

Where Britain Stands on Guard

Spain's Failure in Morocco Causes Trouble for Britain and France. Germany Plots to Take Advantage. Pan-Islamic Ideal Plays a Part.

For Spain disaster and Morocco are synonymous. Britain is trying to avoid a like situation in regard to her own North African interests. So is France. Italy wants to play a more important role in prospective developments than France thinks she should, and German machinations help to complicate the problem.

A native chieftain, Abdel Krim, leader of the Rif in the Spanish zone of Morocco, is the immediate keystone of the situation. If he is captured or slain in battle, there may be a subsidence of the agitation that is worrying the powers. A period of peace would probably follow, to be broken when some new chieftain calls the tribes to holy war.

Spain, according to the unpublished records of history, has made several overtures to Britain, in the last thirty years, looking to the surrender of Gibraltar. They were not taken seriously in London. British military men, looking across the narrow Straits of Gibraltar, and British warships sailing that strip and adjacent seas, see and hear much. Their information must cause them to wonder whether Spain could hold the fortress long if she had it. To those who know of the Great Rock by reason of visits there, or from extensive reading about it, this may sound fantastic. The story of successive Spanish failures in Morocco make it appear more plausible. But Spain is not likely to get another opportunity to hold The Rock.

Britain is on guard across the Straits, and in them, with force enough for any immediate emergency. It is not alone the prospect

and they persuaded the Spaniards to demote him. They also threw Abdel into prison. Escaping in 1921 he started a war of vengeance that has never ceased. His initial success was the defeat of an army under General Silvestre, the Governor who dismissed him. It is said that the Spaniards had 10,000 men killed in this battle. He has had many successes since then, every one of them adding much modern military equipment to his supplies.

There are men in the British House of Commons who regard Abdel Krim as a patriot leading patriots in a war for liberty, and they want the British government to warn France against actively interfering in the event that Spain eventually withdraws completely out of Morocco. Their support of the Rif is based on the contention that whatever their present lead-

How the Land Lies

The accompanying map, not drawn to scale, gives an idea of the interlocking influences, interests and possibilities, which make the situation one of danger. Tangier, was British in the sixteenth century. It has had many vicissitudes since. These included, before the

Moroccan army and navy headquarters are, and a strip of territory along the coast, she will be lucky. For her a new menace is the rising of the Anjara tribes, who live in the territory between Tangier and Ceuta. For many years the were on friendly terms with the Spaniards; that day appears to be over.

France has restored order in her sphere of Morocco, following some uprisings which were not bothered with during the world war, and has strig forces there and in Algeria. Th latter, her prize colonial possession, has a population of about six millions from which many native fighting men are recruited. This, another French possession, has some two million people comes. Then Italy interjects with Tripoli, a large territory, but with a population of not more than 600,000. It was taken from Turkey in

Germany's Aims

Where does Germany come in? Spanish writers and statesmen who want to see their country in the

other of the powers concerned, there is danger for every new success that the Moors record against Spain. Comparatively few of the fighting men in the Islamic countries know that the military forces, resources and leadership of Britain and France are infinitely superior to those of Spain. They only know that men of their own faith have won amazing victories over a European Christian nation. The reflection of this is witnessed in the arrogance of Turkey, not only toward Greece, against whom she has already won victories, but toward Britain in Iraq (Mesopotamia). There is self-sufficiency and contempt for others in every move she makes to emphasize her claims.

France Makes Ready
If Abdel Krim carries out his immediate professed intention of establishing "the Republic of the Rif," the French will face an increasingly difficult situation. Abdel professes friendship for them, but it has been shown that none of the Moorish revolutionary leaders can ever restrain their followers from raiding any of the zones claimed by European powers. A few raids into French spheres of protectorates would be followed by prompt action on the part of France without regard to Spanish or any other feeling. That is shown by the vote of five million francs put at the disposal of Marshal Lyautey, in command of the French in Morocco. France could not afford to allow her millions of colored subjects to become infected with the virus of belief in their ability to drive the Christian nations back to Europe.

