

2. Consequent upon the Royal Rescript of the 14th April, regulating the order of succession to the throne, a law has been promulgated establishing the status of the members of the Royal Family.

*Political Situation.*

As compared with a few weeks ago, Zaghlulist agitation in the cities has for the moment to a very considerable extent quietened down.

The Ministry has been confronted with considerable opposition amongst Government officials and employees in consequence of the decision to reduce the allowance for high cost of living.

It is understood that the negotiations between the Egyptian Government and the British authorities in settlement of the compensation to be awarded foreign officials consequent upon changed conditions under the new régime have by no means yet reached a solution. This is continuing to cause widespread dissatisfaction among those directly affected.

*Forecast.*

The general outlook for public security is favourable. With regard to shooting outrages, while their possible recurrence must continue to be borne in mind, recent police action is believed to be having a strongly deterrent effect.

CAIRO.

*General.*

The week has been quiet.

No untoward incidents marred the friendly reception accorded to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

Police precautions and continued activity in domiciliary visits and in personal search for unauthorised arms have had considerable general effect.

*The Visit of the Prince of Wales.*

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales reached Suez aboard H.M.S. "Renown" on Friday, the 9th June, on his homeward voyage from India and the Far East.

Disembarking, he reached Cairo that evening on an unofficial visit, staying at the Residency for two days.

On Saturday morning he visited His Majesty the King, who immediately returned the visit.

On Sunday His Royal Highness, together with his Excellency the High Commissioner, Viscountess Alleby and members of their respective staffs, lunched at Abdin Palace with His Majesty, who conferred upon the Prince the Grand Cordon of the Order of Mohammed Ali.

The Prince left on Sunday evening for Port Said, where he embarked for England.

From on board the "Renown" His Royal Highness sent the following wireless message to His Majesty the King:—

" I feel that I cannot leave Egyptian waters without again thanking your Majesty for your hospitality during my stay in Cairo and without renewing my profound appreciation of the honour shown me. I send my best wishes for the health and prosperity of your Majesty, and look forward keenly to our next meeting.—EDWARD P."

Both on arrival and departure there were present to receive and bid farewell to His Royal Highness the representatives of His Majesty the King, his Excellency the High Commissioner, his Excellency the Prime Minister, other members of the Cabinet and high officials. The Prince received an enthusiastic greeting from a number of British residents and soldiers, who had been granted entrance to the station.

Various rumours were spread regarding the Prince's visit before His Royal Highness arrived. The Opposition saw in it a political move "intended to impress and win over the Egyptians." The Prince would certainly deliver a speech, with the object of "throwing dust in the eyes of Egyptians" as regards their independence.

Therefore, it was rumoured students and extremists, including the ladies of the feminist movement, would attempt demonstrations, so as to bring home to His Royal Highness the state of discontent in Egypt on account of the present political situation.

3. It is obvious that the language of clause 101 must be wholly altered. I suggest that it should be replaced by a provision that Turkey recognises the independence of Egypt, subject to the effect of certain subsequent clauses (Suez Canal, Tribute and Soudan), and takes due note of the recent declaration to Egypt, and of the special position thereby reserved to Great Britain in respect of foreign interference in Egyptian affairs.

4. As regards the clauses relating to Egyptian nationality, the following difficulties occur to me: *Prima facie*, if Egypt is not a party to the treaty, these clauses, whether they agree with or differ from the Egyptian Nationality Law, or even if the treaty is ratified before a nationality law is promulgated, will be of no effect whatsoever. They will merely constitute a vain attempt to trespass upon the proper province of a foreign (i.e. the Egyptian) legislator.

5. On the other hand, Turkish recognition of Egyptian independence might be made subject to the nationality clauses. This would raise the question from whom does Egypt derive her independence. I suppose we claim that she derives it from His Majesty's Government, who was *de facto* in a position to grant it before peace had been concluded with Egypt's former suzerain. We can hardly admit that Turkey is still in a position to stipulate modalities in respect of Egyptian legislative power in which Great Britain takes no interest.

6. In this connection I dissent from the opinion expressed in paragraph 4 of the Foreign Office despatch to the effect that the inhabitants of Egypt are still technically Turkish subjects. This is only so *vis-a-vis* Turkey; it presupposes that Egypt is still a Turkish province. But that is not proper language for His Majesty's Government to hold. How on that hypothesis can we explain the protectorate, the exclusion of the ex-Khedive, or the declaration of independence?

7. If there is any danger of the treaty provisions with regard to Egyptian nationality conflicting with the Egyptian Nationality Law, I am strongly of opinion that the treaty should contain no reference to the subject.

8. I do not know whether a discussion of details in this note may not have unduly obscured the fundamental question how and by what instrument the future peaceable relations between Egypt and Turkey are to be established. Is not Egypt now *de jure* at war with Turkey? If so, how are diplomatic relations to be restored?

M. S. AMOS.

Ministry of Justice, April 26, 1922.

[E 6552/61/16]

No. 5.

Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 460.)  
My Lord,

Ramleh, June 19, 1922.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a report on the general situation in Egypt prepared by the Public Security Department for the period from the 8th to the 14th June, 1922, inclusive.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,  
High Commissioner.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from June 8 to 14, 1922, incl. sicc.

(Strictly Confidential.)

SUMMARY

Events of the Week.

1. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, homeward bound from India and the Far East, honoured Cairo with a two days' unofficial visit from the 9th to the 11th June.

His Majesty the King conferred on His Royal Highness the Grand Cordon of the Order of Mohammed Ali.

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Enclosure 5 in No. 23.

*Act of Indemnity: Draft Convention.*

A CONVENTION between the Egyptian Government, represented by his Excellency Abdel Khalek Saroit Pasha, President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Government of His Britannic Majesty, represented by his Excellency Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby, High Commissioner for Egypt.

1. The high contracting parties hereby agree that so soon as it may be possible an Act of Indemnity in the terms of the draft law herewith annexed shall be promulgated by the Egyptian Government in such a manner as to be applicable to all the inhabitants of Egypt, and that simultaneously therewith the régime of martial law as proclaimed on the 2nd November, 1914, by the General Officer Commanding-in-chief His Britannic Majesty's Forces in Egypt shall be terminated.

2. The high contracting parties agree that the measures enacted under martial law with the object of controlling enemy property and of putting into effect certain provisions of the treaties of peace shall, so long as they remain in force, continue to be administered under the authority and on the responsibility of His Britannic Majesty's Government.

3. The Egyptian Government agree that no sentence of imprisonment or penal servitude imposed by a British military court shall be reduced or remitted save with the consent in writing of the representative of His Britannic Majesty.

[E 7307/61/16]

No. 24.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received July 24.)*

(No. 563.)

My Lord.

*Ramleh, July 13, 1922.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of a report on the general situation in Egypt compiled by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government for the period the 1st to 10th July, 1922, inclusive.

I have, &amp;c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,  
*High Commissioner.*

Enclosure in No. 24.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from July 1 to 10, 1922, inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

## SUMMARY.

*Political Situation.*

The opposition in respect of the 20 per cent. reduction of the bonus for high cost of living has subsided.

For the moment, Zaghlulist energies appear to centre on the projected conference in London, to be held towards the end of the current month.

*Forecast.*

The outlook, as regards public security, continues favourable.

## GENERAL.

*The Nile Flood.*

The rise of all the tributaries from the Abyssinian side is now about normal, and the prospects for this year's Nile flood in Egypt are that it should be about normal. The Bahr-el-Gebel, however, at Mongalla is still very low indeed, indicating a low supply from the Great Lakes.

By careful husbanding, the supply of water available for irrigation during June proved sufficient for the strictest needs, and the critical period is now past.

## CAIRO.

Threats of a demonstration on the occasion of the "Kiswa" ceremony on the 9th instant did not materialise.

Excitement over the 20 per cent. cut in the bonus has abated. One concrete result of this measure was the formation of a syndicate of Government employees which held its first meeting on the 4th instant, when the secretary reported a membership to date of 632. This syndicate has not, however, as yet shown any indication of vitality.

With reference to the recent dismissals of European temporary officials of the Ministry of Public Works, which aroused considerable public criticism in the European section of the press, and were made the subject of diplomatic intervention, it is understood that the Ministry is examining these cases with a view, possibly, to granting compensation.

*Unlawful Possession of Arms.*

Sentences on four men, reported to be members of a gang of robbers operating in various quarters of Cairo, who were tried by the Cairo Military Court last month, have been promulgated. One man, Said Gouma Bisy, has had the death sentence commuted to ten years' penal servitude. The others were sentenced, two to three months' hard labour and one to receive twelve lashes.

Several other cases of unlawful possession of arms have been dealt with by the court, but the sentences pronounced have not yet been confirmed.

It is reported that there has been much comment among Egyptians in regard to the sentence of death (not yet confirmed or promulgated) passed on Mahmud Effendi Wasty, the severity of the sentence being contrasted with the relative lightness of those passed on offenders of a lower order and of a criminal type.

## ALEXANDRIA.

A ringleader in the demonstration which took place on the occasion of the arrival of His Majesty in Alexandria on the 22nd June has been sentenced by military court to three years' hard labour and twenty lashes.

There was no incident at the Abu-el-Abbas Mosque on Friday, and no collection for the Anatolian Fund.

On the 30th June and the 1st July, sentences of hard labour and lashes were passed by military court on—

1. Osman Mohamed Abu Bakr, for having assaulted and bitten an officer of the R.A.F. on the 24th June; and
2. Ali Mohamed Shabaan, for having, on the 24th June, assaulted two British soldiers by throwing stones at them while in the execution of their duty.

The findings were confirmed, but the sentences were reduced to one year I.H.L. and twenty lashes in the case of No. 1 and six months' I.H.L. and ten lashes in the case of No. 2.

## THE PROVINCES.

In the delta there is a temporary lull in public interest in politics, party rivalries, the question of minorities, &c., having settled down to light café discussion.

A report on the provinces of Menoufia and Behera, from an inspector of the interior, states that economic conditions and the bad state of the crops for the moment outweigh whatever interest the fellahen may have in politics.

On the other hand it is reported that the Zaghlulists continue to organise their forces for their election campaign.

Excitement over the 20 per cent. reduction of bonuses has abated, and officials are now looking to the application of the cadre reforms for the improvement of their position.

There continues to be an unusual amount of lawlessness in the provinces, but of a non-political character. Police investigation has shown the alleged raid by a gang of robbers on the house of a British official of the railway administration to have been "arranged" for the purpose of securing a reward by denunciation.

THE PALESTINE DELEGATION TO MECCA.

A delegation of five Palestinian Moslems arrived in Cairo at the end of June, and left for Mecca on the 7th July. Their object, as stated, is to appeal to the pilgrims from all the Moslem world on behalf of the shrines of Palestine, which they consider are endangered by the possibility of Zionist political ascendancy in Palestine. In particular, they are represented as roused by threatened desecration of the venerated shrines of Hebron, of the Nebi Mousa, and of the Dome of the Rock at Jerusalem.

The leader of this Palestinian delegation is a certain Sheikh Abdel-Kader Muzaffar, who was mufti in the Turkish army during the war, and was subsequently president of the Arab Club in Damascus, from which position he was removed. He is a well-known agitator, a native of Palestine, and has been credibly reported from time to time as engaged in multifarious intrigues, pan-Arab, pan-Islamic, Bolshevik, &c.

He reached Cairo on his present mission on the 29th June, 1922.

The Palestine Committee in Egypt held a general meeting in Cairo on the 24th June and issued a manifesto declaring that, whatever be the form or kind of the League of Nations mandate for Palestine, it should be refused, and that every effort should be made to realise the unity and complete independence of Syria.

On the 4th July the Palestinian delegation published a long appeal to the Moslems of Egypt. It declares that the Moslems have been the guardians of the Moslem shrines of Palestine for several centuries, and that these shrines are now in danger of passing under Zionist control. It explains that the delegation is fighting for Moslem shrines which are sacred to Moslems throughout the whole world, and that therefore it is the duty of all Moslems to assist the movement against encroachment by Zionists on Islam's holiest places. It concludes: "As the Society of the League of Nations is about to be asked to sanction a mandate making Palestine a Jewish National Home, we beseech you to join us in resisting that mandate uncompromisingly."

The delegation sent telegrams to the Sultan of Turkey, Kings of Egypt, the Hedjaz and Irak, the Shah of Persia and the Ameer of Afghanistan, petitioning for speedy and vigorous protests to the British Government and the League of Nations against a mandate which would put Moslem shrines under Zionist control.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING CASE IN CAIRO.

On the 30th June, "Wadimil" reported, under the heading "Attempted Assassination," that an English officer, residing in Sharia-el-Sheikh Hamza, Cairo, had fired two shots from his window with a sporting rifle, one of which slightly wounded two Egyptians; that the officer, when interrogated, replied that he was testing his rifle and had seen no one in the street.

"Wadimil" further stated, on the authority of an eyewitness, that the officer was a Captain Jefferson, and that his rifle was loaded with ball.

By the 4th July this had become, in "Al Afkar" of that date, "the death of an itinerant water-melon seller, struck by a bullet fired by an English officer."

On this "murder" the "Afkar" bases a tirade to the effect that were the Egyptian Government imbued with any spirit of independence it would have demanded exemplary punishment of the offender; that the British Government demands heavy indemnities in respect of the British subjects killed; but that the life of an Egyptian is of no value, &c.

Certain other extremist papers inveighed in the same strain.

The actual facts, established after enquiry by the police authorities, are as follows:—

Captain Jefferson, a retired English army officer, admitted, in the enquiry, having fired at birds and other objects (such as marks on walls) a number of times from his window on the fourth floor; his weapon, however, was an air gun, not a rifle (sporting or other).

Pellets from this air gun struck two men some little way off in two different streets, one of them being the "water-melon seller" referred to. Both men were hit in the leg. Neither of them was seriously hurt. One received treatment at Kasr-el-Aini Hospital from the 26th to 28th June, when he became an out-patient, attending once on the 28th June. The other was admitted on the 26th June and released as an out-patient on the 1st July.

Captain Jefferson promptly offered compensation, which was accepted in principle, and, after negotiation, the matter was settled by payment of £E. 5 and £E. 7 respectively. The larger sum, which was given to the melon seller, included indemnity for any loss of stock-in-trade.

#### THE CASE OF THE SOUDANESE OFFICER ALY ABDEL LATIF.

The Zaghlulist faction has continued to exploit this case to the utmost, with the two-fold object of stirring up agitation in the Soudan and of using distorted and exaggerated accounts of the case for propaganda purposes in Egypt, where Aly Abdel Latif is represented as a martyr to the cause of Egyptian national unity, and for attacks on the Egyptian Government as the "accomplice" in British designs in the Soudan.

Amongst press articles on the subject may be noted one published in "Al Ahram" by a retired officer of the Egyptian army, Lewa Mohamed Fahmy Pasha-el-Moteiny.

It is reported that on the 24th June the Society of the Mothers of the Future applied to the Soudan Government for facilities to proceed to Khartoum to convey the sympathy of the society to the family of Aly Abdel Latif and to attend the hearing of his appeal. The refusal of this request furnished an opportunity for a well-advertised protest.

On the 8th July the Prime Minister issued a communiqué bringing out that Aly Abdel Latif had been sentenced for attacks on the Soudan Government and for a seditious publication advocating a purely native (Soudanese) Government independent of both Egypt and Great Britain.

#### THE SUPPRESSION OF "AL OMMAH."

"Al Ommah," which is identified with extremist agitation, has again been suspended. (It was last suspended for a month from the 25th March, 1922, for the dissemination of false and misleading news.) This paper had taken an active part in the Aly Abdel Latif campaign, and early in the month published an article which has been much commented on, in the form of an imaginary interview between their Excellencies the Prime Minister, Sidky Pasha, Adly Pasha Yeghen and others with the High Commissioner; but the immediate cause of the present suspension was on a statement in its issue of the 7th July that the Azhar Mosque had been closed by the Government and its rector punished for opposing this measure.

A Ministerial order dated the 8th July notified the suspension of the paper for three months. This order was followed by an official communiqué denying the statement in question.

There is reason to believe that this misstatement of the "Ommah" may have been evolved from recent developments of a scheme for the decentralisation of "Al Azhar," the application of which has been in progress for the last two years. This scheme, aimed at relieving congestion at Al Azhar, at keeping youthful provincial students under the influence of their families and away from the deleterious influences, moral and political, of the capital, and at lessening their expenses, provides for the Azhar Mosque being reserved for higher education only, secondary education being transferred to branches (mosques) of the University in Alexandria, Tanta, Assiout and Giza; Egyptian secondary students being sent to the branches nearest to their homes. This scheme was approved by the Azhar authorities and is generally popular with the public.

#### THE EGYPTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

This party recently secured the newspaper "Al Shaliba" as the party organ under an arrangement by which they agreed to pay an indemnity in case of its suspension.

This paper was started at the beginning of the current month by Sheikh Abul Hamid-el-Nahas, but, after only four numbers had appeared, it came out on the 8th July as the organ of the Socialist Party, under the title of "El Shaliba Socialist Paper," the name of El Nahas no longer appearing.

A meeting of the party was held in Alexandria on the 6th July, at which about 100 persons, including twelve Greek members of the "Groupe d'Etudes sociales" and sixteen Jews and Syrians of the "Groupe Clarté" were present.

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Husni-el-Orebi dwelt on "the distressful condition of the fellaheen and workers of Egypt," and appealed for the organisation of syndicates on the lines of those existing in Europe.

