

THE OBSERVER

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BRITAIN'S ENORMOUS TASK.

Russia, we are told, has made another stride southward in Mesopotamia, this time cutting the Bagdad railroad.

We cannot say that American sympathies had always been with Russia in the east. Formerly we were asked to look with horror upon such advances. Now however, we are bid to regard the Russian advance with pleasure, and we will do so in proportion as we are dutiful.

Lord Kitchener has been criticized for not coming to the rescue of Townshend, and for not having cut the Bagdad line himself, or, at least, the Damascus line, he having 300,000 soldiers in Egypt, including many admirable Australians.

But, let us not ascribe every development to Downing street blunders. There must be some rational purpose in it all. And we conceive that purpose to be the protection of Egypt and of India from internal revolt. No doubt the Aquith ministry has had more to cope with than has been acknowledged.

One understands now some of their difficulties in Ireland. One sees how France is in the throes of a revolt in Indo-China. It is almost certain that Britain needed her 300,000 men in Egypt, especially as the Suez is a vital point. And it is probable that she has sent to India more soldiers than she took from there.

It is better to protect what one has than to grasp at too much. South Africa, Australia and Canada are doubtless held in all the more esteem in London in these days by those who know.

SOME SANITY IN MEXICO.

Gen. Gavira, commandant at Juarez, has a poor opinion of certain American newspapers. The report that 2,000 Villistas have been recruited in Durango is "a lie, spread by some of your American bandits" who "wear Palm Beach suits, operate typewriters and write for the yellow press."

Evidently the general has been reading some of the American papers those, for instance, that have printed reports that Carranzista troops were attacking the American column; that Carranza's men were co-operating with Villa; that Obregon had turned

against the first chief; that other Mexican generals had deserted to Villa; that Pershing's forces had been surrounded by hostile armies; that Carranza was afraid to enter Mexico city; that Carranza had no control over his subordinates, and scores of other rumors which have proved equally baseless. Careful readers who know the difference in value between a story sent by a reliable press association and a "special" from El Paso have been able to discredit these fictions, but the unwary have been frequently deceived.

Some of these reports were telegraphed by excited correspondents who had neither the time nor the means to verify them. Others were doubtless put on the wire by men who deliberately manufactured them for the purpose of intensifying the difficulty of the situation. The result of the conference between Gen. Scott and Gen. Obregon shows, however, that there is an amount of statesmanship in Mexico disappointing to the breeders of trouble.

THE JEWISH MARK TWAIN.

We have come to think of the Jewish people as especially sober minded. Their outlook is not the flippant one to which Americans habituate themselves. Yet subtle humor, fine irony and delicate shades of wit are keenly relished by the cultured elders of our Jewish colonies.

Sholm Aleichem died the other day in an obscure New York lodging. Thirty thousand came to see him buried, because his writings had lightened the burden for the masses of the largest Jewish settlement in the world, which is contained within the boundaries of Greater New York. They came and wept besides the body of the man who said "Remember me only with laughter."

The name, until it appeared in first page headlines, meant nothing to the average American. It was precious in the households of the ghetto.

Sholm Aleichem wrote his own epitaph.

"Here lies a simple Jew; made the world merry, but he suffered bitterly."

The gift of laughter is joined to the gift of tears. The man who died was close to hearts of a people who know the lessons of sufferings. For that reason they cherished the more the smiles he gave to them.

A trace after every engagement for the removal of the dead and wounded was proposed by the International Red Cross. Only the czar of Russia gave unqualified approval to the suggestion. Russia still seems out of touch with modern civilization.

Europe continues to make efforts to put the peace ball over the plate, but doesn't seem to have much control.

Hard coal has been boosted again, which makes it soft—for dealers who bought in at the lower price.

"REPAIR MAN" STEALS \$50.

Servant Threatened With Death, Reveals Hiding Place.

Chicago, May 11.—A man representing himself as a telephone re-

pairer threatened Miss Marie Openbeck, a maid employed in the home of David Goodman at 709 East Fifth street, with death unless she revealed the hiding place of her employer's money. The thief got \$50 from a bureau and escaped.

