

A HOLY WAR IN ARABIA

Fanatics in the Home of Fanaticism Work Themselves into Frenzy to Throw Out Unbelievers

ISLAM VS BRITAIN

Arabia—that furnace of fanaticism in which, for a thousand years, Islam has forged her thunderbolts—has been fanned once more into a flame of religious war. Abdul Aziz Ibn Abdur-Rahman ab Faisal ab Saud, to give him his full name, King of the Hedjaz, which includes the holy places of Mecca and Medina, and Sultan also of Nejd, his inland patrimony, has fanned his wild Wahabi tribes against British influence at Kowett on the Persian Gulf to the east and Transjordan, the threshold of Palestine, to the west. And he has, curiously enough, started his offensive at a time when trouble faces Britain in Egypt.

It is an explosion wholly in the manner of Mohammed himself—first a sign for the true faith against the infidel and the heretic, and secondly an attempt at conquest of territory—Arabia for the Arabians, a Saracenic empire, to extend from the Mediterranean to the frontiers of Persia.

In the seventh and succeeding centuries the Arabs and their converts, the Turks, were able to carry fire and sword into the heart of Spain and to the gates of Vienna. That was because their military and political science was at least equal to any resistance offered to them. In the Middle Ages Ibn Saud might well have been a second Saladin. But to-day he is confronted by Western weapons, the airplane, the tank, artillery, prestige. He can be checked, and the probabilities are that, whether by arms or by negotiations or both, he will be.

A Romantic Eastern Chieftain. Yet he is a chieftain whose every gesture evokes romance. A man in his forty-ninth year, he stands well over six feet in height. The perfect sheik, he spent his youth in the saddle, riding madly over the desert and with his rifle, achieving fame as a marksman.

By ancestry he was direct heir to the Sultanate of Nejd. It is the capital, Riyadh, was held by the rival family of Rashid, the reason—according to Ibn Saud—was usurpation. Ibn Saud's first exploit was to put that

The Hashimites are Moslems. But they are Moslems in touch with and amenable to the West. Luxurious, laxity, display—so it seemed to the Wahabis—were undermining the recollections of the true faith. A holy war was proclaimed, therefore, and in the Autumn of 1924 King Hussein vanished from Mecca. For a day or two his heir, Prince Ali, tried to occupy the vacant sovereignty, but he also disappeared. Ibn Saud entered the city in triumph and was accepted as King.

The British Policy.

The British acquiesced in the fact accomplished and even continued to subsidize Ibn Saud. But there arose the question, once again, whether the victor would be satisfied even yet with his success, and if dissatisfied, what would be his next objective?

In the world of Islam the Sultans of Turkey have been Caliphs or Spiritual heads of the faith. With the deposition of the Sultans by the Turks themselves the Caliphate fell into abeyance. Shortly before his fall King Hussein, as trustee for Mecca, had declared himself Caliph, but there were other possibilities—the Aga Khan, the Amir of Afghanistan and the Sultan of Morocco among them—to say nothing of King Fuad of Egypt. The candidature of King Hussein, therefore, was unconfirmed when he fell into obscurity. There arose the question, therefore, whether Ibn Saud would follow his example. Would the Caliphate be his next acquisition? Clearly his territories in Arabia, consisting of the Hedjaz and Nejd, gave him a sufficient basis of temporal power on which to found such a claim.

He has decided on a very different initiative. Instead of using his position in order to impress the pilgrims who throng Mecca from points so distant as Java and Southern Africa, Ibn Saud has again seized the word. That his hand has been forced can hardly be doubted. The secret of his success has been religious impulse. That impulse was concentrated against any surrender of the pure practice of Islam to the influence of

ant, have been liked and admired in return.

Lawrence Could Help.

