THE CAIRO FLOOD.

APPEAL OF THE GOVERNOR.

A number of the notables and leading merchants of Cairo met at the Cairo Governorate at 11 a.m. on Wednesday on the invitation of Abdelrahim Sabry Pasha, Governor of Cairo, for the purpose of considering steps which should be taken for the relief of the victims of the recent floods at Cairo. The Governor explained to them the situation, stating that the victims are about 900 in number and though the Government has taken the necessary steps for their temporary sheltering and feeding further help is required to enable these unfortunates to resume their normal life. He then suggested that local committees might be formed with the object of collecting subscriptions from all quarters of the city, whereupon committees were formed.

The Governor opened the subscription list with a generous donation of L.E.50 together with a donation of L.E.250 from the Wakf of the late Kasem Rasmi Pasha, of which the Governor of Cairo is the Director. Khorshid Sabeh Bey, a notable of Cairo also subscribed for L.E. 50. Sayed Abdel Hamid el Bakri for L.E. 20 and others subscribed for amounts varying between L.E.2 and L.E.5 making in all a total of L.E.510.

The "Ahram" list has attained L.E.319 while the Sultan sent in a donation of L.E.500 and others like Prince Yussef Kamal, Abdelmegid el Bimali Bey and Sood is being sent.

According to the Governor's statement the number of houses which collapsed is 350, of which 340 in the vicinity of Demerdach and Manchiet el Sadr and 10 in other parts of the town. Of course, all these "houses" are in reality huts but it will cost at least L.E.10,000 to rebuild them and this amount must be found from private subscriptions. It is anticipated that the local committees will be able to collect this amount if not more as the inhabitants of the collapsed houses have lost everything in the ruins and will undoubtedly require further help.

NOTE BY THE P.W.M.

The Public Works Ministry, Caire, publishes the following official account of the great rain storm of January 17, 1919:—

Early on Friday morning, January 17, showers occurred and at 8 a.m. men were out sweeping the streets; 2 millimetres of rain were recorded up to that time. Showers continued during the morning which was very overcast, and clouds lying low. At 1.15 p.m. heavy rain started to fall and continued until a little after 4 p.m. The rainfall registered at the Zabbalein Gauge after 3 a.m. was 43 millimetres and at Abbassieh 35 millimetres. There are no time recording rain gauges in Cairo, but the general opinion is that 25 millimetres fell in one hour. At Abbassieh and Heliopolis the water came down in torrents from the Gebel, doing much damage to the Heliopolis and Egyptian State Railways. At the Air Compressing Station which works the underground ejectors, one engine only had been in use for some days; there were therefore three engines in reserve. During the storm all four engines were worked and the air pressure raised 20 per cent above normal load. The surface water electric pump at Sharia Abbas was also worked. The rush of water was excessive but the ejectors continued to work under conditions that would have stopped any other form of power; all were, however, completely overloaded; the Main Collector which is 1.60 metres in diameter was quite full. In designing the drainage system the meteorological returns were taken for eleven years, representing the period over which reliable records had been kept. The average annual rainfall in Cairo for this period was 23 millimetres, the maximum and minimum for one year being 50 and 3 1/2 millimetres respectively. There had been only eight occasions when the rainfall for any one day exceeded 10 millimetres, and the maximum was 25 millimetres.

The area of the city proper is 6,747 acres. In this area there are 704 acres unbuilt on and 1,064 acres of road surface about half of which is macadamised or paved, the other half being of earth, with a very porous surface. On an area based on these figures a rainfall of 25 millimetres in 24 hours—the maximum for eleven years—is equal to 0.26 gallons per second per acre and after allowing for soakage in unpaved roads and unbuilt-on areas, deferred flow, evaporation, etc., a discharge of 0.06 gallons per second per acre or approximately one third of an inch in 24 hours was taken as being sufficient to provide for. This allowance over the whole area is very liberal and is the same as was considered necessary by the late Sir Benjamin Baker and the late Sir Alexander Binnie in 1891 for the surface water drainage scheme of Greater London—and was again followed by the latter Engineer in 1899 in his new scheme for that City. The plant installed in Cairo is in fact capable of dealing with a margin of nearly 25 per cent more than the allowance in question, but to cope immediately with a rainfall like that of January 17 it would require to be able to deal with over twenty times as much.