Joseph Rosenthal expressed satisfaction at seeing Egyptians and Europeans united under the principles of Socialism in a friendship which "has completely effaced the unhappy reminiscences of the unfortunate events of May 1921."

#### THE RECENT ATTACKS ON BRITISH OFFICIALS.

Perquisitions effected in consequence of certain information received by the police have led to several arrests. An enquiry is being conducted by the military authorities.

#### THE EX-KHEDIVE.

In the last report reference was made to the prohibition of circulation in Egypt of two Swiss newspapers. The offending matter was in the nature of a manifesto on behalf of the ex-Khedive, asserting his rights to the Throne of Egypt, and attacks, in his interest, on the existing régime in Egypt.

Various reports received point to a recrudescence of propaganda, in Egypt and abroad, on behalf of the ex-Khedive, whose future aims have been the subject of some discussion in certain organs of the press.

#### THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

Following recent reports as to misappropriation of funds by collectors, it is now reported that the Wafd intend circularising notables in the provinces, asking them to send donations direct to Wassif Bey Ghali.

It is now confirmed that the Wafd are concentrating for the moment on the congress proposed to be held in London during the current month, in respect of which they claim to have received assurances of a sympathetic hearing from the British authorities.

It is reported that the chief objects of this congress are:—

1. To secure the return of Zaghlul to Egypt or, at least, to Europe.
2. To indict the Egyptian Government for its arbitrary proceedings, its restrictions on personal liberty, &c.
3. To open discussion on the question of the Soudan.

Marcos Bey Hanna is reported to be endeavouring to reinstate in the good graces of the Wafd the Coptic Priest Bukos Ghobrial, who had frequently distinguished himself by the violence and exaggeration of his public utterances in the Zaghlulist cause, but who had recently fallen under suspicion of being a spy on the Wafd.

A small group of Azharists, headed by Sheikh Mohamed-el-Hassan Maadi, is reported to have commenced a tour of the villages for the purpose of making Zaghlulist speeches in the mosques after the Friday prayer.

The Wafd continue their preparations for the election campaign.

The Egyptian Medical Association have, it is announced, appointed a commission of three to proceed to the Seychelles Islands and examine into the state of Zaghlul's health. "Al Lewa" (the 3rd July) even states that three Egyptian medical men have asked to be allowed to establish themselves in practice in the Seychelles, as they conclude from the proceedings in the British Parliament that there are few practitioners there, and they believe they would earn more than they do in Egypt (*sic*), especially now that Egyptians are resident there and require their care.

#### THE PRESS.

The principal subjects of discussion in the press during the period under review have been:—

1. The ex-Khedive.
2. The case of Aly Abdel Latif.
3. The Jefferson shooting case.
4. The dismissal of European temporary officials.

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*The Ex-Khedive.*

News from Europe ascribes to the renewed activity of the ex-Khedive various objectives:—

- (a.) To become the head of a confederation of Arab States.
- (b.) The realisation of the long-mooted project of his becoming King of Syria with the aid of the French.
- (c.) His restoration to the Throne of Egypt.

"Al Istiklal" attaches no importance to his pretensions on the Egyptian Throne, but dwells on his projects in regard to the Arab countries. The paper refers to pourparlers said to have recently taken place between the ex-Khedive and the French Government in regard to his nomination as King of Syria, but opines that this does not satisfy his ambition, and that he aims at hegemony over a Confederation of the Arab States. The "Istiklal" also reports that Mustapha Pasha Kemal had proposed that Abbas Hilmy should be nominated as arbitrator in the boundary disputes existing between Turkey and Mesopotamia, but that King Feisal had demurred in deference to Great Britain.

On the other hand, the "Revue égyptienne" ridicules the idea of Abbas Hilmy obtaining the Throne of Syria, while the "Liberté" attributes his activity rather to the pursuit of his Egyptian aspirations.

*The Case of Aly Abdel Latif.*

The papers continue to devote considerable space to the Soudan and the case of Aly Abdel Latif, labouring the themes of British separatist intentions and the "complicity" of the Egyptian Government in these designs, as evidenced by its apathetic attitude.

*The Jefferson Shooting Case.*

The efforts of a certain section of the press (reported above) to hang an anti-British campaign on to this unimportant incident did not evoke any general response in the press.

*The Dismissal of European Temporary Officials.*

The dismissal of a number of European temporary officials of the Ministry of Public Works evoked sharp criticism from the European section of the press, who see in it a serious error of judgment on the part of the Egyptian Government and an ill augury for the security of foreign interests under the régime of independence.

[ E 7309/58/16 ]

No. 25.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received July 24.)*

(No. 566. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Ramleh, July 16, 1922.

WITH reference to Lord Curzon's despatch No. 520 of the 4th May, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of Sir William Hayter's opinion, which may be considered as anticipating the views of the Egyptian Government, on the theory advanced by His Majesty's Government in your Lordship's despatch under reply, together with a copy of the circular letter which the Egyptian Government propose to send to me and to the Belgian, French and Italian Ministers inviting the views of the four Powers (having commercial conventions with Egypt) on its proposal for the immediate increase of the import duty to 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, subject to a guarantee that during the decade following the expiration on the 16th February, 1930, of the Italo-Egyptian Commercial Convention it will not be further increased.

Sir W. Hayter's view is supported by the opinion which has been expressed by Sir M. Amos that "a permanent and very low limitation upon the taxing power of a sovereign State is a very high claim to make. . . . The permanency of the Capitulations as instruments governing the jurisdictional privileges of foreigners is one thing; their permanency in tariff matters appears to be a very different thing, especially in view of the fact that no reciprocal obligation is, I presume, imposed on His Majesty's Government."



[ E 7610/61/16 ]

No. 36.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour. -- (Received August 1.)*

(No. 593.)

My Lord.

Ramleh, July 24, 1922.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a report on the general situation in Egypt, compiled by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government, for the period the 11th to the 20th July, 1922, inclusive.

I have, &amp;c.

ALLENBY, F.M.

High Commissioner.

Enclosure in No. 36.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for the Period from July 11 to 20, 1922, inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

## SUMMARY.

*Events of the Ten Days.*

1. Another shooting outrage occurred in Cairo on the 15th July, Lieutenant-Colonel Pigott, of the Royal Army Pay Corps, being seriously wounded when on his way to his office about 8.30 A.M. There are now good hopes of his recovery. The two men, who shot him down at close range, made good their escape.

2. A law was promulgated on the 19th July in regulation of the liquidation of the property in Egypt of the ex-Khedive, who is debarred from entering Egyptian territory or acquiring property in Egypt.

3. His Excellency the High Commissioner, receiving a deputation of Egyptian ladies, stated that, while he could not agree to Zaghlul's repatriation, the latter would be transferred to a more suitable place if his health were proved to be suffering from residence in the Seychelles Islands.

*Political Situation.*

While there is no marked change apparent in the political situation, the recrudescence of shooting outrages seems to be considered in some quarters as rendering the position of the Ministry less assured.

There has been a revival of Zaghlulist activity on behalf of the repatriation of Zaghlul, accompanied by the spread of rumours tending to stimulate the movement.

*Forecast.*

The outlook with regard to public security generally continues favourable, with the exception of the possibility of further shooting outrages.

## GENERAL.

*The Nile Flood.*

Prospects for this year's Nile flood continue normal. Readings at Wady Halfa have reached the normal level.

The level of the Bahr-el-Gebel, however, at Mongalla, which was noted in last report as very low indeed, shows signs of dropping still further, giving cause for anxiety, after the annual flood in Egypt has subsided, as to the supply from the great lakes in the first half of next year.

## CAIRO.

*Shooting Outrage.*

On Saturday morning, the 15th July, just after half-past 8 o'clock, Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. H. Pigott, of the Royal Army Pay Corps, when proceeding from his residence to his work in Old Army Headquarters, Sharia Kasr-el-Nil, was fired at from close range and seriously wounded.

He had just turned out of Sharia Gami Sharkas into Sharia Qadi-el-Fadl, a short street leading into Sharia Kasr-el-Nil, when two men, who apparently followed him, and are described as "effendis dressed in dark clothes," fired at least four shots at him, striking him in the back, the body and the right shoulder.

After Colonel Pigott fell, the assassins seem to have turned to the right up Sharia-el-Mahrani, and to have made good their escape by Sharia Sherifein, all trace of them being lost.

Colonel Pigott received prompt first-aid treatment in the surgery of Dr. Abdel Hamid, almost opposite to which he fell, and was removed to Abbassieh Military Hospital.

The wounded officer has so far shown encouraging signs of successfully contending against very serious injuries, and there are now good hopes of his ultimate recovery.

He was visited at the hospital by his Excellency the Prime Minister, who had come to Cairo to preside at the Mahmal ceremony, and who called officially on the High Commissioner the following day to express the deep regrets of the Ministry.

The following points may be noted in connection with this fresh outrage:—

1. Colonel Pigott's duties in the pay office of the English army brought him little into touch with Egyptians, and it is unlikely that he was personally known to his would-be assassins, although he was following his customary route at his customary hour. It is perhaps a legitimate inference that they shot at him either simply because he was an English officer in uniform or because they mistook him for someone else whose assassination they were actually intending.
2. Owing to the Mahmal ceremony a certain proportion of police constables had necessarily been withdrawn for the time from ordinary street duty, a fact of which the aggressors would seem to have taken advantage.
3. This is the twelfth shooting outrage upon British soldiers or officials since the 20th December, 1921. In these, one soldier, one police officer and three civilians have been killed.

So far as it can be considered to be fully reflected in the press, public opinion has been very generally moved by this renewal of outrage. The great majority of newspapers express strong condemnation of all such crimes, and insist that their recurrence can only do harm to the Egyptian cause.

This general expression of reprehension is in somewhat marked contrast to the apathetic tone which seemed to characterise press comment on previous occasions of outrage.

Considerable protest is raised against any attempt to throw responsibility for these isolated misdeeds upon the Egyptian people as a whole.

Little emphasis, on the other hand, seems to be laid upon the failure of the public generally to assist the police in arresting or tracking down the assailants.

Certain newspapers, notably "Al Istiklal," seek to throw the responsibility for the recurrence of these crimes upon police failure to detect the criminals, and demand the removal of the higher English police officials.

Extracts from newspaper comment are given below in the section on the press.

It is to be noted that Zaghulists are represented as saying that this latest outrage has been committed in consequence of the news received regarding Zaghul's health, and that, until he is repatriated, such outrages will continue. This is probably to a large extent pure propaganda towards compassing their leader's return.

Leading Zaghulists are also reported to be saying that the purpose of these crimes against British officers and officials is to secure the overthrow of the present Cabinet on the ground of its inability either to maintain law and order or to trace the criminals, so that a more popular Cabinet may replace it.

The following report from a source considered well informed may be quoted:—

"There are a good many moderate Egyptians who strongly disapprove and deeply regret the latest shooting outrage, and it appears that many Egyptians fear that such outrages will finally have a very bad effect on the Egyptian situation."

#### ALEXANDRIA.

##### *Speech by His Excellency the High Commissioner.*

Entertained by the members of the Union Club on Thursday, the 13th July, Lord Allenby, referring to the great changes which this year had brought, pointed out that, in granting independence to Egypt, Great Britain was but carrying out the intentions and avowed policy which she inaugurated forty years ago. She had made that policy good. Egypt, now a sovereign State, and England were bound by ties of

friendship, and he confidently hoped that they would continue to advance together in friendship and prosperity, associated in relations of mutual regard and respect. Better understanding and closer sympathy could only benefit British interests in Egypt.

THE DISMISSED IRRIGATION OFFICIALS.

A communiqué of the Ministry of Public Works, which appeared in the press on the 20th July, explains that discontinuance of work on the Gebel-el-Awlia reservoir having necessitated a substantial reduction of temporary staff, the Ministry, instead of merely dismissing officials in the Projects Department, proceeded to a redistribution of the whole temporary staff, the case of each official being examined on its merits, length of service, qualifications and personal record. The selection was carried out by two successive committees without regard to any consideration of nationality. Out of eighty-three cases examined, thirty-four were retained as the best qualified in the interests of the service. The forty-nine officials whose services were dispensed with included: three Egyptians, fifteen British, three French, twelve Italians, nine Greeks and seven of other nationalities. These forty-nine are being generously treated, and have been granted the advantage of—

- (a.) Extended notice, varying according to their periods of service.
- (b.) Ordinary leave, in spite of their duties having ceased.
- (c.) Reference to the Medical Commission with a view to eventual compensation in proportion to length of service.

The "Réforme" (the 19th July) published an interview accorded by the Prime Minister with reference to this communiqué, in which his Excellency emphasised that these dismissals were without political motive. It was a question of a normal administrative measure, dictated by present circumstances, as had previously been the case in 1914, when a number of temporary officials (many of them foreigners) were, from motives of economy, dispensed with. His Excellency further denied emphatically any intention of systematic elimination of foreign officials, who, he said, might rest assured that they would suffer no prejudice on grounds of nationality.

THE EX-KHEDIVE.

The "Journal officiel" of the 19th July published Law No. 28 of 1922, dated the 17th July, in regulation of the liquidation of the property of the ex-Khedive, Abbas Hilmi Pasha, and in restriction of his rights in Egypt.

This law recognises as valid and confirms all the acts in liquidation of Abbas Hilmi's property in Egypt carried out by the British military authorities under martial law, and stops any action at law, including any now before the courts or pending, by declaring such action to be beyond the jurisdiction of Egyptian tribunals.

Abbas Hilmi Pasha is further forbidden to enter Egyptian territory and denied the right, either personally or by proxy, of acquiring property in Egypt (save by legal succession or in consequence of rights already acquired), or of being a beneficiary of any trust ("wakf") created.

The Government will designate official administrators to liquidate any remaining property, the proceeds of which will be credited to Abbas Hilmi Pasha.

It is to be noted that this law stops the appeals of which legal notice has been given against the liquidation already effected, the hearing of which had been expected to be largely utilised for propaganda purposes.

This law is further noteworthy as giving complete sanction to and confirmation of all action previously taken in respect of this matter by the British military authorities under martial law.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF SHEIKH MOHAMMED ABDU.

The seventeenth anniversary of the death of Sheikh Mohammed Abdu was commemorated by meetings in Cairo on the 11th July and at Alexandria on the 17th July.

The former, presided over by Sheikh Mohammed Bekhit, was held at the Egyptian University, the principal speakers, besides the chairman, being Sheikh Mustapha Abdel-Razik, Ahmed Bey Lutfi-el-Sayed and Sheikh Rashid Rida, the editor of "Al Manar." In addition, Sheikh Ali Surer-el-Zankaluni, without, it is stated, being included in the committee's programme, delivered a speech in reference to the present political situation, of which some of those present took advantage to raise cheers for Zaghlul, &c. No further incident is reported.

At Alexandria, where about 300 people gathered in the Alhambra Theatre, the lawyer Hilbawi Bey, who was to have been one of the principal speakers, was prevented by Sheikh Ibrahim-el-Lebban, who denounced him as a "traitor." In the ensuing commotion Mohammed Pasha Said and others left the theatre.

As in Cairo, a speech not included in the committee's programme was made, in this case by the well-known Sheikh Abdul-Hamid-el-Nahhas, which elicited cheers for Zaghlul from a portion of the audience.

Sheikh Mohammed Abdu, a pupil and follower of the celebrated Moslem philosopher, Sheikh Gamal-el-Din-el-Afghani, in collaboration with his master, issued the review, "Al Orwa-al-Woska," in 1884, which was instrumental in giving perhaps the main impulse to the Moslem revival of the time. They may be considered as the pioneers and founders of the pan-Islamic movement.

Unlike his master, however, who was apt to be impetuous and violent in his doctrine and was bitterly Anglophobe, Sheikh Mohammed Abdu was moderate, advocating slow and gradual progress and development. Although compromised in the Arab movement, and obliged to retire into exile in Syria, whence he made his way to France, Sheikh Mohammed Abdu was allowed by the Khedive to return, and ultimately became Grand Mufti of Egypt. He was a friend of Lord Cromer, who in one of his annual reports writes in very high terms of appreciation of Sheikh Mohammed Abdu and his work.

THE WATANIST PARTY.

From Paris Ali Bey Falouy Kamel telegraphed on the 11th July to eleven of the Arabic newspapers (including "Al Ommah," at present suppressed) to inform them that, as vice-president of the Watanist Party, he had that day telegraphed to the Prime Minister of Great Britain in the following terms:—

"The Egyptian Nationalist Committee charges me to remind your Excellency of this fatal date, when the English fleet treacherously and criminally bombarded Alexandria. This shameful page can only be effaced by evacuation, immediate and complete. So long as an English soldier still occupies Egypt, national hatred will increase against England, for his existence (? presence in Egypt) is but a shameful chain and a fact abidingly cruel. All Egypt without exception protests energetically before the whole world against occupation and treachery.—I beg you to accept." &c.

THE SUPPRESSION OF "AL SHABIBAH."

Permission was recently given by the Ministry of the Interior to Sheikh Abdul-Hamid-el-Nahhas, of Alexandria, to publish a weekly paper, literary and non-political, entitled "Al Shabibah" ("The Younger Generation"). The authorisation, as usual, was a purely personal one, non-transferable, and conditional upon the paper preserving its non-political character. Nevertheless, the proprietor had very soon to be cautioned for introducing pro-Zaghlulist matter.