A man of the stamp of Colonel Lawrence, who welded the Arab tribes together in the World War and who won great renown, would understand Ibn Saud. But there are larger than personal questions involved. Is it conceivable that the Mohammedism of the Wahabis, however attractive may be the sincerity of it, will be able to avoid contact with a world-wide Islam of a less exacting type? Mecca can hardly expect to be the capital of certain principalities in Arabia. It is the goal of innumerable pilgrims whose health—to mention only one circumstance—must be subject to quarantine. A British Moslem, Lord Headley, told King Hussein plainly that if he had to stand bareheaded in the sun, it would be his death, and this rule, at any rate, had to be relaxed. So with smallpox, now raging in Syria.

In the Wahabis we see then the last defiant stand of those shock troops who, centuries before the Norman Conquest, carried the banner of the Prophet to ruthless victory, changing the history of mankind by a ferocity and a fanaticism of which the world has no other example.

The Chamber of Commerce (Telegraph) (Ind.): tently, answers the world Canada, does not deny the fact of the variation for the employment and demolition of industries. Let no nation-wide organized effort has ever been made to devise means of stabilizing the situation.

England's Friendly Arab Ally



IRAQ'S RULER AND HIS ADVISERS
King Feisal is a son of King Hussein of Hedjaz, dethroned three years ago by King Ibn Saud, who is starting the holy war in Transjordan and Iraq.

Queen Elizabeth, British Dreadnaught, Is Ramméd

Valetta, Malta. — The collier Corinto, leaving the harbor here, collided with the stern of the British battleship Queen Elizabeth. Both ships were damaged. Admiral Keyes, ashore at the time of the accident, immediately went aboard.

The British super-dreadnaught the Queen Elizabeth, which was launched in 1913, played a romantic part in British naval activities during the World War. She was an oil burner and at the time of her launching was one of the most powerful vessels afloat. The Queen Elizabeth headed the Allied fleet which demolished the Turkish forts at the entrance to the Dardanelles in 1915 and took part in extensive bombardment operations at the Gallipoli peninsula. She was hit by Turkish shells during these operations and was damaged somewhat. Her eight 15-inch guns were reported to be the most accurate ever possessed by the British navy. The vessel was used in support of the troops who fought at Gallipoli. The Queen Elizabeth was the vessel aboard which the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet was arranged at a conference held in the bay of Scapa Flow on November 10, 1918.

Employment in Canada

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"Girl Regains Sight Sitting at Radio." Here's hoping she doesn't lose her hearing.

Prince of Afghanistan Is Latest Royal Student in Paris Lycee

Paris—This is a "royal school-house." Parisians are reminded through the discovery of another heir apparent wearing out the hard benches of a lycee. The French welcome these distinguished students, hoping they will spread the fame of France.

Prince Heydayat Ollah, son of Amanullah, King of Afghanistan, was found to be a student here when his royal father and mother recently visited France. He, like other future sovereigns of many countries, will then go to St. Cyr, the West Point of France, and learn all about war.

Cormorant Makes Delicious Fowl

Ottawa.—The cormorant, a rare sea fowl which heretofore has been considered quite inedible, when properly prepared may make a delicious, palate-pleasing hors d'oeuvre, researchers carried on at the national museum here indicate.

This revelation came to light when a cormorant specimen was received at the museum from the New Brunswick coast. Members of the museum biological staff had heard that the flesh of the cormorant was very disagreeable to the taste but the cause of scientific research must be served and so the Maritime bird, a nine pound specimen, was cooked. Announcement that the cormorant was not as tough and inedible a fowl as it was believed to have been, was made after three naturalists of the museum staff had industriously munched the wings and drumsticks of the New Brunswick cormorant.

"Bootlegger" is adjudged a libelous term. How about "hijacker"? And "scowflaw"?

A New Zealand Smash



"BUT YOU'D OUGHTER SEE THE TRUCK"
The result of an unexpected meeting of a passenger bus and a truck at Hamilton, N.Z. No one was injured.

Costermongers Now 'Traders'

London.—Costermongers are no longer costermongers. They have chosen to be known as street traders. And the "Street Traders Ball" was the official name of the function at which they entertained the Duke and Duchess of York, which in the past was known as the "Costers Ball."

