

Career of Essad Pasha, Who Is the Allies' Man, Contains Much Mystery

In the days before the war, when all Europe was greatly concerning itself with the fate of Albania, when the Mpret, the quondam Prince of Wied, and Ismail Kemal Bey, Prenk Bib Doda, and all the rest of that amazing coterie were doing their best to live up to parts assigned to them, or usurped by them, Essad Pasha was one of the most-talked-of men in all Europe. Most people have a penchant for the picturesque. And Essad Pasha, with the most supreme unconsciousness, was always picturesque. He was, moreover, according to all the canons of diplomacy and international law and political morality, absolutely impossible. Dignities meant as little to him as did the most sacred conventions, when they came to stand in his way, whilst fear of consequences had never, at any time, any place in his outlook. Thus when his brother Ghan, who was in the service of Abdul Hamid at the Yildiz Kiosk, suddenly disappeared, as did many other favorites of the Caliph, Essad had no thought but to carry out, with the utmost punctiliousness, the vendetta required by the "law of the mountains." He left Macedonia, where he held a command in the army, and came to Constantinople, discovered his brother's murderer, and with the utmost calmness, "cut him down like a ge-



ESSAD PASHA

leman" on the Galata Bridge, and, lest there should be any doubt about it, left on him a card which bore the name Essad Topuzi. Then he waited for a reasonable time for the challenge to be taken up, and finally departed to resume his command in Macedonia.

That, however, was not the end of the matter. Essad Pasha was a Topuzi. He was, too, of the Kastrioti, a descendant of the great Scanderbeg, and left nothing of that kind unfinished. He did not write "settled in full" on Ghan's account until the memorable day in April, eight years ago, when he strode into the presence of Abdul Hamid at the Yildiz Kiosk, as the envoy of the Committee of Union and Progress, bearing the Caliph's deposition. In accordance with the law, and by the decision of the national assembly, Abdul Hamid was deposed, and Ghan was re-elected.

Following the deposition, Essad threw himself wholeheartedly into the work of the committee. In his own way, he was a genuine reformer. Had he not improved his estate at Tirani till there was none like it in all Albania? Had he not brought men of experience from other parts of Europe to instruct his peasants, and were there not to be found on his estate machines for plowing the land and reaping such as no Albanian had seen before?

Then suddenly came the first gunshot of the Balkan wars, and, almost before the smoke of it had cleared away over the hillsides above Scutari, Essad Pasha was on his way to Albania, whilst within a few days he and the Turco-Albanian army, with Hassan Riza at its head, were shut up in the city by the Serbs. The story how Hassan mysteriously disappeared, and Essad took command, how Essad subsequently surrendered the city to Prince Danilo of Montenegro, and how, after shaking hands with the Prince in the market place, he marched out at the head of his men, carrying everything with him but the siege guns, was one of the mysteries of Europe, four and a half years ago.

In the tortuous times which followed the second Balkan war, when great powers were endeavoring to settle the Albanian question, Essad Pasha was Italy's man, just as the redoubtable chieftain Prenk Bib Doda was Austria's man. The Albanian question was still unsettled, of course, when the present war broke out but Essad Pasha remained Italy's man, and is Italy's man still. Attired in an Albanian uniform, and wearing among his decorations the French Cross of War conferred upon him a few days before by General Sarraill, he was interviewed recently by a representative of the Paris Matin. He spoke of the importance of the Salonica campaign, and of all it had accomplished, and told of how he had been touched by the warmth of the welcome accorded him in Italy, as he had passed through the country a short time before, on his way to Paris. Essad Pasha is certainly still Italy's man, and more than that he is the Allies' man.

WHERE SUPERSTITION REIGNS.

Witch Doctor Rules Thousands in the Far East.

