many individual women who are more gifted and more intellectual than many individual men. A great and

noble part in life has been allotted to women to perform, and it is not only supererogatory but unwise for them to desire to go beyond it. It is only the Eliza Burt Gambles of the day who have that desire, and, happily, they are of scant account.

The Raak Na Ceremony.

H. M. the King has telegraphed from Phuket to H. E. Chao Phya Yomarsj on the eve of the Raak Na Ceremony the Royal wishes for a prosperous year for the people and for rain sufficient for the wants of the cultivators.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE Courts will close for the Visakha Holidays to-morrow and the day after.

SEVERAL recent American visitors to Bangkok are taking their departure to-day.

THE s.s. *Jada* left Saigon yesterday, and will probably arrive at Bangkok on the 7th instant.

THE case against Akom Ha Young is fixed for argument in the Dika Court on the 8th instant.

THE s.s. *Kuala* will leave from the Borneo Company's wharf at 11.30 a.m. sharp, on Friday the 4th inst., and should arrive in Singapore on Monday afternoon.

THE Post and Telegraph Department reports that Malay Peninsular main line is still in good order as far as Surachittrachani. Saigon line is not properly working between Phnompenh and Bangkok. Nongkai line is still interrupted between Konkaen and Korat. Other lines are in good order.

New advts.—Tootal Piqué and Tarrant for skirts and Undergarments at Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw and Co., Ltd. The Siam Forest Co., Ltd., as Agents for the American and Manchurian Line of Steamships, has a notice to consignees. Mr. Malcolm Beranger, on behalf of the Paris Marine Insurance Co., publishes a notice in regard to damaged goods.

A Poor Blockade.

London, April 26.—Italian naval communiqué: During the week ending April 22 the arrivals were 385, the sailings 425. Sunk, one steamer under 2,300 tons, one under 750, a sailer over 210 tons. Two steamers attacked by a raider and a submarine respectively escaped.

Paris, April 27.—Official: Arrivals during week ending 22nd, 933; sailings 923; sinkings, one over 1,600 tons and two fishing boats. Unsuccessful attacks were made on five vessels.

Western Front.

London, April 26.—Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters says that clearly the Germans intend to make every sacrifice to the fighting of a great delaying battle in the Scarpe Valley. Lacking well prepared defences, their only hope of checking our advance is by using up great masses of troops. They are still hurrying up reserves, throwing them into the line. The extreme bitterness of the fighting is due to the fact that some of their best divisions are employed. This must result in greatly accelerating the exhaustion, and if continued the situation would resolve itself into the simple problem of which side can longer maintain the deadly peace. Since the answer thereto is unquestionable, the only other question is how long?

Belgian Deportations.

Reports that the Germans have decided upon a policy of repatriating deported Belgians are quite untrue, Reuter's Agency understands. On the contrary, the deportations continue in increasing measure.

It is probable that the reports are based on the return of a few deported Belgians to Antwerp, but this is in consequence of a protest from the Netherlands Government that Germany had broken her pledge with regard to these persons. It will be remembered that the early fugitives from Antwerp into Holland were induced to return home by German promises that they would not be made to perform forced labour and on this undertaking being broken, Holland protested.

For the rest the Germans are only repatriating aged and infirm persons who are useless for their own purposes.

PAUDY REPORT FOR MAY 2.

Nasman 1670 Coyans at Tce	58.91 each
Samruang 740 " "	58.68 "
Namuang 180 " "	58.60 "
Total	2590 Coyans

The Sky Meeting.

The following are the results of the events run off yesterday:—

First Race.

For Siamese Ponies. Open. 6 Furlongs. Handicap. Value, Tcs. 200.
Mr. V. K. Sasi (5.4) 1
Phra Prab's Sib Hok (3.12) 2
Phya Gadadhara's Otappa (6.9) 3
Also ran Un Chon, Son Chai, Plawng, Bluff and Ravi.
Time 1 min. 40 1/5 secs. Tote paid Tcs. 83.

Second Race.

For Australian Subscription Griffins. 4 furlongs. Handicap. Value, Tcs. 250.
Messrs. Stiven and Brighthouse's Rova d'Or (7.8) 1
Phya Gadadhara's Yot Rak (7.6) 2
Also ran Betty.
Time 1 min. 3 1/5 secs. Tote paid Tcs. 9.

Third Race.

For Australian Ponies. Open to Subscription Griffins and ex-Griffins: Winners "King's Cup" banned. 5 furlongs. Handicap. Value, Tcs. 250.
His Majesty's Mistie L. (7.6) 1
Mr. A. C. Warwick's Sandily (7.5) 2
Also ran Icaro II.
Time 1 min. 9 4/5 secs. Tote paid Tcs. 13/.

Fourth Race.

For Australian Ponies. Class I. 7 furlongs. Handicap. Value, Tcs. 250.
Phya Gadadhara's Thong Dee (6.3) 1
Madame de Bhisulok's Flirt (6.0) 2
Mrs. Graham's Iowit (7.0) 3
Also ran Buffalo Bill.
Time 1 min. 40 4/5 secs. Tote paid Tcs. 18.

Fifth Race.

