## ALEXANDRIA BOURSE

No [illegible] in the market yesterday, the following were the officially quoted closing prices:-

Unified fall 1/4 £ to £93 and Lots Turns fell Str. to fr.231, while Agricultural Bank lost 1/32 to £6 13/16.

There was a drop of 1 fr. 1/2 in Banque d'Athènes which closed at fr. 90.

Credit Foncier bonds issues 1886, 1903 and 1911 were quoted at fr. 439, 318 and 283 1/2 respectively.

Comptoir Financier were firmer at £ 1.7/16 1/64, 5/64 rise and there was no change in Land Bank which were at £7 3/8; Cheikh Fadl were half a franc higher closing at fr. 105 1/2.

Union Foncière were unchanged at £3 7/16, Ordinary Electricity dropped 1/1 1/2d. to 93/6d. and Nungovich Hotels fall 1/32 closing at £7 27/32.

There was a three pence rise in Salt and Soda which finished at 53/10 1/2, while Cotton Ginners advanced 1/64 to £ 27/32 1/64.

Sidi Salem Estates were steady at £2 5/32, showing a drop of 1/32; Alexandria and Ramleh Railways Coy. were in request at £5 17/32, 1/32 rise, while New Egyptian Coy. dropped 1 1/2d. to 24/7 1/2d.

Deferred Egypt and Levant s.s. were offered at 136/- a shilling drop.

## EGYPTIAN ARMY.

The following officers cease to be attached to the Egyptian Army as Special Service officers and are taken on the strength thereof, with the rank of Bimbashi from to dates mentioned against their names:—

Bimbashi L.H.G. Andrews, Sudan Government 28. 6. 18.

Bimbashi S. Arnott, Medical Corps November 11, 1917.

Bimbashi P.H. Blackwood, D.S.O., Commandant Military School, Khartoum, December 29, 1915.

Bimbashi V.C. Brinel D.S.O., M.C., Department of Ordnance, October 4, 1918.

Bimbashi J. Esmonde-White, Artillery, February 24, 1918.

Bimbashi A.Grant, 13th Sudanese, June 25, 1916.

Bimbashi M.W. Huish, Artillery, August 14, 1917.

Bimbashi H.C.E. Jebb, D.A., Q.M.G., February 16, 1916.

Bimbashi J.K. Maurice, M.C., Staff Officer Western Transport Corps, July 20, 1916.

Bimbashi G.L. Owen, Artillery, June 1, 1917.

Bimbashi W.H.A.D. Sutton, Medical Corps, December 9, 1917.

## PURIM SERVICES FOR JEWISH TROOPS.

Divine Purim service will be held by the Rev. I. Frankenthal, Jewish Chaplain on Saturday, March 15, at 4 p.m. at the Synagogue, Sharia el Maghraby, Cairo. In the evening a concert will be given at Cercle Green, Kasr el Doubara, at 6.15 p.m.

A Purim concert will also be given at the school room, No.3 Nebi Daniel Street, Alexandria on Saturday evening March 15 a 6.15 p.m.

## COUNCIL OF DISCIPLINE.

The Special Council of Discipline in the Ministry of the Interior has confirmed the judgment of bimbashi Amenhotep, who built the colonnaded court of the Temple of Luxor and the great Avenue of Sphinxes connected therewith in the chapter relating to the Eighteenth Dynasty, wherein is found much of value concerning the relics of that period, and it is mentioned here (en passant) that some of the finest examples are in the Berlin Museum—a fact which will be doubly deplored by present-day readers. In the remaining chapter of considerable interest, the inquirer is taken through the period commencing at B.C. 1350 right up to A.D. 642. The matter continued in these last chapters is as enchanting as in any of their predecessors, and it is no exaggeration to say that Mrs. Quibell has achieved something quite out of the ordinary in the task she has set herself, for in an exhaustive pursuit of an almost inexhaustible subject she has gleaned the essentials, and put her information into continental channels, so that to the intelligent reader there is not a dull page in the little work. We heartily recommend it to all who visit the Museum, and even those who for any reason are unable to do so. Illustrations are given from time to time, some of which are unique and exceptionally descriptive.

