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ENGLISH TRADE BALANCE SHORT

LONDON, Feb. 12.—(By Mail).—Great Britain's adverse trade balance for the year amounted to £669,000,000. Against this will apply Britain's "invisible exports," which have been estimated by the board of trade at £400,000,000 for freight charges, £80,000,000 in interest on foreign investments, and £40,000,000 in insurance charges, bank charges, commissions, etc. These would total £520,000,000, leaving an adverse balance of £149,000,000, as compared with the pre-war favorable balance of £226,000,000.

A considerable reduction of the excess of imports over exports is expected in 1920, for two reasons, in particular, says the American Chamber of Commerce in London. First, the imports in the early months of 1919 are stated to have consisted largely of balances of deliveries of war materials which will, of course, not recur in 1920. Second, 1919 was largely a year of re-stocking for British manufacturers. In 1920, therefore, the American Chamber says, Britain should be able to save accordingly on imports of raw materials, while the exports of finished goods should be increased.

Despite the fact that Britain's 1919 imports were more than twice her 1913 imports in value, the American Chamber points out that they were less than four-fifths the 1913 imports in quantity. The aver-

age cost of 1913 imports figures out at about £14 a ton; in 1919 it was about £41 a ton. Great Britain is still importing less than her pre-war quantities.

A review of the monthly totals shows an almost unbroken rise in the export of British goods, culminating in a yearly total of practically £793,000,000. Of this £632,000,000, or almost 80 per cent, were manufactured articles, a tribute to the degree to which British production is under way despite the crippling difficulties of industrial disputes since the armistice.

According to the American chamber, prospects for British trade for the coming year, both for export and re-export, are unusually promising.

NEW YORK, Mar. 4.—Extension of library service broadly among industrial workers and manufacturing plants of all sorts as a contributory factor in allaying social and industrial unrest throughout the United States will be encouraged by the American Library Association, it was announced today.

Introduction of books dealing with social and industrial problems among workers is expected to broaden the outlook in the industrial world and have large bearing on the attitude of labor toward existing conditions.

The organization also proposes establishment of service in rural communities, on board ships, in light-houses, coast-guard stations and for soldiers, sailors and marines. Another plan is to introduce standard type in the Braille system for the blind.

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ANTI-BRITISH FEELING RAGES IN THE PUNJAB

LONDON, Feb. 12, (By Mail).—An official report regarding the seditious riots last April in Amritsar, Lahore and other districts in the Punjab, British India, has just been issued here by the India Office. The disturbances at Amritsar were put down by Brigadier-General R. E. Dyer, the British officer in command with an iron hand, 299 persons being killed by rifle fire.

It is stated in the report that the shooting followed murderous attacks on Europeans and that General Dyer had not ordered the crowd, which had gathered in a public meeting place in Amritsar, to disperse but that 1,650 rounds after natives had nearly beaten to death an English woman doctor, the general officer commanding the British troops in Amritsar ordered that the street be closed where this attack occurred and that persons who passed thru it had to do so on their hands and knees.

News of these occurrences did not reach this country until the end of the year, and then created a big sensation and not a little controversy, which has not yet died down. The report now given out comes from the Punjab government.

After describing the growth of anti-British feeling at Amritsar, culminating in murderous attacks on Europeans, the report tells how General Dyer was at length given authority to take whatever steps were necessary to re-establish civil control. This was on April 13. General Dyer accordingly considered it his duty to disperse prohibited and unlawful meetings, which as had been held by the natives for some time in the Jappewallian Bagh, an open space, regularly used for public meetings, with houses on all four sides and three or four passages leading into it. The report continues in substance:

General Dyer was not able immediately to provide for the purpose a larger force than fifty Indian troops together with forty Gurkhas armed only with kukris or knives. Accompanied by the European superintendent of police, he took these to the Jappewallian Bagh. He had with him two armored cars in reserve, but the lane through which he entered was too narrow to admit them and they were left in the street outside. He took no machine guns with him.

When he arrived, at about five o'clock, he found that the crowd had swollen to several thousands, and it was being addressed by a speaker on a raised platform. His troops deployed on either side of the entrance, the ground on which they stood being some feet higher than the gener-

WILL DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Mar. 5.—The formulation of a plan for the development of the entire basin of the Colorado River at a cost of more than \$100,000,000 will be principal business of the annual convention of the League of the Southwest to be held here from April 1 to 3.

The Governors of the eight southwestern states—California, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas—are expected to participate, together with the heads of city and county governments in these states and representatives of civic, patriotic, education, industrial and commercial organizations.

Speakers of national fame are expected to have places on the program. In working out its development plan the league does not propose to rally to the support of any one of many projects for improvement of strictly local districts, but will rather support a single interstate movement for general benefit from legislation already enacted or still pending at Washington, according to the convention committee's outline of the proposition.

Frank A. Gesell, chairman of the convention committee, discussing plans for the gathering said: "More progress has been made in the last three months than in the last quarter century in legislation providing for improvements in the great empire of the west and southwest, including Colorado River projects. The entire west—thirteen states in all—is vitally interested in legislation at the national capital in the form of bills already passed or still pending."

"It will be important for the eight southwestern states to send the strongest delegations possible to the convention of the League of the Southwest, to unify the benefits of this legislation into a grand movement directed to a single purpose. Every section of each of these states will be affected by the work of this convention."

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al level of the enclosure. He did not order the crowd to disperse, but proceeded to take action to disperse it at once by fire. There were 1,650 rounds fired, fire being directed on crowds not on individuals, and redirected from time to time where the crowds were thickest. The ammunition used was the ordinary .303 army cartridge. On the conclusion of the firing the troops retired; the number of casualties were not counted.

A subsequent inquiry indicated that about 299 persons were killed. It was asserted that these included many small children, but inquiries have only been able to establish the death of one boy under 10 and four under 15 years.

Martial law was proclaimed at Amritsar on April 15 and its administration seems to have provoked a series of complaints, against which the Punjab government has found it necessary to defend itself.

The first charge is that relating to the Kucha Tawarian, a street in which Miss Sherwood, an English woman-doctor, was nearly beaten to death by infuriated natives. The general officer commanding the British troops in Amritsar closed the street to public traffic, placing a picket to each end, and ordered that if anyone passing it would have to do so on his hands and knees.

It was clearly understood by everyone that it did not apply to women. Order was actually in force between April 19 and 24, and in all about fifty persons complied with the directions to go through on all fours. The sergeant in charge of the picket subsequently stated that one man crawled through three times, and had to be stopped from giving further exhibitions.

A number of triangles (for flogging) were erected in the city and 26 men sentenced by the summary courts to be flogged. The only floggings that could be considered to be in any way of a public nature were of six men who were flogged in the street in which Miss Sherwood was assaulted. These men were implicated in the attack on Miss Sherwood. Others were whipped at area headquarters, at the police or in private.

The major charges arising out of the disorder were tried by the Martial Law Commissions, sixty-two cases in all being put before them, involving 298 accused. Of these 218 were convicted. Fiftyone were sentenced to death, 46 to transportation for life, two to imprisonment for ten years, 79 for seven years, ten for five years, 13 for three years and 11 for lesser periods. In six cases whipping was inflicted.

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