

Correspondence on Irish Question.

**Official Text of Both Leaders--
Door of Negotiations Left Open--
Confidence Expressed by Lead-
ers--Russian Bolsheviks Execute
Women.**

LLOYD GEORGE'S REPLY.

LONDON, Sept. 8. Lloyd George's letter to Valera, Irish Republican leader, which was forwarded to Dublin at the meeting of the British Cabinet yesterday, yesterday, seems at least to indicate that the Sinn Féin plenipotentiaries will meet the special committee of Cabinet Ministers at Inverness on September 20 for the purpose of settling up any ambiguity of the Sinn Féin leaders may entertain about the negotiations with the British Government on the question of reserving in granting Dominion status. The Prime Minister's letter, like all his communications since the Irish negotiations began, is characterized by a certain consideration for Sinn Féin. While it suggests the date for the proposed conference, it is in no way an ultimatum and sets no time limit to the negotiations. Those close to the Premier say that the earnestly desired settlement. "We have invited to discuss our proposals on their merits," says the Prime Minister, and adds that it will be open to the Sinn Féin leaders to raise the subject of any particular point of difference at almost any time. That the Government will accept that what the Sinn Féin Minister offers is what De Valera, namely, an untrammelled independence with the single condition that Ireland remains in the British Empire. The guarantee which De Valera is supposed to have in mind are membership in the League of Nations and Dominion status and these it is believed, the Government would be willing to grant.

TEXT OF LETTER.

LONDON, Sept. 8. The text of Lloyd George's letter, which was despatched to Dublin from London, Scotland, yesterday, in answer to the latest note from Eamon De Valera, Irish leader, follows:— "The British Government has received your letter of August 30 and has made the following observations on it. The principle of government of the governed is the basis of the British Constitution. We cannot accept as a basis of a practical conference the proposition that principles which we commit us to any demands you present, even to the extent of setting up a Republic and repudiating the Crown. You must be aware that on such a basis is impossible. So applied the principle of government by consent of the governed would undermine the fabric of every State and drive the civilisation back into barbarism. On the other hand we have invited you to discuss our proposals on their merits in a way that you may have no doubt as to the sincerity of our intentions. It would be open to you in such a conference to raise the subject of independence on any points in which you consider Irish freedom prejudiced by our proposals. His Majesty's Government is loath to believe that you will insist upon the rejection of their proposals without examining them in detail. To decline to discuss a settlement which would bestow upon the people the fullest freedom for national development within the Empire can only mean that you repudiate allegiance to the Crown and all membership in the British Commonwealth. If we are to draw this inference from your letter further discussion between us would serve no purpose and all conferences be in vain. However, we are mistaken in this, as we still hope, and if you object to our proposals, we will offer Ireland less than the terms we have described, that object can be explored at the conference. You will agree that this correspondence has lasted long enough. His Majesty's Government must, therefore, have a definite reply as to whether you are prepared to enter conference to discuss how the association of Ireland with the community of nations can be reconciled with Irish national aspirations. If, as we hope, your answer is in the affirmative, I suggest the conference should meet at Inverness on the 20th instant."

PRESS COMMENTS.

LONDON, Sept. 8. The message that the Sinn Féin plenipotentiaries following the meeting of the British Cabinet at Inverness, was an invitation to Eamon De Valera to send delegates to a conference to be held on September 20th. The message that Ireland should remain within the Empire, were printed in several newspapers here to-day. The newspapers which comment on the message, express the opinion that the door to peace has been left open. "The Government has

given the Sinn Féin leader another chance to retrieve the prospect which his blunders and those of De Valera has so gravely compromised," said the Chronicle while the Daily Telegraph remarked, "If this indication of the contents of the Cabinet's letter is accurate the admirable patience with which Mr. Lloyd George has followed his purpose is still maintained despite the daily stream of provocative and injurious language which appears to be thought wise and timely by the Sinn Féin leaders." The Daily Mail declared that "Ireland is offered the real thing and the best thing the British Empire has to give."

SIGNS OF CONFIDENCE.

DUBLIN, Sept. 8. Signs of confidence and good spirits were again apparent among the Sinn Féin leaders at Mansion House here this morning. They have received knowledge of the contents of Premier Lloyd George's reply to Eamon De Valera which will be made public here this evening at the same time that the note is given out by the British. So far as could be judged the Irish leaders were not disturbed or surprised by Mr. Lloyd George's communication. Sinn Féin leaders have been showing some irritation at what they call misrepresentation in British and United States press of their position in the negotiations. The elaborate arguments in their notes, and in the Irish Bulletin, they declare, were not intended to convey the impression that they had rejected the Dominion status and insisted on separation. Their willingness to enter the British Commonwealth on satisfactory terms, they say, they consider to have been plainly indicated.

LLOYD GEORGE QUOTES LINCOLN. INVERNESS, Sept. 8. A representative of the Government, when asked to-day what the position would be should the Sinn Féin leaders refuse to enter conference with the committee, said he hesitated to contemplate such folly, but presumed that the refusal would compel the Government to proceed with the existing Home Rule Act and the Government of Ireland.

