PURIFICATION OF ALEXANDRIA

MR. UPSON'S EFFORTS.

(To the Editor of the Egyptian Gazette.)

Sir,—I notice in a recent "Egyptian Gazette" a very long letter from Cairo by Mr. Upson on the subject of the purification of Alexandria, while a few days ago another Cairo correspondent sent a similar letter, where the moral morality of Alexandria was painted in the blackest colours. It is remarkable that while residents in the capital should show such grave concern over Alexandria, nobody ever seems to shows any anxiety as to the morals of Cairo. I can only conclude that here we are either lacking the moral enthusiasm for the cause of social purity, which is so seriously disturbed by such fighters in the good fight as Hopkinson Pasha, Dr. Granville, Mr. Keman and others, or that the authorities here are wiser than the heads of the Alexandria Municipality and know that all such purification campaigns, as that in which the Municipality of Alexandria is now involved in regard to the Ramleh Boulevard, will only lead to a worse state of affairs than that which prevailed before. But the Alexandria Municipality is proof against either common sense or ridicule, so I am led to believe, and prefer to imagine it is engaged in a great social reform by driving the courtesans from one street into another, which is what all this absurd campaign comes down to in the end. In a connection may I quote from an article, which Miss Florence Farr contributed to a Socialist review in London, which contained the quotation some time ago in the "Spectator," which made use of it in order to show what were the views of advanced thinkers on this subject, and I have kept it for reference inasmuch as it expressed the opinion of an English lady in a plainspoken manner. It is as follows:—

"Things being as arranged, is it not as well that public opinion should be trained to take a more Imperial view of the women who live to give men pleasure? In the East, as I have said, the religious-minded can make a ritual both of marriage and prostitution. Their prayers and ceremonies in one case are directed to the creative Deity, in the other to the Great Power of nature whom they feel to be symbolised in women. Among them women are sometimes said to have no souls, but this is not because they are not immortal. The Hindu, for instance, considers that woman is a part of the immortal Mother of Life herself and to unite with a woman is to clasp the Universe in your arms and taste the ecstasy of Being quite apart from the ecstasy of creation. Feelings such as these are not English. But is it better to be an Englishman who permits himself to do what his conscience condemns? Is it better that our 'Daughters of Joy' should live in the well-regulated house of a 'Mrs. Warren,' or, worse, in insanitary little corners of their own land, than that they should be brought up as dancers in the Temple of Kali dedicated to the Goddess and kept healthy and beautiful in order that they may fulfil a purpose that they and their countrymen consider honourable and not degrading? This is the crux of the whole subject. It is almost entirely due to public opinion that prostitutes are a degraded class. In civilisations in which they are treated with respect, they are often the most brilliant members of society and generous in their well-doing. Some great Queens have lived the lives of prostitutes, but have been excellent rulers. There is every social reason why this career should not of itself be considered disgusting, for in some legitimate unions there is often far more real cause for disgust. As a matter of fact, the really degrading part of marriage and prostitution is the endeavour on the part of one or the other to rouse passions by unnatural means, and neither the law, nor the prophets, nor the registrars', nor the cathedral can make such a union holy. Men wonder when they may meet the 'not impossible she,' women dream of the awakener; but they none of them offer up their prayers to 'the Master of Men.' God has been defined as the relation between a man and the Absolute, so we take Eros to be the relation between a man or woman and Absolute Love. Like all gods he has many illusionary manifestations, but are not the Hindus wiser when they offer their prostitutes to some such idea as this than we who, like the Greeks, refuse our worship to the son of Aphrodite? Euripides has chanted a fine chorus in Hippolytus' telling of the terrors of the unassuged divinity. We see around us in every western civilisation how lives are laid waste like sacked cities because of the festering conscience which has made useless that which might be naturally been clean. In the day of her power the Church made a sacrament out of war and called it chivalry. Now in the day of her weakness could she make a sacrament of love? Perhaps—but it is not to be expected that the Church should lose her prestige on such an alliance; for love, desire, and lust are extravagant things which it has been her business to discourage. Great as the Catholic Church is, foremost among the aristocratic religions of the West, the East has a serener past and its religions a longer pedigree. Chaldea, Egypt, and India have one great message for the modern world, a message announcing that it is better for the Ministers of Pleasure that they should dance within the temple walls, that they should drift in painted masks through the profane discord of a city."

