EGYPT'S GOVERNMENT.

A PROVISIONAL CABINET.

In accordance with a Proclamation issued by General Sir Edmund Allenby, as Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in Egypt, Under Secretaries of State or those acting for them are empowered to perform the duties of their respective Minister, including the right of representing their Ministries before all tribunals, until the new ministry is formed.

The present Under Secretaries of State in the different Ministries are:-

Ministry of Finance:- Mr. Ernest Dowson.

Ministry of Agriculture:- Mr. John Langley.

Ministry of Public Works:- Mr. Tottenham (acting).

Ministry of Justice:- Mohamed Shoukri Pasha.

Ministry of War:- Lewa Mahmud Hilmi Pasha El Masri.

Ministry of Education:- Ismail Hassanein Pasha.

Ministry of Wakfs:- Mohamed Shafeh Pasha.

Ministry of Interior:- Since the appointment of Gafaar Pasha Wali as Minister of Wakfs there has been no Under Secretary but Mr. George Morice is signing papers for the Under Secretary of State.

ALEXANDRIA BOURSE.

The market was more active yesterday and there was a general rise.

Unified closed at £89 3/8 ex-coupon. Lots Turcs were unchanged at fr.200; Banqua d'Athenes rose 1fr. 1/2 to fr.87 1/2 while Credit Foncier shares remained at fr.734.

Credit Foncier bonds issues 1886 and 1903 were quoted at fr.426 and 307 1/2 ex-coupon and issue 1911 rose half a franc to fr.252 1/2.

Alexandria Water Co. were in request at £12 5/16, 1/32 rise; Priv. Behera being at £4 19/32 ex-coupon while Chek Fadl were firmer at fr.103, half a franc rise.

Union Fonciere were active at £3 1/32 1/32 rise while Gabbari Lands advanced 1/32 to £- 25/32.

Société des Immeubles rose also 1/16 closing at £6 1/16; Ordinary Khedivieh being a little weaker at 117/64., a six pence drop while Nungowich Hotels rose 1/8 closing in request at £6 7/8.

Salt and Soda changed hands at 53/7 1/2, 4 1/2 rise. Filatures Nationales being 1/16 higher at £13 15/16 while Brasserie d'Egypte advanced 6 fr. to fr.245.

There was a further rise of 1/16 in Cotton Ginners which finished at £- 13/16; Port Said Salt were quoted at 81/3d. a three pence rise, while New Egyptian Co. were more active closing firm at 23/- showing a shilling rise.

Egypt and Levant s.s. Co. were active at 34/6d. a two shillings rise while deferred shares advanced 14s. to 140/-.

MUTTON FOR EGYPT.

Four thousand three hundred sheep arrived in Alexandria on Monday on a blue Funnel steamer from Beyrout, for the use of the army. It is stated that there are large flocks in the country behind the Lebanon, which could easily be brought to Egypt if reasonable freightage terms could be obtained.

CAIRO VITAL STATISTICS.

The following figures of births and deaths registered and cases of infectious diseases were notified in Cairo during the week ending April 1:-

Births, 662; deaths, 631; infectious diseases, 291; typhoid, 41; typhus, 141; diphtheria, 12; small-pox, 39; chicken-pox, 13; relapsing fever, 18; measles, 13; whooping cough, 2; influenza, 12.

The following were notified in Cairo during the week ending April 8:-

Births, 531; deaths, 619; infectious diseases, 229; typhoid, 29; typhus, 127; diphtheria, 9; small-pox, 27; chicken-pox, 4; relapsing fever, 14; measles, 9; celebro spinal fever, 2; whooping cough, 1; influenza, 13.

Great Britain has now borrowed from the United States £847,256,000, including a new credit of £400,000.

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COMMUNICATIONS IN EGYPT.

A NEW MINISTRY.