High capital cost and maintenance charges both render impracticable a system on a scale so large and so seldom needed to say nothing of the heavy deposits and unsanitary gases that would be formed in large sewers with small velocities. The rarity of the event apart from considerations of public health, would also discourage the construction of emergency drains to discharge into the Nile; for to provide drains large enough to convey such an abnormal rainfall quickly to the outlets would be a colossal undertaking.

By eight o'clock in the evening the water had been run off all streets to which the drainage system has extended and were free of the pools which previously stood in them for days after far smaller rains. The chief trouble in City was the flooding of basements in a number of houses. The evidence quoted in this Note suggests that this was the result of an extraordinary fall of rain far exceeding the maximum it would be practical to anticipate.

The Cairo Governorate has asked the Cairo Kisms to send a list with the names of the householders of the houses which collapsed, (with the names of the victims) during the rain storm of the 17th inst. The Sheikhs of the harats are now preparing the list, which will shortly be sent to the Cairo Governorate.

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NYIMA HILLS OPERATIONS.

MEDALS FOR TROOPS.

His Highness the Sultan has been most graciously pleased to approve of the medal instituted under special Army Order No. 1 of June 12, 1911. (This medal was struck to commemorate military operations in the Sudan to take place of "The Sudan Medal" granted by Special Army Order of February 12, 1897), being granted to the troops (including Sudan Government Police) who took part in the operations against the Nyima Hills in the Nuba Mountains Province during 1917 and 1918.

The medal in silver with clasp "Nyima 1917-1918" will be granted to all troops who took part in the operations from April 5, 1917 to February 21, 1918 both dates inclusive.

The sphere of operations to be considered as between longitudes 29 degrees 24' E and 30 degrees 20' E and latitudes 11 degrees 55' N and 13 degrees N.

The following non-combatants who took part in the above operations will be entitled to the above medal and clasp in silver: Government Civil Employees; Sheikhs; armed guides.

The following non-combatants who took part in the above operations will be entitled to a similar medal in bronze: Civilian Syces and servants of officers, Transport drivers (i.e. civilians borne on the pay-lists of the Staff Office, Transport), Commanding Officers of the units which took part in the operations and Heads of Departments have been asked to prepare nominal rolls in duplicate of those entitled to medal and clasp and submit as soon as possible to the Military Secretary, Headquarters, Khartoum, on a special form.

RESOURCES BOARD BRIBERY CASE.

The case of attempting to bribe two officials of the Supplies Control Board, Abdelkerim Aswn Bey and Henri Effendi Attar, in connection with the purchase of Australian wheat came up for hearing in appeal before the Court of Appeal of Delinquencies on Tuesday morning. After considering the case the Court modified the sentence of 6 months' imprisonment pronounced by the Court of First Instance against Yusef Effendi Cassab and Mr. George Economides to a fine of L.E.100 in the case of the first and of L.E.50 in the case of the second and confirmed that part of the sentence relating to the payment of a civil indemnity to the Resources Board officials.

BREACH OF PROMISE.

The Cairo Civil Native Court, presided over by Judge Abdel Aziz Bey Mahamed, will shortly hear an action taken by an Austrian woman against a wealthy youth of Cairo, claiming an indemnity of L.E.1,000 for having lived with her a certain period of time during which a child was born. The plaintiff alleges that the youth promised to marry her but failed to fulfil his promise. In support of her claim the plaintiff produces several letters written by the defendant and a photograph and three post cards written in a foreign language.

FOR ARMENIAN ORPHANS.

The Society for the Protection of Armenian Orphans announces a grand soiree de gala which will take place at the Sultanieh Opera House on Wednesday, February 5, next, commencing at 8.30 in the evening. Lady Wingate, before her departure for England, gave her patronage to the performance, and a representative and fashionable audience is expected to be present. The helpless victims of the war are in every way deserving of assistance, and in aid of this cause the Opéra-Bouffe Troupe have promised to present the well-known comedy "L'Abbé Constantin," while the Welch Band under the personal conductorship of Mr. White will play musical selections.

WHAT IS AN OFFICER?

There have been many quaint definitions of the various ranks in the Army. The following, one of the latest, was given by an Egyptian candidate for the E.E.F. Civilian Employment Services:—

A Officer is the only man whose occupation is known at once. His smartness, long thin body, special features, his uniform, leather stripes which he carries all over his shoulders, breast and waist. Always expecting salutting. Special made boots, generally yellow, and always going on motor cars to special high class restaurants and hotels make him well known with Red Cross Sisters.

