

TRENDING THE PATH TO WAR.

British High Official Talks Frankly
--Foreign Office Makes Moment-
ous Statement-- Washington is
Amazed over Warning--Smuts's
Party Leading on First Counts--
Inverness, C. B., Coal Mines
Closed Down.

ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

MONTREAL, Feb. 8.

A London cable to the Montreal Star says that the British Foreign Office on Monday made a gesture of tremendous significance, when it summoned to its office in Whitehall every correspondent representing an American newspaper or news service, and uttered through the lips of one of the most important figures in the Anglo-American relations to-day, a warning that we are treading the path leading to war. The newspaper men, accustomed to dealing with softer phrases of diplomacy, were amazed at the frankness of speech, from which it was to be inferred that American relations with England are strained to a far greater degree than would appear on the surface. Although the speaker smoothed away some of the harshness of the text by declaring that there was no question under discussion which could not be settled diplomatically, in substance, the statement was a direct appeal to both countries, through the press, to exercise patience and to use every possible means to guard against statements or actions which may serve to arouse feeling either in Canada or America. But it was a forceful, vigorous warning in which terms, not usually found in diplomatic exchanges, were used. The speaker insisted on describing the situation as one of broad aspects in which Anglo-American peoples are drifting apart through a lack of comprehension of each other.

WASHINGTON AMAZED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.

Members of Congress and administrative officials of the government received with amazement the news that an important figure in Anglo-American politics had warned American correspondents that the two nations are treading the path leading to war. The dispatch from London, but declined to comment on the information it contained. The thing seems preposterous, said Mr. Colby, comment in the main was guarded, the possibility of war was not the question now in dispute between the two countries was regarded as ridiculous and surprise was universal that a British spokesman should so openly refer to it. His remarks were considered ill-advised, untimely, and undiplomatic. There was an under current of resentment, as well, that the British should regard expressions and activities in so grave a manner, as to warrant an official, if spokesman of the government issuing an official, if anonymous, warning, to this country.

SOUTH AFRICAN ELECTIONS. ENCOURAGING RESULTS.

LONDON, Feb. 8.

In the returns from the South African election, thus far received, the South African Party, headed by General Christiaan Smuts, has elected twenty-three candidates, the Laborists three, the Nationalists two and the Independents one. A feature of the election was the defeat by the Smuts candidate of Frederick H. Creswell, the Labor leader.

GENERAL ELECTION IN CANADA FORESHADOWED.

OTTAWA, Feb. 8.

The imminence of a general election is vividly discussed here as a probable result of the Liberal victory in West Fribourg. Although members of the Government decline to discuss the possibility of such an outcome, there is strong wing among government supporters, which favors an appeal to the people and the adoption of such a course would not create much surprise in well informed circles. If the Government decides to dissolve dissolution would probably come following the passing of supply.

GERMANY ACCEPTS.

BERLIN, Feb. 8.

The German Government has accepted the invitation to participate in the Allied Conference on Reparations in London on March 1st, it was announced today. The Government, in sending its acceptance, sets forth its position that the negotiations will involve a discussion of German counter-proposals.

FOUR BURNED TO DEATH.

LACHUTE, Que., Feb. 8.

Four men were lost on Monday night as the result of a fire which destroyed the residence of Mr. Leo Carriere at the Hill, twelve miles northwest of Chate. The dead are: E. lian, 40, 67, Gaston six, Gaston 5, the child of Mr. and Mrs. Carriere, and Rose LaPorte, a maid employed by the family.

COLLIERY CLOSED DOWN.

SYDNEY, N.S., Feb. 8.

The collieries at Inverness have practically ceased operations for an indefinite period and five hundred of seven hundred and fifty men employed have been laid off.

A SYDNEY STRIKE.

SYDNEY, N.S., Feb. 8.

Seventy-five men of the two Indian Cove collieries were on strike today, because of the refusal of their employers to sign up the Montreal agreement.

ACCIDENT AT DOMINION NO. 12 COLLIERY.

SYDNEY, N.S., Feb. 8.