Four numbers were issued. The fifth number was published on the 8th July, without the name of Abdul-Hamid-el-Nahhas appearing, with its own name amended to "Al Shabibah Socialist Paper," recommencing with serial No. 1, and claiming to be the organ of the Egyptian Socialist Party.

It appears that the party made arrangements to acquire a kind of lease of the paper from the proprietor, agreeing to indemnify him to the extent of £ E. 50 in the event of its suspension by the authorities.

In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of the Interior, the Alexandria city police closed down the paper on Tuesday, the 11th July.

At the meeting of the "Groupe Clarté" on the 13th July, after the lecture by George Petrides on the "History and Work of the First and Second International," Joseph Rosenthal read a strong protest, which he stated he was sending for publication in the Communist press of Germany, Great Britain and France, directed against "British despotism," as shown in "suppressing all liberty of speech," on the double ground—

- (a.) Of the closing of the Cairo headquarters of the Egyptian Socialist Party; and
- (b.) The suppression of the paper "Al Shabibah," the short-lived organ of the Egyptian Socialist Party.

THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

1. Dr. Mahgub Sabit was to have delivered a lecture to the Workmen's Syndicate on the 15th July, which members of the Wafd were to attend. At the same meeting a Zaghlulist extremist, Khalid-el-Garnissi, was to have made a political speech, and patriotic monologues from extremist students were also expected. The meeting was, however, prohibited by the authorities.

2. Rumours concerning Zaghlul's forthcoming release continue to be spread, importance being attached to the activities of Mr. Swan and others in the House of Commons. Cyprus is the residence to which rumour points, if Zaghlul is removed from the Seychelles.

A large deputation, under the presidency of Mme. Mahmoud Riaz Pasha and Mme. Wissa Bey Wasif, submitted to the various Legations and diplomatic agencies in Alexandria "a long protest against the present political situation and the maintenance of measures of restriction." The deputation, it is stated, included forty ladies from Cairo, in addition to many from Benha, Tanta and Damanshour, as well as from Alexandria itself.

His Excellency the High Commissioner accorded them an interview at the Residency, and, in reply to their protest against Zaghlul's banishment and detention in the Seychelles, stated that he accepted responsibility for Zaghlul's banishment, and that, while he could not agree to Zaghlul's return, the latter would certainly be transferred to a more suitable place if his health were proved to be suffering from residence in the Seychelles Islands.

Mme. Riaz Pasha also, on behalf of the "Women's Delegation Committee," sent telegrams of protest to Parliament, Mr. Lloyd George, the "Times" and other English newspapers, "requiring immediate restoration of Zaghlul and colleagues" (the 17th July) and "immediate reparations" (the 18th July).

THE PRESS.

*Comment on the Shooting Outrage.*

"Al Lewa-al-Masri" (the 16th July): "The only arm of the Watanist Party is that of right. It needs no recourse to murder or violence. With regard to the English, it hates only the imperialistic spirit, which intrigues against the freedom of weaker peoples. . . . Therefore we deplore these attacks from time to time against individual Englishmen."

"Al Mokattam" (the 16th July): "We thought that what the whole press had written, and Egyptian writers had emphasised, regarding the harm done to the country at this critical time would have availed to put an end to these crimes. Unfortunately there are individuals too blind to the truth to perceive the injury done to the fatherland by misdeeds which all patriotic Egyptians repudiate with all their might."

"Al Abram" (the 17th July): "No event could be more forcibly repudiated and condemned by the Egyptian population, unanimously, without distinction of party or nationality. Such use of illegitimate methods can only bring harm on the Egyptian cause and discredit the good name of Egypt, renowned hitherto for the pacific character of its struggle which has earned for it admiration on all sides."

"Misr" (the 17th July): "We learn with profound sorrow of these horrible attacks upon English officials in Egypt. They are crimes against the fatherland. It is not such stupid aggression upon individuals who are our guests that we can constrain the might of England to restore us our rights. Are we to be thought a nation of assassins? . . . Whoever thinks that by crimes like these he can serve his country is its enemy; he tarnishes its good name."

"Al Akhbar" (the 17th July): "We trust this attack, condemned unanimously by the nation, will be the last. Our cause can be served only by legitimate means and pacific methods, not by these deplorable crimes, for which we renew the expression of our regret."

"Al Istiklal," after condemning in the strongest terms (the 18th July) "the misdeeds of this gang of criminals," insists (the 19th July), in reply to the London press, "that responsibility rests upon the Cairo police. We are convinced that the working methods of our police, both secret and public, must be altered, and capable men selected for applying them. It is the only remedy; every other will be sterile."

"Wadimil" also (the 19th July) would place responsibility upon the police and the English officers who are in charge, while "Al Afkar," which (the 16th July)

headed its report, "A Regrettable Incident," repudiates Egyptian responsibility. Martial law is still in force. The Legislative Assembly remains paralysed, the newspapers muzzled. Everything in the country retains its English stamp. And yet responsibility is thrown upon the Egyptians, as if they were really free and independent.

The European press, while unanimously and very forcibly condemning these recurring outrages, appeals to the general public to lend every help to the police for their repression, a point not emphasised by any of the Arabic papers.

The "Liberté" (Zaghlulist) inveighs against the Ministry. "The breakdown of the Government is complete. It does nothing it should; it does everything it shouldn't."

The breakdown of administration is no less patent. Under Adli Pasha's Cabinet incapacity encumbered the Ministries. Under Sarwat Pasha the cult of incompetence flourishes in all its beauty in endless variation.

Finally, the breakdown of police efficiency has been grafted on to the rest, and is not the least lamentable of the lot."

[ E 7611/1/16 ]

No. 37.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received August 1.)*

(No. 594.)

My Lord,

*Ramleh, July 24, 1922.*

IN my telegram No. 252 of the 18th July I informed your Lordship that I had discussed with the Prime Minister the measures which should be taken with a view to elucidating and ending the series of political outrages, of which the latest is the attempted assassination of Colonel Pigott.

There is no doubt that the Egyptian Government most sincerely desires to put a stop to these crimes, and to bring the offenders to justice, but they have been hampered by the fact that neither the police nor the parquet is sufficiently well-equipped, nor are the two administrations sufficiently well co-ordinated to deal competently with crimes of this sort, from which, until a recent date, Egypt had been free. It was therefore necessary to invoke the assistance of the military authority, but it is probable that the interaction of the civil and military authority has led to some confusion of functions, while the introduction of the latter, as an agent of investigation and enquiry, has in some degree relieved the former of the necessary sense of responsibility.

During the last five years the Cairo police has, under its present commandant, been purged of certain dishonest elements which had brought it into disrepute, and in the process certain individuals have disappeared who, from their long experience of urban criminality, would have been well fitted to investigate the present sort of outrage; they have been replaced by officers much to be preferred in most respects, but still lacking in that intimate knowledge of the Egyptian underworld which is so urgently needed for the purpose in hand.

But it is probably the association of the parquet with these investigations which chiefly hampers their success. It is from the parquet that the police must ordinarily seek their power to search, or to arrest on suspicion, and this necessity is a serious obstacle to the investigation of these crimes, and to any swift attack upon organisations which may be supposed to instigate them. And when the police have followed an investigation to a point where it promises positive results, they are required to transfer the enquiry to the parquet. In the hands of the parquet the enquiry is only too apt to break down; and not always, I suspect, simply because they are not on a right track, for there exists an inveterate jealousy between the police and the parquet, and the latter, when engaged in enquiries into political crime, are subject to indifference, and, more especially, to fear.

For this reason enquiries have on several occasions been placed in the hands of the military authority, but they, of course, have in a high degree the disadvantage of lacking local and technical experience, and though measures are taken as far as possible to supply this deficiency from civil sources it is difficult to secure a proper co-ordination. Moreover, the application of this procedure to one case increases the indifference of the parquet when, in the normal case, it becomes the duty of that administration to enquire into another case.

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[E 8012/8012/£9]

No. 46.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 11.)*

(No. 276.)

(Telegraphic.)

Ramleh, August 11, 1922.

MY telegram No. 386 of 5th June, 1921.

Following information may be of interest:—

Captain De Cardes, who is General Gouraud's representative in Egypt, and attached to the French Legation, has stated to Spanish Chargé d'Affaires that after receiving latest news from Syria from General Gouraud's private secretary, he will leave for Paris in order to press claims to the Throne of Syria of Abbas Hilmi, with whose emissary he has recently conferred at Alexandria. De Cardes stated that three Egyptian princes were other possible candidates, of whom Omar Toussoun and Mustapha Kemal-ed-Din would probably refuse, but Mahomet Ali might accept.

According to De Cardes proposal is to create a nominally independent Syria with an autocratic Government and a High Commissioner with a special position. He thought that Abbas Hilmi would be both an autocrat for Syria and an embarrassment for Palestine and Mesopotamia.

Above information was given by Spanish Chargé d'Affaires to one of my staff.

It is confirmed by report from an ex-agent of the French here, who states that De Cardes has been summoned by Quai d'Orsay and leaves Egypt to-morrow, and that French are working in closest accord with Kemalists.

Full details follow by despatch.

[E 8013/1/16]

No. 47. ✓

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 12.)*

(No. 278.)

(Telegraphic.)

Ramleh, August 11, 1922.

IN my despatch No. 640 of 8th August, now on its way, I have reported serious differences between King and Sarwat, immediate origin of which was dispute referred to in my despatch No. 610, though the real issue is the question of constitutional development and Royal prerogatives. There were other contributory causes such as the suppression of "Liberté," a Zaghulist newspaper used also by the Palace. The chief outward sign of disagreement has been the King's refusal for some weeks to summon Council of Ministers, which has gravely impeded administrative business.

Matters came to a head a week ago, but when I represented to His Majesty the inadvisability of precipitating crisis immediately after the arrest of Wafd, and on the eve of Zaghul's transfer, he said that he would endeavour to come to an understanding with Sarwat. They had an apparently fairly satisfactory interview and a meeting of the Council of Ministers was fixed.

My despatch reports events up to that point.

Since then press has begun to comment on rumour of lately strained relations between King and Zaghul and His Majesty has now taken strongest exception to paragraph in "Ahram" newspaper implying that he had created friction for his personal ends. He has demanded the suppression of "Ahram." Sarwat is ready to issue official denial and reprimand the editor, but will go no further.

I saw both Sarwat and the Grand Chamberlain yesterday. Neither side shows any sign of compromise, and Council of Ministers fixed for to-morrow has been postponed. Both sides have promised to inform me before any decisive step is taken, but present indications rather point to Sarwat's resignation.

The question of Royal prerogatives is now being considered by constitutional commission, and I have little doubt that whatever may be the King's pretexts for wishing to dismiss Sarwat he is really inspired by mistrust of constitutional government except in a very limited form.

His Majesty is, I think, acting unwisely, though he may imagine by getting rid of Sarwat he is recovering ground lost when Adli came into office last year on constitutional programme.

Sarwat's resignation would be inopportune and again encourage Zaghulist Party at a time when their influence is considerably diminished.

I appreciate the necessity of securing from a new Ministry at least equal guarantees to those we have from Sarwat with regard to British interests which may not be specifically covered by declaration of 28th February.

I understand that in the event of Sarwat resigning King would summon Tewfik Pasha Negawini

I will telegraph developments.

[E 8014/1/16]

No. 48.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 13.)*

(No. 280.)

(Telegraphic.) R.

*Ramleh, August 13, 1922.*

AT 10.45 P.M. yesterday Mr. T. W. Brown, director of Horticultural Section, Ministry of Agriculture, while driving with his two children and a female servant from his home at Giza to Cairo station to catch 11.30 P.M. train for Alexandria preparatory to proceeding on leave, was ambushed, on leaving Government Gardens, in which his house is situated, by five men who, he states, were obviously Egyptian students.

Coachman, who was an Egyptian, was killed, and Mr. Brown, his son, and servant, who is Syrian, slightly wounded.

Men escaped.

Three ghaflirs of Horticultural Gardens, Giza, heard firing, but saw no one.

[E 8015/1/16]

No. 49.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 13.)*

(No. 281.)

(Telegraphic.) R.

*Ramleh, August 13, 1922.*

MY telegram No. 274 of 11th August: Trial of members of Wafd.

Military court sentenced all the accused to death.

I have commuted sentences to seven years' penal servitude and a fine of £E. 5,000 in each case.

This will be promulgated to-morrow.

[E 8074/1/16]

No. 50.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 14.)*

(No. 283.)

(Telegraphic.) R.

*Ramleh, August 14, 1922.*

IN view of continuance of outrages against British subjects, I yesterday ordered arrest of following seven political agitators:—

1. Abdel Sattar-el-Bassel.
2. Negib-Iskandar.
3. Fakhri Abdel Nur.
4. Negib Gharabli.
5. Hassan Yasin.
6. Sheikh Mustafa-el-Kayati.
7. Mahmud-el-Nekrashi.

They were arrested early this morning and are now in citadel at Cairo, where they will be interrogated by bureau of Public Security Department which is investigating political crimes.

Nos. 3 and 6 are most active members of Wafd as newly reconstituted. No. 1 has repeatedly been under suspicion, especially in connection with conspiracy case of 1920, and is understood to have stated on 8th August that if members of Wafd were convicted by military court he would upset the Government even at cost of his life. He is Hamad-el-Bassel's half-brother.



No. 2 is a Government doctor and was closely concerned in preparation and distribution of recent manifesto, as also were 3 and 7.

No. 4 is a dangerous agitator at Tanta with great influence amongst students.

No. 5 is the most violent of student agitators.

No. 7 is an official of Ministry of Agriculture and forms chief liaison between Wafd and students.

[E 8093/61/16]

No. 51.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received August 15.)*

(No. 636.)

My Lord,

*Ramleh, August 7, 1922.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information copy of a report compiled by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government for the period from the 21st to the 31st July inclusive.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,

*High Commissioner.*

Enclosure in No. 51.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from July 21 to 31, 1922, inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

SUMMARY.

*Events of the Ten Days.*

1. Diplomatic correspondence has been published between his Excellency the High Commissioner, on behalf of the British Government, and his Excellency the Prime Minister, on behalf of the Egyptian Government, with regard to the continuance of shooting outrages.

2. Following on the publication of a manifesto by the Zaghlulist Wafd, the seven members whose signatures it bears have been arrested under orders of the military authorities. They are to be tried by a military court.

3. A new Wafd has been nominated to act in the place of the members arrested, and has issued its own manifesto.

4. The houses of Zaghlul Pasha, of Hamad Pasha-el-Bassil, and of other arrested Wafd members in Cairo were searched by the police on the 30th July.

5. The Zaghlulist newspaper "Liberté" has been suppressed.

*Political Situation.*

The diplomatic correspondence with regard to shooting outrages would seem to have had considerable general effect, which has been emphasised by the additional measures of precaution now being taken.

While the arrest of the signatories to the Wafd manifesto has produced an undercurrent of excitement in Zaghlulist circles in Cairo and Alexandria, it has been received with apathy throughout the country. The search of Zaghlul's house aroused no outward manifestations even in Cairo.

The Zaghlulist attitude, namely, that outrages are the inevitable expression of popular indignation at the present "despotism," the Wafd itself being free from responsibility, is obviously not incompatible with secret approval of such outrages. Lack of funds, however, is believed to militate against a revival of disorder.

*Forecast.*

The immediate outlook generally remains favourable, especially in view of the Bairam holiday.

GENERAL.

*The Nile Flood.*

The rise of the Nile continues satisfactory. It is now slightly above normal.

The abnormally low level of the great lakes, however, continues to cause serious anxiety as to the water-supply in Egypt during the low season next year.

## THE SHOOTING OUTRAGES.

*Exchange of Diplomatic Notes.*

On the 20th July his Excellency the High Commissioner forwarded a note informing the Egyptian Government officially of the "increasing concern" with which the British Government "viewed the frequency and impunity" of these outrages. Pointing out that "it rests with the Egyptian Government to take severe measures to discover and punish the culprits, and to put a definite stop to this campaign of political crime," his Excellency concluded: "I am instructed to state that, unless this is done, the matter will be regarded by His Majesty's Government as one of very great gravity."

In his reply, dated the 23rd July, his Excellency the Prime Minister, recalling the special measures already taken after the murder of Bimbashi Cave, and emphasising that "the Egyptian Government is the first to deplore that these measures have neither resulted in the prevention of such crimes nor in the discovery of their perpetrators," assures the High Commissioner that no effort will be spared to make these measures as effective as possible, and informs his Excellency of the Government's intention to establish in the Ministry of the Interior a new department, which will concentrate in its hands the investigation and control of all enquiries in cases of political crime.

## THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

*(A.)—The Manifesto dated the 18th July.*

On the 18th July it was reported that Hamad Pasha-el Bassel, Morcos Bey Hanna, and some others of the leading Zaghlulists had decided to issue a manifesto based on the news received as to the ill health of Zaghlul Pasha. The exact terms of this document were believed to be then under discussion.

Three days later (the 21st July) a certain number of copies of this manifesto had been printed. These were distributed to students and others on that and the following day. By the 23rd July large numbers were delivered at Zaghlul's house for purposes of distribution.

The following is a translation of the manifesto, which is dated the 18th July, 1922, and is signed by seven members of the Wafd:—

*"From the Wafd (Delegation) to the Nation.*

" Egyptians!

" There is no doubt that Saad is ill, and that his illness is dangerous.

" The British Government declared this dreadful truth. It was compelled reluctantly to make this declaration because of an interpellation which embarrassed it and caused it to come out of its wonted dissimulation and break its premeditated silence.