The hand-book is published by the C.M.S. Bookshop, Cairo, at P.T. 25.

## THE GOOD SEND-OFF.

Commanding officers are being officially urged, says a London paper, do give demobilised men on leaving the Army a good send-off. Bands will play drafts away, unit commanders will deliver farewell addresses and a hot meal will be provided.

## FLYING FOR SUMMER VISITORS.

Nearly every town in the Isle of Wight has received offers from enterprising aeroplane and seaplane companies asking for facilities for the purpose of organising flying trips round the island coast, as attraction for visitors during the forthcoming season.

## EGYPTIAN HISTORY AND ART.

### NEW HANDBOOK TO CAIRO MUSEUM.

Mrs. A. A. Quibell, whose new publication entitled "Some Notes on Egyptian History and Art" has just appeared, is already very well-known to lovers of Egyptian antiquities, both as a lecturer and also as the author of very readable Egyptian antiquities, both as a lecturer and "Sakkara"—two little books which have found their way into many parts of the world ere this, owing to the great interest taken in their contents by the vast moving population of military sightseers who have visited these famous monuments with such enthusiasm during their stay in Cairo.

Remembering the popularity of the aforementioned books, it is not surprising to find an even greater fund of information in this latest production, which is a professION worth acquiring, since it is a veritable "Multum in Parvo" and can be carried in the pocket quite easily. The authoress, in her preface explains that in the course of long experience of visits to the Cairo Museum, she has been struck by the widely felt want of some Guide or Handbook which would give a short account of Egyptian Antiquities from the historical side. Even the most highly educated people have rarely made any previous study of ancient Egypt, and the bewilderment which is inevitably felt in the presence of masses of unfamiliar objects is apt to be increased rather than diminished by reading any of the so-called "popular accounts of them. In this little book an attempt is made to work entirely on the chronological method, and it is hoped that by illustrating each period by the monuments belonging to it, and by stating as far as possible the sort of evidence on which the historical narrative rests, that a solid foundation may be laid for intelligent sight-seers as well as for subsequent study.

The work is divided into thirteen chapters, each one brimful of knowledge, and attractively described are the thousand and one items of information called from authentic sources, and compiled so as to be equally palatable reading to layman and student alike. The first chapter deals with earliest Egypt, namely before B.C. 3500, the second is devoted to the early dynasties B.C. 3500—3000, with reference to the statues in the west gallery of the Museum downstairs, and many of the contents of the glass showcases upstairs. In chapter three we are introduced to the Old Empire—B.C. 3000—2500, in which occurs reference to the Pyramids, and in the second part of the chapter a discursive description of some of the chief happenings of the Fifth Dynasty, while part three reveals a great deal of most valuable information regarding the long Sixth Dynasty. Right through the book we are taken, step by step, along the First Dark Ages (B.C. 2500—2000); to the Middle Empire, the 12th Dynasty; into the mysterious period which lies between the Middle and the New Empire known as the Second Dark Ages. The Early Eighteenth Dynasty—the greatest epoch in the history of Egypt is succinctly revealed by the pen of the writer, whose lucidity is highly commendable in portraying so cleverly the distinguishing features of the dynastic, so that they remain in the memory as living histories, so different from the dry-as-dust stolid facts enumerated in paucity of language by many previous and not-so-happy writers of handbooks. Amenhotep, who built the colonnaded court of the Temple of Luxor and the great Avenue of Sphinxes connected therewith in the chapter relating to the Eighteenth Dynasty, wherein is found much of value concerning the relics of that period, and it is mentioned here (en passant) that some of the finest examples are in the Berlin Museum—a fact which will be doubly deplored by present-day readers. In the remaining chapter of considerable interest, the inquirer is taken through the period commencing at B.C. 1350 right up to A.D. 642. The matter continued in these last chapters is as enchanting as in any of their predecessors, and it is no exaggeration to say that Mrs. Quibell has achieved something quite out of the ordinary in the task she has set herself, for in an exhaustive pursuit of an almost inexhaustible subject she has gleaned the essentials, and put her information into continental channels, so that to the intelligent reader there is not a dull page in the little work. We heartily recommend it to all who visit the Museum, and even those who for any reason are unable to do so. Illustrations are given from time to time, some of which are unique and exceptionally descriptive.

