

PROMOTE TRADE IN NEAR EAST

Aims of the American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant Are Set Forth.

TO OPEN UP IMMENSE FIELD

Constantinople Destined to Become the "Chicago of Europe," Says New President of Organization—Opportunity for American Capital.

New York.—Constantinople is destined to become the "Chicago of Europe," according to an interview authorized by Mr. Lucien Irving Thomas, a director of the Standard Oil company of New York, which company has extensive interests throughout Asia and the Balkan states.

Mr. Thomas lately returned from a visit to Europe. "I learned, while in London, that I had been elected president of the American chamber of commerce for the Levant," said Mr. Thomas. "I refer to the newly-organized American section of the chamber, now maintaining headquarters in New York. It will co-operate with the long-established chamber of the same name which has its seat in Constantinople."

"The organization of this chamber is a timely movement to promote reciprocal trade relations between America and that great area—extending from Egypt to Russia, and from Persia to Italy—of which Constantinople is the center.

Gateway to Vast Empires.

"Very few people appreciate that Europe and Asia meet at the feet of Constantinople," continued Mr. Thomas. "The chain of waters, the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmora and the Bosphorus, made available for free commerce, open the gateway to vast empires of populous and fertile territories beyond. When we realize that Russia, a country considerably more than twice as large as the United States, has few seaports that are not ice-bound for the greater part of the year, except those situated on the Black sea, we may imagine what enormous traffic will flow through Constantinople when Russia, with a hundred million of her people nearby, gets into her commercial stride."

"Then consider Roumania, now with twice her former area—a country of great natural resources, with a present population of 15,000,000. Bulgaria too, noted for a sturdy and industrious population, has her commercial outlet on the Black sea. And even on the farther side of the Black sea is a group of states which eventually must occupy an important place in over-seas trade."

"Jugo-Slavia, now vast in area by comparison with Old Serbia, with substantial natural resources and a population of over 14,000,000 has, of course, one trade outlet via the Adriatic, and another via the Danube to the Black sea. Without any doubt the Danube is soon to play a much more important part in the trade of the Balkan states than it has ever done in the past."

Has Natural Wealth.

"Both Jugo-Slavia and Greater Greece will hold a more important position than now in the Levantine trade of the future. Egypt is growing into a land of commercial significance. While certain territories have been detached from Turkey since the war, there remains much fertile and valuable land. Turkey is rich in minerals of all kinds."

"The war and its aftermath upset exchange throughout the Near East, and this has made commercial transactions difficult for the present. But the natural wealth is there; and a population for the most part industrious. Trade must surely grow."

"A high official of an international bank, one who is recognized as having unusually broad and accurate knowledge of Ottoman financial matters, stated to me at Constantinople that in Turkey fully 85,000,000 in gold is hoarded by the people in 'stocking-leg banks,' and not deposited at all with the public bankers. In this connection it should be remembered that the oriental mind is accustomed to think, financially, in terms of 'hard money,' and that prior to the European war only gold and silver were in circulation, to any extent, in Turkey. There is evidence that great private wealth exists there today, in gold, silver and jewels, not to mention other valuables, and this wealth will come into the current market as trade returns to normal."

"The Levant offers a splendid opportunity for the investment of American capital, in a wide range of enterprises. One of the great openings of the present is for the construction of dwellings, warehouses, harbor improvements, and so forth. Constantinople alone has lost 25,000 to 30,000 houses by fire since the war began, and affords a magnificent opportunity for housebuilding activity. I know for a fact that the Turkish authorities would welcome anyone coming there for the purpose and that they would even be glad to offer concessions. The prevailing spirit is progressive. Modern industrial equipment, too, is now sought where formerly it was shunned. I recall that a long time ago, prior to the coming into power of the Young Turk party, a business cablegram was intercepted by the Turkish authorities because it contained an offer to import some electric dynamo capable of 1,500 revolu-

tions per minute. The wily adviser of Abdul Hamid is said to have thrown up his hands at the suggestion and remarked with some heat that Turkey had enough revolutions on her hands at the moment without encouraging these new-fangled trouble-makers."

