

PREMIER UNDER-PAID, OPINION OF ASQUITH

Has Hard Time Paying His Bill, Says Former Holder of the Job

LONDON, Feb. 7.—The premier of Great Britain has a hard time of it trying to pay his bills on a salary of £30,000 a year and his pay ought to be raised, says the former Prime Minister, Herbert H. Asquith, who ought to know for he occupied that position for 11 years.

As far as known, Mr. David Lloyd George has not asked for a raise in his pay but his remuneration has been the subject of an inquiry conducted by a committee of parliament which also is examining into the salaries of all the British cabinet ministers.

Mr. Asquith told the committee that the office of the premier of Great Britain is a very expensive one and his duties can not be properly discharged by an expenditure limited to that of a private citizen. The former prime minister admitted that he, himself, was a much poorer man when he left office than when he entered it.

Mr. Asquith explained that the premier had to do a great deal of entertaining and afford hospitality to all sorts of conditions of people both at home and abroad, under the existing arrangement, he had to defray this expense entirely at his own cost.

Even if a government hospitality fund should be provided for entertaining distinguished foreigners, Mr. Asquith was of the opinion that the premier's salary ought to be advanced.

Mr. Asquith had few kind words to say about the privilege which the premier has of occupying the official residence at 10 Downing street.

"It is quite true," he said, "that you live in the house free from rent, rates and taxes, but it is a very expensive house to keep up. It is a very inconvenient house in many ways. It requires a large staff and I suspect my salary as prime minister would not be sufficient to pay for the expenses of it as I had would; if he were offered the choice, rather not live in it at all."

The salary of the premier of Great Britain at present rate of exchange is equivalent to \$19,250. This compares with a salary of \$75,000 and \$25,000 expenses for the President of the United States; \$60,000 for the President of France and of 100,000 marks salary and 600,000 marks expenses for the President of Germany. Members of the cabinet of the President of the United States receive \$12,000 a year.

**SAYS DE VALERA NOT
SINN FEIN DICTATOR**

Not Authorized to Negotiate for
Peace Terms

DUBLIN, Feb. 7.—Eamon de Valera's presence in Ireland can not be attributed to any connivance of the British government, declares a leading Sinn Fein member of the moderate group. He expressed the conviction of an interview that the "peace" movement which have been widely discussed the past two months represent nothing but a desire of the government, for propaganda purposes, to court the foreign opinion of its good intentions and that they have been thwarted by the "unreasonableness of Sinn Fein."

The man interviewed said he had been in touch with the returned "president of the Irish Republic" since de Valera's return from America.

"De Valera's position," he declared, "is by no means that of a dictator, even that of a plenipotentiary. He is a representative office. He must act in accordance with the sentiment of his organization. He is not authorized to negotiate peace on any such terms as have been offered, and if such terms would be repudiated, Sinn Feiners maintain that Dall Eireann is the only legitimate government in Ireland and will only negotiate as such."

The permission of the British premier for Dall Eireann to meet, with the exception of such men as the government want, is ridiculous. As a matter of fact, Dall Eireann had been meeting secretly all along and issuing orders through its various ministries.

It is known that members of Dall Eireann do not regard the "safe conduct" offered by Mr. Lloyd George as of any value or as adding anything to its existing facilities. It is regarded merely as an invitation for the organization to betray certain of its members—some of them having been unsuccessfully sought by crown agents for many months.


This fairly represents the average Sinn Fein view current among those who cannot be considered extremists.

HICKS APPOINTED RECEIVER

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 6.—Announcement was made here today that Charles Hicks had been appointed permanent receiver of the Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia railroad, which has its terminus here, the action being taken by Federal Judge E. T. Sargent, following a hearing held at Knoxville Saturday. The road had been in the hands of Mr. Hicks as temporary receiver.

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EXTREMISTS AROUSE SPIRIT OF REBELLION

Efforts Threaten to Bring About Revolt Among Natives of India

By WILLIAM L. MALLABAR
(International News Service)

LONDON, Feb. 5.—"Extremists are setting India ablaze."