Yours, etc.,

E.D.B.

Cairo, February 8.

RIMALI WITNESS UNDER ARREST

A woman who owns a bake-house has laid a complaint before the Cairo Supplies Control Board that Osman Rifai, of the secret police, who has been employed to inspect the distribution of wheat, has frequently threatened to stop her supply of flour unless she gives him bribes. The director of the Distribution Office is said to have laid a trap for Osman by giving the woman two marked banknotes to give to the policeman. The next time Osman Rifai came she offered them to him and he accepted them. But the Assistant Mamour El Zapt of Cairo who was watching the incident arrested Osman, searched him and took the banknotes from his pocket. An enquiry has been opened. Osman Rifai is the chief witness in the Rimali case.

Leeds weekly out-of-work bonuses total £11,000.

RACING.

HELIOPOLIS MEETING.

Following are the entries for the race meeting to be held at Heliopolis Racing Club, on Saturday, February 15:-

BEGINNERS PLATE.
Value L.E.100 (6 furlongs).

Fauni	9.11
Baalbec	9.11
Noor	9.11
Ibrahim	9.9
Abou Zeid	9.7
Samroud	9.7
Brandy	9.5
Fakeed	9.3
Kobeilan	9.3
Makhoul	9.1
Garran	9.0
Jester	9.1
Arlequin	9.1
Iani	8.7
Brulleur	8.0
Madmoun	7.11
Annas	7.10

JERUSALEM HANDICAP.
Value L.E.150 (1. 1/4 miles).

Boule de Neige	9.7
Ibn Boulad	9.4
Marcut	9.3
Asfour	9.2
Omda	8.12
Azaia	8.11
Paddy	8.2
Kawkab	8.0

BENHA HANDICAP.
Value L.E.200 (1 mile).

Maintenon	9.10
Platine	8.3
Konami	8.2
Magued	7.11
Shahraman	6.12

FEBRUARY HANDICAP.
Value L.E.200 (5 furlongs).

Land Mark	9.10
Golden Grass	9.10
Holland	9.9
Order	8.7
Forest Queen	7.9
Aman	7.8
Cygnet	7.5
Touch the Bell	6.7
Crows Nest	6.7

ATBARA HANDICAP.
Value L.E.200 (7 furlongs).

Aurelius	9.10
Plaisanterie	9.10
Pouncer	8.8
Temeraire	7.8

GALIOUB HANDICAP.
Value L.E. 150. (6 furlongs).

Sardanapal	9.10
Grayling	9.8
Samer	9.8
Araks	9.0
Mcurad	8.7
Marco	8.3
Buona Vista	7.9
Abou Nawass	7.7

PORT-SAID HANDICAP.
Value L.E.150. (7 furlongs).

Sirdar	9.10
Sultan	9.1
Predicateur	9.0
Sheewan	8.13
Malek	8.13
Meluna	8.12
Sofar	8.11
Khalifa	8.9
Patsy	8.8
Rachid III.	8.6
Zaki	8.2
Dalal	7.10
Bruleur	7.3
Mengil	7.2

In the Port Said, February and Benha Handicaps, if the top weight accepted be below Best, then it will be lowered to that weight and the others in proportion.

COMING PROGRAMME.

Following is the programme for the Tenth Meeting to be held on Saturday, March 15:-

1. Heliopolis Derby. Value L.E.350. For Arabs. 1 mile.

2. Sporting Handicap. Value L.E.200. For all horses. 6 furlongs.

3. Khartoum Handicap. Value L.E.200. For country bred Arabs. 1 mile.

4. Fagalla Handicap. Value L.E.150. For Arabs that have not won races of an aggregate of L.E.400. 5 furlongs.

5. Old Cairo Handicap. Value L.E.150. For Arab ponies that have not won an open not 1st class pony race since October 1917. 6 furlongs.

6. Beginners Race. Value L.E.80. For Arabs that have never won a race of any description. Weight for age reduced 1lb. Galloways allowed lbs. 8, and ponies lbs. 4. 7 furlongs.

7. Selling Race. Value L.E.100. For Arabs. 5 furlongs.

The programme for the Eleventh Meeting to be held on March 29:-

1. Alibey Handicap. Value L.E.200. For all horses. 1 1/2 miles.

2. Heliopolis St. Leger. Value L.E.250. Handicap for Arabs. 1 1/4 miles.

3. March Handicap. Value L.E.200. For Arab ponies. 1 mile.

4. Casino Handicap. Value L.E.150. For Arabs that have not won races of an aggregate of L.E.400. 1 mile.

5. Allies Handicap. Value L.E.150. For country bred Arabs that have never won a country bred race of the advertised value of L.E.200. 1 mile.