Fifteen miners were injured, four seriously, in Dominion No. 12 Colliery this afternoon, when the cable on the riding rake in the north side of the mine snapped. The day shift had just left the rake when the night shift, comprising about twenty men, took their places. The rake had just started away when the cable broke, causing the rake to proceed down what is known as Moriam's Deep at a fast rate. Some of the men, realizing what had happened, jumped and thus were saved from serious injuries. Five of the injured were rushed to different hospitals immediately they were brought to the surface. Others, who had sustained minor injuries, were taken to their homes. Among the injured are Fred E. Vachresse, Fred Stevens, Wm. Waterfield and Dan McDonald, who are at present in the hospital. Their injuries, while serious, will not prove fatal. A foreigner was later removed to St. Joseph's Hospital, suffering with cuts about the head.

A MERITED SENTENCE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.

Robert P. Brindell, President of the Building Trades' Council, convicted of extortion from builders, was sentenced today by Supreme Court Justice MacAvoy, to serve from five to ten years in the state prison.

WHAT PHILIP SAYS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.

Great Britain will not undertake a race with the United States for sea power, Sir Philip Gibbs, British war correspondent, declared today before the House Naval Committee. Great Britain hasn't the money, he said, and most Britons do not regard the United States navy as a menace.

TANK STEAMER MISSING.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.

The tank steamer Hewitt, with a crew of forty-two and a cargo of sulphur from Sabine, Texas, for Boston, is now nine days overdue and enquiries by wireless have failed to locate her.

A MOMENTOUS ISSUE.

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 8.

Voting to select members of the new House of Assembly took place today throughout the Union of South Africa. With the casting of the ballots a period will be put to one of the most important general elections that has ever taken place in the British Empire, because South Africa's Premier, General Smuts, has fought his campaign directly on the issue of the continuance of British connection, which has been denounced by his chief opponent, General Hertzog, leader of the Nationalist Party.

BAVARIA RESENTFUL.

MUNICH, Bavaria, Feb. 8.

Premiers of various German States have agreed to urge the Berlin Government to refuse compliance with the Allied demands as formulated by the Supreme Council in Paris two weeks ago.

GREEKS ORGANIZING.

ROME, Feb. 8.

Seventy thousand Greek troops are being organized for a great offensive in Asia Minor, it is said in reports received here from Smyrna. Turkish Nationalists claim they will be able to offer a stubborn resistance.

AN ELECTION THUNDERBOLT.

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 8.

A strike of five thousand miners in the Rand District on the eve of the election, came as a thunderbolt. The belief is expressed that the strike was a political move, designed to consolidate the ranks of the Labor Party. There have been predictions that Labor would capture twenty seats.

COAL STRIKES IN JAPAN.

HAKODATE, Japan, Feb. 8.

Ten thousand coal miners employed by the Hakaido Colliery and Steamship Company have struck, refusing to accept a twenty per cent. cut in wages.

RYDER IS BACK ON
JOB EVERY DAY NOW.

Says Tanlac Fixed Him Up So
Fine He Is Always Recommending It to Others.

"For two years I was in such a weak, run-down condition that I couldn't do a lick of work, but Tanlac has fixed me up to where I'm on the job every day feeling fine," said Charles Ryder, of 724 Robie Street, Halifax.

"My appetite was so poor I had to force myself to eat, and at times I would go all day without eating a single bite of solid food, but would just drink a cup of tea. The little I ate gave me indigestion, and frequently I became so nauseated I couldn't retain a thing on my stomach. I was so nervous and restless I never slept well, and would get up in the morning feeling like a 'trotter' Haines. All I could do was to lie around the house, a burden to myself, and

words can't express the misery I was in.

"A friend of mine had gotten such splendid results from Tanlac that he insisted on my trying it, and the medicine proved to be the very thing I needed. Why, it has given me a fine appetite and freed me of all my troubles, and I'm feeling like my old self again. It doesn't bother me a bit to put in a good hard day's work, and I think so much of Tanlac I'm always recommending it to my friends."

