

## 15 AUXILIARY EX-OFFICERS MASSACRED.

### SLAUGHTERED AUXILIARIES.

**Attackers Wearing Steel Helmets.**

### AWFUL OUTRAGE.

(From a Special Correspondent.)  
Dublin, Monday Night.  
A terrible story of massacre in County Cork was communicated officially in Dublin this evening: Seventeen Auxiliary Police, went out on patrol in two lorries at 3.30 p.m. yesterday.

They were ambushed at Kilmichael about 10 p.m. last night by seventy or one hundred men.

Fifteen Auxiliaries were killed; one is missing, and one is wounded and dying.

Ammunition and arms were taken and the lorries burnt. The bodies were taken to Macroom.

Full details are not yet to hand.

### FOUL MURDERS.

#### The Attackers Dressed in Khaki.

In the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Seddon asked if it was true, as reported, that fifteen men were ambushed and murdered in Cork during the last forty-eight hours.

Sir Hamar Greenwood said he gave all the information he could obtain in answer to questions at the earliest possible opportunity.

Proceeding, he said he had received a telegram that evening, which he read to the House.  
It was one of the most distressing he had ever had to read in the House. The military division to which he referred was composed entirely of ex-officers. The telegram read: From Macroom, in County Cork district.

Inspector Craik went on two lorries with a patrol at 3.30 yesterday. They were ambushed in County Cork by eighty to one hundred men. Fifteen of the Auxiliary Force were killed, one is missing, and one is wounded and dying.

Their arms and ammunition were taken, and the lorries were burnt. The ambush is supposed to have been about 10 p.m. last night. Full details were not to hand. The bodies are being taken to Macroom.

A further telegram had been received from the head of the police in Ireland, which ran:

"The ambush consisted of 80 to 100 men, all dressed in khaki, and wearing steel helmets. They fired from both sides of the road, and they also directed an enfilade fire straight down the road.

"By force of numbers some of my poor fellows were disarmed and then brutally murdered. Their bodies were rifled. Their money and valuables were taken, and even articles of clothing were robbed from the corpses."

Continuing, Sir Hamar said there were fifteen gallant officers who had served in the great war, all now lying side by side, dead, the victims of Irish assassins.

He did not think the House would wish, in circumstances of this sort, to go on with a discussion of what, after all, was by comparison minor matters. (Cheers.)

While Captain Redmond was speaking the House was counted out at 11.20.

### PANIC IN DISTRICT.

#### Report of Widespread Reprisals.

(From a Special Correspondent.)  
Cork, Monday.

According to information received here, the ambush in which fifteen Auxiliaries were killed took place at Johnstown, a village between Macroom and Dumm-ry, lying to the south of Inchigeelagh.

It is reported that reprisals took place to-day: shops in the district were set on fire, and scarcely a house was left undamaged. People are clearing out of the locality in terror.

## ASSASSINS DRESSED IN KHAKI.

### PATROL WIPED OUT BY PARTY OF ONE HUNDRED MEN.

## LORRIES BURNT AND BODIES RIFLED.

### FURTHER PRECAUTIONS TAKEN IN PARLIAMENT.

The appalling news of the extermination of a party of Police Auxiliaries in Co. Cork, which took place on Sunday night, has arrived. Of the seventeen who composed the patrol, fifteen were killed, one is missing, and the remaining one, according to the latest information, which is sparse and delayed, is dying from the wounds received.

#### BODIES PARTIALLY STRIPPED.

According to a statement by Sir Hamar Greenwood at the adjournment of the House of Commons last night, the policemen were disarmed and then murdered by about a hundred men wearing khaki and steel helmets. Their lorries were burned, the bodies looted, and in some cases partially stripped. This terrible news is followed by a report from a correspondent in Cork to the effect that reprisals were carried out in the district, "scarcely a house being left untouched."

#### PRECAUTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

Because of information supplied to the authorities, the Speaker of the House of Commons has ordered the closing of all the galleries, except the Press Gallery. It is also intended to keep a special watch upon the permits to enter the precincts of the House, which may be obtained from any of the Members.

### FOUR ARRESTS.

#### Important Captures Near Bantry.

(From a Special Correspondent.)  
Bantry, Monday.

