

We carry in stock The Leading Brands of FLOUR

Also best granulated

Table Corn Meal

Get Our Prices.

Ayre & Sons, Ltd.,
Store Department.

The Irish Question.

Dear Sir—The following graphic description of the horrors of the English regime in the South and West of Ireland is taken from an interview with Oliver Cross with a gentleman who has been thirty years in the country, and who has just returned from his last visit. He goes there again, and in view of what has happened to others who had been in the country, he is not at all surprised to find that the Black and Tans in print while within their reach, he declined to give his name for publication.

A Veritable Hell.

"The whole south and west of Ireland is a veritable hell. We read in the papers of the death of policemen in ambush. What we do not read of is what everyone in every locality knows—is the daily list of unreported shootings of civilians at dead of night, the burning of houses, and above all the terrible robberies and sacking of valuable property that is taking place with such fiendish regularity. It does not matter whether a district is what they call 'disturbed' or peaceful. The Auxiliaries sweep through villages in large lorries, they smash windows, they burn, arrest or shoot, just as the whim seizes them. Loyalist Nationalist, Nationalist, Sinn Féiner, Catholic, Protestant, Atheist, it does not matter a bottom to them. They are utterly irresponsible. . . . I am sick of the very remembrance of what I have heard what I have seen with my own eyes and what I know has happened."

Even more vivid is the description of his experiences in Ireland given by Sir Crawford, a member of the London County Council. She bears witness to the frequency of night raids, and to the lawless terrorism of the raiders, their lootings, insults, foul language and cruelty; and tells how they seemed to take a special delight in smashing pictures and objects of piety. In Tipperary, where Mrs. Crawford stayed, the law of the Black and Tans reigned. The people, she says, had injured no one, but their town was sacked and there was a campaign of murder, arson, assaults and fogging throughout the district.

A Soldier's Opinion on the Crews Forces.

Brigadier-General C. B. Thomson, who accompanied the Labour Party's Commission to Ireland and made a special study of the character of the forces there, told the Party's Convention on his return that the soldiers in Ireland were for the most part mere children. The army of occupation was masterful and criminal. The Black and Tans were violent in word and deed. In addition to being the worst of the worst outrages, they

were the most provocative element in Ireland. General Sir Henry Lawson, whose communication, and who has also made a special study of the military aspect of Irish conditions, is responsible for the statement that "there was little or no bloodshed in Ireland until the British Government became active in combating what menaced its authority and set its agents to work to find out who the leaders were; when recourse to force developed on both sides." This is rather an understatement of the fact—a fact which we have always stressed and concerning which some of our critics have been sceptical.

The Blame for Violence Fixed.

In an article in the last number of the Review of Reviews General Sir Hubert Gough makes it abundantly clear that the campaign of violence in Ireland which has now reached such terrible heights has begun and waged for years by the Government before any retaliatory measures were resorted to by Sinn Féin. He thus definitely assigns to the Government the major share of the blame for the horrors of to-day. General Gough, it will be remembered, was the head and front of the "Curragh Mutiny" and neither his birth nor his environment would predispose him to sympathy with Irish Nationalism. He says: "Let us look into the history of the last four years only. In 1917 340 Irishmen and women were arrested for purely political offences. 24 leaders were deported, 2 civilians were killed by police or military, and no one was punished. Meetings and newspapers were suppressed. In 1918 1166 Irish men and women were imprisoned for purely political offences. 77 leaders were deported, 5 civilians were killed by police and military and no one was punished. 260 houses were raided. Special meetings and newspapers were further suppressed. In 1919 in January the first policeman was shot. One may ask what would have been the effect on Englishmen exposed to such treatment? Let us consider the Englishman, filled with a patriotic pride, seeking more powers to govern himself, and called upon to endure such repression? Let us ask of History what results have followed similar cause in the case of other peoples? In judging this problem, do English people realize that many Irishmen were dragged from their beds and shot before their mothers or wives prior to the murder of the officers in Dublin?"

Two more weighty and influential voices have been added to the list of English men and women who have devoted themselves to the peaceful settlement of the Irish quarrel as the most important duty before their country. They are Rt. Hon. Sir John

Simon, a former Attorney-General and a leader of the English bar, who has represented this country before the Privy Council, and Miss Margaret Bondfield, who has just succeeded the late Miss MacArthur as Secretary of the Labour Party. Sir John said, "unless the conscience of the British people was stirred, and unless they insisted on the truth being known and our boasted tradition of law and order restored, the situation in Ireland would be for us a baneful page of history." Miss Bondfield said that if the English people only realized all the crimes and horrors of the coercion campaign in Ireland they would fall on their knees to ask for the mercy of God.

