

CYRUS THE CINDERELLA OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE NEGLECTED WANTS TO JOIN WITH GREECE

It has always been known that politicians, both in Greece and in Cyprus, hoped for the union of the island and also of Rhodes with the "mother country." Of late, says the Cyprus correspondent of the London Times, certain little episodes, unimportant in themselves, have illustrated this ambition and shown the part played by the Church in Cyprus, as the instrument of it. That the Church should be the machine employed in any political movement is, of course nothing new to students of the Balkans.

The Church of Cyprus met in its annual synod recently and resolved—before any invitation had been issued to it—that neither church nor nation ought to take any part in the proposed commemoration of the jubilee of the British occupation of the island in 1923, "as they cannot celebrate what does not give satisfaction to the people." It was with a certain sense of humor that residents saw the Archbishop, who had found himself unable to give any help to the myriads of Greek refugees in the hour or need, urgently recommending subscription to a fund for the purchase of aeroplanes for Greece.

The same dignity was forwarded in the recent attacks on the Italian Governor of Rhodes when that official made a private visit to Cyprus as the personal guest of the high commissioner, and demanded the return of "our" Dodecanese to "us." He received the congratulations of the Mayor of Athens for his Pan-Hellenic patriotism. Such acts may offend an English—though not a Balkan—sense of ecclesiastical propriety, but it is worth inquiring why the feeling exists.

Cyprus, an Englishman, would say, was never really Greek in classic days, and has never formed part of the modern Hellenic kingdom. Why, then, the ambition for what cannot possibly be achieved?

Greek National Sentiment

The sentiment may be prompted in part, by the sense that British rule has not brought all the prosperity that might have been hoped for. Cyprus has been sort of Cinderella among British colonies, and an Englishman can hardly feel proud of her magnificent medieval monuments after fifty years of British rule with that of the smaller ones in Rhodes after a much shorter period.

The land has been handicapped by having to pay the Turkish tribute which the wily Ottoman secured against repudiation by assigning it to his own creditors. Still, the reason lies far deeper than this and is part of a larger problem that has its importance for all the near East. It is the sense of Greek nationalism. Greek politics may be, at times, a thing pure fire, but Greece national sentiment is a great force; it has shown itself capable of achieving its objects in the face of great obstacles. It dates far more than medieval and Byzantine than from classic days, though it may call itself Hellenic where it is educated to that point, or where it's advocate has the Oriental flair for knowing what is likely to appeal to the mind of the other party. It looks back to the days when the Byzantine Empire was the great civilized Power, and to the ordinary Greek Constantinople is far more his capital than is Athens, and the Church is the organ of his nationality and the Ecumenical Patriarch its embodiment.

There was hardly a ripple on the national mind when the royal family left Greece, but speak of displacing the Ecumenical Patriarch to a modern Greek agnostic and see what happens. Now this sentiment has shown a remarkable power of absorbing and making Greek in language and thought stocks that may be really Anatolian, and no more Hellenic in blood then, say, the great Cappadocian fathers, who are in the legitimate glory of the Orthodox Church.

People think that the admitted presence of a large Slavonic element in modern Greece makes the modern inhabitant of the land less a Greek. It does not. Blood is only one element in the making of the Greek nationality; land and religion count for far more. So, a Cypriot may be anything by blood, but being Orthodox thinks of himself as Greek.

The Moslem Minority

This stock has now been forcibly displayed from Anatolia, where the only type that is to be allowed is what is, or is willing to be, Turkish. Thus, driven on itself, the national feeling becomes even keener. It has by no means, given up hope of winning Constantinople, and keeps the Patriarchate there as a peg to mark the claim, disregarding the manifold inconvenience caused to the holder of the office and the church at large by the fact that if he stays there the Turk keeps the principal prelate of the church practically in durance.

Thus it is that the Greek longs for the winning of the lands that are to him, Grevia irredenta, the islands of Cyprus and Dodecanese. If he has to regret a lost opportunity in the war (when England offered the island to Greece at the price of the help, Greece had to give at last, and the King refused to rise to the opportunity) he can also look back to an encouraging precedent.

There were other Greek islands that had never been part of the kingdom of Greece, which the fortune of war or politics had assigned to England and which England voluntarily handed over to the Hellas when she had reason to think that such was the wish of the inhabitants. So Greece hopes and encourages the islanders to hope.

Actually there are facts in the situation which England, desirous to do justice even at her own expense, is bound to take into account, though a nationalist zealot in the Orient has a magnificent power of overlooking the inconvenient fact.

CLAMP DOWN ON RECKLESS WHO ABUSE CARS

London England, June 27—There is a good deal of indignant comment in theatrical, sporting and Jewish circles in England over the refusal of the insurance companies to give one-day insurance to motor cars and drivers belonging to these three sections of the English community.

