ALEXANDRIA BOURSE

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

Lots Turcs Agricultural Bank and Banque d'Athenes closed unchanged at fr. 230, £6 5/8 and fr.88 1/2 respectively while there was a drop of 1fr. in Credit Foncier shares which were at fr.744.

Credit Foncier bonds issues 1886, 1903 and 1911 were quoted at fr.435, 313 and 283 1/4 respectively.

Land Bank fell 1/32 to £7 7/32 while Cassa di Sconto were offered at fr.98 ex coupon and privileged shares were quoted at fr.106 ex-coupon.

There was a drop of 3/16 in Wadi Kom Ombo department, which closed at £5 1/4 old shares and £5 new shares.

Société du Behera dropped 3/8 to £11 15/16 while there was a drop of 1fr. in Chek Fadl which finished at fr.104 1/2.

Union Fonciere were in demand at £3 1/32, showing a drop of 7/32; Société Fonciere d'Egypte closed at £7 1/8, 1/8 drop and Société des Immeubles were at £6 1/16 ex-coupon.

Priv. Trams were weaker at fr.109, 1fr. drop and Nungovich Hotels were offered at £7 5/16. 1/16 drop while Salt and Soda fell 4 1/2d.to £2/6d.

Brasseries d'Egypte dropped 10fr. being offered at fr.248 while Cotton Ginners fell 3/64 to £- 25/32; New Egyptian Co. being neglected at 22/- showing a drop of 1 1/2

Egypt and Levant s.s. Co. were unchanged at 29/9d.

Prd. Khedivieh were in request at 108/4 1/2 a three pence rise while Port Said Salt advanced three pence closing at 92/- shillings.

MUSIC IN CAIRO.

THE 22ND SYMPHONY CONCERT.

The khaki element was again restored on Sunday last at the Opera Khedivial, when the orchestra gained in volume of sound by the return of those essential members whose absence naturally affected the performances last week and the Sunday before that. The concert was conducted this time by M. Fortunato Cantoni, who had the assistance of a vocal pupil, Mademoiselle N. Lantz, who proved a decided acquisition to the programme. Thomas' familiar "Mignon" overture opened the concert, and possibly the very trying climatic conditions were responsible for the unsteadiness of the wind instruments at times, since a 'Khamseen' was in the air, and orchestra and audience alike were affected by it. On the whole the overture was well played, and once the players had got into the conductors stride, a good attack resulted, and a creditable finish was achieved. An "air" of J.S. Bach followed, which was very well rendered, and brought forth great applause from the audience. The vocalist appeared at the end of the first part of the programme and although she was obviously a little nervous to begin with she gained confidence shortly after wards and gave a charming rendering of Donizetti's air for Mezzo Soprano from "Don Sebastian," which was delightfully fresh and simple and proved a really enjoyable item. The young singer, who gives promise of great things in the future, has the invaluable asset of good looks also, and her reception by the audience was altogether most satisfactory. Two floral tributes were handed up after her first solo, and a similar number after her second appearance, when she gave Halm's "La Bonne Chanson," (from chansons Grises) with considerable intuition, followed by Cantoni's "Voce di Donna," this last being a very effectively scored solo, albeit a trifle reminiscent of Puccini's however the soloist's high notes were here heard at their very best, and a great burst of applause followed.

The conductor is a composer of no mean achievements, as was evidenced by the "Prelude Symphonique" which opens in fugal manner and is a work of much depth and feeling, and also by the 2nd Nidre which was given at the commencement of the second part of the programme. This latter composition has telling clarionet passages, and minor motives for the violins which attract the ear and prove thoroughly musical. Borodine's wonderfully expressive tone poem "Dans les Steppes de L'Asie Centrale" was one of the gems of the concert and although the opening was a little weak, the orchestra warmed up to their evidently congenial task, and gave a performance well worth listening to. As a finale of great contrast came Beethoven's Immortal Eleonore Overture No. 3. with its fascinating short phrases, clear and well defined, which characterize this master's work. The conductor secured an admirable rendering, and the concert came to an end amid vociferous applause. It is to be hoped that next season those excellent concerts will be given in the evening, and so be able to continue much later, or even all the year round, as the morning is not the best time for hearing music. Moreover, in the summer, possibly at *frescos* concerts could be arranged, and as these musical events have formed such a feature of Cairo life, all music lovers sincerely hope that these suggestions may be carried out, even though hotel orchestras would necessarily be obliged to sacrifice one night's performance at their respective hotels in order that their players could be released to perform.

