THE RUSSO-POLISH CRISIS.

Continued from Page 5, Column 2.

Those are those who believe that the Soviet Republic is essentially a peaceful one. Let them believe it. But if, in spite of every effort to make reace, they reject Conferences for the purpose, they postpone, they introduce conditions which inmind, and that is the real peril.

A Menace to Europe.

tions would exact; if she prefers to overrun Poland, to make one or two observations.

practically to annex it—whether she nominally annexes it or not makes no difference-it she practically annexes it, from that moment, whatever the Soriet Republic was a week ago or a month ago, from that moment it becomes an aggressive Imperialist State which is a menace to the freedom and independence of the whole of Europe. If that is the new policy-I don't assume it. I am not going to assume it until I see the result of the Minsk Conierence, but I have taken two contingencies, and I said that the Soviet Government were neither am bound, since the House is separating in a few

An Hon. Member-Why separate," Mr. Lloyd George-I um bound to take into account both contingencies. Even if it did not separate, I should put the whole of the policy today—there is no time to lose. Not merely the House of Commons but the country is cutilled to know to what we are committed, and therefore I am examining both contingencies. I am hoping that the second contingency will not arise; but I should be blind, I should be indeed reckless, if I assumed that it would not arise and took no precautions. (Hear, hear.) That is the assumption on which we should have to take action, and a less days will tell us whether that assumption is correct, or whether it is not. I am not suro that the Soviet Government themselves know which of those two assumptions is correct-I wish I were certain of it. I am going to give an indication of what the Allies have in their minds, as far as I can without giving information which will be injurious to the efficacy of the action which we take. The first point is that no action will be taken except to support the struggle for Polish exis-

tence and independence. The second point is that we can only give that sesistance to a nation that struggles itself. The Poles are a brave people-no braver in Europe. They have always made soldiers, and some of the greatest military geniuses in the history of Europe etand to their record.

But they have got their difficulties. They are a

The Difficulties of Poland.

nation which has been split up into three very unequal parts for ove: a century and a half. They are not a people who had control over their own destinics during that period. They have suddenly been called upon, without preliminary preparation or training, to undertake the functions of nationhood in a most perilous position. You could place them with enomies behind them, enemies in front of them, difficulties to the south and difficulties to the north, great hatreds towards them-some of them traditional, some racial, some religiousfurious, savage hatreds surging round them; a nation with no frontier which is a defensive one, no great mountains to defend them. There is no nation in the world placed in such a position of jeopardy by Providence as Poland. She struggled for centuries; she fell, she was torn to pieces. Now there has been a resurrection, and she was starting a new life; but it was a new life without training, without discipline, with a t-adition lost, with none of her leaders trained either in government or in war. Of course site blundered-it was the blunder of responsibility. (Some Opposition cheers.) Well, it is not a thing to laugh at-(cheers)-they are a people who have been trampled upon for a long time. They were the mistakes of inexperience and of a people who had no chance to learn how to govern. And that is their weakness in their struggle for independence. It is not gallantry, bravery, heroism, or patriotism-there is no more heroic, patriotic, or gifted race in the world than the Poles-but they have not had the necessary training, and the catastrophe has come upon them before they found themselves or their leaders or their strength, or were able to organise themselves. (Cheers.) appeal to a party which is organised and claims to be organised to motect the weak, and knows what organisation means in the protection of the weak, not to be too hard on the unorganised and very largely unskilled labours of statesmanship in Poland. (Cheers, and an Hon. Member-" Or in Moscow.") Well, that is a very different story. There they had machinery at their disposal which is very old, and in many senses very perfect. It is because they had the machinery that they have been able to survive so many attacks, but that is another matter. The Poles-and I must speak very frankly-have not had this experience, and must trust more to those who possess it.

I do not want to disparage the Soviet armies; but with the force at the disposal of the Poles, if it is well directed and well organised, there

ought to be no difficulty in resisting. They are no doubt very ably led; but as we know armies in Western Europe, they are not formidable. and their equipment, transport, and artillery are not formidable. They have brought no artillery forward that would reduce a second-rate fortress. and could not in the time at their disposal.

Methods of Allied Assistance.

It is therefore essential that if the Poles are to defeud their freedom, they must accept the advice and the direction of people who had four years' experience in the great at war the world has ever seen, and who have shown a capacity for it. No support would be of the slightest avail unless that is done. That is one condition.

The next point is that no Allied troops will be sent to Poland.

I made that clear before in this House, and it is a position we have definitely taken. Colonel Wedgwood (R.)-Dees that include Hun-

Lt Col. Murray (Co.R.)-Does that include all the Allies? Col. J. Ward (Co.R.)-Does it include Monte-

negro? Mr. Llord George-We are sending no Allied troops to Poland. Troops to Danzig are essential to the communications with Poland, but we are rending no Allied troops. That we made clear to Poland, and that it is essential we should make clear to this country. And it would not be necessaty if the Polish resources were thoroughly organised and well directed. The next point is thisit is on the assumption that the Minsk Conference fails, and fails, not because of any obstinacy on the nart of Poland, and not because Poland refuses to accept terms which we think in the circumstances are as good as she has a right to expect. It is on the assumption that the Bolshovist Government imposes conditions which are inconsistent with Poland's national freedom and existence

for their oan defence (Cheers.) the necessary military advice and guidance. The

next action we shall be prepared to take is an action which has always been contemplated in projectly of the electors are workmen-is simply opportunity when these negotiations had come to cases of the kind, and that is the exercise of eco- out to destroy the workmen's Government in an end, and before anything in the nature of warnonic pressure upon Soviet Russia in order to re-lease her strangle-hold on the lives of the Poles.

