THE COAL COMMISSION.

NATIONALISATION OF MINES

MORE STRIKING FIGURES.

LONDON, March 18.

The Coal Commission resumed its last public session yesterday. It is forecasted that the Commission report will recommend the nationalisation of mines, an eight hour day, and ten per cent increase of wages. The facts of yesterday's sittings was the striking figures produced by the financial writer Emil Davies, showing the abnormal profits made by many large collieries. Reuter's Special Service.

LONDON, March 19.

Mr. Thomas is leaving for Paris to-day. Labour correspondents to-day warn against optimism based on the idea that the Coal Commission disclosures are bound to result in satisfaction to the miners' demands. They point out that the compromise which the Government is expected to offer is not likely to include the nationalisation of mines which now is demanded by leading miners. Reuter's Special Service.

The following were the members of the Royal Commission appointed under the Coal Industry Commission Act referred to in the above telegram:— Chairman, the Hon. Mr. Justice Sankey, G.B.E., Mr. Arthur Balfour, J.P., Sir Thomas Royden Bt., Mr. R.W. Cooper, Mr. Robert Smillie, J.P., Sir Artur Duckham, K.C.B., Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. R.H. Tawney, Mr. J.T. Forgie, Mr. Sidney Webb, Mr. Frank Hodges, Mr. Evan Williams, Sir Leo Chiozza Money.

The Commission has had the assistance of Sir Richard Redmayne, K.C.B., Chief Inspector of Mines and Technical Adviser to the Controller of Coal Mines, Mr. S. J. Chapman, C.B.E., General Economic Department, Board of Trade), and Mr. H. J. Wilson, C.B.E., (Ministry of Labour). The secretary of the Commission is Mr. Arnold D. McNair, C.B.E., of the Coal Mines Department.

The sittings of the Coal Commission have been deeply interesting, and even at times sensational. The wisdom of the miners in picking their side from among the ablest of the Labour "intellectuals," as well as from among themselves, has been amply justified. Mr. Smillie, Mr. Webb and Sir Leo Money seem to have so far divided the honours of the proceedings between them, and there was clearly no danger that the miners' side of the Commission would not be properly stated. Mr. Smillie, in particular, had an embarrassing and unconventional way with witnesses, and did not scruple to push a point home. For instance, Mr. Lee of the Coal Mines Department of the Board of Trade, made a number of imprudent and unsubstantiated assertions about the danger of American competition. Mr. Smillie soon brought him to book and compelled him to modify his statements. Then followed an enlightening dialogue. Mr. Smillie asked whether the Board of Trade drew its alarmist statements about American competition from the newspapers, or the newspapers from the Board of Trade. "If the papers ask us for facts, we give them," was Mr. Lee's reply. "Facts!" said Mr. Smillie, "Are they facts?" "Perhaps I used the word 'facts' rather loosely," confessed the witness.

Other facts which have already emerged at the inquiry are sufficiently startling. For instance, when the Coal Controller granted the last 2s. 6d. per ton increase in the price of coal last June, he had no figures showing the cost of production later than the previous November. This half-crown increase yielded £25,000,000, of which £10,000,000 went to the State and £15,000,000 to the coal-owners, something like £5,000,000 appeared as an extra subsidy to the more prosperous collieries. Again the profits of the mining industry (not including distribution) have risen from a pre-war average, taken over five years of £13,000,000, and from a figure of £18,500,000 in 1913 to £37,900,000 in 1916, £27,750,000 in 1917, and about £30,000,000 for 1918. During the first six months of 1918, the profits were at the rate of £39,000,000 per annum. Yet another significant fact is that in Durham, where the mines have for years worked approximately the same hours as the whole of the miners are now demanding, the output per worker is larger than in South Wales, where the longer hours are worked. This does not by itself prove much, as output depends largely on the character of the seams and the method of working. But it should at least serve to make people cautious to quote figures of American output as a conclusive argument proving the inefficiency of the workers in Great Britain.

THE RAILWAYMEN'S DEMANDS.

LONDON, March 19.

Reports of week-end district meetings of railwaymen received at headquarters indicate that there is a disinclination to state any demands, while transport workers are dissatisfied with the condition attached to the forty-four hours' week offered them. Reuter's Special Service.

OVERSEAS TRADE.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 13.

The Oversea Trade Department and the Association of British Motor Manufacturers are sending an investigator to Ceylon, Singapore, Batavia, Australasia, Yokohama, Shanghai, Rangoon, Calcutta and Bombay to inquire into the prospects for the sale of British motors.

THE SILVER MARKET.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 3.

