

OUR LONDON LETTER.

Thursday Night. Allied Debt to Britain. The result of the Lympne agreement, under which France and Belgium repayments of British loans are made dependent upon German payments of war indemnity, was inevitable. Other creditors of this country who have specific claims against Germany naturally desire to be placed on the same footing. Apart from post-war advances for reconstruction our European Allies owe us \$1,600,000,000, or 160,000,000,000 francs, as at present. France and Belgium are in our debt to the extent of 557 millions, Italy 470 millions, Serbia 20 millions, Greece 100 millions, Roumania \$1,000,000,000. By the Lympne agreement the first two Powers are absolved from the obligation of repayment so long as Germany pays the defaulter, and Italy, Serbia, and Roumania are to forward their claims to the Lympne Commission. Thus the situation arises which will cause the British taxpayer to do some hard thinking at a time when the Overseas Dominions are paying back what they received from us, and our services are preparing to wipe off in the autumn some at least of our obligations to the United States.

N.R.U. and Direct Action. After a three hours' sitting on the Irish question the N.R.U. Executive resolved to discuss the matter at its next meeting. It is what the decision amounts to, for the Triple Alliance, to whom the whole question is referred, is so disorganised at present and so disinclined to challenge the Government on the strength that the railwaymen themselves are sure it will take no strong action. The truth is that Unity House has been full of anxiety all through the week, and that the real aim of to-night's conference was to get the Government to see that the railwaymen themselves are sure it will take no strong action. The truth is that Unity House has been full of anxiety all through the week, and that the real aim of to-night's conference was to get the Government to see that the railwaymen themselves are sure it will take no strong action.

Labour Leaders' Pleas. On two other matters that are exercising the minds of Labour leaders just now, one the action brought by Mrs. James Walton, M.P., against the Yorkshire Miners' Association. A member of the National Democratic and Labour Party, which supports the Government, brought the Don Valley Division at the last election against a nominee of the miners, and for this and other acts was expelled from his society. The legality of this treatment is now to be tested in the High Court. It is said, on the other hand, that the Government will be briefed for the plaintiff. Not since the Osborne judgment has a trade union case aroused so general an interest. The other matter is the decision of the Co-operative Union delegates to the National Conference, which has been held at the Don Valley Division at the last election against a nominee of the miners, and for this and other acts was expelled from his society. The legality of this treatment is now to be tested in the High Court. It is said, on the other hand, that the Government will be briefed for the plaintiff. Not since the Osborne judgment has a trade union case aroused so general an interest.

The Soviet Representative. To the coming of Mr. Krasin politicians attach a significance that goes beyond the question of trade relations with Russia. That, of course, is the ostensible reason for his conference with the members of the Executive Committee of the National Democratic and Labour Party. It is said, on the other hand, that the Government will be briefed for the plaintiff. Not since the Osborne judgment has a trade union case aroused so general an interest.

The Amritsar Report. Military M.P.'s will probably have a great deal to say on the Amritsar affair when Parliament meets. For in service officers, and particularly those who have personal knowledge of the details of the case, are being called upon to purely political considerations, regardless of the fact that almost certainly prevented a native trial of the accused. In the majority of reports it is the report of the European members of the Commission, and it is not clear that his action was bona-fide and dictated by a stern though unmisconceived sense of duty. The fact that the Government is so anxious to meet this country with many perils, and that in any case it seems contrary to British traditions, and in the highest degree dangerous to the security of the Empire, to condemn a man of General Dyer's rank and standing to a life of imprisonment, is another point that attracts attention in the inconsistency of the report in censuring the General for not having given notice that he was about to fire, and at the same time admitting that he was not in a position to do so.

A NATURE CURE ADVOCATE. Committed on Charge of Manslaughter. The coroner's jury on Wednesday at Sompting, Sussex, returned a verdict of manslaughter against William Aird, a local market gardener, and a nature cure advocate, and Mary Porter, a nurse, who were charged with the manslaughter of a child. The case was a sensational one, and the jury's verdict was a surprise to many. The child, a young girl, had been taken to a nature cure establishment, and it was alleged that she had died as a result of the treatment given to her.

THE POPE AND IRELAND. Rome, Wednesday. The Pope to-day received in his private audience Cardinal Logue and Monsignor Doherty, Bishop of Clonfert, who made a statement regarding the proposed situation in Ireland. Later the Pope read the Irish pilgrims, and in reply to an address read by the Bishop of Raphoe expressed satisfaction at the justification of Oliver Plunkett. He added that this was on his part, and that he might obtain what she legitimately longed for without falling short in any way of her duties.