Opportunities Are Great.
"Constantinople now has an inadequate system to provide substantial harbor craft for use in the waters around Constantinople. People living on the other side of the Bosphorus lack sufficient facilities for commuting to Constantinople."

"The development of roadways on the European side of the Bosphorus is another matter for business enterprise. If the Bosphorus is not the most beautiful body of water in the world, I should like to know where it is to be found. A proper driveway along the shores of the Bosphorus would rather tax the memory of a world-traveler to recall anything more charming."

"Opportunities for housebuilding and other forms of construction are open in the other cities of the Levant as well as in Constantinople. There is widespread need for railroad construction and rehabilitation; while at the seaports modern docks and wharves and up-to-date freight handling equipment must be provided."

"The Levant should become a growing market for American machinery and manufactures of all kinds. Imports from the Levant must be stimulated, too, in order to improve the exchange and credit situation so that the Near East can buy more from America. Tobacco, licorice, valonia, attar of roses, raisins, currants, dates, figs, goatskins, hides, furs, olive oil, long-staple cotton, rugs, carpets, and oriental objects d'art are among the imports coming into the United States from the Levant. It will be the aim of the American chamber of commerce for the Levant to help establish trade connections between responsible merchants on either side of the ocean, and to furnish all possible information and assistance to those engaging in trade in this field."

Those in Movement.
Officers of the American chamber of commerce for the Levant include, in addition to Mr. Thomas, president, the following: Chairman of the board, Mr. J. M. Dixon of the Tobacco Products corporation; vice president, Captain J. F. Lucey of the Lucey Manufacturing company; treasurer, Donald Frothingham of the American Express company; secretary and managing director, Dr. E. E. Pratt.

Temporary offices have been established at 200 West Fifty-sixth street, New York city, but it is expected that after May 15 the chamber will be located in the downtown district of New York.

Firms represented on the directorate of the chamber, or as life members, include:

American International corporation, E. I. DuPont de Nemours Co., U. S. Rubber Co., Guaranty Trust company of New York, General Motors company, Amory, Browne & Company, Great Lakes Trust company, Commercial Union of America, Lockwood, Greene & Company, Hammond Typewriter company, A. B. Farquhar company, Robert H. Ingersoll & Bro., Robert College, James A. Farrell, U. S. Steel corporation, Phelps-Dodge company, Brown Shoe company, International Western Electric company, H. J. Heinz company. The membership covers a growing list of merchants, shipowners, bankers, manufacturers and other business men of the United States.

GAINED AND LOST FORTUNES

English Dandies Played for High Stakes in the Latter Part of Eighteenth Century.

Almack's was one of the famous old gambling clubs of London. It was at its height in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and the play there was enormous. It was not uncommon for the losses in a single night to amount to upwards of \$100,000.

The young men, dandies all, who intended to play set about the matter with a great deal of ceremony. They wore straw hats with wide brims, flower and ribbon trimmed; the brims intended to keep the light from their eyes, and that the spectators might not see their emotions they often wore masks. They also often took off their ruffles and silk or satin coats and wore in their place a rough great-coat or else wound leather bands about their arms to protect the delicate lace and hues of their coats from the soil of the table.

At each player's side was a small table that held their tea, wine cakes and rolls of rouleaus or chips. Most of the players wore long curls, eye-glasses mounted on long sticks, were perfumed, powdered and painted like court ladies, and some of them even affected a mincing ladylike walk. But those who made the error of thinking them ladylike in their fighting ability made a mistake that often cost a life, for the gay young sparks would draw swords at the drop of a hat and meet death with a laugh.

Confusing Incident.

"How was your after-dinner speech received, dear?"

"Not so well. While I was talking one of the guests actually snored."

"You should not have stopped for a little thing like that."