Messrs. Montagu report that there is no fresh development in the silver market. The Shanghai Exchange recovered to 4/7 1/2 tael.

An Australian aviation scheme provides for a service linking up six cities. Half a million of capital will be needed.

CINEMA SALLE KLEBER, CAIRO
TO-NIGHT.
"THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO."
1st and 2nd episodes.

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LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

CASE OF NEUTRALS.

(From the American Agency)

NEW YORK, March 20.

The League for Free Nations held a luncheon whereat the question of the inclusion of Germany in the League of Nations was discussed. Mr. George Haven Putman contended that owing to the looting of Belgian and Northern France one or two generations ought to elapse wherein the Germans should toil to make reparation. Doctor Ryan of the Catholic University of Washington, contended that Germany should have a place in the League of Nations as soon as she was willing and able to maintain democratic institutions.

PARIS, March 21.

The Committee of the League of Nations Commission, over which Lord Robert Cecil presides heard the representatives of the nations which remained neutral during the war. All of them adhered to the project adopted on February 14 by the Conference, the first fifteen articles of which were discussed. Several amendments were tabled, over, including the increase in the number of secondary states on the Executive Council, the reduction of armaments and the control of the manufacture of war material. The neutral States also adhered to the conciliatory amendment proposed by M. Leon Bourgeois for the formation of a commission charged with the task of taking note of the armaments of various States. An excellent welcome was accorded to the various suggestions on this subject.

The discussion of the last articles will be terminated on Friday. The Full Commission will meet on Friday and will look into the various modifications proposed. Havas.

JUGO-SLAVIA.

A HABSBURG TRICK.

ROME, March 18.

Writing in the "Petit Journal" the Jugo-Slav deputy for Spalato, Smolcka, asks that the fate of Dalmatia should be decided by a plebiscite. Replying to him, the Italian deputies Osmunate and Ronti state that a plebiscite is an old Habsburg trick which henceforward is useless as the population of Dalmatia have already plumped for Italy. I.O.T.B.

LONDON, March 18.

(Delayed). Captain Dalton, who fought on the Italian front, writes in the "New Statesman" that the Jugo-Slav minorities who may be incorporated with the new Italian territories may congratulate themselves upon becoming subjects of such highly civilised nation as Italy. I.O.T.B.

(From the American Agency.)

NEW YORK, March 20.

The Jugo-Slav Relief Fund here received a telegram from Mr. Hoover, Food Administrator, urging the immediate relief of the Balkan natives. He warns that if relief is not provided immediately the entire population of Jugo-Slavia will likely disappear. Others tell of the wretched poverty of the natives of Serbia and the disease prevalent there. The Relief Association has already sent 900 dollars at the initial fund but it has planned to conduct a campaign to raise enough money to alleviate the condition of all natives in regions adjacent to the Eastern Adriatic including Serbia, Bosnia and Croatia.

POLAND'S GREAT NEED.

POSEN, March 17.

The British Economic Commission reports that some textile mills in Poland are comparatively undamaged and could resume work immediately if adequate supplies of cotton could be obtained. This would enable the employment of several thousand people and would also supply clothing to great masses of the population who are now in rags. Four million pairs of boots and shoes are required and supplies of leather would employ many shoemakers. Soap and coal are also lacking. Reuter.

INDIAN DEFENCE FORCE.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 12.

In the House of Commons, replying to Col. Yate, Dr. Fisher stated that the object of the proposed temporary extension of the present Indian Defence Force was to enable a new defence force to be fully constituted before the present regulations ended. He also stated that the Secretary of State was prepared to consider favourably any claim to be entitled to a passage by transport wherever an ex-officer of the Indian Army Reserve might be compelled owing to wounds or illness contracted on service to visit England. He was also prepared to consider favourably the grant of indulgence passages to England to the same officers when the transport service was again under his control.

SMOKERS NOTE THAT

Messrs. Melachrino and Co. (Inc.), the Cigarette Manufacturers of Cairo, have recently received a consignment of 1,000 bales of first quality tobacco. In consequence their No.2, medium size, best quality cigarette is especially recommended.

Westner's Fountain Pens
A. WESTNER & Co. Shepheard's Hotel, Bd., CAIRO

CABLE DELAYS.

FURTHER EXPLANATIONS.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 17.

In the House of Commons replying to Sir Arthur Fell, Mr. Illingworth stated that several cables from England were at present interrupted, especially the Eastern Telegraph Company's route and the delay in cable deliveries was largely caused thereby, combined with the heavy increase in traffic. He was doing his utmost to secure a curtailment of Government cable traffic. All suitable cable-ships were engaged on repairs but the season was inauspicious for this work.

