

## Foreign News—[Continued]

no proposals of their own and their attitude is purely negative. They simply will not listen to the terms put forward by the owners who decline to offer any others. This means that both sides are marching steadily and deliberately to battle."

At the last moment the miners, who had previously declined to meet the owners, agreed to do so. This meeting and the publication of the finding of the Government's Court of inquiry remained the only portents of a peaceful issue of the dispute. The King, from Buckingham Palace, asked for the fullest information concerning the crisis.

Miners of South Wales did their best toward solving the complex problem by suggesting that wages should be regulated, in the lower ranks of the coal industry, by the size of a man's family. An example: If a worker gets 5s *per diem* and has a wife, he would draw an additional shilling and 3d; 5d for the first child, 4d for the second, 3d for the third and 2d for the fourth.

### Death of Jemmett

Where the polished sands of Biarritz proffer their parquet for the blawling cotillion of the Atlantic surf in English woman, once Mrs. Williams, and her daughter went swimming last week, were caught where the tide froquetted around sunken rocks, cried for help. A lifesaver dragged the elder woman to safety, went back for her daughter. Weakened, he was drowning, when out of a crowd on the beach stepped one W. B. Jemmett, artist, 6 ft. 9½ in. tall, cast off his gaudy beach cloak, braved the tide. Six minutes later, Death in the whitely smiling seas had taken the girl, the lifesaver, had dashed the skull of Giant Jemmett once, twice against the rocks.

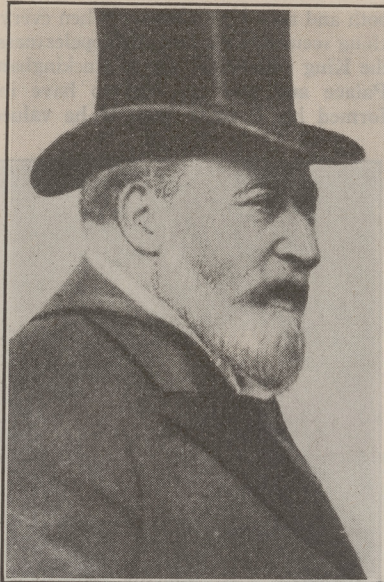
W. B. Jemmett, a competent though not a celebrated painter of miniatures, was known rather for his dandyism than for the skill of his huge fingers with tiny pictures. To the decayed art of fine dress, the perfection of a gesture at once startling and urbane, he devoted his considerable talent and adorned for many years the bars of London and Paris, leading always by a string a white Russian wolfhound, wearing always in his buttonhole a fresh-cut posy.

Once when Jemmett was striding down Bond Street King Edward issued from a shop. Appalled by the incredible size of the passer-by, the King halted. A member of his suite presented Jemmett.

"What height are you, young man?" asked the King.

"Six foot nine," growled Jemmett, made savage by embarrassment.

"And a very good height, too," replied



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THE LATE KING EDWARD

"What height are you, young man?"

Edward, patting the giant on the hip. Last week, friends of Jemmett spoke of him as they toyed over pool glasses in the rendezvous he once startled with in hound and flower. They agreed that his death was an epigram which well became one whose life also had been consecrated to the elegance of the spectacular.

### Curzon's Will

Although faced by the gray dawn of a national strike (see above), the British public turned with interest to the publication of the will of the late Lord Curzon, Marquis of Kedleston.

Lord Curzon was twice married. His first wife, who bore him three daughters, was Mary Victoria Leiter, daughter of L. Z. Leiter of Chicago. His second wife, widow of one Alfred Dugan, daughter of J. Monroe Hinds, former U. S. Minister to Brazil, bore him no children, but had three of her own by her first marriage.

By the terms of his will, his widow is left an interest in the London residence, a jointure worth about \$5,000 annually and the residue of his personal property. The children by his first wife (Mary, Cynthia, Alexandra) having benefited "by the wills of their grandfather and grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. Leiter," were left "laces, fans, dresses, furs and personal belongings of their mother with the exception of the peacock dress\* which she wore at the Delhi Durbar in 1903."

