

LARGE GOVERNMENT MAJORITIES ON INDIA

Millions Starving In Russia

'THERE IS NO BREAD: WE ARE DYING'

BERLIN, Wednesday, March 29. "RUSSIA to-day is in the grip of famine, which is proving as disastrous as the catastrophe of 1921, when millions died," said Mr. Gareth Jones, formerly political secretary of Mr. Lloyd George, when he arrived in Berlin to-day on his way to London after a long walking trip through the Ukraine and other districts of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Jones, who speaks Russian fluently, was the first foreigner to visit the Russian countryside since the Moscow authorities forbade foreign correspondents to leave the city.

In an interview with the "New York Evening Post," Mr. Jones said that famine on a colossal scale was impending. It meant death to millions by hunger, and the beginning of serious unemployment in a land which has hitherto prided itself on every man having a job.

"I walked alone through villages and twelve collective farms," he said. "Everywhere the cry 'There is no bread; we are dying!' This cry came to me from every part of Russia."

TOO WEAK TO WORK
"In a walk, a Communist denied to me that there was a famine. I flung into the spittoon a crust of bread I had been eating from my own supply. A peasant, my fellow-passenger, licked it out and ravenously ate it. I threw orange peel into the spittoon; the peasant again grabbed and devoured it." The Communist subsided.

"A foreign expert returning from Kazakhstan told me that a million out of five million have died of hunger. There is insufficient food. Many of the peasants are too weak to work."

In short, concluded Mr. Jones, the Government's policy of collectivisation and the peasants' resistance to it had brought Russia to the worst catastrophe since the famine of 1921, when the population of whole districts—famines.

"KEEP COOL," SAYS SOVIET AMBASSADOR

M. I. Malitsky, Soviet Ambassador in London, referring to the arrest of the Metropolitan Vickers men in Russia, at a dinner last night, said:—

"This case will very soon be given a just and public trial in Moscow, after which all the facts will be clarified. We must not allow ourselves to be carried away by passion of the moment."

MR. CHURCHILL AND 25 OTHER TORIES ABSTAIN

MR. BALDWIN'S REASON FOR GOING FORWARD

"WE MAY SAVE INDIA FOR THE EMPIRE"

By Our Parliamentary Representative.

THE India debate in Parliament ended last night when the Socialist amendment demanding Dominion status for India was rejected by 475 to 42, a Government majority of 433, and the Government motion to refer their proposed new Constitution to a joint committee of both Houses of Parliament was carried by 449 to 43, a Government majority of 406.

This meant that twenty-six Conservatives who voted against the Socialist amendment abstained from voting for the Government resolution. One of the abstainers was Mr. Churchill.

Mr. Baldwin, admitting that he is aware that many Conservatives are criticising him on the lines of Lord Wolmer as a "sentimental Liberal," made a speech of self-revelation in winding up the debate.

He gave the reason for his attitude on India since 1929, an attitude which he described as one of surrender. His reason was: "I decided after mature reflection that if we went forward we might save India for the Empire, but if we did not we should lose her. It was that belief that actuated me."

His speech, addressed to the party rather than to the House, stressed the doubt as to its stability which he feels the war has brought to all institutions.

"We have shot Niagara now," he said, "and we are in the rapid and likely to be in them for a long time. No one knows whether a revolutionary change is not going to land us out of the frying-pan into the fire."

generations of political development in the war. We are now in the twentieth century. The trouble is that this post-war world is full of pre-war moods. Suppose you did not take these steps forward and that you had initiated an issue in domestic politics, as Ireland was, and you alternated between firm rule and the kind of relaxation of authority which happened in Ireland, you would have chaos and a position before long which would make the holding of India absolutely impossible, and have the same ending as you had in Ireland.

"External government in India went twenty years ago. It is no use thinking it will come back."

PROGRESSIVE REFORM
The Conservative party, he went on, were defeated in 1906 because of the attitude to trade unionism, and in 1919 they lost Ireland.

"Whatever faults I may commit I am not going to adopt a policy of missing the boat every time." To prevent India going the way of Ireland, Mr. Baldwin urged the Conservatives to adopt a policy of rational progressive reform. That, he said, was not sentiment, it was realism. The sentimentalists were those, like Mr. Churchill, who thought that the old days could be restored.

