

MILITARY RULE IN BETHLEHEM

Peace Has Not Yet Come to Birthplace of Christ.

LONG DESERTED BY PILGRIMS

Two Big War-Time Projects Have Opened New Windows and Doorways into Palestine and Made the Little Town of Bethlehem More Accessible—The Only Jew Resident of the Place Is a Doctor—Is a Christian Town.

Bethlehem is still occupied enemy territory. The white, limestone town in Palestine, which is holy to half a billion Christians, is passing its fifth consecutive war year without pilgrims.

Formerly the slopes of Kharrubeh, under the fortress wall of the Church of the Holy Nativity, glittered nightly with camp fires of hundreds of Russians. But Turkey's entry into the war in 1914 put such a sudden end to the pilgrimages of the Russians that a few of them are still stranded in Bethlehem. The Crescent and Star, with which Selim the Grim hewed his way into Palestine in 1518, was hauled down from the Turkish serai in Bethlehem when the British army occupied it in 1918. Pending the dictation of peace to Turkey, Bethlehem is administered by the British army, and no civilian is permitted to enter it without British military permission, Clare Price writes in Land and Water (London).

Town More Accessible Now.

Before the war, Palestine was a noisome, sealed up Turkish place, off the trade routes, difficult to get at and more difficult to get about in after one got there. Two military secrets, however, were revealed when the armistice with Turkey was proclaimed, in 1918. One was the completion by the British army of the Palestine military railway. The other was the completion by the enemy of the stupendous Taurus tunnels in the Chemin de Fer Imperial Ottoman de Bagdad. Taken together, these two projects have opened new windows and doorways into Palestine, so that the winds of the world may blow through and anybody who has the railway fare may walk in and see for himself.

The first civilians to reach Bethlehem after the Turkish peace is signed will see a single line of old Turkish trench zigzagging like a white hair across the far side of the Rahib valley to the south. They will see plenty of British soldiers, whose prospect of demobilization is remote, and little groups of British officers on leave, guided by the same dragomans who three years ago were guiding German officers on leave at Bethlehem. And if they have not visited Bethlehem before, it may not occur to them how miraculously the place has been scrubbed and scoured and white-washed.

One Jew in Bethlehem.

The ancient rock hewn cistern known throughout the world as David's Well, and the small, domed Moslem burying place known as Rachel's tomb, appeared in 1919 exactly as they appeared when the last of the tourists fingered the last of the Baedekers before them in 1914. The Church of the Holy Nativity stands at the eastern end of the town as stark and whitish gray as it stood before it witnessed the most important event in its 1,500 years of life—the powerful impact of the west on the Ottoman empire. The sound of expiring empires comes dim with distance into the gold and jeweled silence inside the Church of the Holy Nativity.

Bethlehem is a Christian town. It is the most Christian town in southern Palestine. In a country inhabited by 512,000 Moslems, 66,000 Jews and 61,000 Christians, Bethlehem's population consists of 7,000 Christians and a remnant of Moslems, whose number does not exceed 500. Just now a third element has been added to its population. I climbed back and forth through its steep, narrow, slippery streets for an hour without seeing any of those meek, fur hatted figures one passes so continually in the Jaffa road at Jerusalem. Then I stopped a random British soldier.

"I see no Jews here," I said.
"No, sir."
"Are there any Jews in Bethlehem?"
"Yes, sir."
"How many?"
"One, sir."
"How long has he been here?"
"Three weeks, sir."

Only Jew Is a Doctor.
He is a doctor, with the six pointed star of Zionism on his khaki sleeve, who was brought to Bethlehem by the deputy military governor. Bethlehem and Nazareth heretofore have not admitted Jews to their population.

I stood one morning recently in an upstairs window of the old Turkish serai, which overlooks the quiet, colorful hubbub of the market place. It was Sunday morning and the market place was vivid with the broad warmth, the white glare and the poppy colors of Palestine. Little groups squatted on the pavements, with their skins of sour milk, their sheets of native bread and their panniers of lambs' tails on the flagstones before them. Goats and fat tailed sheep, herded together by Bedouin shepherds, lay along the edges of the spacious scene. Far over to the left, in the shade cast by the lofty wall of the Church of the

Holy Nativity, amidst the cheering their ends, their legs folded up beneath them like a jackknife, their bells breaking into a heavy tinkle as they gulped.

Through the squatting groups and the herds the unveiled women of Bethlehem moved about their morning's marketing; their embroidered waists and their tall, peaked headdresses of white and green—the same headdresses that the returning crusaders brought back to their ladies of the middle ages—make the women of Bethlehem instantly recognizable anywhere in Palestine. Bedouin women, with tattooed faces, walked noiselessly about on naked feet, holding their handkerchiefs to their mouths. Donkeys and milch goats pattered through the crowd. A Bedouin sheik, with a walking stick, dug his fingers thoughtfully into the haunches of a sheep and passed on with the flap of slippers.