The hand-book is published by the C.M.S. Bookshop, Cairo, at P.T. 25.

## 150,000 ARMENIANS FED BY ENGLAND.

Lord Curzon recently stated in the House of Lords that with regard to the Armenians and those unhappy bands who had been driven out of their country, who seemed destined to be the most fugitive races of mankind, there were at this moment in Syria and Palestine over 40,000, and in Silesia several thousands. All these were being cared for as far as possible. In Mesopotamia there were 40,000 refugees being fed at British expense, and in Transcaucasia there were about 45,000. In other words, there was a total of something like 150,000 of mankind, Armenians who were being kept from starvation by the efforts of Great Britain.

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## *THE NATIVE PRESS.*

### WISDOM AFTER THE EVENT.

The "Afkar" (from a leader commenting on the appeal addressed to the Egyptian community by the Egyptian Students, on the occasion of the recent demonstrations, advising the public to remain quiet).— This appeal proves how good Students are in regard to the demonstrations they have held, and shows that they fully appreciate circumstances. It also indicates their innocence of the aggressive acts which were done in the course of their pacific demonstration by the mob that followed them without knowing which way or towards what end they were going, the mob that does not entertain the same feelings and the same duty as those which moved the demonstrators.... Wishing to emphasise their words by deeds the students of the Higher Schools yesterday were inclined to give up street demonstrations having realised that it is impossible to prevent troublesome crowds from following them and disturbing public order. We are glad to see that the local press, both European and Arabic, absolve the students from responsibility in connection with the offending disorders which took place in the course of their demonstration, confessing that they are too innocent to do such mischievous and mean deeds. We sincerely hope that the members of the Egyptian community will assist the students in their duty by always maintaining the quietude which the delicate political position of Egypt requires, so that the pacific movement may not be misinterpreted.

### "MISR'S" WORK.

"Misr" (from a further account of the recent demonstrations in Cairo). — We have received the following letter from the Group of the Students of the Higher and Secondary Schools" expressing their feelings towards our attitude regarding their questions: "Misr" was the first newspaper to make an upright effort in these grave circumstances, to announce to the public the noble object of the students and their innocence of unworthy motive and of carrying out any act likely to disturb public order. It has filled columns with lengthy articles dealing with Egyptian nationality, which we still never forget, thus proving its true Egyptianism and noble principles. In the name of the Egyptian students, we thank "Misr" sincerely and express our appreciation of its efforts.

### BLAMING OTHERS.

The "Ahram" (an open letter from the students to foreigners in Cairo). — The following is an apology from the Egyptian students to their foreign brothers and countrymen, for the harm and trouble caused by the foolish conduct of the low class people on the occasion of their pacific demonstration: "Our dear countrymen—We, Egyptian students, regret what has been done by foolish and low class people on the occasion of our pacific demonstration, which we only meant to demonstrate our feelings, with our love to our dear foreign countrymen. Let us now be as friendly as we have always been."