The recent success of General J. C. Smuts in the South African elections calls to mind his memorable dictum on the Irish question, made at the time of the Peace Conference. The General in the last man on earth who could be called anti-British; he is even an Imperialist, though his conception of Imperialism rests on trust rather than on big battalions. That he is far-sighted may be seen from the manner in which his Irish predictions have already been in part fulfilled. "The Irish problem has become a chronic wound, whose septic effects are spreading through our whole system, and through their influence on America are beginning to poison our most vital foreign relations. Unless it is settled . . . the Empire must cease to exist. British statesmen may not shrink from applying to Ireland the same medicine . . . that has been applied in Poland and Bohemia."

That, in a nutshell, is the whole case of the Self-Determination for Ireland League. Thanking you in anticipation for space we remain, PRESS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, S.D.I.L.

per Thomas Kelly, Secretary, Feb. 28, 1921.

Coffin of Steel.

Probably the most singular coffin in which a human being was ever buried is the one of which the following story is told. A workman engaged in casting metal for the manufacture of ordnance in Woolwich Arsenal, lost his balance and fell into a cauldron containing twelve tons of molten steel. The man was utterly consumed in a few seconds. The War Office authorities decided not to protect the dead by using the metal in the manufacture of ordnance, and the mass of metal was actually buried, and a Church of England clergyman read the service for the dead over it.

N. B. S. CLUB.—There will be a Card Tournament held this evening in the Club Rooms of British Hall. Two valuable prizes will be given.—mar1,11

To-Day's Messages.

TO OVERTAKE GERMANY.

PARIS, March 1. Great military activity was noted yesterday along that portion of the Rhine occupied by the French near Mayence bridgehead. Other movements of troops were also reported, and everything is said to be in readiness to execute the plan decided on by Lord George and Briand on Sunday, should the Germans formally decline to accept Allied reparations demands. The greatest secrecy is being maintained as to the nature of these penalties, but the Associated Press learns on good authority that a great naval demonstration by the British has been decided on at Kiel, Hamburg and Bremen, while Belgian and French troops will operate on land.

STATE OF TERROR IN CORK.

LONDON, March 1. Cork City was in a state of terror from seven until nine o'clock last night, according to a correspondent of the Central News. Soldiers were first attacked in St. Patrick's Street, and were also attacked in several parts of the city. Several civilians were wounded in affrays. The military Governor has ordered the Curfew from six o'clock in the evening until three in the morning.

WELL GUARDED.

NEW YORK, March 1. With six hundred and fifty uniformed and plain clothes policemen on guard in and around the building, and several hundred more in reserve in nearby police stations, Madison Square Gardens was packed last night for meeting of "Horrors of the Rhine Committee," called by German sympathizers to protest against the alleged use of French colored troops on the Rhine. Four persons were ejected but there were no serious disorders.

PROPOSES COMPROMISE.

PARIS, March 1. France has proposed to the Turkish Nationalists a compromise relative to the Near East question, says the Petit Parisien.

Guilty.

The man before the magistrate was a stranger in the district, and he should not have been there, said the magistrate. He was charged with the murder of a woman, and the evidence against him was overwhelming. He pleaded guilty.

"The constable seems very certain about everything connected with my case," he sneered; "but there is one weak point in his evidence. Why—impressively—does he not call my fellow officer to corroborate what he says?"

His worthy turned an inquiring look upon the policeman, who vainly endeavoured to conceal an expansive smile behind an ample, but, for that purpose, all too small hand.

"There's only one constable stationed in the village, sir," said the officer.

"But I saw two last night!" indignantly asserted the defendant.

"Exactly!" grinned the policeman. "That's just the charge against you!"

20,000,000 Kittens a Year.

There are 7,000,000 cats in the British Isles. About half are females. Assuming that four and a half million families of kittens are born each year, and that each family is made up of four or five kittens, we come to the amazing total of twenty million kittens born every year. If they all lived, there would be a plague of cats in no time. Wherever we went, cats, cats, and still more cats! But more that half are drowned before they are a week old. Of the rest, a huge number are killed by gamekeepers, who wage a merciless war on cats because they are such inveterate pouchers. A huge number are stolen and carried off to the Chinese quarters of large cities, where a nice plump puss is not objected to as a breakfast dish. Cat catching is also a profitable job for men who sell the skins for making cheap fur coats.