"I had to stop. The other guests woke him up and wanted to know where he got it."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Helpful Hints.

Jones—I want to do something big and clean before I die.

Bones—Wash an elephant.

The Markets

Latest market report, issued by the Bureau of Markets, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.:

Washington.—Hay—Receipts continue very light, prices fluctuating with local demand. Few shipping orders being received by dealers in distributing markets. Increased loadings at country points reported in Central West. No. 1 Timothy quoted May 13 New York \$23.50, Cincinnati \$22, Chicago \$22, Minneapolis \$19, Memphis \$25; No. 1 alfalfa Omaha \$20, Kansas City \$23, Memphis \$25.50; No. 1 prairie Minneapolis \$15.50, Chicago \$18, Kansas City \$15.50.

Feed—Wheat mill feeds steady on light production. Demand remains limited. Cottonseed meal about \$2 higher. Other feeds dull at prices practically unchanged from last week. Spring bran quoted May 13: Philadelphia \$25.25, Minneapolis \$16, Chicago \$19; hard winter bran, Kansas City \$17.50; soft winter bran, Cincinnati \$23; standard spring middlings about \$1 below spring bran; cottonseed meal, Memphis \$29.25, Atlanta \$28.50, Chicago \$32.50, Cincinnati \$32.25; linseed meal, Minneapolis \$28, New York \$36; gluten feed, Chicago \$26.50, Philadelphia \$31.71; hony feed, Cincinnati \$26, Philadelphia \$29; alfalfa meal, Kansas City \$17.50.

Grain—Prices fluctuated within narrow limits during the greater part of the week. There were numerous upturns due unfavorable crop news, but reactions invariably followed. Only real strength for week shown on 18th account bad crop reports and large export business. On May 19th May wheat went to 34c over July, but high points subsequently lost on reports rain in Kansas and Nebraska and weakness in coarse grains. Heavy undertone to corn market. Country offerings to arrive more liberal and show signs of increasing as corn planting nearing completion. In Chicago cash market No. 2 red winter wheat \$1.58; No. 2 hard \$1.60; No. 3 mixed corn 58c; No. 3 yellow corn 55c; No. 3 white oats 38c. For the week Chicago May wheat up 9 1/2c at \$1.53; May corn down 1 1/2c at 59c. Chicago July wheat up 4 1/2c at \$1.20. July corn down 2 3/4c at 60 5/8c. Minneapolis July wheat up 4 1/2c at \$1.25 1/2; Kansas City July 5c at \$1.13. Winnipeg July 5 1/2c at \$1.60.

Fruits and Vegetables—Northern sacked round white potatoes up 10c per 100 pounds at shipping points, closing 80@90c. Chicago carlot market steady at \$1.10; South Carolina Irish cobbler \$7.75@8.00 per cloth top barrel to jobbers New York. Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs down 50@75c per 100 pounds Chicago and Kansas City at \$3.50@4.00. New York cold storage A 2 1/2 Baldwin apples selling at slightly wider range in Eastern markets; \$7.50@8.00 Baltimore, \$6.50@7.00 New York, \$7@7.50, Pittsburgh \$6.50@6.75, Philadelphia. Medium sizes extra fancy Northwestern wineapples steady, Chicago at \$3@3.50, small size \$2.25@2.75. Texas yellow Bermuda onions \$1.40@2.00 per standard crate commercial pack in consuming markets. Prices steady at shipping points around \$1 f. o. b. sales on wire orders, carloads f. o. b. shipping point acceptance. Maryland and Virginia Klondike strawberries 20@25c per quart New York. Tennessee Aromas \$6.50@7.50 per 24-quart crate Chicago. Florida watermelons average weight 22@25 pounds, 50@60c each to jobbers Pittsburgh. Crop in Central and Northern Florida will be materially increased account recent 4-6 inch rain. Crop yield and Southern Florida has suffered 50@70 per cent reduction account drought.