" When this news was cabled to you the Ministry was disturbed by its own tremendous responsibility, and forbade at once its publication in the newspapers.

" It is not possible to suffer any longer this barbarous dealing which time had eradicated ever since the Middle Ages.

" Animated with compassionate feelings, a group of British politicians and renowned writers presented to the head of their Government a protest requesting that the injustice that was committed should cease and the interned be set at liberty.

" They thus showed compassion and pity, but the present Ministry still acts in such a way as to let that awful iniquity persist and opposes the restoration to freedom of our exiled heroes regardless of your anxiety and unanimous insistence, and giving no weight to your wishes and never listening to your outcry.

" It has no fear to assume before God, before you and before history the tremendous responsibility of joining your enemies, disdaining your will and consenting to the torture of your leaders and the exposure of their life to danger and destruction.

" The laws of humanity have been offended by the concurrence of the British Government with the Ministry which rules the country with iron and fire without minding that this will inflame your wrath for ever, and increase unceasingly your anger and indignation, and ignoring or pretending to ignore that tyranny on becoming intense foretells the approaching day of deliverance, which the Ministry considers far away, but which we consider near at hand.

"The Egyptian delegation, which they endeavour vainly and by all contemptible and oppressive means to sever from you, claims in your name the immediate return of the exiled to their home, and protests loudly against this savage behaviour at which humanity shudders. The delegation requests you to notify to the civilised world by all means at your disposal the expression of your anger and indignation so as to render the British Government and the present Ministry responsible for whatever consequence this oppressive policy will have.

"HAMAD-EL-BASSEL.  
 "WISSA WASSEF.  
 "GEORGE KHAYAT.  
 "ELWI-EL-GAZZAR.  
 "MURAD-EL-SHEREI'I.  
 "MORCOS HANNA.  
 "WASSEF GHALI."

*Note.*—The version of the above sent to the "Daily Herald" has been distinctly toned down in character.

(B.)—*Arrest of Seven Members.*

As a result of this manifesto, the military authorities on Monday, the 24th July, ordered the arrest of the seven members of the Zaghlulist Wafd whose signatures were appended to it.

Hamud Pasha-el-Bassel, Morcos Bey Hanna, and Wissa Bey Wasif were arrested early next morning at their homes in Cairo. Murad Bey-el-Sherai'i, who was absent from home when it was visited, called at the Cairo Governorate in the course of the morning, and, having learned of the military order for his arrest, gave himself up.

On the same day, the 25th July, Georges Bey Khayat was arrested by the military authorities at Alexandria, where he was staying.

Wassif Bey Ghali and Elwi Bey-el-Gazzar, who were at Ras-el-Barr and Shebin-el-Kom respectively, were arrested on the 26th July through the civil authorities, acting on behalf of General Headquarters.

All were taken to Kasr-el-Nil Barracks, Cairo, but Wassif Bey Ghali, who was ill, was immediately removed to the Citadel hospital for medical care. There he has been permitted to receive visits from his own medical adviser, the well-known Zaghlulist Dr. Neguib Iskandar, a British medical officer being present, and the conversation being either in English or French.

(C.)—*Public Attitude to the Wafd Arrests.*

Already on Monday, the 24th July, "it was commonly rumoured in Cairo that the authorities had decided to arrest and intern a certain number of Zaghlulists, including members of the Wafd." The arrests, when effected, are reported to have produced a good deal of excitement in Zaghlulist circles. No trouble, however, of any kind actually took place, notwithstanding some talk among students and other young extremists of their intention to make hostile demonstrations. At Zaghlul's house only a few students gathered on Tuesday afternoon. They dispersed quietly about 9 P.M.

From Alexandria it was reported (the 26th July) that the arrests appeared to have caused no particular stir, even among Zaghlulist partisans.

In Port Said the arrests caused "comment only, no incidents."

Throughout the provinces, "no excitement whatever" was reported. Even in Tanta the news elicited only some shouts from forty or fifty students, school-boys, and street loiterers; there was no attempt at any organised demonstration.

No incident is recorded as following the Friday prayers in any mosque either in Cairo or Alexandria, while in Port Said, where, as on the previous Friday, a special prayer was repeated for Zaghlul's health and liberty, very few persons are said to have taken part in it.

The Minister of Wakfs issued to all mosque officials a reminder of the law prohibiting political speeches in the mosques themselves or the buildings attached to them. While exhorting all to safeguard the dignity of religious edifices by carrying out the regulations with perspicacity and wisdom, this Ministerial reminder added that, if necessary, the assistance of the police was to be called in.

On the other hand, in accordance with their custom, now well established, advantage was taken by the Cairo Zaghlulists of a Coptic religious feast to hold a

political meeting in Friday morning at the church in charge of El Kommos ("the Rev.") Boulos Ghabrial in Harat-el-Raza. The church was "full, not crowded," about 200 persons being reported as present. The three principal speakers were Moslem; Sheikh Mustapha el Kayati, a member of the newly reorganised Wafd, the well-known lawyer Amin Bey Yusef, and Mohammed Ahmed, head master of El Rashad el Sharqiya School. Fakhri Bey Abdel-Nur was unable to be present through indisposition, but he is credited with having arranged the meeting with El Kommos Ghabrial.

El Kayati's speech emphasised that successors would always be forthcoming to take the place of those—however many they might be—whom the authorities chose to arrest. If there were no more men to take up the defence of the Egyptian cause, women would do so. He called upon all Egyptians to rally to the Wafd, until the latter realised the full aspirations of the nation.

The other speakers attacked the present "despotic" Ministry, the position of which would ultimately, they contended, become intolerable. Mohammed Ahmed urged the boycotting of English trade and industry.

Some sixty students followed their Wafd leaders, when they left, but only for the length of the street, when they dispersed.

The members of the Egyptian Bar in Cairo and Alexandria are reported to have held several meetings of protest, more especially in view of the arrest of their Bâtonnier, Morcos Bey Hanna. On the 31st July a joint meeting, for which about twenty Cairo lawyers journeyed to Alexandria, was held in the office of Mustapha Bey-el-Khadini, the well-known Zaghulist. At this Abdel Sattar Bey-el-Bassil was present.

Signatures are reported to have been collected for a protest against the arrest of the seven members of the Wafd, as well as against both the fact and the manner of the search of Zaghul Pasha's home. This protest, it is stated, is to be submitted to His Majesty King Fuad.

#### (d) *The New Wafd.*

Little time was lost in the nomination of a new Wafd to replace those arrested.

The following written notice was posted at Zaghul's house on the 28th July:—

"To-day, at 8 p.m., the members of the Wafd will meet at the house of the nation. The members are: El Masri Bey-el-Sa'di, El Sayid Hussein-el-Kassabi, Fakhri Bey Abdel Nur and Sheikh Mustafa-el-Kayati. A manifesto will be issued to the nation. As for Salama Bey Mikhail, member of the Wafd, he is now away in Europe. Lawyer Neguib Bey-el-Gharabli, also member of the Wafd, is compelled to stay at Tanta."

The manifesto referred to was duly posted at Zaghul's house. It is dated the 25th July. Four signatures are appended to it. The following is a translation:—

"Onward, Onward, O Egyptians! The voice of Saad and his friends called to us before, and we responded. It is now calling once more, and we respond even unto death.

"God forbid that the banner of our demands and the standard of our honour should fall in the field of national struggle.

"After Saad was exiled, his friends carried on that banner. Now that those friends have been imprisoned, other men come forward to carry it. If we are interned, others will come forward, and then others. Thus the banner will remain lifted until Egypt emerges from the field winning complete independence.

"In the name of the Egyptian nation we greet at this hour our hero, Saad, and his loyal friends.

"We greet in their persons steadfast loyalty and true patriotism. We bow our heads in reverence to their splendid struggle and their grand sacrifice. From their faith, energy and loyalty we draw strength to go on in spite of the injustice of tyrants and the despotism of usurpers. We take upon ourselves a pledge before God and the fatherland to follow in their footsteps and to carry, as they did, the banner of national struggle, trusting that full victory will be assured for our beloved country as long as their deep patriotism and strong will endure.

"O Egyptians! Behold the signs of defeat are evident in the lines of your enemies. Their indignation is a proof that they have been unable to deceive you or shake your resolution. Their perplexity is evident in their despotism and injustice.

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Their intrigues and the intrigues of the traitors have not succeeded with you. Your victory is certain. Its signs are apparent from the way they blunder about. Be patient and persevere, for God is with you and you will be victorious.

"EL MASRI-EL-SA'IDI.  
"HUSSEIN-EL-KASSABI.  
"MUSTAFA-EL-KAYATI.  
"FAKHRI ABDEL NUR."

July 25, 1922.

(e.) *Search of Zaghlul's House and others.*

In Cairo the houses of Zaghlul Pasha and of the arrested members of the Wafd were searched on Monday, the 30th July, by the police authorities, female searchers being employed where necessary.

(f.) *Trial by Military Court.*

The cases are to be tried by military court, and a summary of evidence is being drawn up.

ABDEL RAHMAN BEY FAHMY.

Abdel Rahman Bey Fahmy, who was convicted in the "Society of Vengeance" case in 1920, and has hitherto been confined at Turah (near Cairo), was transferred to Hadra Prison, Alexandria, on the 27th July.

SUPPRESSION OF THE NEWSPAPER "LIBERTÉ."

By Ministerial decree, dated the 29th July, 1922, the newspaper "Liberté" has been suppressed under the provisions of the press law of November 1881, on the grounds that for long it has continued to distort facts and to publish news tending to mislead public opinion and to create agitation; and that, the character of this campaign having exceeded permissible limits, it would be contrary to public order and security to allow it to continue its attacks and to spread false ideas and dangerous tendencies.

M. Léon Castro was granted authorisation to publish the "Liberté" in June 1921, under the Ministry of Adli Pasha, when the present Prime Minister was Minister of the Interior. The first number of the "Liberté" actually appeared in September 1921.

Published in French, its avowed policy was to defend the Egyptian, as against what may be called the European, point of view. It speedily became more and more vehemently pro-Zaghlulist, and has attacked the present Ministry with great bitterness.

Its proprietor and editor, M. Léon Castro, is actually at present in Paris, his place in charge of the "Liberté" being occupied temporarily by M. Dumani of the weekly "Revue égyptienne."

THE EGYPTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

The suppression of "Al Shabihah," which, in disregard of press regulations, the Egyptian Socialist Party had attempted to convert into their organ, was noted in the last report. It is now stated that negotiations are in progress for the purchase by the party of another paper, towards which a comparatively large contribution is reported to have been secured from El Mehalla-el-Kubra.

PRINCE IBRAHIM HILMI.

"Al Ahran" on the 24th July reproduced an interview granted by Prince Ibrahim Hilmi and published on the 22nd July by the "Morning Post."

In March 1921, Prince Ibrahim Hilmi, who is a son of the late Khedive Ismail and brother of His Majesty King Fuad, as also of his late Highness the Sultan Hussein Kamil, contributed to the "Times" a "remarkable study of the Egyptian situation," in which he urged that Egypt, if "left to herself in her present position, would not only make no progress, but would run the risk of retrogression." His Highness questioned, therefore, whether it would be worthy of Great Britain "to

abandon a people on whom for forty years she has been spending her noblest efforts." This called forth a counter-statement of dissent in the Egyptian press, signed by Prince Omar Foussoun and fourteen other members of the House of Mohammed Ali.

In May 1921, on the split between Zaghlul and the Adli Ministry, Prince Ibrahim Hilmi again contributed to the "Times," a letter in which he advocated for Egypt autonomy on the lines of Dominion Home Rule.

In the interview now published by the "Morning Post," Prince Ibrahim Hilmi first referred to Syria, recalling the warm reception accorded there shortly before the war to his Highness Prince Mohammed Ali, brother of Abbas Hilmi, then Khedive.

He then spoke of the position in Egypt, now independent, contending that Great Britain should leave the Egyptian Government free to administer the country; also that Zaghlul Pasha ought to be allowed to return to Europe, as this would free England from blame.

The present, his Highness pointed out, was a difficult period for Egypt, for the success of the arrangement between her and England was not yet established. The fact that various points had been reserved by England proved that agreement on these was not yet achieved, more especially as to the Soudan. The situation called for an Egyptian statesman greater and stronger than any of her present leaders. England, in fact, had been too hasty.

His Highness admitted his own anxiety as to the obstacles still to be surmounted, but expressed his complete confidence in the good faith and energy of the Egyptian people. The nation, however, had need of men who would fearlessly let it know the truth (however disheartening this might be at first), and who would at the same time defend their country's interests in dealing with Great Britain.

#### THE PRESS

1. The diplomatic notes exchanged between the High Commissioner and the Prime Minister with regard to the shooting outrages on foreigners have been much commented on in the Arabic press, which clearly appreciates that the situation has developed along serious lines.

"Al Nizam" (the 25th July), recognises that the situation is incontestably "of exceptional gravity." It asks whether a conflict is about to arise between the Egyptian Ministry and the Residency, and, if so, whether the veiled menace of the British note foreshadows the ultimate re-establishment of the *status quo ante*. It considers that these new exceptional measures announced by the Government are not really compatible with the new constitutional régime which England has conceded to Egypt.

"Al Ahram" (the 25th July), agrees that foreign Powers cannot leave unnoticed these attacks upon foreign subjects, and reiterates that Egyptians are unanimous in condemning such crimes, which only hurt the cause of their country.

"Misr" also (the 25th July), considers that no blame can attach to England for using the firm language of the note. These crimes, if they continue, may succeed in prolonging for Egypt the régime of "slavery."

At the same time its protests against any suggestion that they are instigated by the Opposition, and urges all Egyptians to work sincerely for the detection of the criminals.

"Al Istiklal" (the 25th July), regards the British note as a "threat" and a "painful" one, especially from a Power which seeks to gain the friendship of Egypt. England, it considers, only accepts Egyptian independence in so far as that diminishes her own responsibilities in Egypt. Whenever English interests are at stake, England has not hesitated to disregard her own proclamation of that independence.

2. The arrest of the Wafd members has naturally been the chief topic of the press in the latter part of the period.

The Opposition organs generally reproach the Government for "having abdicated its authority," which it has tamely surrendered into the hands of British military power. "Al Lewa" and "Al Afkar" (Watanist), "Al Akhbar," "Misr" and "Wadinnil" (Zaghlulist), are at one in their attacks.

All profess to be abundantly satisfied that the independence which England has proclaimed is clearly proved, as they have all along contended, to be illusory.

"Al Ahram" refuses to agree to this conclusion, but expresses great regret that the Egyptian Government did not act on its own initiative in reliance upon the existing Penal Code.

منه إنليلد مارشال شيكوت اللبني الى الملك كيرز كيرزوه أدق كدلتونه (تاريخي ١٥ فطره)  
(رقم ٦٤٠ - سري)  
سيدى للورد  
المرس في ٨ أغسطس ١٩٤٤

لقد ألفت في ساني رقم ٦١٠ بتاريخ ٢٩ يوليو الى خرافات معينة ذات صلة بملك  
تعداد وتردت باشا بأنه المرسوم الأخير الذي ينظم وضع الجزر لها بوه.  
وكانه هناك مظاهر أخرى للاعتقاد خلال الجزء الأخير من سنة الماضي؛ وقد زاد  
تردد الدائل سواء لعدم إتمام الملك بالقصة على أعضاء لوند لبيبي باللام  
المستد؛ وأنا نيا بعرضه بعرضه على تعطين صهيبة زعمارة هي "الليبريه" التي كان  
ليتملك القصر أحيانا كما علمت - في أغراضه الرعاية. وكان الملك يسه جانبه  
في نفس الوقت يرفضه أنه مجرد أي مريد للاجتماع مجلس الوزراء وتوظف المصالح  
العامة نتيجة لذلك لديه خطبة.

وهذا الأسرع الأخير من توليد أصحبة رياك مطفي ليعر لدار المنفذ ليس كثيرة  
لديه مطرقة، وفي التابع واعتبره منه أرسل جهولته إلى رسالة خاصة جدا  
قائد ابنه قد أصبح رئيسه ذرعا ترون باشا، جاءه لبيبي الرشي لذلك آخر رئيس  
الوزراء تماما مع المحافظة على الأوصه العام في البلاد.

وفي اليوم التالي نزل في كثير الأضواء سعيدو لبقار باشا، قائد ابنه الملك قد قرر تقريبا  
عزل ترون باشا، فإنه لتقبل تسيحي. وقد أخبرته أنني الحشر؛ كراي دوي خان  
أنه سقط الوزارة عقب التوجه على أعضاء الوند صا لثقة بتونه في عهد دونه  
دونه التبع التي لص لجلالة الدين سينا قبل القضاء العبد.

