

"Siam Observer"
Oldest Established
Daily Newspaper
in Siam.
Has the Largest
Circulation.
Subscriptions
English Edition
Tos. 10 per annum.
Siam Edition
Tos. 15 per annum.

The Siam Observer.

"Siam Observer"
STATIONERY STORE
STOCKS
Account Books,
Office Regulations
and
Stationery of
Every Description.

FIRST DAILY TO BE PUBLISHED IN SIAM.

VOL. 43. NO. 56

BANGKOK THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1917.

PRICE 25 SATANGS

STEAMER SAILINGS.

K. P. M.
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THE ARRACAN COMPANY, LTD.
AGENTS

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 Bang-
rak

Ab Seang, Tailor.

HARP HENG LONG

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

House and Boat Builders and Con-
tractors are invited to pay us a visit.

Our prices are very moderate and
we allow a discount of 5 per cent on
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We have just unpacked a large ship-
ment of our well-known High Class
Paints, Varnishes, Linseed, Oils, Brass-
ware, Iron-ware, and Carpenter's, Black-
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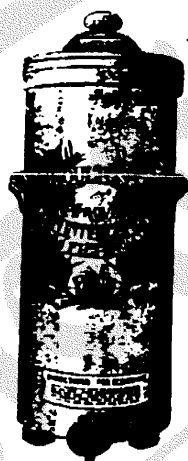
A new shipment of
Doultons Improved
Germ Intercepting Fil-
ters, Cream Enamelled
Stoneware, best quality
candles, Pure water
guaranteed if these Fil-
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A Filter is an absolute
necessity in every House-
hold in the Tropics.

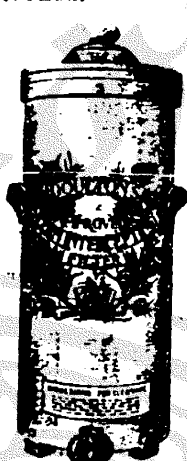
Buy a "Doulton"
to-day!!!

Full instructions are burnt
on the Filter so cannot be
lost or overlooked.



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Capacity	1 Gallon	2 Candles	
" 2 "	" 2 "	" "	Tcs. 17-50
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" 4 "	" 4 "	" "	" 35-00
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Spare Candles Price Tcs. 4-50 each			



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&c., &c.

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Agents.

Reynells
Hirano
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The
Finest
Mineral
Water
in
the
East.



Excellent
alone
or with
Wine or
Spirits

Per case of 48 qts

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In cases of 50 qts, 50 pints, 100 splits.

Tcs. 37-50 28-00 34-00

WELCH'S GRAPE JUICE

From choicest concord Grapes

Wholesome—Delicious—Satisfying

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FOR
SIAM

Oriental Store

AGENTS
FOR
SIAM

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.

Bangkok-Europe Line

m/s "Selandia" ... Arriving 16th of March 1917

THE SIAM STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

West coast Mail Service.

For Koh Lak, Chumpon, Taku, Langsuan, Bandon, Laco, Singora,
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s.s. "Boribat"	10 . 3 . 17 .
s.s. "Prachaitipok"	17 . 3 . 17 .
s.s. "Asdang"	24 . 3 . 17 .
s.s. "Boribat"	31 . 3 . 17 .

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s.s. "Chulalongkorn", Wednesday noon; not calling at Koh Phai & Krat.
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All the steamers are fitted throughout with Electric Light and have excel-
lent Accommodation for First Class Passengers.

For Freight, Passage and Particulars apply to

THE EAST ASIATIC COMPANY, Ltd.

Managing Agents.

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HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID UP CAPITAL ... \$15,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS.
STERLING £1,500,000 @ 2/- \$15,000,000
SILVER ... 18,000,000
33,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS
\$15,000,000

HEAD OFFICE.
HONGKONG.
CHIEF MANAGER.
N. J. STARR.

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INTEREST Allowed on current accounts at the rate of 1 per cent per annum on the daily balances.

FIXED DEPOSITS are received on terms which can be ascertained on application.

Letters of credit issued available in the Principal Cities of the world.

Drafts granted. Bills negotiated or sent for collection and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Office Hours - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturdays - 9 a.m. to 12 noon
E. W. TOWNEND,
Agent.

Chartered Bank

OF
INDIA AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... £1,200,000
RESERVE FUND ... £1,800,000
FURTHER LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS ... £1,200,000

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Sir Henry S. Cunningham, K. C. I. E.
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Sir Alfred Dent, K. C. M. G.
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Current Accounts are opened and interest allowed at 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balances.

Deposits are received for fixed periods at rates which can be ascertained on application.

G. E. ALLEN,
Agent.

Bangkok, July 1, 1909.

BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE

Societe Anonyme au Capital
de 48,000,000 de Francs.

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O. HENRY, Manager.

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A FAMILY NECESSITY.

Every family should be provided with Chamberlain's Pain Balm at all times. Sprains may be cured in much less time when promptly treated. Lame back, lame shoulder, pains in the side and chest and rheumatic pains are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable. Try this liniment and become acquainted with its qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by the British Dispensary.

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The Siam Commercial Bank Ltd.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

PAID UP CAPITAL
TOTALS 3,300,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

K. Florio, (Chairman), Phya Boribun Kosakorn
Phya Boribun Kosakorn
Rombat Luang Kit Narongroon
Phya Jaiyos Sombati W. Brahm, Esq.
A. Willeke, Esq.

London Bankers—Direction der Disconto Gesellschaft, Swiss Bankverein.
The Institution buys, sells, and collects Bills of Exchange on Europe, India, and China and transacts every description of Exchange and Banking business.

Current Account Deposits at 1% on daily balances.

Rates of Interest allowed on the fixed deposits may be ascertained on application.

Safe-Deposit Lockers let to the public at monthly rental.

Apply for particulars.

Office hours ... 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturdays ... 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

A. WILLEKE,

Actg. Manager,

Bangkok, March 27, 1909

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	14 4	...	...	...
2	7 00	14 2	...	...	...
3	7 00	14 2	...	...	...
4	4 00	14 4	...	...	...
5	4 30	14 6	...	...	...
6	5 00	14 8	...	...	...
7	5 30	14 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 30	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 10	...	...	...
23	5 30	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	...	...	...

Mar.	P.M.			L.W. (Approx.)	Feet.
	H. W.	Ft. in.	L. W.		
1	10 0	13 5	...	...	...
2	11 0	13 3	...	...	...
3	...	...	3 0	7 0	...
4	...	...	4 0	7 0	...
5	...	...	5 0	7 0	...
6	2 00	12 0	5 8	7 0	...
7	3 00	12 6	6 7	6 0	...
8	4 00	13 0	7 8	6 0	...
9	6 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	5 6	7 0	...
21	4 00	12 6	7 8	7 0	...
22	4 30	13 0	8 9	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	...

PHASES OF THE MOON.

Mar. 9th O Full Moon 4 h 40 m a.m.
" 16th (Last Quarter) 7 h 15 m p.m.
" 23rd O New Moon 10 h 47 m a.m.
" 28th) First Quarter 5 h 18 m p.m.

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.

Notice.

Gentlemen who intend leaving the country are requested to call or write to the Undersigned, who will give immediate attention to their requirements. Household and Office furniture, Pianos, Gramophones, books Etc., Etc. bought at favourable rates and better prices offered than those obtained at the hands of the auctioneer. Every description of second-hand and new furniture sold at reasonable prices.

Apply:
D. FROIMAN,
Second Hand Furniture Store,
Si Phya Road, No. 138.
Next to Whitesway Laidlaw & Co., Ltd.

Auction Sale.

Instructed by
CAPTAIN A. PETERSEN.
The Siam Auctioneering Co.
Will sell at his residence Wind-Mill Road.

On Saturday 10th March, 1917.