S. D. I. L. N. Meeting.

The S.D.I.L.N. meeting, held last evening was fairly well attended. Hon. Mr. P. Gifford occupied the chair and addressed the gathering on Irish affairs. He announced that the sum of six hundred dollars had been collected from the 150 families of Scotch descent resident at Little River, Codroy, this sum to be devoted to relief work in Cork. Mr. Gifford whilst enquiring the support given the Irish Relief Fund, felt that there was a lack of enthusiasm amongst those of Irish descent in the city. At the meeting last night was thought not representative enough, owing to various church services keeping the members away. It was decided to postpone the election of officers until next Monday night. A local branch of the S.D.I.L.N. has been formed at Miramichi and during the next two weeks other branches will be established at Torbay and Pouch Cove. Several new members joined the League at last night's meeting.

Ladies' Hockey.

An interesting game of hockey will be played in the Prince's Rink tonight, between two teams of young ladies representing the Anglican and Methodist Colleges ex-students. Quite an exciting contest is expected as several of the players are expert wielders of the stick. The game starts at 6 p.m. Mr. H. Rendell will referee. As it is not often that the fans get an opportunity to see any Ladies' Hockey, here will probably be a large attendance.

Shipping Notes.

S. S. Manola left Trepassay yesterday morning for St. John, N.B. S. S. Rosidjari arrived in port this morning from Philadelphia. S. S. Sabie I. sails from Halifax on Thursday for this port. Schr. Marjory Mahaffy, salt laden from Gibraltar, was towed to Trepassay on Sunday by S. S. Canadian Seaport. Schr. A. G. Misor, salt laden from Gibraltar, bound to St. John's, was towed to Trepassay on Sunday by S. S. Manola. S. S. Sackham sails from Liverpool for here on March 4th.

C. L. B. Boat Club.

A meeting of the members of the C.L.B. Boat Club will be held in the Old Commodore's Room at the C.L.B. Cadets Armory to-night. It has been suggested that the "Old Commodore" take over the boats belonging to the C.L.B. Boat Club and with the Lt. Colonel's permission, they will be used on the pond this summer. At to-night's meeting the matter will be fully discussed and a decision come to.

Seminole Indians.

The Seminole Indians are to be removed to a reservation on the west coast of Florida—an area of twenty-one thousand acres. Though partly under water, the tract is deemed of adequate extent, inasmuch as there are only about 225 Seminoles left. This is the melancholy remnant of what was once a powerful tribe, which owned the whole of Florida and fought with the U. S. Government one of the most vigorously contested wars in our history. The Seminoles are notably handsome people, and their young women are the prettiest of all Indian girls. Around their necks the women wear many strings of beads, of cut glass, which they buy from traders. Sometimes a squaw is adorned with as much as six quarts of these beads, and even the girl babies are loaded down with them. The women pierce as many as 10 holes in the upper rim of each ear to hold pegs of wood. The Seminole house is of peculiar construction, having a roof and a floor, but no sides. Its framework is of palmetto poles, which support a platform three feet from the ground and a roof of palmetto leaves. It is all one room, open to view from without, and one might imagine that here was the limit of non-privacy were it not that the Seminole dwelling is customarily hidden in the jungle.

What Hopes!

A lady came down from upstairs and asked the cook at the small hotel if she could get a glass of water at once. "Why, certainly, madam," said the cook, filling up a glass from the tap. Two minutes later the lady was back again. "I don't like to trouble you," she said, "but could I get another glass of water right away?" "No trouble at all, madam," handing her another glass. Two minutes later she appeared again. "This time she asked for two glasses. "Certainly, madam," said the obliging cook, "but may I inquire what you are doing with so much water?" "Well," she said, "I don't want to scare the people here, but my room is on fire and I'm trying to put it out."

New Location for Timbuctoo.

The following "howlers" are taken from a school magazine: Timbuctoo is a suburb of London. Doldrums are a series of high rocks near the Equator. The first books were all written by hand by men called scribes. Celibacy is the name for a great man. Protectors cannot be used for taking up potatoes. John Maynard (who was burnt to death) died from the effects of the fire upon his constitution. The Manchester Ship Canal is very important, because before it was made all ships were unloaded at Liverpool and sent by train to Manchester. Calcutta is at the mouth of the River Ganges and is sometimes known as the "Black Hole." When the Asanda was first sighted, Sir Francis Drake was playing billiards.

