

MUST INTERVENE OR QUIT PERSIA

ALTERNATIVES RECENTLY POINTED OUT BY WRITER FOR BRITISH GOVERNMENT

Karachi, India, Oct. 1.—The conclusion of the second article in the Pioneer, entitled "Persia, Past and Present," dwells especially on the constitution and difficulties which beset the Swedish gendarmerie and their chances of restoring order throughout the country. The author is an Englishman who has just completed a journey of some 1500 miles through Persia, and who conceals his identity under the nom de plume of "The Sabil." The articles indicate that he has grasped the intricacies of the Persian situation with remarkable accuracy and clearness, and that he has formed his judgment, not on effects, but on broad principles.

The British government is face to face with a very difficult dilemma in southern Persia—armed intervention or the abandonment of the country altogether. Either course would be equally dangerous. The former would be the signal for the immediate seizure and occupation of northern Persia by Russia, and the consequent permanent occupation of southern Persia by Britain, whilst the latter would allow Russia a safe and easy passage to the gulf, and the eventual absorption by that country of the whole of Persia, northern and southern.

The only conceivable circumstances under which either of these choices of evil could be avoided would be a decided improvement in the internal condition of southern Persia. But what are the means available by which such improvements can be effected? The Persian government can render no assistance, for they are helpless themselves. In a country like Persia the government needs an army to enforce its orders, but the Persian army is practically non-existent and the government is a government only in name.

The Swedish gendarmerie, therefore, is Persia's last hope, and "The Sabil" makes an exhaustive examination of its chances of success. During his travels he had the pleasure of meeting some of the Swedish officers, and gained a very high opinion of them as being energetic, hard working and capable to the last degree in their professional capacity, besides being very pleasant and agreeable companions from the purely social point of view. He places this opinion on record to show that his strictures on the corps do not in any way reflect on its officers, but apply solely to difficulties and circumstances over which they have no control.

The greatest most important difficulty is the lack of power on the part of the Persian government to render them proper support. The Swedish gendarmerie has been compared to the militia and irregular troops which police the northwest frontier of India, but although the work is of the same sort, the two cases are widely different. The tribesmen on the northwest frontier know that behind the militia is the Indian government with its regular army, which has operated against them time after time, and is ready to do so again the moment it becomes necessary. The tribesmen of southern Persia on the other hand, know that behind the gendarmerie is a government which is a mere figure-head, and need not be taken into consideration at all; a government, moreover, which has no stability of purpose, and is constantly changing its personnel.

Another difficulty confronting the gendarmerie is the matter of recruiting. Here again a comparison with the Indian northwest frontier militia serves to show the essential difference between the two. The militia can enlist the pick of the tribesmen, because the tribesmen are proud to serve a government, which has proved itself their superior. The gendarmerie, on the contrary, can enlist only the peasant class, inferior at every point to the foe with whom they are expected to deal. The superior mountain tribesman has no intention of enlisting in the service of a government which he despises and distrusts.

Ignorance of the Persian language, manners and customs and of the Muhammadan east generally, on the part of the Swedish officers, is a further stumbling block on the road to success. This is a point which most writers on the gendarmerie make much of, whilst completely ignoring the other two and much more important factors already referred to. With seven years' experience of the east behind him, the writer says he would be the last to depreciate such knowledge; but in the case under consideration it must be recognized that in comparison with the indispensable condition of adequate support by a strong and stable government, the knowledge of eastern tongues, manners and customs is in the nature of luxury, and not an absolute necessity. Time will remove the comparatively minor disadvantage of lack of this knowledge on the part of the Swedish officers, but it cannot remove the outstanding disadvantage of the weakness and incompetence of the Persian government, a disadvantage which is a bar to all progress.

The writer points out that the gendarmerie has been in existence for about two years, but the state of the country, especially the south where their efforts have been particularly directed, and where British trade and politics predominate, is worse today than ever before.



LORD NORTHCLIFFE

The famous Irish politician, who is at present in Canada, and who spoke at the Canadian Club in Toronto on Monday.

This result is due, not to the Swedish officers, but to insuperable difficulties arising out of the lack of a strong and stable government at Teheran. Russia is firmly opposed to any improvement in this direction, as was evidenced by their expulsion of Morgan Shuster, whose strong and energetic rule was beginning to make itself felt throughout Persia. Hence Persia's last hope, the gendarmerie, is foredoomed to failure.