Thirty licences to fly civilian craft have been issued by the joint American Army and Navy Board.

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EGYPTIANS NOT ANGELS.

"Wady el-Nil," — A nation, discreet, benevolent and meek, can never be aggressive. Evil, however, is in mankind's nature, whether in individuals or nations; and if no individuals of this type should exist in Egypt then the Egyptian nation would cease to be a nation of human beings and would become a nation of angels; and this is impossible.... Can any one say that there is in this world a purely innocent nation that lives in an atmosphere of absolute purity far from the other nations, having no individuals to commit errors and do evil. The Egyptian has adopted an attitude which could hardly be expected to be adopted by others in similar circumstances. He has given hospitality and protection to his guest; he has obeyed the advice of the enlightened and wiser men, and the press when they desired him to rely on prudence and wisdom. The Egyptian has paid out of his pocket indemnities to a few individuals among the guests of the country who have sustained some material losses, which would have been several times more than they were had the events in which they took place occurred in another country. Those facts have been appreciated by foreign communities and published in their press with thanks.

NOTABLES AND INDEMNITIES FOR FOREIGNERS.

"Misr."— The European press published in Egypt has praised the attitude of Egyptian notables, their good conduct regarding foreign residents in the present circumstances, and their volunteering to pay indemnities to those who have sustained any loss in consequence of events.

SUGAR FACTORY SAFE.

The "Minbar."—We have received news from Hawamdieh stating that there is no truth at all in what has been said about attacking the sugar factory there This factory has not sustained the lightest damage, and its workmen continue to work as before. The notables of Hawamdieh have taken upon themselves the protection of this mill against any aggression, and assured the representatives of the Company that they will do so.

THE BUDGET AND PROGRESS.

The "Ahram" (from a leading article on the new budget). — Our budget for the present financial year which was published to-day, amounts to L.E. 28,850,000 representing an increase of L.E. 5,000,000 over the budget of last year. The first modern budget used in Egypt was made in 1889 when the Government's returns amounted to L.E. 9,584,430, and when the population of Egypt was 6,516,040.... From 1889 up to the present the budget has been increasing gradually in proportion to the gradual increase in the revenue of the country as a result of the use of greater areas of land for cultivation, and the natural increase in the number of people and the general progress and improvement of life and the enjoying of luxuries. In 1893 the Government's income was one ten and a half million pounds. It then began to fluctuate for some time until it took a regular course of improvement rising gradually to the above figures.... This all shows that Egypt has made a great material progress—the sort of progress which the Minister was of opinion should be advanced further and further for ever.

FRATERNISATION.

The "Basir" (from its correspondent at Mina-el-Kamh). — Some notables of our Coptic brethren here sent invitation cards to the men of standing in our town calling them to a meeting of fraternity to be held last Sunday at the Coptic Church. The ceremony was held so for the first time and was attended by many people of good positions. Sharaf el-Din Effendi, a clerk of the Markaz delivered a speech on the benefit of union and fraternization. Several other speakers spoke on the occasion and all hearts were filled with satisfaction and sincerity.

JUDGES AND THE STRIKE.

The "Akhar" (in reference to the officials' strike in Cairo).—We also learn that the judges of the Cairo Mixed Court and the Parquet officials therein have signed a letter (to the authorities?) explaining that they are with the other Government officials in regard to their feelings, but though they sympathised with them they would remain at work in the Mixed Courts which have an international character, because the Egyptians are anxious to safeguard the interests of foreign residents. They have accordingly decided not to take part in the strike.

NEWS FROM SYRIA.

