MILITARY OPERATIONS IN ARABIA.

The names of the undermentioned have been brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for War for valuable services rendered in connection with the Military operations in Arabia:—

Staff: Major and Bt. Lt. Col. (T. Lt. Col.) G. S. Symes, C.M.G., D.S.O., Hamps. R. Major (T. Brig. Gen.) G. F. Clayton, C.B.; C.M.G.; R.O.A., R. of O. (R.P.)

Miscellaneous:—Major (T. Lt. Col.) H. D. Pearson D.S.O., R.E.; Major (T. Col.) C.E. Wilson; C.M.G., D.S.O., E. Lan. R (R. of O)

British Officers attached to Egyptian Army:—Major General Sir L.O.F. Stack K.B.E.; C.M.G. Border Regiment (R. of O.); Lieut. L.L. Bright, Staff R. T. Captani H. Garland M.B.E., Special List.

Egyptian Army:— Miralai Mohamed Bey Sadek Yehia, Special Service. Kaimkam Mahmoud Bey Sidki, O.C. 5th Battalion Bimbashi Ali Effendi Fahmy el Hassani, Medical Corps; Sagh. Abdel Megid Effendi Fuad, Artillery; Sagh. Mohamed Effendi Kamel, Frontiers Districts Administration; Yusbashi Abdelghani Effdel Latif Effendi Kamel, Special Service; Youssbashi Mahmoud Effendi Kaisuni M.C., Special Service, Mul. Awal Abdel Rahman Egeedi Suelim. Dept. of Supplies, Mul. Awal Fuad Egeendi Hilmi, Artillery, Mul. Awal Hussein Effendi Mahmoud, O.C. Sirdar's Escort; Mul. Awal Mahmoud Effendi Ebahin, S.O. Bahr el Ghazal District; Mul. Awal Mahfouz Effendi Sidki. Sudan Government; Mul. Awal Mughal Effendi Dewdar Abdelaziz. Dept. of Supplies, Mul. Awal Mohamed Effendi Bayumi, Egyptian Army Transport Corps; Mul. Awal Mohamed Effendi Ferid Hilmi. Egyptian Army Transport Corps; Translator Mahmoud Effendi Mawardi, Khartoum Dist. Staff.

Egyptian Civil Service: Colonel J. Falconer. War Office Representative. Suez.

Sudan Civil Service:—Mr. J.W. Harrison, Mr. J.G. Matthew, Captain C. McKey, O.B.E.

PERIODS OF WAR.

The Sultan has been most graciously pleased to direct that the periods specified below are to be considered as Periods of War and will therefore count double in reckoning towards pension in the case of those officers who took part in the operations mentioned:—

1914:— (1) On the Suez Canal and East of it between the following dates: October 30 (outbreak of hostilities with Turkey) and December 1.

1917:— (2) In Palestine between the following dates: December 1, 1917 to October 31 1918 (date of armistice with Turkey).

(3) Gallipoli between April 25 and December 31 1915.

(4) In the Hedjaz between June 20 1916 and October 31 1918 (date of armistice with Turkey).

(5). On the Western Front of Egypt west of the 28th Meridian between October 30 1914 (date of outbreak of hostilities with Turkey) and March 31 1916.

(6) On the Turkhana Patrol, East Africa between December 12, 1917 and July 24 1918.

(7) On the Matiang Patrol between March 13 and May 25, 1918.

ALEXANDRIA FIRST AID.

During the week ending May 11, 37 sick and 19 injured persons were removed in ambulances, 19 persons were attended to at the ambulances while 86 were treated at the caracols, thus making a total of 161 services rendered.

CAIRO CONCERTS.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir, — The literary efforts of a novice seem to have upset "Composer" very badly. The description at which he jeers so persistently was taken from a book written on the London Concerts and published by H. Sidgwick, and should have been above reproach. The moral of it all is "Never take anyone's word as Gospel and never help a sick friend."

Yours, &c.,
"Stop-Gap."

Cairo, May 9.

Arrangements have been made to ship 435,000 cases of apples from Australia to Great Britain. At the present time there are 1,250,000 carcases of mutton and enormous quantities of frozen rabbits in Australia awaiting shipment.

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ALEXANDRIA BOURSE

The market was active yesterday, the following being the officially quoted closing prices:—

Unified rose 1/8 £ to £89 1/4; Agricultural Bank advanced 1/64 to £6 9/16 1/64 and there was no change in Banque d'Athenes which finished at fr.88 3/4.

