

has been looseness somewhere. It is all very well to say now that they can go on and murder until the League of Nations is formed. Having created them a republic, having given them the status of a nation, and they having accepted certain obligations and duties, they go on murdering and slashing at each other just as they like, and it is made a laughing matter if any member in any parliament should happen to find fault. It is made the subject of a small quibble worthy of a police court—that is all it is and an attempt is made to provoke a laugh to sidetrack the question and in that way get out of a difficulty. That is not the way I view it. We have a right to suppose that our plenipotentiaries, and the other plenipotentiaries who were in that conference, would not give the status of a nation to any body of men, or form any party into a republic, unless they were absolutely assured of that party undertaking the duty of looking after their territory, and were in a position to guarantee that the ordinary amenities and securities of life in civilized nations would be safeguarded. There should have been some supervision, some proper care taken and some mandatory power put over this territory until the people there could satisfy the League of Nations, if you please, that they might be given the reins of government and the control over their territory and that the lives and property of their citizens would be safe. Without that having been done, this territory has been created into a republic, the power of government being given to them, and if they cannot protect the lives or guard the property of their citizens I think it is perfectly justifiable for the members of this House, or of any other parliament, to call to account those who are responsible for the creation of this republic under these circumstances because they are responsible indirectly for the massacres that have taken place in that country. Whatever the remedy is—whether it may be by way of protest or otherwise—we should bring home to these people the fact that we are not satisfied with the way that they are carrying out their obligation to protect the lives and property of the people. Because we are protesting we are met with a laugh. We are expected to go along serenely and happily and to recognize this country as being on the same level as our own when we have the most positive evidence of the carnage and murders which are going on and of the evident lack of power or ability on the part of the Government to restore order and to provide

protection for its citizens. I do not know what this Government can do. Perhaps they are just in the same position as the President of Poland. They are new to their position and they do not know what they should do. If they do not, of course, they should try to find out and try to live up to this big position into which they have forced themselves.

Mr. JACOBS: Might I ask the minister a question as to what was done with those resolutions which were sent to the Government some months ago in connection with these Polish outrages?

Mr. DOHERTY: The resolutions were forwarded to the Government of the United Kingdom, and as the hon. member himself pointed out, that Government has taken upon itself to make an inquiry. The hon. gentleman also told us that France was making an inquiry.

Mr. JACOBS: The United States.

Mr. DOHERTY: The United States. Whether a third inquiry would be helpful, I leave to the judgment of the Committee.

Mr. JACOBS: Before we close this discussion I wish to refer the House to an article on the Jewish question which appears in the New York Nation of August 30 1919. It is from a correspondent of the New York Nation in Warsaw. I would like to cite a paragraph or two to show the extent and nature of these outrages which I brought before the House this afternoon.

The Poles are conducting two regular and old-fashioned wars for imperialistic conquest while the Peace Conference is engaged in its work. I have been near the two fronts of both these wars. I was in Lwow and saw what was happening and had happened there. I was in Vilna and know what is happening there. In Vilna I had the extraordinary pleasure of being surrounded by a crowd of weeping and wailing Jewish women whose husbands had been murdered as soon as Vilna was occupied by the Poles. I know now what the Greeks felt like when they occupied Troy. In one house where dwelt the family Philipson and others, the soldiers came and carried off all the men folk, beat them up with the jeering crowd following, took them out of the city, and shot them. Then, in true antique fashion, young Philipson, the son, was made to dig a grave for his father and brother and the other men in this particular house. This procedure of taking harmless people out and shooting them was practised extensively by the Poles in Vilna when they entered in triumph after having driven out the handful of Bolsheviks who held the town against them. The killed seem to have numbered about one hundred. The people beaten up and maltreated numbered many hundreds. Respectable citizens, among them the most respected Jews in the city, were taken out and stood against a wall and threatened