The "Mokattam" (from a collection of news items from Syria). — The Jisr bridge which has been attacked by the Germans has not yet been completely repaired, and this has prevented the arrival of trains conveying goods from Egypt, (at Damascus?) Yet we are in a position to state that trains are coming with enormous consignments of goods. One of the Damascus merchants has forwarded to his branch at Beyrout more than 12 consignments of goods consisting of cloth, yarn. In the course of last month more than 200 merchants left Damascus for Egypt with the object of purchasing various kinds of goods, taking enormous amounts of money for that purpose. Some of the said merchants have already forwarded goods to their firms but the same have not yet arrived.... Emir Zeid has had a short flight over Damascus, which lasted for half an hour. He alighted at the Aerodrome situated in the neighbourhood of Kadam, A number of young men of Palestine have advised their country men to turn all their properties into wakfs for their children and descendents.

The staff at the Admiralty has been reduced by 629 since the armistice.

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PALESTINE'S TRADE.

FUTURE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTERPRISE.

Until about the beginning of the century British goods were predominant in the markets of Syria and Palestine, but for at least a decade prior to the war Germany and Austria had combined to undermine the position of the British manufactures even in branches in which they had in the past been supreme, writes a special correspondent to the latest "Times Trade Supplement." The political future of those regions is at present in the melting-pot, but, whatever their fate, it is to be presumed that the Central Empires will not again be enabled to pursue their commercial and political interests as they did in the past, and that consequently the trade done by those countries will be available for such other nations as care to take advantage of the position.

It is exceedingly difficult to get at any reliable statistics, especially as regards the share in each category of the import trade falling to the great trading countries. Imports into Syria and Palestine came to a great extent via Beyrut and to a lesser extent via Haifa and Jaffa, but a considerable quantity arrived from Turkey and, as many of the articles received as of "Ottoman" origin were obviously of foreign manufacture, the requirements of those provinces which were met from abroad must have been considerably more than the import statistics of Beyrut, Haifa, and Jaffa would show.

Be that as it may, there is every reason to expect that the liberation of the Syrian and Palestinian population from the pernicious and retrogressive sway of the Turks will lead in the very near future to considerable economic activity in those countries, which are capable of much development, and that consequently the demand for goods from abroad will become intensified both for, and as a direct result of, their development. In the circumstances the following notes obtained from persons who, without being directly interested in the lines of trade in question, are qualified to give the information may be of interest, and possibly of use, to British manufacturers.

CEMENT AND TIMBER.

France was the chief importer of cement, but Germany latterly obtained control of the market. The main timber requirements are for orange boxes, but a certain quantity is required for the usual building and commercial purposes. Most of the wood came from Russia, Roumania and Austria, and there is no reason why the timber-producing parts of the Empire should not endeavour to obtain a share of this market, as Syria will not for some considerable time be able to meet its own requirements, though possibly Asia Minor may in the near future be a useful source of supply.

FOODSTUFFS.

Flour constitutes a very important item of import. Most of it came from Russia and Roumania. Local harvest conditions regulate the annual quantity brought in from abroad, but even in the best year the import was considerable, and our Far Eastern possessions should secure some, if not all, of the trade. Sugar came from Russia, Roumania, and Austria, but it may be presumed that, owing to the extension of sugar cultivation in Egypt, the latter country, thanks to its proximity, will secure the lion's share of the market. Egypt should also regain her share of the rice import trade. Ordinary and tinned provisions, for which there was quite a good demand, such as biscuits, cocoa, chocolate, etc., were supplied by Great Britain and France.

FURNITURE.

The bulk of the trade was in bentwood articles, which were almost exclusively supplied from Austria. There is a limited demand for furniture upholstered in tapestry, the British production of which was imitated by the Austrians, and put on the market at prices which undercut the British, the quality being, of course, inferior. In bedsteads British manufacturers used to have the monopoly, but ultimately Germany was competing very successfully. The chief demand in table cutlery is for a knife with white metal handle, and spoons and forks to match, which were supplied before the war by Germany. There is also a certain call for better class cutlery. The United Kingdom did very little trade, although there was certainly a good opening. Window glasses were supplied exclusively by Belgium, and lamp glasses by Germany and Austria. There is a great demand for all these, as local stocks are exhausted. Glass and china came exclusively from the Central Empires.

