EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

GENERAL ALLENBY'S LIST OF MENTIONS.

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(To be continued).

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PURIFICATION OF ALEXANDRIA.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,—"R.B.'s" theory that Alexandria is "soaked in disgrace" as a heritage of her rather lurid past is interesting—so interesting that it is a pity there is no foundation for its support. Facts do not uphold it. Alexandria is not supernormally wicked above the wickedness of other sea-ports of the world, nor of large inland cities such as—Cairo. The old tradition is dead and has left no trace behind. Alexandria's departures from morality are much as other cities—furtive, shabby, unimaginative and not more numerous than elsewhere. Even the periodical municipal crusades against Flaming Vice—let me suggest an ironic note of exclamation!—are not more short-sighted, silly, unimaginative and ignorant than the municipal crusades of other cities.

No: Modern Alexandria has no root that stretches back to the past. Its courtesans could not inflame an artist to statuary excesses—unless he were a Rodin caught in a "Burghers of Calais" mood. Queen Cleopatra would need the asp as a remedy for sheer boredom after she had been a se'nnight in her old capital. But Alexandria had a reputation for other things than harlots. She was renowned for her learning. In the great old days she had a library which was the pride of the world and took six months burning. How are things now? Thus. Her library of to-day is a black disgrace to the city and to the municipality. Burst, it would not warm enough weak tea to supply Mr. Keman's Committee to Teach a Young Man What He Ought Not to Know. Alexandria has not the brains to demand a library nor the perverted animal energy to revive her other attraction. She's dead: both intellectually and immorally. If "R.B." found any satyriasis or nymphomania in Alexandria during his summer visits, I can only suggest that some of his fellow visiters must have brought it down with them from Cairo! Perhaps... Can "R.B." show me anything.....?

Yours, etc.,
Ex Alexandria Lux.

Alexandria, February 4.

To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette."

Sir,—I am rather exasperated with Mr. Arthur T. Upson, whose letter appears in your issue to-day. The answer to his question is so simple and elementary. It can be expressed in four sentences, as follows: The British citizen is a free citizen and he insists on the freedom of his private life. Therefore the Government declines to take criminal action against private morals or immorals. Certain diseases are peculiarly destructive of the national health. Therefore the Government takes sanitary measures to suppress those diseases. To declare that those hygienic measures imply a direct invitation to a certain course of life is limpid moonlight nonsense. Does Mr. Upson feel that the Government is tempting him wickedly and insiduously to become insane because it provides comfortable asylums for the mentally afflicted? It is a pity. Mr. Upson neglected to give the sapper a lesson in straight thinking and common sense. Evidently they both need it!

Yours, etc.,
D.

Alexandria, February 4.

SALE OF ARMY HORSES.

To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette."

Sir,—I notice in the letter of "A Lover of Animals," that "animals are being taken up principally as carriage pairs for wealthy owners. I hope some measures will be taken to prevent these owners from torturing their horses by the use of tight bearing reins. This form of unintentional cruelty is very frequently seen in the Cairo and Alexandria streets and probably quite as often in provincial towns. On many occasions I have pleaded with coachmen, waiting outside buildings for their masters or mistresses, to loosen the bearing reins of their unhappy horses miserably tossing their heads to try and get relief. Sometimes the coachmen get down with alacrity and give me a grateful oriental blessing, at other times they are stubborn and need persuasion or even the threat of the law. Invariably, when questioned as to why they use this senseless form of torture, they declare that their employers "awa kiddee." Cannot a plea be issued in the native press begging wealthy horse owners to follow the example of the humaner element in civilised countries and do without this false "smartness" of their turn outs?

Yours, etc.,
Friend of "Black Beauty."

Cairo, February 4.

DUCK SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,— With regard to the unfortunate accident which happened to Major S. Jarvie while shooting wild ducks in the Mallaha lake, it would be interesting to know if the gun was of British or foreign make. I put in this query as I have never heard of any English gun bursting under the strain of a cartridge properly loaded, especially so if the gun has been proved for nitro powder as will be noticed from the mark under the breech end of the barrels. I have given my 38 years-old gun a good trial in every way, and in spite of its old age I do not think that its shooting qualities can be beaten.

Yours, &c.,
Oswald.

Alexandria, February 1.

The Swiss Service of Public Health has received since July 640,000 notifications of influenza. This represents nearly one-sixth of the population; but the total number of cases is, of course, much higher since many of the sufferers have not consulted a doctor.

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MARRIAGE BY PROXY.

FIRST CASE IN EGYPT.

In reference to our telegram in yesterday's issue on the U.S.A. regulation regarding the facilitating of marriages of American soldiers by proxy, it is interesting to note that one of such marriages took place between Miss Emily Orsi, daughter of Adolph Orsi of Alexandria, and Lt. Rudolph Winzer of Great Lakes. The following account of the marriage appeared in the "Chicago Daily Tribune" and the "Great Lakes Bulletin":—

Lieut. Rudolph Winzer of Great Lakes, bridegroom, was there, all dressed up; bridesmaids seven, and seven brother officers with swords buckled on were there, and the chaplain stood ready with the Good Book in his hand, but—

Miss Emily Orsi, the bride, was thousands of miles away, in Cairo, Egypt. However, the wedding went on just the same. Miss Grace Belle Reams, proxy for Miss Orsi, took her place, and the ceremony was completed in picturesque Ravinette park, beauty spot at Great Lakes.