وفي الثاني من أغسطس سحت لي فرصة أنه أطلب من رئيس الوزراء مقابتي بشأن خلاف  
ويتم أنه نشأ بسبب تنظيم الموظفين الأديبيين تبعاً لتوصيات لجنة الكادر  
وانتقد الفرصة ليلغني أنه يراه بصاحب عبية من جانب الملك؛ حتى أنه يجعل  
منه لتقبل عليه أنه يصر في عمله. وكانه يعود أصلا أساسا الى التراجع  
المشار إليه في الفقرة الأولى من هذه الرسالة؛ وكما من رده هلاله عهد  
أحياء لمجلس الوزراء؛ ويرغم أنه القصر كانه يعد نشاط في لبر على تشويه سمعة  
الوزارة؛ وأشار الى أنه مطفي القصر كانوا ضالعين مع الزعمالين. وقال إنه  
الملك لم يعبر أبدا مع عدم رضائه عنه كدميا؛ ولكنه لم يجر جهولة منذ وقت مضى.  
وعندما زرت هلاله - في الرابع من أغسطس - زيارة رسمية بمناسبة عيد (رضي)

طلب من هلاله أنه أروحه في اليوم التالي.  
رضي المقابلة التالية وبعد محاولة تمهيدية عن المسائل العامة؛ سألتني الملك عما إذا كانه  
لدى أخبار له. فأجبت أنني كنت أنا الذي لتوقع أخبارا من هلاله حيث قد  
تفضل بأرسل في طلي. وهذا بدأ الملك يعبر عنه - وطه على ترون باشا ولوزارة

الحاضرة لا اعتبارات مختلفة . إنه حالة الإدارة الإقليمية - كما سمعته شخصيات بارزة قد حضروا للزيارة ، متوقفاً سمع منه مندمية ؛ كانت غير مرضية بالمره ، وكذلك لم تكن الوزارة شعبية مجال ، كما كانت لجنة الدستور التي أقاموها تقف بحمد في أخصها - المواد الأكثر شجراً التي يجري زرع في رساتر البلاد الخلف ، ويضعونه دستوراً أكثر ما يكون تقدمها حالة لا تتسبب مع نصر ؛ - - يثبت مثل هذا الدستور أنه غير عملي ويمكنه تغييره نتيجة للدراسة ذات الطبيعة العمومية . وإنه لم يؤتمر إلا في ١٨٠٠  
 ويزال مؤثراً هذه الأعداد ؛ - - في راس ١٨٠٠ في راس ١٨٠٠ في راس ١٨٠٠ في راس ١٨٠٠  
 (أول قرطابيا) ، ذلك يربط دوراً مديناً للحالة الحاضرة للبلاد ، وينبغي تغييره في اتجاه تحريرها كما قدمت البلاد . وقال الملك إنه ثروت لم تكن أنه أصدرها معه ولم تكن بحرية مما يجري حوله . فمثلاً لم تكن يعرف شيئاً عن إقناعه على أعضاء الوفد إلا قبيل ذره في الصحف . ولا يمكنه إلا أنه يتذكر كيف تأمر صدره ثروتاً باسمه وصدقياً باسمه قبل عام ١٩١٩ . لقد كان أنه يصح - في الخلف - من أن يحتمل عليه أنه يعين مع ثروت .

لقد تأكدت من صواب الكثير مما قاله جهلته ولدتني أشرف إلى أنه كانه من غير المرفوع فيه ، بدمج كبيرة ، أنه تفضلت الوزارة بحجود لعضوه على أعضاء الوفد وعلى الحقيقة بينما كانه الأشخاص المشهورين ينظرونه الحالة على قوم إثارة لخط صدر الحلقة بأنه مثل هذا التواضع لعرضه إلى رجم كبيرة نفوذ الحزب ليعلموا ، الذي هو لم يأخذ في الأول وقد وافقه جهلته ؛ - - سؤاله من بعد اهتزاز الحالة ، دقت إنه من المحتمل هذا أنه تبدأ هناك لإسبع العارم ؛ ولكنه كانه بذلك الحياء - أصدرت - في سرية تامة - أنه أذوه لجهلته - وذلك أنه أقره نفع ليعلموا باسمه إلى جهيل طارعه هناك إلى سبع قليل ، وقد رأيت أنه من الدمج أنه تزامنه الأنفة الوزارة مع هذا الاتقال .

لذلك أعربت عنه الأمل في أنه سيمده الملك من تدبير الأمور مع ثروت باشا في الوقت الحاضر ؛ وقال جهلته إنه سيعطي ثروت باشا دبري ما فإ حكمة ملكه ، وأما إنه نيته كانت باشا أنه يعين حسب نصيحتي .

وهنا ألتح جهلته إلى أنه عمل طوال السنوات الثلاث الأخيرة وزيادة دوره انفعاله لوزير بلاده ؛ وقد شاهدت بعداً متقدراً ؛ وقد ظهر أنه جهوده مستحسن جهلته بما آفره وقد عبرت عنه أمله في أنه في الحقيقة سيري - في الحقيقة - الملك وقد توجهت قريباً ويمكنه أنه يستمع لبقائها أعواماً كثيرة ، فقد كانه وجوده ضرورياً لفراهم البلاد ، واقترباً على غيرها ما يكون مسورة .

وفي الخامس من شهر أغسطس أرسل الملك في طلب ثروت باشا . وقد علمت من مصدر موثوق به أنهما تجنيا في أول الأمر مناقشة المسائل المشقة للترافع ، ولكنهما أخيراً تبادل



على رغبة شروك بدومة هذه الماشي، وتسمية لذلك تحت الملاحات (رؤاه  
هولته قال في الطرية أنه كانه مستعدا لمغامرة وهو إذا كانه ذلك ضد ربا -  
وقد بدأ على شروك باشا لما لو كانه في حيرة من إدارته هذه العبارة التي قد  
وضحة - على كل حال - بما قاله هلاله فعلا في - وتقرر أنه بعد صوب الوزير  
خلال يومه .

وقدمت الألفة في وقت ذلك من المحتمل أنه تعود . وإذا اعتقد أنه أكثر رؤاه  
الوزير قبوله لدى الملكة هو توفيره في الماشي فهو - وهو - وزيره  
ومقدته الإدارية .

وعلى أية حال فإنه اهتمامنا الأساسي بخصوص استقاله شروك باشا هو أنه  
لنفسه من خلفه المتطوع جميع الضمانات الطورية بأنه سيأخذ على عاتقه تنفيذ  
كل تعهدات شروك باشا على الأقل مع احترام الماشي التي عملت بالادماحه  
خارج نصيب ٢٨ فبراير، وخصرهما ما تعلم بأعمال استكشافه المالي والإقاضي ؛  
تأجيل المعاملات - جنب المرفعية الأمانة غير البريانية ؛ تقاعد وتعوده  
المرفعية الأمانة والماشي الإصناف المعينة . وإني أفرح أنه أصم على  
هذه الضمانات .

ولذلك الخ . الخ

اللبي في . م .

المندوب ١٩٠٠

Opposition newspapers generally deny that the manifesto was "subversive," and contend that the arrests were made from purely political motives. They are alleged to be due, in the first place, to Ministerial desire to give satisfaction to Great Britain, in order to strengthen the position of the present Ministry in Egypt. Secondly, are they not, perhaps, a skilful means for getting rid, on the eve of the elections, of the Opposition leaders, thereby ensuring in the future Parliament a substantial majority for the Government?

"Al Watan," on the other hand, points out that the gravity of the manifesto of the Wafd was due to its publication at the very time when political assassination had been resumed, a moment when all men of responsibility were doing their utmost to put an end to this campaign of violence.

Although the Wafd, it agrees, had no connection with these crimes, it is clear that the Opposition has not discomfited them, their reason being that, however much they disapproved of such acts of aggression in themselves, they helped to shake the position of the present Ministry.

It adds:

"We should certainly have preferred that action had been taken by the Egyptian Government, rather than by the British military authorities, so as to rid us of this spectre of foreign rule. But the very fact that these criminal attacks have been only too frequently directed against British officers and British civil officials has compelled the military authorities to intervene."

[E 8097/1/16]

No. 52. ✓

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 15.)*

(No. 640. Confidential.)

My Lord,

*Ramleh, August 8, 1922.*

I ALLUDED in my despatch No. 610 of the 29th July to certain differences which had arisen between King Fuad and Sarwat Pasha over the recent decree regulating the position of the ex-Khedive.

There were other signs of friction during the latter part of last month, and Sarwat Pasha made matters worse by failing to notify the King of the arrest of the members of the Wafd for their inflammatory manifesto, and secondly, of his intention to suspend a Zaghlulist newspaper, the "Liberté," which, I am told, was occasionally used also by the Palace for purposes of propaganda. The King, for his part, was meanwhile refusing to fix any date for a meeting of the Council of Ministers, and public business was, in consequence, falling seriously behindhand.

During the last week in July the friendly visits of Palace officials to the residency became noticeably frequent, and on the 29th His Majesty sent me a very private message to say that he was much dissatisfied with Sarwat Pasha, giving as the chief reason the Prime Minister's failure adequately to maintain public security in the country.

On the following day the Grand Chamberlain, Said Zulfikar Pasha, called upon me to state that the King had almost decided to dismiss Sarwat Pasha, and would like my advice. I told him that, as a friendly and private opinion, I considered that the fall of the Ministry so soon after the arrest of the members of the Wafd would be highly inopportune, and that His Majesty would be well advised to do nothing before Bairam was over.

On the 2nd August I had occasion to ask the Prime Minister to come to see me in connection with a difference which was believed to have arisen with regard to the regrading of European officials according to the recommendations of the Cadre Commission, and he took the opportunity of informing me that he had been encountering serious difficulties with the King, which he feared might make it impossible for him to continue in office. He attributed their origin chiefly to the dispute referred to in the first paragraph of this despatch, and complained of His Majesty's refusal to hold any meeting of the Council of Ministers. He alleged that the Palace was actively engaged in secretly discrediting the Ministry, and hinted that Palace officials were dallying with Zaghlulists. He said that the King had not expressed any dissatisfaction to him personally, but that he had not seen His Majesty for some time.

When, on the 4th August, I paid an official call on King Fuad, on the occasion of the Curban Bairam feast, His Majesty asked me to come to see him on the next day.

At the ensuing interview, after an introductory conversation on general matters, the King asked me whether I had any news for him. I replied that I was expecting perhaps to hear some news from His Majesty, as he had been good enough to send for me. The King then proceeded to express his displeasure with Sarwat Pasha and the present Ministry on various counts. The state of provincial administration, as he heard from prominent men who came to see him, as well as from his own agents, was most unsatisfactory, and the Ministry was very unpopular; the Constitution Commission which they had set up was behaving foolishly in selecting the most liberal articles they could find from the Constitutions of different countries, and preparing a Constitution far too advanced to be appropriate to Egypt; such a Constitution would prove unworkable, and could only be altered by events of a revolutionary nature. He did not intend to remain to be involved in such events. His Majesty had no desire to be an autocrat, but he wanted a Constitution suited to the present state of the country, which could be altered in a liberal direction as the country progressed. Sarwat, the King said, was never frank with him, and did not tell him what was going on. For example, he had known nothing of the arrest of the members of the Wafd until shortly before he read of it in the newspapers. He could not help recalling how Sarwat and Sidki Pashas had intrigued against him early in 1919. It had, in fact, become almost impossible for him to work with Sarwat.

I recognised the justice of much that His Majesty had said, but pointed out that it was highly undesirable that the Ministry should fall just after the arrest of the Wafd, and, indeed, while the accused persons were still awaiting trial on charges of stirring up disaffection against the Government; such a coincidence would greatly enhance the now diminishing influence of the Zaglulist Party.

His Majesty assented, and asked when the trial would take place. I said that it would very probably begin during the coming week, but that there was another consideration which I wished very confidentially to represent to His Majesty—that it was proposed in a few weeks to transfer Zaghlul Pasha to Gibraltar. I thought it inevitable that a Cabinet crisis should synchronise with the transfer.

I expressed the hope, therefore, that the King would endeavour to arrange matters with Sarwat Pasha for the time being; His Majesty said that he would send for Sarwat and see what he could do, adding that it was his intention always to act upon my advice.

His Majesty then remarked that for the last three years and more he had worked unremittingly for the good of his country, he had already witnessed its independence, and he thought that in another year his work would be finished. I expressed the hope that he might indeed soon see his labours crowned, and might for many years enjoy the fruits of them, for his presence was essential to the well-being of the country. We then parted very amicably.

On the 5th August the King sent for Sarwat Pasha. I am reliably informed that at first they avoided discussing contentious matters, but later, on Sarwat's initiative, they were discussed, and as a result relations became better, though finally His Majesty said that he was prepared to leave Egypt if necessary. Sarwat Pasha appears to have been somewhat at a loss to understand this statement, which, however, is explained by what His Majesty had already said to me. A meeting of the Council of Ministers is to be held in two days' time.

The crisis has thus passed for the present, but is not unlikely to recur. I understand that the Prime Minister most agreeable to the King would be Towlik Nossim Pasha, a man justly esteemed for his integrity and administrative capacity.

In any case our essential interest, in the event of Sarwat Pasha's resignation, is to secure from his destined successor full and definite guarantees that he assumes at least Sarwat's obligations with respect to matters dealt with by agreement outside the declaration of the 28th February, notably as regards the functions of the financial and judicial advisers, the conclusion of treaties, the recruitment of non-British foreign officials, the retirement and compensation of foreign officials and certain subsidiary matters. Upon these guarantees I should propose to insist.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,

High Commissioner. ✓

منه ليعيد ما رسال فيلوتنا اللبني الى الباريز كيزروده اودق كدر معويه: (رقم في ١٥ غطت)

القاهرة في ١٥ غطت ١٩٤٤

(رقم ٤٨٤)  
(بالبرق)

بالدشاة الى برقتي رقم ٤٧٨ بتاريخ ١١ غطت! التراجع بين الملك  
فواد ومرت باشا.  
توى الخندق بين الملك والوزارة بشأن صحيفة "الاشواق" التي  
تقرر تعطيلها لمدة ثلاثة ايام.  
لقد صدقنا الاذاعة وحدث اليوم لعقد مجلس الوزراء

رقم ٥٤

منه الباريز كيزروده اودق كدر معويه الى ليعيد ما رسال فيلوتنا اللبني (بالصحة)  
وزارة الخارجية في ١٦ غطت ١٩٤٤  
(رقم ٤٠٩)  
(بالبرق)

بالدشاة الى برقتكم رقم ٤٨٠ بتاريخ ١٤ غطت: الاعتذار هو ليعبر براده  
بيد وواضحاً انه من ذلك انهم يطلبون الرضا من ارضة من الذي يظن انهم  
الذين لا يقبلون الخيرات لذلك كثيراً من طلبه لبار الموظفون البريطانيون في مصر  
التي هي للقيس ايمانهم برغبة تروى وقدرته على حماية فكرهم وبيد في  
الحكومة في ايقاف اطلاق هذه الجرائم السياسية  
دفي ضوء تحذيركم الذي تضمنته مذكرة فخامتكم الى تردت بتاريخ ٤ يوليو  
فانه لا يمكن لجانسة كونه انه تفلت من العقاب. بل على العكس فانه  
الاعتذار الذي على المبرأوديه انما يستدعي تصرفاً نظامياً من جانب حكومة  
صانعة للحبلت لحماية مصالح المواطنين البريطانيين الذين باتت اوضاعهم في  
خطر دائم وقرابة من خذل عدوتهم بالحكومة المصرية، ويرى انه اتلقى  
آراءكم في هذه المسألة، ونا بعت لكم ما اتراجعه عند في برقتي التالية  
باشرة.

F.C. Hay/194

رقم ٥٥

من الماركيز كيرزوربه أدش. كذا بوجه اليه، إيليدنا رسالة تيدوتنا اللبني (باللهجة)  
(رقم ١١٢)  
وزارة الخارجية في ١٦ فطن ١٩٤٤  
(بالبريد)

بأنه برقيتي السابق مباشرة .

كنت أثار فيما إذا كانه من غير المعروف في الإشراف في كل الامتصاص لعرضه  
على مصر - من مصادر الدخل في الحكومة المصرية من أهل صفاته الأسماء  
للأرضة لتعويضه أو لتلك الملازمة الذي كما قد صارت بالجراسم الياينة ، وكذلك  
لموظفيه المتقاضي من النظام الأسماء في برقيتكم رقم ٤٤٤ بتاريخ  
١٠ يوليو ، وقد اقترح على أنه تكون مصلحة الإبلاوة الأسماء هي المصلحة التي  
تحتل الأتغير بل من هذا العمل نتائج عكسية .

وإنه تقديم إقرار الخفي بهذه الصيغة مع اقتراحه بالصعوبات التي تعتبره  
تحت فصول ، كما قررت في برقيتكم رقم ٤٨٢ بتاريخ ١١ أغسطس ، قد تم  
تسهيل . ومن الناحية الأخرى فإنه استمر نظام تقريده تحت الحوادث  
المشار اليه بيد حانه فائده موضع شك ؛ وبما أنه الملك فراديس إلى  
الترتيب باحتمال كونه ؛ فقد تقيم الظروف فرصة للقيام بعمل تحت أنه  
ترافق عليه جميع العناصر الأسماء في مصر .

وقد يكونه بالطبع - من غير المعروف فيه اعتبار - أي إدارة في الوضع المقترح  
الإلزام إمكانية الحصول برعا على مبلغ محترم نقدا .  
أرجو التفضل بإرسال ملاحظة لكم برقيا .

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[ E 8113/1/16 ]

No. 53. ✓

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.--*  
(Received August 15.)

(No. 281.)

(Telegraphic.)

Cairo, August 15, 1922.

MY telegram No. 278 of 11th August: Dispute between King Fuad and Sarwat Pasha.

King and Ministry have compromised over "Ahram" newspaper, which is to be suspended for three days.

Crisis has subsided, and a Council of Ministers is fixed for to-day.

[ E 8014/1/16 ]

No. 54. ✓

*The Marquess Curzon of Kedleston to Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby (Cairo).*

(No. 209.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 16, 1922.