The following proclamation dated April 28, has been issued by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief H.M. Forces in Egypt:—

"Whereas it had been the intention of the Egyptian Government to institute a Ministry of Communications, and providing for the expenses of such a Ministry had been made in the Budget, but it has not been possible to promulgate the necessary legislation;

"And whereas Brigadier-General Sir George Macauley had been invited to accept the post of Adviser to the said Ministry;

"And whereas it is urgently necessary that provision should be made for the control and co-ordination of all means of transport in Egypt in order to assure the supply of food to the main centres of population;

"Now I, Edmund Henry Hynman Allenby, in virtue of the powers conferred on me as General Officer Commanding-in-Chief His Majesty's Forces in Egypt, hereby appoint Brigadier-General Sir George Macauley, K.C.M.G., provisionally, and until a Ministry of Communications has been instituted to act as Controller-General of ways of communication and civil transport in Egypt, with full power to take such measures as may be necessary to maintain and improve all existing means of communication and to assure the carriage of goods, passengers, and mails, by railway, road, or water.

"For the purposes of this Proclamation the following Services are placed under the control of the Controller-General:—The Egyptian State Railways; Telegraphs and Telephones; the Postal Administration; the Ports and Lighthouses Administration; the Harbour Works Department; Inland Water Transport; Mechanical Transport; Main Roads and Bridges; Supervision, licensing and control of civil aerial traffic.

"The Controller-General is also authorised to exercise a general supervision of all Light Railways. He shall have power to requisition all means of transport for the purposes of this Proclamation, and may in case of necessity fix fair and reasonable rates for any class of transport. For the purposes of this Proclamation, the Controller-General is authorised to exercise all the powers of a Ministry with regard to the Services placed under his control, and to employ all credits allotted by the Budget for the Ministry of Communications or for any service placed under his control and such other credits as may be granted in accordance with the financial regulations for the expense of his Administration. Nothing in this Proclamation shall affect the competence of any Council of Discipline or Special Council of Discipline to deal with charges brought against any official of any of the Services above mentioned."

GOD SAVE THE KING!

E.H.H. ALLENBY, General,
Commanding-in-Chief H.M. Forces in Egypt.

THE PASSOVER.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,—May I crave the hospitality of your esteemed columns through which I desire to express my heartfelt thanks, on behalf of my fellow officers and soldiers, for the elaborate arrangement made for their reception and entertainment in Cairo and Alexandria, during the recent passover festivals. The Alexandria Jewish community spent large sums on providing kosher meals during all the 8 days to soldiers on leave at the kosher restaurant. Meals were also sent daily to prisoners of war, interned aliens, soldier patients in hospitals and in many instances to men on duty who could not obtain passover leave. The arrangements were in the hands of Mr. Jos. E. de Picciotto who deserves special mention for his untiring efforts in arranging everything in so successful a manner.

In Cairo the arrangements were in the hands of a special passover committee appointed by the Sephardic and Ashkenazic communities with Mr. Gattegno as president. All soldiers on leave were entertained to hearty passover luncheons and dinners at the kosher restaurant and breakfasts at the Jewish Soldiers' Club. Kosher food was also sent to prisoners of war and patients in hospitals. Thanks are also due to Mr. Cohen, Spanish consul at Tanta, for doing what he best could for the "boys" there who could not get away. I have no words with which to express my gratitude for what was done to enable soldiers to observe the feast of passover in so enjoyable and perfect a manner.

Yours, etc.,
J. FRANKENTHAL, C.F.,
Jewish Chaplain, E.E.F.

Alexandria, May 1.

Majestic Palace
HOTEL
Facing the Sea.
Strictly First Class Suites and all Bedrooms with Bathrooms.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

FRATERNITY.

The "Afkar" (part of a poem, literal translation, composed by "Mohamed, Abdul Razek," backing up the "Afkar" in the views it expressed in an article which we reproduced in our issue of yesterday, in this column criticising the "Egyptian Gazette," in connection with the letter sent to it by a Coptic correspondent).

—Right is the highest structure in the world.... O director of the "Afkar," do write, for your writing appears in proper time. Explain to him who wished to create a gulf how bad was his literature; and if he insists, let him produce his proofs. Announce our fraternity; fraternity will never be removed. The community has declared that the Rooeel is the same as the Koran. There is no difference between a minaret where "Adaan" is chanted, and a dome crowned with a cross. Defend the people, for thou art its mouthpiece, and give us more of literature of fraternity, for such a tune is our wine.

ARE NOT NUBIANS ALSO OUR BROTHERS?