For Australian Ponies. Class II. 7 furlongs. Handicap. Value, Tcs. 250.
Mr. G. G. Bart's Royal Flush (8.0) 1
Horistat Say When's Laksoes (9.2) 2
Phra Prab's Royal Page (9.3) 3
Also ran Gladys C. and Lady de Melb.
Time 1 min. 36 2/5 sec. Tote paid Tcs. 31.

Sixth Race.

For Australian Subscription Griffins. 6 furlongs. Handicap. Value, Tcs. 250.
Phya Arthakara's Say When (8.9) 1
Nai Bism's Kanda (8.6) 2
Khana Raja Dummer's Ratta (6.9) 3
Also ran Molly.
Time 1 min. 25 sec. Tote paid Tcs. 12/.

To-morrow's Handicaps.

First race.—Poo Thalay 7.0, Sib Hok 8.5, Pinhran 6.2, Morakot 8.5, Ling Dam 6.8, Yammo 4.3, Kit 6.8.
Second race.—Un Chon 7.13, Son Chai 5.9, Khome Loi 6.7, Plawng 6.8, Otappa 6.12, Sang-atit II 6.2, Bluff 6.0, Ling Deng 5.0, Sasi 5.11, Ravi 5.7.
Third race.—Lily E. 6.8, Vittoria 6.0, Icaro II 6.5, Kanda 6.5, Sandily 7.4, Reve d'Or 6.0.
Fourth race.—Gladys C. 9.13, Flirt 5.0, Mad Meg 7.12, Royal Page 9.6, Iowit 6.0, The Ace 8.13, Lady de Melb 6.6, Laksoes 9.13.
Seventh race.—Mars 8.10, Marie L. 8.3, Thong Dee 7.5, Sandily 7.0, Say When 6.10, Icaro II 6.3, Reve d'Or 6.3, Yot Rak 5.12, Ratta Dara 5.7.

Notes on the Handicaps.

Race 1.—The handicaps for the Turf Club griffins appear all right except for Yammo having 4.3. It is no use for a pony to get such a weight. If a Siamese pony cannot run with 5.7 at least on his back he is no use for racing. There should be a good tussle between the top weights, but beware of Poo Thalay.

Race 2.—It is a pity to see Siamese ponies running with these light weights, so different from the good old days. With these weights it is impossible to put your finger on the winner, but the only classy pony in the lot is Un Chon, who would win it if in form. Sasi or Otappa on yesterday's form should be placed.

Race 3.—Why 27 lbs. should be taken off Lily E. one of the best of the year's griffins which has won a R. C. race, and 22 lbs. from Reve d'Or, which has never run beyond five furlongs, I fail to see; nor why 31 lbs. should be taken off Vittoria, one of the good griffins of last year. Icaro II, with 10 lbs. off is evidently favourite with the handicapper, and Sandily with 15 lbs. off is second. Sandily has been running a tired horse at this meeting, if not the race should be his. If Vittoria is in her proper form she should win, otherwise it is impossible to say what this year's griffins will do with the feather weights allotted to them.

Race 4.—Gladys C. with 11 stone has beaten Mad Meg with 7.12 before in a round the course race. If Mad Meg retains the wonderful staying powers she has displayed before in a similar race she ought to be able to win despite the longer strides of her opponent. If nothing out of the ordinary happens the race ought to be between Gladys C., Mad Meg and Laksoes, if they run.

Extra race.—Mars will run away with this race with 8.1. In Dec. 1915 she won 4 furlongs in 55 3/5. With 9.7 in February 1916 she won 4 furlongs in 55 4/5 by 7 lengths. This is merely to show what she could carry. Of the other horses that may have a look in are Ratta Dara and Yot Rak with their feather weights.

THE Great War.

French Communiqué.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, May 2.

We advanced for about a thousand metres on two sides of Mont Cornillet. In Champagne we took over four hundred prisoners.

Germany and the Indies.

Writing in the German *Tag*, Professor L. Walter urges that, after the war, German ships shall call at the Netherlands Indian port of Sabang instead of Singapore.

The events of the last few weeks, he thinks, have shown plainly that Britain's naval forces and their significance to the world are actually based on her coaling stations. Britain pays with her coal most of her needs, and so long as English coal is mined, pit crops are carried, and the black diamonds are distributed all over the world by British ships, Britain is wealthy and powerful.

For decades past, Singapore has been the great commercial and coaling port on the route to the eastern hemisphere. A wealthy city has sprung up in the midst of the tropical forests. Referring to Sabang, the writer goes on to say:—The presence of the Sumatra coal-mines, the splendid harbour, and the fact that Sabang is much nearer Europe, appear very favourable to this plan in respect of German as well as Dutch interests. In Deli (Sumatra) German firms, under the auspices of the Dutch Government, have long since attained to a flourishing position, so that it is both in the German and the Dutch interest to create here, by common efforts, a new commercial base for the entire East.

Kaiser's Health.