Tanlac is sold in St. John's by M. Connors, in Paradise by Mrs. Martin F. Byrne, in Upper Cilles by Heber Andrews, in Portland by H. C. Haines, in St. John's by Salmoner, by Mrs. J. Gushue, in Melberton by Exploits Valley Royal Stores, Ltd., in Flat Islands by William Samson, in Jamestown by "trotter" Haines, and in Lewisporte by Uriah Freake. —adv.

The Irish Question.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—We have previously had occasion to point out the virtual unanimity of unofficial English opinion against the Government's policy of terrorism in Ireland, and in so doing we have frequently referred to the stand of the great political parties on that issue. To-day we have a new and significant proof of our contention in the editorial utterance of the London Daily News which we subjoin. The News, it may be well to point out, is an official organ of the great and historic Liberal Party, and is, with the possible exception of the Manchester Guardian, incomparably the most eminent Liberal newspaper in Great Britain. What gives this editorial a peculiar importance is that it is the official comment of one of the two great English progressive parties on the concrete proposals of the other with regard to Ireland. As will be seen, it indicates a very close harmony between Labour and Liberalism on this issue at least, and it is a very hopeful omen for the future.

The text is as follows:

"The national conference of the Labour Party, which met at a wise and practical speech from Mr. Arthur Henderson yesterday, proceeded to pass a series of resolutions in regard to the situation in Ireland. What the delegates demanded was that all armed forces of the Crown should be withdrawn from Ireland, that responsibility for the maintenance of order should be entrusted to the local authorities, that a Constituent Assembly should be elected by proportional representation to formulate whatever constitution the Irish people might desire, and that an inquiry should be immediately held into the question of reprisals. That is not the only possible programme for the occasion—there is, for instance, no obvious necessity for the calling of a Constituent Assembly when there is available a representative chamber consisting of the 103 members of Parliament elected in due form by ballot in December, 1918—but it is a thoroughly practical and a thoroughly moderate program, and as such it is entitled to at least as full consideration as any scheme so far submitted."

"The case for each of the Labour proposals is written on its face. The withdrawal of the troops would mean the immediate reduction if not the elimination, of both the Sinn Fein outrages on the one side and the reprisals on the other. If it is claimed that it would leave the populace, or sections of it, in grave insecurity, the reply is that Irishmen, whether

Sinn Feiners or not, have shown themselves far better able to keep order among their countrymen than English importees ever have been. There would moreover be no difficulty about allowing any county which wanted to keep English troops to do so. As to the inquiry into the alleged reprisals, the arguments in favor of that are unanswerable. That what is known as reprisals have taken place on a large scale all over Ireland no reader of responsible newspapers, of whatever political colour, can doubt. Again and again the glib denials of Government spokesmen in the House of Commons have had to be retracted as the truth was forced into light outside the House. But if the fact of reprisals has been incontrovertibly established, neither the scale nor the responsibility for the reprisals has been refused a judicial inquiry into the outrages the Government advertises in almost so many words its unwillingness to face the facts. For this, as for each of its other proposals, the Labour Party can register the strongest possible claim on popular support."

It is a practical certainty that the Liberal and Labour Parties between them will command a substantial majority in the next Parliament. The "Coalition Liberals" by every present indication will, like their precursors the Liberal Unionists, be inextricably identified with the Tory Party; in fact the process is already far advanced. And it is extremely unlikely that many will be found to adhere to the barren counsels of the party of reaction. Still, it will be nearly three years before another general election is due, and in the meantime blood and iron may accomplish much. We think it improbable, however, that the Green-Irish policy will be so long continued. It has already shown its futility; for if its object—assuming that to be the subjection of Sinn Fein—were attainable at all by these methods it would months ago have been achieved. In time its uselessness will be realized, and it will be long before material and economic damage may be done in the meantime; many lives may be lost; but it is no possible to say with absolute confidence that the spirit of the Irish people will remain unbroken. They have been tried as by fire, and they have stood the test. Meanwhile the Peace With Ireland Council, headed by Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, a Unionist M.P., who left the Government on the issue of "reprisals," is working to hasten the cessation of the terror and is seeking to it that the English people are not deceived as to the crimes that are being committed in their name. And in its smaller way the Self-Determination

for Ireland League proposes to do the same for Newfoundland. It may interest those who consider the aims of the League seditions to scan the Labour proposals set forth above, with their indignation by the Liberal organ. They embody the aims of the League. The gentlemen in question must either reconsider their verdict about the League or indict the two great English parties. We enclose herewith a copy of the Report of General Sir Henry Lawson on Irish conditions, as submitted to the Peace With Ireland Council and published in the "Daily News," with the request that you be good enough to insert it in your valuable paper when sufficient space is available.