6. Novices Plate. Value L.E.80. For country breds that have never won a race of any description. Weights for age. 7 furlongs.

7. Maiden Plate. Value L.E.200 for all horses that have never won. Weight for age on English scale. Entrance P.T.200. 5 furlongs.

ALEXANDRIA MILITARY MEETING.

The usual prices will be charged for admission via: Non-members (gentlemen) P.T.30; non-members (ladies) P.T.20; members (gentlemen) P.T.20; members (ladies) P.T.5; public stand, P.T.5. Owners are asked to make their entries as early as possible.

Members, to obtain admission at the reduced rate, must show their badge.

MILITARY MEETING AT HELIOPOLIS.

By kind permission of General Sir Edmund Allenby, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., a Military Race Meeting (—— Division) will be held at Heliopolis on Wednesday, February 19, commencing at 2.15 p.m. There will be seven races, including Hurdle Races and a mule race. Entrance to Grand Stand P.T.25; entrance to Public Stand P.T.5. By kind permission of Major General S.W. Hare, C.B., the Band of the —— Division will attend.

The latest "London Gazette" states that the well-known actor, Major Robert Loraine, is granted the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

AFTER THE BALL,

ONE GAME—TWO RECORDS

(By Spectator.)

At the risk of being accused of dealing with ancient history I propose to spare a few words about the League and Lancashire match. It was great! First of all there was a record crowd so far as football in Alexandria is concerned. It did me good to see the crowd round the ground and though there was not the homogeneous gathering associates with cup ties there was plenty of enthusiasm of the game itself. I am not going to comment upon. You all know about it by this time and how the superior front of goal work of the Lancashire team dominated helped that side to a victory, which did not represent the run of the play. The return match between Alexandria and Cairo has at last been fixed up. The date for you to remember is the 19th inst., next Wednesday. I hope to see as big a gate at the Stadium as there was in the League versus the Lancashire game, especially as it will mean another addition to the funds of St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors, Regents Park, London. Now do not forget, next Wednesday!

ANOTHER RECORD.

I have left the most satisfactory feature of the event, with a little dose of criticism to the end. The profits of the fixture exceed £100—another record for Alexandria. I hope to give you more details next week. Now for the little fly in the ointment. Many ticket holders for the P.T. 5 and P.T. 10 seats had to stand, or find a resting place on mother earth round the touch line. Of course that should not have happened, and probably will not do so again. The fact that they did not obtain seats is rather a reflection on the crowd because the management provided sufficient seating accommodation. Where they failed was in having too good an opinion of the spectators. They did not think the latter would take the seats they knew others had paid for. Without question the usurpers would have given up their "Buckheesh" places had they been asked but it is a long job to go round a ground and clear the seats of non-ticket holders and the management was not strong enough to tackle the problem; though they did their best. On the whole the disappointed ones made the best of matters and many laughingly sought consolation in thinking that after all the "buckheesh" sitters had merely applied the saying "Charity begins at home" seeing it was a charity match.

TEAM TO MEET CAIRO.

The Executive Committee have selected the following to represent the League in the Cairo game:—

Ellis (19th Gen. Hos.), goal; Allen (19th Gen. Hos.) and McIntoch (Naval Depot), backs; A. N. Other (A.W. & S.P.), Crabtree (A.W. & S.P.) and Horne (19th Gen. Hos.), halves; Lloyd (Cleopatra), McDougall (D.A.C.), Stott (R.A.C.), Howard (19th Gen. Hos.) and Sapsford (3rd Echelon), forwards. Reserves: Prew (Emtees), goal; Mackenzie (19th Gen. Hos.), back; Bennett (Re-Vets), half; Hill (Emtees), Gillespie (Base Park R.E.'s), and Holland (19th Gen. Hos.), forwards.