The three children of his second wife "are similarly provided for by their

\*The dress created a tremendous sensation at the Durbar. It was willed to the Kedleston estate.

father's estate." "But," the will, written in Curzon's handwriting, continues: "I bequeath to each of them the sum of \$25,000 as proof of my affection."

Among other bequests were: The famous Tattershall Castle in Lincolnshire and Bodiam Castle in Sussex—to the British nation; his collection of Oriental treasures—to the Victoria and Albert Museum in Kensington (London); portrait of General Lawrence by Sir Joshua Reynolds—to the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta; his famous Napoleonic library, containing hundreds of books—to Oxford University, or, if refused, to the British Museum; his confidential papers relating to his resignation of the Viceroyalty in India (over a feud with the then General Sir Herbert Horatio Kitchener)—to the British Museum, with injunction "to exercise sound discretion as to the time and manner and degree in which they are to be made accessible to students."

His nephew, the Viscount Scarsdale, is enjoined to preserve the estate and tradition of Kedleston. In words which recalled the famous Oxonian jibe: "I am George Nathaniel Curzon, a really most superior person," he urges his nephew and successor, the present Viscount Scarsdale, to preserve the estate of Kedleston and the traditions of the family:

"It is from no motive of pride or vanity that I desire to keep Kedleston estate intact and the mansion with its contents well cared for, but because, attaching as I do a high value to the survival of the landed aristocracy of Great Britain and believing they may still continue to be a source of stability to the State, I desire that my family, which has owned and resided at Kedleston for over 800 years, shall continue to live there and maintain the traditions of a not unworthy past. I have sought to assist my successors in doing this with dignity but without extravagance."

Hardly had British Babbitts sighed their last sigh over this funeral news, served to them with an emotional relish, than *The Morning Post*, as it sometimes does, astounded all London by declaring that his late Lordship, in a codicil to the will, had made some strong, searching and uncomplimentary comments on a former colleague, believed to be none other than ex-Premier George.

This codicil, or "literary testament," as the *Post* called it, was submitted to the Probate Court but withdrawn after a "high personage in the political world" had advised that no considerations of whatever sort should be allowed to withdraw the veil of secrecy enshrouding the testament.

### "Garbage?"

Captain Peter Wright, author, in a recently published volume entitled *Portraits and Criticisms*, declared that W.



## Foreign News—[Continued]

even pouring into Holland, where the thrifty Dutch calculate they will this year leave behind them 50,000,000 guilders—or \$20,060,000.

### THE LEAGUE

#### Peonage

Last week, the League of Nations Temporary Commission on Slavery discussed peonage (employment of peons or laborers). The Commission "tended" toward the conclusion that peonage in the Philippine Islands and in some Central American republics "almost" amounts to forced labor and "may" therefore be construed as "partial" slavery.

Said critics: "Had not the U. S. been mixed up in the indictment, the Central American republics would have been denounced roundly. Diplomatic language varies according to the strength of the country to whom it is addressed."

### COMMONWEALTH

(British Commonwealth of Nations)

#### Cabinet Rumpus

Last week history almost repeated itself. One half of Premier Stanley Baldwin's Cabinet was at daggers drawn with the other and the Premier himself was in a ticklish position between the points.

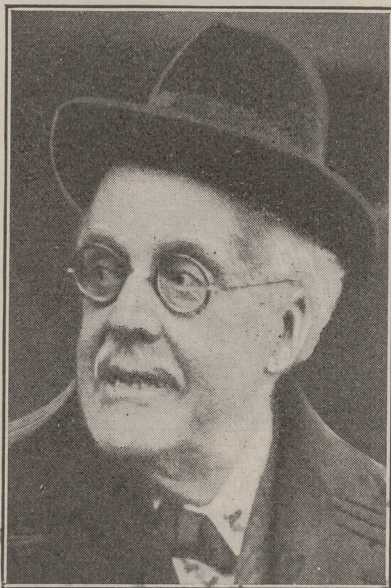
First Lord of the Admiralty William Clive Bridgeman and the First Sea Lord, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Beatty, threatened to resign unless more warships were built. They based their stand upon the indisputable fact that the existing fleet would in a few years be obsolete unless replacements were made more rapidly.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Winston Churchill, who strenuously fought the Admiralty chiefs, did not even offer to resign. Doubtless he remembered that his father, Lord Randolph Churchill, had written *finis* to his political career in 1886 when, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, he suddenly made good his threat to resign, ostensibly because he also would not agree to the shipbuilding demands of the Admiralty. And who should be in a better position to learn the lesson which Lord Randolph neglected than his father's biographer, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer?