Rumour is again very busy with the state of the Kaiser's health, and is steadily more persistent and definite. The people of Berlin are no longer allowed to demonstrate in front of Mon Bijou, ostensibly for the reason that the Kaiser has so much work to do that he requires complete silence round him, but, as a good many of his subjects are beginning to suspect, really because he is too ill to bear any noise. It is said that there is a sharp difference of opinion among the specialists as to the appropriate treatment for the trouble in his throat, some favouring and others opposing an immediate operation. The ominous parallel to the quarrel of the doctors in 1888 as to the condition of his illustrious father, when Sir Morel Mackenzie and Professor Virchow expressed such violently contradictory opinion, will occur to the mind of everyone. Both the Kaiser's father and mother died of malignant disease, and he himself is now just at an age at which the dreadful thing is peculiarly apt to start into activity. There is no doubt that in Germany the gravest apprehensions are entertained. When to a bad heredity bitter disappointment and the most poignant anxiety are added, such a result is at least probable.

German Line of Retreat.

Berne.—The "Frankfurter Zeitung" publishes a telegram from its correspondent on the western front describing the state of the regions evacuated by the German army. He says:—

"Our chief command, having determined to create a sort of glacis in view of future combats, has made a large zone of devastation which may be called a war zone in all its pitilessness.

"The magnificent trunks of the trees which bordered the French roads lie on the ground to be placed as obstacles at the last moment.

"The enemy will not find a roll of wire, not a wisp of straw or hay, not a railway-point, not a spade of fork, not a well. The fields on the side of the road have been ploughed up so that if the artillery, finding the roads destroyed, should have to pass on either side of the road, it will be obliged to undertake difficult repairs.

"Undoubtedly the persons able to work, between the age of fifteen and sixty, have been evacuated, but the women, children and aged have been left in the important localities.

"Bapaume and Peronne have been entirely destroyed. Already not much of them was left. The object of the destruction was to prevent the enemy from finding the slightest shelter there."—Havas.

FOR A LAME BACK.

When you have pains or lameness in the back bathe the parts with Chamberlain's Pain Balm twice a day, massaging with the palm of the hand for five minutes at each application. Then dampen a piece of flannel slightly with this liniment and bind it on over the seat of pain. For sale by the British Dispensary.

Japan and Peace.

With that inclination to frankness verging on indiscretion which distinguishes him, Marquis Okuma was recently reported by the *Kokumin* as saying that the world is now on the brink of bankruptcy, while at the same time he declared that, fortunately, Japan has suffered no serious damage from the war. He might have gone considerably further and said that not only has Japan suffered no serious damage from the war, but she has profited enormously. At first sight this fact may seem to question the thesis put forward by Mr. Norman Angell that the making of war is unprofitable even to the victor. But it has to be borne in mind that Japan is only nominally one of the belligerents. With exception of the Teikyo operations, which extended over a couple of months, Japan has not been called upon to expend either life or treasure, and even the making of munitions, helpful as this has proved, has been paid for on the same lines as munitions manufactured in America. It is reported, moreover, that the orders given by Rumanian commissioners will not be executed unless guaranteed by a third country, by which presumably is meant Great Britain, upon whom the financial burden of the Allied cause rests so heavily. Apart from the profit on munitions, Japan has received much benefit from the extension of her trade owing to the actual belligerents being involved in hostilities. It would therefore appear at first sight that the war has largely profited Japan, and we find this view so strongly held that the stock market falls to pieces on the whisper of peace, while leading Japanese journals reassure nervous readers by pointing out that there need be no "apprehension" of peace in the immediate future.

When Marquis Okuma says that the world is now on the brink of bankruptcy, he means the Western world exclusive of America, and when he urges that the only remedy in the case of the exhausted combatants is a general restriction of armaments, he again suggests that a self-denying ordinance of this character should be strictly limited to the Western world. Has not Japan a long coast line, and are not her shores peculiarly exposed to the raids of Chinese pirates? It is rather surprising that Marquis Okuma should stop there. Some one might point out that Chinese piratical raids on the Japanese coasts were unknown for centuries before Japan had a navy. He should have based his contention that Japan must be allowed to complete her naval programme, and retain her present armaments on the fact that the population of China numbers some 400 millions, while that of Japan only counts a bare 75 millions. In eloquent language he could describe to the world the feeling of nervous apprehension animating the Japanese when they regard the great Colossus at their very doors ready at a moment to crush them with its enormous weight. He could go on to show how narrowly the Japanese escaped being made subject to China in the year 1274, when a typhoon reinforced the inadequate defences of the islanders, and that it was the fear of another similar expedition which led to the beginnings of the Japanese navy some seven centuries later, the object merely being protection against fierce and uncontrollable neighbours on the west. Such an explanation would have been more effective than the suggestion of the dangers to which Japan would be exposed from Chinese pirates should there be any reduction in her Navy.

But it would seem that Marquis Okuma is not quite consistent. "In order to establish a permanent peace," he says, "it is of primary importance to place restrictions on the military strength of the World Powers, for military power is the foe of peace." All the countries of the world should be made to abolish armaments providing against enemies from without, leaving merely a police force for internal service. At the same time he suggests that Britain and France should maintain the *status quo* in the matter of armaments, though whether this means present or pre-war conditions is not clear—and that Japan should complete her naval programme and retain her present army, but that America should cut her armaments down to the minimum. We are afraid that this ingenious, not to say ingenious, proposal will be regarded by other nations with less approval than will seem just to the responsible author of the Twenty-One Demands on China. Perhaps it is all due merely to Marquis Okuma's irrepressible sense of fun, on a par with his acceptance of the presidency of the Japan Peace Society and his subsequent devotion to the work of expanding the national army.