Commencing at 2 p.m. Sharp
The whole of his valuable household furniture including Buffet with mirror, Dinner service, Glassware, Bedsteads, Electric Chandeliers, Lamps, Fans, Cooking Stove, Almirah, Dressing tables, Mirrors, Rattan furniture, Carpets, Typewriter, Chairs, Tables, Revolver and cartridges, etc.,

For Terms and particulars apply—

E. M. PEREIRA & Co.

Sale Now On

Goods at Cost Price.

S. IKESAKI'S STORE,
OPEN FROM 8 A.M. TO 9 P.M.
Tapan Mon. Banmoh, City
21—21 M

Special Notice.

If you wish to make a good BARGAIN!
Call at the B. A. S.
(Opposite H. B. M. Consulate)
Household furniture to suit all tastes and pockets.
Assorted merchandise always in stock.

Bargain sales every Saturday, commencing 2 p.m.

GOODS IN STOCK:

Watches, Clocks, Tables, Wardrobe with mirror, E. fans, Dressing table, Dressing room mirror, Bedsteads, Ice chest, Hat stand, Mats, writing desk, Book case, Typewriter, Cooking stove, Gramophone, A first hand Organ, also, One Victoria carriage, complete, and One Saigon made D. cart, harness, lamps Etc. Ladies shoes, Cigarettes, French butters, Nor. Sardines. A large quantity of "Golf" Whisky Etc., Etc., Etc.

For particulars apply to—

T. S. APCAR,
Auctioneer and Estate Agent.

Telegraph Lines.

The Post and Telegraph Department report that Malay Peninsula Main line is imperfectly working between Surathadani and Bangkok.

Bangkok Mails Close.

SINGAPORE.
Friday 9th 5 p.m. s.s. Kuala
(European Mail)
CHANDABURI.
Saturday 10th 10 a.m. s.s. Krat
HONGKONG.
Saturday 10th 12 noon s.s. Haldia

Exchange Rates.

To-day's Quotations.
LONDON—
Bank Bills, demand 1/6 7/16
Bank Bills, 3 months' eight
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
YOKOHAMA & KOBE... \$70 3/4
NOTE:—The rate of Interest on Advance Bills has been reduced to 6 per cent. per annum.
Equivalent of Exchange demand London in Siam Currency:—
Tos. 13.08.—(Bank Rate)

The Song of the Long-Point.

(BY SAX ROHMER).

In a long, low, wooden shack, at trestle tables ranged parallel with the walls, sat groups of khaki-clad figures. The units composing them oddly lack individuality. Each is a typical Tommy, but whereas some are in slacks others shine resplendent in gleaming brass and the glory of neat puttees.

The place is inadequately lighted, and foggy with tobacco smoke. The fare is canned goods, bread, margarine, chocolate and draught beer. Nevertheless the air is laden with genial good fellowship; not a worry, not a ghost of a regret or a doubt finds place there. These, surely, are careless fellows, hardened by years of privation and injured to the worst that the world has to offer; these must be the hard cases of whom Kipling writes, for no man of refinement, possessing artistic tastes, or a critical palate, could tolerate such an environment.

On to the rickety platform supporting a cheap piano mounts a Tommy, cigarette in mouth, glass of beer in hand. We anticipate ragtime, badly played and maudlin ballads to a left-hand vamp. Placing his glass carefully upon the top of the instrument, the player strikes a few introductory chords. Conversation dies away from end to end of the long caisson. The pianist is joined by a dark-browed fiddler, who experiences some difficulty in adjusting his violin under his chin so as not to disturb his big, fuming briar.

A murmur runs from table to table—and dies away. There comes a silence almost complete. A glass tinkles, far up by the end counter.

"Sax! Sax!" Silence again. The pianist strikes up; the violinist draws his bow over the strings—and amazed, breathless, held in an emotional rapture, an eerie grip, swayed by the touch of a master interpreting a master, we forget the smoke-laden building, the litter of cans, and beer glasses, and dirty tables, and stand enthralled in a perfumed Eastern chamber. The tragedy of Samson and Delilah is enacted before us by virtue of the magic of Saint-Saens—of Saint Saens and the mysterious fiddler.

It is ended, all too soon. But what a cheering and clapping and stamping proclaims unmistakable the wishes of the audience.

Silence again. . . . and the world-famous "Humoresque" steals straight to our hearts, sets us longing for absent ones, quickens our sympathies—and, oddly, makes yet more adamant the adamant resolution which is the keynote of our strange company.

And they are a strange company, these men of the Cadet Battalion. I sometimes think it would materially help to end the war if a number of the enemy Higher Command could but spend an evening in this canteen. Not a worry, not a ghost of a regret or a doubt! Yet he who played with sardines' wives upon their hearts' strings was the first violin of the world's first orchestra and his accompanist a pianist of international repute.

Yonder, eating sardines, rolls and margarine, is an actor whom New York, no less than London, loves to honour: there are three associates of the Royal Academy present, with novelists, playwrights and journalists strewn about the place thickly as leaves in an autumn landscape. There are men who have made for themselves individual places in the world, who have checked their careers when ambition burns hot within them, and Fame fair, taunting and fickle seemed well within their grasp.

There is something very wonderful, very deep and elusive, in the soul of the British people. I would that I could bring the enemy rulers into contact with it. No written word can describe this strange quality; it must be felt, absorbed spiritually. It is something almost uncanny, a quiet, imperturbable confidence that a brief upon prescience.

The ease with which, after generations of peace, these men have shed their silken hose and fine raiment, endured the rough army garb, endured the coarse army fare and slept dreamlessly and contentedly, upon Mother Earth, 'neath the sometimes inadequate

The Sea Insurance Co., Limited.

At the forty-first Annual Ordinary Meeting of the shareholders, held at the offices of the Company in Liverpool, on January 30th, 1917, the Directors submitted to the Shareholders their Annual Report, together with Statement of Accounts made up to the 31st December, 1916, duly audited.

The Premiums received during the year, less Returns and Re-insurances, amount to £1,256,797 1s. 7d., the Claims settled on account of 1916 being £494,709 16s. 11d.

The Underwriting Account for 1915 has been closed by transferring £45,000 to Underwriting Suspense Account to meet unsettled claims, leaving after payment of Expenses, Income Tax, and making provision for Excess Profits Duty, a profit of £51,444, 6s. 10d. The first profit received during 1915 was £16,872 4s. 11d., making a total profit of £98,316 10s. 11d.

The Profit and Loss Account shows a credit balance of £180,513 8s. 5d. From this sum the Directors have written off £30,000 to provide for the depreciation in the market value of the Securities. An Interim Dividend of Eight Shillings per Share (subject to Income Tax), was paid on the 1st July last. The Directors now recommend the payment, on or after the 31st instant, of a further Dividend (subject to Income Tax), of Eight Shillings per Share, making a total Dividend for the year of Sixteen Shillings per Share. They also recommend the payment, on or after the 31st instant, of a Bonus of Four Shillings per Share (subject to Income Tax), making a present distribution of Twenty Shillings per Share, and a total distribution, for the year, of Twenty Shillings per Share; carrying forward to next account a balance of £108,013 8s. 5d.

The Directors are of opinion that future Dividend may be increased to Twenty Shillings per Share per annum (subject to Income Tax), payable in two equal instalments in July and January.

Allies' Spring Drive.

New York, Jan. 14.—Mr. Karl von Wiegand, who is now here, has left the New York "World" and entered Mr. Hearst's employment. His first article for the New York "American" which appears to-day, says:—

"Germany is preparing for the Armageddon when the Allies' spring drive begins. Every bone and sinew is being strained for preparation on a scale hitherto unapproached."

"A subterranean wall is being constructed along the whole front. The new lines in the west front are so far apart now that they are beyond the range of the heaviest guns. Some of the barbed-wire entanglements are 400 feet deep."