Credit Foncier bonds issues 1886, 1903 and 1911 were quoted at fr.437; 316 and 283 3/4 respectively.

Comptoir Financier and Commercial were weaker £1 13/32, 1/32 while deferred shares fell 1/2 £ to £2 1/2.

National Bank were weaker at £20 21/32, 1/32 drop, while Cassa di Sconto were 1/2 fr. lower at fr.97 1/2.

There was a rise of 7/32 in Alexandria Water Co. which finished at £12 5/8; Building Lands remained at £1 3/4 while Société du Behera were weaker at £12 1/8 drop.

Union Fonciere were steady at £3 1/16, 1/32 drop and Gabbari Lands were a little firmer at £- 7/8, 1/64 rise while Société des Immeubles closed unchanged at £6 1/16.

Egyptian Bonded Warehouses advanced 5/16 to £ 12 7/16 and Salt and Soda were active at 53/-, showing a three pence rise.

Brasseries d'Egypte being a good feature at fr.287, 29fr. rise while Priv. Crown were in request at fr.410, 40fr. higher and deferred Crown advanced 35fr. more closing in demand at fr.340; Associated Cotton Ginners closing unchanged at £- 13/16 1/64.

Alexandria and Ramleh Railways were neglected at £5 1/2; Port Said Salt rose 3d. to 83/3d. and New Egyptian Co. advanced 1 1/24 to 23/-.

Egypt and Levant s.s. Co. were more active changing hands in large number and closing at 36/10 1/24., a six pence rise while deferred shares advanced 38s. closing firm at 213s.

THE COTTON WORM.

The Press Bureau announces that in view of the approach of the Cotton Worm Campaign and the necessity of taking such measures as are necessary to combat this pest, the Ministry of Agriculture has sent a circular to the Mudirias, requesting them to issue the necessary instructions to the administrative officials to advise cultivators to keep a strict lookout and report the presence of cotton-worms in their fields or in the fields of others to the Omdas and Sheikhs of their villages who should again communicate with the Markaz Authorities without loss of time. As cultivators are by this time completely acquainted with the instructions issued from year to year in their interests it is hoped that they will, on their own account, carry out these instructions in order to assist the authorities in combating the cotton-worm.

KEROSENE CONTROL

The Controller of Kerosene Distribution announces that all restrictions regarding the transport of kerosene throughout Egypt, by rail, road or water, have been removed from May 12 1919.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN PALESTINE.

The Palestine Exploration Fund and the British Academy have formed a joint committee for a British School of Archaeology in Palestine, and it is hoped that this will form the national basis for public interest in the matter. This school would devote itself both by excavation and surveying, to the furtherance of Palestinian Archaeology in all its branches, and will include not only Hebrew and Jewish antiquities, but Canaanite, Graeco-Roman, Byzantine and Arab periods. It will also be a training school for archaeologists. Professor W.M. Flinders Petrie, F.R.S., F.B.A., in his little book "Eastern Exploration Past and Future" writes: "one of the most promising prospects in Palestine is the finding of a library, or archives, on clay tablets. . . These seems no reason why hundreds of documents of the greatest historic interest should not be found in any large town."

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EGYPT AND THE PEACE.

CELEBRATIONS IN CAIRO.

Huge preparations are being made in Cairo for the celebration of the signing of the greatest Peace Treaty in history. Under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A. and, with the co-operation of G.H.Q., it is proposed to entertain 5,000 men at Esbekia Gardens and another 5,000 at Luna Park, the whole area of these centres being taken over for the purpose. The troops will be entertained to tea at both places and side shows on a large scale will be thrown open free. A fine programme of boxing is being prepared for each venue, comprising 3 bouts of 6 rounds each and one big contest of 10 rounds. The Band of the Northumberland Fusiliers will play at Esbekia Gardens and the band of the Imperial School of Instruction at Luna Park. Additional attractions at Esbekia Gardens will be a Circus and Comic Field Sports whilst a Grand Aquatic Carnival will be held in the bath. The programme for the latter includes 9 events and excellent prizes are being given. There will be 30 yards Dash Race, 60 yards Obstacle Race, 30 yards Blindfold Race, 1 Length Relay Race, 60 yards Dash Race, Cock-fighting, 90 yards Combination Race, "Catching the Bellman" and a Team Race and Water Polo Match, Ismailia versus Cairo. Entries will be accepted on the bath side just prior to the commencement of the races. All is therefore in readiness for a great Gala Day. Dr. Deaver and Mr. Pickford are responsible for the arrangements at Luna Park while Mr. H. Bentley has the Esbekia arrangements in hand. Sgt. A. W. Glover is organising the Boxing and Swimming programmes.