"The time for toying with sedition in this vast empire has passed."

"The law must be rigorously and impartially applied."

Sedition is being preached throughout the country and unless the authorities wake up the fire will gain such control that it will be almost impossible to subdue it.

These are, but a few of the startling statements made by Sir Michael O'Dwyer, former governor of the Punjab, in a series of articles he has written on Indian unrest for a prominent London newspaper.

"Of the four hundred millions in India not one percent has any knowledge of English and only 6 per cent can write their name in any language," is another of O'Dwyer's assertions.

"The agitators with enormous funds are carrying on their propaganda. Some of them being in the pay of foreign governments; while on the other hand, the government, which is now paralyzed by the Indian members, is helpless, as it does not possess strong men at the helm."

Extremists Have Power

"The extremists are saying that they will make our rule in India impossible, which is quite within their power," is an extract given by O'Dwyer from a letter of a European planter, which adds: "I would prefer to live in a purely native state than in India, supposed to be governed by us, but in reality governed by extremist agitators."

Gandhi is the man to whom the Anglo-Indians point as the main cause of the unrest in India at the present moment and O'Dwyer denounces him as a "scheming, revolutionary fanatic."

"It can be stated with certainty that the present extremist movement is heading straight for the disorganization of trade and commerce and for the ruin of every British interest. It is for anarchy and rebellion and the one way to meet it and break this movement is to enforce the law irrespective of persons, class or caste," adds O'Dwyer.

"All those who are leading the revolutionary conspiracy—Gandhi, the A. H. brothers and Sagar—should be dealt with under the law before it is too late."

Gaining Popular Support

"The masses of the Indian population expect, and they have a right to expect, a just and firm government which will maintain order and promote prosperity. Now they see order and prosperity seriously threatened and are at a loss to understand how such things can be. They are being slowly alienated, for Gandhi's latest program is mainly addressed to the simple and credulous classes."

Sir Charles McLeod, senior partner of the firm of McLeod and company, of Calcutta, Bombay and New York, adds his voice to the demand for the suppression of Gandhi.

McLeod has spent many years of his life in India. He was for 20 years in Bengal and is now chairman of the East India section of the London chamber of commerce. He says:—

"Gandhi and all his kind ought to have been put under lock and key long since. This is not only my private opinion of the arch agitator and all his works; it is the opinion of the Indian trading community itself."

"The Indian merchant doesn't want politics that are going to ruin his business. The Gandhis are out for nothing but their own hand, and the Indian merchant knows it."

"BLUEBEARD" OF FRANCE OBTAINS DELAY AGAIN

Charged With Murder of Eleven Women

PARIS, Feb. 7.—Henri Desire Landru, under indictment charged with the murder of 11 women to whom at various times he had promised marriage, and whose trial before the French assizes had been set for March 1st, has succeeded in obtaining another postponement of his trial. Landru has been in jail for two years and recently was sentenced to five years in jail and subsequent deportation for swindling.

Under French law, a man accused of crime has the right to take cognizance of the dossier in his case before facing the jury. He may make a fight upon the legality of any of the documents being submitted to the jury.

The dossier in Landru's case includes 7,000 documents, all of which have to be copied, as the public prosecutor does not trust the originals in the hands of the accused. The work of copying the documents will occupy more than a month.

Landru has informed the court that he will require several weeks which he intends to study the documents as he intends to challenge all of them as irrelevant. Landru caused considerable worry and annoyance to Judge Bonin while the latter was investigating the case and now that it has been turned over to the prosecutor of the republic he has adopted the same tactics.

To one of the assistants of the prosecutor who reproached him with procrastination saying that French justice has other things to look after than the Landru case, the alleged Gambais Bluebeard replied:

"Then why don't you let me go. I am perfectly willing." Then he added: "How I miss Judge Bonin. At least he was a gentleman."