In the opinion of some, notably Lord Curzon, a gendarmerie officered by British officers of the Indian army, is more likely to achieve success than the present corps. It might conceivably do better, by reason of the greater knowledge of orientals which British officers possess, but it could never succeed in restoring order in Southern Persia, so long as the Persian government remains what it is. There is one other difficulty which British officers would have to face, and which would most likely neutralize the advantage gained by their superior knowledge of orientals.

The people of Persia recognize that the Swedish officers have no political ends to serve, and no resentment is shown toward them. But let the British take over the gendarmerie, and this indifference would immediately disappear, and in its place would be set up an attitude of active hostility, not against individuals, but against the imagined aims of British policy, and British officers would have to encounter numerous obstructions, both official and non-official, which are not put in the path of the Swedes.

The writer sums up his long series of facts and arguments in the following terse statements:

(a) The present state of Persia, particularly in the neutral sphere where British interests predominate, is that of anarchy.

(b) In order to prevent any other nation acquiring interests in the neutral sphere (above all, in order to prevent Russia reaching the Persian gulf), the British government is compelled to acquire concessions there for itself.

(c) In order that these concessions may be worked the country must be put more or less into a state of law and order, but such a state cannot be hoped for either from the efforts of the Persian government or of the Swedish gendarmerie, or of a gendarmerie officered by British officers.

(d) The only course left to the British government is that of armed intervention on a large scale sooner or later, though naturally such a step will be postponed as long as possible. Directly such intervention takes place Russia will seize the excuse to make a forward movement from the north.

(e) The final result of these two movements, one from the south and the other from the north, will be the partition of Persia between England and Russia. Such a partition will take place probably within the next five years.

PRINCE PLEASED GERMANY

Berlin, Germany, Oct. 1.—The Prince of Wales, after spending several weeks in Berlin as the guest of the Kaiser, passed a couple of days at the Berlin Schloss as the Kaiser's guest, when he resumed his rightful title.

The Emperor showed his young kinsman every possible attention and kindness. He motored with him to Potsdam, where he acted as guide through the beautiful park of Sanssouci, and went with him through the rooms of the New Palace of the Schloss, drawing his attention to the most interesting points.

His majesty and the prince attended a performance at the opera house together, and it was a regret to the Kaiser that the prince could not remain for the review, being due at Sigmaringen for the wedding festivities. The prince, accompanied by Major Cadogan and Professor Fielder, attended service at the English church on Sunday morning, sitting with Sir Edward Goschen in the embassy pew.

SUSPECT UNIONS

Genoa, Italy, Sept. 30.—At the invitation of the Italian trade union authorities, a member of the general committee of the German trade unions visited the great trade unions centres of North Italy recently. The purpose of the visit was the study of the unions' organization as well as the holding of propaganda meetings.

CABINET UNITED ON LAND COURTS

PROPOSAL IS ALSO TO ESTABLISH SYSTEM FOR ADJUSTING LABORERS' WAGES

London, Oct. 1.—A letter which Mr. Lloyd George has caused to be sent to a correspondent announces that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will inaugurate his land campaign at a meeting to be held at Bedford on October 11. The Central News Agency circulates what it claims to be a forecast of the findings of the land committee whose report is now in the hands of the printer.

The committee's report will be issued, the Central News Agency says, immediately after the Bedford speech, and will deal only with the rural side of the problem. An urban report will be issued some months later. The investigation of the urban side of the question has revealed unlooked-for difficulties, which will require the fullest consideration.

Until the report of the committee has been fully discussed and formulated it is impossible to say that the government policy is formulated, but the cabinet are unanimous upon one point, the Central News declares, namely, the establishment of an extensive system of small holdings on the tenancy system, safeguarded by land courts. The land court advocates in the cabinet have had considerable difficulty in converting some of their colleagues, but, with the exception of Mr. Harcourt, all of them are now reconciled, and Earl Beauchamp, an extensive land proprietor in Worcestershire, who was until recently strongly opposed to the land court system, will preside at the chancellor's Bedford meeting.

Another recommendation of the land committee will be a system of wages boards to adjust the wages of agricultural laborers according to local conditions, and the committee further considers that the hours of labor ought to be re-adjusted and more frequent holidays given in order to ameliorate the conditions of rural life. The committee had some difficulty in arriving at a conclusion on the problem of rural housing, and after setting out the facts is rather inclined to leave the matter an open question. In this respect it may be noted that the government's policy on the question of rural housing is not yet formulated, and the Central News is able to state, on the authority of a cabinet minister, that Mr. Runciman's recent pronouncement was not final, but that it was made with a view to drawing out detailed criticism of a general principle.