We propose to do so either by navel action, or by international action, or by both.

We certainly should appeal to America. America up to the present has not ratified the Treaty, and there is the confusion which exists when a great parties and cannot be settled, and it is not

All I can say is this. I am only judging from the attitude of America at the Peace Conference. America was the strong protagonist of Polish independence. No man took such an active, deter-mined, and, I may say, jealous part in setting up Polish independence as President Wilson. (Hear, hear.) I am quite certain, wherever differences of

the League of Nations, that there will be no diffe-

for me to say what view the American Execu-

Polish independence. (Hear, hear.) Aid for General Wrangel.

I was just coming to another point. We have taken no steps to assist any attack upon Soviet. Russia inside her own territory. There is a very formidable attack which has developed upon Southern Russia. We have sent no supplies.

An Hon. Member-Batoum. Mr. Lloyd George-That is not so. Batoum is not in our hands. If any are sent they are sent by the Georgians. We have absolutely no control We have evacuated Batoum. We are not there. and therefore we cannot be supplying them. At any rate I can assure the House that if we really wished to support General Wrangel we could have We will now have the real facts in the minds of of arms when Poland was getting the worst of it. done so much more effectively, and snyone who the people. (Interroptions.) I make this asser- the condition of things there knows that tion:—

We will now have the real facts in the minds of of arms when Poland was getting the worst of it. He asserted that we had not been playing a straight tion:—

At the monthly meeting of Armach Rural Counties the people. (Interroptions.) I make this asser- the condition of things there knows that tion:—

fleet for that purpose. All this is on the assumption that the negotiations break down. These are the measures which we should be called upon to

An Hou, Member-War with Russis! Mr. Lloyd George-I am not going into that question. I believe the hon, gentleman is a great supporter of the League of Nations, and if that is his views, he will render the League ineffective and nugatory if he says that every time you bring economic pressure to bear in order to compel whatever the Soviet Republic was resterday, towhatever the Soviet Republic was resterday, today, and to-morrow, it will become an Imperialist,
statements made in the Press—especially the subsidised Press—(ironical cheers)—and especially of
sidised Press—(ironical cheers)—and especially of volve the practical annexation of another country; nations to conform to the decrees of the League it militarietic Power. That is the point I want to sidised Press-(ironical cheers)-and especially of put. It is one of the perils one has always had in the statements made to me to-day by the Labour

An Hon, Member-Why did you receive them? Mr. Lloyd George-If any responsible body of If the Soviet Republic insists upon overfunning men representing a large body of the citizens of Poland when she cannot merely get, but when she this country ask to present their case to me, as can exact, all the guarantees which she is entitled long as I am here it is my duty to receive them. men representing a large body of the citizens of to, and which another country with the same coudi- In view of the statements made to me, I am bound

Reply to the Labour Extremists. I gathered from them-as I gathered from the Press-that we were supposed to be engaged in a reactionary conspiracy to destroy a Democratic Government represented by peasants and workmen. If anyone was under that impression, it must have been dispelled since the recent Socialist visit to Russia. One distinguished Socialist came back and Socialist, Democratic, nor Christian, and that the working classes were in a condition which approximates in many respects to slavery. What, then, becomes of this claim that we are a reactionary Government trying to destroy a free Government? I come to another member of this House who is a singularly able spokesman of his party-I mean Mr. T. Shave. It is really important, in view of the statements which have been circulated that this is an organised conspiracy of great capitalists like myself—(laughter)—against the workmen and peasants of Russie, that we should understand exactly what the position is. This is what Mr. Shaw said few days ago at the Socialist Conference at

"In Russia there is no freedom, no democracy; only an autocratic rule by a small group.' Mr. W. Thorne (Lab.)-He did not say that; I

Mr. Lloyd George-In the absence of the hon. meinher for Preston (Mr. Shaw), I accept that statement; but I will quote another statement which 22nd June:-

The people are submitting not only to military

which was inaudible in the Press gallery. must bear with me for a few moments while assure the House of Commons, and through the House of Commons the country, that this is really not a sort of Trade Union organisation representing six millions of downtrodden workmen and ton million of downtrodden peasants, but quite the reverse. I trust the members of the House and the country will read the very remarkable articles of Mr. Bertrand Russell.

Mr. Lawson-You prosecuted him.

A Communist's Yiew of Bolshevism. Mr .Lloyd George-We did prosecute him, and I believe he was sentenced. I should have thought that he had everything that would commend him to the Bolshevists. (Laughter.) He qualified in every possible way. He went there a Communist, a racifist, a sympathiser with Bolshevism in every respect; and he has written his account of it. He

"All real power is in the hands of the Communist party, who number obaut 600,000 in a

population of about 120,000,000." That means, if you reduce them to the same proportion, that 200,000 men in this country would govern, and all the rest be ruled out. It would only mean a thirteenth of the trade unionists of the country. Soviet Government means the government by that section. Imagine that. The Soviet means government by that little rection of trade unionists who assume that they have got all the intelligence, all the intellect, all the knowledge, and all the prescience of the party, and try to tyrannise over the workers of the trade union world. Let us see how this "Democratic Government" is constituted-this Soviet of the people-the reign of the people. (Laughter.) I would really like to have the attention, especially of hon, members opposite to this. It is really worth their while, because this is what I am afraid they are trying to negotiate.