That is one reason why French newspapers have urged their government to occupy that part of the Spanish zone abandoned by the Spaniards. To this the latter resist with sharp hints to France to mind her own business, and a warning to all the world that Spain does not relinquish any of the rights under the treaty of 1912, whereby the respective spheres of influence were clearly defined. Of course all of this was done without bothering

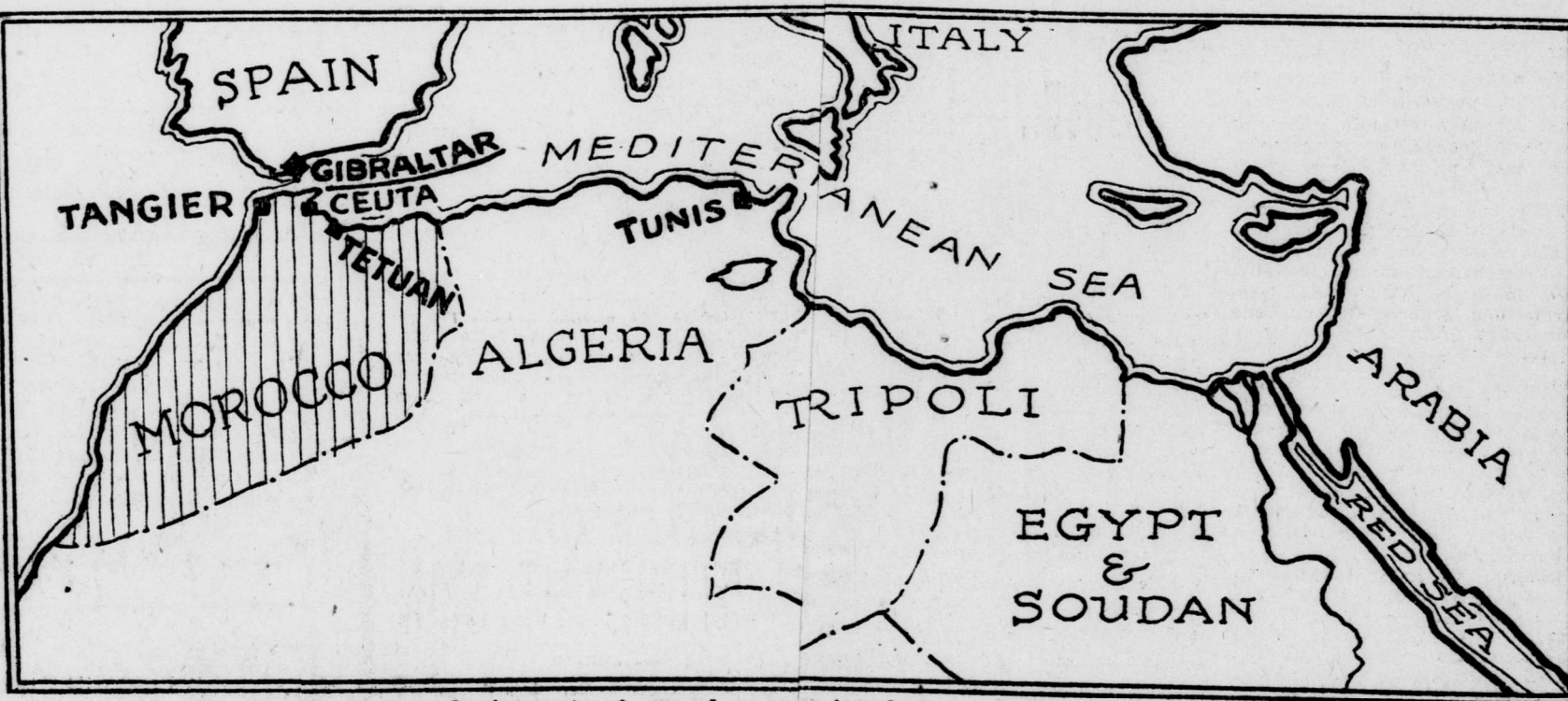
about the views of the natives. That was the easier because the same natives, an admixture of races, have not been a unit for centuries. As often as otherwise the Berbers and Arabs, and their off-shoots have been at war with one another, or have taken sides with invading white armies. Algeria is a good example of a country which has accepted white control. The French have been far more successful than the Spaniards in this respect; the important part played by Moroccan troops in the European campaign being an evidence.

