THE NATIVE PRESS.

AMERICA'S HELP.

The "Ahaly" (from a leading article on the position of the United States in the world). — In the course of a year and some months, since its participation in the war the United States has acquired in the field of world politics a high position among the Powers which have grown gray-headed in the same field. By what force has America reached such a high position so quickly? The reply is this: At the beginning she acquired it by her material force, which bewildered the world, but subsequently she advanced her position by means of her admirable moral power, which has won for her human hearts, and if she continues to follow the same course she will double her influence in the same way, and by means of her trade which she has begun to spread in the world. The United States' moral power takes the shape of a doctrine that the sword ought to serve the objects of justice and humanity. It accordingly calls for the adoption of high principles, and at the same time proves by deeds that its call is by no means mere lustre but a serious fact. It has given generous help to the victims of the war in France, Belgium, Poland Armenia, Syria, and Constantinople, and it now gives a hundred million dollars (L.E. 20,000,000) for the same purpose. The President of the United States, however, states, that this is not all that ought to be done, and that it is necessary to give more and more help. America, which mentions "humanity" as her favourite object, thus proves that the word means "flesh and blood"....

THE CAIRO FLOOD.

The "Afkar" (commenting on the disastrous Cairo flood). — We went to see the victims of the flood in the outskirts of Cairo—Damerdash, Manshet el-Sadr, and Zeitoun—and we saw a very painful scene which we cannot find words to describe. The district appeared like a small isle in the middle of a huge sea, and this is enough to give you an idea of the situation. Had this painful event occurred in another country energetic steps would have been taken to remove its effect by immediate help... Among those who went to see the place of the disaster were a number of officers, and nurses. Some of them had cameras with them and must have taken photographs of the scene. One of the officers asked us what the Cairo Municipality had done for the victims, and we replied that "Cairo has no Municipality." The officer was amazed and we deeply felt the urgent need of such an organisation here. Has not the time come for setting up a Municipality for the capital of Egypt? And what are the richer people doing for the victims?

"Wady el-Nil" (from an article on the same subject).—The flood has demolished 150 houses over the heads of their occupants, and blocked the roads which lead to them, thus imprisoning the poor people in their ruined dwellings.... No time must be wasted by discussing the causes of the disaster and asking who is responsible for its occurrence, for the victims are in a condition that requires immediate care and help. They cannot wait long for succour while suffering the pains of hunger, and cold and restlessness. The women and children must be given prompt aid. Has the Government looked after them? The fall of 150 houses is not a small disaster, for the catastrophe overwhelms as many families of the poorer classes, who need food, warm clothes, and shelter. Will the wealthy living in palatial buildings which no flood can reach, think of those poor victims?....

The "Mokattam" — The heavy rain which fell in Cairo on Friday afternoon, and which we have already described, amounted to one inch and three quarters, which is equivalent to 43 millimetres; and this is the biggest quantity of rain that has ever fallen in one day in Egypt. It exceeds the average of the total gauge of rain which falls in Cairo in one year, for the total average does not exceed 14 inches. In other words the rain that fell on Friday in three hours was more than the average of the rain which usually falls here in 12 months.

ALEXANDRIA BOURSE.

The "Ahram" (from its commercial correspondent at Alexandria). — There is nothing new of a nature to attract special attention in connection with the market. Sales and purchases are going on in a regular way in the provinces, and those who offer cotton for sale get satisfactory prices. But here transactions are more difficult in Bourse cotton because the Cotton Control Commission experiences difficulty in selecting the variety of cotton it requires. It sometimes underestimates cotton and this brings about debates and long discussions between the parties concerned. In other words it delays transactions. Steamships which can be employed for commercial transport are few at the present time but it is hoped that more and more ships will be available shortly. The question of reopening the Bourse is still the subject of anxious discussion here, and it is to be hoped that our Government will come to an agreement with the British Government on this matter. All people wish to see the market regain its former freedom.

NEWS FROM SYRIA.

The "Mokattam" (news from Syria reproduced from a Damascus journal). — The Damascus Municipality states in a new circular concerning the food stuff market, that it has been decided to sell bread at the rate of P.T. 84 per rotl of the best quality (a rotl is two okes in Syria). The sack of good flour is to be sold at 16 Mejidis (a Mejidi is equivalent to P.T. 16). A telegraph line has been constructed between Amman and el-Salt, and the telegraph office has begun to accept messages to those places. The British High Commissioner has given permission to 66 persons to leave Damascus for Egypt on the 16th inst., on the condition that they should have lived enough for four days. We hope that this will be the opening of the resumption of communications between both countries. It has been decided to reopen the French School of Medicine in Beyrout, which has been closed during the war.