### AN INTERNATIONAL COINAGE.

The "Mokattam" (a letter to the editor from a merchant suggesting the establishment of the world's coinage).—Apropos of the organisation of the League of Nations I have thought of attracting the attention of those who are conducting the international movement, through this purpose, to international questions which deserve consideration, and upon which depend all facility in commercial transactions among the different countries. The first is the unification of coins in such a way as to give the world one system of money composed of a series of equivalent values. In plain words to make the Shilling piece, the Franc piece, the P.T. 5 piece etc. of one value bearing one name, shilling, or franc or any other word to be chosen for that purpose. The international coin will become familiar with general practice throughout the world, and the unification of the system, will facilitate international commerce. If the Japanese manufacturer fixed the price of his goods at the rate of 20 dinars—supposing dinar to be the international coin—and if in the name of an ancient Arab coin entirely abandoned)—all business transactions and payments in general would immediately understand the cost of the article. At present the international situation is very complicated and perplexing in general which is not less important than the first is to have a single system of measure....

### CEREAL TRANSPORT REGULATIONS.

The "Ahram." — The cultivators of Upper Egypt have asked the S.C.B. to permit them to transport their dura of the variety called "Shami" from one part of the country to another without restriction, and as freely as they transport the varieties called "Baladi" and "Nili" (fine) and the other kinds of cereals which are allowed to be sent to any place since the 10th inst. This request is still under consideration.

## CINEMAS AND SANITATION.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,—Bill Harris must have dreamed again of cinemas and pictures a thousand-and-one laughs by his childish criticism in respect to cleanliness and sanitation of picture houses. What on earth can the Municipality and managers of cinemas do more in addition to what they are actually doing in the matter of ventilation and precautions against the spread of the disease?

The Municipality has taken all the necessary precautionary measures and instituted drastic regulations. These houses, besides being inspected periodically by officials of the Municipality staff itself once a week, or as a rule, wait for the visits of inspectors who are poured everywhere. I know that the manager of the "Majestic" and its staff worked all day one Sunday last to clean up a block of houses, one inch square, beneath each seat of this picture house. I think you will agree that this is an absolute record of its kind, so much so, that not one of the staff was on the sick list while the epidemic of influenza prevailed. The idea is very clever and ingenious and its novel form to prevent dirt, is, I am sure, appreciated.

If Mr. Harris will kindly suggest to the Public Health authorities that patrons should bring the disinfecting apparatus, I feel sure the Municipality will probably study in which way it can be done.

Yours, etc.
OSWALD.

Alexandria, March 13.

## THE NEW WAITER.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,—Your paper, like Epicurius, has not been published, but if it, you are available to give space in your valuable paper to any more contemporaries on the above subject. As Epicurius had the last say in the matter, he will naturally consider, his second, at my expense. If you will kindly permit me, to issue an invitation to Epicurius, I should like to do so. Will Epicurius please, in the interest of his company at the Continental, one evening? We, might find it both interesting and instructive.

Yours, etc.
A British Waiter.

Alexandria, March 11.

If you need a good, strong, and suitable Watch, buy either, "ONE-THREE," "TAVANNE'S WATCH" or "GYMA," known all over the World as the Best Time Keepers.
Sole Agents for Egypt and the Near East:- L. Kramer & Co., Ltd., Cairo. Watch contractors to the British Army. Retail shops in Cairo, 3.... Al-MANAKH Street (off Opera Square), and at the Mouski Street, Specialty: Luminous Wrist Watches.
Agencies: Alexandria, M. Levaccia & Co., 29, Rue Cherif Pasha; Port Said and Ismailia, Dr. J. Sarkiss; Ekaterinburg "salesgo on demand."

## SAID BEN HASSAN.

### A JEW OF ANCIENT ALEXANDRIA.

### STORY OF HIS CONVERSION TO ISLAM.

(By Joseph Ovrons).

It has never been a common occurrence for a Jew to become one of the followers of the Prophet, though Jews will reside among and trade in the Moslem quarters and accept proselytism. Such cases do of course occur, but are soon forgotten. The one we now refer to, however, is a case of a Jew, born in Egypt, as it occurred in Alexandria over 600 years ago, and because it is unknown, we have lifted a memoir alleging to give the reasons relating to his conversion, is of some importance both from the theological and historical side.