All of them were speaking Arabic and trading in Egyptian piastres. In all the spacious, crowded market place the only sign of a western civilization was an originally field gray Benz car, waiting down in front of the serai, with layers of white limestone dust that almost obscured the black German eagle on its tonneau door, and with a chauffeur in British khaki smoking a cigarette in the driver's seat. The east and the west are still as far apart as Bethlehem, Palestine and Bethlehem, Pa.

Chain of Caves.

Some 20 feet below the floor level of the Church of the Holy Nativity is a chain of caves, whose walls are the living limestone and whose connection is made by winding subterranean passageways hewn out of the living rock and barely big enough to stoop through. These caves include the abode and tomb of St. Jerome, the chapel of St. Catherine, the chapel of the innocents slaughtered by Herod, and Empress Helena's cave, now called the Chapel of the Nativity and revered as Bethlehem's holy of holies.

It is dimly lit with hanging lamps, whose smoke has blackened its low stone roof with the accumulated soot of centuries. Its floor is incised with worn marble and its walls are hung with unit lamps, figures of saints and woven silk hangings of silver, blue and dark red—the gifts of penitent emperors. A glance reveals a statue standing dimly against the dark hangings; opposite, a gilded railing fronting the lace covered manger; nearer, the altar on which the wise men laid their frankincense and myrrh. Close at hand, two figures kneel silently before the star, where millions of Russian pilgrims have knelt with dropping tears.

A second glance, after one's eyes have adjusted themselves to the dimness, reveals the statue standing dimly against the dark hangings as a British soldier, standing where a Turkish soldier formerly stood, and the gleam against the hangings beside him is the gleam of a fixed bayonet. Of the two figures kneeling before the star, one is a British officer on leave, who at the moment is whispering to the dragoman beside him the amount of time exposure at which he proposes to set his camera. Before the two of them burn the six lamps of the Orthodox, the five lamps of the Armenians and the four lamps of the Romans, which have burned for centuries above the star. In the dull light they shed, the star itself appears exactly as it appeared in 1847, when the proposal to add a second star, bearing the arms of France, brought about the Crimean war. It is a silver star, let into the marble pavement and partially encircled by the words: "1717 Hic de Virgine Maria Jesus Christus natus est."

FOUGHT TO AVOID BATHS

Italian Immigrants Battled Valiantly Against Deputies.

To avoid taking the baths required under immigration laws, 2,000 Italians, brought to the United States on the White Star liner Canopic, engaged in a battle with United States deputies at Boston. No one was seriously hurt in the fight, and the immigrants finally lined up and took the required bath. The Canopic failed to clear properly at her port of sailing and was tied up at quarantine in Boston. The Italians became wildly excited when informed that baths must be taken and United States Marshal Duane found it necessary to press a half dozen deputies into service.

VICTORY MEDALS ARE READY

Distribution of Nearly Four Million Begun Among U. S. Army Men.

Distribution of the Victory medal for service in the United States army during the World war, from April 6, 1917, to November 11, 1918, has been begun, according to Secretary of War Baker.

The first of the 4,000,000 medals was given to President Wilson, as commander-in-chief of the army and navy. Applications for the medals are to be made to the nearest army post or a recruiting officer, the application stating to which of three classes of medal the applicant is entitled.

Dancer Seeks \$50,000 for Injured Knee

Tumbling into an open elevator shaft in a hotel at Baltimore, Md., Miss Nyma Searbert, a dancer, of Hinton, W. V., skinned her knee so severely that, she said, it interfered with her dancing. She has therefore launched suit for \$50,000 against the proprietors.

Italians to Lose War-Made Fortunes.

War-made fortunes are to be confiscated in Italy, according to the announcement of a confiscatory decree, prepared by Premier Giolitti, at Rome.

SHIPPING BOARD FLEET FLEECE

Repair Men and Food Dealers in Agreement to "Pluck the Golden Goose."

\$4 FOR POUND OF BUTTER

Investigator Reveals Wide System of Mulcting Among Men in the South American Trade—Is Quickly Stopped.

Buenos Aires.—The United States shipping board has been defrauded of many thousands of dollars through practices which amount to "systematic fleecing" of shipping board vessels in the River Plate trade, according to reports to the board by Capt. G. L. Carden, special representative of the shipping board emergency fleet in Buenos Aires.

Captain Carden, accompanied by Captain of Engineers L. C. Farwell, arrived here a month ago to take charge and protect the board's interests. "When I arrived here," he said to the Associated Press correspondent, "ship chandlers, repair men and others connected with the shipping industry seemed to be in a general agreement to mulct the shipping board vessels to the limit."