Most of the homes in Canada are ruled by the chubby fist of King Baby, but in countries where superstition rules, the chubby fist can only beat impotently against the cell of torture into which superstition has thrust him. The innocent babies are supposed to have as many evil spirits as the grown-ups. In Angola, there were counted 50 cuts, made in order to let out the evil spirits, on a baby only five months old! One wonders if the evil spirits needed so many exits.

Unless the witch-doctor varies his "cures," he loses his prestige. So he may assure the anxious mother that the evil spirits can escape as well through burns as through cuts. Blindly following the only medical advice they know, the parents themselves will sometimes heat an iron red-hot and touch their tiny baby over the head, neck, and even the abdomen, leaving only a small space between the burns. Then wrapping the little form in a clean or, as often, dirty cloth, they leave it to recover or die.

If a Chinese baby dies, the evil spirit when released will enter the body of the next child born. In order to prevent this calamity, the parents "tie an egg and some mustard seed to the body of the dead child in the belief that the evil spirit will not appear until the egg hatches and the seed sprouts. The astute parents carefully boil the egg and the seed in order to postpone the date indefinitely.

Superstition seems to us only another name for lack of common sense. Take, for instance, the African parents who found their child's skull partly torn away and its brain laid bare by the attack of a hyena. Did they rush the child to even a witch-doctor? No. They ran after the hyena, for as long as the animal lived their child could not recover! In this case the parents couldn't find the hyena so they brought the child after several hours to the medical missionary. Fortunately, he was able to patch up the brains and is now developing them in one of our mission schools.

There is no safeguard for babies the world over, motherlove, the Esperanto of human emotions. But even that power is not proof against the force of superstition. Women who are now Christians admit that they have used a heavy grub-hoe to tear and cut to mince the faces of baby girls, thereby turning aside the wrath of devils who curse their family with too many girl babies. Some of these women have even cut even boy babies to be eaten by the village dogs with the idea that sick boys are demons in disguise, bringing care, worry, and debt.—World Outlook.

Queer Law Cases.

An Italian officer who was wounded in the Trentino recently brought an action to obtain a decision as to the rightful ownership of a bullet extracted from his body. Both doctor and nurse claimed it, but the officer contended that it was legally his. The judge gave his decision in the officer's favor by a novel line of argument.

He found that the projectile once discharged from the gun ceased both to belong to the man who fired it and the country which entrusted it to him. It thus became, while on its way to its billet, a res nullius which any finder is entitled to pick up and keep. The officer found it in his body. It was only brought to light by the surgeon, assisted by the nurse. Hence the officer was entitled to keep it.

Not long ago an abbe left a French village to take up the incumbency of another, and the major of his late flock lit a bonfire in the road to speed their departing parson, making merry at his expense and showing unmistakably the joy they felt at seeing his back. Naturally the abbe thought himself insulted and brought an action for damages, but as he could not show any, the case was dismissed.

A certain inhabitant of Switzerland had a stupendous thirst, which he piled daily with stimulants. His sister secretly put a drink-cure into his potatoes, which had the magical effect of curing him of his craving, and rendered drink obnoxious. So angry was he when he learned the truth that he sued his sister for £1,000 for the loss of his thirst.—Tit-Bits.

An House in Jaffa.

It is a great deal more than doubtful that the house which the church army is said to want to buy at Jaffa was ever "Simon the tanner's." For one thing, Jaffa has been sacked twice since the days when St. Peter stayed at the Syrian port. The Arabs destroyed it in the early Eighteenth Century, and Napoleon repeated the destruction in 1799. The position, too, of the house which has the reputation of being Simon's does not tally with the New Testament—"He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side." The present house is on a hill, and, owing to its position, has such a view from the "housetop" as alone to make it worth possessing.

Mica.

Mica, so named from its being easily divided into glistening scales, consists of silica and alumina, associated with magnesia, soda, and lime in varying proportions. Thus we have potash mica, consisting of silica, alumina, and potash; and magnesia mica, in which the alumina is partially replaced by magnesia, passing into soft talc, which is chiefly composed of silica and magnesia.