TRAVELLERS FOR PALESTINE AND SYRIA.

The Press Bureau issues the following notice to travellers proceeding to Palestine and Syria.

Travellers arriving at Kantara should be in possession of the full amount of the sums necessary for their and their destination. Information on the subject may be obtained from the Local Permit Offices or from O.E.T.A. (South) 2nd Echelon G.H.Q. Midan Sultan Pasha Cairo. The carrying of letters is strictly prohibited. Civilians passing through Kantara are warned that they must not wander through the camp. Any contravention of this order renders the offender liable to arrest and detention. All civilians entering Palestine must produce their permits for purposes of registration, at the nearest O.E.T.A. (South) Police Office within 24 hours of arrival at destination.

CAIRO'S VITAL STATISTICS.

The following are the figures of births and deaths registered and cases of infectious diseases notified in Cairo during the week ending April 29:

Births, 581; deaths, 705. Infectious diseases: 401 cases; typhoid, 53 cases; typhus, 211 cases; diphtheria, 6 cases; small-pox, 79 cases; chicken-pox, 16 cases; relapsing fever, 11 cases; measles, 14 cases; cerebro spinal fever, 3 cases; whooping cough, 1 case; influenza, 7 cases.

CAIRO AMUSEMENTS.

Salle Kleber Cinema. — "The Feats of Tubby." A comedy in one reel, the first of a bright series of English vaudeville shows for the first time in Egypt, by the Kleber Cinema, "Strength and Mobility." A dramatic comedy in 4 episodes of 3 parts each, produced in Spain, featuring the famous World's Champion boxer Jack Johnson, and his wife Mrs. Lucile Johnson, 1st Episode "A Prince's Will."

"Oh! That Kiss!" A charming comedy in 3 reels produced by Eclair, Paris, featuring one of the authors Mr. René Hervil, Mr. Valdoney and a number of French artists and the great Parisian star, "Suzanne Grandais."

The Radium Cinema. — The new programme of the Radium Cinema for the week beginning on Monday, May 12, and ending on Sunday, May 18, is very interesting and comprises "The Opera Jone" of Maestro Petrella or "The Last Days of Pompei." This famous 6 reeled film will be specially adapted for music by Professor Rapsoni and the orchestra, which will be proportionately reinforced on this occasion, will have Maestro Host as First Violinist. In addition to the above a one reeled Charlie Chaplin play will be given, besides a piece of actuality. The management reserves a "great surprise" for Monday next and is also giving "Ursus" very shortly as well as Charlie Chaplins famous three reeled comedy entitled "Shoulder-Arms" which is the second of the Million Dollar series.

RED CROSS FUND.

Following is a list of donations received apart from "Our Day" Fund, opened during the period April 5 to May 2, 1919:

	L.E.	M.	L.E.	M.
Amount previously acknowledged			29,410	146
ALEXANDRIA. *Donations.*				
J. Dainker	487			
Nazmi Pasha	3 000			
Land Bank of Egypt	1 000			
Major Martin	9 997			
Matron H.M.T. "Valdivia"	840			
Lady Stack (Khartoum) Balance of Hosp. Comforts Fund	34 506		49 830	
CAIRO. *Donations.*				
Beni Suef Conv. Fund	59 080			
C. Garbiadis	5 000		64 080	
Total			29,524 056	

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THE EGYPTIAN LABOUR CORPS.

A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

As the statement has been made that the present trouble in Egypt is to some extent due to our method of recruiting the Egyptian Labour Corps and our treatment of its members, a few personal experiences and impressions of that invaluable body the Egyptian Labour Corps may perhaps have some interest at present.

My own experience of the Corps ended in September, 1917, just before General Allenby's capture of the Gaza-Beersheba line and his amazing rush right on through Palestine. But from the spring of 1916 up to this period I was closely associated with the Corps and had various contingents of them constantly under my command in base camps at Alexandria, on the lines of communication in the western frontier, in camp at Kantara on the Canal, all the way across the Sinai Desert, and in Palestine during and after our two unsuccessful attacks on Gaza.