But if the world—even if we limit the phrase to the Western world and include the British and French colonies—is on the verge of bankruptcy, and the Peace Conference, when it comes, is to be regarded as a conference for alleviating its effects, what is the role to be assigned to Japan? It is true that Japan "fortunately" has suffered no serious damage from the war—that she has indeed made large profits as a result—but it is evident that Marquis Okuma, with his shrewd foresight, perceives that post-bellum conditions will place Japan in a position where profits may be minimised or disappear altogether. If all the world, barring Japan and America, is to be bankrupt, there

will be a cessation of demand for the goods which Japan can supply. Her prosperity, according to Government political economists, depends on selling much and buying little. But with all the world save America in financial straits, it is evident that Japan's exports will decline, and they will decline still more if the present belligerents further exhaust themselves by maintaining their ante-bellum armaments. Marquis Okuma suggests as a remedy such a restriction of armaments as will enable the rest of the world to economise, and incidentally, it may be presumed, to buy Japanese goods with the savings, while Japan maintains a large navy to cope with Chinese pirates and an effective army for what purpose is not stated, but possibly to crush the Chinese pirates if they should effect a landing. But in such case it would seem that the Western Powers, relieved from the heavy burden of armaments, would become more active competitors in world markets with Japanese in goods. However, after all, the release from the burden of armaments will only be partial under Marquis Okuma's scheme. Britain and France are to be permitted to retain a very substantial military and naval force. Germany, on the other hand, must be deprived of her navy, while her army should be reduced to one-third of its pre-war dimensions. The result would be that while Britain and France would continue to shoulder their burden of armaments unrelieved, Germany would be able to concentrate whatever financial strength she had left on the development of her trade and commerce, while her commercial rivals would be handicapped. And the handicap in their case would not only apply to Europe: it would also have effect in competition with the United States, which, in Marquis Okuma's opinion, is in such a safe position that there is no necessity for her to expand her armaments. The prospect does not look a very hopeful one for Britain and France. Nor does Marquis Okuma appear to consider that Japan will not also suffer from a serious handicap if the limitation of armaments be only partial, for under his scheme Japan, with Britain and France, will endure a burden from which the others will be relieved. It seems fairly evident that if the present war is followed by a League of Peace in which some nations will have large armaments and others small, the League will be illusory. All the old conditions will quickly reassert themselves.

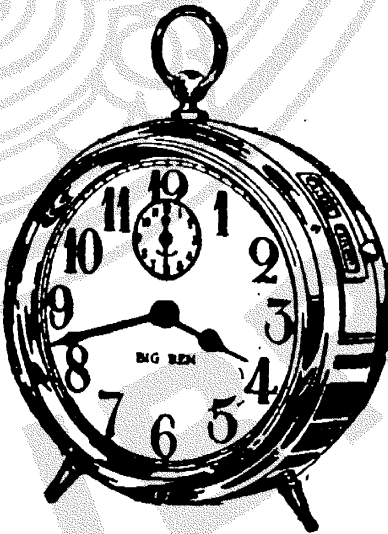
The attitude taken by Marquis Okuma shows the enormous difficulties which are involved in any such scheme

as that proposed in the United States and accepted in principle by Viscount Grey when Secretary for Foreign Affairs. It is to be feared that no persuasion will induce Japan to become a party to a project which involves a reduction of armaments. The most democratic statesman who has held the portfolio of Premier in Japan pronounces against it. He bases his opposition on Japan's fear of Chinese pirates, which of course is a fashion of speech. Count Terauchi would express himself differently, but not in public. The attitude taken by the majority of Japan's publicists is that their country has not yet won the place in the sun to which it is entitled, and that limitation of armaments is for Japan impossible while there is a huge territory on her western border where the people, torn by internal dissensions, seem about to fall a prey to anarchy. Thus Japan, if the current opinion of publicists and statesmen may be trusted, would prefer to remain outside a League which had for its subject a limitation of armaments and the application of international law to the problems of individual States. Severe as was Japan's never suffered the exhaustion which all the belligerents in the present war have to face, and without that experience she is likely to look coldly on any scheme which would involve a diminution of her military strength. —"Japan Chronicle."

Destruction of Belgian Relief Ship.

The submarine commander who sent the *Storstad* to the bottom appears to have gone out of his way to destroy the vessel. He opened fire at a distance of 4 miles regardless of the identity of the ship, which was conspicuously displayed. She had the Norwegian colours painted on her hull, with her name in large characters. On the bridge and on flags in the masts were printed particulars of the vessel and her destination, while two signal balls were displayed at the masthead familiar to every naval officer. The submarine came up on the port beam with her conning tower exposed, and discharged a torpedo at the *Storstad*, hitting her amidships. It was broad daylight at the time. The fourth engineer succumbed to cold and exposure in one of the boats which was drifting about for 36 hours before being picked up. All the crew were subjects of neutral lands.

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Italy and the Adriatic

Mr. Richard Bagot, the well-known novelist and interpreter of Italian ideas to England, lectured on Italy and the War for the British-Italian League at Burlington Gardens. The Italian Ambassador was present.