It will be seen that there are several alterations to the eleven who drew at Cairo and that the front line is practically the one that represented the Lincastrians last week. At their meeting the Committee discussed the failure of ticket holders to obtain seats at the Lancaster game and I am glad to say that they are taking steps which should prevent such a thing occurring next Wednesday. In the first place they are raising the prices. The cheapest ticket will be P.T. 5, which will enable any admit the holder to the ground. If you want to rest your weary legs you will have to invest P.T. 10's. I think those "sports" who evaded the toll last week by scaling the wall will not have the same chance this time. I have no sympathy for them for P.T. 21 for charity would not have hurt any of them. Even if the P.T. 5 is a smaller numerically next week the total money taken should be higher and I expect St. Dunstan's will get a good sized cheque.

CUP-TIES BEGIN.

By the time I get my next week's notes five matches in the Alexandria United Services Challenge Cup will have been played. Three of these are home matches for the mid-week leaving the Echelon, to meet the Wing and M.S.D. on Wednesday, P.G.R., on Saturday. As there has been so much introduction of new blood among the League teams and as there are several new clubs it is difficult to hazard an opinion of what the results of the 1st round will be. On past form the A.W. & S.P. should beat the Scots this afternoon at Aboukir and, in spite of their recent displays I am inclined to favor the Echelon's chance against the Wing, though the latter are at home. From what I hear—I cannot write from personal observations—some of the fresh combinations are likely to give our League clubs a bit of a shake up. There is bound to be plenty of enthusiasm. Well enthusiasm within bounds is a good thing, though it is inclined to spoil the style of football of a team. All the same I hope to have a series of interesting games to comment upon next week.

ANOTHER FAREWELL.

Another Eastern Division club has had to throw up the sponge, and there are rumours—but I will leave—at that. Yes, the Command Depot carrier has been stopped by the powers that be. Why Military requirements should be allowed to interfere with our sport of course passes comprehension, but that is what happens. The Command Depot made a great effort to equare off their programme before the authorities gave their ultimatum, but it could not be done. It is becoming quite a mournful thing to keep writing farewells to our pals in this way. All the same I cannot let the Command Depot drop out without observing that they have been a great asset to the game. Many teams look back with pleasure to the strenuous games played with the Command Depot and may I add many spectators after cursing the distance the ground was from civilisation have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. In the game against the Command Depot won 4, drew 3 and lost six. They were better of their opponents in the matter of goals—for 28 against 27. On the whole not a wonderful record, but not one to be ashamed of as the club had some difficult patches to traverse.

WHERE INTEREST LIES.

There were plenty of goals scored in last Saturday's games. The A.W.S.P. held on the eastern championship was further strengthened by the end of the week matches. In the first place they beat the E.A.F. by 8 goals to nil while their only serious opponents—the 19th General Hospital—suffered defeat at the hands of Cleopatra by 3 goals to 0. These were the only two Eastern Division matches. In the other sections of the Stadium competitions their victorious career. The Base Park R.E. were their victims and 4 to 1 their score. Sufficient is said. The Emtees were victors in a game as the Scots had to postpone their encounter. They are still second on the table with a game and two points to the good of Main Supply Depot. The line named are travelling smoothly now. They beat Amria on the latter's ground by 5 to 0; not a bad performance. The Royal Scots struck oil on Saturday and picked up 2 points as the result of the 6 to 1 win over the Royal Naval Depot. It looks as though the fight for the second place in the Western Division will be the outstanding feature of interest in the close-of-the-season games the Cup tie of course being excepted.

R.E'S. DISAPPOINTING.

The Base Park R.E's. cut a poor figure against the Emtees. Really their front line was very weak, Gillespie being the only man to show anything like decent football. The Re-Vets too have played better class football. Of course they had nothing to bring them out so to a certain extent can be excused. Ashworth was back in his "pivotal" position—I cannot resist the temptation to use a word that demobilisation has made so familiar. That was due to the absence of P. Jones. The blank spot in the line was filled by Hamilton, but he was not too convincing. Altogether it was a poor game. If I might be excused for harking back to the League v. Lancashire game, the Re-Vets represented by McKinlay, The brawny back however hardly did himself justice. I have seen him do much better. Of course he was up against a few players who were a shade better than the front line men he has to deal with in the League.

19TH GENERAL OFF COLOUR.