The Lash for Bandits

Ottawa Journal (Cons.): Bandits of the United States must be made aware with certainty that when they cross into Canada they become subject to legal machinery that is swift and severe. The lash should be administered to such criminals on every occasion. And there need be no mauling sympathy for them. It may be taken for granted that armed blackguards of this type will shoot to kill without any regard for their victims. Gunmen in the United States are altogether too numerous for Canada to view with equanimity the transfer of their activities to this side of the border.

British Immigrants

Toronto Globe (Lib.): It will be well if Canada concentrates on British stock, for while the Continental immigrants profess an intention to go farming, experience has shown that thousands of them drift to the cities, and swell the ranks of the unemployed, or menace the Canadian standard of living, once the watchful eye of the authorities is removed. . . . British settlers, plus the people of the French race who were already here, have proved a tower of strength in the development of the Dominion.



The Tourist.
"Are you going abroad next summer?"
"No, I really believe I'm going on the water wagon."
Marriage is the only life sentence that is suspended by bad behavior.

Ships of the Desert



CAMEL CONVOY ON THE DESERT OF ARABIA
These are Wahabi tribesmen. There are conflicting and persisting rumors of trouble in that district.

matter straight. The city was surprised, and, standing on the roof of the palace, a Mahabi warrior cried: "The Kingdom belongs to Allah and to Ibn Saud!" After this success the struggle between Ibn Saud and Ibn Rashid continued without intermission. One by one villages were visited, by emissaries demanding tribute for "His Gracious Mightiness the Emir of Riyadh, Great Chief, to the glory of Allah, Sultan of Nejd." One by one the villages submitted. In Arabia Ibn Saud became the most dreaded of all potentates. To disobey him was to be obliterated. They who resisted were wiped out.

In manner he is gracious, polite, dignified. As a husband and father, he is kindly. But as a ruler, he has been inflexible. He stands for the fundamentals of Islam against all compromise.

Strict Livers.

In Nejd a man's life is forfeit if he neglects daily prayer at the mosque. To smoke tobacco, to drink fermented liquor, to wear soft raiment of silk and to covet gold and jewels—these also are deadly offenses. The rule is puritanical. The great mosque is undecorated. Even pilgrimages are forbidden. Nejd may be described as the Scotland of Arabia—a Scotland not without John Knox. It has meant that for the pent up energies of the Wahabis the only outlet has been war. With the British Ibn Saud has lived hitherto on excellent terms. The British greatly preferred him to Ibn Rashid, who had favored the Turk. It was Ibn Saud therefore who received the subsidies, which among the cases indicate good feeling.