A party of military in lorries and on bicycles, while returning from a mission to Gloggariff, on Sunday evening, ran into some young men who were attending to a disabled motor-car a few miles outside Bantry.

The men took to the fields, and were pursued by the soldiers. Other military forces cut off the retreat, and four men were taken into custody.

They are believed to hold responsible positions in the Republican Army, some being released longer-strikers.

### LIVERPOOL FIRES.

#### Damage Estimated at £750,000.

Though it is difficult yet to estimate the amount of damage done by fires at Liverpool and Bootle, one competent authority puts it at three-quarters of a million.

The brigades, by strenuous exertion, succeeded in most instances in saving the buildings and the greater part of their contents, exceptions being in Effington-street, Bootle, and Jordan-street, Liverpool.

In the former instance three warehouses were gutted, and the buildings collapsed.

Of 14,000 bales of cotton stored here, something like 6,000 were ruined.

Two six-storied warehouses blazed face to face in Jordan-street, and the firemen worked between the walls of flames.

In one warehouse 2,000 bales of cotton were destroyed by fire and water, and in the other 1,700 bales of cotton and several hundred bundles of hides.

### LABOUR AND IRISH.

#### Commission Leaves London To-day.

The Labour Party Commission to visit Ireland leaves London at 8.30 this morning, and it is expected that their inquiry will occupy at least a fortnight.

On their return the Commission will present their report and conclusions to the Parliamentary Labour Party and the National Executive.

Following the inquiry the Labour Party will organise a national campaign to urge a complete cessation of all outrages and reprisals and to advocate a settlement of the Irish problem along the lines of the policy formulated by the Labour Party and accepted by the recent All-Ireland Trade Union Congress.

In addition to meetings in large centres all local affiliated bodies will participate in the campaign.

### BOMB EXPLODES.

#### Mysterious Affair in London.

London, Tuesday, 3.30 a.m.

A bomb explosion occurred on the premises of a skin merchant in Old Swan-lane, London Bridge, this morning.

The bomb had apparently been left on the premises in a portmanteau or bag and had been set with a time fuse. It exploded at 12.57 a.m. and blew up one of the floors of the building.

There were no casualties.

### MURDER CHARGE.

#### Police Court Story of Chase in Liverpool.

In connection with Saturday's outrages at Liverpool a charge of wilful murder was heard at the local police-court, yesterday, when a young man was placed in the dock.

Mr. Howard Roberts, who appeared to prosecute, said the man had refused to give any account of his case except that he had told Chief-Inspector Burgess that he came from Ireland and was a Sinn Feiner.

Prisoner, a man of unkempt appearance, and wearing around his head a bandage which partly covered his swollen and bruised face, was asked by the Stipendiary if he was now willing to give his name.

In a low voice, he answered, "No, sir." Mr. Howard Roberts said that at 8.50 on Saturday night three fires occurred in the neighbourhood of Jordan-street and Spalding-street, all the places involved being cotton warehouses.

While the fire brigade was at work about nine o'clock the prisoner and another man were seen standing in a doorway of another warehouse near by. A third man seemed to be keeping watch.

The padlocks of that warehouse were subsequently found to be cut. The two men in the doorway attracted the attention of certain other people, who regarded them as suspicious, and a boy eventually gave the alarm to a police-constable.

The constable followed the prisoner, and as he was running after him the other man turned round and fired at the officer. The bullet hit missed him, and hit an innocent spectator named Daniel Ward, the result of the shot being almost immediate death.

The constable continued to follow the prisoner, who turned round and aimed a blow at him with the heavy bolt cutters, produced.

He then ran into a crowd of men standing in the street, and one of them aimed a blow at him which knocked him to the ground. The constable then arrested him.

Prisoner, when informed that he would be remanded merely said in low tones, "I do not admit hitting the constable with the cutters."

### MIDNIGHT BLAZE.

#### "Freeman's Journal" Office Set on Fire.

The Leeds Mercury was informed by the London office of Freeman's Journal that the following message was received from the Dublin office at 1.0 a.m. this morning:—

"The Freeman's Journal office was set on fire by a mysterious party of armed and masked men about midnight."

"Three girls living on the top floor narrowly escaped losing their lives."

A later message says:—

The police and fire brigade were summoned and the occupants of the building—women and children and caretakers—were gallantly rescued by firemen who then proceeded to extinguish the outbreak.