While on the contrary a Sergeant is generally a short man, not very short. He carries nothing on his shoulders fortunately for him, relieved of the burden. All he's got is three stripes. Cloth, that is all.

The Corporal is the same as soldiers, only he has got two stripes.

Owing to congestion at British and French ports, the Canadian Railway Board has placed an embargo on a large portion of overseas shipments. The embargo will affect about 80 per cent of the exports, and it will be supported by the action of the Canadian warehouses, elevators and mills. The embargo will remain in force until the European ports are cleared.

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ALEXANDRIA BOURSE.

No great change has taken place in the market yesterday, the following being the officially quoted closing prices:—

Unified were at £91 1/8, drop and Banque d'Athenes were offered at fr.105.

Credit Foncier bonds issues 1886 and 1911 closed at fr.418 1/2 and 289 respectively, issue 1903 being offered at fr.308.

Comptoir Financier were a little firmer rising 1/32 and closing at £1 17/32.

Land Bank rose 1/16 to £7 5/16 and National Banks advanced 1/32 closing at £22 1/16.

Cassa di Sconto remained at fr.99 1/2 Société du Behera dropped 1/8 to £13 1/2 while there was no change in Union Foncière which were at £3 11/16.

There was a rise of 1/32 in Société Foncière d'Egypte which closed at £8 15/32.

Ordinary Khedivieh were weaker at 85/3 showing a drop of 1s., Salt and Soda being steady at 47/9d., a three pence drop; there was a fall of 1/8 in Filatures Nationales which finished at £13 3/8.

Cotton Ginners closed unchanged at £-17/32 and New Egyptian Co. dropped three pence, being quoted at 24/3d.

Deferred 1/10 Credit Foncier were firm at fr.1097 1/2 showing a rise of 17 1/2 francs.

⁂

We have received a copy of the useful bulletin, issued every six months by Messrs. Pilus Brothers and Co., of Alexandria, which gives a summary of all the chief stocks and shares dealt in on the Alexandria and Cairo Bourses with a calendar of the drawings of the various lottery bonds and a ready reckoner for Stock Exchange transactions.

OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

The Passenger Traffic from Egypt to Occupied Enemy Territory Administration (West) announce that all applications of this nature should be addressed to one of the following offices. Permit and Passport Office, Cairo City Police. Military Permit Office, Alexandria Governorate, Commandant, Suez Canal Police, Port Said. The attention of the public is drawn to the fact that these permits when issued are available for the journey to O.E.T.A. (West) BY SEA ONLY, and that travellers will themselves be responsible for arranging at their own expense all the details of their journey.

Owing to the occupation by the Allied forces of the Vilayet of Adana, to which the description O.E.T. North has been applied, the appellation O.E.T. West has now been given to the Syrian coastal region formerly described as O.E.T. North.

AIR DANGER ZONE.

We are asked to state that the danger zone of the manoeuvre area of the R.A.F., Heliopolis begins opposite the Heliopolis Electric Tramway Depot and continues to opposite the fourth Watch Tower. The Northern boundary is the old Suez railway embankment from Kasr el Ganum as far as Kut-Ban el Tham (12 kilometres); the southern boundary, a line parallel to and 5 kilometres south of the Suez road between 1 point 2 1/2 kilometres south of Gebel el Ahmar and the Wadi Hafarein. The Old Suez Road between Heliopolis and Suez is open to traffic, but anyone leaving it between the Heliopolis Tramway Depot and No. 4 Watch Tower does so at his own risk and peril. The branch of the Old Suez Road between Abbassia and the Heliopolis Tramway depot passing through the Heliopolis Aerodrome is closed to all traffic.

REGISTRATION OF SERVANTS.

The application to the Governorate of Alexandria of the Arrêté on the Registrations of Servants, dated 8/11/1916 and 19/3/17 having been published in the Journal Officiel of 2/1/1919, the public is hereby advised that all classes of servants of local nationality, and of the age of fifteen and over, will be dealt with as from the 1st February 1919. In order, however, to avoid overcrowding at the Registration Bureau, no servants are to be sent up until the Police agent delegated for the purpose has called to arrange the day on which each servant should attend, and delivered a coloured disc, the presentation of which on the day fixed will insure immediate attention.