Yours very truly,
PRESS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, S. D. L. N.,
per Thomas Kelly, Secretary.
Feb. 7, 1921.

REPRISALS THAT AID SINN FEIN.
British General Say Peace Only by Co-operation With The Republican Movement.

(London "Daily News.")
A striking report on the situation in Ireland has been issued by General Sir Henry Lawson, who has returned after visiting the country as an envoy of the Peace With Ireland Council.

The result of his investigations constitutes an impartial survey of the situation by a distinguished soldier. Sir Henry Lawson is the son of an Irish judge and has twice served in Ireland. He held the Northern Command in 1915-16 and was Inspector-General of Communications in Italy in 1917-18. General Sir Henry Lawson's report takes the form of a letter to Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, President of the Peace With Ireland Council.

After emphasizing that during the four days he was in Ireland he met persons of all grades of political thought, General Lawson divides his report into two sections, one relating to reprisals, and the other dealing with the Sinn Fein position and point of view. On the subject of reprisals he says:

"There is no doubt in my mind as to the general accuracy of the reports of the reprisals which have reached this country through the press, and there can be no question whatever that this form of remedy was extensively and generally carried out, especially by 'Black and Tans' and by Cadets.

"Reprisals appeared to have been originally commenced by the troops at Fermoy, when soldiers wrecked portions of the town in revenge for what had happened to some of their comrades. On that occasion, and on a few subsequent ones of reprisals on the part of the Army, the cause was a feeling of spontaneous ebullition of feeling aroused in young and somewhat undisciplined soldiers. There was nothing of a calculated nature and certainly no question of the regimental officer or of the superior military authorities approving of these actions."

"The strings of discipline were soon tightened with satisfactory results, and I got the same reply in all quarters with respect to the Army. The troops, if not popular, are at any rate very much less unpopular than the 'Black and Tans' and the Cadets. Their manners are very much better, no animosity is displayed towards the inhabitants; they behave, and on the whole have behaved, exceedingly well under trying circumstances, and it was pleasing to hear that even now the natural mutual goodwill between civilians and soldiers serving in Ireland is very far from extinct.

"It was very different, however, with the 'Black and Tans' and Cadets. It probably would have been impossible had I tried to find out to what extent the policy of collective reprisals so widely carried out by the 'Black and Tans' and by the Cadets was suggested and approved from above; that I received something more than tact ap-

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the least money.

"Anchor your pipe to a good smoke"

proval was obvious from many public utterances.

"The plan adopted was, when the Irish Republican Army had committed some offence, generally killing, in a locality, to burn or destroy things which would hit the community generally, in the hope that the fear of such punishment in the future would impel the community to make the 'R. A.' desist, in fact, to terrorise the district into taking the needed steps."

"I understand that this system of collective responsibility and collective punishment has been adopted elsewhere, and has even been recommended; this policy has never, however, received public expression of approval, despite its extensive practice."

"I was not able to discover whether the 'Black and Tans' and Cadets received their instructions from the Castle or from the Irish Office in London."

"The instruments of this policy, as a whole, had no previous touch with Ireland. They were specially enlisted for a specific job, and in the eyes of most of them, they were engaged in a campaign against the Irish people for the suppression of acts of violence against police and soldiers."

"So far as could be judged, they seemed to have treated the whole population on the same lines, and their point of view seemed to be that of military forces operating in an enemy country against guerrilla warfare, very much like the Germans in France in 1917 and in Belgium in 1914."