THE POLISH CAMPAIGN.

Bolehseivists Held Up in the North. With regard to the Bolehseivist offensive against Poland, Reuter's Agency learns that according to a Warsaw message, dated 24th May, the Reds attacked the Polish troops on the Dvina front with ten divisions taken from the Estonian, Latvian, and Caucasian fronts. The offensive was launched from two points in the North from Pofelsk, in the direction of Molodeczn, and further South, from Orza, in the direction of Minsk. After an initial success the Bolehseivist attack came to a halt in the Lake District of Lepel, which threatened the town of Dvinsk, which Poland handed over to the Bolehseivists. In the Kiev sector the Poles are actually holding the bridgehead on the right bank of the Dnieper, the depth of the Polish advance being only twenty miles. From this it will be seen that the theory of fighting in the suburbs of Kiev was incorrect.

"RED" ENVOYS IN KABUL. Not Getting On Too Well With The Afghans. Reuter's Agency understands that a report has reached London that Sirdar Nasrullah Khan, brother of the late Amer of Afghanistan, is dead. He had been under some kind of surveillance, either at Jallalabad or Kabul, since the outbreak of the present war, and it is not quite clear how much political influence he exercised lately. Concerning Bolehseivist activities in this part of the world, the latest news is somewhat conflicting; but it seems clear that the Bolehseivists are themselves somewhat suspicious of the Russian emissaries. At the same time Bolehseivist envoys still remain at Kabul.

ULSTER ELECTIONS. Down County Council. DOWNPATRICK AND DROMORE AREAS. Mr. R. J. Dickson, returning officer, has arranged to hold the vote for the election of members of Down County Council at the rate of one electoral area per day. On Wednesday a beginning was made with the Downpatrick electoral area, with the following result:—Mr. Robert Brown (U.), Mr. Henry McGrath (S.F.), Colonel Sharnam Crawford (U.), and Mr. James O'Neil (N.). The defeated candidate was Mr. George Walker (N.). Yesterday the vote in the election of five members in the Dromore electoral area, were counted in Downpatrick Assembly Hall. Result: Mr. James Blane, Ballydoonagh (U.); Sir Robert M. Liddell, Dromore (U.); Mr. J. D. Ferguson, Banbridge (U.); Mr. O. B. Graham, Larchfield (U.); and Mr. R. Getgood, Gilford (Lab.), were elected in the order named. The defeated candidates were:—Mr. J. G. Wallace, Corbet (U.); and Mr. J. L. Savage, Backscragh (U.). The remaining areas will be held to-day.

GUARDIANS AND DISTRICT COUNCILS. The polling in connection with the Banbridge Rural Council and Board of Guardians took place on Tuesday. The following results have been announced:—Banbridge Urban (4 seats)—The following are elected:—Wm. Logan (U.), Wm. J. Adams (U.), John Buchanan (U.), Mrs. McAleavey (N.). Banbridge Rural (four seats)—Elected:—Mr. R. J. Dickson, Banbridge (U.); Mr. J. D. Ferguson, Banbridge (U.); Mr. O. B. Graham, Larchfield (U.); and Mr. R. Getgood, Gilford (Lab.). The defeated candidates were:—Mr. J. G. Wallace, Corbet (U.); and Mr. J. L. Savage, Backscragh (U.). The remaining areas will be held to-day.

Hillsborough Rural District. The count for the Hillsborough Rural District took place yesterday in the Hillsborough Schoolroom, being supervised by Mr. Wm. Sinclair, returning officer. Sixteen candidates contested the eight vacancies, the following were elected:—Messrs. Thos. Thos. Samuel Brown, James Ireland, J.P.; Arthur Maxwell, John Thompson, Joseph Orr, W. J. Johnston, J.P.; and John Campbell, Wm. Allister, and the late Mr. Wm. Forman members. Hillsborough Urban.—The counting of the votes for the above area was completed at a late hour on Wednesday, the following being elected:—W. S. J. Leavy, Philip Jordan, and William Martin—six seats.