HOSIERY AND CLOTHING.

Cotton hosiery, which was previously almost entirely supplied by Germany, is an important line. The market requires a cheap article. There is also a large demand for woollen underwear and hosiery. Germany produced a cheap article which practically ousted the British variety. It was lighter and more suitable to the climate. There are at present indications that this market has attracted the attention of Allied countries. As in Egypt, the ready-made clothing trade was entirely in the hands of the Austrians, who imported the cloth from England, and, owing to subsidies and cheap labour, were able to put the made up article on the Syrian market at a cheaper price than the British clothiers. Great attention must be paid to the requirements of the local market as regards cut and style if any trade is to be done. There is a good opening for shirts and collars. In the past Austria, by supplying a fancy article which caught the individuals, had, for most of the time, British manufacturers should try to produce a variety of colours, designs, and qualities, so as to cater for all grades. Nottingham lace goods was becoming known just before the war, but Germany supplied most of the requirements. Soft felt hats and light-weight uniformly plaited straw hats were in great demand, and there is a demand, though smaller, for hard felt hats. The soft felt hats came from Austria and Italy, and the straw hats from the Central Empires and Italy; the hard felt was supplied exclusively from the United Kingdom. As in Egypt, tarbushes were entirely supplied by Austria.

IRON AND STEEL.

The United Kingdom supplied most of the worked iron and steel, but Belgium and Germany, most of the girders, the latter eventually increasing their supplies of manufactured iron and steel. There was a great demand for cheap hardware, especially of the enamelled type. The trade was in the hands of Germany, and to a certain extent of Austria, where many of the articles produced by British manufacturers were imitated and supplied at a cheaper cost. Small agricultural implements which were at first furnished by America. Nails, etc., came from Hungary and Belgium, as also steel bars and rods. Cheap safes are in great demand, and British firms were latterly competing successfully with the German articles.

LEATHER GOODS.

Men's and children's boots were supplied almost exclusively by the United Kingdom, but ladies' boots came from Austria, where prices were somewhat lower than the British, with corresponding inferiority in quality. Switzerland threatens to be a serious competitor. The majority of the articles required are light work. In the leather trade goods trade the Germans were supreme owing to low prices. Inferior quality leather trunks came from Germany and Austria and the superior one from the United Kingdom. The demand is for lighter and cheaper articles than those produced in the past by British manufacturers. Leather for uppers was principally supplied by Germany, sole leather coming from Belgium, Italy, and France. Austria also did some business, but that country was not able to compete with the French suppliers of brown and black leather and box calf, which were superior, but moderate in price. The United Kingdom supplied the better class box calf. It may be mentioned that stocks of leather are very low at present.

MACHINERY.

There was always a good demand for machinery of every description, and there is every prospect of this demand being considerably increased in the near future, especially as regards agricultural machinery and implements. Most of the latter came from England, Canada, and America, but latterly German firms were keenly competing and meeting with success, going so far as to set up their own workshops, where their products could be repaired. Ploughs for one and two horses were in much demand, and harrows of various styles, also corn and horse rakes of American manufacture. There are at present many inquiries for English agricultural machinery, especially those of the Fowler system. Pumps will certainly be required, and also electric apparatus. Internal combustion engines burning kerosene of four, six, and eight horse power were in considerable demand. The whole trade was in the hands of the Germans, who kept the British manufactures out, but, it would appear, were not able to compete in the larger size of combustion engines, of four horse power and upwards. Printing machinery came mostly from Italy, Austria, and Germany, whilst Italy supplied most of the type which was cheaper than that produced by Austria.

PAINTS AND CHEMICALS.

