OUR PALESTINE LETTER.

COMMERCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

(By Moses Levene).

Jerusalem, June 4.

Business men in Palestine, at the present moment, are labouring under exceptional difficulties, owing to the lack of transport means. There is a great demand for all descriptions of goods, but commission agents cannot accept orders because they cannot guarantee the arrival of goods in due time, nor can any definite price be stated c.i.f. Palestinian ports. Then again, the English merchant or manufacturer insists on trading only on cash terms, for says he, "the war has just come to an end after raging for close on five years, has created a lack of confidence on the part of all traders." It means that the customer must pay for the goods before he can get in possession of the documents, and the Palestinian trader on his part, having his own doubts, prefers to resort to the Egyptian market, where he has also to surmount many obstacles before he can get his wares on the spot. There are, however, some merchants who have started business with London and Manchester, whose goods have been in Alexandria for over two months, and have not yet been able to get them here. The resumption of the Khedivial Steamship service has somewhat relieved the difficulty, but what merchants and importers are looking forward to, is the resumption of the Prince Line service direct from England to Jaffa or Haifa.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

Rents at Jaffa are rising by leaps and bounds. Four months hence will be Moharem, the month of removals and the hiring of houses for another twelve months. Rooms that were last year rented for 20 Shillings, are now expected to fetch 60 shillings. Especially are exhorbitant prices asked by the proprietors of houses in Tel Abir. The tenants have formed themselves into an organisation and are trying to come to some mutual arrangement with the owners, failing which they threaten to call in the aid of the authorities. At Jerusalem most of the poorer Jewish suburbs, which have been vacant during the years of the war, have again been occupied by the refugees who were repatriated from Egypt. The dearth of respectable houses, has led many communal leaders to organise groups of different people for the acquisition of extensive plots of land, in the hope that some bank or other financial institution interested in the development of Palestine, will advance loans for constructing houses, on the long term repayment system. Such groups have already been formed both at Jaffa and Jerusalem. A society has also been formed for the construction of shops and depots, to which only bona fide merchants and shopkeepers are eligible, as members.

MR. YELLIN'S RETURN.

Mr. David Yellin, a member of the Jewish Palestine Delegation sent to Paris, returned this week and lectured to a crowded audience at the Cinema on impressions of his travels to Paris and London.

Mr. Yellin, in his lecture, mentioned the fact that when he met Cattaoui Pasha at Cairo, before the war he was a stranger to the idea of Jewish nationalism, whereas now, he was the moving spirit in the Jewish Community there, He paid a very warm tribute to Egyptian Jews.

THE INTER-ALLIED COMMISSION.

According to the Egyptian press, the inter-Allied Commission was to have arrived at Haifa on the 25th of last month. The commission, as a fact has not yet set foot on the Palestine shores. The native population is preparing to meet the commissioners with all due honour.

THE JEWISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

After all the opposition encountered by the moderate party, both from the extreme orthodox and bolsheviks, it has issued forth victorious. Most of the councillors are natives of Jerusalem, who are well acquainted with local conditions, and are well able to steer through rough waters. Messrs Yellin and Meyuhas, are thorough Arab scholars, and are able to meet Moslems on their own ground, and can converse with them and remove any misunderstandings that may occur from time to time.

MORE REFUGEES ARRIVE.

About five hundred refugees arrived in Palestine from Alexandria, on Friday last. At Jerusalem many of them have temporarily been accommodated in the Bokhara quarter, and the Council of the Jerusalem Jews is caring for them.

EXODUS FROM PORT SAID.

The Greek Consul at Port Said has received many applications for repatriation from the Greek Workmen of the Suez Canal Company, who have been on strike, since they prefer to go home where they think conditions of life will be easier. The "Verité" of Port Said states that many of the Canal Company's workmen of other nationalities are also asking their Consuls to send them home, as the vague promises of the company are not considered to be satisfactory.

The Washington railroad administration having placed an order for 200,000 tons of steel rails at 47dols. per ton, a protest has been raised that the price is exorbitant, and the steel interests are condemned.

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MUNICIPAL ART EXHIBITION

THE QUESTION OF THE AWARDS.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,— I find in your yesterday's issue two letters originating from the Members of the Awards Bureau of the IV. Municipal Art Exhibition and I think that the declarations therein are quite to the honour of the members they bring to an end the more or less severe talkings and appreciations which made their way in the saloons and the exhibition hall, and of which my letter was but an echo, in view to provoke the authorised declarations.