"The whole slogan of Germany is, 'Hold the west front.' It is expected that the Allies will be unsuccessful in their attack. Then the war will end."

shelter of a bell tent, speaks of the primitive savage still exultant, sovereign and strong within them all.

"The lights are turned low. A grim sergeant bangs his cane sharply upon the counter. It is 9.30. The canteen is about to close."

Some of the cadets are slow to move. The sergeant, in stentorian tones, roars:—
"Jump to it! Gin and ginger! balls of fire!"

A delighted yell greets the words. It is the stock-phrase of the bayonet-instructor: the song of the long-point.

None roars louder approbation than the master player, whose sweet melancholy on the concert platform has drawn many a tear from many a bright eye.

Here is a strange company of genial good-fellows; a company of artists and aesthetes. But deep down in their souls something that has lain dormant through many ages, something older than Music, older than Art, stronger than Ambition, stronger than Love, responds, wildly, barbarically, to the uncouth words of the sergeant. It sings within them glad to find voice after ages of repression. Silently, potently, it quivers from end to end of the shack—the song of the long-point.

THE RAINFALL.

Rainfall for the 4th week in February 2489

Locality.	Rainfall recorded during the week.	Rainfall of corresponding week of last year.	Total rainfall for present year to date.	Total rainfall for last year to corresponding date	Remarks.
	Millimetres.	Millimetres.	Millimetres.	Millimetres.	
Ministry of Agriculture	None	None	1141.1	1233.6	
Diaryaburi	...	...	977.5	1253.3	
Samudrakar	No report	...	...	1378.6	
Krung Kao	None	...	1217.8	1078.5	
Anglong	...	...	1541.8	1450.8	
Loburi	...	...	1508.6	1969.0	
Jainart	...	...	1414.6	1272.2	
Udaibani	...	...	1475.1	1466.5	
Bienloke	...	...	1809.1	1471.4	
Xhaxerngao	...	...	1257.8	1213.1	
Prachin	...	...	1463.7	1580.4	
Nagor Pathom	No report	...	...	1564.3	
Rajburi	None	...	1237.8	1256.0	
Xiaaraburi	...	...	1774.9	1722.4	
Bejngmai	...	...	1401.6	863.9	
Singora	18.9	...	1602.4	2190.0	

Wanted.

TIMBER CLERK wanted by European Saw Mill. Must be used to Timber Calculations. Chinese preferred.

Apply to—
"R"

c/o SIAM OBSERVER.
8-10

BRITISH RED CROSS FÊTE.

Frankfield, Sathorn Road
Saturday, 10th. March, 7 p.m.
onwards.

Entrance 1 Tical, payable in cash
at the gate. Children free.
No vehicles admitted.

Principal Attractions.
Military Band.

Cinematograph provided by the
British Chinese Patriotic Assn. Siamese
Lakhoon provided by the Phathanakorn
Cinematograph.

Raffles.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR.
Coconut Shy Hall of Chance
Aunt Sally Freak Show
Tug of War Kicking the Goal
Mystery Mirrors
Bran Tub Dancing
&c., &c., &c.

Sale of Queen Alexandra's
Red Cross Flag
9-30 to 10 o'clock
at Mr. Dering's Auction Stall.

Sales at attractive stalls
throughout the evening.
Siamese, Chinese and European
Drinks and Light Refreshments.
(LOTTERIES AND BARS
LICENSED.)

8-12

**Notice.**

Application for license to sell
spirituous liquors in Mondol
Krungdhep, in the
Year B.E. 2460.

Persons desiring to carry on the sale
of spirituous liquors in Mondol Krung-
dhep during the year 2460 must send in
their applications to the Department of
the Inspector General of Finance and
Registry of Revenue Farms and Li-
cense Departments, Wat Muang Khae
Lane, Bangkok.

Persons who already hold licenses
for the present year should send the
same attached to their applications to
the above departments within the 15th.
March B.E. 2459. The Licensing offi-
cers will not undertake to issue licenses
in time for use on the 1st. April 2460
to any persons, being previous license
holders, who fail to make their ap-
plications with license attached within
the time above mentioned.

Dated 10th. February 1917.
Department of the Inspector-General of
Finance and Registry of Revenue
Farms and License Department.
F. 10-13 & M. 8-15.

**Notice.**

Landed Property will be offered for
sale at the Department of the Inspector-
General of Finance, Wat Muang
Khæ Lane, Bangkok, on the 24th,
26th., and 27th. March 1917 at 11
o'clock each day in lots as follows:—

On the 24th. March.

- (1) Land and buildings at Trok Ban
Phan, near Wat Rangsi.
- (2) Land at Phra Khanong.

On the 26th. March.

- (1) Land at Klong Ban Khamin.
- (2) Garden land at Klong Phasi
Charoen.
- (3) Garden land at Bang Kru.
- (4) Paddy field at Paknam.

On the 27th. March.

- (1) Three plots of paddy field on
Klong No. 23 at Nakornayok.
- (2) Paddy field on the east bank of
Klong No. 16 at Chacheingsao.
- (3) Paddy field on the west bank of
the same Klong.

Full particulars can be obtained from
the above mentioned Department.

7-14. 19-27.

Siam Observer
Special War Edition
Subscription Tcs 4 per month.

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

Milners' Safes

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several sizes in Stock.

Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd.

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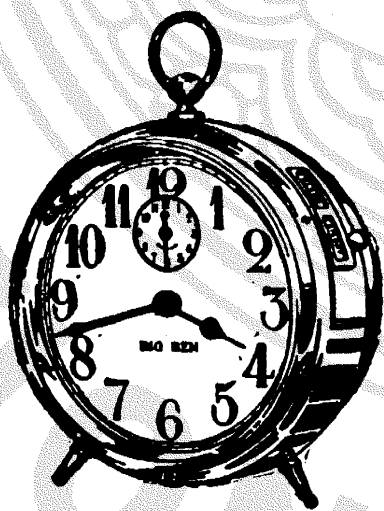
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Dried Cod
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Bloaters
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Pheasants
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French Ham "
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CHEESE
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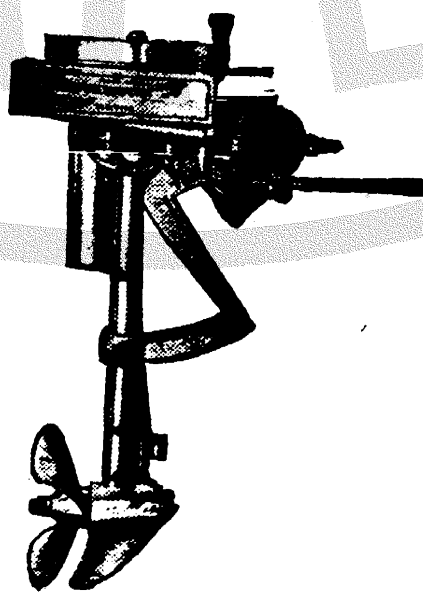
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DETACHABLE MOTOR Challenges Com-
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past the winning post at the recent Bangsue Motor Boat Races
in all events.

BARROW, BROWN & Co.

**The Siam Observer**

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1917.

THE GOLD MARKET OF THE WORLD.