The manuscript containing Said Ben Hassan's memorandum was, some 20 years ago, in the library of Count Landberg, and is entitled Risalah al-Sharif al-Moubowwa al-Sayid al-bahas, "The way of speculation concerning the Prophecies of the Master of Men." By this phrase he means a discourse to prove the reality of Mohamed's Mission, as a prophet, sent by God from quotations from the Bible. Said Ben Hassan commences with an introduction explaining his personal position, beginning with this encouragement "Fear not, Said, the Eternal one will help you into obedience." He then explains that he was once counted among the Jewish doctors (of divinity) the God of His grace moved to convert him to Islam.

It happened in this wise: He fell ill, the doctor came and they prepared garments for my corpse as if I had died. "I heard a voice which cried out, to me 'Recite the Creed of Islam' and you will escape death." Then I awoke. I was in the member of the Moslem Kasim of my neighbourhood. I confessed that there was no other God but Allah who had no associate. I proclaimed that Mohammed was His servant and messenger sent by Him to direct men into religion and truth, and that he will finally triumph over all other religions."

When he attended the Mosque and saw the Moslems ranged for prayer like the angels, he heard within him a voice saying, "This is the community of whom the prophets foretold the appearance."

When the preacher in his black robe (the Abbasid colour) struck the minbar with his sword (an act signifying Egypt was a conquered country) his members trembled. He adds that if God revealed Himself to the Jews, he reveals Himself daily to the Moslem at prayer.

Studying the Koran he found it far superior to the Torah for the latter took up two pages for what the Koran expressed in two verses. Finally he felt convinced that he was created to be a Moslem, and he went over to them in Hegira 679, or the year 1298.

He gives a curious statement relative to Moses and the Hebrews, which defeated by the Amalakites at the Exodus, being saved because Moses appealed for them to God in the name of Abraham.

Having thus described the spiritual and mystical reasons to which Said Ben Hassan assigns the causes for his change of faith, we will now explain his historical environment to ascertain if that may throw further light upon the matter. According to *apologia pro vita sua*, the determination to become a believer in the Prophet came about at the time when the Mongols who three years before had successfully invaded Syria and Palestine, were crushingly defeated by al-Malik al-Nacir Kilawoun, the ruler of Egypt. Many Jews in Western Asia had perished in these terrible wars, because they almost all remained civilians, and neither sided looked upon them as a military asset. It may well be that, seeing the victory remaining with the Moslems had a final effect in producing Said Ben Hassan's conversion. The Jews were so he naturally does not allude to it, but in part of his book he quotes the Jewish Torah having predicted the turn which events had taken; also that such conflicts and results would occur about the time of the second or dredth lunar Hegira. He does not however quote the texts upon which he relied for their statement.

As to Jewish tenets he incidentally mentions their denial of Mohamed's Mission, and refusal to accept "Jesus as the son of Miriam." That is to say, denying the Virgin Mary and the Messiship of Jesus of Nazareth. He also tells us it was his view that the images in the temples, by which he must have meant so much those of pagan shrines, because most of these had been destroyed, but the effigies of the Mother and Child, and of the crucifixion and of apostles and saints which had invaded Christina churches, had caused the worship of them the Christians, and he predicts that by the date of the hundredth Hegira solar year Mohamedanism would triumph.