YOUR telegram No. 280 of 13th August: Attack on Mr. Brown.

It seems clear that Englishmen are being shot at or assassinated simply because they are English, and incident cannot fail greatly to increase the uneasiness of British officials in Egypt, whose faith in Sarwat's willingness and ability to safeguard their position will not be strengthened by the failure of the Government to prevent the perpetration of these political crimes.

In the light of the warning conveyed in your Lordship's note to Sarwat of 20th July, such an incident cannot be allowed to pass with impunity. On the contrary, the cowardly assault on Mr. Brown calls for drastic action on the part of His Majesty's Government to protect the interests of British officials whose lives are in constant and increasing peril through their connection with the Egyptian Government. I shall be glad to receive your views on the matter. In my immediately succeeding telegram I make a definite suggestion.

[ E 8014/1/16 ]

No. 55. ✓

*The Marquess Curzon of Kedleston to Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby (Cairo).*

(No. 210.)

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, August 16, 1922.

MY immediately preceding telegram.

I have been considering whether it might not be desirable to take control under martial law of some revenue-earning branch of the Egyptian Administration in order to find the funds for compensating those who have been the victims of political crimes as well as officials retiring under the scheme referred to in your telegram No 242 of 8th July. The State Domains has been suggested to me as the department in which such action would be least likely to provoke untoward consequences.

The presentation of an ultimatum on such lines in conjunction with the difficulties which, as reported in your telegram No. 278 of 11th August, already confront Sarwat might cause him to resign. On the other hand, the continuance of a régime which is attended by such incidents as those referred to appears to be of questionable advantage; and as King Fuad seems disposed to welcome such an eventuality, the moment might be opportune for taking action which is likely to be approved by all foreign elements in Egypt.

It would, of course, be inadvisable to take over any administration in the manner suggested unless there was every prospect of getting considerable sum in cash quickly.

Please communicate your observations by telegraph.

من فضلكم ارسال تيارتة اللتي الي الماركيز كيزووه اذق كدستوه -  
(تسلم في ٢٠ فطس)

(رقم ٦٧١)  
(سري)  
الرمز في ١٤ فطس ١٩٥٥

سيدى اللورد

في رسالتى رقم ٦٤٠ بتاريخ ٨ فطس عددت المحاورث  
المتعلقه بالذمة الوزاريه الحاليه حتى فيل يوميه من اصلاح المرفق  
بين الملك نوار و ثروت باشا . وقد اخلصت المحاورث العاليه الى  
في برقتي رقم ٥٧٨ بتاريخ ١١ فطس رقم ٥٨٤ بتاريخ ١٥ فطس  
وذلك ربا كانت تحتاج الى توضيح اكد

في ماء ٩ فطس زارني سيد زولفقار باشا كبير امراء  
مجلسه الملك يوم نثقه من صحيفه "الاهرام" الصادره في ليوم السابع  
واطلعني على مقال اقدم مع هذا ترجمته "مع اجراء معينه قال ان  
اشرت سخط الملك لشديد ؛ وبعده فاصه ما يعلم بالبند الخامس  
ان كانه مجلسه قد طلب اغلانه الصحيفه ؛ ذلكه ثروت باشا - ولو  
انه كانه متعلبا لإصدار تكذيب صحى ؛ وانا نيب رئيس التحرير تانيا  
قاسيا - فصره اغلانه الصحيفه اذ هي ايقاظ ؛ وقد اترجم  
زولفقار باشا لذلك اترعا جديدا ؛ ورجل من اخبارى بنص ما قاله

المملكه في حاله غضبه  
المسئله في ضوئها  
قد اخبرته انه ~~وهي~~ ما يملتنى انه احكم به ~~لوسيد~~ ~~التي~~  
لقد تقضى اغلانه الصحيفه وكنتى س امر بعل ترجمه الى ~~الملك~~  
وإذاه تاليه في اليوم التالى -

وعند عودته في صباح اليوم التالى اخبرته اني لم اغد ابي وكنتى  
سأله - من باب الاحياط - عما اذا كانه يمكنه الصوره بموافقه ترجمه

(١) في مطوع

بات على ايقاف الصحيفة لمدة يوميه أو ثلاثة أيام . فأجاب ذوالفقار  
 باتا أنه الملك صمم تصميما قاطعا على ابقاء الصحيفة وأنه تردت  
 باتا على أي حال له يوقف . وقد انتزعت فرصة لأبيه ~~لنفسه~~  
 لذوالفقار ~~حسنا~~ لتوصيل ابى عبدالله ؟ أنه اذا سقطت وزارة تردت  
 باتا فله بعد أحد شرطى إلى ما له تراخ على مقال فى صحيفة  
 بل - على العكس - من المؤكدا أنه تعزى إلى ما لصوته السبب لخصي  
 وهو اختلاف الآراء حول المائل الدستورية - ديفعة خاصة -

امباراز الملك في عزمه سيحيد عبدالله العونه ؟ سيحيد نفسه  
 إمام ~~في منزل~~ في منزل ~~بشكل مظنه~~ أو سيجرا على الفصل لصالح الحزب البرغولوى  
 الذى يطالب بجمه لانقيد الملك على رفقته . وفى نفس الوقت  
 كانت جميع اارات البلاد تعالنى منه عدم رفعة عبدالله فى عقد  
 مجلس الوزراء . وكانه كثير من المائل التى تقم حكومتى إلى حد  
 كبير معلقا . واختيار نوع الدستور الذى تريد من لقتل علم  
 ليس حكيم بالآلة ~~التي تضم~~ ~~فى~~ حكومة ~~عبدالله~~ صاحب عبدالله مباشرة ؟ وقد رجوت  
 ذوالفقار باتا الأديع الملك لظنه أنه لا تطوع الدعاء على التأييد  
 الخايجى فى أية محاولة ليجعل منه لقب مائلا مطلقا .

وفى سنة ١٢١٠ خيرة من الملك - أرسلت فى طلب تردت باتا لا سمع رايه فى  
 المائل . فقرر أنه من المستحيل على وزارته أو أى وزارة اخرى أنه  
 تعطل الدهرامين برهه أو يتم رأيا كذو صحف البلاد أهية ؟ إلا لم تكن  
 لاصيفة ~~على الرغم من المائل كانت صالحة~~ ~~التي تضم~~ كانت فى أغلب الأحيان  
 تنفذه أكثر ما تصارقه . وقد بذل أقصى الجهود لتلبية رغبات الملك .  
 وذلك إنه أمنية الكثيرى أنه يكون على علاقة طيبة بجريدة ، ولكنه  
 تدخل فى أفعه تقاصيل اللدائه جعل منه ~~المستحيل~~ المستحيل على  
 الوزارة أنه تحكم البلاد . وكانه يقدم الاقتراح لتدو الاقتراح ~~لجود~~  
 اقتراح ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~  
 اقتراح بأنه يجب جلالته السلطات الدينية ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~  
 الاعتادات السياسية ( ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ ~~بأنه يجب~~ )  
 ولكن النصير لم يأفته بريدة التى تهاجها  
 لقد أراد ديفعة خاصة أنه يمنع الملك - لمصلحة



السُّبْحِ - سداً لكاتب حماقة الوقوف في وجه حكومة رشوة . وكان  
التلمية المباشرة لموقف جلالة أنه لجنة الدستور التي سبها أنه أُجِّلَتْ  
إلى الأصفى ، قررت أنه تتألف اجتماعاً على وأنه تعقدتها يوماً  
وقد أوصيت شرفي باشا أنه يجب لصفته حديثاً إن كان له نوعاً ~~بالمثل~~  
لنكلا القائمة الخاضعة بصيغة "الأهرام".

وهكذا سمحت للأمر أنه تنقصر على أمن أنه فتره من التقدير قد  
تفيد الجانبية ~~كلية~~.

وفي المساء التالي أمرت بعض صحبات فيا شخص تطوره لوقف وعلمت بصفته  
أنه ~~بمخالفة~~ ~~الوزير~~ ~~على~~ ~~المملك~~ ~~أنه~~ ~~صحفاً~~ ~~أظهر~~ ~~تدعى~~ ~~أنه~~ ~~الذممة~~  
سرية ~~خاصة~~ ~~أنه~~ ~~لو~~ ~~كان~~ ~~على~~ ~~المملك~~ ~~أنه~~ ~~صحفاً~~ ~~أظهر~~ ~~تدعى~~ ~~أنه~~ ~~الذممة~~

تدعى أن تسمية خلافات بين الوزارة وبينه ؛ وألهم كانوا فيسرونه  
الموضوع المعبر للتراع في الأهرام ؛ كالمعجى وليس لجلالته ؛ ولأنه

أي إشارات عامة مع الموقف موقوف الملك تجاه المسألة الدستورية  
تسبب بلائله إلى حماقة الاستحاشه الذي به صرحم بالموضوع ؛ فقد يكون  
في ذلك هل <sup>ببذممة</sup> ~~الذممة~~

ولأنه هذا ~~الوزير~~ ~~يبدو~~ ~~صبيانياً~~ فقد طلبت منه زرد لفقار باشا  
أنه يريدني في ~~الخط~~ ~~وأنه~~ ~~يقدم~~ ~~هذه~~ ~~التقاط~~ ~~اليه~~ . وقد

علقته برفقة ~~تاريخ~~ ~~في~~ ~~الخط~~ ~~وأنه~~ ~~يقدم~~ ~~هذه~~ ~~التقاط~~ ~~اليه~~ . وقد  
كانه في ~~الخط~~ ~~وأنه~~ ~~يقدم~~ ~~هذه~~ ~~التقاط~~ ~~اليه~~ . وقد

تدعى جميع أمراء ~~بأنه~~ ~~كانت~~ ~~طريقه~~ ~~على~~ ~~الاستقالة~~ ~~لبي~~ ~~تأفه~~  
المملكة ~~بأنه~~ ~~كانت~~ ~~طريقه~~ ~~على~~ ~~الاستقالة~~ ~~لبي~~ ~~تأفه~~

العامة متخيلة . وقد تاملت زرد لفقار - باشا عما إذا كنت أرفق  
في زيارة القصر وأنتم نصحي للملك . فأجبت زرد لفقار - باشا أنه

له الحرية أنه يعيد على ماسع الملك كل هذا كصديقه منخلص لجلالته ؛  
وقلت لما تقي منعد رأياً أنه إلى رغبة الملك ، وللتى لا أريد أنه أقدم  
لصحى إليه ثم أرى ~~أنه~~ ~~لا~~ ~~يعمل~~ ~~بل~~

وفي اليوم التالي أرسل الملك ثوراد إلى رئيس الوزراء ، وبلغني أنه

استقبل بكل ظواهر الصداقة - وقد اتفقا على انه تفضل صحيفة الاحرام  
 طرة غير مجردة ~~وغيره من طلبة~~ ~~والشعر لقايل~~ ~~هلال~~ ~~در حاشية~~  
<sup>عنه ما يطلب رئيس التحرير بقائه بلونه وبرجده السنو</sup>  
<sup>تناقشه اسي فخرناات الهدي</sup>  
 وعلمت انه لم ~~تتأخر~~ ~~اعرض~~ ~~عام~~ ~~بالصحيفة~~ ولكنه الملك  
 لانزال مصححا على <sup>عوده</sup> صحيفة "الليبريه" المعلقة ~~في~~ الى الظهور  
 وتم الاتفاق على <sup>الانتقاد</sup> ~~الصحيفة~~ مجلس الوزراء ~~في~~ وقد عقد  
 بعد ذلك.

وهكذا وضد التراجع القائم واستأقت مجلس الوزراء اعلان  
 ولكنه لا يمكن القول بان العلاقة بين الملك والوزارة في  
 حالة توازنه ~~مستقر~~ دائم

وفي رسالة تالية سأستأذنتكم في تقديم ~~هذه~~ بعض  
 الازطبعات عن الازمات الأخيرة وتأثيرها على مجرى  
 الحياة في البلاد

دلالة الخ الخ

الليبي . ث . م .

المندوب باسم

Enclosure in No. 67.

*Memorandum.*

LA question de la création d'un consulat suisse en Egypte avec juridiction sur les ressortissants suisses dans ce pays a fait dernièrement et à deux reprises l'objet de démarches officielles auprès du Gouvernement égyptien.

En premier lieu, M. Houriet, juge suisse aux Tribunaux mixtes égyptiens, s'était adressé au Président du Conseil des Ministres en avril dernier. Il fut alors informé que la matière nécessiterait un examen attentif, et depuis lors il n'est plus revenu sur la question.

Ensuite, au cours de ces derniers jours, M. Christophe de Tschudi, qui serait "attaché à la Division des Affaires étrangères à Berne" et aurait été précédemment attaché à la Légation suisse à La Haye, a abordé la question dont il s'agit dans une conversation avec le Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat au Ministère des Affaires étrangères. Celui-ci, conformément à un avis donné entre-temps par le Comité du Contentieux, informa M. de Tschudi que le Gouvernement égyptien n'était pas disposé à admettre la création d'un nouveau tribunal consulaire; cependant, si le Gouvernement suisse désirait poser la question d'une manière officielle, le Gouvernement égyptien serait naturellement prêt à la discuter par la voie diplomatique régulière.

Il convient de remarquer que jusqu'ici les Suisses en Egypte ont été, par courtoisie, assimilés, soit aux Français, Allemands ou Italiens, et, dans la pratique, ils ont donc joui d'une manière générale des privilèges accordés aux ressortissants des Puissances capitulaires. Il n'est pas à la connaissance du Gouvernement égyptien que ce système ait donné lieu à des inconvénients quelconques. Il est vrai que, le Tribunal consulaire d'Allemagne ayant été supprimé en 1914, les Suisses de langue allemande se trouvent actuellement soumis en matière pénale aux tribunaux spéciaux créés pour les Allemands pendant la guerre et composés de juges consulaires britanniques; mais la question de la juridiction à l'égard des Allemands dans les matières qui rentrent jadis dans la juridiction des tribunaux consulaires allemands ne peut tarder à recevoir une solution. D'ailleurs, la colonie suisse dans ce pays est très peu nombreuse, et jusqu'ici la Suisse n'a pas estimé que ses intérêts en Egypte nécessitaient même la présence d'un simple consul commercial.

Or, au point de vue du Gouvernement égyptien, l'institution d'un tribunal consulaire suisse soulève de très sérieuses objections :

1. Cette institution risquerait d'entraîner la reconnaissance de la Suisse comme Puissance capitulaire avec tous les privilèges que cette reconnaissance comporte, notamment en ce qui concerne l'organisation des Tribunaux mixtes et l'exercice du pouvoir législatif;
2. Cette institution constituerait un précédent qui ne manquerait pas d'être invoqué par d'autres Puissances ne jouissant pas des privilèges capitulaires ou y ayant renoncé;
3. De nouvelles juridictions consulaires seraient une entrave de plus à la réorganisation judiciaire, qui tôt ou tard devra être entreprise.

Le Gouvernement égyptien désirerait que le point de vue ci-dessus exposé fût porté à la connaissance du Gouvernement britannique et, au besoin, à celle du représentant britannique à Berne.

Ramleh, le 13 août 1922.

[E 8623/1/16]

No. 68.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 30.)*

(No. 671. Confidential.)

Ramleh, August 21, 1922.

My Lord,

IN my despatch No. 640 of the 8th August I recounted the events attending the recent Ministerial crisis up to the point when, two days before, King Fuad and Sarwat Pasha became temporarily reconciled. The subsequent proceedings are summarised in my telegrams No. 278 of the 11th August and No. 284 of the 15th August, but they deserve, perhaps, fuller narration.

Enclosure in No. 67.

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On the evening of the 9th August I received a visit from Said Zulficar Pasha, His Majesty's Grand Chamberlain, who produced a copy of the "Ahram" newspaper for the previous day, and showed me an article, a translation of which I transmit herewith,\* with certain passages of which he said the King was highly incensed. Particularly, in view of the fifth paragraph, His Majesty had demanded the suppression of the newspaper, but Sarwat Pasha, though he was ready to issue an official denial and severely to reprimand the editor, had refused to suppress, or even to suspend, the "Ahram." Zulficar Pasha was considerably excited, and diffident of acquainting me with the full extent of His Majesty's anger.

I told him that, so far as I could judge, the case did not seem, on its merits, one for suppression of the newspaper, but that I would have a translation made and see him again the next day.

When he returned on the following morning I told him that I had not changed my opinion, but asked whether, as a matter of expediency, a compromise might not be reached by Sarwat's agreeing to suspend the paper for two or three days. Zulficar Pasha replied that the King was as determined as ever upon having the newspaper suppressed, and that, in any case, Sarwat would not suspend it. I took occasion to point out to Zulficar, for communication to His Majesty, that, if the Sarwat Ministry fell, no one would attribute its fall to a dispute about an article in a newspaper; it would, on the contrary, certainly be attributed to what I imagined was the true cause, a divergence of opinion about the constitutional question, and, in particular, the King's prerogative. Where was His Majesty looking for support? He would find himself either dangerously isolated or forced to seek the favour of the Zaghlulist Party, who for their favour would ask a price which he could not afford to pay. Meanwhile the whole administration of the country was suffering from the unwillingness of His Majesty to call a meeting of the Council of Ministers, and several matters in which my Government was anxiously interested were being held in suspense. What sort of Constitution Egypt chose to have was not a matter in which His Majesty's Government were at all directly concerned, and I begged Zulficar Pasha not to allow the King to think that he could rely on external support in any attempt to establish himself as an autocrat.