Dairy Products—Under influence of increasing production and quality hardly such as to warrant heavy storage, butter stocks have accumulated and prices declined seven cents at Eastern markets the past week. Buyers are buying little as prices continue downward. Closing prices 92 score: New York 28 1/2c; Boston 29c; Philadelphia 29 1/2c; Chicago 28c. Cheese markets have held weak and trading is little better at present, although prices in Wisconsin range 13 1/2c to 14 1/2c; at Chicago 14 1/2c@15 1/2c; in Eastern markets 16@17c. It seems to be a case of dullness with no active factors to give life to market.

Live Stock and Meats—Chicago hog prices declined 15@20c per 100 pounds the past week. Beef steers, feeder steers and butcher cows and heifers practically unchanged. Veal calves up 75c. Fat lambs practically unchanged. Yearlings up 50c to \$1.25; fat ewes 50@75c. May 19th Chicago prices: Hogs, bulk of beef steers \$7.50@9.00; butcher cows and heifers \$5.25@9.00; feeder steers \$7@8.50; light and medium weight veal calves \$8.00@9.00; fat lambs \$9.50@12.00; yearlings \$8@10.75; fat ewes \$5.75@7.50. Stocker and feeder shipments from eleven important markets during the week ending May 13 were: Cattle 31,723; hogs 4,919; sheep 7,450.

Eastern wholesale fresh meat prices, excepting those for lamb, ranged steady to \$1 lower. Lamb advanced \$2.00@3.00 per 100 pounds in some markets. Beef down 50c to \$1; veal, mutton and pork loins practically unchanged. May 19th prices, good grade meats: Beef \$14.00@15.00; veal \$15.00@17.00; lamb \$24.00@25.00; mutton \$15.00@18.00; light pork loins \$21.00@24.00; heavy loins \$15.00@19.00.

Cotton—Spot cotton prices declined 18 points, closing at 11.51 cents per pound. New York May futures down 19 points at 12.18c.

Fort Worth Stock Market.

Fort Worth, Texas.—Hogs sold on an active and steady market Friday, the sheep and lamb trade was also conducted along unchanged lines, but the cattle market was a slow, indifferent affair, with prices again leaning toward weakness. Receipts were estimated at 1,500 head of cattle, 100 calves, 600 hogs and 4,500 sheep. About 3,000 sheep, included in the day's receipts, were on through billing.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NON-COTTON ZONES

Cotton Men Urge Federal and State Co-Operation to Secure Funds.

Washington.—Co-operation of the federal and State governments in supplying funds for the maintenance of non-cotton zones in stamping out the pink boll worm, was recommended to the secretary of agriculture Monday by the conference of representatives from the cotton growing States. Establishment of non-cotton zones was declared to be the way in which the pest can be stamped out.

The conference requested the establishment of these zones in the affected areas in West Texas and New Mexico as soon as possible and also requested the co-operation of Mexico be secured in maintaining a similar non-cotton zone on her side of the border.

The conference declared that "prompt advantage" must be taken of the opportunity now to stamp out the pink boll worm pest. Maintenance of regulated zones, they said, in infested areas "is fraught with danger to the entire cotton industry," and non-cotton zones should at once be established instead. Establishment of technical commissions to have charge of this work was also suggested.

The conference expressed its gratification over the assurance that a special session of the Texas legislature would be held in July to strengthen the law and put on regulations which will effectively meet the situation. A special committee of five with President Bizzell of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College as chairman was appointed to convey the resolutions to Secretary Wallace.

The Texas delegation met with the federal horticultural board after the conference to work out details for suggestions to be incorporated in the new measure which is expected to be laid before the Texas legislature at its final session.

EL PASO GETS NEXT LABOR CONVENTION

Galveston, Texas.—El Paso won out in the fight for the next year's convention of the Texas State Federation of Labor in the closing minutes of that organization's annual meeting Friday.