Mr. Churchill, he said, was a Tory to-day of the type of Mr. Baldwin's youth, because he did not accompany the Conservative Party into the wilder-

ness, and now, when he had returned to it, he returned to the ideas which were of date.

"The Conservative is no Junker," said Mr. Baldwin, "no Fascist; he is a man who believes in constitutional progress. There are difficulties and dangers ahead, but I am still more convinced that the difficulties and dangers which would surround us if we did not take this step would be infinitely greater."

Earlier in the evening Mr. Churchill made a statement which his many opponents converted into a charge against the Indian Civil Service. The debate never recovered. Nor did Mr. Churchill.

Then came the interlude. Thereafter Mr. Churchill was ruffled, erratic, unconvincing, he sank into his seat, conscious of a failure, and saw Earl Winterton act his prearranged part of public executioner of Mr. Churchill.

"The task," said Lord Winterton, casting a glance at the defeated and crumpled form of Mr. Churchill, "is less difficult than I had thought it to be."

At these words there was an outburst of cheers from the Tory benches. The anti-up head of anxiety among the Ministers erupted in an almost inaudible howl.

THE FATAL WORDS
What were the fatal words which caused one of the most sensational episodes in recent debates?

Mr. Churchill, dealing with Sir Samuel Hoare's claim that every prominent administrator in India supported the Government proposals, which had a beggarly reception in the House of Commons—said this:—

"For five years the high personnel of India has been continuously arranged with a view to giving a warm reception to these great Government proposals (for Indian Home Rule). The path of promotion has tended to be easy for those who more readily accepted the progressive tide of opinion."

At once there was a muttering among members. Mr. Churchill, who had for half an hour been carried along on the flood of his rhetoric, paused to appear.

A solid but not very prominent Conservative back bencher, Sir John Wardlaw-Milne, wearing a monocle, made the usual parliamentary request:—

"Can Mr. Churchill give any proof of that statement?" The mutterings became a roar.

DUMBFOUNDED
Mr. Churchill was for a moment dumbfounded. His attacks on Socialist experiments, his strictures on Lord Irwin and Mr. Wedgwood Benn had been so popular that he was deceived into thinking the whole Conservative Party was marching along with him.

The shouts disillusioned him and disconcerted him. In his moment of distraction he turned on Sir John Wardlaw-Milne and uttered a plaint which should be his motto:—

"You are so ready to set the bully by interrupting me," he began, and so on further. It was too funny. The House rocked with laughter at the complaint, saying to the fly: "Don't bully me!"

Sir John clung tenaciously to his point that Mr. Churchill must produce proof or withdraw his words. Failing with Mr. Churchill, he appealed to the Speaker.

Mr. Churchill cried hotly: "I think it is perfectly fair to say that for the last five years, and even ten years, the kind of officers who have been promoted to leading positions in India are those who would see in the spirit of the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms."

Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary for India, made the official contradiction: Mr. Churchill has no justification for that statement.

Again the cheers, accompanied with cries of "Withdraw."

"I WILL NOT WITHDRAW"
Mr. Churchill: I will never withdraw a statement which I assert is founded on fact.

Then he switched from the subject, but the sudden flare-up left the House inattentive and unwilling to follow Mr. Churchill through a detailed argument.

In his speech Mr. Churchill complained that Sir Samuel Hoare had no right to ask his critics to produce a fully developed alternative Constitution.

"Who are we?" he said, of the Indian Defence group. "Only a few poor gentlemen representing the Tory Party."

"But have we no alternative plan? Our case is based on the report of the Simon Commission—or as I should call it—to save embarrassment to Sir John Simon, whose speech was so lukewarm but ingenious—the Statutory Commission."

£20,000 BAIL REDUCED
Mr. Dinnitt, at Bow-street Police Court yesterday, agreed to reduce the amount of bail (totaling £20,000) in the case of David Harris, one of the defendants in the five conspiracy charges.

Counsel for Harris said he could find two sureties in £2,000 each, and the magistrates agreed to do so at that amount, in addition to Harris' own recognisances in £10,000.