Later in the day I sent for Sarwat Pasha in order to hear his side of the question. He stated that it was impossible for his or any Ministry to suppress the "Ahram," which was the oldest and most important newspaper in the country; it was not his organ, moderate though it was, and was more often critical of him than friendly. He had gone as far as he could to meet the King's wishes. He said that his chief desire was to be on good terms with the King, but that His Majesty's interference in the smallest details of administration made it almost impossible for the Ministry to govern. He had put up one proposal after another (of which he gave instances, including a proposal that His Majesty should induce the religious authorities to issue a manifesto reprobating political outrages) only to see them indefinitely held up at the Palace. He particularly wished to prevent the King, in His Majesty's own interest, from committing the folly of opposing constitutional government. The immediate consequence of His Majesty's attitude had been that the Constitution Commission, which had adjourned for the summer, had decided to resume its meetings and to hold them daily. I recommended Sarwat Pasha to consider seriously the possibility of compromising over the immediate question of the "Ahram" newspaper.

There I allowed matters to rest, in the hope that a period of reflection might be useful to both sides.

On the following evening, having caused enquiries to be made concerning the development of the situation, I was privately informed that, if it were pointed out to the King that other newspapers were alleging that the crisis had arisen owing to differences between the Ministry and myself, and that they were even interpreting the contentious passage in the "Ahram" as an allusion to me, and not to His Majesty, and that any public remarks about the King's attitude towards the constitutional question were doubtless due to the indiscretions of persons to whom he had himself talked freely on the subject, a solution of the crisis might be found.

Childish though this suggestion may appear, I asked Zulficar Pasha to call upon me on the 12th August and put these points to him. I commented again upon the unwisdom, as it seemed to me, of His Majesty's procedure. He was apparently bent upon forcing the Ministry to resign upon a minor issue, which would deceive nobody, and his method was not to send for his Prime Minister and have it out with him, but

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\* Not printed.

to avoid seeing him altogether and to make the administration of public business impossible. Zulficar Pasha enquired whether I should be willing to come to the Palace and give the King my advice. I replied that Zulficar Pasha was at liberty to repeat to the King all that, as a sincere friend of His Majesty, I had said, that I was always ready to answer a summons from the King, but that I did not wish to offer him advice and to find that it was not taken.

On the following day King Fuad sent for the Prime Minister, and, I am informed, received him with every appearance of amity. It was arranged between them that the "Abram" newspaper should be suspended for an unspecified period, but that, upon the editor's seeking an audience of His Majesty and begging to be forgiven, the order of suspension would be removed after operating for three days. I am told that no other matters of contention were touched upon, but that the King is still determined that the suppressed "Liberté" newspaper shall be allowed to revive. It was agreed that a Council of Ministers should be held without delay, and it has since been held.

The immediate dispute is thus settled and the Council of Ministers has resumed its functions, but it cannot be said that the relations between the King and the Ministry are in a state of stable equilibrium.

In a subsequent despatch I shall beg leave to offer some reflections upon the late crises and their bearing on the course of politics in this country.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,  
High Commissioner. ✓

[E 8626/633/16]

No. 69.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 30.)*

(No. 675.)

THE High Commissioner for Egypt presents his compliments to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to transmit herewith copy of a memorandum respecting Lake Tana as a reservoir.

*Ramleh, August 22, 1922.*

Enclosure in No. 69.

*Note on Lake Tana Reservoir Project.*

(Secret.)

WHEN previous notes on the Gezira irrigation scheme were written, the water rights of Egypt had not been laid down, and the estimates of area cultivable under different conditions were made on the assumption that Egypt should be no worse off than she was in the past. Thus the time of shortage of supply in Egypt was taken to be the time during which the Assouan reservoir was being drawn upon, and estimates were based on the condition that no water should be taken from the river during this time. The water rights of Egypt adopted by Mr. Cory, of the Nile Projects Commission, make the period during which no water may be taken from the river by the Soudan rather longer than the time in which the Assouan reservoir is in use, owing to the fact that the water rights are based on the maximum quantities of water which have been used by Egypt in the past. As these water rights will probably be the basis of future negotiations, the following estimates are based upon them.

2. Owing to the levels of the Gezira plain in the Soudan relative to those of the Blue and White Niles, its irrigation is only practicable from the Blue Nile.
3. The areas of the Gezira plain which the low stage supply of the Blue Nile will allow to be cultivated without detriment to the water rights of Egypt as quoted above are as follows: In years of very low supply, 300,000 feddans; in average years, 420,000 feddans; while larger areas than these could be cultivated if the Soudan were prepared, if necessary, to sacrifice the late picking of the cotton crop. The lubia crop requires no water after January.
4. Any development of the Gezira plain beyond such areas could therefore only be fairly carried out if such diminution of supply as then resulted to Egypt was made up for by means of further storage either on the Blue or the White Niles.

Moreover, while the Sudan would get its greatest benefit from the work later on, the regulator would be, for Egypt, of great immediate value, and to the recommendation that endeavours should be made to launch the undertaking the further recommendation is adjoined that such endeavours should be made as early as circumstances permit.

P. M. TOTTENHAM,  
*Under-Secretary of State.*

*Ministry of Public Works, Cairo,  
July 14, 1922.*

[ E 8624/61/16 ]

No. 70.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received August 30.)*

(No. 672.)

My Lord,

*Kamleh, August 21, 1922.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copy of a report on the general situation in Egypt for the period from the 1st to the 15th August, inclusive, compiled by the Department of Public Security of the Egyptian Government.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,  
*High Commissioner.*

Enclosure in No. 70.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from August 1 to 15, 1922,  
inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

— — —  
SUMMARY.

*Events of the Period.*

1. After two days' trial by military court, the seven arrested members of the Zaghlulist Wafd were found guilty on the 10th August, and sentences were promulgated on the 14th August.

2. A shooting outrage occurred on Saturday, the 12th August, when Mr. T. W. Brown, two of his children, a maid and a syce, all in a pony-carriage, were fired at by a group of men, apparently lying in wait for them, at Gizeh. The syce was killed; three others were wounded.

3. By order of the military authorities, seven prominent Zaghlulists, including some members of the new Wafd, were arrested on the 14th August and their houses searched.

4. An authoritative statement as to Zaghlul Pasha's health was published on the 1st August. Subsequently it was made known that his removal from the Seychelles to a more suitable climate was under the consideration of the British Government.

5. The Cairo newspaper "Al Ahram" was suspended by Ministerial order on the 14th August.

*Political Situation.*

Although the Bairam holiday passed in complete calm, it had been preceded by rumours of a political "crisis," based largely on the long interval that had elapsed since the Council of Ministers had met. After Bairam, the sense of political uncertainty increased, when the council meeting summoned for the 12th August was unexpectedly postponed; however, with the announcement that it was to be held on the 15th August and that His Majesty King Fuad would preside, the tension was largely relieved.

The trial of the members of the Wafd has been attended with a strong under-current of political excitement, more especially in Cairo, but it is not clear that it has aroused interest throughout the country generally. In the provinces the announcement of the sentences seems to have been received without excitement, nor were any outward manifestations attempted even in Cairo.



On the other hand, the Zaghlulists appear to be distinctly heartened by the partial success of their campaign on behalf of the removal of Zaghlul Pasha from the Seychelles Islands.

The renewal of shooting outrages in Cairo, which have now been extended into attempts on the lives of women and children as well as Englishmen, has aroused deep indignation, which is not confined to the British and European communities, many Egyptians expressing apprehensions as to the serious reaction such outrages may have upon the political future of their country.

*Forecast.*

While no reasons are apparent for anticipating any general disturbance of public security on political grounds, still, the recrudescence of outrage in an intensified form, the possibility of Zaghlul Pasha being removed from the Seychelles, the sentences on the seven members of the Wafd, and the arrest of other Zaghlulists are all factors that make the immediate outlook one of considerable anxiety, and it is possible that trouble may occur in some of the larger towns.

THE NILE FLOOD.

At Cairo the Nile flood is now normal.

At Wadi Halfa flood level is now above normal, and at Roseires the Blue Nile is at present considerably above normal. Prospects, therefore, for the general Nile flood are that it may be somewhat above normal this year.

The level of the Great Lakes, however, is abnormally low. Mean readings of the Bahr-el-Gebel at Mongalla were more than a metre below normal for July.

SHOOTING OUTRAGE AT GIZEH.

Late on Saturday evening, the 12th August, as Mr. Thomas William Brown, Director, Horticultural Section, Ministry of Agriculture, was driving down from his house at Gizeh to the Cairo railway station for the 11-30 train, he was fired at by a gang, described as apparently students, before his carriage (an open pony-cart) had reached the gates of the Gizeh Gardens leading into Sharia Birinsât.

With Mr. Brown were his son, of about 14, who was starting for school in England, his daughter, her nurse and a groom. A number of shots took effect. The unfortunate groom (an Egyptian) was killed outright. The nurse was wounded, but not severely, in the shoulder, possibly, it is surmised, by the bullet which killed the groom. Mr. Brown was wounded in an arm; his son in an arm and both legs. All three are in hospital. There are good hopes of recovery for them all. The outrage took place between 10-30 and 10-45 p.m.

ZAGHLUL PASHA.

In an interview granted by a member of the Residency staff to "Al Mokattam" and published on the 1st August, it was officially stated that Zaghlul's health had been good from his arrival at the Seychelles on the 10th March up to June, when, early in the month, he had a mild attack of bronchitis and asthma.

At the beginning of July, although the bronchitis and asthma had abated, Zaghlul Pasha had not altogether thrown off their effects. He showed signs of debility, accompanied by some cardiac weakness.

The latest report, dated the 21st July, stated that his condition was unchanged since the report of the 3rd July.

In reply to anxious telegraphic enquiries from Mme. Zaghlul, Zaghlul Pasha is understood to have answered on the 8th August that his health was feeble, but that he was not confined to bed; also that a change of air might conduce to improvement.

It was immediately rumoured that Mme. Zaghlul had decided to join Zaghlul Pasha in the Seychelles.

On her behalf, facilities for the voyage were applied for. By the 12th August it was made known officially that the British Government had under consideration the desirability of the transfer of Zaghlul Pasha to a more suitable climate. Mme. Zaghlul, therefore, while assured that the facilities she had asked for would be accorded, was advised to postpone her departure for a few weeks, until a decision had been reached by the British Government.

THE ZAGHLELUST WAFF.

1. *Trial of the Seven Members by Military Court.*

The seven members of the Wafd, who were arrested before the end of July, were tried on Wednesday and Thursday, the 9th and 10th August, by military court, presided over by Colonel-Commandant A. Lawson, C.M.G., who in 1920 presided over the court that tried Abdel-Rahman Bey Fahmy and the others accused in the "Vengeance Society" case.

The accusation was under two heads:—

First, that the accused, being persons amenable to the criminal law of Egypt, committed an offence punishable under article 151 of the Egyptian Penal Code, by printing and publishing a circular bringing the Government of the King of Egypt into hatred and contempt, contrary to the proclamation under martial law dated the 14th May, 1916.

Second, that the accused disseminated a circular the object of which was to stir up disaffection against the existing order of Government, contrary to the proclamation under martial law dated the 11th November, 1914.

Counsel for the defence, Mr. Moriarty, applied for an adjournment of fifteen days in order that the accused should have time to obtain the services of a barrister from London, and explained that this was with the object of counsel from London being present to argue the point of the jurisdiction of the court, which the accused contested.

After an adjournment for consideration, the court disallowed the request. It also disallowed an application by Mr. Moriarty for a two days' adjournment on his own behalf.

Counsel for the defence then submitted that the court was incompetent to try the case. After arguments of counsel, the court deliberated, and the president announced that the objection was disallowed.

Counsel for the defence then asked permission to read a declaration by the accused before the court. Prosecuting counsel, after consultation, intimated that he would object, and the trial proceeded.

Subsequently, counsel for the defence retired, accompanied by his assistant counsel, after explaining to the court that he no longer spoke on behalf of any of the accused, and that his withdrawal had nothing to do with the refusal of his personal application for a two days' adjournment.

Thereafter the accused, refusing to recognise in any way the validity of the proceedings, took no part in them.

At the conclusion of the evidence next morning, Hamad Pasha-el-Bassil was permitted by the court to read a statement, which is noted below.

The Judge Advocate, Mr. A. S. Preston, having summed up, the court retired to deliberate. On resuming, the president, through the interpreter, asked each of the accused whether he had anything to say in mitigation of punishment. Each answered, "No."

The proceedings and decisions of the court were in due course submitted to the commander-in-chief for confirmation before promulgation.

2. *Statement by Hamad Pasha-el-Bassil.*

The following is the published version of the statement which was read in court on Thursday, the 11th August, by Hamad Pasha-el-Bassil, the six other accused intimating their agreement with it:—

"As mandatories of the Egyptian people, entrusted with claiming their independence, the accused could not in any case recognise the jurisdiction of a foreign court.

"The present court should itself proclaim its incompetence to judge the accused, if it admitted or regarded seriously the declaration of its own Government, which stated that Egypt is a sovereign and independent State.

"The court had the power to condemn the accused, but had not the right to judge them.

"The accused were responsible to their own consciences; to the mandate entrusted to them; to the laws and courts of their country.

"Before this court and before the court of universal conscience they upheld their strong declaration that, since its constitution, the Wafd had this alone in

view—the realisation of the independence of the Valley of the Nile by all legitimate and legal means. It had always condemned crime and deprecated violence, considering that a just cause must infallibly triumph of itself, and that violence would but degrade and tarnish it.

"They had never combated the Government of their country. They had always placed the throne above parties, and had on many occasions shown their loyalty to the successor of Mohammed Ali.

"On the other hand, they had combated the present Ministry, which is not the Government and does not represent the country, by exposing to the light of day its acts and its intentions. In that they had only exercised a right admitted by all legislation of civilised countries, including England and Egypt.

"With whatever sentence the court might be pleased to honour them, they would welcome it with joy and pride, for it would mark a stage in the glorious path followed by Egypt on the road to her immortal destiny."

### 3. Sentences.

The sentences were promulgated on the 14th August. They were, in every case:—

Death sentence, commuted to seven years' penal servitude, together with a fine of 5,000*l.*

In addition, the cost of the trial to be paid by the accused.

### 4. Arrest of other Zaghlulists.

On Monday, the 14th August, the military authorities issued orders for the arrest and detention, pending certain investigations, of seven prominent Zaghlulists, amongst them being some of the members of the new Wafd.

- Fakhry Bey Abdel Nur.
- Sheikh Mustafa el-Kayati.
- Neguib Bey-el-Gherabli (of Tanta).
- Dr. Neguib Iskandar.
- Mahmud Bey-el-Nuqrashi.
- Abdel Sattar Bey-el-Bassil.
- Hassan Yassin.

The seven are now detained in Kasr-el-Nil Barracks, Cairo. Their houses were searched.

### 5. Press Comment on the Trial.

The Arabic press devoted close attention to the trial of the members of the Wafd, printing practically verbatim reports, even to the exclusion of other news.

Its general attitude, as indicated in last report, was that action, if justified at all, ought to have been taken by the Egyptian authorities before an Egyptian court.

For the Opposition press the trial afforded conclusive justification of their contention that the independence of Egypt, proclaimed by Great Britain, was wholly illusory.

On the eve of the trial "Al Akhbar" (the 8th August) dwelt upon the strangeness of the situation. A body of Egyptians, accused of inciting hatred against the Government of their own country, which had been formally proclaimed independent, were, nevertheless, to be called to account before a foreign military court.

"Al Afkar" (the 8th August) insisted that the actual charges laid against the Wafd by no means agreed with the official statement in the House of Commons that the members had been arrested for inciting to crime. It drew the conclusion that the documents found on searching Zaghlul's house and the others had failed to substantiate the graver accusation, and rejoiced that the Egyptian national movement must be held exonerated from any appeal to violence.

Both "Al Afkar" (the 11th August) and "Wadinnil" (the 12th August) criticised the arguments drawn by counsel for the prosecution from the fact that Turkey was still at war with England. They maintained, though from different points of view, that the declaration of Egyptian independence, made last February, was stultified thereby.

"Al Bassir" (the 11th August) on the other hand, denied that in principle this trial by military court was in contradiction to the abolition of the protectorate and

the recognition of Egypt's independence, seeing that martial law was definitely maintained in that declaration, and expressly reserved for subsequent negotiation.

The importance of this case had been exaggerated on account of the eminence of the individuals accused. The members of the Wafd had clearly carried their political animosity to the Ministry to extremes. Had they been ordinary folk, no one would have paid any heed to their being tried by a military court.

"Al Ahran" regretted the trial. Only by mutual consent, not by violent methods, could disagreement between English and Egyptians be settled. It hoped this trial would be the last of its kind, and that, by the concession of Egypt's full rights, the causes which had led to it would disappear. Only so could sincere friendship be created between the two nations, and Egypt be enabled to advance on the road to peace.

"Al Watan" (the 10th and 13th August) discusses at length the statement read by Hamad Pasha-el-Bassil, pointing out that it is a frank recognition of Egyptian independence as an established fact, no longer to be contested.

This, "Al Watan" maintains, cuts the ground from under the arguments on which the Wafd has hitherto relied. They fall like a house of cards. Moreover, in proclaiming their loyalty, both past and present, to the throne, they have paved the way to national unity. What reasons still exist for the unhappy divisions that have rent Egypt asunder hitherto?