I notice, however, with sincere sorrow, that the members of the Jury have far exaggerated both sense and extent of the objections contained in my said letter, which objections however, "Arbite" came to confirm in your paper, in a letter subsequent to mine, as reflecting those of an ill-impressed majority. "Arbite" was fortunate enough to express his sayings in a supple language, as is the French; but you will, however, agree that an occasional misprint gave to my concluding paragraph a more terrible aspect than it really had. In saying that: "It is repugnant to conceive, otherwise, that the occasion has been found profitable to attract public attention, etc.," I did not say that "I did so." I merely meant that it would be too reluctant to retain in one's mind such unchivalrous hypotheses. But I confess that, the unlucky "semicolon (;) which your corrector quite unwillingly has placed after the adverb "otherwise," did much to create a misunderstanding, though, I am sure this word was intended between two "commas."

I beg further to declare, and this in respect of "the third" of the members of the Jury, that no offence and not, even the slightest intention of offence whatever, was the motive of transmitting you in a letter what, for three days past, was the subject of most conversations.

I personally profess a deep respect towards "the third" of the members of the Jury, whose uncontested artistic valour and work I admire, and I estimate that her dignity is high up out of reach of all non-controlled rumours. But I estimated too that precisely for that reason, such rumours needed some authorised explanation to be drawn forth, not for "the third" Jury member's unattainable dignity, but towards a wider benefit of all "content" or discontent."

If "the third" of the Jury most unfortunately came to be affected in a more or less direct manner—and this is I think in her knowledge —it may be attributed and is now proved by some fortuitous and misleading circumstances, viz: that, though other exhibitors received, as a rule one medal for their exhibits, her two pupils were awarded with two of the highest awards each; that the labels in some of the latter cases, were placed between two exhibits of unequal importance; that on the contrary, pupils of another member of the Jury, though, meriting, something, received nothing; then, certain rumours, attributed to indiscretions of one or another member, as to alleged disagreement during the distribution of the awards, etc., etc. Perhaps, also, because public expectation, accustomed to works of a higher standard, from the high prized pupils of "the third" member of the Jury, has been for the moment somewhat difficult.

Anyhow any inadvertancies that may have occurred (No.77 is still retained as of higher value No. 75 signed by the same author—"Verre Jaunatre est)"—nobody can doubt any more of the conscientious and praiseworthy way in which the Awards Board of the IV. Municipal Art Exhibition concluded its mission. Furthermore the same should be congratulated to have proved, once more, that the "likely" is not always "true."

And now, chivalry and impartiality compels "Impartial" to impartially express herein, to the members of the Jury, his sincere apologies and retractions.

Yours, &c.,
"Impartial."

Alexandria, June 11.

FALLING BIRTH-RATE.

(To the Editor, "Egyptian Gazette.")

Sir,— The splendid and most telling article in your issue of to-day lacks just one thing: it does not give the credit where it is due, and it may be my point out that the cause of the startling contrast between the vital statistics of Bradford and Roscommon, is that in the latter area the people are faithful to the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church on the subject of the duties and responsibilities of husband and wife.

In Roscommon such things as Malthusianism, and Divorce are locked upon as things foul and unclean—to be avoided like the plague. Syphilis too, the article rightly tells us, is almost unknown in rural Ireland: it might have added that it is almost unknown even in Irish cities in comparison with those of enlightened England.

What a comment on Modern Civilisation and "progress" (?)—up-to-date, prosperous Bradford, enjoying all modern appliances, including a modern religion, has a birthrate of 13, and an appalling infant death-rate of 135: poor, backward, Roman Catholic Roscommon, lacking all these advantages, is free from venereal disease, and has a birth-rate of 45 and an infant death-rate of only 35. Heaven help us! If this goes on the Roman Catholics will soon swamp us!

I commend these facts to "Howitzer," Anglicus" and others, who are so fond of throwing mud at the Catholic Church.

If she had nothing else but this to her credit, she would deserve the everlasting gratitude of mankind.

Thanking you for publishing these remarks.

Yours, &c.,
"Roman Catholic."

Mustapha, Alexandria, June 10.

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AFTERNOON TEA & DINNER.

THE NATIVE PRESS.

EGYPTIAN NOTABLES CLUB.