For the last two years enterprising motor-car dealers have adopted the American "drive yourself" system of hiring out cars for 25 cents a mile to those who do not possess an automobile. The insurance companies agreed to insure these cars and the travellers at the rate of 50 cents a day.

Saturday afternoon the "drive-yourself" agents were informed by the insurance companies that they would not accept insurance from actors, because they are too reckless; from bootmakers, because they are very careless at the race courses, and from Jews, because they pack an entire family of mother, father and children and other relatives in one car and return the automobile in such condition that there are always claims for compensation.

According to the head of an important insurance firm, two years' statistics show that the damages paid by his firm to "drive-yourself" agents exceeded by far the profit and that the members of the three above mentioned sections of the English public were mainly responsible for the losses.

"We know that this decision will cause a good deal of resentment," said this official, "but our figures are correct and we must face the facts."

Gerald du Maurier, president of the Actors' Association; David Cope, leading London bootmaker, and a prominent member of the Jewish community in London considers the insurance agent's statement absurd and ridiculous. They state that the members of the communities are no more or less careless than any other individuals and to bar actors, bootmakers and Jews from being temporarily insured is not only poor psychology but very bad business.

Willie—You lemme have those teeth! They're mine!
Mickey—Your teeth! How d'you get 'at stuff? I knocked 'em out, didn't I?

WHEN THE BABU SEEKS DIVORCE CLERK IN INDIA RESORTS TO PICTURESQUE LANGUAGE

It was an overseas administrator who described the Hindu as the world's most ingenious pleader. There is no limit to his skill in making use on any and every occasion of occurrence which he thinks will advance him to the end he has in view.

Amusing in its use of English, Hindu ingenuity is also well illustrated in the following letter from a babu (Indian English-writing clerk), asking for an increase of pay, which has been sent to the Daily Mail:

"Honoured Sir—With humility and respect I approach you with this, my request to ncrease my monthly stipend. I am now in receipt of Rs.150 (\$65) per mensem, which I now petition to be increased to Rs.200 (75.)

"I am a married man and am possessed of two male and two female progeny. I am further informed by my wife that by the Grace of our Lord yet another child will be added to our already full-household in approximately seven and a half months from date hereof. As your Honour knows, the cost of living in this country is very heavy for those who are mere toilers.

Has Cast Out Luxuries

"My numerous creditors cause me frequent embarrassment when I walk in the street, and I humbly submit that this might injure the fair name of the company which you so adequately command. I have long ago cast out luxuries from my life, but there are many pressing needs which are called for from within one's household.

"The information which my wife has given me which I have referred to above causes me much anxiety for the future.

"I have, your Honour knows, served this company faithfully and well for two years and three months, and I have suffered much hardship when

you have ordered me to accompany you into the interior. I have never faltered in my duty, but obey without murmur or protest.

"I asked your Honour to devote thought to this earnest request and not to lightly cast it out without contemplation of my future dir estraits when my wife formally produces my fifth child. If your Honour grants this appeal I will with my family forever pray for your health and prosperity to the Lord Jesus Christ, whom your Honour so closely resembles. Your obedient and humble servant,—"

Used to Play Cards

Another babu writer, after spending nearly half a page of foolscap in explaining how hard working he is and how he has not taken a holiday, as have other clerks, for three and a half years, speaks of his marriage. He says:

"I must explain that before my marriage ceremony was performed I used to drink liquor and lose money at cards too much, but at this time my father arranged for my marriage—which is the custom with poor Hindus—and hired a house in Lal Kurti Bazaar, near to the office, so as not to be late, like clerks living in the city. At the time of the aforesaid marriage there were only two family members, myself and my wife, but now there are nine. In three years my wife has blessed the peaceful household with three adults and four adultresses in the female line. Although my salary (increment) is only Re 1 per annum, my wife brings forth annual increments to the ramification of this generation."

The letter continues for another half page till the request is reached in the last sentence but one, ending:

"And all the members of this household will, as in duty bound, ever pray for your Honour's posthumous olive branches."

GOLD STRIKE REPORTED IN THE YUKON

Prince George, B. C., June 28—Passengers on board the Canadian National steamship Prince George, which docked here last week, from Alaska, brought with them news of a gold strike in the Yukon, which some of the old Sourdoughs think may be a second Klondike. To see the famous old trail of '98 was a thrill for the tourists from California and the East, but this was easily outdone by the excitement of being close to a new stampede. Squaw Creek, where the find was made by two Indians, Big Jim and Paddy Duncan, is a little distance out from White Horse and the travellers did not have time to go out to the camp, but they could feel the excitement in the air and they could gaze at a thousand dollars' worth of gold nuggets in a shop window. More than forty men have gone from White Horse to stake claims and every day sees new parties on the way to the creek.