To the banker and the holder of bank shares banking may possibly be nothing more than a dividend-making business, but from the public standpoint it is a necessary part of the great national economic machinery for the production, exchange and distribution of wealth. In 1907 occurred in the United States a great money crisis, which wrought havoc in industrial, commercial and financial circles. This crisis, which it is now known was deliberately engineered by a clique of Wall Street gamblers, reacted on all the money markets of the world, particularly that of London, on which, by its position as being the only monetary city prepared to produce gold on demand, has invariably been thrown the business of managing the exchanges of the world during commercial crises. Gold was shipped from Europe to New York in large quantities—estimated at some twenty-five millions sterling—and most of this went from London. As such an amount would have dangerously depleted the reserves of the Bank of England, the bulk of it had to be drawn from abroad by the usual method of raising the Bank Rate. It was a very remarkable demonstration of London's complete control over the world's exchanges, since four-fifths of the amount shipped to the United States represented foreign contributions. It is quite true that, as the late Lord Avebury put it, the London banks "weathered the financial storm with ease," but the bank rate was raised to seven per cent., at which figure it was kept for nearly three months, and although this enabled the banks to "weather the storm" by acquiring gold from abroad, incidentally it ruined hundreds of British merchants and producers, and played havoc with British trade generally. As an advance of one per cent. in the bank rate is said to cost British borrowers £100,000 per week, this twisting of the monetary screw to force other nations to contribute their share to the common necessity served also to extract from the British producers some £5,000,000 in the shape of increased interest charges, to enable the bankers of London to save the American banks from the result of the machinations of a gang of unscrupulous Wall Street gamblers.

London has hitherto been a free gold market, and the fear that she may cease to be the monetary centre of the world is the bankers' bogey of the present day. The War is having an enormous effect on this matter of the gold market, as on almost everything else. The great feature is the vast store of gold which has been accumulated by the United States. We are told that the Government vaults in New York are so full of gold that some of it must be transferred to other parts of the country before any more can be received there. The last straw appears to have been the \$25,000,000 paid over by the house of Morgan on account of the Entente Powers. The overflow of gold bars from the Assay Office is said, on reliable authority, to have been so heavy that gold now being taken into the Sub-Treasury is being stored in tiers along subterranean corridors. Besides the millions held by the Sub-Treasury, the Assay Office has under seal \$600,000,000, only one-sixth of which is in its own vaults, and Mr. Vogel, the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S. Government, is investigating plans for having the surplus gold sent either to Washington, Philadelphia, Chicago or Denver.

Whether the result will be that New York will take the place held up to now by London as the world's financial centre we do not presume to prophesy. But we are very sure that the world in general views the possibility with much concern. The system of cheap credit furnished in London offered advantages which foreign financiers were quick to detect, and the rapid expansion of the trade of certain European countries could never have been achieved but for the facilities afforded by the free gold market of London. The methods of American finance and the mode of thought of

American financial magnates, though no doubt equally sound, do not always coincide with those of British bankers, and it is quite possible that New York would prove less lenient and less amenable to borrowers than London has in the past been.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

"R" c/o this paper wants a timber clerk.

THE attractions at the forthcoming British Red Cross Fete will be numerous. Full details will be found in our advertisement columns.

THE S.S. *Kuala* will leave from the Borneo Company's wharf at 4 a.m. sharp, on Saturday the 10th inst., and should arrive in Singapore on Tuesday morning.

NEW ads.—The Siam Forest Co., Ltd. have a notice to consignees of goods ex *City of Vienna*. The programme at the Phathanakorn to-morrow will include "The Somma Battle" and "Britain Prepared." The Oriental Store stock mineral waters of the best quality.

WE have been favoured with particulars of a new publication by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., the "Encyclopaedia Sinica," to be issued in the early summer of this year. This work, which is edited by Mr. Samuel Couling, M.A., late Hon. Secretary of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, is the first attempt made to cover in a book of reference all Chinese matters useful to the student of things Chinese and to all Europeans resident in the East.

The Samudasar.

We have received a copy of the 27th number of the "Samudasar," the Navy League's Journal from H. E. Phya Buri Navarath. "Ramachitti" contributes a translation of an article on the evolution of the modern gun from the December issue of "Land and Water." Other contributions include an article on the work carried out in the British factories, etc., in connection with the British Navy, the use of the telephone among the armies in the field, a translation of an interesting story by Rolf Bennett, with sketches from the pen of Mr. F. Harrop, also several verses bearing on Naval matters. The journal contains as usual a good deal of illustrations.

Cricket Season 1916-1917.

In the eleven matches that were played sixty-one members of the Royal Bangkok Sports Club took part. Mr. T. Judge, the Hon. Secretary of the Cricket Section, sends us the following averages:—

Batting.	Runs	Completed Innings	Highest Score	Average
H. Chester Walsh	342	9	155	38
W. Warner Shand	180	5	96	36
P. Christmas	270	10	89	27
H. G. Dering	98	5	25	19.6
G. A. C. Preston	191	10	66	19.1
Arnold Jones	132	7	40	18.86
R. B. R. Mair	75	5	21	14.8
A. J. Halle	127	9	38	14.11
L. W. Horne	127	10	43	12.7
Norman Maxwell	110	9	29	12.22
D. B. Robertson	93	9	20	10.33
T. H. Pollard	61	6	22	10.17
W. S. Chapman	71	8	21	8.88
H. E. Jones	85	10	27	8.5
M. T. Cooke-Collis	36	5	14	7.2
W. M. Cochrane	37	6	28	6.17
B. B. H. Gibbins	26	5	13	5.2
T. Judge	23	7	8	4

* signifies "not out"

Bowling.

Bowling.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs	Wickets.	Average.
H. Chester Walsh	29.5	6	100	20	5
W. M. Cochrane	46.5	0	165	19	8.68
G. A. C. Preston	40.5	3	167	19	8.79
D. B. Robertson	67.2	7	253	27	9.37
P. Christmas	111.5	12	360	33	10.88
L. W. Horne	125	8	430	43	10.97
R. B. R. Mair	38	1	144	13	11.38

"Tank" From Malaya.

It is officially announced that the Hon. Mr. En Tong Sen has offered to present a "Tank" to the British Imperial Government. The offer has been accepted.

Germany's War Prisoners.

Amsterdam, February 22.—Herr Graeber informed a Reichstag Committee that 750,000 prisoners of war were employed as farm labourers. Their number would be increased from the garrison of occupied territories and there would be employed on farms.

THE Great War.

Germans Yielding to British Pressure.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)
Singapore, March 7.

Marshal Haig attacked and captured the enemy's front and support lines eastward of Bouchemme on a frontage of twelve hundred yards, and took 173 prisoners. Several counter-attacks were heavily repulsed. The enemy continues to yield ground eastward of Gommencourt, where we advanced for a depth of twelve hundred yards on a frontage of two miles. The total of prisoners for the day was 190.

British Blockade Effective.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)
Singapore, March 7.

Lord Robert Cecil, speaking in the House of Commons, said there was every reason to believe that the British blockade had led to a serious shortage of food-stuffs and important materials in Germany, as no substantial overseas imports passed through either Scandinavia or Holland.

The German-Mexican Intrigue.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)
Singapore, March 7.

The German promise to Mexico signed by Zimmermann has aroused the greatest indignation in America. Mr. Lansing said he was confident that Mexico was not a party to it. A Japanese official statement scents the idea of entertaining such a proposal, and refers to the growing friendship between Japan and America.

Declaration by American President.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Washington.—The session of the Senate was brought to a close automatically yesterday, without passing the measures asked for by President Wilson, owing to obstructions of opponents. All the Senators except twelve signed a manifesto approving the President's demands and denouncing the obstruction. President Wilson has published a declaration informing the nation that he had asked for an extraordinary session of the Senate for the purpose of revising the laws concerning obstruction, and to authorise the taking of measures to save the country from disaster.

The Western Front.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 7.
We defeated all attempts of the enemy to regain conquered territory. We effected surprise attacks at Lasigny and in the Hammertzwiler sector, and took prisoners.

The British took by storm the enemy's first lines and the supporting line east of Bouchemme on a frontage of a thousand metres, and made 173 prisoners.

Austrian Defence of Submarine Warfare.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Vienna.—Replying to the United States threat to declare war on account of the blockade, the Austrian Government declares that submarine warfare is a necessity in order to hasten the end of hostilities, and, while giving an assurance that human life will be respected as far as possible, claims the right to practise submarine warfare.

Plot to Assassinate President Wilson.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 7.
New York.—A German named Kolb has been arrested at Hoboken. He was carrying bombs which were avowedly intended to be used against President Wilson.