"Wady el Nil" (from its Cairo correspondent).—I have seen a copy of the projected regulations of the "Egyptian Notables Club" prepared to be set up in Cairo; it is printed on glassy paper in spite of the errors contained in its text and the vagueness of its sentences. The paper consists of 28 articles connected with each other like a chain of 28 links in a pattern. The undersigned have formed a civil company under the name of "The Egyptian Notables Club" with the object of organising a club for Egyptian notables of both Upper and Lower Egypt so that they may meet one another and support each other in what may be useful both to themselves and the nation from the agricultural and economic points of view. The Company will have its headquarters in Cairo, but the Executive Committee may decide in future to set up branches for it in the provinces. The Company is made up of L.E.2,000, dating from May 1919, with a capital of L.E.10,000 divided into 500 shares at the rate of L.E.20 each. When the third of the shares are distributed the company will be able to begin to work." What attracts special attention of the text of the rules is the fact that the writer of the said rules, wishing to dispute doubts with regard to the activities of the Club, explained in a peculiar article that it is forbidden to deal with politics in the club. This makes the proposed Notables Club appear like the "Bonsoir" in both Cairo and in Alexandria. The organiser wishes to see the notables of Egypt assembled together in order to do some useful service both to themselves and to the nation at large, utilising L.E.10,000 for that purpose, but it is not stated what sort of work is going to be done. It is unlikely that this point has been purposely neglected, for people are sure that the notables of the country will not meet without an object in view. . . .

THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATION.

The "Afkar."—We confirm the statements we published in our previous issues about the Egyptian Delegation in Paris. On Monday last a letter was received in Cairo from Ismail Sidky Pasha stating that he intended to leave Paris at the present time for Vichy owing to his being very tired and to the importance of his work. His Excellency asked his family in the same letter to postpone their departure for Vichy.

COPTS AND THEIR ANCESTORS.

"Misr."—We feel that we are Egyptians and like the world to know that we feel that we are alive and want the world to appreciate this fact; we feel that we are human beings and wish humanity to recognize this; we feel that we have a glorious history and wish the present era to know it; we feel that we are Christians and have no knowledge of humanity though they may be this object and this feeling on our part. If the dust of the grave represents the relation between and history writers of the present times to acknowledge that we are the inheritors of that historic glory. We cannot see that there is anyone and his ancestors, we boast of seeing the bones of our forefathers which time has been unable to turn into dust, figuring as permanent relations between the Egyptian and his ancestors. If monuments should be counted as a historic inheritance we find that the monuments left by our forefathers, which are amongst the world's miracles are the most glorious inheritance which reminds the Egyptian of his old fathers. The dates in which we live, the Nile water which we use, the ground beneath us and the air around us are all standing relations between ourselves and our forefathers who occupied this land before us . . . We should be greatly depressed if we were denied the right of attribution to our homeland, to life and to humanity while we boast of being the sons of those who founded the throne of civilisation; it is enough for the Egyptian to say to humanity that he is a descendant of the Pharaohs who possessed the Upper and Lower Nile, that humanity may receive him with open arms of its children.

NUBIANS' SUFFERINGS.

The "Alahy" (from a correspondent).—During the last two months a flood of telegraphic messages have been received from the Nuba Region announcing deaths. The sad news comes every day showing that all the inhabitants there are in mourning, for scarcely a family has escaped without losing one or more of its members; with the result that many houses have been closed and ruined. The Nubians are not yet in a position fully to understand the cause of the calamity but it is assured that if hygienic measures had been sufficiently taken there epidemics and deaths would have stopped at a certain limit and the same would have been easily removed. What seems to have added weight to the matter is the non-existence of medical doctors there and the inability of the Markaz doctors, who are very few, to attend the patients who have been very numerous. Take for instance the Darr markaz, which consists of many villages and hamlets and lies extended on the shores of the Nile for a distance of about 12 hours by Nile ships; this markaz has only one doctor at El Dabr. How is it possible for this that doctor alone to fight diseases in the whole of teh district? The people of Nubia look to the attention of the Public Health Administration to this question.

NO MINISTRIES AT BULKELEY.

The "Omma".—We understand that the Ministries will not move to their summer offices at Bulkeley this year, for they have plenty of delayed work which prevent them from doing so.

RAILWAY FARES.

The "Basir."—We learn on good authority that Zaver Pasha, the new Minister of Communications, will start his new function by making efforts to reduce the rates of fares to their former limit.

ALEXANDRIA BOURSE.

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

Unified fell 1/8 to £87 3/8 and Lots Turcs rose 1/2 to fr.157 1/2 while there was a drop of 1/32 in Agricultural Bank which closed at £6 3/32.

Banque d'Orient advanced 1fr. closing in demand at fr.114 while there was no change in Banque d'Athenes which finished at fr.88.

Credit Foncier bonds issue 1886 were offered at fr.432 and issues 1903 and 1911 were quoted at fr.305 and 283 1/2 respectively.

Comptoir Financier rose 5/16 closing offered at £1 17/32. National Bank being 1/32 higher at £20 29/32 while Chek Fadi closed in request at fr.191.