INTER-ALLIED SPORTS.

FURTHER RUGBY RESULTS.

("Gazette's Special Service.")

LONDON, March 15.

The weather at Twickenham for the Inter Allied match was dull, but 4,000 persons were present and the ground was in good condition. The fast clean game ensued. The Mother Country mostly attacked in the first half and within a few minutes of the start Brown and Sloan obtained tries. Later on Lewis dropped a goal, the score at the interval was 10-0. On the resumption of play the Mother Country showed beautiful bouts of passing. Sloan and Day, Sloan, Prickles and Cullen added tries. The last two converted. Towards the end the Air Force improved, Cole scoring a try and Wrentmore a penalty goal. The future meetings in the Inter Service Rugby Tournament are as follows: Mother Country v. Air Force on June 29 at Twickenham, Australia v. South Africa on May 8 at Newport.

The weather at Newport was fine but the ground was heavy. The Australians were the first to be aggressive but fine passing gave Roper a try which Scully converted. The Australians equalized through a great run by Sutton and a successful kick by Stenning. The interval score was 5-5. In the second half Stenning was carried off, but resumed play. Another fine run by Sutton was put in by Bradley for an unconverted try. The final score was Australia 8, South Africa 5.

A BIG DEAL.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 17.

Messrs. Vickers are absorbing the Metropolitan Carriage Co., making a total capital of £26,000,000.

TREATMENT OF GERMAN GENERALS.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

AMSTERDAM, March 17.

The War Minister Reinhardt, has dismissed practically all the German excommanders on the western front and forbidden them to leave Germany owing to the possibility of a court martial.

AUSTRALIAN LABOUR.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

SYDNEY, March 17.

The New South Wales Labour Party is demanding guarantees against unemployment, with a thirty hour week for miners.

THE AGA KHAN.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 12.

The Aga Khan lunched with the Royal Family at Buckingham Palace.

POLICE UNION NOT RECOGNISED.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 17.

The War Cabinet has refused to recognise the Police Union.

PEACE NIGHT.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 18.

The Overseas Club has promised to cooperate with the committee which is organising a chain of bonfires in the United Kingdom on peace night, by helping to secure a chain of bonfires round the Eiffel Tower on similar lines.

CANADA'S CIVIL SERVANTS.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

OTTAWA, March 17.

Members of the Indoor Civil Service have rejected affiliation to organised Labour at present but their decision will be reconsidered later.

Are you satisfied with your baker.

TRY LIPTONS !
Up-to-date Bakery, Boulakieh, Cairo.
Best Wheaten Bread & Cakes.
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FOR TRAVELLING.

For this week only Roberts, Hughes and Co., are offering a special line of very strong, Canvas covered, Fibre Suit Cases, guaranteed for rough wear. 20" L.T.275, 22" P.T.305, 24" P.T.335, 26" P.T.365. All are reduced in price.
Owing to present circumstances this offer holds good for another week from Monday March 24.

WAYS & COMMUNICATIONS BILL.

RAILWAY'S HEAVY LOSSES.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

LONDON, March 17.

Speaking in the House of Commons on the Ways and Communications Bill Sir Eric Geddes said that British railways at present were losing one hundred millions sterling annually and that the Government was pledged to its guarantee for two years. The systems at present were physically ill-equipped to meet the great strain and demand upon them. The Government had come to the conclusion that unified Government control of all systems of transportation was necessary if this was not to continue to be run at the taxpayers' cost.

Sir Eric Geddes emphasised that the difficulties regarding systems was world-wide. The only exception where the system was healthy was in South Africa, where it was of comparatively modern growth and had not the great disadvantages of age. It was a remarkable point that in South Africa the Minister of Railways also exercised the same power over the locks. Reuter.

OBITUARY.

RT. HON. G.W.E. RUSSELL.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 17.

The Rt. Hon. G.W.E. Russell is dead.

The Rt. Hon. George William Erskine Russell, P.C., L.L.D., was the youngest son of the late Lord Charles Russell son of the Duke of Bedford. He was educated at Harrow and University College, Oxford, and soon after obtaining his M.A. he became Aylesbury's Liberal Member in 1880 at the age of 27. In 1883 he was made Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board; in 1892 he was appointed Under-Secretary of State for India, and when this office terminated in 1894 he was given the post. Under-Secretary for the Home Department. In spite of a busy public life, G.W.E. Russell contrived to publish many works the chief being:— "A Londoner's Logbook," "The Household of Faith," "Collections and Recollections," "Portraits of the Seventies" and "Politics and Personalities." His death will be felt considerably by churchmen as he has performed much good work as Chairman of the Churchmen's Libertine League, and as Lay Reader in the Diocese of Southwark. He was an excellent story teller and his reminiscences of Victorian life, of the great Whig families, and of political life during the Gladstonian epoch always made good reading.