When the detectives arrived they found an excited group of women surrounding Miss Openbeck, who was recovering from a fainting spell.

"I showed him where the phone was," she said. "I had just turned my back when he grabbed me by the arms. He said, 'If you don't tell me where the money is I'll kill you.' "I pointed to the bureau drawer."

MESSENGER BOY IS HERO.

Bronx Rewards Youth of 17 Who Saved Boy from Death.

New York, May 18.—Last Friday night at Lafayette Hall, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh street, and Alexander avenue, the Ralston Purina hero fund of St. Louis, Mo., presented a hero medal to Charles Glaeser, 17 years old, a Western Union messenger boy, who on September 5, last, saved the life of 4-year-old Raymond Scalford.

The child was at play in a vacant lot, and with other children had made a bonfire. As the messenger boy passed, the child's overalls and stockings were afire and the other children seemed helpless with fear. Young Glaeser beat out the fire and then ran four blocks with the child in his arms to Lincoln hospital.

Glaeser was born in the Bronx, the son of Adolph and Jennie Glaeser, both dead, and is the sole support of his 8-year-old sister. His mother died since the act which saved the life of the Scalford child. The Ralston Purina hero fund, of St. Louis, was organized to recognize acts of bravery, as the Carnegie hero fund does.

Young Glaeser is gray-eyed, blond-haired, with a square jaw and fresh complexion and weighs 132 pounds. The Western Union company also intends to recognize his bravery by some substantial act. He is connected with the Western Union branch office at One Hundred and Forty-ninth street and Bergen avenue, of which J. P. McGovern is manager.

PHONE CALLS MYSTIFY.

Girl of Muscle Longs to Seize So-called "Poisoner."

Chicago, May 18.—Miss Ruth L. Hawley, of 6135 Prairie avenue, is a victim of a mysterious "poison phone" enemy.

For the last few days the newspaper offices have received anonymous phone messages from a woman with a drawing girlish voice. The messages have been brief. Invariably they have been as follows:

"Miss Hawley attempted to commit suicide by swallowing bichloride of mercury tablets. It is a lovers' quarrel. You can get the details at her home."

Then the informant would hang up the receiver.

Mrs. Fannie Hawley, the girl's mother, is almost prostrated through worry over the whole matter. Miss Hawley, who weighs about 150 pounds, mostly muscle, and whose happy eyes bespeak anything except a recent attempt at suicide, went to a newspaper office in an effort to get a trace, if possible, of her secret enemy.

"I can't imagine who could be doing this, but I'd like to get hold of her just for a few minutes," she said, trying to assemble a fierce look in her large, liquid eyes. "I'd pull her hair. And I could do it, too."

Miss Hawley patted an ample bicep, which made her sleeve bulge.

"I didn't know I had an enemy in the world. It must be some friends who knew I had a quarrel with—with well no matter. He's out in Pueblo now. We were to have announced our engagement this month and quarreled three weeks ago, but that didn't amount to much. Love makes aperson crazy sometimes, but not that way. There are too many others. I don't believe I have a rival."

"The whole thing is ridiculous. I have been at work all the time," Miss Hawley is employed as a stenographer and bookkeeper by a loop concern.

"Who is the man with whom you quarreled?" she was asked.

"I'd rather confess I'm 20 years old than that," she laughed. "Besides"—blushing—"I had a letter from him last Wednesday."

WIFE SPOILS HIS SYSTEM

Chronological Arrangement Goes by the Board When Man Marries

Cleveland, May 11.—One Cleveland man wears his shirts in chronological order. That is, if he buys a new shirt he tags it with his initials, numbers it and places it at the bottom of the pile. And no matter how much he likes it, he does not wear it until it comes out at the top of the pile. He went into wordy detail about the economy of his system—and he added that he arranged his socks and underwear in the same manner.