OUR RACING COMPETITION.

Although our Racing Competition has been won several times by Alexandrians it has occurred to us that many entries could be obtained if we were to accept them at our Alexandria office also. This has now been arranged and competitors are now authorised to bring or send their coupons, with the necessary entrance money, to our Alexandria Offices up to 1 p.m. every Saturday. Remember that the more the entries, the bigger the prize, for we only take ten per cent (or working expenses). Last week's competition is open to Saturday, January 25, owing to Cairo floods.

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PURIFICATION OF ALEXANDRIA.

(To the Editor of the Egyptian Gazette.)

Sir,— "A Britisher's" remedy for Ramleh Street is at least better than Mr. Eeman's. It merely transfers an impossible task to the school-masters, who are used to it. Their life is one long contest with impossibilities. "A Britisher" puts his scheme rather vaguely for surely what he urges is being done to-day. At present and so far back as history reaches social and religious leaders have been "denying the physical necessity of illicit intercourse." Has there ever been any permanent result? Occasionally and for a brief period the teacher catches the ear of the multitude and Florence ceases to be a part of Mediaeval Europe or the Thebaid fills itself with a neurotic multitude unbalanced by the suppression of a basic instinct. But the pendulum swings back. Savonarola is burnt by his repentant disciples and the Thebaid delivers itself over once again to the desert.

There is only one way of dealing with the Social Evil and that is by being frank about it. And frankness means the clear-sighted acceptance of the following axioms:

(1) That a certain percentage of normal, conscientious, well-balanced people of all races require a variety in experience which is impossible under strict monogamy. Therefore this need must be recognised—unless we want to be hypocrites or visionaries.

(2) That this method of life is deeply offensive to another large proportion of the population. Therefore it must not be thrust on public attention.

(3) That no persons should be forced to do what is repugnant to themselves. Therefore Protection societies societies should be supported.

(4) That National health should be safeguarded. Therefore prophylactics should be popularised.

There are a lot of other axioms. But these will do for a start.

Yours, &c.,
E. Dent.

Moustapha, January 20.

JOSEPH'S EGYPTIAN TITLE.

(To the Editor of the Egyptian Gazette.)

Sir,—In reference to the very interesting letter from "A.B.G.," which appeared in your issue of yesterday, perhaps a quotation from the writings of the late Rev. John Urquhart, a distinguished member of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, relative to Joseph's title, may be of interest to your readers, as it amplifies somewhat the explanation given by your correspondent. The quotation is as follows:—

"As to Joseph's title Zaphnath-paanesh, its Egyptian character was recognised from the first. This belief has been fully justified by modern researches. Different meanings are assigned to the phrase by Egyptologists; but all of them agree as to its thoroughly Egyptian form. Lenormant and Mariette point out that the first part of this name, *Tsaphnath*, is Egyptian. *Tsafen-fe-ne* was borne as a title by the last of the Shepherd kings. It means "the nourisher of the world." Canon Cook in the Speaker's Commentary, says that the name *Zaphnathpaanesach*, or rather *Zaphnathpaanch* "is completely inexplicable in Hebrew, but an exact transcription of the Hebrew letters gives a clear sense in Egyptian." The meaning, he continues, is quite clear. The first syllable 'Zaf' is a word of very common occurrence meaning 'abundance.' Its well-ascertained meaning is 'food,' especially 'corn,' or 'grain' in general. He shows that it frequently occurs in the titles of high officials with this sense. The next word 'nat' ('nath'), as the phrase 'Ab Nat,' used very commonly in the early monuments) 'pa' is the Egyptian definite article, and means of course 'the.' The meaning of 'anch' is not questioned, it signifies 'life,' or with the article it may mean 'living.' The ancient name of Memphis is 'anach' for the land of life, or of the living. The meaning therefore of the whole name, the only meaning which it could bear to an Egyptian, and of course to a Hebrew of the age of Moses, is the 'food of life,' or 'food of the living.'"

In connection with the foregoing it is interesting to note that the name Os (rielopolis) —the high priest of On—Joseph's father-in-law,—has been found in an Aramaic inscription at Abydos, written by a native of Tyre.

Yours, etc.,
Victor L. Trumper,
Hon. Sec. in Egypt of the
Palestine Exploration Fund.

Port Said, Jan. 17.

ALEXANDRIA MERCHANT SEAMEN'S HOME.

(To the Editor of the Egyptian Gazette.)