Mr. W. Thorne-Are you trying to get us out of temper? (Labour cheors.) Mr. Lloyd George-I know my hon, friend is a very good-tempered man. Surely one must not iose one's temper the moment we hear something we do not like. (Laughter.) That is all very well in a soviet system-(laughter)-but in a Parliamentary system we are accustomed to listen to disagreeable things about cach other and about our friends. Now this is what Mr. Russell says about

this great government:-"No conceivable system of free election would give majorities to the Communists either in town or country. Various methods are therefore adopted for giving victory to the Government candidates.

A Labour Member-The coupen, (Loud aughter.) Mr. Lloyd George-I can assure my honourable end they have improved immensely on it-(laughter)-and if they will only listen they will see how much better they understand electioneer-

ing there than we poor infants. (Laughtr.) "In the arst place the voting is by a show of hands, so that all who vote against the Governy ment are marked men. In the next place, no candidate who is not a Communist can have any printing done. (Laughter.) "It is quite right." interjected the Premier. "as the printing works are all in the hands of the State"). In the third place he cannot address any meeting, because the halls all belong to the State. (Laughter.) The whole of the Press is of course official. No in-

dependent daily is permitted. Now that is how they elect representatives of the prasant and workmen in this great Demo-Mr. Lloyd George-I am talking now about cratic State which we poor wretched reactionaries France and those who were present at the confer- are trying to suppress. (Laughter.) That is what

they have done in the towns. How the "Reds" Prohibit Peasant Representation It is nothing to the country. There are a few Communists among the workmen, but there are none among the peasants.

In the country districts the method employed was different. It was impossible to secure that the village Soviets should consist of Communists, because in the villages where I was there are no Communists. When I asked whether they were represented I was met with the reply that they were not represented at all. But all agreed in the assertion that if they elected a non-Communist representative, he could not obtain a

There is so much (continued the Premier) that form of their government. Further, M. Tchitcherin, indicates the kind of democratic Government respeaking on behalf of the Soviet Government, had presenting the workmen and peasants of Russia | declared that they were ready to give Poland a h Poland's national freedom and existence whom we are supposed to be fighting against. I wider frontier even than was contained in the Ver-In that case the Allies, out of the stores at am all for peace; I do not think it makes any dif- sailles terms. Therefore he was not inclined to reheir disposal, will help to equip the Polish people ference whether it is a Czarist Government or a gard the hypothesis upon which all this policy of for their own defence (Cheers.) Government you approve or do not approve; but the Allies was based as certain, or as even probable. The next point is that they will be supplied with | d) not let us pretend that the Parliament which Surely from the point of view of the Government is elected by practically universal suffrage-whe- themselves, and still more from the point of view ther in France or in Great Britain, where the vast of the House of Commons, they ought to have an Russia. There are no workmen or peasants in the like action was taken on our part, of reviewing the Russian Government. Lenin, I believe, is an aristocrat, and Trotzky is a journalist, In fact my right honourable friend the Secretary for War is an embodiment of both. (Laughter.) I want to New I came to what we shall be forced to do very | say this because of the misconception in the minds Interruption, and an Hon. Member-"America.") (Cries of "There is none.") Yes there is. I listened to the trade union deputation to-day and told them I would give my answer here on the theme put before me and my friends. Treaty is the subject of conflict between two They said: "You are fighting the Government because it is a revolutionary Government. The workmen of this country will not tolerate you overthrowing a Government merely because it is revolutionary." When the Russian revolution took place we instantly recognised the Government. The second Government was a moderate one, with Socialists interspersed, and the third Government was a purely Socialist Government, with as good Socialists as any in this House. We recognised it and we supported it. We gave it support in munitions as long as they were faithopinion there may be in America with regard to ful to Russia's bond. (Cries of "Bonds." I say

rences of opinion in their general artitude towards bond. (Cheers.)

A Straight Talk to the Firebrands. What is the Government of a nation that will not tand by her word? She was in the wer before us. France.came in to support Russia. Belgium came in to support France, we came in to support Bel- They recognised that an independent Polish nation gium and France, Russia was in first, and we was essential to the continued peace of the world. agreed that no one should go out and negotiate a (Hear, hear.) As the Russian pronouncements in esparate peace. Who broke that word? (Cries connection with these negotiations included a most of "The Crar.") No, he did not

of opportunity to reply later. clear to the people of this country thecause up to Poland seemed to be getting the best of it, it was the present we have had propaganda. (Cheera) even more wrong to propose to intervene by force

decline peace. The point is this: Are they for Council and put it in the hands of the Council of peace, or have they something else in view the League of Nations.