He was told that he would meet the woman of his dreams some fine day and that she would knock the spots out of his system; that she would admire a particular shirt, caress its delicate stripes lovingly and ask why he didn't wear it oftener. And then he would send it to the laundry as soon as it got back, and he would buy other shirts like it, and he would forget the system.

Don't you believe it," he said. "The person doesn't live who could upset my system!"

A few days ago he was hurrying to catch a car and he didn't have time to explain—he only shouted over his shoulder, jubilantly, "I'm wearing 'em every which way."

Clubwomen to Tell Federation About School Fight

Washington, May 18.—How District of Columbia clubwomen have been fighting an unwilling school board for permission to use schoolhouses for community meetings, is the principal message district delegates took today



THE MODERN BOY

Is more particular about his clothes than was the boy ten or a dozen years ago. He wants his togs strictly in accordance with the accepted style for Spring, 1916, and nothing else will please him—and that is just the kind of boy's clothing and furnishings we are showing.

Smart, Practical, up to the Hour—Also our Values are the Best—

BOYS' "BEST EVER" SUITS Special Value at \$5.00 For Style, Low Price and Goodness, we will match these suits with any others. Coats in Norfolk Style. Some with 2 pair pants. Full made, full lined, all seams taped, sizes 6 to 16 years. Special Values \$5.00

Boys' "Kaynee" Blouses—guaranteed color—no tapes no strings. Special values 50c. Boys' New Spring Caps, the great value at 50c. Boys' "Black Cat" Hosiery triple knees, longest wear 25c. Boys' Rah Rah Hats, new shapes and patterns 50c.

Boys' Medium Weight Union Suits for Spring 50c up. Boys' Suspenders, good ones at 25c. Boys' Fancy Leather Belts, at 25c. Little Boys' Wash Suits, all the new styles priced at 75c to \$2.00.

Our Spring Gordons & Stetsons for Men Have Captured the Town

These famous hats are more than ever in demand. Young men and their youthful-spirited elders have taken a great fancy to the New Stetson and Gordon Hats, which we are now showing. And there is one great advantage in buying a Spring Hat here—for Stetson and Gordon hats have quality-to-the-last-stitch that has proven itself in the wear through dozens of years of hat making. Store service here to match the hats—in courtesy, promptness, largest variety, and a personal interest in your patronage.



"GORDONS" \$3.00 "STETSONS" \$4.00



Sold Only at West's

Nettleton Shoes for Men \$6.50 and \$7.00. "Tilt" Shoes for Men \$4.00 to \$6.00. "Beacon" Shoes for Men \$3.50.

Shoes that earn the good opinion of every wearer. They fit unusually well, because unusually well made; and the styles are right. Here you will find the "old stand-bys" of comfort, also the advanced styles for young men. Get a correct fit and see what a difference it makes in shoe comfort. We carry all widths.

N. W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

Advertisement for La Grande National Bank. Text: 'The careful man doesn't forget to take a life preserver with him on life's voyage. Storms of adversity may come. A Bank Account makes you feel safe.' Includes an illustration of a man with a life preserver and bank account details.

when they started for the Biennial of the General Federation of Women's Clubs which meets from day after tomorrow until June 3 in New York. This is the fight in which Miss Margaret Wilson has shown her ability in handling legislative committees. Mrs. Court F. Wood, president of the District Federation will speak on "How We Have Helped the Immigrant; How We Have Helped the School Manse; Have We Called the Young to Service?" War Oddities London, May 18.—A little diversion for the "Tommiens" will be 10,000,000 pounds of "Pie melon" jam ordered by the government from Australia. It's made of melon, lemon, honey and ginger. Wilson's Picture Greeted with Silence London, May 8.—(By Mail)—The best cheered man in England is Sir John Jellicoe. The silent little admiral who sits on the British navy lid is today England's most popular hero. This message comes from the British movie theaters—a reliable barometer of public sentiment. Lord Kitchener's face on the screen always gets "a hand". Sir John French is sometimes cheered. Murmurs of probable admiration roll through the audiences when Sir Douglas Haig, Sir Charles Monroe or other British generals in the field show up. Members of the cabinet are met with approval always, but no loud demonstrations. President Wilson and American notables are greeted silently. But sit in any British movie theater and let the operator throw the strong, prominent-nosed face of Sir John Jellicoe on the kalsomine and the tumult of hand clapping and cheering rolls forth from stalls to gallery. Jellicoe is Sphinx—the Mystery Admiral. He has established a reputation for deeds and not words. In his face is action, determination, lightning decision, self control and wisdom. Nowhere outside the great walls of the admiralty building in Whitehall is anything known of Jellicoe at present. Here the slender strings of wireless antennae swaying over the building connect with the aerials on Jelli-