Sir,—I have pleasure in presenting my ninth list of donations, and should like to take the opportunity to thank the donors as much for kind wishes for our success, sent, as for their contributions. It would be a gratifying task were I required to acknowledge similar practical help and wishes from the several hundred recipients of our appeal here, in Cairo, and the Delta towns generally, who have not, so far remembered the claims of Seamen.

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Total acknowledged by list eight of 11th instant	5,695 043
Messrs. Imperial Ottoman Bank Alexandria	75 —
Messrs. Thos Hinshelwood & Co. Ltd. (2nd donation), Alexandria	50 —
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Mr. C.W.W. Bewsher (2nd donation) Alexandria	3 —
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Miss C. Zoë Tristram, Alexandria	2 —
Doctor Lilias Maclay, Alexandria	9 750
Mr. & Mrs. C. R. Elias, Alexandria	5 —
Mr. B. Pearson, Tantah	5 —
Mr. Edward Crewe, Cairo	5 —
Judge G. H. Carey, Alexandria	5 —
Total	5,933 793

Yours, etc.,
John K. Clarkson,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, A.M.S.H.
c/o R. J. Moss & Co., Alexandria.

Alexandria, Jan. 18.

MALTESE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY "VALLETTA" ALEXANDRIA.

The annual general meeting of members of the Valetta Society will take place on Saturday January 25 at their headquarters 17 Rue Mazloum Pasha (Ibrahim Ier) at 6 p.m. for the presentation of the balance sheet for 1918 and the election of the Committee for the present year.

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ALEXANDRIA BOURSE.

The market was a little better yesterday and there was a general rise; the following were the officially quoted closing prices.

Agricultural Bank were firmer at £6 25/32, 1/16 rise, National Bank advanced 3/32 to £21 25/32, and there was a rise of 3/4 fr. in Cassa di Sconto which closed in request at fr.98 3/4.

In the Credit Foncier bonds department the tendency was firmer, issues 1886, 1903 and 1911 being quoted at fr.420, 3/8 1/2 and 286 1/2 respectively.

Banque d'Athenes were weaker at fr.101 1/2 showing half a franc drop. Land Bank remained at £7 7/32 and there was no change in Building Lands which were at £1 11/16.

Wadi Kom Ombo were in request at £5 7/16; Chek Fadl advanced 1fr. to fr.105 while there was a rise of 1/32 in Urbaines et Rurales which finished at £8 5/16; Union Fonciere being in demand at £3 9/16.

Gabbari Land rose 1/64 more to £-7 1/8 while Société Fonciere were firmer at £8 1/2, 1/32 higher.

Société des Immeubles were active at £6 showing a rise of 1/16, Ordinary Khedivieh being a good feature changing hands in large number and closing at 88 1/2, 2/7 1/2 rise; Egyptian Delta Light were also in request at £7 9/16, advancing by 1/16 while there was a further rise of 1/16 in Kungovich Hotels which finished at £6 15/16.

Salt and Soda were active and remained unchanged at 48/9; Filatures Nationales rose half a pound to £13 1/8, and Bras series d'Egypte were 8 francs higher closing at fr.555.

Priv. and Deferred Crown Brewery were quoted at fr.475 and 405 ex-coupon respectively and there was no change in Cotton Ginners which closed at £- 13/16 1/64.

There was a further rise of 1/32 in Sidi Salem Estates which were quoted at £2 11/32; Port Said Salt being more active at 90s. a rise of 3/3d. while Deferred Comptoir remained at £2 3/8 and there was no change in New Egyptian Co. which finished at 22/4 1/2. Deferred Land Bank rose £2 1/2 closing at £47.

BENI-SUEF NOTES.

A CURIOUS SWINDLING CASE.

(From our own Correspondent).

Beni Suef, Jan. 19.

Some two weeks ago a representative of a dramatic company came to Beni Suef and notified that a play would be acted on January 7 at 8.30 p.m. The troupe in question was from the Casino de Paris. The popularity of this company gained during a previous short stay in Beni Suef made people rush for tickets, and a considerable number were sold at high prices. And the seemingly crazy spectators or rather would-have-been spectators waited with due anxiety the advent of the "stars".

It will be remembered that the day chosen was quite appropriate. It was the Orthodox Christmas in which not a small percentage of Copts and Greeks took a lively interest. It was indeed ridiculous to see streams of well-dressed gentlemen and ladies, on foot, or in carriages making their way to the hall in the greatest hurry, to occupy the best seats. It was more ridiculous still to see them all returning disappointed. The troupe did not come and has not come yet. No explanation for the reason of this delay, no advertisement or apology was made, and the ticket-holders are left wondering.

MAILS FOR HOME.