The section of the committee which undertook the investigation of the rural land question had an amazing mass of evidence placed before it, evidence collected from every country, and almost from every parish in England. Much of it was of an unreliable character, and the greatest care was taken to insure the authenticity of the facts on which the report was to be based. It quickly became apparent that individual instances of oppression by landlords were extremely rare.

The committee's report refrains from indicting the landlords as individuals, and attacks the existing system of rural tenure on the ground that rural land, returning as it does a bare 2 per cent on capital, cannot be developed to its utmost capacity by the unaided efforts of its present owners.

The work of rural regeneration, in other words, is beyond the financial capacity of the present landlords. The committee, therefore, after examining the various systems of land tenure in operation in Scotland, Ireland and elsewhere, unhesitatingly came to the conclusion that the progressive development of English agriculture is intimately bound up with the adoption of a widespread system of small holdings cultivated by tenant occupiers holding their land at an equitable rent with security of land tenures on lines laid down by the Scottish Land Act of 1911.

The main advantages which the report anticipates in the establishment of fair rents and fixity of tenure are the inducements which these conditions will offer the small tenant to expend the maximum of capital and energy upon his holding. The evidence secured by the committee affords, in general, an almost unanimous record of land badly held, and returning a minimum of output, because the tenant is never certain when his interest in the holding will be terminated.

The committee regard it as essential that the tenancy system should be safeguarded by the establishment of land courts, although oppression of tenants by individual landlords was found to be comparatively rare. Instances were, however, sufficiently numerous to warrant the establishment of a body with judicial powers to prevent arbitrary renting and arbitrary eviction. The committee rejected the scheme of land purchase, financed by state aid, principally because they consider that a peasant proprietary must become burdened by debt and sink into the hands of the moneylender.

PLEAD SUFFRAGE CAUSE

Edinburgh, Scotland, Oct. 1.—A largely attended meeting of the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage was recently held in the East Meadows, Edinburgh. Mr. Shaw presided, and addresses were delivered in support of women's suffrage by Councillor Crawford, Andrew Young and Mr. Gordon.

Sale of NEW YORK
SUITS on Thursday.
Special Price \$31.90

Nation & Shewan, Ltd.

IMT. FUR SETS.—On
sale on Thursday at
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ON THURSDAY

Special Sale of Women's New York Suits

Fifty of them to Choose From and No Two Styles Exactly Alike.

Newness is written all over them—in trimming, clever arrangements of buttons, length of coats, and in various little tailoring touches, which add to their smartness. Such highly favored weaves as Boucle, Diagonal Cheviots, Bedford Cords, Handsome Wool Brocades, Cut Velour and Serges are shown in beautiful two-tone effects and plain Navy, Black, Greys, Taupe and Brown.

Coats are in cutaway style with one, two and three-button fastenings. Some have vests of Oriental Velvet, collars and cuffs of Velvet Chintz, Mole-skin and Novelty Braids, while others are on plainer lines, tailored with collar and cuffs of self; linings of Skinner Satin and Messaline Silk.

The New Side Drape, Slashed Sides and Gathered Back are seen in the Skirts

This Sale, which is one of the most exceptional offerings of the season, will have a special appeal to women who love exclusiveness of style, for in this gathering of fifty model suits, there are no two alike. Regular values up to \$50.00. On Sale Saturday for..... \$31.90

Imitation Furs that have the Warmth and Appearance of the Real Skins

A rare capture of some fifty of these very handsome sets was made by our buyer when visiting the manufacturing centres of the east, with the result that we can offer you values that are impossible to duplicate. The fashionable furs, which are beyond the pocket of most women, are seen in imitations that are nothing short of marvellous—even those who have an expert knowledge of furs and their worth have to give them a close inspection before they are aware that they are not the genuine skins. Some of Thursday's Sale Bargains are here mentioned.