LOW PRICES BLAMED FOR OUR TROUBLES
Mr. J. W. Beaumont Peck, chairman of Lloyds Bank, at the annual luncheon yesterday of the International Association for Promotion and Protection of Trade, said some unanimity of opinion existed that low prices for primary commodities were at the bottom of our troubles.

My Garden To-day
Hoses have first claim for consideration as climbers, but as these are mostly deciduous, plant them in association with the fire-thorn (Cotoneaster), honeysuckle, and other flowering evergreens. Magnolia grandiflora, with its massive, leathery leaves and giant cups of exotic flowers, is the prince of evergreen climbing plants for house walls. Good climbing and trailing vines for town planting are Abutilon, Borhner, American Pillar, Conard F. Meyer, Dorothy Perkins, Emily Gray, Excelsa, Mary Wallace, Paul's Scarlet Climber, and Zepherine Drouotina.



SIR WALTER SCOTT portrayed on the stage, by William Leighton (right), in "Scott of Abbotford," at the Little Theatre last night. With him is Beryl Laverick as Pet Marjorie.

WALTER SCOTT AS STAGE HERO

Play: "Scott of Abbotford." Author: W. E. Gunn. Theatre: Little.

Walter Scott now joins the swelling company of British authors who have been hymned on the West-end stage, following on the heels of the Barretts of Wimpole-street and Francis Thompson of the Embankment.

The author of this play has, however, been able to extract little that is dramatic out of Scott's life.

The only thing approximating to a theme is Scott's determination in his old age to pay off every penny of his debts rather than go bankrupt.

Otherwise it is all very episodic and rambling, and pretty tedious. The only character beside Scott that has any continuity is Lady Jane Belches (Edith Sharp).

William Leighton has the Scott appearance and manner, but he plays the part at too funeral a tempo. C. B.