For the verity of this prediction he appeals to the Torah, the Gospels and the Psalms and says that al-Malik al-Nacir will accomplish it. From what Said Ben Hassan says he gave his views, which he says were severely compressed, to the Imams and Ulemas, and they unanimously desired that he should lay them before some great assembly of the rulers of Egypt and Syria. Six times the's arrangement was proposed, but it appeared never to eventuate, the comment that "To God alone belongs might and power, and He will assist His Prophet to Him." So Said committed his arguments, and citations to writing. The he did long after the Mongols had been defeated, at the Ain Gussyid Mosque at Damascus, in the year 726 of the Hegira. He proceeded to Syria to agitate against Jews and Christians in a land where they were more despised than in Egypt, and at the Damascene mosque he made rhapsodic hearers and readers. There was a very fanatical propagandist there, a Sheikh Messiah al-Kasa who in his treatise termed "Other Question of Temples" showed great great hatred to both Christians and Jews.

Said Ben Hassan terms his work in one place, "De Mouhit," the compendium, and says it was the result of his eyes. Some short summary will be desired by our readers to ascertain what foundation there was for his alleged proofs from our scriptures of the divine mission of Mohomed. These are indeed meagre. He appears to have selected his arguments, worthless as they are from Hebrew sources, and just from the wrenchingly clipped and garbled versions of them to be formed in treatises by earlier Arab apologists.

His first statement, as of Eve, is that Adam and Eva in the garden spoke Arabic, but when they used Syriac, God, to direct them, promised that one day their posterity would return to the tongue of paradise which region they would inhabit.

Another of his stories is that when Noah left the Ark he left his female companion behind for dread of another deluge. God bade him to return to them and gave the rainbow as a sign of security from such a catastrophe. He also showed Noah many future prophets including Mohamed. Said quotes Genesis ix. 17, xvii. 19, 20 and XXI. 12, as specially foretelling the supremacy of the Arab race. Verse 18 of the twenty-first chapter which ends in our version "Fear the lad for I will make him great nation" he changes into, "for of him and his lineage will Mohamed be born."

Another statement Said make is that the blessing of Jacob to his sons assured them of prosperity if they followed the Code of Abraham, Ishmael and Isaac, thus interpolating Ishmael the progenitor of the Arab race. But he adds further that originally Mohamed was alluded to in this benediction and the Jews suppressed his name. This assertion of course be refuted by reference to the Samaritan Pentateuch and the Greek translation of the Old Testament. The well-known text in Numbers XXII, "A star shall come out of Jacob and a sceptre rise out of Israel, and smite Moab and destroy the children of Seth," Said renders quite differently thus—"A star shall appear to the race of Jahmael and in Arab country. At the appearance the earth will shake with its inhabitants." These words Said states could be intended as a prediction of Mohamed.

He says further that after Achan's sin, Joshua supposed by opposing the Ark was one of Mohamed. There was, we know from Talmudic sources, a tradition that Isaiah was murdered by Manasseh. Said declares that on the contrary he preserved his life by invoking Mohamed.

In Isaiah XIII. 1; which he quotes as being from Ezekiel, where the coming servant select of Jehovah is foreshadowed, Said, like other Moslem apologists maintains it to be allusion to Mohamed.

According to Said, the son Abraham started out to sacrifice was Ishmael, not Isaac; the latter being not then born.

As to the New Testament, there being no reference to the future life of Mohamed, all such, which were in the earlier manuscripts having been purposely deleted. This assertion is refuted as far as the gospels are concerned by no such missing matter appearing in the very early Diatessaron of Tatian. Said says that when Jesus was, by his followers acclaimed as the Messiah, a learned Jew one Simeon Balakish, combatted their claim, by proving that the Prophet Moses had predicted was to be a descendant of Ishmael. (This rabbi was probably an allusion to R. Simeon ben Lakisch).