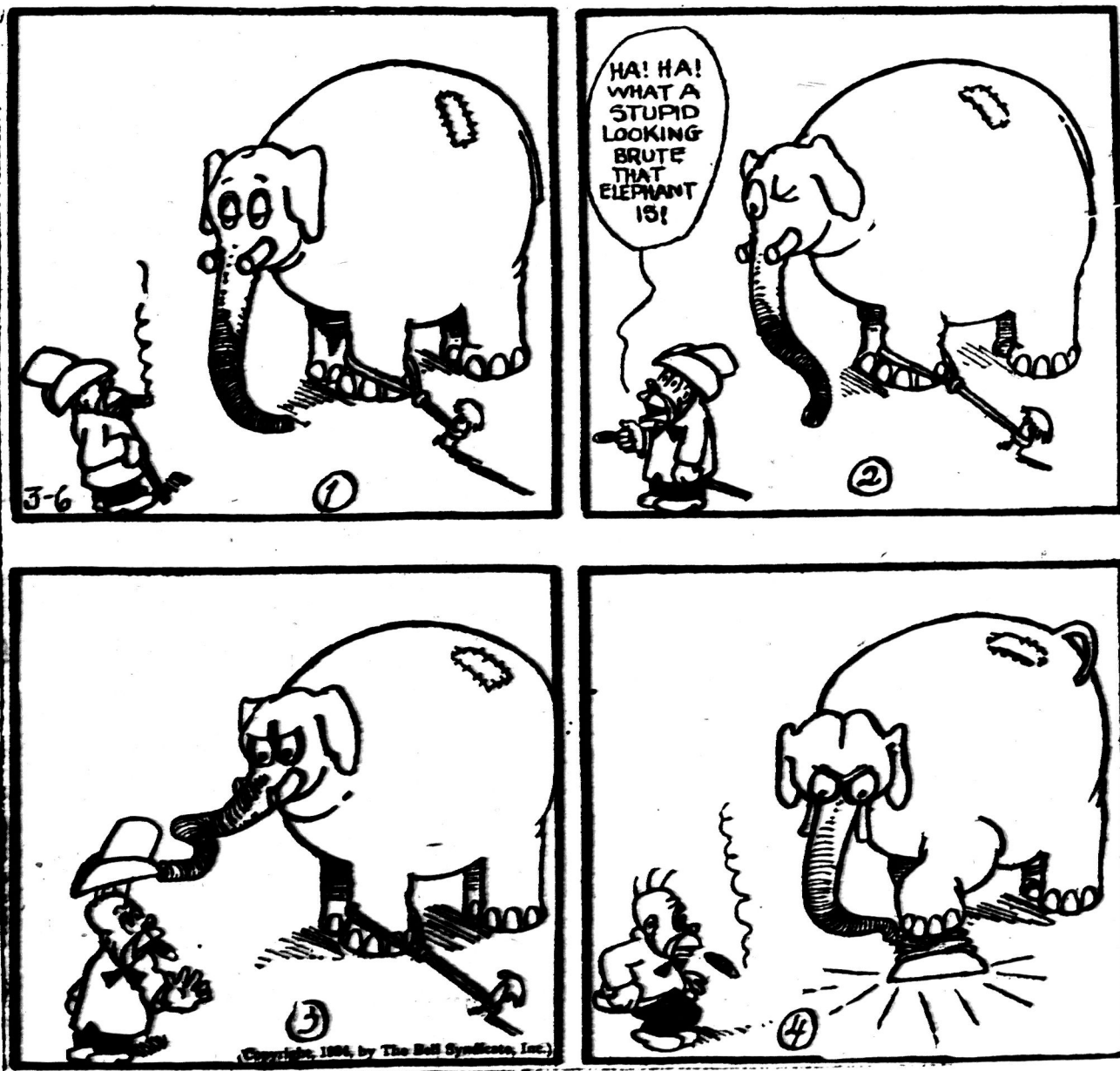
In the year 1923 there developed the question whether Nejd and the chieftainship over the Wahabis would satisfy the ambitions of Ibn Saud. There were other potentates than he in Arabia, and particularly obnoxious to him were the ubiquitous Hashimites.

The Hashimite King of the Hedjaz was Hussein, and Hussein had three sons. The eldest, Ali, was reserved for his father's throne. The second, Abdullah, was appointed to be Emir of Transjordan. The third, Feisal, became King of Iraq, or Mesopotamia. It was an arrangement that, as long as it lasted, relegated Ibn Saud to a secondary status.

New Engine For "Sport" Plane Is Planned by British Firm

London—One of the largest aero-engine manufacturers in England is about to undertake the production of two new types of motors. The first will be a high-efficiency engine suitable for a "sports" type of light plane. It will be similar in lay-out, size and weight to the Cirrus aero-engine, which are used extensively by the light airplane clubs and private owners, but will develop from 100 to 120 horsepower. With this engine the fast single-seater light plane, fulfilling a similar purpose in the air that is fulfilled by the sports car on the roads, will become possible. It is believed that if a market for this type of plane does not now exist, it will soon be brought into being as the number of private owners and club members increases.

ADAMSON'S ADVENTURES—By O. Jacobson.



Never Abuse a Poor Defenceless Elephant.