The Bee is a Swift Flyer.

An experiment was once made to see how fast a bee could fly. The hive was attached to the roof of a train which attained a speed of thirty miles an hour before the bee was left behind.

NEWSPAPER SITUATION

Prescott Journal

The newspaper field in Prescott has not been, for some years, up to the best for the issuing of two papers, but naturally enough, it was quite beyond our persuasive powers to keep others out of the field and we have had to continually grind and make the "other fellow" grind in order that both might keep afloat. The climax came last week when we went over to brother Styles of the Tribune and said, here Charlie, either buy or sell. That settled the matter in a few minutes and when we emerged we had the Tribune plant tied to us.

At present we are not in a position to make any flowery announcement suffice it to say that we shall try to make the Journal fill the gap caused by the cessation of The Tribune and that the price will remain as it has since July 1916, i.e., one dollar and fifty cents per year in Canada and two dollars per year to U.S. points.

In our job printing department we shall make some alterations for the more efficient handling of that growing branch of our business. In the matter of prices in this department we shall endeavor to make them as low as possible, consistent with first-class work.

Charleston

Born, on Jan. 24, 1918, to Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Kavanagh a daughter, Mrs. Jack McKenny and little son Carl are visiting relatives here.

A number from here attended the party at E. Foster's on Friday evening in honour of his nephews Johnny and E. J. Foster of Watrous, Sask. Miss Katie Halliday returned to Toronto on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Godkin entertained a few friends at a ~~party~~ party on Friday night.

Miss E. Baxter has returned to St. Anne de Bellevue.

JOLLY BACHELORS

By George Randolph Chester
Another adventure of J. Rufus Wallingford and Blackie Daw in February Cosmopolitan. No need to tell our readers about Wallingford and how cleverly he sells "blue" —his delightful impertinence, his resourcefulness, his bluff that somehow always makes good. Impossible stories these—but reasonable. That's the kind full blooded and clean Canadians and Americans like. Chester has a great following and deserves it. Aply Illustrated by Charles E. Chambers.

THE NEW WARDEN

David Dempster, who has been elected warden of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, was born in Gananoque on Oct. 18, 1862, a son of the late Thomas Dempster. He received his education in Leeds township and Gananoque, and follows the occupation of farmer, residing about six miles northwest of the town of Gananoque. Several years ago, he married Miss Mary Landon, of Lansdowne, and has two sons, Fred Dempster, of Leeds, and Harold Dempster at home. He is a Presbyterian.

In his several years' connection with the council of the United Counties, the new warden has given excellent service to the ratepayers, and as warden will give general satisfaction. He is a gentleman of sound business integrity, and Leeds and Grenville should enjoy a period of prosperity with him as the head of the counties' government.

DEATH OF WM. E. McNEIL

The death of Mr. William E. McNeil occurred at his residence in Lansdowne Wednesday night of last week, following ill health of the past year. The deceased was a life-long resident of the township of Lansdowne, and in his passing a good and trustworthy citizen has been removed from the life of the community. The late Mr. McNeil followed the occupation of farming, and like others in the locality, his farm was a model of excellence, while his home was always noted for its warmth of hospitality. Surviving, are his wife, who was Miss Webster, of Lansdowne, one son, Ross, at home, and one daughter, Mrs. H. B. White, Brockville. In religion, the late Mr. McNeil was a Methodist, and politically he was a staunch Liberal.

Former Maitland Rector

Speaking of the ministry of the Rev. S. B. G. Wright, former rector of Maitland and now curate of All Saints' Cathedral, Halifax, N.S., the "Evening Mail" of that city in a recent issue remarked: "Mr. Wright's work has been of a quality which has won him a secure place in the regard of Dean Lloyd and the people and especially among the young people of the congregation his influence has been marked and is seen in rapid growth in the membership roll."