There was more to it than that. Behind Mr. Churchill were assumed to be Foreign Secretary Austen Chamberlain and the Secretary for India, Lord Birkenhead, all ex-coalition Ministers. Nasty things were said about Mr. Churchill; he was credited with a desire to oust Premier Baldwin and, with the aid of his coalition comrades, to install himself as Premier.

Between these two groups stood Mr. Baldwin, vainly attempting to mollify

both and save his Cabinet. When everything seemed at the nadir of hopelessness, the King summoned him to Buckingham Palace and was reported to have informed his Premier that, if he valued



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ARTHUR J. BALFOUR

*He suggested they compromise*

his advice, he would see to it that the Admiralty's demands were met. This was all very well. More ships meant more money and Mr. Churchill was holding the purse strings and seemed determined to keep on holding them. How could he induce the Chancellor to accede to the King's wishes. He confided in the Lord President of the Council,\* Lord Arthur James Balfour, who suggested, as a compromise, that the money needed for the naval replacements should be furnished by economies in the three fighting services. Mr. Churchill accepted and the Cabinet was again happy.

In Parliament, Premier Baldwin outlined what he called "requirements for fleet replacement." In October two cruisers are to be laid down; in February, two more. Beginning with the next financial year (Apr. 1), three cruisers a year are to be built together with nine destroyers and six submarines, a total of 18 warships annually.

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#### "A Sick Industry"

Gloom. Gloom. Gloom. Ahead, rapidly drawing closer, was the spectre of an unparalleled industrial crisis. On Aug. 1 the coal miners would strike, unless a last-minute agreement were

\*The Cabinet post of Lord President of the Council is a sinecure. An experienced statesman whom the ministers may consult is usually accorded the place.

made. With the striking miners would be the transport workers and railwaymen, who decided not to handle any coal once the strike began. Numerous other workers would surely walk out in sympathy while, owing to a shortage of coal, many industries would be forced to shut down and discharge their employees. *The Times* struck the keynote of pessimism:

"The country is threatened with a disaster wholly unprecedented in its history, and one from which it would not recover for a generation, if ever."

The Archbishop of Canterbury issued a solemn appeal:

"It is not seldom in the past 50 years that the people of this country have been confronted by the prospect of widespread industrial strife. But never, so far as I can judge, has the danger been so grave and so urgent as today. The wisest thinkers warn us that at this moment there is an almost unparalleled crisis in our national life."

Near Durham, Bishop Welldon, Dean of Durham Cathedral, was roughly handled when he attended a miners' fête. Apparently, the miners resented his trying to give both sides to the dispute; for, the moment his presence was noticed, horny hands seized him and raucous voices yelled: "Throw him in the river." The 77-year-old begaistered and silk-hatted gentleman was rushed toward the river. Cooler heads, however, came to his rescue, after which the Bishop merely commented: "I lost my new hat and umbrella."

This gloomy situation was engendered last week when the mine owners had bills pasted at the pitheads announcing their irrevocable decision to end the present wage agreement (*TIME*, July 27) on the last day of July. Employment for most grades would be at the same rates of pay for a longer working day. As a counter-move, the Miners' Federation instructed the miners to cease work on July 31. Preparations to this effect were made and compromise arrangements were made to safeguard the mines from flooding. In the background the objects of a proposed Labor alliance, embracing 3,000,000 miners, railwaymen and workers in the shipbuilding, transport and engineering trades, were stated to be:

"To create by means of an alliance among the specified organizations the means of mutual support, to assist any of the allied organizations in defending hours of labor, wage standards, in securing advancement of the standards of living or to take action to secure acceptance of and defend any principle of an industrial character which may be deemed vital by the allied organizations."

*The Times* blamed both sides: "The remedy for the present state of the industry proposed by the owners is longer hours and lower wages and the miners will not hear of either. They have made