Newest cuffcase combs are wide and high and sparkling with jewels.

Opening Announcement!

MR. HARRIS GOLDSTONE is very pleased to let all his friends—THE PUBLIC OF THIS CITY—know that on the last boat he has delivered at St. John's from New York and now showing

Two Thousand High Grade Ladies' Hats

The Pick of New York's Leading Styles.

500 Georgette and Crepe de Chene Waists.

HARRIS wishes to tell all his friends that merchandize has dropped considerably and that he intends staying in the market in order to secure St. John's participation in results.

London, New York & Paris Asso. of Fashion,
Grace Building, St. John's.

Curious Plant.

In Cuba there is a curious grass, *conchus echinatus*, which bristles with tiny sharp pointed spikelets upon which multitudes of insects are impaled. The wings of the victims are pierced and entangled by the barbed spines, so that most of them are unable to get away, and thus perish miserably. Even a large, luminous snapping beetle, which is so strong and active that it can with difficulty be held in the hand, falls a victim to these vegetable bayonets. It has been observed, however, that two species of insects, a large bug, *Cebolus*, and an sawing, readily free themselves from the spines. Minute insects are not caught. The grass does not appear to derive any nourishment from its prey. It is found elsewhere in the West Indies and in Southern Florida.

His One Failing.

Like many famous men, Mr. Balfour has a bad memory for faces. A story is told of how one day he went into a Bond Street tea-shop for a cup of tea, and on leaving, handed the waitress a fairly substantial tip, which the girl acknowledged with a "Thank you, Mr. Balfour." The latter looked up in astonishment, regarded the girl attentively for some seconds, and then asked her how she had recognized him. "Oh," she replied, with a smile, "I was a servant in your house for nearly seven years." That same evening in the House of Commons a colleague of Mr. Balfour started to chaff him about the incident.

"Why, how on earth did you get to know about it?" inquired the bewildered statesman. "Well," was the reply, "I happened to be sitting right opposite you at the same little table, only, of course, you didn't recognize me!"

THE AYDORRE MURDER.—Several witnesses in the case of William John Nolan of Ayndore, who stands charged with the willful murder of his 9-year-old daughter, were expected to arrive by the Carbonar train this afternoon. The enquiry will probably be continued during the week.

Foreign Shipments!

We can attend to your transshipments of Codfish and Herring. Get our terms.

Cowan & Co.

276 Water Street.



CHARLES J. ELLIS,

HIGH CLASS TAILOR

302 WATER STREET.

FISH, in Tins

Cod Roes.
Clams.
Shrimps.
Chicken Haddie.
No. 1 Lobster.
Baby Herring.
(in Tomato Sauce).

Cod Tongues.
Clam Chowder.
Codfish Balls.
Sardines.
No. 1 Salmon.
Sardine Sandwich.

Assorted Fish Pastes

FRESH FROZEN CAPLIN, CODFISH, COD TONGUES.

SMOKED KIPPERED HERRING, FINNAN HADDIE.

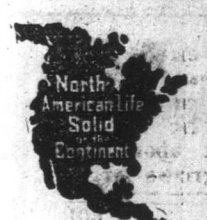
Flaked Cod Fish.

BOWRING BROTHERS, Ltd.,

Grocery Department.

Forty-Two Years in the Public Service—The Evening Telegram.

"SOLID AS THE CONTINENT"



The success that attended the operations of the North American Life during 1920 established beyond question the strength and security of the Company. Its financial position is unexcelled.

Outstanding Records for 1920:—

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Policies Issued and Revived | \$24,363,971.00 |
| Amount of Insurance in Force | 99,600,473.00 |
| Assets | 20,041,882.64 |
| Payments to Policyholders | 2,163,997.65 |
| Net Surplus | 2,609,827.21 |

Such records are the outward evidence of the unexcelled financial position attained by the Company, and of the sure foundation upon which it has been built. With this Company, policyholders' interests are paramount, over 99% of the profits earned being allotted to them. If you are contemplating new insurance, see one of our representatives. A copy of the 1920 report will be sent on application.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

W. KERR GEORGE, D. McKinnon, Vice-President. Home Office: Toronto, Canada. L. GOLDMAN, President.

W. J. EDGAR, District Manager, St. John's, Nfld.