NEWSPAPER ERRORS

(New York Tribune)

"Where do you get the absurd facts you print?" is a favorite query put to newspaper men. In view of "Newspapers get such of their facts of their time misspelling names, imagining incidents that never happened, and generally manhandling life as it is led.

There is just one answer to be made to the query above, and that is: "Newspaper get such of their facts as are absurd from the absurd human beings who for one reason or a thousand refuse to relate facts accurately. Newspapers, truth-telling newspapers, spend a very large part of their time correcting these misstatements, running them to their source, and getting at the truth. A certain proportion of error gets by—not as great a proportion as can be heard in any village neighborhood gossip, for it is the concern of newspapers, of honest ones that is, to allow for errors and correct them, whereas it is the concern of those other purveyors of news, gossips, to create errors whenever they are more interesting than the truth.

The next time you find an error in your favorite newspaper, try an experiment. Try to capture one small fact yourself, in your own home town. You will quickly discover just how wary a bird the truth is and how very unpopular.

Sell Your Junk.

Farmers may not realize that they are unpatriotic if they are not selling their worn-out machinery and implements. Large quantities of iron and steel are needed for guns, shells, bridges and other war purposes. There are many farms on which a good deal of junk is to be found.—Winchester Press.

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150 acres known as the Mansell farm, situate at Temperance Lake, 4 miles from the village of Athens. 8-roomed house, furnace heating, cistern, woodshed, 2 barns 30x40 and 30x60 with stone basement, cement floor, stable for 25 cows and 6 horses, swing bales, water in stable, double silo, 150 tons capacity, 2 good wells, spring in pasture, carriage house, modern pig pen, good sugar bush, from 600 to 800 trees. Easy terms. Apply T. R. Beale, Athens. 31f

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Gananoque's motor boat fleet will be materially increased the coming season, a local builder having no less than four boats on order at present.

Brockville Business College

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Miss Leita Smith, who for some months has been on the clerical staff of the Imperial Munitions Board at Ottawa, has been transferred to Washington, D.C., and expects to leave Feb. 5th.

One of our students has been recommended this week by us to do some book-keeping work out of school hours for a local firm.

50 advertisements for book-keepers and stenographers are appearing daily in The Montreal Star.

The Redwood Sales Co., Winnipeg has asked us to supply them with clerical help with special qualifications.

Bruce Campbell is now in a good position in the Toronto offices of Bowser & Co. Mr. Campbell was a student from Cardinal about six years ago.

We have been asked to supply a junior clerk and a book-keeper for a busy store in a country village.

Miss Vera Pyke has this week passed our 80 word per minute shorthand test and Miss Gladys Short has passed the 100 word test.

Those planning to come in this term are urged to get in by Jan. 28 or Feb. 4.

BROCKVILLE BUSINESS COLLEGE

W. T. ROGERS, Principal

Address: Fulford Building, 2 Court House Avenue, Brockville, Ont. Phone 373.

If you are thinking of taking a course at the Brockville Business College, call at the Reporter office. We can save you money on tuition.

Busy Beavers.

A scarecrow was made use of by beavers in the work on the Walla Walla River. Farmers are again being bothered by beavers, which have increased in numbers to a great extent the past ten years, and their dams frequently interfere with irrigation projects and flood farming lands. W. H. Gross, living near Whitman station, has complained to the game authorities that a beaver dam has shut off his irrigation supply and it is probable that the dam will be dynamited. Mr. Gross erected a scarecrow to frighten the animals away when they started building the dam. The first night the beavers did no work, but the second night they cut down the scarecrow and used it in the dam.

So far some 326 Canadian soldiers have returned to Canada insane and it is stated that a like number similarly affected are still in England.

Furniture

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Proclamation

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Bookkeeping, Stenographic and Civil Service Courses.

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Each subsequent month 6.00

These fees include cost of text books.

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Regular	\$33.50 Coats	\$25.00
"	29.50 "	19.50
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