The Prime Minister to-day sent a reply to a message from the Trades Union Congress at Cardiff in which he declares that nobody is more opposed than His Majesty's Government to bloodshed and most of all to fratricidal war between citizens of the same Empire. But, he adds, I have the authority of the greatest democratic statesman in history for the belief that even bloodshed is better than the disruption of a living political organism whose strength and unity are essential to the freedom of the world.

GETTING COLD FEET.

MADRID, Sept. 8. Disaffection over the probable adjournment of the Spanish offensive against the rebellious Moorish tribesmen near Melilla is apparent among people here. It was believed that preparations for that offensive had been completed. The newspapers, however, explain the decision of the Government by saying that the Spanish army at Melilla, while it may have sufficient supplies to undertake a forward movement immediately, does not possess reserve supplies and that it might be placed in an awkward position after the drive is started.

BOLSHEVIST MURDERS.

RIGA, Sept. 8. Sixty-one persons have been executed by the Bolsheviks, being charged with participation in the recent Petrograd plot, according to an official list printed in Pravda of Petrograd. Among these put to death were sixteen women, most of whom were accused of renting rooms to or otherwise sheltering male participants in the plot. Six on the list were described as American spies or couriers.

MAY WITHDRAW.

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 8. Rejection by the Assembly of the League of Nations of amendments to the Covenant of the League proposed by Argentina may be followed by the withdrawal from the League of certain American Republics. It was learned here from reliable sources. The belief is expressed that Chile will be among the first. Argentina withdrew from the first Assembly when her amendments were not accepted.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL STILL IN DANGER.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, N.S., Sept. 8. The fire which last night destroyed approximately one-third of this town including the greater portion of the business district, was still smouldering this morning in the coal cellars of the razed buildings. The consciousness of opinion this morning was that the dan-

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ser of a fresh outbreak was very real, depending entirely on wind conditions. Helpless as the town is in the absence of a supply of water, due to the prolonged drought, it is realized that nothing could save the rest of the town in the event of high wind springing up. It was stated this morning that the loss would approximate one quarter of million dollars or half million dollar from replacement standpoint. Total insurance carried approximates \$125,000.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRITAIN.

LONDON, Sept. 8. Mine flooding in Eastern Scotland during the late coal strike is now found to be greater than was originally anticipated, and two thousand of the Mid-Lothian workers have been unable to resume work in the mines. There are now eight thousand men idle in the district, and the position of the workers is steadily growing worse. In Manchester there are now 19,000 in the ranks of the unemployed. This is an increase of one thousand over last week. The response to an appeal for voluntary relief funds in several parts of the country has been disappointing. Doubtless the reason for this is because those who usually are generous under such circumstances are proportionally hard hit themselves, although

there is little doubt but that Communist activity amongst the industrial has alienated sympathy to a certain extent.

SOVIETS REFUSE.

MOSCOW, Sept. 8. The Russian Soviet Government has declined to permit the International Russian Relief Commission recently appointed by the Allied Supreme Council to investigate conditions in Russia.

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preparatory to aiding in famine relief. A note forwarded to Great Britain, Italy, France and Belgium says the Soviet Government regards the appointment of Joseph Noulens, of France, as Chairman, "as a monstrous smear at the fate of starving Russia."

ROYAL MAIL STEAMER ASHORE.

LONDON, Sept. 8. The British Royal Mail steamer Almansora, having on board 1200 passengers, en route to England from Brazil, is aground off Cape Espichel, twenty miles south of here.

TRAIN DYNAMITED.

ATLANTIC, Cal., Sept. 7. An Atlantic-Birmingham and Atlantic freight train was dynamited within eight miles of Atlantic to-night, according to reports to the police station which said several persons were injured. Unconfirmed reports were that the Engineer had been killed.

FOOTBALLERS PROTEST.—The Guards Football team, through its delegate, entered a protest yesterday to the League in connection with Tuesday night's game. The matter will be dealt with at a special meeting which will likely be held to-morrow night.

Speed Artistes.

Editor Evening Telegram.
Dear Sir,—Very frequently there appears in your widely read paper accounts of furious driving and carelessness on the part of motorists in the city. These people, or the majority of them, appear to be the sole owners of the country roads 'too. If one is to judge by the high speed at which they drive on the various highways. This is more noticeable at night time and if one happens to live in the country and his business keeps him in town until after dark, it is at the risk of his life or limb that he walks home. On most of the country roads there are no sidewalks, and consequently the pedestrian has

to vamp it along the path where at any moment, and without warning, a motor car may fly past. If a man is fortunate enough to have a small garden and keep a few poultry, these speeding motorists care not if they crush them to death, should they happen to get in the road way; in fact that seems a particular form of sport for them. Yet these people if on their time or for ride, happen to meet with a breakdown, they expect to find country folks most obliging and agreeable. It would be well if those road hogs would ask themselves why they are so often spurned by these people of whose lives and property they are so careless of.

Yours truly,
Sept. 9, 1921. SUBURBAN.

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