A mail leaves Alexandria for Port Said by P. and O., for home to-day, at the following hours. Ordinary correspondence at 3 p.m., registered letters 1.30 p.m., insured articles at noon and money orders at the same hour.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

During the six days ending on Thursday last, seven steamers left Alexandria harbour. One sailed for Hull with a cargo of 22,861 ardebs of cotton seed, 10,566 sacks of cotton seed cake and 2,610 boxes of eggs; another sailed for Liverpool with a cargo of 6,777 bales of cotton, 1,010 sacks cotton seed cake, 107 bales of wool, 2,564 boxes of eggs and 1,066 boxes of dates; a third sailed for Japan with a cargo of 1,800 bales of cotton. Three others sailed for Liverpool and the seventh for Glasgow.

THE RIMAIL BAKERY CASE.

The hearing of the case in connection with the theft of British Army wheat and flour from the Rimali Bakery, which was reported by us on Tuesday was resumed on Thursday morning by the special Military Court. Mr Reginald Silley, who is acting as prosecutor, put forward fully the case before the Court supported by the reports of the experts who had examined the question. The Court then proceeded with the hearing of the witnesses whose number is 34. At the request of the lawyers for the defence the Court proceeded to the Rimali Flour mill where they examined its position minutely and after lunch the Court resumed its sitting about 2. 30 p.m. and heard several witnesses. It is anticipated that the hearing of this case will cover another week at least.

RACING ENTHUSIASTS.

Those who cannot attend the Races can yet have a big interest by taking chances in the "Gazette" weekly competition, all entrance fees less ten per centgiven to the winner.

EGYPT'S SCHOOLS.

INDIAN CONDITIONS RECUR.

In a letter to the "Times Educational Supplement" Mr. H. R. James writes as follows:—

The course run by school education in India is, it would seem, being repeated with startling closeness in Egypt; and unfortunately precisely in those particulars which have been most accountable for the "failure" with which public instruction in India is reproached. Some of the extracts from Mr. Boyd Carpenter's report might, mutatis nomine, have been written of Indian schools any time in the last fifty years, except that Egypt would appear to be in considerably worse case. For, although reliance on sheer rote memory has played a disastrous part in the work of Indian schools, and colleges, it has seldom been so wholly unintelligent as that which Mr. Boyd Carpenter characterizes with vivid lucidity.

But what stares one in the face is the evident tendency for phenomena, and undesirable phenomena, which marked the expansion of modern education in India, to recur in Egypt with disconcerting identity. There is the same rapid increase of numbers in inverse proportion to capacity, the same eagerness to get the opportunities in life for which education fits without getting the education; the same multiplication of schools wretchedly staffed and equipped; the same popular demand for lower standards. The crux of the problem is plainly in Egypt now, as it was long ago in India, how to forward the extension of higher education without allowing its quality to decline fatally in the process. Happily the Egyptian Ministry of Education appears from Mr. Boyd Carpenter's report to be alive to the gravity of the issue, and assuredly Indian experience confirms the wisdom of this solicitude. The great educational experiment in India, so fruitful in example and warning, should not go for nothing now that another enterprise of the kind and in similar medium is gathering momentum. Discriminating study of what has been done and suffered in India should certainly guard those responsible for the advance of education in Egypt against some pitfalls. It will uphold the controlling agency in their efforts to resist now from the beginning the insidious influences which tend to lower standards; it will justify them in resolute insistence on the provision of competent teaching as a condition of the opening of new schools. Difficult as may be the self-denial involved, these must be regarded as the indispensable conditions of every advance. It is too late to introduce remedies, when a vast, amorphous, and inefficient system is wholly established. It is of great significance that at this very time the centre of interest in Indian education is once more shifting back to the secondary school. It is no new apprehension that the effective cure of unsegregated defects in university education in Bengal is bound up with a thorough re-organisation of high schools. It may be conjectured that when, in the fulness of time, the Commission on Calcutta University makes their report, this consideration will be freshly enforced with the weight of their authority.

It is the similarity in these educational developments which strikes one most remarkably, but before coming to the end of the article one lights upon a notable difference. It has become a common-place of the prevalent criticism of Indian education that the adoption of English as the medium of instruction in higher education was the cardinal error. This mistake at all events has not been made in Egypt; for we are told that not English, but Arabic, is at the present time the language of instruction in Egyptian secondary schools. And then one notes a strange thing. Your Correspondent writes:— "We may expect that one of the principal recommendations of the Commission which is at present studying the question will be the reintroduction of the English language as the medium of instruction in all the schools." This is piquant, to say the least of it, and I should like to say something about it; but it is too critical a question to introduce at the end of a letter already needing indulgence on the score of length.