coe's ship. Somewhere in the North Sea where he is waiting for the Germans to come out; superintending the naval blockade and always adjusting the final twist of preparedness which has kept England from sharing the fate of Belgium, Poland and Serbia. Ordinary British folk who go to movie theaters and never share the secrets of the admiralty wireless, have learned to connect the name of Jellicoe with the security they enjoy at home. So every time his face appears they cheer it wildly.

Blacksmiths, Take Note! Kansas City, May 11.—Blacksmiths hereafter must be union men if they work for Jackson County, the County Court in Independence has declared. J. McGrotty, a representative of union labor, told the court a non-union blacksmith was working at the garage on South Chrysler avenue, Independence. It was contrary, he said, to a recent order of the court.

Judge Miles Bulger looked inquiringly at Allen C. Southern, County Highway Engineer. "The man is not a mechanic," Southern said.

"Do you mean to say that a blacksmith is not a mechanic?" Southern said he meant that. Then the order was made. The blacksmith ousted was Joseph Baader, of Independence, who had been put on temporarily by Southern.

DO YOU KNOW THAT Efficient muzzling of dogs will eradicate rabies? The protection of the health of children is the first duty of the Nation? Bad temper is sometimes merely a symptom of bad health? Insanity costs every inhabitant in the United States \$1 per year? The U. S. Public Health Service has proven that typhus is spread by lice? Untreated pellagra ends in insanity?

In the lexicon of health there is no such word as "neutrality" against disease? The death rate of persons under 45 is decreasing; of those over 45 it is increasing?

Horse Deals Abandoned Washington, May 16.—"While the

supply of army horses in this country has been sadly depleted by reason of the vast shipments to Europe, it has not been the horse breeder who has benefited most by these shipments," remarked G. H. Coyle, an extensive breeder of polo ponies with big Texas interests, at the Raleigh.

"Of course, the breeders and farmers throughout the country reaped something of a harvest with their suitable horses, but they seldom obtained more than a fair market value for their stock. The big money that was made and that is being made in this particular branch of war babies has gone to men and concerns that have never been identified with breeding and men who know nothing of the horse."

"Before the outbreak of the war and the consequent demand for horses it cost about \$12 to ship a horse from New York to Liverpool. With the commandeering of ships and the general shortage that followed in bottoms this could successfully handle this trade the expense of shipping horses to Bordeaux, the port to which most of the animals consigned to the allies were sent, there was the unheard-of rise in the cost of shipping.

Turks Suffering Great Washington, May 10.—"The people of Turkey and Persia are suffering more perhaps than those of any of the belligerent countries as a direct result of the European war," declared Dr. A. R. Shedd, of Adana, Turkey, at the New Willard.

"So scarce is money in Armenia that fathers are selling their children to the Arabs for sums that equal \$1 in our money. Women and old men are the greatest sufferers, and many atrocities have been committed under cover of war. When the war is over the power of Turkey will be so modified that massacres hardly will occur again. Turkey will be under the control of the allied powers.

"Persia is bearing more than its share of suffering. Missions are the only things that keep the people together. They are spreading a light of hope among the downtrodden, and all are looking forward to the day when the last gun will boom over the trenches. Missions are the only safe places in the country, and even these are none too secure."