Colours of the better qualities were supplied by Great Britain, the inferior grades coming from Germany and Italy. Paints were exclusively provided by the United Kingdom, although British goods were dearer, they were invariably preferred. Varnishes were supplied from England, Germany, and Belgium, cheap qualities finding a very ready sale. Paint brushes of the cheap variety were in demand, and were supplied chiefly by Germany and Austria. There was a great demand for artificial indigo, which was, of course, supplied by Germany. There was not much trade in chemical fertilizers, what was used being supplied by Germany. There is, however, likely to be a great demand for these from now onwards, especially nitrate of soda and super-phosphates. Large quantities of caustic soda were imported for the soap trade, of which Nablus was an important centre. It mainly came from Belgium. Drugs were largely obtained from Germany, but the English products were very well known and much appreciated. Matches all came from Austria and Sweden.

STATIONERY.

Paper for printing and general stationery was imported from Austria and Germany and some from Sweden, and wrapping paper from France, Germany, and latterly from Norway, which has considerably developed its trade in this commodity. Silk and tissue paper for wrapping oranges is in great demand and came from Austria and Sweden. Germany supplied most of the pencils and penholders, but a little came also from the United Kingdom. What are wanted are cheap qualities of all varieties, including blue, red, and carpenters' pencils. There is a large demand for brown cardboard for use in the soles of boots. Most of the leather board and cardboard came from the Central Empires and a little from Holland and latterly Norway.

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

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CRICKET IN CAIRO.

The outlook for the cricket season at Cairo is very promising, and a good start will be made to-day (Friday) when the first important match of the season will be played at the Gezira Sporting Club ground. The opposing teams will be the G.S.C. and the Australian Imperial Forces eleven from Head Quarters—two old rivals.

Although some names familiar to readers of the "Egyptian Gazette" last season will be missing in forthcoming events, there is an abundance of talent in the capital at present to provide followers of the sport with plenty of matches.

The Y.M.C.A. Club are looking forward to a busy time at the Willcocks Recreation ground, where it is intended to play three matches weekly—on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. The Club is fortunate in again having the services of A. P. Brunton as captain, and R. W. Heams as vice-captain. These two players, as readers of the "Egyptian Gazette" will recall, have rendered great service to the Club last season. Mr. Mackenzie has been elected chairman of the Committee. The first match will be played to-morrow (Saturday) week, April 12.

In addition to the G.S.C., the Y.M.C.A., and the A.I.F., who were the three leading clubs last season, other teams have been formed and are in course of formation, and everything considered the success of the ensuing season is assured.

19TH GEN. HOSPITAL v. ROYAL ARTILLERY RECORDS.

The above match was played at Hadra on Wednesday ending in favour of the home team, for which Wood was in form, taking 7 wickets for 13 runs and making 66 runs, Relton taking the remaining 3 for 19.

Scores:—

19TH GEN. HOSPITAL.	
Timmis, c. Horne b. Pull	13
Maingot, b. Pull	0
Relton, b. Pull	0
Wood, c. Gold b. Horne	66
Battersby, b. Pull	0
Fletcher, b. Cottam	0
Mose, c. and b. Gold	27
Hopkinson, b. Waters	9
Gray, b. Cottam	0
Amplett, not out	20
Extras	9
Total	165

Murphy did not bat.

"R.A. RECORDS."	
Gold, b. Wood	1
Wicks, b. Relton	2
Waters, b. Wood	0
Cottam, b. Wood	6
Pull, b. Wood	10
Allen, b. Wood	0
Muir, c. Hopkinson b. Wood	0
Holme, c. Moss b. Wood	11
Hind, c. and b. Relton	0
Plummer, not out	0
Price, b. Relton	0
Extras	7
Total	37

PIGEON SHOOTING.

Following are the results of the Sunday shoot at the New Pigeon Shooting Club at Rod el-Farag, Cairo:— Mr. G. Cefai, P.T. 171; Mr. Dossarlino, 411; Mr. Stephenson, 175; Mr. Hassanein, 110; Mr. Phillips, 154; Mr. Wamba, 76; Mr. Zaffrani, 176; Mr. W. Bottom, 122; Mr. Wamba, 93; Mr. H. Cefai, 29; Mr. Demartino, 185; Mr. A. Cefai, 40; Mr. W. Bottom, 67.

A regular aeroplane mail service between Rome and Naples began yesterday. The first machine leaves at ten from the Centocelle aviation ground, and is due in Naples at eleven. The second leaves in the afternoon.