Newry Urban Area.—(11 candidates, 7 seats) Elected:—Messrs. Agnes Boyd (S.F.), James A. Bell (U.), W. F. Cunningham (Labour), Joseph Coleman (S.F.), Robert Kelly (S.F.), Fred Ferris (U.), and J. Sheridan (S.F.). NEWRY (No. 1) RURAL COUNCIL. Rathfriland Area.—(4 seats, 0 candidates). Elected:—Messrs. John McLean (S.F.), James Watson (U.), John Graham (U.), and Patrick Bradley (N.). NEWRY Rural Area.—(6 seats, 10 candidates). Elected:—Messrs. Thomas A. Fegan (S.F.), William Bradford (Unionist), James Madden (S.F.), Daniel Higgins (S.F.), Arthur Magennis (S.F.), John D. Henry (U.).

U.S. EXPORTS. Washington, Thursday. Exports from the United States are as follows:—Breadstuffs, \$5,020,000; meat and dairy products, 40,000,000; mineral oils, 255,000,000 gallons; cotton 546,000 bales.—Reuter.

THE MUNITIONS HOLD-UP.

No Change in DUBLIN. The deadlock at the North Wall, Dublin, due to the refusal of the dockers and railwaymen to handle "munitions of war," still continues. The London and North-Western Railway steamer Curragmore yesterday brought 370 passengers; but the Company's cargo service is suspended. Questioned yesterday on the position Mr. Birmingham, Irish Secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said he had no statement to make pending the decision of the Executive, which sat yesterday in London. This decision, which was made known late last night, was to refer the whole matter to a full meeting of the "Triple Alliance"—railwaymen, transport workers, and miners. What action will be taken at this conference remains to be seen.

DECISION OF THE N.U.R. Whole Matter Submitted to Triple Alliance. At the conclusion of the meeting of the Executive of the National Union of Railwaymen last night, Mr. J. H. Thomas made the following statement at the meeting:—The Executive Committee of the N.U.R. have considered the whole question of the difficulty in Ireland by the refusal of our members to handle munitions or assist in military operations. They have confirmed their resolution of Friday last to submit the whole matter to a full meeting of the Triple Alliance, which will be held in London, and in the meantime have instructed our members to do nothing that will prejudice consideration of the whole case by that body.

THE QUEENSTOWN HOLD-UP. Ammunition Vessel Unloaded by Soldiers. The War Department's steamer Sir Evelyn Wood left her moorings at Queenstown yesterday morning under a full escort of British troops, and returned to the moorings she had left, when a Government barge came alongside, and with the help of a steam derrick, guns, cartridges, and other stores were taken out of her hold, soldiers Spike Island being employed in the work.

"CURFEW LAW" IN DUBLIN. Proposed Early Modification. It is expected (says the "Dublin Evening Mail") that the regulations prohibiting the carrying of arms on the streets of Dublin between midnight and 5 a.m. will shortly be modified, or perhaps withdrawn altogether. The coming of summer and the bright moonlight have made the "Curfew Law" not so urgent, and as it causes a good deal of inconvenience the opportunity will probably be taken to alter the present system.

SINN FEIN IN ULSTER. Encounter between Police and Masked Men. CO. DOWN BARRACKS BURNED. County Cork Outrages. This Month's Claims for Compensation Total £239,000. TYRONE VILLAGE RAIDED. Police Barracks Burned. An early hour on Wednesday morning a party of Sinn Fein men, numbering about 70, invaded the village of Castleduff, County Wick, with the object of destroying the evacuated police barracks. The raid had been more or less anticipated, as on the previous Thursday night the arrival of some strangers in the village had aroused suspicion, with the result that the barracks had been evacuated in full strength, and when large parties of invaders on bicycles arrived at an early hour on Friday morning they turned up a by-road and rapidly disappeared. The police barracks at Castleduff is a three-story building, and was situated in a house that was effected through the window, the front door was seized open, and petrol liberally sprinkled over the building. The explosion blew out a number of the rear windows, but, save for the scorching of the floors and staircase, no serious damage was done. At this stage a mob of about 200 men, armed with revolvers and shotguns, entered the barracks from the rear, and the crowd quickly scattered.

ATTEMPT AT ROSTREVOR. The inquest was resumed at Limerick yesterday on James Dalton, a prominent citizen and Sinn Fein member, who was shot dead on the evening of the 15th inst. by a party of armed men close to his residence. Some days previously he was fired at in the street. There were six bullet wounds in the body. Deceased's thirteen-year-old daughter said she saw her father running home, and that he was carrying a rifle. He fell, and while he was on the ground one of the men fired two shots into his back. Joseph Dalton said that deceased, his brother, was a member of the Sinn Fein organisation. Suspicions were aroused against him through his having stopped a motor car, and the fact that he was a Sinn Fein member, and it was held that the suspicions were not justified. The jury found that death was due to bullet wounds inflicted by unknown persons, and tendered sympathy to the relatives.