George H. Slater of Galveston was re-elected president of the federation by a practically unanimous vote at the polls Thursday. It was announced Friday after the ballots had been counted.

Edward Cunningham of Bridgeport was elected by a substantial majority over M. E. Shay of Galveston as delegate to the national convention of the American Federation of Labor, which will be held in Denver. J. M. Shea of Dallas was elected alternate.

Other officers elected were announced as follows: First vice president, Herman Kachel of Denison; second vice president, Mrs. Minnie Boone of Fort Worth; third vice president, C. F. Russi of San Antonio; fourth vice president, L. M. Andler of Houston; fifth vice president, C. A. Weber of Beaumont; reading clerk, E. A. Harrell of Waco; sergeant-at-arms, J. L. Hauswald of El Paso. Robert McKinley of Temple was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

Chief Justice White Passes.

Washington.—Chief Justice Edward Douglass White died Thursday at the Garfield Hospital following an operation he underwent last Friday. The chief justice was in his seventy-sixth year. Chief Justice White was born in La Fourche Parish, Louisiana, November 3, 1845. He served in the Confederate army during the war of the States, and before going upon the supreme court bench he served a term in the United States senate. He was appointed by President Cleveland in 1894, being later elevated to the position of chief justice by President Taft in 1910.

Banks Extends Loan.

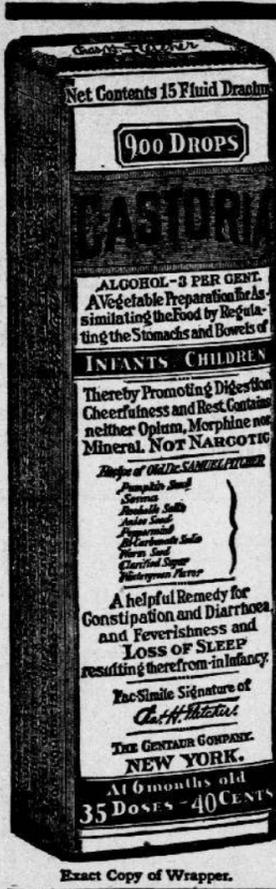
Vienna.—The Deutsche Bank, which has its principal headquarters in Berlin, has extended for two years the 65,000,000-mark loan to the city of Vienna, which fell due May 16. Banks have been guaranteed payment of the loan.

Mother of Texas Governor Dies.

Austin, Texas.—Mrs. Isabella E. Neff, aged mother of Governor Neff, died Wednesday at the executive mansion, where she had been living since the inauguration of the governor. The governor and other relatives were at her bedside when she passed away.

Put Under Army Rule.

Williamson, W. Va.—Mingo County, the scene of many shootings along the West Virginia-Kentucky border during the past eight days, was placed under martial law Friday when Major T. B. Davis, acting adjutant general of West Virginia, appeared here and posted the proclamation issued by Governor Morgan at Charleston earlier in the day. The major was designated by the governor to take charge of the situation along the Tug River.



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THREW FLOWERS AND GEMS

London Crowd Benefited by Woman's Enthusiasm Over the Ending of the Great War.

During the peace rejoicings one night in London several guests standing at the upper windows of a West End restaurant began to throw roses down to the crowds packed in the street below. A woman in evening dress, after throwing out numbers of roses, took a bracelet from her arm and tossed it to the people, following this with a ring from her finger. Then, after throwing more roses, she took the ornaments from her hair and threw these also into the struggling mass of people below.

An elderly man at an adjoining window threw out several spoons and forks, and then, finding nothing else at hand, threw an apple which was deftly caught and promptly returned, striking the window close by, but, fortunately, without breaking the glass. The women then began to throw out treasury notes, wadding them into small balls and flinging them one by one to the excited crowd. After getting rid of seven or eight notes, she expressively spread out her hands to indicate that she had nothing more, and was loudly cheered.

Too Well Taken.

"The points in Bulger's speech were well taken." "Yes, most of them taken from other men."

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