The colours chosen to represent the day on which servants should appear at the Governorate are as follows:-

Saturday	Green
Sunday	White
Monday	Brown
Tuesday	Blue
Wednesday	Yellow
Thursday	Black

It being desired to study the convenience of the employees as much as possible, they will be given an opportunity of fixing the day on which their servants are to register. Servants who fail, however, to attend on the day selected will be placed in contravention.

An economic and financial agreement has been entered into between Switzerland and Italy, which will be in force for the next ten months, states the "Stampa." The agreement provides for the reciprocal exports of various goods by both countries, and for the formation of a financial group with authority to make payments in advance to a union of Italian banks.

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THE NATIVE PRESS.

EGYPT DORMANT.

"Wady el-Nil."—During the last four months several companies have been organised in Egypt to undertake commercial, agricultural and industrial enterprises and these will have formed them are all quick trained foreigners. The spirit of life which accompanied the events of the war, and the important lessons given by circumstances to people have revealed to every nation its own defects and stirred up its zeal to remove the defects and correct the wrong. While Governments were still fully engaged in war operations and straining every nerve to win victory they were also making careful preparations for securing economic progress in future. We have heard of their efforts and seen their acts, and though we are able to appreciate the opportunity to come out to the arena of competition in this respect we have not yet done anything in the form of carrying out the idea. What we wish to do is to move forward and to organise a product, the object of safeguarding the economic interest of the country. We have no right to complain of the lack of capital necessary for the development of business, we only want strong will.

SYRIANS UNITE.

The "Basir" (a letter from a Syrian correspondent at Mehalla el-Kubra). — The French and the British Governments have already declared that the Allies have no ambitions to realise in the lands liberated from Turkish yoke, and that they are ready to give the peoples of these countries full freedom to choose the sort of government they wish to have, The Armenians, the Greeks of Anatolia, and others, seizing the opportunity, have formed congresses and discussed their essential national claims and sent out deputations to Paris to defend their cause. What have the Syrians done hitherto. We have formed parties but these parties ought to come to a point of general understanding, otherwise we remain as disunited as before. We cannot see, however, that there are such essential difference among the parties concerned. Firstly, all the Syrian and Lebanese parties (Syrian means both of course) have agreed that Syria should not be partitioned neither politically nor economically. Secondly, all the parties are of opinion that Syria should be constituted an independent state under one central Government.... Thirdly, certain parties demand independence while others express other desires; but it is advisable in the beginning of our new life to ask one friendly Power to come and help us in our task of regeneration, just as the Armenians are doing, and this is necessary for us. These are the main points in connection with the question at issue: Will the Syrian Union, the Lebanese Union, and the Syrian Club at Alexandria meet and exchange opinions on the subject with a view to formulating a national programme, the time has come for settlement. Do not do as people have did when their city was surrounded by the enemy....

STATE DOMAINS.

The "Mokattam." — Among the rumours current in these days there is one that the authorities are thinking of detaching the old Domains Service from the State Domains Department and attaching the same to the Ministry of Agriculture. The cause of taking this step, it is stated, is that the Ministry of Agriculture needs to have under its control a department possessed of an income, in order to carry out useful schemes. The Domains Service has an income and have experienced agriculturists of the first class as well. The rumour however still lacks confirmation.

Schweppes' Mineral Waters.
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PALESTINE POCKET GUIDES.

NORTH PALESTINE AND SOUTH SYRIA.

The third volume of the Palestine Pocket Guide Books, published by the "Palestine News," has just made its appearance. This volume deals with Gilead, Bashan, the Hauran, northern Galilee, including Safed, Salt, Amman, Kerak, Boera, and Damascus. In addition there is an excellent introductory sketch of the topography and geology of Palestine and a number of maps and diagrams. The gheological tables will be found of great utility to all students of the history of this part of the world. One of these shows the relationship of the various Ayyubih Prince who reigned in Damascus, Egypt, Mesopotamia, the Yemen, Baalbek, Aleppo, Hama, Homs, Beira, and Kerak, with the Sultan Saladin, another table shows the relationship of the various clans of the Ashraf, who held the Emirate of Mecca during the Turkish domination from 1516 until 1916, while a third gives the relationship to the Prophet of the first four Khalifs, of the various branches of the tribe of the Kyreysh, which have held the Khalifate, and of the King of the Hedjas and of the Sultan of Morocco. There is an interesting essay in the form of an appendix on the Emirate of Mecca and the Arab movement.