The Prince George which inaugurated the Alaska summer service of the Canadian National steamships, had a highly successful voyage. One party of Californians went on to Dawson, other passengers made the shorter trips to White Horse, Bennett, Taku Arm and Atlin. Some are going to Jasper National Park to ride the trails and play golf. After the stimulation of the sea voyage one of the brightest spots of the trip was the splendid view of the Taku Glacier. The steamer had never come closer to the ice, according to Captain Needen. The only regret of the excited passengers had was that their cameras would not record the spectacular green of the glittering pinnacles.

Curio shops at Ketchikan, Wrangell and Skagway, and the museums, museums and other show places did an exceptional business. It would be difficult to estimate the bulk of the cargo of totem poles, Indian mocassins and ivory trinkets that the Prince George is carrying on her return voyage to Vancouver.

"So you talk in your sleep. What about?"
"I dunno; I'm single."



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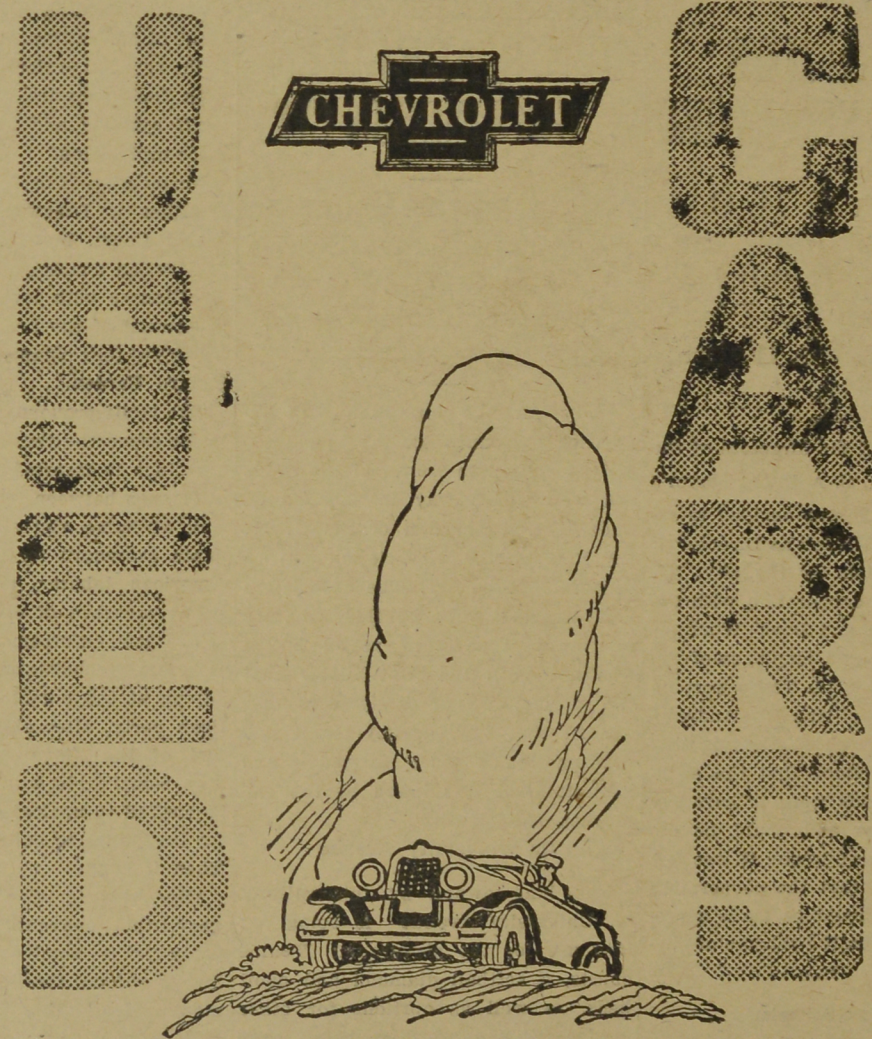
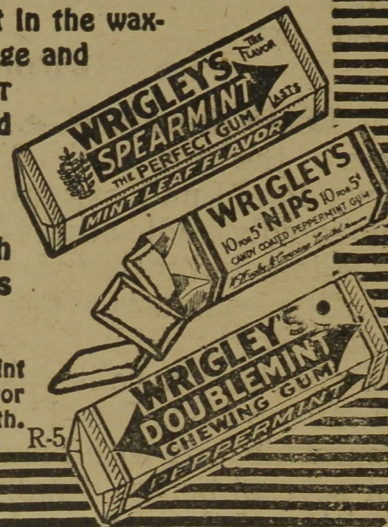
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