The Great Lakes band played Sousa's wedding march, and everything went as smooth as could be until it came time to kiss the bride. Then every one wondered if a proxy bride ought to be kissed, or if good form required that they wait for the real bride.

Lieutenant Winzer first met Miss Orsi, who is the daughter of Count Dante Orsi of Italy, while on duty in Turkey and Egypt with the U.S.S. North Carolina. Their acquaintance was rather brief and the entire courtship, and now consummated is one of the most unusual marriages on record, was carried on entirely by correspondence. Lieutenant Winzer has been in military service over seventeen years. They will make their home at 4646 Kenmore avenue, Chicago.

The marriage ceremony was as gay as a court marriage of the middle ages. Four sailors stood with the Regimental colours at each corner of the platform and the stage was bedecked with all the colours of the Allies.

CAIRO SWINDLING CASES.

WARNING FROM THE GOVERNORATE.

On Saturday last the Cairo Governorate posted up a warning to the public to the following effect:—Swindling cases have increased of late but it has been noticed that only one method is followed every time. The swindler enters a shop and purchases some articles; he then asks the shopkeeper to send one of his employees to his house with him in order to get the money. On the way he generally disappears with the goods and sometimes with the change, which he has taken from the vendor as well. It appears that the swindler in all the cases is the same man and he is described as having an ordinary nose and mouth, sallow colour, a small moustache, eyebrows wide apart and normal eyes.

It is reported from Al Fashin that on Thursday night last some Beduoin thieves arrived in Safanieh district with the intention of stealing cattle. The inhabitants and the ghaffirs of the district heard them and at once several shots were exchanged between the parties resulting in the injury of two natives. The thieves were all arrested and an enquiry is still proceeding. On the same night some armed thieves raided the district of Nazlet Mohamed, attacked one of the inhabitants and stole his money and his clothes. Only one of them was arrested.

C.E.M.S. PILGRIMAGE TO JERUSALEM.

To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette."

Sir,—I have carefully read through the letter published in your issue of today's date under this heading and as one who was a member of that small but happy band of pilgrims I trust you will allow me to make a few remarks in reply thereto.

Your correspondent shows such an utter lack of knowledge, not only of the Book of Common Prayer but also of such things as the Coronation Oath, well known by every priest and layman of the Church, that I think I am fairly safe in assuming, especially after reading Sections 3 and 4 of the letter, that the attack has come from without the Anglican Communion, and further, not from a Nonconformist, as the points raised do not affect them, but from a member of that Church, which has very great reasons for disquietude at any real signs of rapprochement between other Churches claiming, but not arrogating to themselves, the title "Catholic". Your correspondent who "is a little surprised that the Greek authorities should have extended the use of their Altar to our pilgrim friends" may be still more surprised to learn that at the ceremony of the enthronement of the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem, who is there by explicit request of the Greek Patriarch of Jerusalem, the Archbishop of Sinai and leading Prelates of the Orthodox Greek and Armenian Churches were present. The recent visit to London by the Metropolitan of Athens was not made to Westminster athedral, but to the Mother Cathedral of St. Paul, while at the same time the Bishop of London was being received in the full pontificals at St. Sophia, Athens. The still more recent appeal of the Metropolitan of Odessa for help for the Russian Church during its time of persecution by fanatical Bolshevists was not made to Rome but to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Personally, I prefer to rely on these concrete facts rather than on the opinions of the good many (unnamed) high-placed members of the Greek Church, whom your correspondent knows. In apologizing for the space I am taking up, Sir, I would point out to your correspondent, that the account was sent in as a record of something done by the C.E.M.S. in Alexandria, merely as an item of interest to members of the Anglican and Greek Churches. It attached no one and the only people who had any right to criticize it were the members of the Pilgrimage themselves, and so far as I know they have not done so. Your correspondent's action in attempting to raise another controversial argument in the columns of a valued newspaper seems to me a most deplorable thing.

Yours, etc.,
A "Not Puzzled" Private.

Alexandria, February 3.

SPATHIS MINERAL WATERS ARE THE BEST. (ADVT.)

THE NATIVE PRESS.

HOPES OF THE NEAR EAST.