DOWAGER LADY LONDONDERRY.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 17.

The death is announced of the Dowager Lady Londonderry.

The Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry, née Lady Theresa Susan Helen Chetwynd Talbot, was the daughter of the 19th Earl of Shrewsbury and the wife of the 6th Marquess of Londonderry whom she married in 1875 and died in 1915. She was born in 1856 for many years has been a Lady of Grace of the Order of the Hospital of St. John in England.

GUARDS RETURN TO LONDON.

LONDON, March 17.

In the House of Commons at question time Mr. Winston Churchill said that one of the Guards battalions on the occasion of the formal entry into London on March 22, would march past the King at Buckingham Palace and then the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House. The procession would include demobilised Guardsmen and wounded Guardsmen unable to march, who would be conveyed in suitable vehicles, (cheers). It was the intention to be representatives of other arms who formed part of the Guards Division in France and representatives of the staff. Reuter.

THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 13.

Lord and Lady Willingdon leave London on March 18 for Madras where they are expected to arrive about April 10. The staff comprises: Major K. Goldie, 10th Lancers, Military Secretaries, Captains Parbury, 17th Lancers, and Powell, 30th Punjabis, Lieuts. H. Brand, Navy, Howard Vincent, 60th Royal Rifles Aide-de-Camp.

CHANNEL TUNNEL SCHEME.

("Gazette's" Special Service.)

LONDON, March 18.

At a meeting of the Channel Tunnel Parliamentary Committee it was stated that 246 out of the 256 members who had been approached favoured the scheme.

A PLEASANT EVENING

may be spent in the company of "The Double Traitor" by E. Phillips Oppenheim. To be obtained at M. Avatis, the bookseller, Cairo and Alexandria. (See advert page 8).

HOTEL BEAU-RIVAGE
Ramleh.
On the Sea Shore. Large Garden.
OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND.
Special Prices for the Military

THE UNREST IN EGYPT.

SIR EDMUND ALLENBY IN CONTROL.

SITUATION IN RURAL DISTRICTS.

(OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE).

Cairo, March 25 (3.19 p.m.)

General Sir Edmund Allenby, C.C.B., G.C.M.G., arrived in Cairo this afternoon and was received at the station by the civil and military authorities, including the representatives of His Highness the Sultan, the Governor of Cairo, the Ministers and the ex-Ministers of State, the President of the Legislative Assembly, and other distinguished personages.

He has assumed office as His Majesty's Special High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan.

LONDON, March 21.

(10.15 p.m.) (Official). "In view of the grave situation in Egypt and the High Commissioner's absence General Allenby has been appointed Special High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan and has been directed to exercise supreme authority in all matters military and civil, to take all measures he considers necessary and expedient to restore law and order in these countries and in order to administer all matters as may be required by the necessity of maintaining the King's Protectorate over Egypt on a secure and equitable basis. Reuter.

(Official Communiqué).

CAIRO, March 23.

Further progress has been made in the restoration of order.

Main line trains are now running on a regular timing. Passenger trains are being worked between Alexandria and Cairo in four and a half hours.

A large number of the ringleaders and rioters in the recent excesses have been captured and are being dealt with under Martial Law. In many of the provincial centres the local notables have made speeches advising the population to remain quiet.

In the outlying districts in the north of Sharkia, Gharbia, Menufia and Dakahlia, and in the west of the Behera the situation is still unsatisfactory. In all these districts serious depredations are still being committed by mobs of fellahin or Bedouin. There are large gatherings of Bedouin in the Kom Hamada, Delingat, Hosh-Isa and Abu Mellaram districts of the Western Behera. The branch railways in the outlying districts have been so greatly damaged that it will be long before they can again be made available for the movement of agricultural produce.

South of Cairo in the Wasta, Beni Suef and Fayoum areas, all is reported quiet. The Officer Commanding Troops at Wasta reports that the behaviour of the Police has been excellent. Further south again, at Minia and Assiut, the state of affairs is more unsettled, and an armed attack by Bedouin is reported in the neighbourhood of Assiut.

A renewed attempt was made last night to cut the railway between Embaba and Bonha Dakrur; otherwise all is quiet in Cairo and its neighbourhood.