BILLIARDS
Lindsay v. Davis, at Liverpool—Afternoon. Handicap in 22, 4, 5, 7, 13, 19, 25, 31, 37, 43, 49, 55, 61, 67, 73, 79, 85, 91, 97, 103, 109, 115, 121, 127, 133, 139, 145, 151, 157, 163, 169, 175, 181, 187, 193, 199, 205, 211, 217, 223, 229, 235, 241, 247, 253, 259, 265, 271, 277, 283, 289, 295, 301, 307, 313, 319, 325, 331, 337, 343, 349, 355, 361, 367, 373, 379, 385, 391, 397, 403, 409, 415, 421, 427, 433, 439, 445, 451, 457, 463, 469, 475, 481, 487, 493, 499, 505, 511, 517, 523, 529, 535, 541, 547, 553, 559, 565, 571, 577, 583, 589, 595, 601, 607, 613, 619, 625, 631, 637, 643, 649, 655, 661, 667, 673, 679, 685, 691, 697, 703, 709, 715, 721, 727, 733, 739, 745, 751, 757, 763, 769, 775, 781, 787, 793, 799, 805, 811, 817, 823, 829, 835, 841, 847, 853, 859, 865, 871, 877, 883, 889, 895, 901, 907, 913, 919, 925, 931, 937, 943, 949, 955, 961, 967, 973, 979, 985, 991, 997, 1003, 1009, 1015, 1021, 1027, 1033, 1039, 1045, 1051, 1057, 1063, 1069, 1075, 1081, 1087, 1093, 1099, 1105, 1111, 1117, 1123, 1129, 1135, 1141, 1147, 1153, 1159, 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2161, 2167, 2173, 2179, 2185, 2191, 2197, 2203, 2209, 2215, 2221, 2227, 2233, 2239, 2245, 2251, 2257, 2263, 2269, 2275, 2281, 2287, 2293, 2299, 2305, 2311, 2317, 2323, 2329, 2335, 2341, 2347, 2353, 2359, 2365, 2371, 2377, 2383, 2389, 2395, 2401, 2407, 2413, 2419, 2425, 2431, 2437, 2443, 2449, 2455, 2461, 2467, 2473, 2479, 2485, 2491, 2497, 2503, 2509, 2515, 2521, 2527, 2533, 2539, 2545, 2551, 2557, 2563, 2569, 2575, 2581, 2587, 2593, 2599, 2605, 2611, 2617, 2623, 2629, 2635, 2641, 2647, 2653, 2659, 2665, 2671, 2677, 2683, 2689, 2695, 2701, 2707, 2713, 2719, 2725, 2731, 2737, 2743, 2749, 2755, 2761, 2767, 2773, 2779, 2785, 2791, 2797, 2803, 2809, 2815, 2821, 2827, 2833, 2839, 2845, 2851, 2857, 2863, 2869, 2875, 2881, 2887, 2893, 2899, 2905, 2911, 2917, 2923, 2929, 2935, 2941, 2947, 2953, 2959, 2965, 2971, 2977, 2983, 2989, 2995, 3001, 3007, 3013, 3019, 3025, 3031, 3037, 3043, 3049, 3055, 3061, 3067, 3073, 3079, 3085, 3091, 3097, 3103, 3109, 3115, 3121, 3127, 3133, 3139, 3145, 3151, 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4153, 4159, 4165, 4171, 4177, 4183, 4189, 4195, 4201, 4207, 4213, 4219, 4225, 4231, 4237, 4243, 4249, 4255, 4261, 4267, 4273, 4279, 4285, 4291, 4297, 4303, 4309, 4315, 4321, 4327, 4333, 4339, 4345, 4351, 4357, 4363, 4369, 4375, 4381, 4387, 4393, 4399, 4405, 4411, 4417, 4423, 4429, 4435, 4441, 4447, 4453, 4459, 4465, 4471, 4477, 4483, 4489, 4495, 4501, 4507, 4513, 4519, 4525, 4531, 4537, 4543, 4549, 4555, 4561, 4567, 4573, 4579, 4585, 4591, 4597, 4603, 4609, 4615, 4621, 4627, 4633, 4639, 4645, 4651, 4657, 4663, 4669, 4675, 4681, 4687, 4693, 4699, 4705, 4711, 4717, 4723, 4729, 4735, 4741, 4747, 4753, 4759, 4765, 4771, 4777, 4783, 4789, 4795, 4801, 4807, 4813, 4819, 4825, 4831, 4837, 4843, 4849, 4855, 4861, 4867, 4873, 4879, 4885, 4891, 4897, 4903, 4909, 4915, 4921, 4927, 4933, 4939, 4945, 4951, 4957, 4963, 4969, 4975, 4981, 4987, 4993, 4999, 5005, 5011, 5017, 5023, 5029, 5035, 5041, 5047, 5053, 5059, 5065, 5071, 5077, 5083, 5089, 5095, 5101, 5107, 5113, 5119, 5125, 5131, 5137, 5143, 5149, 5155, 5161, 5167, 5173, 5179, 5185, 5191, 5197, 5203, 5209, 5215, 5221, 5227, 5233, 5239, 5245, 5251, 5257, 5263, 5269, 5275, 5281, 5287, 5293, 5299, 5305, 5311, 5317, 5323, 5329, 5335, 5341, 5347, 5353, 5359, 5365, 5371, 5377, 5383, 5389, 5395, 5401, 5407, 5413, 5419, 5425, 5431, 5437, 5443, 5449, 5455, 5461, 5467, 5473, 5479, 5485, 5491, 5497, 5503, 5509, 5515, 5521, 5527, 5533, 5539, 5545, 5551, 5557, 5563, 5569, 5575, 5581, 5587, 5593, 5599, 5605, 5611, 5617, 5623, 5629, 5635, 5641, 5647, 5653, 5659, 5665, 5671, 5677, 5683, 5689, 5695, 5701, 5707, 5713, 5719, 5725, 5731, 5737, 5743, 5749, 5755, 5761, 5767, 5773, 5779, 5785, 5791, 5797, 5803, 5809, 5815, 5821, 5827, 5833, 5839, 5845, 5851, 5857, 5863, 5869, 5875, 5881, 5887, 5893, 5899, 5905, 5911, 5917, 5923, 5929, 5935, 5941, 5947, 5953, 5959, 5965, 5971, 5977, 5983, 5989, 5995, 6001, 6007, 6013, 6019, 6025, 6031, 6037, 6043, 6049, 6055, 6061, 6067, 6073, 6079, 6085, 6091, 6097, 6103, 6109, 6115, 6121, 6127, 6133, 6139, 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