Lord Bryce, who presided, said there never has been in the modern world any two peoples so closely drawn together by intellectual, moral, and political sympathy of many kinds as the peoples of Italy and Great Britain. Foremost amongst the causes which had arrayed Italy side by side with us in the great war was the spontaneous protest which arose in the heart of the Italian people against the flagrant violations of international law and right of which the German Government had been guilty, and against the still grosser offences which it had committed in Belgium, Poland and Serbia, and which it had tacitly sanctioned in the Turkish Empire.

Mr. Bagot gave an exhaustive analysis of the causes which led Italy to delay entering into the war. They were, he said, incompletely understood in this country. It was not realised at the outbreak of the war that Italy was not prepared in a military sense for intervention. Until a very short time before her declaration of war Italy was practically without heavy artillery, and without other equipment necessary for a large army on a war footing. He spoke of the coolness, courage, and determination with which Italy set herself to overcome the difficulties of her internal position. His account of the success of the German commercial penetration of Italy brought out strongly the great effort that was needed in Italy to break away from the Central Empire, and in this connection he gave a telling contrast between the thoroughness of German methods in adapting themselves to Italian needs and the neglect on the part of British exporters of the Italian market.

Even during the war British firms, when he pointed out to them the political and commercial importance of meeting Italian commerce half-way in the matter of credit and so on, had replied that the Italian market was not worthy of consideration. He dwelt on the extreme inopportunities from every point of view of such an attitude.

Speaking of Italy's claim to the possession of the eastern shores of the Adriatic, Mr. Bagot said that the cynical injustice done to Italy by the Treaty of Paris, whereby not only was she exposed by land but also for the entire length of her Adriatic coast to any attack which a notoriously faithless and jealous neighbour might make upon her, was a matter which could not fail to call for remedy and redress.

Not only was Italy placed at the mercy of a powerful State which could at any moment pour down its armies upon the plains of Lombardy and the Veneto, but by the retention in Austrian hands of the Dalmatian and Istrian sea-coasts, with their innumerable harbours and long train of protected islands, she was equally threatened from the sea.

The future of Italy, as did her great past, lay on the seas, and we now know enough of Italian energy and courage to feel assured that under proper guidance the future liberty and proper control of the Adriatic and full equality in the Mediterranean, were assured to her. That liberty and control must be wrested not only from Austrian predominance but from the German grasp that lay behind it and claimed to absorb it as part of the German scheme to obtain commercial and political supremacy in the east. To that end German supremacy in capital had succeeded in obtaining almost complete control of the Italian mercantile marine, but it was gratifying to know that even in this period of huge war expenditure the Italian Government had devoted a sum equivalent to six millions sterling to her national mercantile marine.

It was to our interests, as well as in harmony with our traditional friendship, for Italy to see her mercantile power resume its position in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic, and to see herself reinstated in the possession of those strategic positions on the coasts which alone could enable her to develop and extend her trade and to secure herself against attack.

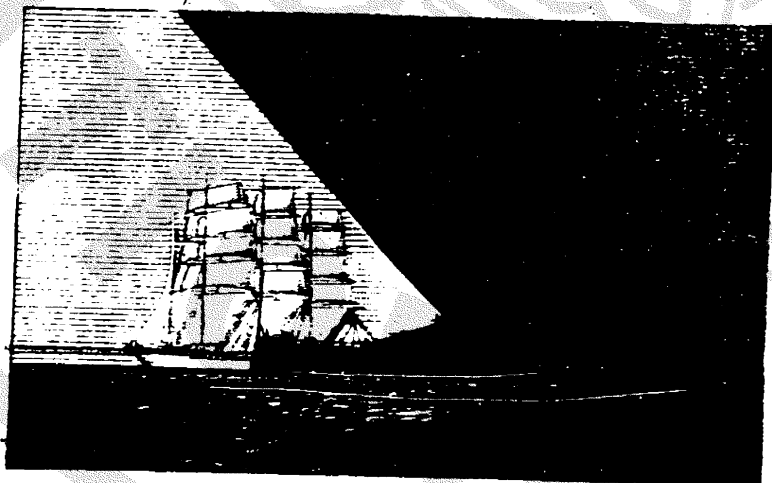
At the same time the just and logical claim of the Slav population of those regions, to whom outlets on the sea were equally indispensable, must be considered. It is beyond question that these claims were fully recognised by Italy, and it was satisfactory to know that both in this country and in France those who were warmly attached to the Slav cause felt that they could support that cause without prejudice or detriment to legitimate Italian aspirations.

He added a word of warning to the effect that every effort was being made by the Central Empires to use the Jugo-Slav movement as a weapon against Italy, and a means of creating discord between the Allies. It was particularly necessary that sympathisers with Jugo-Slav aspirations should be on their guard against insidious attempts on the part of the enemies of Italy, and therefore of the Quadruple Alliance and its ultimate aims, to turn that movement to their own advantage.

Washington, April 23.—The State Department learns officially that the Mexican Government warns Germans in Mexico that any concentration of them near the border will result in their arrest.

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In Macedonia.