The "Afkar" (a letter from a "group of Nubians). — I attended the midday prayer, this Friday, at one of the Boulac Mosques, Cairo, and it happened, just as the service was over, that an educated orator started to address advice to the audience. Some confused noise was made by a number of people who were unable to understand some of the speaker's words and views and he silenced the murmurers, and said to them in a loud voice: "Listen, listen; are you Barabra" (pl. of Barbari). The Nubians (commonly called Barabra in Egypt) of whom there were a number at the meeting including myself were greatly displeased with the tactless expression. In the evening I went to attend the isha prayer at another Mosque in another quarter, and, to my great surprise, another speaker came to speak, and the same event which occurred at the Boulac Mosque was repeated here! This made us—Nubians—feel considerably hurt and caused us much uneasiness. When we heard similar expressions in the streets we cared very little for them, but what excuse could be given by such educated men? Have local speakers agreed to silence people by that phrase and is there no other expression in the language to use instead? We write to the "Afkar" to protest against such an attitude, and we sincerely hope that speakers will drop that expression from their vocabulary declaring that we are Native Egyptians and the land where we live is Egyptian territory. May Allah help us to promote union and save us from wrong deeds which create separation and misunderstanding.

(The "Afkar," commenting on the above letter). — We, like every other Egyptian, who has zeal for the bonds of unity, regret such a slip of the tongue especially at a time like this while all sects and communities in Egypt have organised an unprecedented fraternity.

THE DELEGATION IN PARIS.

"Misr." — According to recent news from Paris received by some Egyptian notables in Cairo, the Egyptians resident in the French capital were greatly pleased with the arrival of the Egyptian Delegation at that city, and they met under the chairmanship of Waseef Bey Ghali and gave a warm welcome to the deputation. The reception which was unique so far as the Egyptians there are concerned, attracted the attention of distinguished people in Paris, both French and others. The Egyptians gave loud cheers to the Delegation of their country, and showed every mark of respect to its worthy members. Waseef Bey explained to them what he had done to smooth the way for their coming, and that doubled their pleasure. Saad Pasha Zaghloul has begun to pay visits to some members of the Peace Conference and other important men explaining to them the conditions of Egypt and the aspirations of its people, and how they expect to receive help from liberal men. The Grand Hotel where the members of the Delegation have stopped has attracted the attention of many men of high position and politicians and thinking men in Paris, and it has become the scene of special public meeting which take place there at any part of the day.

THE CIGARETTE CRISIS.

The "Basir" (from its Cairo "notes"). — Alcohol has risen in value from P.T. 3 to P.T. 5 per litre. Coffee beans have risen from P.T. 5 to P.T. 7, but grain of all varieties has become cheaper, and eggs also are now less expensive. The cigarette crisis is still intense, for the merchants of rural districts continue to purchase cigarettes from Cairo at high rates and sell the same at still higher prices. The Mehleoui Cigarette Factory has resumed work, but the statesman firm insists on dismissing its workmen.

HOW THE DISTURBANCES AFFECT EDUCATION.

"Wady el Nil."—The Ministry of Education has published its decision allowing pupils to return to school on Saturday next, and both parents and children concerned who have read the statement, have nothing to say against the will itself inasmuch as it is meant to be good for students. But they find that there is difficulty in the way of returning to school. The Ministry of Education is aware that many of the students of both the higher and Secondary schools have gone in the course of recent events to their towns and districts in the provinces, and it knows that one who stays at Kalioub or Giza may not be able to get to Cairo in time to be present at his school on Saturday morning. If this be the case in the neighbouring districts, how greater must be the difficulty that stands in the way of those who have to come from such remote regions as Girga or Assiut in the South, or Alexandria and Damanhour in the north.... We suggest that the Ministry should ask the Military authorities to help students to leave in due time.

FOOTBALL IN ALEXANDRIA.

MILITARY INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

As was reported in the "Gazette," a highly interesting football match took place last Saturday at Chatby Stadium between representatives of England and Scotland. The proceeds were to be devoted to a fund for the dependents of the late Cadet Thomas, R.A.F., who was killed recently while playing football, and for the famous St. Dunstan's Home for the Blind. There was a record crowd present and naturally the takings were good, for we are informed that after deducting all expenses the sum of £89 has been handed to the G.O.C., Alexandria, to be distributed between the above mentioned funds.

ALEXANDRIA AMUSEMENTS.