MRS. HARDING SETS THE STYLE FOR SPRING WEAR

NEW YORK, Feb. 6.—General description of the clothes for spring-time wear at the white house which Mrs. Warren G. Harding selected this week in New York emanated from her hotel suite today. The wife of the President-elect, although viewing daily a pageant of elaborate variety, has chosen only a conservative number of garments distinctive but simple.

She bought only a few of the many evening gowns offered by New York designers and in her choice of day-time garb showed a preference for one-piece dresses with hats and wraps to match, rather than coat suits. Dark blue was her most popular color, while gray and green predominated in a lesser number of frocks and dresses. For morning wear she picked a gray foulard dress.

Commenting on the shopping activities of the future "first lady," her companion, Mrs. Harry S. New told reporters today that Mrs. Harding has selected only those clothes essential to her position and had bought no jewels there.

British India, Egypt and the United States produce 85 per cent of the world's cotton.

LOOTING AND LEVIES MAKE FAMINE WORSE

Robbers and Soldiers Add to Distress of Chinese

PEKING, Feb. 7.—Looting by robbers and levies by soldiers add to the distress of famine-ridden people of southern China, says a report by a missionary engaged in famine relief work at Wei-hsien, near the Honan border. The troops with their demands for "contributions" of grain, fodder and clothing are said to be worse affliction than the robbers. The latter are described as emulating Robin Hood in some respects in a recent raid at Fang Chia ying, eight miles from Wei-hsien, where the homes of the wealthy were invaded.

"As the robbers went from house to house, stores of grain were opened up, chests of clothing broken open and the poor were dressed and fed beyond the style even of better days. Copper coins and small cash were heaped up in the streets and bartered for considerable discount for silver dollars, for, like their distinguished prototype, the Chinese Robin Hood, are not impelled by purely philanthropic impulse, but are after plunder in the most transparent and convertible form. While frankly aiming at the lion's share, they showed sympathy for those weaker than themselves."

The soldiers, instead of checking the operations of the robbers, are described as having understanding with them and conniving at furnishing them with ammunition.

"There is first a parley," says the writer; "then the soldiers make an impetuous charge and the brigands retreat. The soldiers dig, at indicated places, and unearth money which has been buried by the brigands. Into the holes in the ground they put ammunition and cover it up. Then the brigands make a counter attack and the troops retreat leaving the former to recover the buried ammunition."

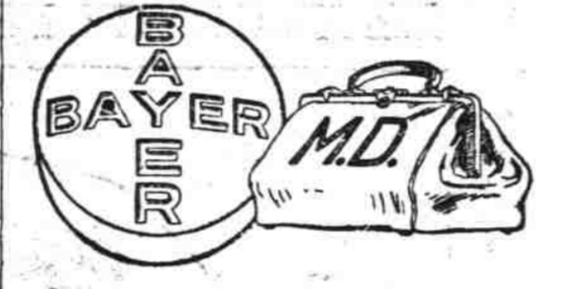
Not only are the rich being reduced to poverty by the demands of the soldiery, but a large proportion of the middle-class population who might have been able to get through the winter is fast becoming wholly dependent upon public beneficence, it is alleged.

CITY PAY ROLL REDUCED

ROANOKE, Va., Feb. 6.—A five-cent an hour reduction in pay, effective Monday, for all city employees, including firemen and day laborers, was ordered by the Roanoke city commission Saturday.

ASPIRIN

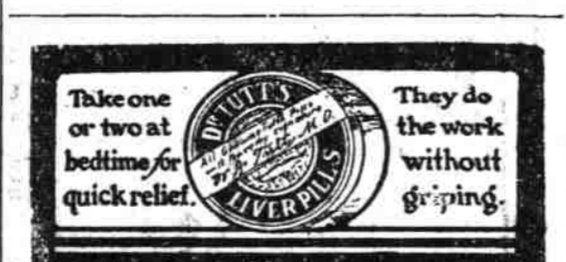
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