It is now some time since we have received any news from Allied sources regarding operations on the Macedonian front, although recent German communications have twice referred to French attacks between lakes Prespa and Ochrida. We are given no hint as to the exact locality in which these French thrusts were delivered, but the brief announcement of activity in this region may be more significant than it appears at first. General Sarrail's left flank at present rests on the north-eastern shore of Lake Prespa, westward of Monastir, and, although it cannot at present be described as "floating in air," it certainly would be in that dangerous condition before very long if an Allied advance beyond Monastir commenced. Between the western shore of Lake Prespa, and the eastern side of Lake Ochrida there lies a long, narrow stretch of country with at least one good road skirting the western shore of Lake Prespa, and leading southward towards the Allies' rear. We have not been told whether General Sarrail has taken the precaution of closing that road to the enemy on the north-western side of Lake Prespa, but even if he has done so, he could not remove the danger entirely, without extending his flank for some considerable distance westward. The only official advice which we have received regarding precautionary measures adopted by the Allies to guard against an enveloping move by way of this corridor of territory, between the two lakes, were received before the recapture of Monastir was effected.

It was towards the end of October and during the early part of November last that we heard of what were probably small Allied forces moving round the southern side of Lake Prespa, and striking up between its south-western extremity and Malik Lake, in the direction of Lake Ochrida. These forces captured the villages of Laisitea and Golobria, in Albania, and cut the southern portion of the main road which comes down from the north through the belt of country between the two lakes. This move seems to have closed the lower end of the dangerous passageway leading from the enemy territory towards General Sarrail's rear: but, if a further Allied advance beyond Monastir is intended in the near future, General Sarrail will probably want to make his left flank even more secure than it is at present. Much will depend upon the forces

which the Italians will be able to throw into Albania in the future, but, although they evidently agreed at the Rome Conference to take a more active part in the operations in the Balkans, the fresh troops which they have moved across appear to have been used more for the purpose of coercing Greece than for strengthening what has always been recognised as a very weak connection between the forces at Valona and the Allied left wing near Monastir. These fronts were reported at the end of November last to have been completely linked up, but if the Italians are in any strength in Eastern Albania, they do not appear to have done any fighting worth mentioning. Until we receive more convincing proof of their presence, therefore, we must recognise the weakness on General Sarrail's left, and the object of the French attacks in that region.

General Wire News.

London, April 27.—In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. Kinloch Cooke, Mr. Steel Maitland said that the committee to consider the question of Empire land settlement for ex-soldiers and ex-sailors had met and had appointed sub-committees. Their report would not be completed in time for the Imperial War Conference's consideration.

London, April 27.—Lloyd's weekly index has been suspended.

Amsterdam, April 27.—A Berlin telegram says that, in committee of the Reichstag, Herr Groener described the recent strikes as hypnotism of the masses, partly due to inflammatory matter smuggled from abroad. He said that future strikes would not be tolerated, but to enable the workers to voice their complaints, Labour representatives would be appointed on food organizations.

The German papers are most anxious as to the possibility of troubles on May 1st.

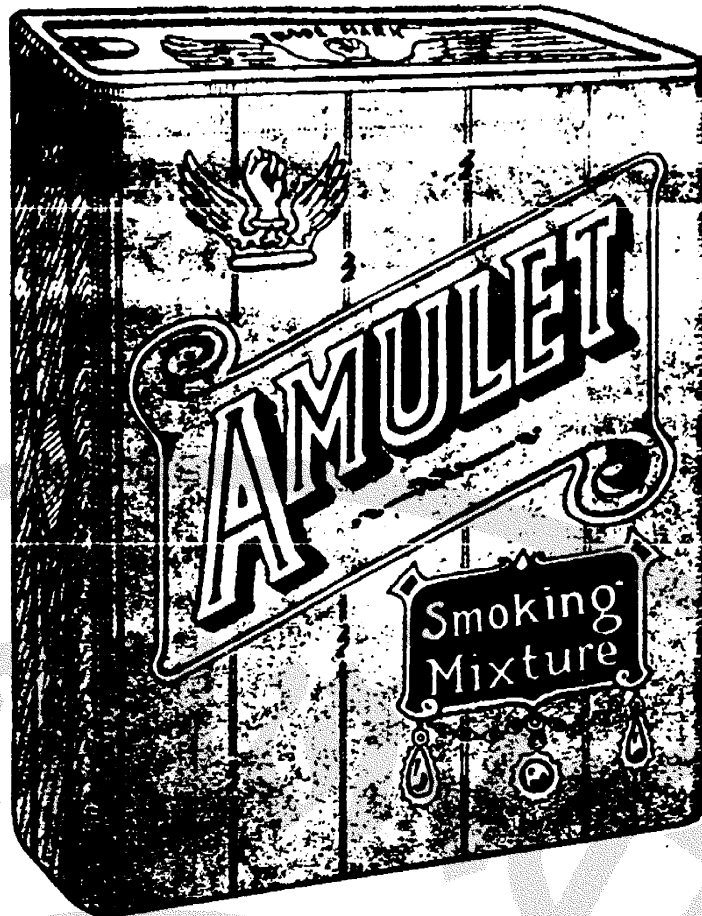
The Lokal Anzeiger states that incitements of the munition workers to sedition steadily continue.

The Berliner Tageblatt says that a most dangerous game with fire is being played in Berlin.