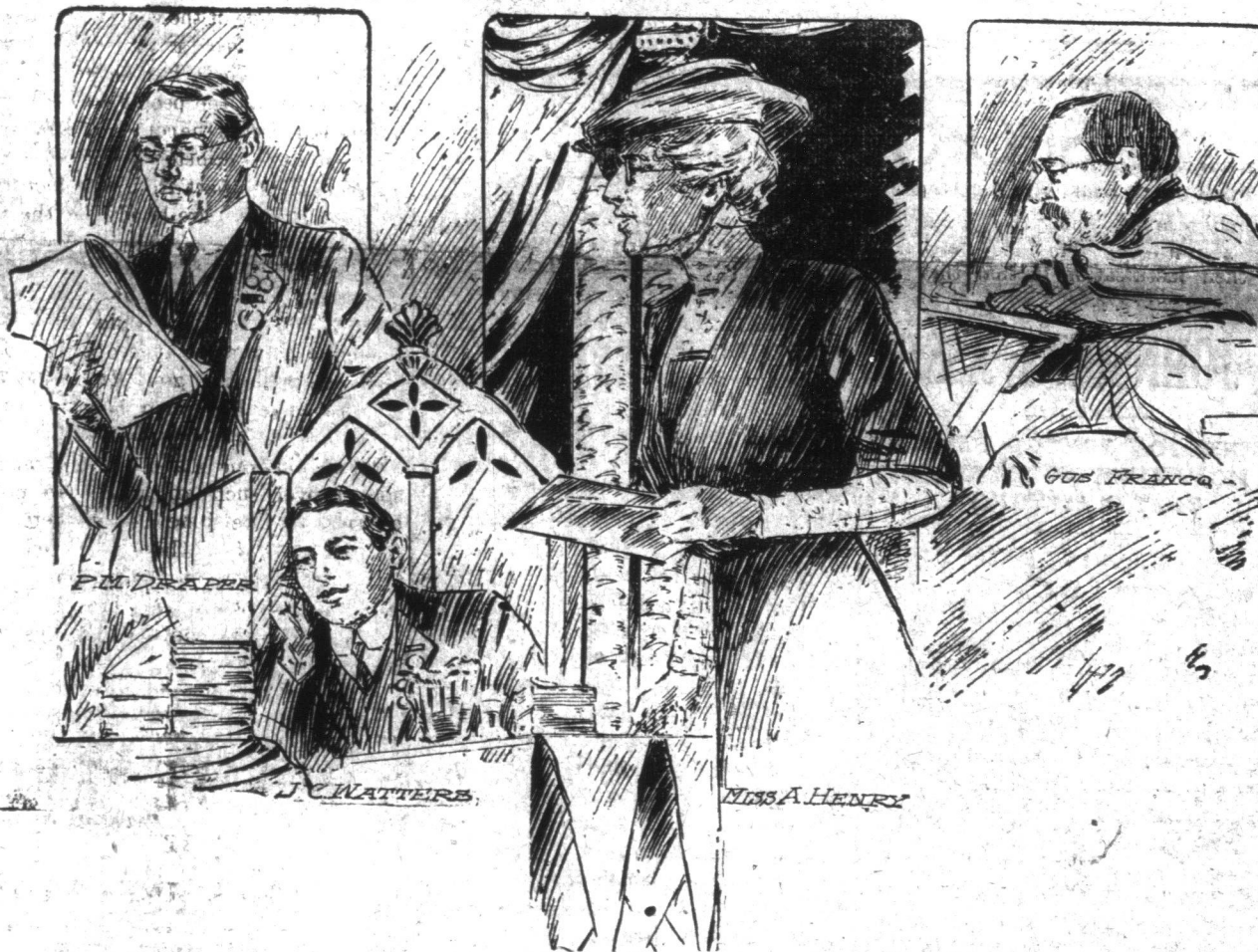
Handsome Set of Imt. Seal Set of Soft Lustrous Sealette Set of Imt. Persian Lamb
With border of Grey Mole-skin. 72-inch Throw and 72-inch Throw, and large Pillow Muff. Lined Bright, close curl. 70-inch Throw and large Muff.
large Pillow Muff. Lined with grey Silk Serge. Special, per set. \$5.90 with Black Silk Serge. Special, per set. \$4.90 Lined with Mercerized Silk Taff. Special, per set. \$3.90

Beautiful Set of Imt. Moleskin

In soft shade of Grey, with silk Serge lining to match. 60-inch Throw and novelty shapes Muff, embroidered and trimmed with silk fringes. Special, per set. \$5.90

Set of Imt. Ermine

Especially becoming to the girl of 12 to 16 years. 60-inch throw and novelty pointed muff, trimmed with deep silk fringe and ermine tails. Special, per set. \$2.48



THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL IN MONTREAL

Outstanding figures in the Congress are shown above. P. M. Draper and J. C. Watters will probably be re-elected to their present positions of secretary and president. Gus Franco is a contestant for the position of fraternal delegate to the American Federation of Labor. Miss A. Henry is the only woman delegate and represents the woman's labor publication of Chicago, "The Woman's Work."