THE LAW COURTS.

Our Cairo correspondent writing on Sunday says:—

The day passed quietly at Cairo on Sunday and no events took place deserving of special mention. The Azhar which had been closed for several days re-opened its doors on Saturday, and all merchant around it resumed their business peace fully.

The native Law Courts sit regularly but owing to the lawyers' strike they can only deal with cases where no lawyers are engaged and postpone the hearing of the remaining cases to a later date in order to notify the parties concerned to appear in person owing to the request of the lawyers to have the powers of attorney in their hands cancelled.

The question is being asked whether it is not the duty of such lawyers to clear up the cases they have in hand, and for which they had already received their fees wholly or partially in accordance with the practice followed by them. If they elect to refuse further cases this is their own affair but it is grieved by some that they are morally bound to appear in the old cases since the injustice falls on the public.

THE TRAMWAY STRIKE.

The tramway strikers have now apparently begun to realise the futility of their action and have asked a leading notable to act as intermediary between them and the Company. It is very unlikely that the Company will give way on any point at present and judging by the firm attitude it has taken so far it is not improbable that it will ask for their reinstatement unconditionally and that they should submit their demands afterwards when the company will go into them carefully and see what can be done in the matter. In this connection it would not be out of place to put on record the praiseworthy attitude of the workmen of the Cairo-Heliopolis Electric Railway who have carried on their work in spite of the agitation of the moment and the unsatisfactory example of their Cairo colleagues and other workmen.

According to the news from the provinces the natives appear to make no distinction as to nationality in their attacks, and Syrians and Jews have suffered as much as the Europeans from their outrages.

The police have recovered a considerable number of Singer's sewing machines which were all stolen from the Agent of that Company at Damanhour. The motives, who had stolen them on learning that the police were making a house-to-house search for the machines threw them into the street so that they were all smashed when found.

AT ALEXANDRIA.

A large number of people of the Behera and other provinces of Lower Egypt went to the Alexandria Governorate yesterday taking for permit to go back to their districts. According to the new travelling restrictions, it will be remembered, nobody is allowed to leave by train without a pass from the Governorate. Those who apply for permits have to submit some reasons to the Department concerned regarding their identity and their real abode and business.

Four tram strikers, who were arrested recently by the police, were set at liberty yesterday.

The Sheikh of the Alexandria Ulema Board called at the Governorate again yesterday together with some leading ulemas, with the object of discussing the question of the detained students.

THE DEPUTATIONS.

As a result of the orders recently issued by the G.O.C. permitting a small deputation to see the authorities and express their views in regard to the present situation, several deputations have gone to Cairo from the Provinces, including one from Gharbieh composed of the members of the Provincial Council and some notables. A number of notables in Cairo have met together and discussed interviewing the authorities.

About 60 persons of Rosetta have been arrested, in connection with the recent disturbances in that town.

THE BEDUINS.

It is considered that one of the good results of the present crisis will be the settlement of the Beduin problem. These people have always themselves from time immemorial to be always ready to take advantage of any troubles in Egypt in order to make their way to the Nile Valley for the purpose of loot. During the present troubles the Beduin have been the cause of great trouble in the Fayoum, the Behera, and elsewhere, and have perpetrated great damage. They received no punishment, for joining the Senussi during the war and their special privileges were not taken from them. All those who neither own nor cultivate land should be expelled from Egypt, as the unoccupied and landless Beduin are a perpetual menace to the tranquillity of this country.

TRAVELLING IN EGYPT.

No civilian is permitted to travel by train from Alexandria without a written permit. Permits are restricted to bona-fide residents in the town of destination or Government servants who have written authority of the head of their Department. Permits may be obtained from the Governorate, Alexandria between the hours of 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. only, and not from Headquarters, Alexandria District, Main Guard.

HELD UP AT HALFA.

The following travellers were on their way north, but finding communications interrupted between Assouan and Cairo are remaining at Halfa for the present:—

Col. C.E.R. Mackesy N.Z.M.R.; Lt. Col. A.B. Pereira R.A.S.C.; Lt. Col. E.J. Nettlefold 3rd D. Gds.; Mrs. E.J. Nettlefold; Major G.W. Junkin R.A.V.C.; Captain H.G. Brown 11th London; Captain J. E. Miller 1st Seaforths; Captain H.P. Rogers R.A.M.C. 16th C.C.H.; Captain J. A. Fleming C.F., C.C.H.; 2nd Lieut. C. Graham Seaforths; Sister E.H. Young 19th General Hospital Staff; Nurse A. Quin-

(Continued on page 6).

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