Gabbari Lands were weaker at £- 13/16, 1/64 drop; Société des Immeubles closed in demand at £5 19/32 while ordinary Khedivial were neglected at 121/-.

There was a drop of 1/2 £ in Société de Pressages which were at £51 1/4; Bonded Warehouses being 1/16 higher at £13 while Salt and Soda came into renewed favour changing hands in large numbers and closing at 54/3.

Braseries d'Egypte fell 2fr. 1/2 to fr. 310 and Cotton neglected ove 1/64 to £- 13/16, deferred Comptoir dropped 1/16 to £21 5/16 while there was no change in New Egyptian Co. which finished at 22/10 1/24.

Egypt and Levant s.s. were neglected closing offered at 33/4 1/2d.

SPATHIS MINERAL WATERS ARE THE BEST. (ADVT.)

TURF NOTES.

A DERBY WINNER FOR £600.

(By a correspondent).

In the autumn of 1916 Mr. "Boss" Croker of Tammany fame decided to submit most of his horses for sale at his place outside Dublin, as he intended paying a long visit to America. In common with others I crossed over from England to attend the sale as I was most desirous of buying one of the lots for an Indian client, and an Orly foal for a friend in England who gave me "carte blanche." It was a very miserable day and rain fell incessantly. However all Ireland seemed to be present at the sale ring. As none of the foals or mares were under cover it was most difficult to see them at their best, however I made up my mind the well grown colt foal by Orly, Grand Geraldine was the pick of the bunch without being a really good looking one. There were two things I did not like—his inclination to bend the legs over his straight fetlocks, however as nature has so many times come to the rescue in the past it was a feasible proposition to buy him "at a guinea" as a foal of his breeding find freedom of action must race—so when he was brought to the Rostrum I started bidding by offering £300, soon found there were two others in the running, one being Mr. Creed acting on behalf of Sir William Tatem now Lord Glanely. This for me was a very unfortunate bit of bad luck. As past experience had taught me that Sir William wanted a thing he got it irrespective of price. Well the third bidder soon fell out, and I carried on the bidding with Mr. Creed to anything from memory, £600 when I cried "Peccavi." So the colt was knocked down to Mr. Creed and Lord Glanely thus became the owner of the horse destined to win the Peace Derby. In the following September I was sent to Mr. De Mestre to be trained with the result he won each of his two early races in England to be sent again back to Ireland to be trained by Behan at the Curragh for whom he won his three Irish engagements. Then in the autumn he was again sent to England to the care of Barling who become Lord Glanely's trainer, but he was destined to taste defeat, as he was unable to give 10lbs to Glaumerin, and 5lbs. to Knight of the Air in the Moulton Stakes Newmarket. At that time turfites seemed unanimous that he in common with Orly's other get was a non-stayer, however he appears to have wintered well, and followed in the footsteps of his illustrious sire—who unfortunately died in the spring of 1917.

In all truth his owner has been one of fortune's favourites, as, starting life in a very small way in Cardiff shipping, he is to-day the owner of a large fleet of steamers and during the war has been the recipient of a knighthood followed by a peerage and now to cap all the most covetous race on earth falls to his share and that by a horse bought for a mere bagatelle, however nobody can deny this luck as no pluckier buyer of horse flesh exists.

Yet another in luck's way was Templeman who had only just returned from India where he has been for most of the war. As the papers tell us he was the successful jockey—a chance ride in all probability as the stable jockey A. Smith role the stable companion Bomboon on all judgment from the betting was the elected of the twain. So ended the Peace Derby. The Alexandria Sporting Club held a meeting on Saturday before what must have been the largest attendance this season—indeed the stand room was quite inadequate to meet the demand and the Totalisator appeared to a roaring trade but I make no doubt much revenue was lost to the club owing to such an obsolete machine being in vogue—surely some steps must immediately be taken to reorganise this important department and possibly the racing of the stand. As of course in its present state it is useless, not one in a hundred see anything of a race except for the last hundred yards.

The Arab fields were in all conscience miserable specimens and in common with others I fail to understand the management catering for this third class racing at the expense of the first class—a wrong policy, as it should be the aim of all clubs to cater for the best, and had I my way I should only give a stake of £10 to be run for in class III. This would soon eliminate the mongrels, and they would speedily replace the poor broken down horses we see in the streets of Alexandria. Please note S.P.C.A.