THE STRUGGLE

ing the capitalist for water, that she may bathe Mooney's head, calls upon the telephone "Bat" Thomas, her sweetheart, whom she knows is addressing a meeting of the strikers at a hall, and tells him that Masterston has her imprisoned in the office. After hearing Maggie's story, Bat leads his men to the office, the door of which is barricaded by Maggie, and Masterston, Maggie helping in the barricade work for Masterston, having heard her pitiful story, assures reparation. Bat effects an entrance into the office by climbing to the roof and going through a window. In his struggle with Masterston the stove is upset, and soon the room is ablaze. The fire spreads rapidly and soon the whole factory is a seething mass of flame. By a unique method all escape from the building just before the walls fall in. Later with the owner at the helm, the Masterston Iron Works again becomes a model factory. Bat, with Maggie as his wife, is the new superintendent, and little Jimmie is restored to health by the specialist.

Three other good pictures and a song by Mr. Hall round out a splendid program at the Empire tonight and Thursday.

SENSATIONAL AEROPLANE PICTURE

Speaking of the great three-reel production Louis Reeves Harrison—America's Bent upon revenge, Maggie after send-

great moving picture critic says in part: The Italia company has reached the extreme of thrillers in contriving to have an explosion take place on an aeroplane while it is high above the earth and supposed to be carrying the hero of an interesting story, then in picturing a "plane" flight to the ground of the burning machine with a close view in small scope of the flaming air cruiser as it comes down upon a scattering group of workmen in a field. The last part of the descent, when the great artificial bird swoops down head first within a few yards of the camera man gives one of the sensation of peering over the edge of Pisa's leaning tower. I did that once and became dizzy whenever I think of it. A nifty camera man took the pictures of the aeroplane's final dash to earth.

The winged engine comes sailing swiftly to earth, a terrifying spectacle, until we are given a scorchingly close view as it reaches earth and is consumed by flames. The aviator's body is extricated in time to save his life, but he is terribly burned and possibly disfigured for the remainder of his days. This picture will be shown by the Bijou today only.

THE IRISH ATTORNEY

Again last night Manager Syd Wright had the gratification of seeing a crowded house at the Sherman theatre to witness

the Tom Marks Company in "The Irish Attorney." This was a totally different offering to that of the previous night and had far more pathos than humor in it, although the latter was far from lacking. W. L. Phillips as Jack Padden, Jr., and R. E. Lawrence as Adrian Karle were very fine throughout, particularly in the latter part of the last act, but the audience seemed rather disappointed that it was not until the third act that the imitable Tom Marks made his appearance with his usual breezy Irish mannerisms. Chris Allen represented the dope fiend in lifelike manner, but Dan Fendall as Harold Hunting was not at his best, as he repeatedly lapsed from the foreigner's part which he was representing.

Miss Arlie Marks and Miss Ethel van Orden were good in their respective parts, although the latter might have used a little more dramatic force at times. Between the acts W. L. Phillips caused roars of laughter with a couple of comic songs, and Miss Arlie Marks between acts two and three rendered two charming songs with particular sweetness.

FOR THE FLAG

"For the Flag" is the feature at Starland today. The story is as follows: Lieutenant Jack Bronson is partaking of a private dinner he is giving to his companions and classmates, when Captain Williams enters and addresses himself to the young lieutenant. It is quite evident from the way the captain is received and dismissed that the best of feeling does not exist between the two men. In the west, where the troop of cavalry has been ordered, of which both men are officers, Captain Williams finds time to direct his anger at the lieutenant, to the detriment of that young man. On one occasion when the wife of Colonel Graham succumbs to the charms of the lieutenant, much against the latter's will, the captain in telling the colonel of his wife's actions, makes it appear that the lieutenant encouraged her.

Going to ascertain the truth of the captain's assertion, the colonel catches his wife in a very compromising attitude with the lieutenant, but for which the wife was responsible. The consequent effort of this incident is court martial for the lieutenant and he is dishonorably discharged. Some time later Jack, who has gone to America, and enlisted as a private in the Philippines, comes face to face with Captain Williams, who has been ordered there with his company. The captain recognizes Jack, but he denies his identity. A ball is given at the governor's home, where Jack has been assigned as an orderly to Captain Williams. The captain insults a Spanish girl. Jack knocks him down and escapes. He and another soldier put out to sea. Several days later they are washed ashore in an encased condition. Jack proves his metal when in a skiff with two men he brings the captain and his company to victory.