ALEXANDRIA TERMINUS.

The Egyptian State Railways has decided to resume the work of constructing the new Terminus at Alexandria, which was interrupted at the beginning of the war owing to the need for economy and the lack of building materials. The roof of the old Terminus is becoming more and more decrepit, and it is feared that it may collapse. The stone for the facade of the new station is coming from Sicily. The estimated cost of the entire enterprise is L.E. 400,000.

ALEXANDRIA'S HEALTH.

During the week ending January 14 in Alexandria there were 18 cases of relapses among typhoid cases and 6 new cases, three of which were fatal. Typhus claimed 4 victims out of 7 cases, measles 2 out of 5 and leprosy 1 out of 1. There were 6 cases of diphtheria, one of whooping cough, one of erysipelas, one of cerebro-spinal meningitis and one of tetanus. Fifteen died of tuberculosis and 4 of phisis and 3 of dysentery. In all there were 359 deaths, 285 births and 11 cases of stillborn infants among natives. During this period 58 foreigners died and 301 natives, while the figures for births are 20 and 265 respectively.

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"WAIT AND SEE."

A STORY OF GALLIPOLI.

The ways of "the Twenty three"—Mr. Asquith's Cabinet during the earlier stages of the war—have come in for much criticism; but they have never been so thoroughly exposed as they are in an article, "The War-Office in War Time," in the January "Blackwood." The author, Major-General Sir C.E. Callwell, tells the story to illustrate a method rather than to criticise a system. He was told on November 23, 1915, to go to Paris and make the French War Minister (general Gallieni, acquainted with the fact that the War Council had just arrived at the decision to abandon Gallipoli "without further ado." On the following day the full Cabinet was to meet to endorse the decision. General Callwell had his instructions from Mr. Asquith, then acting Secretary for War as well as Prime Minister, and set off. On the morning of the 24th he was met at the Gare du Nord with a telegram intimating that the Cabinet "had been unable to come to a decision, but were going to have another try on the morrow." He was to dine with General Gallieni that evening, and decided to let the French Minister know exactly how matters stood. The rest of the story General Callwell tells as follows:

A fresh wire came to hand from the War Office on the following afternoon, announcing that the Cabinet had again been unable to clinch the business, but contemplated a further séance two days later, the 27th. On the afternoon of the 27th, however, a message arrived from General Murray to say that our rulers had yet again failed to make up their minds, and that the best thing I could do under the circumstances was to return to the War Office. General Gallieni when the position of affairs was explained to him, was most sympathetic, quoted somebody's dictum that "la politique n'a pas d'entrailles," and hinted that he did not always find it quite plain sailing with his own gang. Still, there it was. The "Twenty-three" had thrown the War Council over (it was then composed of Messrs. Asquith, Bonar Law, Lloyd George, and Balfour, and Lord Grey, assisted by the First Sea Lord and the C.I.G.S.).

SAND FOR EGYPT.

There was a tale of the War Office sending sand to Egypt in the early days of the war, but it was thought incredible. However, it has been confirmed and at the Colonial Institute on January 3 it was announced that by order of the War Office a cargo of sand was sent out to Egypt for the purpose of filling sandbags for the trenches, and was actually unloaded.

The Municipal Council of Paris has decided to request the Minister of Food to place at its disposal a certain number of tank railway wagons, to enable it to bring supplies of wine to the capital, and thus do away with the excessive prices now prevailing.

KEATING'S POWDER KILLS BUGS FLEAS MOTHS BEETLES

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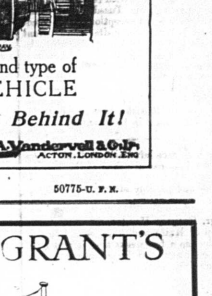

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MORE KITCHENER RUMOURS.

There has been within the last two or three days one of those queer, untraceable rumours going round West London that Lord Kitchener had been seen in town, writes the London correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" on January 3. But, unlike other such rumours, there was some sort of excuse for it. The excuse is General Trenchard.

A friend of the late Lord Kitchener who was in Bond street recently tells me that he saw a figure in front of him which for a moment quite unnerved him, so like it was to his dead friend. Coming nearer he saw that it was General Trenchard. He said that not only is General Trenchard almost the same height and build as Lord Kitchener, but that he has the same way of holding his head and of leaning a little on one side, with one shoulder higher than the other, and turning his head to the shop windows as he passed. The likeness is extraordinary, and if General Trenchard was filmed as Lord Kitchener most of the latter's friends could not tell the difference.

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