Frankly, I think they themselves are divided. In every land you get men who urge wild, extravadivisions and shades of opinion-in every Govern-ment. The whole point is whether these men of the type who are in a minority in Russia-whether | Bolshevism. they are in a minority in the Soviet I do not knowmen who are out merely to destroy and shatter, who only dance to the music of smashing furniturewhether these men are to be in control or whether the saner elements. I saw a crazy charlatan who is writing to-day, who wanted us to widen the conflict, as if it was not wide enough. If you get a real desire for peace you can get it; but if you the situation to him there were loud cries of are out to challenge the institutions upon which "Repeat what you said," "Be a man," "Don't the liberties and civilisation of Europe depend, then be a coward.'
we shall meet at Philippi. (Loud cheers.)
Sir Ernest

STRUGGLE FOR PRECEDENCE.

Labour Party Chairman and Mr. Asquith. Mr. Asquith, closely followed by Mr. Adamson Lab.), rose to continue the discussion. There were loud cries for " Mr. Asquith " from all parts of the House, but after a few moments the ex-Premier resumed his seat. The Speaker having already called upon Mr.

Asquith, asked Mr. Adamson if he wished to raise a point of order. Mr. Adamson said he did. He wished to know whether it was not in accordance with usage that a member who wished to move an amendment, and who, moreover, spoke on behalf of the largest party in Opposition, should take priority over any

other speaker. (Cries of 'No.") The Speaker-The answer is "No" It depends entirely upon who happens to catch the Speaker's eye. Mr. Asquith rose first, and in any event I should have called on him on account of the great and distinguished position he holds in the House.

Mr. Adamson-I have no desire to underrate the distinguished position that Mr. Asquith holds in he did make. This is what Mr. Shaw said in an this House and the country, but I want to state interview in the "Edinburgh Evening News" of quite frankly, both to you and other members of the House— (Cries of "Order.")
The Speaker—The right hon, gentleman is not

even under this reactionary Government.
(Laughter.)

Colonel Wedgwood here made an interruption chich was inaudible in the Press gallery.

Called him. (Cheers.)

Mr. Asquith, who was received with general in what he might call the forefront of politics for cheers, said he would be extremely sorry if he over twenty-five years. He was not a politician seemed to be interposing between Mr. Adamson who were kid gloves. He hit as hard as he could. Mr. Lloyd George—We have listened a good deal and the House. It would not be for more than a and he expected to be hit back; but he had to the hon, member extolling Bolsheviam. He few moments. He was not aware that Mr. Adam- always hit above the belt, and he expected others. son desired to precede him, or he would have been whatever their politics might be, to hit above the quite prepared to give way. They were discussing belt. (Cheers.) The hon, gentleman did not think one of the gravest issues that could come before it beneath him to suggest that Ministers

Minister had told them that he was in favour of

peace. That being so, it appeared to him to be A matter of deep regret that during the concluding part of the Prime Minister's speech he should have contributed to the difficulties of maintaining peace by an attack, both unnecessary and uncalled-for on the de facto Government of one of the varties to the present dispute.

He (Mr. Asquith) held no brief of any sort or of government; but it was the de facto Government of Russia, whether we liked it or not, and being the de facto Government, with which we had been in almost daily official or semi-official communication, it was desirable in the interests of international goodwill and amity that the Prime Minister should have treated it as such. (Cheers.)

Poland's "Aggressive Adventure."

In another respect, he did not think the Prime Minister's speech calculated to conduce to the object he had in view. He did not think he had ever before heard the House of Commons invited to sanction belligerent measures-for such they wereupon a hypothesis which was not yet realised, which the Prime Minister said he hoped would not be realised, and which so far as one could forecast were obscure possibilities which did not seem in the least likely to arise.

Poland, upon the first question of the maintenance of her independence, had so far reaped what

Only six months ago, with her population stricken with disease, and while she was on the verge of national bankruptcy, she started on an aggressive adventure of her own. She was a party to the original Covenant of the League of Nations, to which she was now appealing. Her avowed object as the conflict proceeded was to get rid of the comparatively limited frontier which had been proferred by the Peace Conference, and to go beyond it to the ancient boundaries of Poland. She demanded an area of something like 400,000 square kilometres inhabited by a population of 20,000,000. That was a purely aggressive adventure. It was a wanton enterprise, and should have been formally. repudiated by the united voice of Europe. (Hear, hear.) The effect of the Polish invasion was to unite Russis, and in the army now advancing through Poland they would find, not Bolshevists mainly, but the flower of the military youth and experience of Russia. That was the serious situation which they had to deal with.

Criticisms and Suggestions.

There were two critical moments when Powers might have intervered and employed the machiner; of the League of Mations, and if they had done so this situation would not have arisen. The first was when, at the end of February last, the Supreme Council of the Allies published the news about the Polish adventure, and the other was on the 8th April, when a despatch was sent by the Soviet Government to all the Entente Powers inviting intervention to prevent the war being resumed on the breakdown of the negotiations for an amaistice To that Note no reply was made by our Government.

If the Executive of the Entente Powers had had the common sense to avail themselves of the machinery of the League of Nations, then nostilities would have been suspended, and peace

Now he came to the situation itself, which could easily have been avoided. The negative steps to which the Prime Minister had referred merited their approval, but the positive steps which it was proposed to take were all of them steps of a belligerent kind. He wanted to make two sugges-

In the first place, if it turned out that there was a breakdown, or a deadlock, in the negotiations which were to take place on the following day, he suggested that as a last resource the machinery of the League of Nations should be brought into operation.