Varying figures up to 120,000 are given as constituting the strength of the Spanish army in Morocco. But it seems always to lack energy, leadership, effective transport and adequate equipment. A year or two ago Spanish agents recruited a foreign legion and secured a goodly number of out of work war veterans in Britain. The incompetence that marked the handling of Spanish soldiers was not absent from the methods pursued in dealing with these men. Under British or French officers of merit they would have been a great acquisition to the Spanish armies; under Spanish commanders, most of whom could not speak English, they were poorly clothed, badly-fed and armed, and spent weeks in idleness in fortified camps when they should have been actively engaged in the open. Their condition finally became so deplorable that Britain had to intervene to get them released from their contracts and bring them home. This attempt to constitute a legion in the hope of building up something comparable with the famous Foreign Legion of France, seems to have been the only bit of initiative displayed by Spain in the battle to retain a bit of Morocco.

In Spain the man of the moment is General Primo de Rivera, the dictator of the country since the military coup fifteen months ago. He went to Morocco and personally conducted the operations leading to the retreat to the coast.

Some writers refer to General de Rivera as the "Mussolini of Spain." There is a distinction, however. The Italian dictator was humbly born, according to Old World ideas, and began his career as a Socialist. The Spaniard is a grandee of an ancient house and his title is the Marquis de Estella.

In India and Arabia, Egypt and the Sudan, and many other areas where her interests are affected, Britain must keep closer watch and guard because of what is happening in Morocco. For the moment the countries bordering upon the Mediterranean and the Red Sea claim the closest attention. The Admiralty and the War Office are in hourly touch by wireless with the centres whence developments may come. Britain knows how to guard her own.



The map shows how the interests of several powers interlocked. Spain in her sphere of Morocco, France in Algeria and Tunisia. Britain in Gibraltar, Egypt, the Sudan and Arabia, are all on the alert because of the unrest due Spanish defeats by the Moors.

er's views, these tribesmen were very friendly toward the British in the Great War, while Spain was not. The punctiliously correct attitude of King Alfonso and his cabinet is not overlooked, but the charge that Spain was actually hostile to the allies and very useful to the Germans, has persisted from the first year of the war.

As a "neutral" Spain is declared to have made the equivalent of a billion dollars out of the war. But to this day she seems incapable of balancing her budget. The cost of

world war, an attempt on the part of Germany to establish it as a recognized possession. In December they entered the world war. The last year the town and in Egypt and the Sudan zone surrounding it were completely neutralized under the convention of 1912. The latter and France have zone Egypt is independent; but its straits in Morocco outside of Tangier, begie highway to India, and all of Spain, for fifteen years back the Sudan are in the hands of Britain. Across the narrow straits facing Gibraltar, also British, while in reaped nothing but sorrow as the Rif strife in her part of it the Rif strife, a very hilly area. If she could possessions cover vast areas, hold Tetuan, at which port hbor Britain, as much as for any

closest relationships with Britain and France above all others, point to the activities which are establishing the Krupp and other German concerns everywhere in Spain. These are not bent upon peaceful commercial penetration. They are getting control of iron works and shipyards throughout the country, and Zeppelin works are to be established too. Malaga and Algeciras, facing Gibraltar, are two of the places to which these activities are extended. German plans for making Tangier a huge fortified port,

ORGAN RECITAL RADIO FEATURE

High Quality Program Over CJCG
By Charles E. Wheeler

RADIO FAVORITES ON TO-DAY
Springbank Orchestra Will Play
Between 6 and 7

Radio fans of CJCG, The London Free Press station, listened in with unusual delight to the organ recital of popular classics by Charles E. Wheeler last night broadcast from First United Church. The program in itself was of high merit and was a welcome change from 7:15 to 8:30 the air was filled with a high quality of music that was appreciated. The evening was ideal for broadcasting. Aside from Mr. Wheeler's playing, three solos by Mrs. Robert Durst, contralto soloist of St. Andrew's Church, proved to be one of the best musical offerings heard from this station for some time. Other programs of this class are certain to follow as the result of next night's program.

To-day's program, although not of great length, carries some high talent. Ronnie Hart's Springbank Orchestra, a great favorite with radio fans, will be heard from this station between 6 and 7. Other usual features will also be broadcast.