Contempt of Court.

Yesterday at the Borispah Court a Siamese lawyer named Nai Chua was charged with contempt of Court in that he did insult a Judge of the Court. It appears that Nai Chua filed a motion in a case in which he was engaged praying that the case be not heard before a Judge named Nai Nim as he had a personal grievance with the Judge. It would appear that after filing the motion Nai Chua made some offensive allusions regarding the Judge, but not in open Court. At the hearing he denied making any such allusions, but on the evidence of some of the Court officials Nai Chua was convicted and sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 200 ticals.

Recapture of Kut.

London, Feb. 27.—In the House of Lords, Lord Curzon read a telegram from General Maude stating that on the morning of Feb. 27 cavalry and infantry moved westwards in pursuit of the retreating enemy. A strong Turkish rearguard supported by artillery occupied a trench position fifteen miles west and northwest of Kut, evidently covering the withdrawal from Bagdalah. After intense bombardment our infantry assaulted the enemy's position and obtained a footing therein, while our cavalry operated round the Turkish northern flank. At least sixty prisoners and numerous flocks and much equipment and stores were captured.

Our aeroplanes bombed a steamer towing a Turkish pontoon bridge upstream, with the result that the tow slipped and the pontoons floated downstream. Lord Curzon added that it is evident the scene of operations has shifted considerably upstream beyond Kut, and the success announced yesterday has been followed up. He believed several thousand prisoners had been taken and it was clear that the slur on our arms, if such a phrase was applicable, caused by the events of last year had now been entirely wiped out.

London, Feb. 28.—Mesopotamia official. A close pursuit of the enemy was steadily maintained on Monday, our advanced troops engaging the enemy in the afternoon from three sides at a point on the left bank of the Tigris, over thirty miles westnorthwest of Kut. The enemy abandoned quantities of arms and equipment and threw four howitzers into the river. We recaptured the gunboat Firefly lost in the retreat from Ctesiphon and also captured a Turkish ship and destroyed another. We took prisoner on Sunday 300 and on Monday 161.

Mr. Caudier with the Mesopotamia force describing the crossing of the Tigris on Feb. 23, says it was carried out at three different points. The leading boat of the regiment crossing at the highest point got within a few yards of the north bank before it was observed by the enemy picquets. It was sharply fusilladed for a few minutes but the fire was quickly overcome and nearly stopped within an hour. The enemy artillery was busy, but with little effect. Two Gurkha regiments further downstream were grenaded as they landed, and a bombing match ensued between the boat and the bank. Notwithstanding this intense artillery fire, the troops joined up with the British, who landed a mile away.

The combined force advances sweeping the enemy ahead. A bridge over the stream 310 yards broad with a current of five knots was completed within eight hours. The surrendered Turks admit they thought the bridging was impossible.

Paris, Feb. 28.—M. Poincare has telegraphed to King George congratulating him on the splendid British successes in France and at Kut el Amara.

London, March 1.—In the House of Commons Mr. Forster announced: General Maude has stated that the remnant of the Turks were completely shattered and would only reach Bagdad as a disorderly mob. Over 2,500 have been taken prisoner since Feb. 24, and 5,000 since the commencement of the offensive. From Dec. 17 the total number of Turks killed and wounded was estimated at over 21,000.

He paid a high tribute to the dash and the endurance of the troops and to the skill of General Maude.

London, Feb. 27.—In the House of Lords, Lord Curzon paid a tribute to General Maude's brilliant and successful feat of arms.

Earl Crewe said General Maude's command was stamped with the vital qualities of prudence and vigour.

Military Age

A message from London states that the Government has decided to revise all exemptions granted to men under 31, and if this is insufficient to provide the necessary number of men fit for active service the military age may be raised to 50.

Australian Women and Children.

Melbourne, February 21.—Women and children are prohibited from travelling to Europe in any circumstances.

Revelations in U. S.

New York, March 1.—The Washington correspondent of the Associated Press reveals that Germany in planning her unrestricted submarine warfare promised Mexico financial support to reconquer Texas, New Mexico and Arizona and to share in the prizes of German victory if Mexico declared war on the United States in the event of the latter not remaining neutral. Japan, through Mexican mediation, was to be urged to abandon the Allies and to attack the United States.

Germany's promise to Mexico contained in a document now published textually January 19 and signed by Herr Zimmermann, was actually sent through Count Bernstorff and it was in President Wilson's hands when he broke off relations, a fact which is considered a sufficient answer to the Chancellor's complaint regarding American brusqueness thereon. The document is regarded as a climax to the German Embassy's machinations, the extent of which, if fully realised, would create immense public indignation. Herr Zimmermann's proposal regarding Japan is especially interesting, in view of the belief of the chiefs of the American army that if Japan ever invaded the United States it would be through Mexico into the Mississippi Valley in order to split the country in twain. The revelations will undoubtedly have a profound effect on the country and Congress.

Washington, Mar. 1.—Mr. Lansing referring to Herr Zimmermann's note to Mexico authorized the statement: "We do not believe that Japan had any knowledge of this, or that she would consider any enemy propositions."

Various Diplomatics.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate has agreed to the bill empowering the President to arm American merchantmen defensively fore and aft, and has granted forty millions sterling for that purpose. The Bill has also empowered the President to use "other instrumentalities."

Washington, March 1.—In the House of Representatives the Committee has amended the Bill mentioned on Feb. 28 omitting the words "other instrumentalities," and prohibiting Government war insurance of munition ships, hence a conference of both houses will possibly be necessary before final passing a draft Bill.

Petrograd, Feb. 28.—The Duma has re-assembled. A few small street demonstrations were dispersed.

London, Feb. 26.—In the House of Commons in reply to Mr. A. A. Pensonby, Mr. Balfour stated that the Anglo-Russian convention of 1907 was still in force and no contingent arrangement to modify its character would in any way affect the integrity or independence of Persia.

Cairo, Feb. 26.—The Maharajah of Bikanir arrived here and was met by representatives of the Sultan and High Commissioner. The Maharajah visited the latter and afterwards proceeded to Assuan, the Sultan placing two luxurious steamers at his disposal.

Activity on Western Front.

London, January 28.—The Matin's correspondent at the British front states that German officers taken prisoners in a recent raid declared the Germans never discharged asphyxiating gas without the special authorisation of the Kaiser, who is anxious to reduce to a minimum the war's cruelties. German generals deplored the Kaiser's mildness, alleging that the Entente's troops began the practice.

Military critics consider that the German attack on the left bank of the Meuse portends not a great offensive, but an attempt to hamper the preparations for a French attack, which the Germans fear.

Lord Sverdrup, in an article in the Sunday Times, states that the Germans are concentrating in Alsace and they are possibly contemplating an attempt of the Verdun type against the defences south of Belfort, but the more likely explanation is that the concentration has been dictated by a fear of the Allies taking the offensive.

Mr. Philip Gibbs, in a message to the Daily Chronicle states: The hardest frost of the war is being experienced in France and Flanders. The mud and quagmires in which the men were floundering for months are frozen hard, with great chunks of ice in the shell craters. The cold is so intense that it is freezing the radiators of the motor cars and staff officers are constantly held up on lonely roads remote from telephones, their cars having side-slipped in snowdrifts. For once the marching men had the laugh on the motorists.

While exalted staff officers, wrapped up like mummies, were as chilled as frozen mutton, the marching battalions were jolly in their shaggy coats. The men suffering from a touch of trench fever held on to their posts until they were sent back. The doctors are loud in their praise of the stout-hearted fellows. There has been an absence of malingering, and, despite the hard weather, the health of the armies is amazingly good, while the men are as hard as steel.

Grand Raffle.

in aid of the British Red Cross Fund.