The Soviet Government had already initiated peace with two, if not three, of the border States, and pass on the railway and therefore could not go in none of these cases had they estensibly interfered with the independence of these states or the

There was power to bring Parliament back on six days' notice after an adjournment, but perhaps a simpler plan would be to adjourn on Thursday for a week, and then see how things

In any case he wanted to get from the Government, if he could, an assurance that they would not rise on Thursday next if this matter were still undeappear to have given the Government authority to enter upon warlike operations without the opportunity of further discussion with the fuller light which it would later possess. (Hear, hear.)

REJECTION OF THE BILL MOVED. Labour Party and Poland's Independence.

Mr. Clynes (Lab.), moving the rejection of the Bill, said those who now asked them to pity Poland because she knew no better were entitled to be told that the Allies should have known better than not merely to let her act as she had done, but actually lead her into the reckless and foolish path which had been her undoing.

If Polish nationality or independence were seriously menaced, the Labour Party would have to consider their position airesh. (Hear, hear.) emphatic guarantee of the continued independence Considerable interruption followed, during which of Poland the Government ought not to make its taking place a few hundred yards from them. the Speaker said hon, members would have pienty preparations or arrange its policy on the contrary Mr. Lloyd George continued—I want to make it to intervene diplomatically and peacefully when

If anyone here wants to preach the doctrines of formation from the newspapers. The independence Sovietism, we can most them. It rests with the of Poland was in itself a matter of great importance common cense of the people of this country. to Europe. This matter should be dealt with, not (Cheers.) Peaco is essential for all creeds that are by France and this country alone, but by the worth preserving. We made an offer which, if the Soviet Government really meant peace, they would have accepted. They could have met all the nations of Europe, and probably America, at the council table, and discussed all the conditions. I do not believe that mere revenge on Poland, mere punishment of Poland, mere destruction in Poland, is enough in itself to induce the Soviet Government to decline peace. The point is this: Are they for Council and put it in the hands of the Council of

AN EXCITING INCIDENT.

Mr. Long and Mr. Malone's Wild Charge. Mr. L'Estrange Malone said the great financial interests would do everything possible to fight

He charged the Government with carrying on war with Russia because certain Ministers had financial interests in that country, and specially mentioned Mr. Long, the First Lord of the Ad-

At this moment the First Lord entered the House, and while his colleagues were explaining

Sir Ernest Wild (Co.U.) asked the Speaker whether the House could give Mr. Malone permission to repeat his charges.

The Speaker-I leave that to his discretion.
Mr. Long said he understood the hon, gentlemen had brought a general allegation against himself and the Government that in conducting their operations with Russia members of the Government were influenced by the fact that they held financiel interests in that country. He told the House that he (Mr. Long) had holdings of £3,000

An Hon, Member-£300,000. Mr. Long said he had been trustee for a company for many years, and he had a holding of £3,000 which he now held.

There were two ways of bringing these charges. One was in that House, where the hon, member was protected, and the other was in the columns of a newspaper. This charge had been brought against him, and he met it as he would the hon, gentleman, if he chose to bring a similar charge, by bringing an action for libel. (Cheers.)

He went into the witness-box and was cross-examined, on oath and the evidence was published broadcast. The question was put to him whether this interest had in any way affected his action as a Minister, and he said what was the simple truth -that he had entirely forgotten that he had this compulsion, but to an industrial compulsion which raising a further point of order. Mr. Asquith has holding, and that eo far as his public work was the workers of Britain have never dreamt of, not the ear of the House. He caught my eye, and I concerned it certainly did not affect him. He had the House-the issue of peace or war. The Prime were actuated by sordid financial interests in what they were doing. So far as they were concerned, the charge was a contemptible onc. (Cheers.) But this charge was intended to go further. It was deliberately made to create the impression that Ministers were actuated by low sordid motives-that because they had holdings in this or that investment their whole policy was actuated by these sordid motives, and not by an honest desire to serve the Empire and the cause of peace. The charge against bimself he dismissed; but at a moment of supreme importance when the gravest issues were at stake, the honourable member sought to create the worst and bitterest form of class feeling. All he could say was that the charge that Ministers were not actuated in the performance of their duty by the purest motives was one that could not be substantiated. Though it was a contemptible charge, it was no dishonour Ministers or to that House, but it was an enduring dishonour to the man who made it. (Cheers.) Colonel A. Murray (Co.R.) considered that if the Government had shown a living faith in the League of Nations, the present difficulty would have been

> Mr. Seddon (Co.N.D.P.) said that the people of this country would revolt against any sort of armed interference on our part between Poland and Russia. The House ought not to adjourn while there was any uncertainty about the situation. Mr. Neil M'Lean (Lab.) said if the Cabinet decided on war, it would cause a revolution in this country which would sweep them from power. He desired an immediate peace between Russia and Poland which would leave Poland her independence. Mr. Raffan (Co.R.) demanded that the Russian terms should be submitted to Parliament before

they adjourned. PREMIER READS THE TERMS TO POLAND Expression of Opinion Withheld.

(R.), said that since making his speech he had received from M. Kameneff the Soviet peace terms. (The right honourable gentleman then read the terms, which appear in another part of this issue.) Continuing, he said that these terms had been communicated to France and Italy.