The "Muattam" (from its daily article "Summary of War News," commenting on a recent telegram referring to the views of the Peace Conference with regard to the future of the German colonies and Turkish territories).—The Eastern nations must free what directly concerns the countries of the Near East in regard to the arrangements proposed for the future administration of territories, for as the English proverb says, "Charity begins at home." It is for this reason that Easterners take an extremely keen interest in reading the Conference reports in these days, holding magnifying glasses in their hands so that they may see even between the lines, every reference to the possible realisation of their aspirations. The people of the Near East build their hopes upon the principles which have been openly explained by the pillars of the Allied Governments and the United States, as pointed out in the beginning of this article. They rely upon the lessons of history taken from the events of the present era and of past times, which the statesman of Europe have taken into account, as can be understood from their speeches. They rely upon the proclamation already issued by the two great Powers, Great Britain and France, in this country and the Arab lands of Turkey, which indicates their great respect for the rights of nationalities, and their desire to help the newly liberated peoples to set up the kinds of government that suit them best. They also rely upon the words of Dr. Wilson that the noblest deeds of great nations are to serve the smaller peoples and hold the light of progress steadily before them so that it may lighten their path and enable them to follow it. If the letter failed to benefit therefrom it would be necessary for the strong peoples to wait patiiently until those weaker ones began to move forward. They rely upon the promises of the leading men of the Great Powers who said that it was among their highest wishes to revive the glory of the Arabs, and to compensate the Armenians for their sufferings. They equally rely upon the noble promise, the last of which was given by M. Picot in Damascus where he told his hearers that "France has waged this war not only to ward off the aggression of Germany but also for the establishment of the principles of freedom and Independence, and to enable every nation to enjoy independence and have the right of choosing the sort of government that conforms with its desires, and it gives great pleasure to France to see the Arab nation united and the Arab Government independent."

A NEW AGRICULTURAL DEPARTURE.

The "Akhbar" (a propos of a statement that the Ministry of Agriculture is thinking of creating pastures for sheep in the vast waste lands of the Mudirieh of Gharbieh, and that a special department may be organised to look after those pastures and the milk and cheese business proposed to be undertaken therein).—

The only thing we regret in connection with this scheme is that the Authorities did not think of it before now, but we are pretty hope that they will now carry it out in the interest of the country. People of all classes in Egypt have bitterly complained of the fact that the prices of meat and dairy produce have risen three times above pre-war prices, and the value of imports—in the category of livestock, and dairy stuffs—has risen from L.E.944,243 in 1909, to L.E. 2,153,866 in 1916. Let us put aside the account of such imports as horses, mules, camels, fowls, preserved fish, and let us cast a look on the livestock imports intended for killing and for dairy work. In 1916, we received from abroad 2,578 cows to the value of L.E.14,181; 19,168 sheep and goats, to the value of L.E.3,717 (?); about 28,000,000 kilos of preserved and cold meat to the value of L.E.1,500,000; 319,000 kilos of same and butter to the value of L.E. 32,000; 845,000 kilos of cheese to the value of L.E.103,000; and 1,250,000 kilos of preserved milk to the value of L.E.67,000. Why should not we produce such quantities of the above stuffs and more than this in order to re-establish the old prices of the same. There is no use in complaining of what has passed, but we hope that the matter will be taken up seriously henceforth.

THE ORWA EL WOSKA'S TEACHERS.

The "Afkar" (a letter from the employees of the Orwa el Woska Society in Alexandria in which they place their grievances before the public).—After having kept silence for some time waiting for improvement, we are sorry we have again to discuss our situation in this society which we have served and are still serving honestly and sincerely. We have much to say in this respect, for everything before us calls for complaint, but we would only like to deal with the following facts in order to show the authorities concerned to what degree the management of the Society has fallen. At the end of last year, ten of the Society's best officials had to resign their posts, though the Inspectors' report on them testified to their abilities and good services, in the Society's schools, and the management appointed unqualified teachers in their stead. When the Government approved of giving 40 per cent as a war bonus to its officials on the last occasion, we wrote to the management of the Orwa el Woska asking for a similar allowance, and it referred the question to a special committee for examination. The committee decided to give a bonus of 10 per cent only, in spite of the fact that most of the officials continue to receive reduced salaries which were decreased in the early days of the war. The 10 per cent allowance does not bring the salary of many of the old officials to the original salary they received before that reduction. At the end of last year, two of the Society's officials succeeded in passing the final examination of the Sultanic Training College, and they asked the Management to increase their salaries. In reply the Management said that it would give them a bonus of L.E.10 if they signed an agreement that they would remain for another year in its service.

EGYPTIAN LITERARY ACADEMY.

The "Watan" (a big tumult has arisen around the Egyptian Literary Academy because it has ceased to meet since the retirement of Lutfy Bey el Sayed from the Sultanic Library, but we now have a notice from the Secretary of that institution stating that it will hold a meeting to-morrow afternoon (Feb. 5) at 4 o'clock.

A SAFE SPOT.

"Misr" (from its representative in Upper Egypt—a letter dated from Dabaiah).—This is situated at a distance of tens of miles from the Markaz of Luxor, enjoys full security. Am glad to announce to the public and to the Ministry of the Interior that its Mulahes of police is devoting great energy to safeguarding the order. He walks with the patrol at night and examines every question with strictness. During the last six months only three crimes have occurred in this district and the authors of the crime have been seized. Let the Markaz of Kuss hear that.

MANGANESE ORE FROM EGYPT.

The Sinai Mining Company commenced the export of manganese ore in October with the shipment of 4,000 tons to the United Kingdom. The company's mines are in the south west of the Sinai Peninsula, about 15 miles from the coast of the Gulf of Suez, and the ore is exported through the harbour of Abu Zenima.

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