FIRST PRIZE:—6 cylinder Buick Motor Car (new).
OTHER PRIZES include Ixion Motor Cycle, Evinrude Motor, Gold and Silver Cigarette Boxes and Cans, Singer Sewing Machine, Lawn Mower, Bicycles, Cigarettes, Benzine etc., etc.

Ticket 10 Each.

may be obtained from the following:—Baguley & Tooth, Kam Hoa Heng & Co., Ltd., Harry A. Badman & Co., British Dispensary, D. Comper-Johnston & Co., Buan Soon Lee & Co., and Tilleke & Gibbins up to and including Friday the 9th instant and on Saturday the 10th instant up to 10 p.m. at the Red Cross Raffle ground, Poh Yome Road, where the Raffle will be drawn at 10.30 p.m. sharp.

7-3-17.

8-10

Notice.

CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:—

Ex s/s "Nellore"
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and "Balances" ex s.s. "Kago Maru", "Euryphus", "Agamemnon", "Ping Suey", "Hyson", "Pelous", "Oanfa", "Telamon", "Kioto", "City of Madras" and "Teucer".
are hereby notified that same have arrived per s.s. "Kuala", on 7th inst., and will be landed and stored at our Wharf, at the risk, expense and responsibility of consignees.

No Claim will be entertained unless made within 10 days after final discharge of cargo will be liable for go-down rent.

Goods not cleared within 3 days after final discharge of cargo will be liable for go-down rent.

BORNEO CO., LIMITED.

Agents.

Notice.

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Ex s.s. "City of Vienna" from New York are hereby notified that same arrived per s.s. "Kuala" on the 7th inst., and will be landed and stored at Messrs. The Borneo Co. Ltd.'s Wharf at the risk and responsibility of consignees.

No Claim will be entertained unless made within 10 days after final discharge of the steamer.

Goods not cleared within 3 days after final discharge of cargo will be liable for go-down rent.

Through Bills of Lading should be exchanged for Delivery Orders at our Bush Lane Office.

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THE AMERICAN AND MANCHURIAN LINE.

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and Rare Plants.

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Grand consignment of various valuable rare Orchids from Borneo, Philippines, India, New Guinea and Java just arrived.

Inspection cordially invited.

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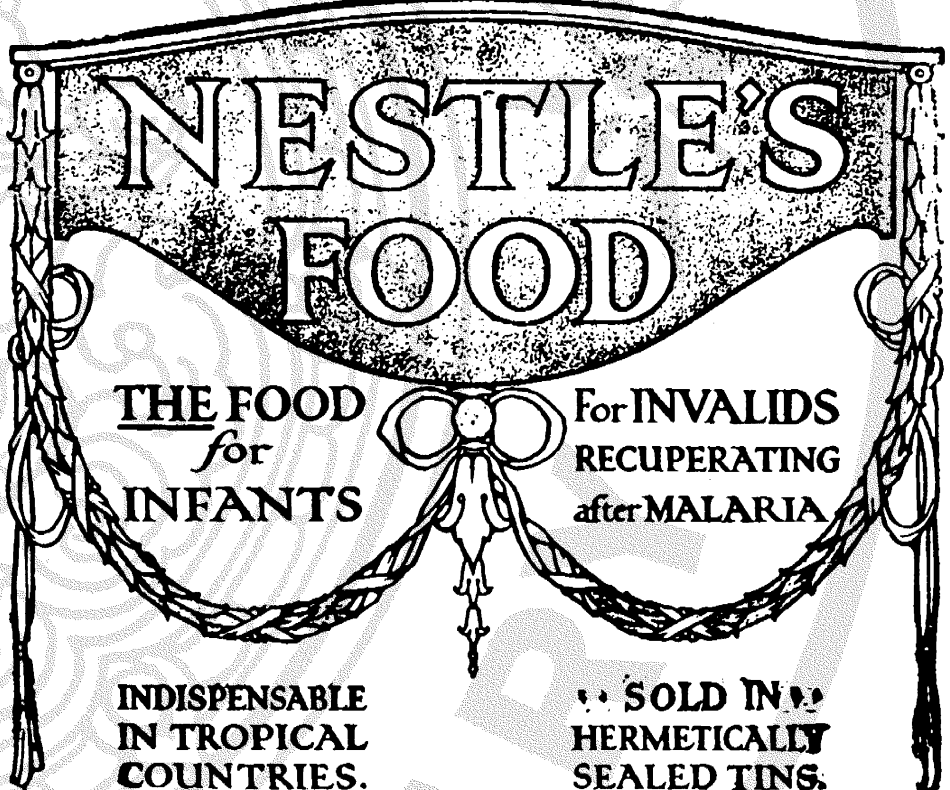
DANIEL NEWBROWNER,

Representative

c/o Oriental Hotel,

Bangkok.

7-14



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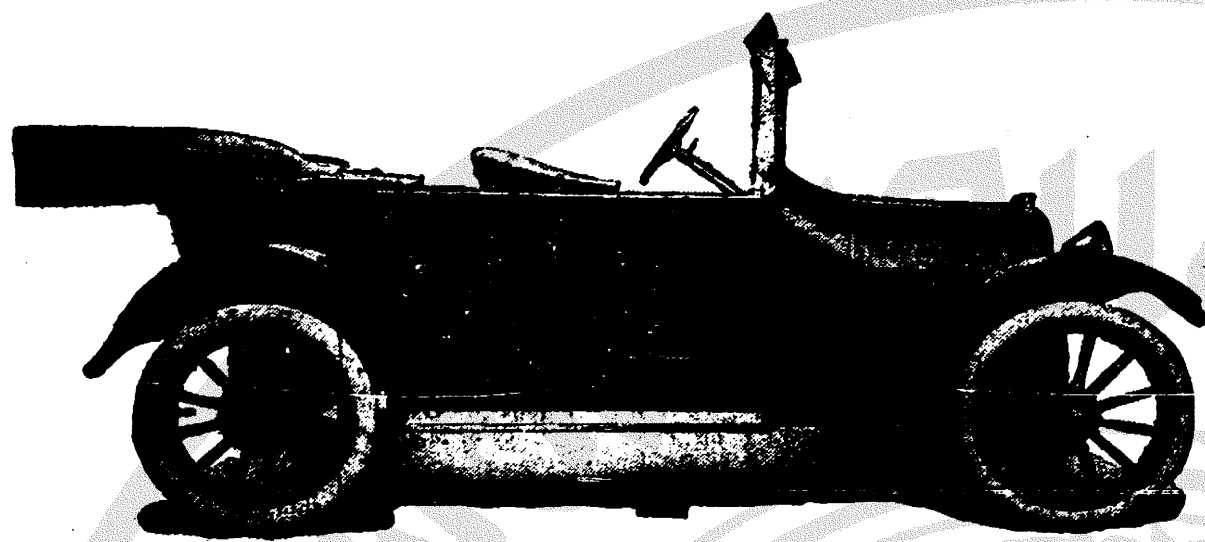
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Electric Lights and Electric Starter.

Cheap price. Low running expenses.

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Sikak Phya Sri-City.

The Ancre Battle.

Two Great Fights.

Paris, Feb. 27.—It is pointed out that the British advance on the Ancre endangers the important German supply line from Achiet le petit to Arras.

London, March 1.—Wireless German Official. We voluntarily evacuated our foremost positions on both banks of the Ancre and took up another defensive line. The enemy remained in ignorance of our movements and our rear-guards compelled the enemy to fight for possession of the destroyed country. Retreating before superior attackers our weak detachments inflicted sanguinary losses. British attacks on Le Transloy and Sailly failed with the exception of two narrow positions captured.

London, March 2.—Reuter's correspondent at headquarters around Ligny says that we are now upon ground which is actually higher than Bapaume, so it is only a question of advancing guns to dominate and render it untenable. The enemy has greatly damaged the main Albert road, maintaining steady artillery fire thereon thus making repair more difficult. He hints that the developments will be of the most dramatic nature if the weather holds.