Meanwhile he did not think it would be fair for him to give an expression of opinion either that night or on the following day, because the Russians had insisted upon direct negotiations with the Polish Government, and any expression of opinion might embarrass the discussion.

There were certain things he did not quite know the meaning of, and which the Polish delegates would certainly ask to have explained. The Government had given a preliminary expression of opinion to the Polish Government, and beyond that he did not think it fair to go, because it would be taking the negotiations out of the hands of the Polish Government.

Answering Sir D. MacLean further, the Prime Minister expressed the hope that the request that the House would not adjourn this week would not be pressed. If Sir Donald was of the same opinion on Wednesday or Thursday, he might put the Colonel Wedgwood asked for an assurance that raile negotiations were going on the Government would cease from hostile action against Russia in any way. They should have an assurance that

negotiations by the Secretary of State for War or funeral is to be strictly private. anybody else. (Cries of "oh," and cheers.)
Mr. Clynes's motion for the rejection of the Bill cheers, and the second reading agreed to.

COUNTY MONAGHAN AMBUSH. Constables' Plucky Fight.

When Constables Boyd and Sharkey, of Ballybay, were returning to the latter station from Newbliss by motor they were ambushed at Aghadrumken, three miles from Newbliss. Half-a-dozen shots rang out from the raiders from each side of the road, and Constable Boyd was injured. The latter returned the fire, made a good defence and struggled with the raiders, and when knocked down lay on his revolver. The motor was dismantled, and Constable Sharkey made swear he would resign the force. Constable Boyd was subsequently conveyed to Monaghan County Infirmary. One of the raiders has been wounded, it is

A RUSE THAT FAILED.

Strange Occurrence at Dundalk.

Dundalk Junction goods etation at an early hour vesterday morning was the scene of a singular occurrence. It appears that for the past six weeks two military lornes consigned to Carrickfergus have been held up there and were on waggons at a siding. A number of armed and masked men cided, without any opportunity for Parliamentary a siding. A number of armed and masked men discussion or revision. The House ought not to carrying hay proceeded to this place and attempted to fire the waggons. The attempt was unsuccessful, as the hay burned itself out and the waggons were only slightly scorched. Developments, however, became more exciting.

As porter M'Enaney was walking towards the goods platform at 12-3 a.m. he was called upon to halt and was confronted with a man who held a revolver at his head and cautioned him to say nothing. A few minutes later he was told to get away. At one o'clock porter Reid was also held up as he was proceeding along the line towards the goods station, when a masked man produced arms and directed bun to go on to the Ardee road. On reaching the road he was surrounded by about 20 armed and masked men. After half an hour's detention be was liberated.

It is thought that the attempt to fire the mili. I will supply it to the hon, gentleman. tary waggons was only a ruse to attract the attention of armed policemen who were stationed on the passenger platform to protect the mails. Tho police were totally unaware of the exciting events

OPEN MARKET FOR FLAX.

Armagh Rural Council's Resolution.

"NO SYMPATHY."

Privy Councillor and the Government.

RESIGNATION TENDERED.

The Right Hon. Sir Thomas Stafford, of Rock ingham, County Roscommon, has addressed the following letter to the Lord Lieutenant:-

"The refusal of the Prime Minister to take the only step which in my opinion gives us a chance of peace in Ireland-viz., the firm and immediate offer of a form of Dominion Government on the lines I recently submitted to your Excellency, renders it impossible for me to remain any longer a member of your Advisory Council. I beg, therefore, that your Excellency will be pleased to accept my resignation.

"My remaining any longer a member of your Council, which is not consulted, places me in the invidious position of seeming to approve of a policy with regard to the government of Ireland with which I have no sympathy."

DEATH OF DR. J. KING KERR, J.P.

A Former Member of the Belfast Corporation.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. J. King