"It is quite safe to say, though they have terrorised some regions into quiet, they have done more than has happened for centuries to increase the numbers who dislike English rule. In this way—a little dreamt-of way—they have earned the cause of self-government in Ireland."

"Apart from the collective punishment which came to a climax at Cork, the 'Black and Tans' and Cadets have also been engaged in individual reprisals, viz., the shooting and killing of men whom they knew belonged to the I.R.A., and indeed of others. Mistakes had sometimes been made, the innocent were sometimes killed by the guilty and there seemed little doubt that these individual killings amounted to at least the same number as that of the servants of the Crown disposed of by the I.R.A."

Reviewing the Sinn Fein position, General Lawson comments on the theory put forward by Sir Hamar Greenwood that the murders and attacks upon the Crown forces have been in the main work of a few hundred desperadoes of the ruffian class, who terrorised the otherwise peaceful inhabitants of Ireland, and that once these men had been rounded up or killed, Ireland would be released from the reign of terror, and would gladly put into force the measure of Home Rule which had just received the Royal assent.

It was doubtless in this belief, he thought, that the Government directed or winked at the policy of collective reprisals; the more sagacious of them thought that a month or so of this policy would have the desired effect.

"So far as I could get at the facts" Sir Henry continued, "they in no way fit in with this theory. The Sinn Fein organization and the Irish Republican Army seem to be particularly free from ruffians of the professional type, and the killing of police and others

was almost certainly done by members of the I.R.A. acting under military orders—

young men imbued with no personal feelings against the victims, with no crimes to their records, and probably then shedding blood for the first time in their lives."

"The captains of the Volunteers appear to be always quite young men, farmers' sons for the most part, some of them schoolmasters; as a class most of them with a good deal of education; ignorant of the world, perhaps, but transparently sincere and single-minded idealists, often highly religious and with an almost mystical sense of their duty to their country."

"These men gave to the task of organizing the Volunteers their best mind and spirit. They fought against drunkenness and self-indulgence, and it was no exaggeration to say that as a class they represented all that was best in the countryside."

General Lawson traces the later growth of the Sinn Fein movement, how Government activity in combating the menace to their authority intensified the effort to spread Sinn Fein. Action and recourse to force developed on both sides, and men threatening the existence of the I.R.A. were marked out for killing.

"The victims," says the General, "were doubtless selected and sentenced passed on them, and the so-called execution devolved upon men of the I.R.A. and were carried out by order. Reprisals came along with counter-killing by 'Black and Tans' and Cadets."

Rare Ben's Epitaph.

Not only is Ben Jonson's epitaph in the Abbey, "O rare Ben Jonson," one of the simplest ever composed, but it is said to have cost no more than eightpence. The stone over his resting-place was originally quite bare, and an admirer of the dramatist, as a personal tribute, paid a mason 1s. 6d. to cut the four words on the stone.

and Cadets, and warfare of the

ture extended on both sides. No one, least of all himself, General Lawson, wished to see such acts as the Dublin murders. If justice was to be their guide, it was essential to realise that their counter-part on the side of the Crown, and that such a state of affairs had arisen that it was necessary to ask which were the reprisals and which were the reprisals."

"It is important," General Lawson concludes, "to bring out that the Sinn Fein movement was not a business in something more than the work of a couple of hundred impulsive ruffians—that there was a spirit of a nation behind the movement, not indeed in favor of the I.R.A., but on the whole sympathetic with the I.R.A. and believing that those who belong to the I.R.A. are fighting for the cause of the Irish people."

"Lastly, it is well to remember that the Sinn Fein movement was not a business, since its inception has been much for, and left its mark upon Irish people. It has helped to develop the spirit of nationalism, and must be evident to the Irish people that it has developed and seizes great powers of organization. No settlement for peace in Ireland can be really satisfactory which does not secure the co-operation of the Sinn Fein movement."

(The above article is condensed from the Press and Publicity Committee S.D.L.N.)

The author of this simple epitaph

probably Sir William Davenant, who succeeded Jonson as poet laureate, and was also buried in Poet's Corner, with a similar inscription on his tombstone, "O rare Sir William Davenant."

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