The Palestine Pocket Guide-Books have been compiled for the benefit of those members of the E.E.F. who are anxious to find out something about the places in Palestine which are familiar to them, or are likely to become so. These little books are based upon the appropriate chapters of Baedeker's "Palestine and Syria," which, as an enemy publication of considerable value, is properly used for the convenience of the British Army. There are, however, numerous additions, drawn from the works of Colonel C. R. Conder, R.E., (published by "The Palestine Exploration Fund"), Geoffrey de Vinsauf, Beha-ed-Din, Sir Walter Besant and Mr. E. H. Palmer ("Jerusalem, The City of Herod and Saladin", a Messrs. Chatto and Windus), Murray's "Handbook to Syria and Palestine," and other writers whose authorship is acknowledged in the text.

Lieut.-Colonel H. Pirie Gordon, the Military Editor of the "Palestine News," has accorded a fuller treatment than that allowed in ordinary guide-books to the places which have been, or are, of interest to the Army, either because of present experiences or of associations with the former campaigns of King Richard and our forefathers. Every effort has been made to keep the price of the Palestine Pocket Guide-Books as low as possible, and in this connection a debt of gratitude is due to the Survey Department for having supplied the maps which contribute so much to the value of these volumes.

If you need a good, strong, and suitable Watch, buy either, "LONGINES," "TAVANNES WATCH" or "CYMA," 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-MALAKEH Street (off Opera Square), and at the Mousky Street, Specialty: Luminous Wrist Watches.

Agencies in Alexandria, M. Lanzerotti & Co., 29, Rue Cherif Pasha; Port Said and Ismailia, Gr. C. Sarolidis. Illustrated catalogue on demand.

FRENCH RED CROSS.

Following is the ninth list of subscriptions to the French Red Cross opened by Madame Lefferre Pontalis, under the patronage of H.H. the Sultan:-

	L.E.
M. S. S. Born & Co.	50
Mr. Georges Borsali	20
Mr. Henri Lack	25
M.M. Giuseppe Padova & Co.	20
M.M. Youssef & Ahmed El Gamal	20
Mr. A. D. Ekaieb	20
Commercial & Agency Cy. of Egypt Ltd.	20
Mr. Hassan Bey Yasef	10
Sheikh Mohamed Nasr	10
Sheikh Morsi Nofal	10
Dr. Aly Bey Hussein	10
Mr. Mahmoud Bey Farghali	10
Sheikh Ahmed Naim	10
Salonica Cigarette Cy.	10
Les élèves du Pensionnat de la Mère de Dieu	10
Mr. Georges Brahamcha	10
MM. Joseph Djeddaha & Co.	10
MM. Djeddah & Fils	10
His Ex. Ismail Pasha Abaza (2nd don.)	10
Mr. Hassanein Bey Abdel Ghaffar (2nd donation)	10
Mr. Mohamed Bey Osman Abaza	10
Mr. Ibrahim Bey Hassan	10
Mr. Ismail Eff. Thalakami	5
Mr. Ibrahim El Sawy	5
Mr. Abdel Hamid Eff. El Mahdi	5
Mr. Sotiri Zarropolo	5
Sheikh Mohamed Nasr	5
Mr. Abbas Eff. Aly	5
Mr. A. Bigio	5
M.M. Georges Bogladi & Sons	5
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M.M. Jacob Shoucr & Co.	5
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Mr. Mohamed Eff. Ibrahim El Gassar	5
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Mr. Hassan Bey Rouchdy	3
M.M. Riste & Co.	3
His Ex. Amin Pasha Sami	3
Sheikh Shoueb Abou El Ela	3
Mme. Heimann	2
M.M. F. Lévi & Co.	2
Mr. Léon Sultan	2
Mr. Maurice Garbous	1,500
Total	L.E. 440,550
Previous Donation	" 8770,860
Grand Total	L.E. 9211,360

Mr. Roosevelt, several days before his death, requested the Red Cross to donate 6,900 dollars of the share of the Nobel Peace Prize (which was awarded to Mr. Roosevelt and which was divided between various charities) to the French village near which his son Quentin is buried.

Moustapha, January 28.
SPATHIS MINERAL WATERS ARE THE BEST. (ADVT.)