Kerr, J.P., a highly esteemed Belfast citizen, which occurred yesterday morning at his resience, Glenaltans, Knock. Dr. King Kerr had been in a frail state of health for a considerable time, but although it was well known that his illness was of a serious character he continued to take an active part in public affairs up to two or three months ago. For about seven weeks he had been confined to his room, and his friends were therefore prepared for the end. A son of the late Mr. James Kerr, the owner of a large agricultural holding near Randalstown, Dr. King Kerr received his early education at the Belfast Royal Academical Institution, where he had as two of his fellow pupils the late Mr. R. J. M'Mordie, M.P., with whom he was closely associated in the administration of civic affairs, and Sir J. Walker Craig, afterwards Recorder of Belfast, From the Institution he went to Queen's College, where he graduated as M.D. in 1871. Subsequently he acquired a practice at Leytonstone, in the South of England. His ability was there quickly recognised, and his services were much in demand, but the strain of his work impaired his health, and in order to recoperate, as well as to satisfy his love for foreign travel, he made a voyage to Ohina. On returning to his native country he resumed the practice of his profession at Knock, and met with great success. He was a keen student of politics, and at the General Election in 1900 he was nominated as an independent Conservative candidate in East Antrim. He was, however, beaten by the late Colonel James M'Calmont, who, with a poll of 3,582, secured a majority of 929. Dr. King Kerr entered the Corporation about that time as one of the councillors for Victoria Ward, which he continued to represent, latterly as an alderman, until last January. In the Corporation he had work admirably suited to his talents, and for the many health and sanitary reforms which have been effected in Belfast during the last two decades a large share of the credit must be given to him. The protection of the health of the citizens by the erection of good houses, the construction of wide streets, the provision of open spaces, and the creation of an efficient sanitary department. was to his mind the supreme duty of the Corporation, and his enthusiasm for reform and improvement never slackened. As chairman of the Public Health Committee he took a leading part in the movement for the abclition of the elum Mr. Lloyd George, replying to Sir D. Maclean areas and the erection of the infectious diseases hospital at Purdysburn. He was also an important witness at the Health Commission inquiry in 1907. His practical knowledge was, of course, a great asset to the Public Health Committee. and his opinions always commanded the respect of his colleagues. At a later stage in his career he presided over the deliberations of the Hospitals and Dispensaries Committee, and assisted to draft the scheme which was adopted by the Corporation for the treatment of tuberculosis. As a mark of their appreciation of his public services, the members of the Corporation and a number of | 600 Nickel Silver Tea Spoons ... 74d. For 64 personal friends presented him with his portrait 500 Nickel Dessert Spoons or Forks in oils, and this canvas is now exhibited in one of the corridors of the City Hall. Dr. ning Lerr was a staunch champion of the Loyalist cause, and was one of the foremost members of the East Belfast Unionist Association. He was a member of the committee of Dundels Iresbyterian Church. Much of the wide and wellmerited popularity which he enjoyed was due to his kindly personality. Apart from that, however, he deserved well of the citizens for his public spirit and the loyalty and earnestness with which he discharged the duties devolving on him as one of their representatives. Sincere sym- 50 Odd Crumb Trays 1/3 and 1/11 pathy will be felt for his widow, who is a daughter of the late Mr. George Matier, solicitor. The

was negatived without a division amid Government GERMAN AID AGAINST RUSSIA. TRAVELLING GOODS Reduced 2s in the £1.

Mr. Churchill's Yiews.

Yesterday in the House of Commons Mr. Churchill replied to a number of questions and supplementary questions on the operations in North Russia and the recently published Blue Book dealing with them.

Arising out of one of these Lieut. Commander Kenworthy asked whether it was part of his policy last November to invite an alliance with Germany against Bolshovist Russia. Mr. Churchill-I have never made such a suggestion, but I think there is a good deal to be

WOODBRIDGE BY-ELECTION.

said upon that subject.

Coalition Unionist Returned.

The result of the by-election for the Woodbridge division of Suffolk was declared yesterday as follows :-Sir Arthur Churchman (Co.U.)... 9,898 Mr. H. D. Harben (Lab.) 8,707

Co. U. majority 1,191 The result on the General Election was-Colonel R. F. Peel (Co.U.), 8,654; Major R. Elleston (R.), 6,842; Co. U. majority, 1,812.

SINN FEIN THEFTS OF PENSION MONEY.

The Postmaster-General Questioned.

In the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Lynn asked the Postmaster General whether he could state the amount of old-ago pension money that had been stolen by the Sinn Femers from the Post Office, and whether the loss had occu made good by the British Treasury or by the ratepayers in the districts where the robberies took place. Mr. Pike Pease said he would endeavour to get the figures. Colonel Ashley asked for an answer to the last Lart of the question. Mr. Pike Pease-I am in communication with the Treasury, and directly I have the information

INCREASED INCOME.TAX. Are you over assessed? If so, write or call Figures investigated and adjusted .- W. & E GARRETT, b. Bedford Street.

______ LONDONDERRY LOOTING.

Cases Adjourned for One Month.

FURTHER BARGAINS

MITCHELL'S STOCKTAKING SALE

NOW PROCEEDING

Wonderful Cash Bargains In Every Department.

7 Solid Oak Palm Tubs, 12 x 12, with Brass Bands 35/6. For 25% 20 Blue-Flame Oil Cooking Stoves (2 Burners) 89/6. For 718 20 Large Ovens for same 49/6. For \$18

60 All-Steel Folding Garden Chairs, 15/6. For 13x 60 All-Steel Folding Stools 3/9..... For 33 50 Strong Tin Saucepans (no cover), 21 pint 1/9. For 13 50 Family Scales, weigh up to 25lb.

11/6. For 8/16 50 Strong Tin Stove Kettles (3 pint). 3/8. 30 do. Porridge Saucepans (2 pint). 4/6. For 311

50 Strong Tin Saucepans (no cover), 4 pint 2/-. For 18 20 Model Roasters. ... 10/6 . For 8/11 20 do. do., large size 12/6. For 104

50 Strong Quality Tinned Steel Kettles (4 pint) 8/6. For 73 50 Strong Quality Tinned Steel Kettles (6 pint) 9/11. For 85 50 Strong Quality Tinned Steel Kettles (8 pint) 12/6. For 103

25 Heavy Quality Enamelled Steel Stew Pans, 10 pint 14/6. For 103 20 Heavy Quality Enamelled Steel Stew Pans, & pint 12/6. For 9/11 100 Fancy Earthenware Flower Pole. 1/6. For 1014 750 Carpet Whisks (best American).