They were mainly fellahin, or peasantry, recruited from the towns and villages of the Delta, the Fayyum, and other districts of Upper and Lower Egypt, but among the creamy brown and chocolate faces of these people one saw often the polished jet complexion or the dull lamp-black colour of men from Nubia or the Soudan. They were recruited for a period of three months, at the end of which they returned with great rejoicing and flag-waving to their native villages. Very many of them reenlisted, because the pay of five piastres a day and good food represented wealth which enabled them to acquire wives and to live at ease they had their own camps, and were under their own officers for discipline. Units requiring labour, "indented for natives," who paraded daily for duty under a "Raia," or native foreman. We were responsible for their discipline only during their actual working hours. It was a breach or orders for any officer or other ranks to strike a native, and all breaches of discipline on their part had to be reported to their own officers. These were mostly European with a knowledge of Arabic.

I had frequently occasion to inspect their camps, which at the base were best lines precisely similar to those occupied by our own men, though a larger number of natives were allowed per tent than was the case with British troops. They had their own sanitary arrangements specially adapted to their use, but their extremely unhygienic habits were a constant source of trouble and punishment. They had, of course, their own cook-houses and special rations. On the whole, in my experience, they were a cheerful, happy crowd, and it was pleasant in the evening when the long hot day's work was over to see them trooping back to their camp, most of them holding hands and chatting, their strange but quite beautiful chorus "Kham Leila, Kha-am Youm" ("How many nights, how many days!"), often led by a sort of chorugus who danced along before them, chanting in a high tenor the impromptu verses to which the above was a baritone chorus in unison.

THE "BAKSHISH" SYSTEM.

In my own experience when trouble arose it was invariably due to the "Raia," for these people are generally as brutal to each other as they are to animals, and their idea of authority is the power to inflict pain. This characteristic, and the "bakshish" system is the ever-present source of mischief and disorder there.

I recall on occasion when my staff sergeant came and asked me to examine three of the natives who had paraded and when he considered unfit for duty. Some of them had received six lashes overnight, and every lash had cut the skin and left a wound which was undressed and all ready to become septic. The men were in pain, and I agreed with my staff sergeant, who was not a morbidly-tender-hearted person at all, I inquired what their offence had been, and we told: "We have no complaint against them at all, sir. They are three of the best workers I have got. But they won't bakshish the 'Raia.'" I learned that these labourers did not pay tribute to the "Raia" they were reported for imaginary reasons, the invariable penalty was the lash, which was administered in a very conscientious spirit by native policemen. If a labourer wanted to save his pay he could substitute for piastres a flannel shirt, a pair of socks, or any other trifle he might agreed in picking up in our lines. I sent these three men into hospital and reported the matter to the proper authorities, and my report was fully supported.

During the advance across the desert and into Palestine, the conditions were quite different. My native contingents were attached to the units for rations and shelter, and wherever we went they made their bivouac alongside ours on a site selected by myself. This was always adjoining the camel lines, and naturally to leeward of our own "bivvies." They shared our hardships, and I cannot recall any case in which really injury life under a shelter made of an old blanket or a bit of sacking while a dust storm is blowing, and of course the stores had much of the hard work to do. Yet I never had a serious complaint or even any insubordination among them. When the unit was on the move they had to walk while we rode, but they were always ready to make camp in the evening.

THE NATIVE HOSPITALS.

The native hospitals that I knew — and I knew many of them well at the base, on the lines of communication, and just behind the front—were well provided with tents and equipment, and there was always an English M.O. in charge. So far from being dreaded, they were people feared to approach. I remember one which was established within 100 yards of the casualty clearing station in which I was for a time attached. The M.O. in charge of it was a member of our mess, and I cannot recall any complaint against him. He never had trouble with the state of affairs I have been suggested as being the rule, and I feel bound to regard this hospital as exceptional.

Forced labour has been traditional in Egypt since before the days of the Pyramids, and in modern times the system was thoroughly organized by the nineteenth century viceroy Sultan Ismail. For these purpose every village in all the mercy of the "Omdah" or mayor and "Markaz" or district, of the "Masmur," or senior police officer, and every country, of the "Mudir." No man is exempt, he cannot plead to bribe them all. Even the professional reciter of the Koran will hardly get his certificate of exemption without a "bakshish."

As an instance of the consideration which was shown them, I may mention that during the Fast of Ramadan in 1917 a special firman was obtained from the Mohammedan authority in Cairo, granting a dispensation from fasting to the members of the corps engaged on military duties, and this was read to all units by interpreters. Had it not been for this, all these who were strict in the observance of their religion would have had to work all day without eating, without even a drink of water until after sunset.

I have no reason to paint any fancy picture of our treatment of these natives, and have sent down only what I have myself seen, convinced that we must seek elsewhere for the causes of the present revolt.