"In receiving my orders I was told that while the board appreciated the fact that expenses of all sorts were high in Buenos Aires and Montevideo, still it felt that there must be something wrong when their vessels paid such prices, for instance, as \$4 a pound for butter.

"It seems that the practice was when a shipping board vessel appeared in the roads and signaled its desire to enter for those who had hopes of selling the vessels supplies to prepare for a plucking of the golden goose.

Food Thrown Overboard.

"Our arrival put a quick and effective stop to all this. We now have all shipping board vessels calling at this port report directly to us. We alone have the right to authorize purchases of supplies or expenditures for repairs. All repairs at present must be made according to specifications and under bond. Every bill must have my signature before it will be paid, and the result of this has been a saving of as much as 50 per cent on many items. Conditions formerly were so bad that I have even heard that in some cases food was thrown overboard in order to create a shortage, so that purchases could be made."

During the first four weeks of the supervision provided by the new arrangement it was officially estimated that a saving for the shipping board, which means for the United States government, of \$50,000 for food alone and \$25,000 for repairs was made. As a result of this campaign at least one arrest is expected when a certain ship arrives in New York.

There are 23 lines under the shipping board which have vessels calling at ports in this jurisdiction. There are on an average 22 vessels on hand at all times. The average cost for maintaining these is from \$1,500 to \$2,000 each per day. Before the war an American vessel on the River Plate was a curiosity.

\$300,000 for Repairs.

"Since the shipping board has no offices of its own to take charge of its vessels in ports throughout the world," continued Captain Carden, "it was usually necessary to intrust the care of its ships to established agencies. Many of these steamship agents had already for years been representatives of foreign and possibly competing lines. The result has been that in many cases American vessels have been held back, while other ships were given the preference, causing the expenses of American ships to mount up through port charges and lost time.

"In all River Plate ports losses from this source have been very great, as well as those through overcharges for supplies, repairs and so forth. There is one case on record where an American ship was held up for months for repairs and charges totaling \$300,000 were piled up against her. But we are seeing to it now that shipping board vessels get into port and get away again without unnecessary delay. The saving to the shipping board from this attention undoubtedly will be several hundred thousand dollars annually."

SHEPHERD HAILED AS ARTIST

Paul Darde, Farmer's Son, Awarded Paris Salon National Prize for Sculpture.

Paris.—Paul Adolphe Darde, awarded the envied Paris salon national prize for his "Faun" and "Eternal Suffering," is being greeted by critics as a genius.

Darde is not a trained artist in the academic way. He was a shepherd, the son of a small farmer, and fought in the World war. Today, though famous, he is only thirty-one years old. "I have no preference," Darde says. "I love all that is beautiful in art as in life."

The "Faun" is a massive, vigorous conception, sneering, cynical and sensual. "Eternal Suffering" represents a woman's head, snare-entwined, with a face upturned in anguish.

Darde works directly in marble without a wax or plaster model.

New Low Prices!

- Ladies' \$15.00 Suits \$3.98
- \$1.25 Caps 69c
- \$1.00 Girls' Silk Gloves 39c
- \$6.00 U. S. Rubber Boots \$3.98
- 25c White Linen Collars 15c
- \$3.00 Work Pants \$1.25
- 25c Cotton Flannel Gloves 17c
- \$5.00 Silks—per yard \$2.98
- \$3.00 Overalls \$2.29
- Jugs and Crocks, per gallon 15c
- 17 Bars Electric Spark Soap, white \$1 Coffee—48c, 52c-56c. One pound of Coffee free with 5.
- \$4.00 Oxfords \$1.98
- Suits up to Sizes 36 Breast Measure, \$22 to \$25.00, sells at \$12.69
- \$1.25 Wool Hose at 89c
- Boys' \$2.00 Flannel Shirts up to Size 14 at 89c
- Men's Heavy Sheep Lined Vests \$4.98
- Men's \$15.00 Mackinaw Coats, Large Sizes \$7.95
- Men's \$3.50 Leather Gloves \$1.98
- Men's \$5 and \$6 Kid Dress Gloves at \$3.69
- Men's \$3.50 Dress Gloves at \$1.98
- Men's \$12.00 Sweaters \$6.95
- Men's \$15.00 Sweaters \$8.95
- Men's and Boys' Wool and Silk Jerseys \$4.39
- Men's Wool and Cotton Jerseys \$2.89
- Girls' \$12.00 Fall and Winter Coats \$6.39
- Boys' Suits up to 16 Years \$8.95
- Boys' Overcoats up to 16 Years: \$15.00 Coats at \$7.95
- \$10.00 Coats at \$5.95
- Men's Heavy Duck Coats \$3.98
- Men's Blue Denim Overall Jackets \$2.29
- Men's \$5.00 Shoes \$3.69
- Men's \$2.00 Work Shirts 14½, 15, 15½ at \$1.29
- We have a Special Underwear Table, any piece \$1.00
- Men's \$3.50 Caps \$1.98
- Men's \$2.00 Caps 98c
- Boys' Caps 69c
- 50c Cotton Batts 29c
- \$1.50 Dress Goods 89c
- Unionalls—Heavy Weight \$3.85
- \$3.50 Silks \$1.98
- \$3.00 Ladies' Waists \$1.69
- Men's Rain Coats, \$15 Coats \$8.95
- \$10.00 Rain Coats at \$5.98
- \$10.00 Blankets at \$5.98
- 50c Neck Ties at 31c
- 75c Neck Ties at 47c
- Men's 25c Linen Collars 15c
- 2 for 25c
- Babies' Fine Marino Wool Hose, cost \$10.80 doz., per pair 49c
- Coffee—if you can use any coffee buy it at these prices.
- 30c Cans Tomatoes 19c
- Men's \$5.00 Dress Hats \$3.69
- Men's \$2.50 Dress Hats \$1.98
- Boys' \$1.50 Dress Hats 89c
- Ladies' Last Years Styles in Coats and Suits: \$15.00 Sellars \$5.98
- \$10.00 Sellars \$3.69
- 15c Cans Baking Powder 10c
- \$2.50 Cans Aluminum Polish 98c
- \$1.25 Brooms 69c
- Little Girls' \$3 to \$5 Coats \$1.98