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Down				Up				Down				Up			
Tues. Thurs.	daily	daily	daily	daily	daily	daily	daily	Weds. Fri.	daily	Chumpon-Tung Song on Mondays, Weds. & Fri.	Tung Song-Chumpon on Tues. Thurs. and Sat.	daily	daily	daily	daily
a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.					a.m.		a.m.		a.m.			
7.15	8.45	1.20	2.05	Dep. Bangkok Noi	Arr.	11.38	12.33	6.35	Dep. Chumpon	Arr.	5.30				
8.15	9.48	2.45	4.27	" M. Nakon Patom	Dep.	9.28	11.10	8.46	" Langsuan	"	3.31				
9.38	11.39	4.20	6.57	Arr. Ratburi	Dep.	6.30	9.36	12.34	" Surasutra Dhani	"	12.03				
9.46	11.52	4.30		Dep. " "	Arr.	a.m.	9.28	4.57	Arr. Tung Song	Dep.	7.10				
10.57	1.26	6.18		Arr. Petchaburi	Dep.	7.20	11.18				a.m.				
11.08	2.30			Dep. " "	Arr.	a.m.	10.45								
12.38	5.30			Arr. Hua Hin	Dep.	7.54	1.39								
1.08	5.49			Arr. Wang Phong	Dep.	7.00	1.08								
1.14				Dep. " "	Arr.	a.m.	1.00								
3.01				Arr. Prachuap Kirikan	Dep.	11.21	3.10								
7.06				Arr. Chumpon	Dep.	7.05	8.35								
						a.m.	a.m.								
Tung Song-Nakon Srithammaraj Daily								Nakon Srithammaraj-Tung Song Daily							
a.m.	p.m.			Dep. Tung Song	Arr.	5.27		a.m.	p.m.			Dep. Tung Song	Arr.	2.24	
7.00	1.30			" Nakon Junction	Dep.	12.00	4.38	11.11	1.23			" N. Junction	"	1.23	
8.09	2.44			Arr. Nakon Srithammaraj	Dep.	10.48	3.14	12.27	10.44			" Patalung	"	10.44	
9.23						a.m.	p.m.	2.50	8.08			" Ootapao	"	7.00	
								6.17	a.m.			Arr. Singora	Dep.	7.00	

AIDS TO TRADE.

The business problem of to-day is not the manufacturing, but the selling end of your business. Anything that increases sales is of importance to the business man - and advertising is the great sales increaser.

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Notice

Advertisers are kindly requested to send in changes of advertisements before 11 a.m. of the day they intend the advertisement to appear. Should any advertisement arrive after that hour the same will be held over for the next day.

Before the Attack.

We knew that before very long we should attack. There was a great deal of reconnoitring to be done and information collected about the state of the enemy's wire, his machine-gun emplacements and a score of other things. The work was carried out with the greatest daring in daylight as well as by night. It was Captain M. since killed by a shell, who crawled out through the long grass in broad daylight and discovered a whole new German trench, taped out and dug about two feet deep. Consequently when a working party returned to continue it that night, they were caught by salvoes of shrapnel, and ran, leaving many dead behind them. Lieut. D. also in the day time, crawling between the lines saw a little sap, which he suspected, the Germans would use as a point for firing rifle grenades into our trenches. He returned, and after some prospecting found a spot where a sniper might overlook the sap. There he posted a man, disguised with empty sandbags so that he looked like part of a parapet. The sniper's patience was at last rewarded, for one day he saw two Germans carrying some wire up the sap; he promptly shot them, and so scared must the Germans have been that they abandoned the idea of using this work, and one of our parties was actually able to obliterate it in the night.

The Germans in this sector were very imprudent, for until then it had been one of the quietest of the line. Our snipers had a busy and successful time: faulty protection of ends of communication trenches, latrines and so forth were soon found out, and the Boche suffered. One sniper made himself a perch behind a cottage wall which the German artillery ought long before to have knocked down. From there he could see the top of a communication trench, and caught an officer just as he was turning into it. Two men ran forward to pick him up and the sniper shot them both: German sniping was completely dominated, and what they attempted had little result. Someone used to fire all night at a listening post of ours but the only damage he did was to graze a corporal's shoulder.

This was the work that went on in the front line: continual reconnoitring sniping and harassing of the enemy. Meanwhile behind us other preparations for the attack went forward: new guns came up, field guns, heavies, howitzers, — battery after battery, hidden by barn or haystack. Then at six o'clock one morning began that dance of death, the preliminary bombardment. For the first hour until one got used to it the noise was

