

THE "DRYING UP OF THE EUPHRATES."

The most important aspect of the Tripoli question now is whether the war which seems imminent can be confined to the two powers now at diplomatic strife. Ninety years ago Prince Metternich expressed the hope that the revolt of the Greeks against the rule of the "Unspeakable Turk" would "burn itself out beyond the pale of civilization." As Canning put it, it was better that the barbarians of the Levant should kill each other than that Armageddon should be brought on in Europe. On both sides the war of Greek independence was waged with truly barbarian ferocity. British sympathies were with the Greeks and British officers fought for them by land and sea, but it was not until seven years after the outbreak that the European powers intervened, and destroyed the Turkish and Egyptian fleets at Navarino. Four years later the kingdom of Greece was established under the protection of Great Britain, France and Russia.

From this time the decay of the Turkish Empire was greatly hastened by the rivalries of Russia and Great Britain for the control of Constantinople and the rivalries of Russia and Austria for spheres of influence, as stepping stones to annexation of the Balkan states. Bulgaria, Servia, Roumelia, Montenegro, Roumania, achieved their independence and have had to do a great deal of fighting to maintain it. Bosnia and Herzegovina became Austrian provinces. Egypt and the Soudan became British. Tunis became a French protectorate. Algeria long ago became French, and Morocco has just come under the domination of France. With Tripoli will go the last vestige of Turkish control in Africa. The repulsion of the Turk "bag and baggage" from Europe would almost certainly be a result of a war initiated by or through Turkey and involving the great powers of Europe; and Turkey's only hope of retaining Tripoli is by obtaining foreign intervention, which would in all probability start a general conflagration in Europe. The fanaticism of the Turk, either within the Ottoman Empire or in the provinces that have ceased to be under Turkish control, can always be relied upon to provide an excuse if not a justification for the intervention of any power, the ambitions or fears of which render intervention desirable. The helplessness of a great military nation shorn of seapower was never better exemplified than in the present position of Turkey.

FRANK W. ANTHONY.

Apropos of Frank W. Anthony, of Brooklyn, who has been referred to in these columns on more than one occasion, Best's Insurance News says:—

"Information has just come into our hands from attorneys representing persons who have had unprofitable transactions with Frank W. Anthony, of Brooklyn, who for a great many years has been a dealer in underground insurance and whose operations have frequently figured in these columns. Certain investigations are now under way which make it desirable that anyone who has had dealings with Anthony and who has a claim of any sort against him communicate the facts fully and promptly to us for transmission to those who are conducting the investigation referred to."

INFORMATION WANTED BY THE ACCIDENT UNDERWRITER.

President Edson S. Lott Points Out the Necessity for Full, Uniform and Accurate Statistics of Accidents — Besides Aiding Insurance Companies Would Be of Great Service in Drafting Laws for Prevention of Accidents — What is Wanted.

President Edson S. Lott, of the United States Casualty Company of New York, read before the Chicago Conference of the American Association for Labor Legislation recently a paper in which he urged the necessity for full, uniform and accurate accident statistics, both in the interests of insurance companies and of legislators. President Lott pointed out that the existing lack of uniformity in the manner and method of reporting accidents, and the wide diversity of the information contained in such reports, is a serious handicap in a study of available statistics for the purpose of intelligently predicting the effect of changes in labor laws. It would be most advantageous to insurance companies to have all industrial accidents in all States reported in the same way and disclosing the same information. The statistics which, within a few years, could and would be tabulated from such a mine of information would be of great use to casualty insurance companies in deciding intelligently and fairly what effect new labor laws would have on the cost of employers' liability and workmen's compensation insurance. Moreover, the same statistics would be useful to lawmakers in enabling them to see more clearly than at present what additional burdens would be placed upon the shoulders of employers by proposed new labor legislation.

THE INFORMATION REQUIRED.

President Lott stated the following as being the information required by casualty companies from reports of accidents, the same information, in his view, being that most needed by the States:—

- 1st. Data that will show what measures should be taken for the prevention of accidents.
 - 2nd. Data that will show who is responsible for accidents.
 - 3rd. Data that will enable the calculation of premiums for employers' liability and workmen's compensation insurance.
- As respects accident prevention, casualty insurance companies should have, in connection with each accident reported,
- (a) Description of the place where the accident occurred and of the tool or appliance causing the accident.
 - (b) Description of how the place where the accident occurred was lighted.
 - (c) Description of the accident itself.
 - (d) Statement of the cause of the accident.
 - (e) Statement whether guards were provided, and if provided, whether they were adequate.
 - (f) Statement whether guards were in use, and if not, whether they had been removed by the injured person.
 - (g) Age of injured person.
 - (h) Sex and nationality of injured person.
 - (i) Duties of injured person.
 - (j) Length of time the injured person had worked with the tool or appliance causing the accident.
 - (k) Statement of the instructions, if any, that had been given the injured person regarding his work, and regarding the tool or appliance causing the accident.
 - (l) Statement as to whether the accident was due to want of ordinary care on the part of the injured person.
 - (m) Statement as to whether the injured person was under the influence of intoxicants or drugs at the time of the accident.
 - (n) Hour of day at which the accident occurred.
 - (o) Number of hours the injured person had been working on the day the accident occurred.