Paris, March 1.—The Echo de Paris commends General Gough's prudence in throwing forward his cavalry and infantry and avoiding a possible trap.

The British Army.

London, March 1.—In the House of Commons Mr. Forster, introducing the army estimates, stated that for the last two or three months our operations on the west front were confined to minor attacks, wherein we inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, took prisoner over three thousand and gained ground of considerable importance. During the last few days, however, as a result of our continuous pressure on the Ancre front, the enemy retired on a front of twelve miles to a depth of two miles. We took possession of ten villages and several important positions to which the enemy had hitherto clung with the utmost determination.

The enemy hitherto had impressed upon his troops the necessity of defending their positions and fighting to the very end. In view of such instructions this withdrawal could not but have an unfavourable effect on enemy troops and the German people, when the latter knew it. Probably the enemy was retiring not merely as a defensive measure, but with the object of saving his strength for a great blow on one or other of the allied fronts. There was every indication that he would make a supreme effort to end the war in his favour in 1917,

which can only be met by a corresponding determination on the part of the British Empire and her Allies.

He stated that new flying schools were being established in Canada and Egypt and paid a tribute to the valuable services of a large number of Dominion air pilots. While he would not boast what we should do if there were more Zeppelin raids, we had profited fully by the experience. He mentioned that four thousand miles of railway had been constructed in all war theatres for the transport of big guns and supplies. Apart from malaria in German East Africa, the health of the troops was most satisfactory. Enteric had almost disappeared, cases of typhoid amongst British troops in France up to November were 4,571 compared with 60,000 with 8,227 deaths in the South African war. Cases among the un inoculated were fifteen times higher than amongst the inoculated, and the death ratio was seventy times higher.

London, March, 2.—Marshal Haig: We took prisoner in February 2133, including thirty six officers. The enemy continues to retreat. We advanced northward of Miraumont 600 yards on 11 mile front. We discharged gas southward of Souchez and made a raid. We also entered trenches north-eastward of Givenchy.

The enemy raided trenches near Ablaincourt and Rancourt and were ejected.

Wireless German official: A strong English attack eastward of Souchez failed.

Comments.

Paris, Feb. 27.—The newspapers pay a tribute to the perseverance and energy of the British in earning successes on the Ancre and in Mesopotamia, and have congratulated Britain very heartily on the fine revenge for the loss of Kut. Le Journal's correspondent, in a remarkable explanation of the British success on the Ancre, says it is due particularly to the terrific efficacy of the new gas-shells, which have caused the enemy astonishingly heavy losses.

London, Feb. 27.—The newspapers rejoice at the recapture of Kut and pay tributes to the skill of the British commanders and the heroism and endurance of the troops. They emphasise that it restores British prestige in Mesopotamia and will have far-reaching effects.

London, Feb. 28.—Reuter's correspondent at headquarters writing on Feb. 26 says the Germans are still retreating on the whole line between Gommecourt and Transloy. The British everywhere are in close contact. The weather cleared for a time to-day for the first time in ten days permitting aeroplanes to get photographs which should indicate the direction of the

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Famous Sparkling Herefordshire Cider is most refreshing and an ideal drink for the Tropics.

Guaranteed to be the pure juice of the apple only and is not artificially aerated.

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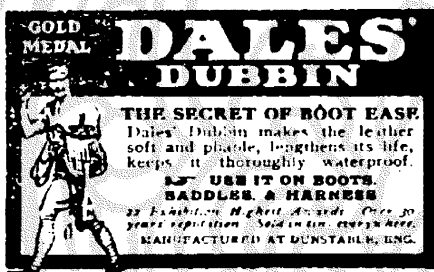
The Borneo Company, Ltd.

Bangkok.

As an instance of the British tactics to keep the Germans jumpy, the Australians near Armentières sweepingly rushed the third line and mowed down the fleeing Germans with Lewis guns. The Australians bombed dugouts and collected twenty prisoners. They counted a hundred German corpses, exclusive of those shot by the Lewis guns, altogether accounting probably for 250. The British line now runs north of Gommecourt, through Puisieux, Achiet le Petit, Irlès, Ligny to between Le Transloy and Les Boeufs.

London, March 1.—Wireless. Russian Official. We counter-attacked on the Jacobi-Kinipolung highroad unsuccessfully on the north but recaptured the southern position.

The Rumanians captured a height to the north of the Zaval river.



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		Tues. Thurs Sats.	daily	daily	daily	daily				daily	daily	daily	We. & Fris. Suns.	daily
		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	a.m.				a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.
Bangkok Noi ...	Dep.	7.30	8.25	1.20	2.10	Chumpon ...	Dep.							7.45
M. Nakon Patom ...	"	8.56	10.13	2.45	4.27	Prachuap Kirikan ...	Arr.							p.m.
Ban Pong ...	"	9.33	10.55	3.26	5.38	" ...	Dep.							2.26
Potaram ...	"	9.55	11.22	4.—	6.17	Pran Kao ...	"							2.41
Ratburi ...	Arr.	10.26	11.57	4.31	6.59	Wang Phong ...	Arr.							4.55
" ...	Dep.	10.36	12.10	4.41		Hua Hin ...	Arr.							5.41
Petchaburi ...	Arr.	12.—	1.45	6.29		" ...	Dep.							
" ...	Dep.		p.m.			Petchaburi ...	Arr.							p.m.
Hua Hin ...	Arr.	1.12	2.17			Ratburi ...	Dep.							1.43
" ...	Dep.	1.59	4.47			" ...	Arr.							1.56
Wang Phong ...	Arr.	2.5	4.57			" ...	Arr.							3.18
" ...	Dep.	2.37	5.37			" ...	Dep.							
" ...	Dep.	2.48	5.42		6.25	Potaram ...	Dep.	6.5	9.22	1.30	3.28			
Pran Kao ...	Arr.	—	5.47		6.33	Ban Pong ...	"	6.59	9.56	2.6	4.1			
Prachuap Kirikan ...	Arr.	4.38			8.46	M. Nakon Patom ...	"	7.43	10.19	2.43	4.25			
" ...	Dep.				8.56	" ...	Dep.	9.2	11.—	3.17	5.6			
Chumpon ...	Arr.				p.m.	Changkong Noi ...	Arr.	11.12	12.23	4.53	6.28			
					3.58									
Chumpon-Tung Song on Tuesdays, Thurs. & Sats.		a.m.				Tung Song-Chumpon on Mondays, Weds and Fri.		a.m.						
Chumpon	Dep.	6.45				Tung Song	Dep.	6.45						a.m.
Langsuen	Arr.	9.18				Surashtra Dhanai	Arr.	11.37						8.20
"	Dep.	9.28				"	Dep.	12.2						11.32
Surashtra Dhanai	Arr.	1.4				Langsuen	Arr.	3.37						
"	Dep.	1.29				"	Dep.	3.47						
Tung Song	Arr.	6.23				Chumpon	Arr.	6.19						
Tung Song-Nakon Sritthamaraj daily except Monday		a.m.	p.m.			Nakon Sritthamaraj-Tung Song daily except Monday		a.m.	p.m.					
Tung Song	Dep.	6.30				N. Sritthamaraj	Dep.	11.—		8.—				
N. Junction	"	7.37	1.20			"	Dep.	12.12		4.18				
N. Sritthamaraj						Tung Song	Arr.	—		5.20				
	Arr.	8.50	9.39											
						Tung Song-Trang daily		p.m.						
						Tung Song	Dep.	2.20						
						Trang	Arr.	5.30						
						Trang-Tung Song daily								

A Loss to European Diplomacy.