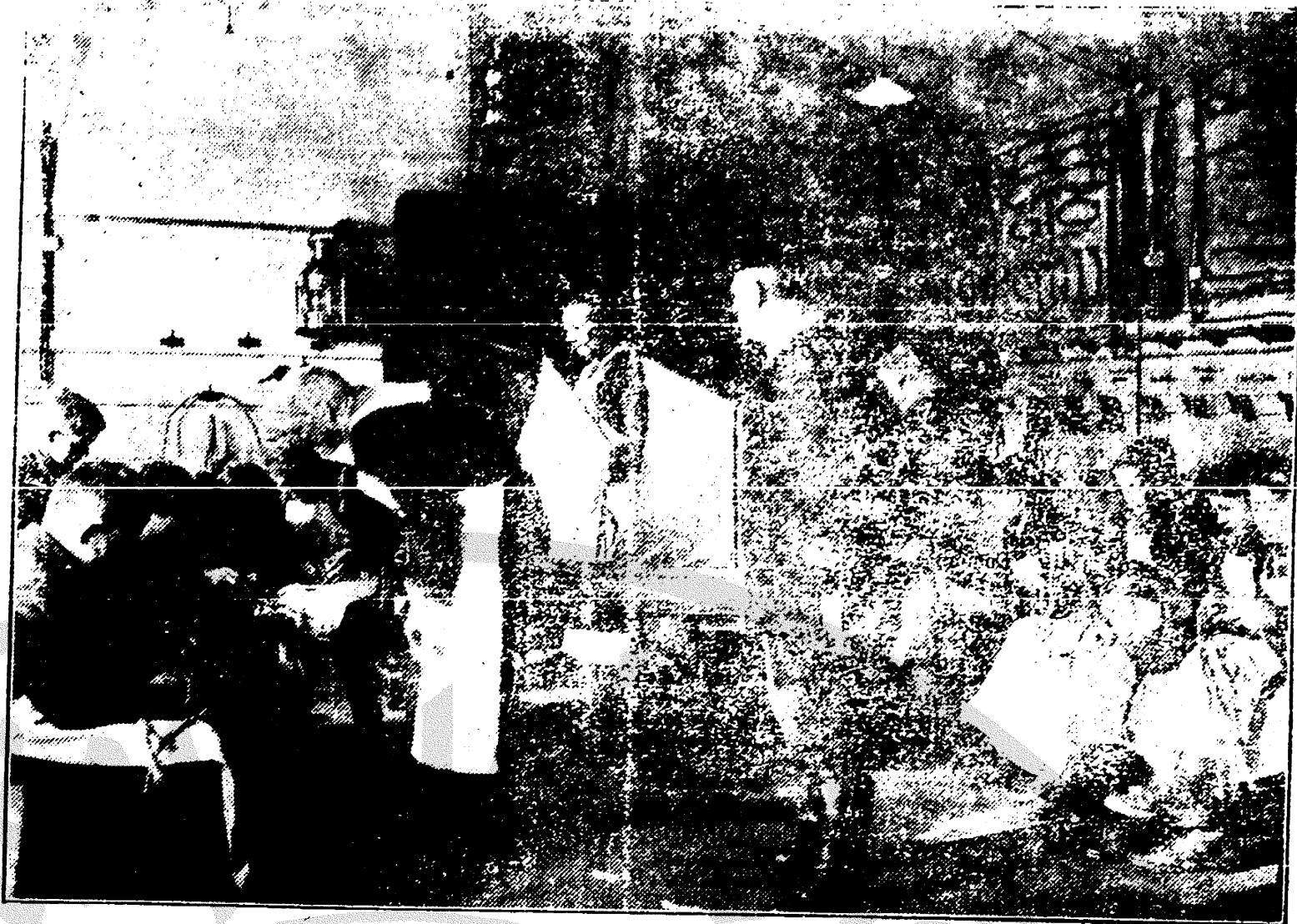
terrifying. Shells rushed, screamed, whistled, roared; the hum of flying splinters sounded everywhere, and pieces almost red-hot hurled back into our trenches. In the earliest part of the bombardment our artillery must have knocked out quantities of German guns, as the heaviest shell we got in reply was from a howitzer of about 6 inch calibre, which fired intermittently; and everyone was surprised even during the attack itself at the weakness of their machine-gun fire.

In one place a German front trench was knocked to pulp, and its survivors broke out panic-stricken into the open, where our machine-guns and rifles finished them off. Regularly, from a position so far back that you could not hear the report, a ponderous shell came groaning and rumbling over, till it

burst in enormous spouts of deep red flame and black vapour. It was when one of those great shells fell that one of us exclaimed involuntarily, "God help them." Our men swore they could see limbs and accoutrements flying: once, certainly, when it hit an enemy's ammunition dump, we saw black things in the air: our trenches quaked, and loose earth slid down at the explosion, and then a vast pillar of smoke went up to heaven, and hung for hours, drifting slowly to the high southern ridge of heights. Rows of houses which the enemy had prepared for snipers and machine-guns melted away into scarlet dust. Where, spinneys had been were low snouldering stumps, while the carefully erected barbed wire entanglements were cut to pieces with shrapnel. At six in the evening

the bombardment ceased. There came a silence as alarming as the noise: neither side fired a shot, and men sat upon the parapet and surveyed the appalling desolation that twelve hours had wrought. Through glasses the enemy ground looked like a midden scattered with all sorts of broken stuff, bricks, twisted girders, things blown out of the trenches, splintered wood, and corpses, some of which seemed to burn. At "Stand to!" the din broke out again, making night horrible. Any German working party that came up to attempt repairs, was played on by continuous shrapnel. One could trace the shells by the gleam of their fuses. On our left, a few deserters from the enemy managed to get across — dazed, wrecks of men, tremulously thankful to be out of that experience

of hell. Next day the Germans had brought up some new guns, and started a lively retaliation; but not for long. Our aeroplanes betrayed them, and most of them were put out of action within an hour. So it went on for nearly a week, only slackening for the regular hour before sundown, when fresh supplies of ammunition came rolling up for the insatiable guns—for nearly a week, then the first work of the gunners was done. It was the infantry's turn.



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