These short notes suffice to show that Said-al-Israeli, by his verbal alterations in order to change the meaning, or by misquoting sentences of the Old Testament was either wilfully endeavoring to deceive his readers, or ignorant of the records he pretended to understand more perfectly than did those who based their belief upon them. His assigning an extract to Ezekiel which is really from Isaiah does not confirm his prophecy, nor his assertion that he had been a "Jewish Ulema." His acquaintance with the Pentateuch and prophets is very imperfect. His historical knowledge, been of post Biblical times was faulty for he says that at the Babylonian Captivity, the Samaritan prisoners dwelt alongside the Caraites, and that the latter reverenced Zara (Ozerr) as a son of God; and that the Caraites came from the Hedjas, thus predating this Jewish sect by some centuries. Finally he plain to us how from the failure of Said's polemic that modern knowledge is used in error to saying that the source of the success of the crescent was the scimitar, and the hardly abstemious life, and bravery of the Arab race, contested by the exhaustion of the people of the countries they invaded by over taxation and invasion from more warlike races, and the fanaticism of the Christians, and that the zenith of Moslem triumph would be reached when every Jew should become a convert to Mohamedanism.

In the four days rejoicings that followed the signing of the armistice nearly 600 persons were picked up in London streets and taken to hospitals by the L.C.C. ambulances, states the official report of the London "Safety First" Council.

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In view of the present lack of Lime Juice in this country, the public are strongly recommended to use Mr. N. Spathis' "Lime Juice and Soda." The name of Spathis is in itself sufficient guarantee of the quality of this drink and it therefore suffices to add that this "Lime Juice and Soda" in every way comes up to the high class of minerals for which this firm has become noted.

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GUARANTEED PURE.
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On sale everywhere at P.T. 20 the bottle.

## WORLD SHIPPING RACE.

### AMERICA'S HUGE OUTPUT.

### OFFICIAL FIGURES FOR 1918.

Lloyd's return of the mercantile shipbuilding of the world (excluding Germany and Austria) during 1918 shows the tremendous efforts being made in the United States. Ships launched during the year numbered 1,866 of 5,447,444 tonnage. The output of the chief countries was as follows, with numbers of ships and tonnage respectively:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| United States | 929 | 3,033,030 |
| United Kingdom | 301 | 1,348,220 |
| Canada | 206 | 279,904 |
| Denmark | 13 | 26,150 |
| France | 3 | 13,715 |
| Holland | 74 | 74,026 |
| Italy | 15 | 60,791 |
| Japan | 198 | 489,924 |
| Norway | 51 | 47,723 |
| Spain | 18 | 17,389 |
| Sweden | 36 | 39,583 |

These figures for the United Kingdom are 584,033 tons below the record figures of 1913, and represent an output 26 per cent lower than the average of the three pre-war years 1911-13; they are, however, higher than the totals for the previous three years, the present total being 185,224 tons more than that for 1917, and 739,885 tons more than that for 1916. The standard ships launched amounted to 198, with a total tonnage of about 886,000 tons gross. The Clyde district occupies the first place amongst the shipbuilding centres of the country with an output of 348,760 tons (Glasgow 188,736 tons and Greenock 160,024 tons), then follow the Tyne (266,594 tons) and Wear (260,553 tons), the Tees (209,711 tons), and Belfast (148,259 tons). The tonnage launched in the United Kingdom during the five years 1894-1898 amounted to 74.7 per cent of the total output of the world. During the three following quinquennial periods it was 60, 59.8, and 61.1 per cent respectively, thus showing that for the fifteen years 1899-1913 the United Kingdom's share of the world's output was quite 60 per cent. During the war years a very serious decrease has taken place, only 38.6 per cent of the world's mercantile output for this period having been launched in the United Kingdom. An interesting feature in this year's totals is the amount of wood tonnage included. No less than 1,145,582 tons of wood vessels have been launched, which is nearly 22 per cent of the total tonnage launched abroad.

The United States output—3,033,030 tons gross—is a convincing proof of the great development in the shipbuilding industry. This total for one year is higher than the whole output of the United States during the last ten years; it is more than three times the amount launched during 1917, and it exceeds by over 25 per cent the combined output of the rest of the world for the year 1918. The output for Japan—489,924 tons—is the highest on record. It is 140,000 tons more than in 1917, and practically ten times the amount launched during 1915.