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## Definite Explanation of The Turkish Settlement.

### Sinn Fein M. P. Arrested--Attempt to Smuggle Arms Into Ireland--Strike Called off -- Coal Strike Feared.

#### THE TURKISH PROBLEM.

LONDON, March 25. Replying to a criticism of the Government's foreign policy by Herbert Asquith, Lloyd George this afternoon gave a definite explanation of the Turkish settlement. The Premier said it would have been a blunder to have settled the Turkish problem without giving the United States the most ample opportunity to decide whether it would accept a mandate, because it would have given rise to suspicions that Great Britain and France were taking advantage of the political dissatisfaction in the United States to divide the whole of Turkey among themselves. "It was only when the United States definitely refused the mandate that we proceeded without her," Mr. Lloyd George declared. The Premier said the proposal to oust the Sultan had been rejected as inadequate because it left the question of the Government of Constantinople undecided and the Allies were anxious to avoid the expense and responsibility of the Administration of Constantinople. With regard to Armenia, the Premier continued, France would have been willing to hand Silesia to the United States if they had accepted a mandate.

In the Commons to-day the Premier also said there was absolutely no truth in the reports that the Government had made arrangements to blockade the mining districts or mobilize the Militia. He expressed the hope that the House "will not accept these wild and mischievous statements," as there is not a word of truth in them.

#### A COAL STRIKE FEARED.

LONDON, March 25. The newspapers to-day take the gravest outlook concerning the coal situation. They declare that if the last word has been said a strike within three weeks with the resultant stoppage of the entire industry of the country is inevitable. The situation, however, does not seem to be entirely clear, and some newspapers call on the Government for fuller information. The newspapers opposed to the Government charge that the whole situation is handled wrong and charge them with failure to keep faith with the miners. The South Wales men who are said to be receiving highest wages are accused in some quarters of "spoiling for a fight," and to be placing their own hand against the other miners and forcing the pace. Resentment against the Government's refusal to nationalize the mines also is exerting considerable influence in the controversy.

#### DENIES LABOR ORGAN'S STATEMENT.

LONDON, March 25. The War Office to-day denied that any plan of action had been decided on or even considered to starve the miners into submission in the event of a strike by the use of the army as a blockading force, as reported by the Daily Herald, the Labor organ, this morning. A statement is being prepared by the War Office, which probably will be issued to-night.

#### RAILWAY STRIKE AVERTED.

LONDON, March 25. The possibility of a general railway

strike originating in the difficulties on the Lancaster-Yorkshire railway has been dispelled. It was announced this evening that the strike of 2,000 men on that line had been called off, the dispute having been settled.

#### LOOKS HOPEFUL.

GOtha, Germany, March 25. The miners of Westphalia are resuming work. It is reported they are moving 15,000 cars of coal daily. The strike, however, is continuing in other districts in western Germany. The Red Guards have capitulated, and Reichswehr troops have occupied the public squares. One hundred and seventy-three victims of the recent fighting were buried in Gotha yesterday.

#### NOTHING KNOWN REGARDING MURDER.

LONDON, March 24. Ian Macpherson, Secretary for Ireland, said in answer to a question in the House of Commons to-day that so far he had been unable to obtain any information with regard to the identity of the murderers of Mayor MacCurran or whether the murderers are believed to have belonged to any political organization. No arrests had been made in connection with the murder.

#### ANOTHER ATTACK ON POLICE.

CORK, March 24. The police barracks at Gortat Lea, seven miles southeast of Tralee, in County Kerry, province of Munster, were blown up and destroyed by fire to-day. Three policemen were seriously injured, but there were no civilian casualties. No arrests have been made in connection with the explosion.

#### SINN FEIN M. P. ARRESTED.

DUBLIN, March 25. William Cosgrove, Sinn Fein member of Parliament for the northern division of Kilkenny, was arrested this morning at his home in Dublin.

#### WEISEL CAPTURED BY REDS.

BERLIN, March 25. It is reported that Weisel, 32 miles northwest of Dusseldorf, where Government forces have been besieged by revolutionary workmen, has been captured by the workers.

#### SMUGGLING ARMS INTO IRELAND.

LONDON, March 25. A plot to smuggle arms into Ireland was unearthed yesterday, says the Evening Standard. A foreign vessel, whose cargo contained beer barrels, in which were found rifles and machine guns of German make, and also ammunition, was detained at a northern port yesterday afternoon, the newspaper asserts.