Usual Price, 5/6. For 3/11 180 Hand Whisks (Best American) 2/6. For 1,8 150 Hand Whisks 1/9. For 114 150 Whisk Carpet Brush Heads 3/6. For 18 120 Range Brushes. Usual Price, 1/9. For 1/11 350 Scrubbing Brusbes 6d. For 14 100 Kitchen Brushes 1/9. For 1,3 50 Sets Shoe Brushes 5/11. For 43 150 Boot Brushes. Usual Price, 1/6. For 114 1,000 Linen Candle Shades, assorted Colours, 5d.

500 Do. do. 8d. For 8id 350 Linen Gas Shades, assorted colours, 2% and 3/6 All for 1/11 100 Fire Screens, assorted designs, 3/11. For 8/3 100 Fire Screens, in Sateen, with Wood Frames assorted colours 5/6. For 1/3 20 Do. do. extra large size, 16/6. ... For 197 300 Photo Frames; white metal, various shapes and sizes, 1s to 6s...... Offered from 9d to is

5 Gross Toilet Rolls (Special Quality). 10d Each, 9/6 per Dozen, 180 Flour Sifters 2/6. For 1/11 160 Perfect Graters and Slicers ... 2/6. For 1/11 100 Aluminium Teapots (21 Pint)

180 Aluminium Fish Trowels 1/3. For 1/2 150 Aluminium Fish Slices 1/6. Fer 1/3 200 Aluminium Soup Ladles 2/6. For 1/8 100 Aluminium Soap Boxes 1/6. For 1/5 500 Folding Coat Hangers 9d. For 64 100 Child's Knife, Fork and Spoon Set 2/11. For 1/11

250 Tooth Brushes (Good Quality) 1/3. For 1/2 240 Tins Tooth Powder 6d. For 440 160 Tubes Tooth Paste 71d. For M 300 Pr. Twill Housemaids' Gloves.

150 Pr. .. with long sleeves ... 2/-. Fer 1/8 150 Corckscrews, Self-drawing ... 1/2. For 13 600 Strong Steel Forks (Dessert)

400 Nickel Table Spoons or Forks 60 Safety Razors, 2 Blades ... 1/11. For 1/2

30 Safety Razors, 3 Blades ... 5/-. For 3/11 50 Safet; Razors, various makes. 5/- to 12/6. For 3/- to 74 100 Razor Strops, special value. . . 3/6. For 21 60 Crumb Trays and Brushes, Oak, Walnut and Mahogany ... 11/9. For 9/11

80 Ladies' Expanding Wristlet Watches, 10 years' guaranty. Rolled Gold Bracelet, with Jewelled Movement. Usual Price, 65/-. For 42; SILVER PLATE, JEWELLERY, and WATCHES Reduced 3s in the £1.

Our Entire Stock of FIRE SCREENS Offered at Enormous Reductions. We have Hundreds of other Bargains, and Invite You to Walk Through our Showrooms.

DAVID

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT BY COMPADE.

Tragedy of Loaded Rifle in Darry.

An inquest was held in Ebrington Military Barracks, Derry, yesterday, into the circumstances attending the death of Private C. L. Burke, Queen's Own West Surreys, who was killed in Derry Jail On Monday. Lieut. II. C. Halliley gave evidence of identifica tion. Deceased was about 21 years of age, and his father resided at Ponsonby Place, Westminster, London.

Sergeant W. Reeves, D.C.M., Queen's, said be was with the last witness when Private Mattia came into the company office. He was so agitated his he was unable to speak. When he recovered his composure he said: "I have shot him, I have shot him." Witness asked who? and he said Burke. The Coroner—Did Mattia know the gun was loaded?—No; it was supposed to be unloaded. It was the duty of Lance-Corporal Andrews to see that the rifle was unloaded.

Major A. H. Falconer, R.A.M.C., said the whole of the back of the skull was shattered, and this was the cause of death was the cause of death The Jury returned a verdict of death from ful shot wound accidentally inflicted. They added a rider expressing the opinion that Private Mattia did not know the rifle was loaded.

CHIEF SECRETARY AND POLICE PENSIONERS.

Sir J. Renmant asked the Chief Secretary in the House of Commons yesterday if he recently received a deputation from the Royal Irish Conetabulary and Publin Metropolitan Police Police siot ers with reference to an increase of their prewar pension: if so, did no promise them special treatment, and what action he proposed to take. Sir H. Greenwood-The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The proton I made was that I would unge upon the Government the claims of the expecial treatment. I have done so, and shall continue to

BALLYMENA TELEPHONE FACILITIES.

do 20.

At the monthly meeting of the Council of Bally mers Chamber of Commerce on Monday evening Mr. T. W. Haughton, J.P. (vice-president), presiding the secretary (Mr. Giffin) intimated that he had writen Mr. James Cowie, general manager, Minland Kadasy (N.C.C.), with a vice to having the massenger station done so much more effectively, and snyone who done so much more effectively, we have not chings there is no country that we could have supported there is no country that we could have supported there is no country that we could have supported, and if we broke with there is no country that we could have supported, and if we broke with there is no country that we could have supported, and if we broke with the great one, it was not done to because the was reported to the season of the configuration of the same was accorded to the same was accorded to the matter of the world—very substantial stores, captured over some of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to Giram of the world—very substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to desire the substantial stores, captured stores and otherwise, which up to desire the substantial stores, captured the substantial stores, captured the substan