San Stefano Casino. — The first grand ball at the San Stefano Casino will take place on Saturday, May 10, and the first classical concert will be given at 10.45 on Sunday morning, May 11, under the baton of Sig. Bonomi. Season tickets will be issued for the Casino from to-day onwards at the following prices: Subscription for one person, P.T. 250; lady and gentleman, P.T. 350; gentleman, P.T. 300; children under seven, P.T. 50; from seven to eighteen, P.T. 75; over eighteen, P.T. 100; governess, P.T. 100; nurses, P.T. 50.

It is proposed to construct fur factories in Siberia in which upwards of 8,000,000 sheep skins will be treated annually, and of which the Yeatly output is expected to amount to 60,000 coats, 1,000,000 muffs, and 2,500,000 pairs of gloves.

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A COURTSHIP IN TURKEY.

COLONEL'S ROMANTIC MARRIAGE

The marriage of Lieut-Colonel S.F. Newcombe, D.S.O., R.E., and Miss Elsi Chaki, which took place at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on April 17, was the outcome of a romantic courtship in Turkey.

It appears that Miss Chaki visited Col. Newcombe when he was a prisoner of war in hospital at Constantinople last summer suffering from smallpox. Later, when he was transferred to Brusa, she succeeded in following him on the plea of ill-health, being accompanied by her faithful maid. Hers Colonel Newcombe made many amusing attempts to meet Miss Chaki, and eventually he escaped one evening disguised as a Turkish khoja (priest). The caphtan led to her that he required a boots money, a hiding place in Constantinople, and means to escape from there in order to gain his complete freedom. He returned to the quarters where he was confined, and Miss Chaki set to work to secure the means essential to her lover's escape. When her preparations were ready she smuggled a note back to him.

Lieut.-Colonel Newcombe regained his liberty one night in the middle of September, and after a 20-mile walk to the coast and two days' rowing in the boat procured for him, he reached his hiding place in Constantinople. Here he began propaganda work for the armistice against the Germans, and just as he was ready to start with a well-known brigand to the frontier he was asked by a high official of the New Party to remain to take out armistice terms. His presence in the capital was unknown to the police or prison authorities.

Colonel Newcombe got away from Constantinople just before the armistice. Miss Chaki was not allowed to follow until over four months later.

A HOUSE OF CARETAKERS.

"It is difficult to regard the House in any other light than that of a House of Caretakers," says the "Times." "The present members are keeping the green benches warm for a more truly representative body which must sooner or later come into its inheritance. Many members have still to recover from their astonishment at finding themselves at Westminster."

The new portent is that the Government is becoming very unpopular.

The secrecy of Paris has been bad for the peace, but it has been disastrous for the prospects of the Government at home.

THE PROHIBITION QUESTION.

N.Z. SOLDIERS VOTE FOR DRINK.

The result of the recent poll among members of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force now in England on the question of Prohibition in the Dominion when declared showed that there was a majority of four to one in favour of retaining the present licensing system. The figures now stand:—

	For Prohibition	Against Prohibition
New Zealand voting	238,116	225,921
Soldiers in England	3,950	15,880
	242,066	241,801

Majority for Prohibition 265

The votes of 16,000 New Zealand soldiers is France, Egypt, and at sea have still to be taken. If these are cast in the same proportion as those in England, Prohibition will be rejected.

"DRY" DEFEAT IN CANADA.

The referendum on the question of the sale of wines and beer in the province of Quebec has resulted in the "Wets" defeating the "Drys" by almost four to one.

The result is likely to affect the proposed Federal Bill for prohibition through the Dominion of the manufacture or importation of all intoxicants.

THE SEASON AT RAMLEH.

The former Palais Zizinia, the situation of which on the highest point of the Mediterranean coast is so picturesque and well known, is being rapidly renovated and refurnished as a first-class Hotel.

The New Victoria Hotel has by a happy inspiration, been installed on this unique site with its unequalled panorama of sea and land.

The extensive terraces, superb verandah of the New Victoria, overhanging the sea, should rapidly make of it a favourite society rendez-vous where visitors will find perfect comfort in an environment of delicious coolness and refreshing quiet.

The opening is fixed for May 15.

SPATHIS' MINERAL WATERS ARE THE BEST. (ADVT.)