(Rev. E. Wynne, in the "Manchester Guardian.")

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MADAME FERID BEY.

EX-NATIONALIST LEADER'S WIFE'S DRAMATIC APPEARANCE.

Nothing has been heard for a long time past of Ferid Bey, the former leader of the Egyptian Nationalist Party, but his wife's appearance was a dramatic appearance in the Humbert case at Paris last month. The "Daily Telegraph" thus relates the incident:—

A lady, Madame Buffard, whose nom de guerre is Madame de Rochebrunne, was the heroine of the day. The appearance of this literary lady at the witness bar led to a remarkable incident. Madame de Rochebrunne was a well-known figure at the Sorbonne among the "femmes intellectuelles" who form so numerous a group of students at the oldest university after Bologna. She married years ago, according to the laws of the Koran, Férid Bey, an Egyptian Anglophobe, who abandoned her in the middle of the war on the plea that she was a spy of the French service. The witness said she met Bolo at Zurich on April 15, 1915, and she learnt from the ex-Khedive himself the role of the traitor Bolo. Having returned to Paris in July of that year, she gave all the information she had collected in Switzerland and Austria to the director M. Bénazet, General Reporter of the Budget and informant of the President, who thought her testimony so important that it should be communicated to the Chief of the State and to the Minister of Justice. A little later, in October of that year, stirred by the patriotic articles of Charles Humbert, she wrote, according to her evidence in court, a letter to the editor of "Le Journal," in which document she denounced the German doings in the East, and in which, as she affirmed in the witness-box, she mentioned Bolo by name.

At these words the lowering storm broke with fury in a tumultuous scene, in the course of which terrible threats, retorts and charges of perjury against the witness were bandied about. What a tremendous lever it would give to the prosecution if it were shown that Humbert knew at so remote a period as October, 1915, the character of the man from whom, a few months later, he would accept the millions of German money to turn out Lemoit from "Le Journal." Maître de Moro-Giafferi sprang up eagerly, but, modulating his usually violent tones, asked the witness almost blandly to repeat the solemn words of taking the oath in a court of justice. She swore that it was true; she is ready to swear it again. She certainly named Bolo in her letter of November 18 to Charles Humbert. Madame de Rochebrunne once more, in clear, far-reaching accents, swore that it was true. Then the advocate of Humbert took the letter from his portfolio. There was a reference in it to a Frenchman, a felon who travelled to and fro between Paris, Zurich, and Berne, but the name of Bolo was absent. Hence the tempest in court.

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NEW PAY FOR SEA CAPTAINS.

A new scale of minimum rates of pay for masters has been fixed by the Shipping Controller. The pay varies with the gross tonnage of the vessel and the length of the master's service, and ranges, from £42 a month after five years' service in charge of a 1,000-2,000 tons (gross) ship to £58 a month after a similar length of service in the case of a vessel over 12,000 tons (gross.) A scale for masters of coasting cross steamer varies from £9 to £12 a month.

CHINESE ON BRITISH SHIPS.

The ukase prohibiting the employment of Chinese labour on our merchant ships is a step in the direction of securing an "all-British" service. There are to-day 20,000 Chinese engaged in various capacities on ships that are certainly the finest in our mercantile marine, and of this number 2,000 are found in Liverpool alone. The objection urged by British sailors is hard to express in words, but may be described as a latent racial antagonism. The Chinese firemen are steady and hard working, can endure great hardships and are fairly amenable to discipline. On the other hand, they undercut the Britisher on the question of wages and are rarely wholly to be trusted. Native Indian firemen are their equals in the engine rooms and are better as sailors. The only remedy, if British seamen are to regain their old position, is wholesale deportation.

PAPER MONEY IN EUROPE.

In most of the warring European countries local notes have been used, much to the annoyance of the traveller, who is obliged to take them and has little chance of disposing of them without considerable inconvenience. Both in France and in Germany collections are now being made of these local notes, which go down to so low a figure as a half-penny. In Germany no fewer than 700 communes had their own notes, and none of these notes is of any use for any town but that from which it emanates. There are huge numbers of these smaller notes, since the greatest scarcity was in small change. In 127 places in Germany small change was so scarce that paper was issued for penny pieces, while in 35 towns even paper half-pennies made their appearance. This was also the case in Belgium. The big towns kept more or less to the official appearance of paper money, but a few small towns had the bright idea of making their notes as much like picture postcards as possible, perhaps with the hope that if they should no longer be worth money they would at least be money's worth.

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