A striking personality has disappeared from the diplomatic world with the decease of Count Benckendorff, the Russian Ambassador to the Court of St. James's since 1903, when he succeeded M. Stal. Alexandre, Count Benckendorff, belonged to a very well-known family of the Baltic Provinces, and was the son of Constantin, Count Benckendorff, and Louise de Princesse of Croy-Dolmen. Unlike most Russians, the Ambassador was a Roman Catholic, and the requiem-mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated at Westminster Cathedral. Born in 1839, he was educated partly in France and partly in Germany, and entered the diplomatic service in 1862. He was Attaché at Rome and Vienna, and, after a period of inaction, rejoined the service as First Secretary at Vienna in 1886. From 1897 to 1908 he was Minister at Copenhagen, and left the Danish capital for the Embassy in London in the last-mentioned year. In 1879 he married Countess Sophie Shvaloff, who worthily did the honours as hostess at the ambassadorial mansion in Chesham Place. The couple had two sons and a daughter. One son, Count Peter, fell fighting in June of last year. The other son, Count Constantin, as will be remembered, narrowly escaped being drowned in an attempt to rescue Sir Denis Anson and Mr. William Mitchell on the occasion of the Thames launch fatality in July, 1914. The daughter, Countess Natalie, married in 1911 the Hon. Jasper Ridley, second son of the first Viscount Ridley.

Count Benckendorff had a remarkable charm of manner, and was noted for his great tactfulness, a quality highly desirable in an Ambassador. Indeed, in presence and demeanour he was just such an ambassador as the popular novelist loves to describe, or as we see him presented on the stage. But he was far more than this. Throughout his term of office in London he consistently laboured to promote a cordial understanding between his own country and England, with the result that the relations between the Russian Embassy and the British Foreign Office were of the friendliest character. It was due to him, probably more than to any other individual, that the two countries drew closer together, rendering possible the Agreement of 1907 and the subsequent close co-operation with Russia which eventually ripened into a military alliance. His signature was also on the Pact of

London, whereby England, France and Russia bound themselves not to conclude a separate peace. The Anglo-Russian Agreement of 1907 settled the question of the respective spheres of influence of the two countries in Persia, and, following on the Anglo-French Agreement of 1904, resulted in the Triple Entente. There was no field in which Count Benckendorff did not seek to render the rapprochement between England and Russia closer and more effective, and there was no serious movement having this laudable object in view with which he did not associate himself. In particular he displayed a keen interest in the efforts made since the outbreak of the European War to increase facilities in England for the acquirement of the Russian language, a widespread acquaintance with which will be all-

important if a close and sympathetic intercourse between the two nations is to be established and satisfactorily maintained. He witnessed and was instrumental in the foundation of Chairs of Russian in a number of British Universities. He displayed equal interest also in the cementing of Anglo-Russian trade relations, and one of his last public appearances was when he presided at the luncheon at the Savoy Hotel which inaugurated the formation of the Russo-British Chamber of Commerce. A man of keen intelligence, high attainments and abounding kindness, Count Benckendorff leaves behind him a vacant place which it will not be easy to fill so adequately as he filled it.

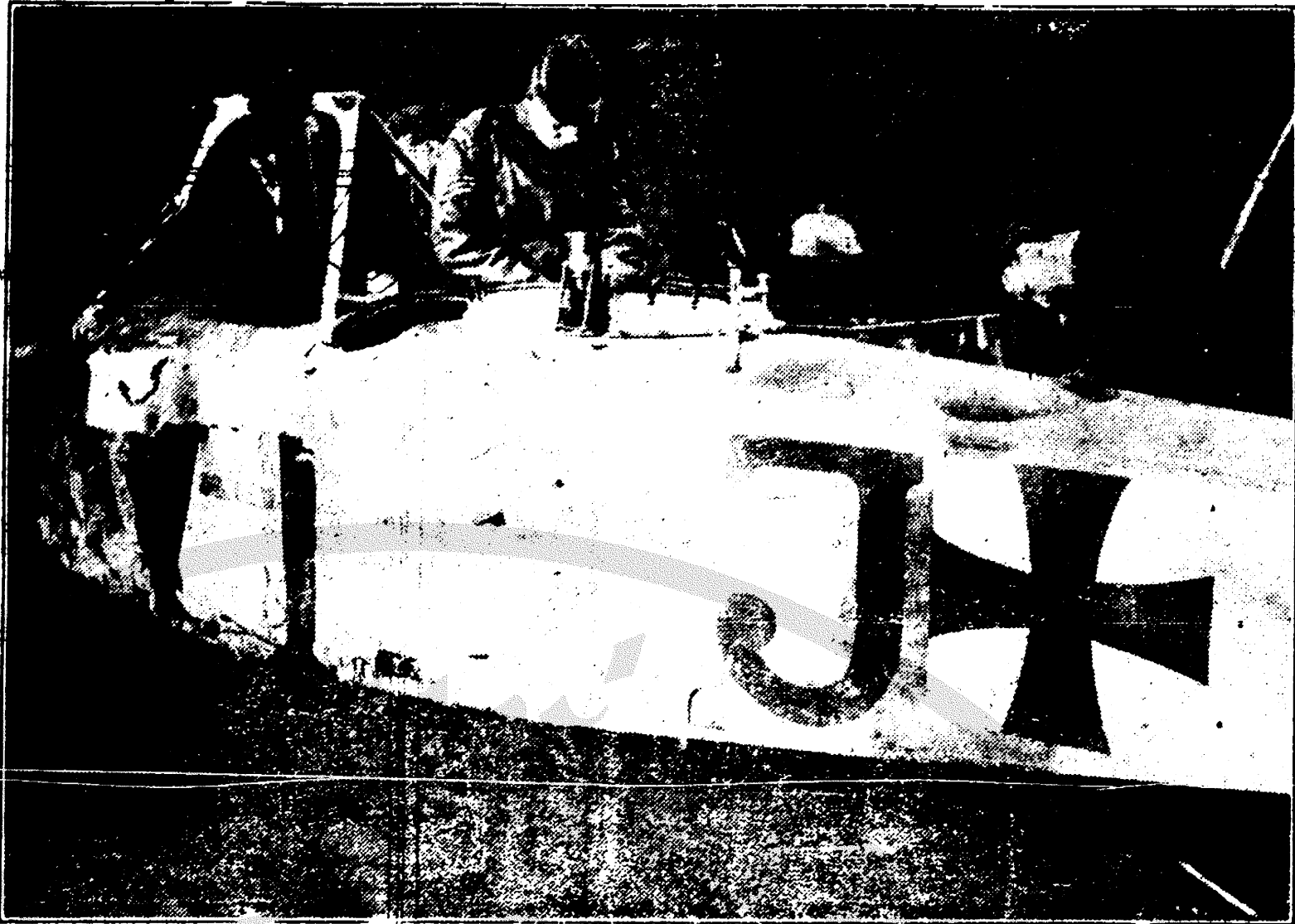
The Italian Campaign.

Rome, Jan. 24.—Austrian prisoners captured in the Alpine regions state that the great activity that Austria has displayed in the Trentino is of an entirely defensive character. General Corsi, in an exhaustive review of the military situation, firmly believes that there is little probability of an Austrian offensive in the Trentino. There is only a single railway in the Tryol and it is quite inadequate to supply a big army. The Austrian offensive in 1916 failed owing to insufficient railways. Austria will require at least a million men to reach the Italian plains and even then Italy will successfully oppose them.

London, Feb. 28.—In the House of Commons Mr. Hope, stating the objections to the wholesale exchange of Anglo-German civilian prisoners, said many of the German prisoners were reservists quite fit for military service, while nearly all were fit for national service in Germany. He emphasised that the only proposal for wholesale exchange acceptable to Germany was of 35,000 prisoners in the United Kingdom and the Dominions and Colonies against four thousand in Germany.

Pretoria, Feb. 26.—At the request of the War Office the Director of War Recruiting is raising 2,400 Cape coloured boys for service in France as transport drivers.

London, Feb. 28.—Silver is at 37½d. with Indian selling. The market is quiet.



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