The 19th General Hospital quite upset their supporters in their return match with Cleopatra. There is no gainsaying that the losing team is greatly handicapped by the soft sand on the Cleopatra ground but that is not enough excuse for the poor display put up. The Hospital were without the services of Woods and Howard two of their best men, but nothing could be said of Bellow who occupied the back position. Howard substitute Parnell, however, P.T. 5 and P.T. 10 seats had to stand, or find a resting place on mother earth round the touch line. Of course that should not have happened, and probably will not do so again. The fact that they did not obtain seats is rather a reflection on the crowd because the management provided sufficient seating accommodation. Where they failed was in having too good an opinion of the spectators. They did not think the latter would take the seats they knew others had paid for. Without question the usurpers would have given up their "Buckheesh" places had they been asked but it is a long job to go round a ground and clear the seats of non-ticket holders and the management was not strong enough to tackle the problem; though they did their best. On the whole the disappointed ones made the best of matters and many laughingly sought consolation in thinking that after all the "buckheesh" sitters had merely applied the saying "Charity begins at home" seeing it was a charity match.

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OSEN CORDIAL
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B.N.I.; referee, Sgt. Jones. Kick off, 4 p.m.

Emtees v. Royal Scots; referee, Sgt. Ayling. W.B.I.; referee, S.M. Sedgwick. Kick off 3 p.m.

Seaplanes Base v. Base Park R.E.; referee, Pte. Maughan. Kick off, 3 p.m.

Balloon Base v. A.O.C.; referee, Sgt. Jones. Kick off, 3 p.m.

Re-Vets v. Amria; referee, S/Sgt. Ayling. Kick off, 3 p.m.

D.A.C. v. Royal Naval Depot; referee, L/C. Woolmington. Kick off, 3 p.m.

Echelon v. Main Supply Depot; referee, S/Sgt. Makepeace. Kick off, 3 p.m.

To be played on the ground of the First named Club.

ALEXANDRIA UNITED SERVICES FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

FIRST ROUND.

Thursday (February 13). — A.W. & S.P. v. Royal Scots, at Aboukir. Referee Corpl. Woodward; Linesmen: L/C. Norton (Metras), Pte. Madison (21st Gen. Hos.).

Friday (February 14). — 4th Bde. R.F.A. v. —— D.A.C., at Metras. Referee: Sapper F. Fairey; Linesmen: Pte. Keane (19th Gen. Hos.), Cpl. S. Roberts (—— Welsh).

Saturday (February 15). — The Wing v. 3rd Echelon, at Aboukir. Referee: Sapper F. Fairey; Linesmen: L/Bomb. F. J. Lewis (—— D.A.C., Representative of A.W. & S.P. — M.S.D. v. Field Coy. R.E., at Metras. Referee: S/Sgt. H. Makepeace; Linesmen: Sgt. A. Roberts (—— Batty.), Sadd/Sgt. W. Damen (—— Bde.).

Kick off in each case at 3 p.m.

CIVILIAN FOOTBALL IN ALEXANDRIA.

To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette."

Sir,— Being a spectator of the match between the Government Officials F.C., and the Union Recreation F.C., played at the Stadium to-day I feel I must write and express my dissatisfaction at the result. I was also at the recent meeting of these teams, and again the game was spoilt by the bad temper of some of the players. In both instances it happened through very slight annoyances, and it is regrettable that the two leading clubs of Alexandria cannot show a more sportsmanlike spirit in playing the game of games. I have witnessed many games between civilians in Cairo, but have never seen anything so disgusting as what took place this afternoon, and if they cannot control their actions better I think they had better finish their careers as footballers and sportsmen, as they are only a disgrace to the closest as such. Lastly they make the promoters of the game liable to a breach of contract case, and in England the club in fault would be heavily fined, and the players suspended for varying periods. I must apologise for taking so much of your valuable time, but I with many others think that it is about time something was done to stop a repetition of such things happening again.

Wishing you and your paper every success, I am a qualified referee in England, so think my criticism perfectly fair.

Yours, &c.,
White Horse.

Alexandria, February 9.

The Communal Administration of Ostend has decided to erect a monument on the Ostend Mole to the heroes of the Vindictive.

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"Stand Fast Loyal and Trusty"
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SATURDAY FEB. 22

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GENUINE BOOT BARGAINS.
Genuine Bargains may be had by the early visitor to Hornstein's Spring Clearance Sale of Ladies', Gents' and Childrens' Boot and Shoes, which will commence on Monday, 17th February and will continue until Saturday, 15th March.
Note the address: Hornstein's, Avenue Boulac (nearly opposite All Saint's Church) Cairo.