Some one of our customers will receive a bag of pure cane sugar free of charge, the last Saturday of this month.

On all yard goods we sell you five and give you one free.

Men's \$2.50 Dress Shirts \$1.98

Men's \$1.50 Dress Shirts 89c

If there is any thing you can use get in early. The goods are priced to sell and if they are gone when you get here it's your fault and not the store.

John Brennan.

Listen, Friends

There isn't a thing in our business that we value as much as the good will of our old friends. And we always remember that our new friends of today will be old ones tomorrow.

This is the one place to come for real battery service. We sell the Still Better Willard Battery with Threaded Rubber Insulation—the kind selected by 136 manufacturers of cars and trucks.

O'NEILL BATTERY STATION

THE O'NEILL NATIONAL BANK
O'Neill, Nebraska.
Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$130,000

BUSINESS, NOT POLITICS.

Political forecasters are likely to be surprised when they get the returns on the National election from the farming states this year. Farm organizations are stronger now than ever before in the history of our country, and they are thinking along business, rather than political lines. People who have been in touch with this great farm movement are not surprised that thousands upon thousands of farmers who have heretofore voted the Democratic ticket, will this year vote the Republican ticket. They find in the Republican platform a straightforward program for the upbuilding of our agriculture. The Democratic platform gives as much space as the Republican to the discussion of agriculture, but a comparison of the two platforms reveals vital points of difference.

The Democrats re-affirm their policy of a tariff for revenue only. The Republicans pledge the farmer protection against competition of cheap

farm products from other lands. The Democrats were asked to pledge an end to price fixing on farm drives, which have not helped the consumer a particle but have beaten down prices of farm products. They refused to make such pledges. The Republicans have taken a positive stand in this whole matter of price fixing. They denounce it as unjust to the farmer and not helpful to the consumer. Level headed farmers are noting the difference between the two parties in these matters which are so vital to their interests.

A MEAN MAN.
Boston Transcript: Alma has the meanest man. He put this year's cover on last year's fashion book and his wife decided she didn't need any new gowns.

MODERN LUCK.
"There is luck in finding a horse-shoe," said Miss Quotes.
"Yes, it may save you a puncture the next time you drive that way."

The
M. Schulz Factory
Of Chicago

Will ship a nice line of their very best Pianos and Players to
O'Neill, September 20, 1920
And they will be on display in our store
About October 1st.

Bowen's Racket Store
O'Neill, Nebraska

TO PURE BRED
STOCK BREEDERS

Holt County breeders of pure bred live stock of all kinds, and those contemplating engaging in the raising of pure bred stock, are called to meet at the office of John L. Quig, at O'Neill, Saturday afternoon, September 25, for the purpose of organizing the Elkhorn Valley Pure Bred Livestock Breeders Association and to consider the erection of a sale pavilion.

John L. Quig.

A MODERN AND COMPLETE BANK

PRIVATE MATTERS

Why, Friend Farmer, do you place your valuable papers in some convenient drawers about the house?

Some of these days you will need them badly.

Soon you may forget where you put them and spend a lot of time and worry trying to find them.

The O'Neill National Bank can provide you with a private box in its fire and burglar proof steel vault, so they cannot be lost or destroyed.

THE O'NEILL NATIONAL BANK
O'Neill, Nebraska.
Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, \$130,000

SAFETY SERVICE
BANK
COURTESY STRENGTH