#### SINN FEIN PRISONERS TAKEN TO BELFAST.

BELFAST, March 25. Sixty-five Sinn Fein prisoners, who sailed from Queenstown yesterday aboard a British sloop which was accompanied by two destroyers, arrived here this morning. The Sinn Feiners were removed from the sloop under a strong guard and taken to a city jail, which had been cleared of ordinary prisoners. The jail has been fitted with barbed wire protection, and the prisoners will be guarded by troops.

#### CANADA'S NAVAL PROGRAMME.

OTTAWA, March 25. The Canadian Naval Service will be carried on along a pre-war basis, so announced Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, Minister of Naval Service, in the House this afternoon in his statement on the future of the Canadian Navy. Action, he announced further, would be deferred on the adoption of a permanent policy pending discussion by the Overseas Dominions and Great Britain at the forthcoming Imperial Conference. The offer from Great Britain of one light cruiser and two torpedo boat destroyers to take the place of the Niobe and Rainbow, has been accepted. The demobilization of officers and naval ratings has been ordered in order to thoroughly reorganize the present service and place it on an economical basis.

#### GERMANY'S NEW GOVERNMENT.

BERLIN, March 25. The new German Cabinet, reconstructed as the result of yesterday's negotiations, will be headed by Gustav Bauer, the Premier, according to the Morning Post to-day. The Ministers not in the old cabinet are Herr Gesselner, who is Mayor of Nuremberg, Captain Cuno, who is a director of the old Hamburg American Steamship Company, Herr Boltz, and Herr Silberschmidt, who is leader of the Builders' Trade Union.

#### Fashions and Fads.

Spring furs are a very important item. The bustle is seen on a few spring models. Period frocks and high collars are returning. Side fullness is hinted at in evening gowns. Some hats suggest primitive head-dresses. Sports clothes are brighter colored than ever. The low waist line is the most fashionable. Lace is used for both day and evening wear. Horsehair hats in king's blue are great favorites.

# A Shower of NEW HAT STYLES For Spring

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Soft Hats, Velours, Hard Hats, \$5 to \$12.50.

Now's the time to change into Spring attire. Here's the Hat—and I'm the Man.



## KEARNEY.

#### Chasing a Lie.

Chasing a lie is usually a vain endeavour, especially when the lie is a much desired diversion. This finds an apt illustration in a statement appearing in some of our local papers concerning the illiteracy of the Newfoundland Regiment. We should welcome an authoritative statement upon this subject, and are of opinion that it should be made if at all possible; as until it is, any one is free to offer most unwarranted conjectures and be believed. For instance, in a meeting of the Patriotic Association, when the subject of a memorial for our fallen heroes was under consideration, a former officer of the Regiment remarked that a section of the Regiment that took up a certain task was largely illiterate, he thought 50 or 60 per cent. of them. In view of the fact that some of the later recruits came from the smaller and more remote parts of Newfoundland, this is quite conceivable (although the speaker did not seem at all definite in his knowledge of the facts) and as an expression of opinion it was admissible. But what follows? Some of those present, apparently eager to slander our boys and the country that sent them forth, gave out the statement, strip of all restrictions, that 60 per cent. of the Newfoundland Regiment was illiterate. This at once finds a place in the less scrupulous of the local press and is given to the world as a fact. Now we do not desire to encourage retribution by physical force, but we confess that if some of our veterans had handled the falsifiers roughly, as they probably would have done had they the opportunity, we could have understood their resentment. Only a dirty bird will foul its own nest, and we evidently have lots of dirty birds in Newfoundland.

That a percentage of our soldiers were illiterate we have no doubt, but that, taking the Regiment as a whole, it was anything approaching 60 per cent. we do not admit; and we have had good opportunities for forming an opinion.

The fact is a feeling of painful surprise has been experienced generally at the illiteracy of the soldiers from all the countries. The English soldier was said by his Chaplains and Petty Officers to be the most ignorant man in the world; and the large percentage of illiterates among native born Americans was an eye-opener to that Nation. In common with these great peoples, whose opportunities for education have been much larger than ours, we have illiteracy among us; but let us at least be just to the living and the dead they so magnificently represented at the front, by misrepresenting them to the world.—Methodist Monthly Greeting.

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