The program of the organ recital follows:

"Processional March" (Gounod), from "The Queen of Sheba," C. E. Wheeler; "Minuet in D Major (Mozart), by request, arranged by Mr. Wheeler; "Gargueta" (Xenopussy; "Scherzo Pastorale" (Fidelio), by request, C. E. Wheeler; contralto solo, "Homing" (Del Riego), Mrs. Robert Durst; organ, "Song of the Morning" (J. F. Fry-

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MARGOT WILL DOUBLE BET LOST IN EPPING CONTEST

LONDON, July 30.—A story of a bet with the Countess of Oxford over Winston Churchill's election was told at a garden party at Woodford Green recently given by the Epping Division Central Liberal and Radical Association.

G. Glanville Sharp, the unsuccessful Liberal candidate at last election, who is to fight again, stated that the Epping Division owed a cash debt to Lady Oxford of £50, who had spoken earlier in the evening.

He explained that Lady Oxford had backed him for that amount to defeat Mr. Churchill.

She lost and paid up, but it rested with the Liberals of the constituency to see she did not lose the second time, as she intended betting £100 on him at the next election in order to get her money back.

EMPIRE PRIZE TO CALGARY INFANT

Result of Contest In Mother and Baby Competition.

LONDON, July 30.—The winners of this year's empire mother and baby competition, announced at a presentation ceremony at the Empire Exhibition, were Mrs. A. N. Macdonald and her son, John Duncan Claude Macdonald, of 739 18th avenue west, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

OLYMPIC SPRINT WINNER PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE

LONDON, July 30.—East Walthamstow Liberal and Radical Association executive has recommended the adoption of Harold M. Abrahams, the Olympic games sprint champion, as their prospective candidate.

In his political campaign Mr. Abrahams does not intend to rely on his achievements in sport, but hopes to win the young life of the constituency by his strong advocacy of Liberal principles and his adherence to free trade.

His candidature has the sympathetic support of Sir John Simon, M. P. In the Olympic games of 1924 Mr. Abrahams won the 100 metres for Great Britain, accomplishing the distance in 19 3/5 seconds. Last February he was awarded the gold medal of the Academic des Sports.

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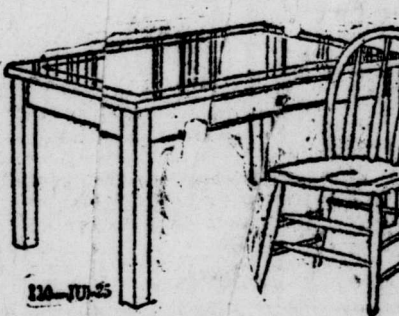
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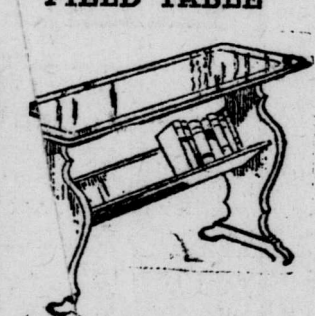
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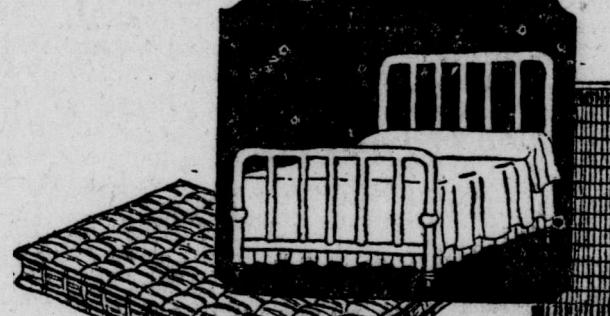
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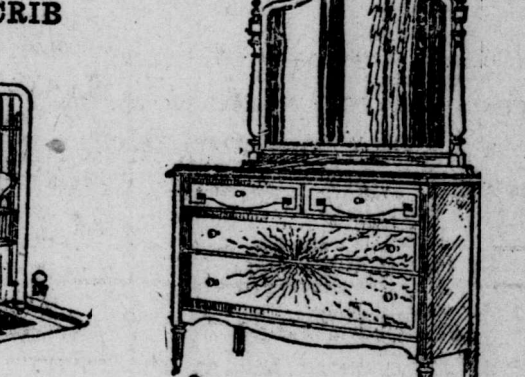
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