A good deal of damage was done.

Before the raid on the Freeman's Journal armed and masked men entered the offices of the Irish Times and held up the editorial staff with revolvers and demanded a promise from them that nothing would be divulged.

### SPEAKER'S FEARS.

#### All Public Galleries in Parliament Closed.

The Speaker of the House of Commons had a consultation yesterday with the Prime Minister and Mr. Bonar Law as to the propriety of closing the public gallery this week in view of the documentary threats just seized in Dublin that plans, whether serious or merely romantic, to blow up Parliamentary buildings in Whitehall had been prepared.

What happened in Liverpool on Sunday made a decision regarding St. Stephen's imperative, and all morning holders of tickets for the Strangers' and for the Ladies' Galleries telephoned the offices of the Clerk to the House of Commons to hear if they would be available this evening or this week.

The authorities declare they have ample evidence that evil disposed persons are boasting of their desire to make a criminal demonstration, and although the police have their eye on ninety-nine out of a hundred, there is always the danger of the hundredth evading the arm of the law.

Shortly after one o'clock it was announced from Downing-street that the galleries in both Houses—excepting, of course, the Press galleries—will be closed.

That means that extra care will also be exercised over the permission given to casual strangers to stroll through the outer lobbies on the chance of meeting their favourite M.P.'s.

## SINN FEIN IN ENGLAND.

### Threats to Members of Cabinet.

### SMUGGLED GANG?

It was stated yesterday that the authorities are in possession of the latest terrorism plans, and it is known also that Sinn Feiners have smuggled themselves into England in various disguises.

That the danger is real is evident from the elaborate precautions now being taken by the police—precautions which are being extended every day.

Meantime all vulnerable points in London where fires could easily be started are being closely watched.

We have already had a foretaste of what is being attempted by the burning in Liverpool during the week-end of cotton warehouses and timber yards, with damage estimated at over a million, and the murder of a man who had joined the police in the chase of suspects.

#### REPRISALS IN ENGLAND.

The serious view taken of the latest discoveries is evidenced by the decision to close Parliament to visitors and to barricade the approaches to the Government offices.

It is learnt that the latest outrage designed by the Sinn Fein conspirators in this country is aimed at the members of the auxiliary force of the R.I.C., who in Ireland have been responsible for the suppression of many of the plots for wholesale murder and outrage planned there.

By way of reprisal the Sinn Fein gangs now have had concocted an elaborate scheme to burn down the houses and property in England belonging to the "Black and Tans" on duty in Ireland.

The details of this plot came into possession of the authorities as the result of a raid on the Irish mails, communications being intercepted from Ireland to the plotters in England.

#### MINISTERS THREATENED.

In the light of the information thus obtained necessary precautions have been taken to protect the threatened property.

Not only have the leading members of the Cabinet received letters threatening personal violence, but some threats are now being made against their families.

The ranks of the specially selected police guards, many of them ex-officers of the Army, have had to be augmented in consequence. Sir Basil Thompson, Director of Intelligence at Scotland Yard, who is primarily responsible for the safety of Ministers, conferred with the authorities during the week-end as to the special precautions to be taken, and further plans may be devised to guard the Government offices.

### CABINET MEET.

#### Discussion of Latest Sinn Fein Plots.

A meeting was held at No. 10, Downing-street, yesterday morning, at which there were present Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Winston Churchill, Sir Hamar Greenwood, the Irish Attorney-General, Lord Curzon, the Speaker of the House of Commons, General Horwood, Commander of Metropolitan Police, and Sir Basil Thompson of the Special Branch of Scotland Yard. It is understood the latest development of the Sinn Fein movement was discussed.

### SITUATION WELL IN HAND.

Major Cohen asked the Home Secretary, in the House of Commons, yesterday, whether he had any information to give the House concerning the fires which took place in Liverpool on Sunday.

Sir J. Harwood-Banner asked whether he would also state what steps were taken after the Sinn Fein disclosures beyond the ordinary police measures to protect life and property in Liverpool; and what steps had now been adopted after the attack, especially considering the large Irish population existing in Liverpool.

Mr. Shortt said, according to the latest information, the situation seemed to be well in hand. There seemed no doubt that the fire was the result of an organised conspiracy, in which members of the Sinn Fein party were engaged.