Sidi opened the ball by winning the Newcomers Plate giving a lot of height to Juliette but I opine the latter will one day turn the tables. The Handicap brought out a really good class field of country-breds, and these were much admired in the Paddock. The favourite Gladiator had a host of admirers and right well he looked, but his welter weight fairly anchored him. Atalanta with her great bone and good shoulders met the eye, but in the same stable we saw a perfectly trained horse Grayling who made all the running for 5 furlongs at a great pace and at this distance would probably be the winner, however, when he cried enough Mr. Hughes mare Perdos was going a little bit better than anything else, and being kept going eventually won by half a length from Cedar who is a nice compact little filly. Mr. Croker is a rangy mare standing over a lot of ground just a trifle long of her back but with grand galloping quarters. She was fighting hot a little before her race which perhaps caused her to look a little waisty, however she is a rare mover and won in the gamest possible fashion. The Nouzha Handicap Mulek won cleverly from Kezani with Dagee 3rd swerving badly in the last furlong. The other races call for no comment.

"Sentinel."

MATCH AT ALEXANDRIA.

3RD ECHELON C.C. v. No.21—GENERAL HOSPITAL C.C.

The above match was played on the Alexandria Cricket ground on Monday, June 9, 1919, and resulted in an easy win for the Hospital team by four wickets. The Echelon batted first and were quickly in difficulties against the splendid deliveries of James and Smith who bowled magnificently five wickets falling very cheaply for 32 runs, however, excellent batting on the part of Ogden and Pull who scored 15 and 26 respectively augmented the score exceedingly, which eventually reached the total of 76, unfortunatly the Echelon only batted 10 men. The fielding by the Hospital team was excellent.

The Hospital opened their venture with Thompson and Brown to the bowling of Ogden and Pull. The start was disastrous, as in Ogden's second over Thompson was bowled off his pads, the first wicket falling for four runs, Jackson then came in and in a merry and bright innings of short duration rattled up 19 runs and was then beautifully caught by Kinross, Peel was dismissed without addition to the score, Atkinson then became associated with Brown, and a prolific partnership ensued the score being taken by forceful batting from 32 to 84 when Brown was caught by Coombes for a well played 34 for which he had batted in splendid style making no mistakes. Smith then partnered Atkinson and runs coming at a great pace, the score was quickly raised to 141 when Atkinson was bowled by Ogden when 5 short of his half century. He had batted in great style, for a score of 45, included in which were 8 boundaries. Jones was soon dismissed without addition. Stumps were then drawn, Smith being not out 23.

Scores:—

3RD ECHELON.

Horne c. and b. Smith	0
Waters b. Smith	11
Ogden c. Tolman b. Smith	15
Kinross b. Smith	5
Coleman not out	3
Cottam b. James	0
Wicks b. James	10
Pull c. Baker b. James	26
Goggani run out	0
Coombe b. James	1
Extras	5
Total	76

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
James	15	6	24	4
Smith	11	4	29	4

21ST GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Thompson b. Ogden	0
Brown c. Coombes b. Wicks	34
Jackson c. Kinross b. Ogden	19
Atkinson b. Ogden	45
Peel c. Cottam b. Ogden	0
Smith not out	23
Jones b. Ogden	0
Extras	20
Total for 6 wickets	141

Baker, James, Grey and Tolman, did not bat.

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"REGIMENTS OF PREACHERS."

A Petrograd telegram states that according to the Bolshevik organ "Pravda" new detachments have been formed in Admiral Koltchak's army which are known as "God's Regiment" and "Jesus Christ's Regiment." These consist only of preachers and monks, who, besides their arms, carry also images of saints and crosses. Chanting Psalms they advance to the attack. The "Pravda" reproaches the Red soldiers with their superstition, and states that some Bolshevik regiments, especially those consisting of peasants have broken up before the counter-revolutionary troops.

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RAMADAN IN EGYPT.

THE PLEASURES OF FASTING.

without other persons trying to reprove them by example, etc. I gave them permission to smoke and have their coffee.

The smell of the smoke and coffee made me understand how difficult the fast really is when properly carried out, but I thought myself justified in making . . .

"If you fellows are not really fasting why don't you come to work at 8.30 a.m. as usual instead of coming at 10 a.m.? It seems to me that you are each one cheating the Government

UPPER EGYPT UNREST.

THE MINIA NOTABLES TRIAL

BIMBASHI MOHAMED SHAHINE'S EVIDENCE

day March 16, demonstrations took place and the markazes were destroyed. He was then obliged to write to the markazes to ask the notables to form a committee for the purpose of keeping order. They were to try and make the people understand that attacks on railways and telephones were not in the interests of the country. When he heard a big demon-

CUMING'S
INSURANCE OFFICE.