SINN FEIN COURT AT BALLINAGLOE. Presided Over by a Barrister-at-Law. The Press Association says—One of the largest Sinn Fein Courts so far held was opened yesterday at Ballinagloe, Co. Wick, under the Republic flag. The Court, which was crowded, was presided over by the Barrister who was High Court, and some eight or ten solicitors argued cases. Evidence was taken in the usual way, but a "pledge of honour" was substituted for the oath. Priests and County Councilors participated, and injunctions and decrees were promulgated.

THE HOME RULE BILL.

ULSTER UNIONIST COUNCIL. Special Meeting of Delegates. SIX COUNTIES AREA APPROVED. THE ARMENIAN QUESTION. As was expected, President Wilson has vetoed the Republican resolution declaring the state of war with Germany at an end. He declines to be associated with an action which would place an inalienable stain upon the United States. Meanwhile the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, despite the President's appeal, has disapproved of the proposal that America should accept the mandate for Armenia.

THE MANDATE FOR ARMENIA. Senate Committee Against Acceptance. President Wilson's proposal that America should accept the mandate for Armenia was disapproved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the voting being 11 to 4, the minority being the Democratic members of the Committee. The resolution declared that Congress respectfully declines to assent to the President power to accept a mandate for Armenia.

CHINA AND THE AUSTRIAN TREATY. Verdict of Wilful Murder. In the case of Fred Eustace Messenger, the crippled youth found dead from a gunshot wound carrying a basket of broom, the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder by some person or persons unknown.

CHARGE OF SHOOTING AT POLICE. Derry Prisoner's Dash for Liberty. An investigation took place at Derry yesterday into the circumstances connected with the shooting at and wounding of Constable Henley and Constable O'Neil, who were charged with the offence, were returned for trial to the Quarter Sessions to be held next week. Bail was applied for, but the court said in view of the serious nature of the case he could not accede to the request.

THE RAILWAYMEN'S DEMANDS. Considered by Wages Board. When the National Wages Board inquiry was resumed at Westminster yesterday, the employers continued their case in reply to the demands respectively of the National Union of Railwaymen for an advance of 21 per cent for all grades, and 15 per cent for the lowest grades. The Board will be held on Friday next, and will be held on Friday next, and will be held on Friday next.

CLAIMS FOR BURNED BARRACKS. A claim for £300 compensation has been lodged with the Donegal County Council on behalf of the Donegal Town Hall, which was destroyed by destruction of the premises known as the Kerykeel police barracks, in the district of Milford, County Donegal. Mr. Andrew Caldwell, Borneacall, Drumquin, has lodged a claim for £1,600 with the Tyrone County Council and the Castleford District Council on behalf of the barracks of the police barracks at Killybegs, County Tyrone.

FLANNEL JACKETS AND SHORTS FOR BOYS. PLAINES, Jersey, Grey Shorts, White Shorts, Cricket Shirts, Belts, Caps, Cotton Suits, Cotton Blouses, every requirement for the warm weather at.

AMERICA AND THE TREATY.

ROYAL ULSTER SHOW. From a Lady's Point of View. Those with a long experience of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society's shows are convinced that never has such a crowd assembled as was in the grounds yesterday. From early afternoon the grand stands were packed and a dense mass of people could not find seats but had to content with standing room in the enclosure. The popularity of the show is scarcely to be wondered at, for its interests are many and varied. The lover of animals finds it full of attractions, for specimens of the finest are one of the chief features. In this labour-saving age, too, all the newest inventions for labour-saving in agricultural work naturally appeal to many, and the butter-making, poultry plucking, and poultry trussing competitions never fail to draw numbers of spectators. All who have not seen the "Borden's" work of disabled soldiers are sold find many patrons. These men are now unfit for any other employment, and the dainty show buckles, blotters, try bags, and other pretty and useful things, adorned with their gold embroidery, find a ready sale. The Marchioness of Londonderry, who is a member of the Ulster Agricultural Society, has a very active interest in this scheme for our disabled soldiers. Lady Clannavin was at the show yesterday, and she was seen to be very interested in the work of the disabled soldiers. She was seen to be very interested in the work of the disabled soldiers.

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