Comment on the sentences promulgated had not matured within the period covered by this report, but "Al Akhbar" (the 14th August) published a denial of the rumour, voiced by the "Journal du Caire," that the members of the Wafd intended to appeal against their sentences to higher authority in London.

For the "Daily Herald," the Zaghulist organ in England, the situation in Egypt created by the sentences is one of "mad terrorism."

#### SUSPENSION OF "AL AHRAN."

By decision of the Council of Ministers, dated the 14th August, 1922, "Al Ahran" has been suspended, under article 13 of the Press Law of 1881, in consequence of its having "published in its issue of the 8th August, 1922, under the heading, 'Calling Things by their Names,' an article which is untrue."

#### ABDEL RAHMAN BEY FAHMY.

##### *Correction.*

In the last report, with reference to his transfer to Hadra prison, it was stated that Abdel Rahman Bey Fahmy had "hitherto been confined at Turah (near Cairo)." This should have read, "in the Citadel ('Manshiya') prison, Cairo."

#### UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF ARMS.

##### *Military Court Trials.*

The following is a summary of the official returns up to the 14th August, 1922, of cases recently tried before the military courts of Cairo, Alexandria, and the Canal Zone for unlawful possession of arms:—

*Cairo.*—The 30th June to the 8th August, 1922: Individuals charged, 11; convicted, 9; acquitted, 2.

##### Sentences after confirmation—

Five years' penal servitude ... ..	1 case
Three years' penal servitude ... ..	3 cases
Two years' imprisonment with hard labour ... ..	2 "
Eighteen months' imprisonment with hard labour ... ..	1 case
Two years' imprisonment ... ..	1 "
Unconfirmed ... ..	1 "

*Note 1.*—In four cases death sentence was passed. Of these, three were commuted, one to five years' penal servitude, one to three years' penal servitude, one to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. One death sentence is still under confirmation.

*Note 2.*—In addition, on the 8th August, one man was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour and ten lashes, and one man to one month's imprisonment with hard labour and six lashes, for being in possession of ammunition.

Alexandria.—The 17th June to the 11th July, 1922: Individuals charged, 3; convicted, 3.

Sentences after confirmation—

Five years' imprisonment with hard labour ...	2 cases (a.)
££. 2 or fourteen days' imprisonment with hard labour ...	1 case

(a.) One case dated from the 10th March, 1922, at Kafr-el-Dawar.

Canal Zone.— The 26th June, 1922: Individuals charged, 2; convicted, 2.

Sentences after confirmation—

££. 5 or three months' imprisonment with hard labour ...	1 case
££. 3 or two months' imprisonment with hard labour ...	1 ..

The Press.

1. The Ministerial Crisis.

The alleged Ministerial "crisis," rather than the trial of the members of the Wafd has been the chief subject discussed by the Arabic press during the fortnight, the Opposition press debating the news with manifest satisfaction.

Ministerial organs on the 14th August published with undisguised relief the announcement that His Majesty King Fuad would preside at the meeting of the Council of Ministers next day, and that the "crisis" was at an end. They had, naturally, been reticent as to the many and conflicting rumours as to its actual causes. It was, nevertheless, "Al Ahran," Ministerialist, which, avowing that a "crisis" did exist, published an article on the 8th August discussing it at length, which led to the suspension of that paper by Ministerial decision six days later.

Insisting that "a spade should be called a spade," it declared it was idle to deny, in official or other circles, that the sky was overcast. If the beginnings of the threatened storm seemed insignificant, it was insignificant causes that led to the biggest and gravest events. For instance, it suggested, a phrase of an official, the chance word of an underling, or similar slight causes, might lead on to a crisis.

It was part of the game of politics that personal and public questions were intermingled. It was one of the dangers of the game that the struggle between political groups for their particular ends had a reaction on the policy of the nation at a time when conditions did not permit the nation to express its opinion and compel its will.

The "crisis" had been attributed to the attacks levelled at the Government for its lack of control over the Constitution Commission. But had the Government any such powers? Would the commission have submitted to control? If it did, would public opinion approve, and would the labours of the commission not lose their value?

Others had alleged the "crisis" to be due not so much to the fact of the arrest of the Wafd members as to the announcement of that arrest. But this suggestion failed, because, when the Egyptian Government hesitated or procrastinated, the military authorities proceeded to order the arrests, and notified the Government of their decision and the reasons for it.

The political tension was a fact. But in Egypt's present circumstances such tension was not permissible. A frank "crisis," the cause of which was clear, was preferable if crisis there must be. It would conduce better to the maintenance of proper public spirit in face of conjectures and innuendoes, which do no good but only harm.

We hope we shall not hear anything of the kind again, for the nation is great and prudent. Labour that concerns the nation should, therefore, be great and frank, and animated only by lofty aims.

"Al Nizam" (the 9th August) hoped the Ministry would learn by this crisis that the Opposition were right, that only the support of the nation availed. On the 14th August it was persuaded that English politicians realised the failure of their policy, which had gravely aggravated the crisis, and that a change of Ministry was in contemplation.

"Al Mokattam" (the 13th August) declared the "crisis," while due to the same causes which had brought about "the preceding one," was also to be ascribed to other causes about which the less said the better.

"Al Lewa" (the 14th August) says the Ministry is about to fall because it aims at being independent, thereby divesting itself of its responsibility to the throne until such time as Parliament assembles. But since 1879 Egyptian Ministers have been responsible to the throne, and the formation of the present Ministry brought no change with it. Whether or not, in future, Ministries are to be responsible to Parliament, they cannot be so before Parliament exists.

*The Shooting Outrage.*

The attempt on the lives of Mr. Brown and his two children has been chronicled with indignation in the Arabic press, irrespective of party.

"Al Lewa," extreme Watanist, is at one with "Al Ahram," in expressing deep regret, and the hope that this will be the last of this "red series."

"Al Afkar," now Watanist-Zaghlulist, says: "What makes our regrets the keener is the fact that on this occasion the attack was directed against a whole family, comprising a father, daughter and son, while their unfortunate groom has fallen an innocent victim."

"Al Akhbar" writes: "While we are unable to say anything definite as to the actual miscreants, or as to their object in this horrible crime, it is possible that this attempt is not due to political motives. We hope that it is so, and that this supposition will be confirmed, because it seems incredible after the outburst of condemnation on the part of political leaders, of the newspapers, and of all classes of the population."

Abdel Kader Hamza, formerly editor-manager of "Al Ahali," which, reappearing after six months' suspension, was suppressed (after three days' activity) on the 10th May, became editor of "Al Afkar" from the 6th August, by arrangement with its proprietor, Abdel Latif-el-Sufani. Hitherto Watanist, "Al Afkar" may be expected to become more pronouncedly Zaghlulist in tone. Its circulation is stated to have already very considerably increased. During the suspension of "Al Ahali," Abdel Kader Hamza edited "Al Mahroussah," which had been acquired as the Zaghlulist organ. It was, however, suspended indefinitely on the 19th February.

Abdel Latif-el-Sufani has been permitted to acquire "Al Ommah" of Alexandria, which was suspended for three months on the 8th July.

It is noteworthy that this is the first time in its long history that "Al Ahram" has been suspended. It was founded in 1875, and may certainly claim to be one of the two leading Arabic newspapers of Egypt. The admirable telegraphic service from England, which has been a marked feature of "Al Ahram," will be continued in "Al Istiklal," now belonging to the same proprietors.

[E 8833/1/16]

No. 71.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—*  
(Received September 4.)

(No. 309.)

(Telegraphic.) R.

Ramleh, September 4, 1922.

MY telegram No. 295.

Incident had no importance.

Shots were fired from market garden by watchman, who was scaring vermin.

[E 8926/490/16]

No. 72.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—*  
(Received September 6.)

(No. 680.)

My Lord.

Ramleh, August 23, 1922.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 223 of the 19th June relative to the retirement and compensation of British and foreign officials in the service of the Egyptian Government, I have the honour to state that the advisory committee mentioned therein has sat once or twice weekly since early in July. Ninety-nine applications have so far been received from permanent officials desiring to retire with compensation or temporary officials desiring compensation for dismissal. The nationalities represented in these applications are as follows: British, seventy-five; Greek, nine; Italian, eight;

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French, three; Belgian, one; Ottoman and ex-Ottoman (disqualified), three. I am in agreement with the Greek, Italian, French and Belgian Ministers that cases of their nationals should be considered by my advisory committee, with the assistance of an additional member of the nationality of the applicant.

I have received, and approved, the recommendations of the advisory committee in thirty-six cases. In twenty-one cases compensation has been awarded, while fifteen applications to retire have been refused. These thirty-six applicants are all British subjects.

Of the remaining sixty-three applicants, twenty have been asked to supply further information, and forty-three cases are either in committee or, I understand, on their way from the committee to myself; among these last are five Italian cases.

Two applicants, whose applications have been refused, have appealed against the refusal. Five applicants have accepted the awards, and I am about to take up their cases with the Egyptian Government.

Your Lordship will observe that sixteen of the applicants to whom compensation has been awarded have not yet signified their acceptance; this is likely to be due partly to the fact that many officials are now abroad, and partly to the fact that regrading of the cadre is now in progress, and that many officials when regraded would expect to see their compensation assessed at a higher figure.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,  
High Commissioner.

[E 9512/61/16]

No. 73.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—(Received September 19.)*

(No. 707.)

My Lord.

Ramleh, September 3, 1922.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith for your Lordship's information copy of a report on the general situation in Egypt, composed by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government for the period from the 16th to the 31st August inclusive.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,  
High Commissioner.

Enclosure in No. 73.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from August 16 to 31, 1922, inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

## SUMMARY.

*Events of the Period.*

1. His Excellency the President of the Council has addressed a letter to his Excellency the High Commissioner expressing indignation and keen regrets at the attempt on the life of Mr. Brown and his family, and reiterating the assurance that the Government regards the discovery of the authors of such crimes as one of its most pressing duties.

2. Steps are being taken for the formation of an active political party of moderate views and policy in view of the elections for the new Parliament. Authority has been given for the publication of a new political paper as its press organ.

3. Proposals guaranteeing the minimum parliamentary representation of minorities have been definitely rejected by the Constitution Commission.

4. There has been considerable activity on the part of certain Bedouin leaders with the object of maintaining under the new Constitution some of the special privileges long enjoyed by the Bedouin tribes in Egypt.

5. Amin Bey Yussuf has left for England on a political mission on behalf of the Zaghlulist Wafd.

*Political Situation.*

The favourable solution of the Ministerial "crisis," which was the disturbing factor in the first half of August, has clearly strengthened the position of the Cabinet.

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At the same time the position of the extremist Opposition has been weakened by the strong action taken with regard to their leaders.

There has been no evidence of attempts to stir up active trouble as a rebut of the sentences on the Wafd members. Zaghulist energy appears to be largely absorbed for the moment in collecting money for payment of the fines imposed.

Rumours of the organisation of a new party, pledged to support a moderate policy in the new Parliament, have been received with marked hostility by the two extremist parties, Zaghulists and Watanists, which would seem to indicate grave apprehensions on their part as to its effect upon their own standing in the country, should it succeed.

Zaghulist hopes for the moment appear to be centred in the outcome of Amin Bey Yussuf's mission to London. Their agitation on behalf of Zaghul's removal from the Seychelles has markedly died down pending the anticipated announcement by the British Government.

#### *Forecast.*

The immediate outlook for public security generally appears reassuring.

#### CAIRO.

The annual ceremony of the "Qata' al Khalig" (opening the Nile channel) took place on Saturday evening, the 19th August.

It had been rumoured that demonstrations were to be made by students and others, including a procession of lady agitators in motor-cars. The ceremony, however, passed off quite normally without untoward incident of any kind.

#### *Shooting Incident.*

On Sunday evening, the 20th August, the driver of the express train from Alexandria, an Englishman, reported that at half-past 9 o'clock, when he was passing signal cabin No. 4, just before reaching Cairo Station, two shots were fired, apparently at the train, traces of one of them being visible on the tender.

Enquiry appears to have established that the shots were fired by the night watchman of a garden at Shoubra, alarmed at what he believed to be marauding animals.

#### *The Ma'arif Club of Fagqala.*

This club, which has recently been conspicuous for the political character of its "entertainments," sometimes under the direct auspices of the Zaghulist Wafd, gave an entertainment at the Old Arabic Theatre on the evening of the 17th August, when, contrary to expectation, no political speeches or monologues were delivered, nor were any members of the Wafd present. The president of the club, Tewfik Tadros, is reported to have explained this as follows:—

"The slightest criticism of the Government will lead to trial before a military court.

"Our receipts to-night have been quite sufficient, and we have no need for monologues and political speeches.

"The audience understand our situation and realise that our excuse is legitimate."

#### PORT SAID.

Although the news of the sentences on the seven members of the Wafd, when first received, occasioned some excitement and led to suggestions of immediate demonstrations in protest, the meeting called by the Zaghulists for the evening of the 15th August to consider what steps would be taken was attended by some seven persons only, not one of whom was willing to travel to Alexandria in order to protest.

Ali Bey Leheita appealed to all Zaghulists to boycott the Arabic performances in the theatre in token of mourning for Zaghul. This appeal was completely disregarded, and he professed himself to be greatly discouraged.

On the 27th August only twenty persons attended a meeting at his house to consider the petition on behalf of the seven recently sentenced members of the Wafd, which the new Wafd proposed to submit to His Majesty the King. The meeting was divided in opinion, but it was ultimately decided that a deputation should go to Alexandria with the signatures obtained. It was further decided that all taking part in this demonstration should deposit a pound as a guarantee against changing



their minds, "as happened last time." Ultimately, Ali Bey Leheita went to Alexandria, and was followed on the 30th August by some twenty-eight of his supporters, with the object of petitioning King Fuad.

RECENT OUTRAGES.

*Ministerial Note.*

His Excellency the President of the Council of Ministers addressed a note to his Excellency the High Commissioner, dated the 22nd August, worded as follows:—

(Translation.)

"Your Excellency,

"In this letter I wish to repeat those very keen and sincere regrets of the Egyptian Government which I first expressed during my conversation with your Excellency subsequent to the attempt on the life of Mr. Brown and family.

"In conveying these regrets to your Excellency, I am confident that I am the faithful interpreter both of the feelings of the Egyptian Government and of those of all classes of the Egyptian people. This detestable attack has the more called forth the indignation of the Government, since it was made upon women and children. The enquiry relative to the crime is being prosecuted with the greatest zeal and thoroughness by the new service, the creation of which I announced to your Excellency in my letter of the 23rd July. It is to be hoped that these investigations will result in the discovery of the authors of the crime, and, by throwing light upon the attendant circumstances, will enable its exact nature to be ascertained.

"It seems to me only right that the attention of your Excellency should be drawn to the fact that the British press, in its enumeration of and comments upon the crimes already committed, is leading the British public to believe that these emanate from the altered state of affairs consequent upon the change of political status in Egypt.

"Your Excellency is not ignorant of the fact that the great majority of the criminal attempts recently made on British subjects took place between the months of December 1921 and February 1922. That is, before the present Ministry came into power.

"I shall be grateful to your Excellency if you can see your way to take such measures as you may deem necessary to enlighten the British public on the true situation relative to these attempts, and on the fact that the Egyptian Government regards the discovery of their authors as one of its most pressing duties."

In a subsequent interview his Excellency the Prime Minister laid emphasis on the fact that in writing this note no reflection upon English newspaper correspondents was implied, but that it was felt that it had not been made sufficiently clear in the British press that the series of outrages, of which the attack upon Mr. Brown and his party was the most recent, had started last December, three months before the present Cabinet took office.

The Department of Public Security issued a communiqué on the 20th August in rebuttal of charges that had been made against the police officials at Gizeh of having lost valuable time, when first informed of the outrage, and of having delayed the prompt transport to hospital of those who had been wounded.

In a letter of protest, however, addressed to his Excellency the High Commissioner, Mr. Brown, who has made good progress to recovery, adheres to his former statements, maintaining that nearly half an hour was unnecessarily lost owing to the action of the police.

ZAGHLUL PASHA.

An authoritative statement (published by "Al Mokattam") announced that, according to an official report from the Seychelles (the 11th August), Zaghul Pasha had not had cause to call on the services of the resident medical officer since the previous report (the 21st July). Zaghul's health would therefore appear to have improved.

There has since been a somewhat marked cessation of news as to Zaghul himself.

Neither the intentions of the British Government as to his transfer from the Seychelles nor such action as it may have already taken have as yet been made known to the public.

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Rumour, however, has been active with regard to Zaghlul's removal.

So early as the middle of August statements appeared in the Arabic newspapers that he (and his companions) has already left the islands, their destination being variously conjectured to be "some Mediterranean port" or "England." At Port Said it was reported that "every time a boat comes in Zaghlulists ask the Canal company if Zaghlul is on board." Later (the 26th August) a British warship passing through was immediately credited with being "in transit to bring back Zaghlul."

In Cairo (as reported on the 25th August) this rôle had been popularly assigned to the Royal yacht "Mahroussah," which left Alexandria on the 15th August for the Western Mediterranean. Rumour had it that she was really bound for the Seychelles with Mohammed Tewfik Nessim and Shehata Kamel Pashas on board, in order to open negotiations with Zaghlul and his companions for their repatriation, on condition that they took no more part in politics. Latterly, however, such rumours have tended to die down.

There is general expectation of a decisive official announcement before long.

#### THE CONSTITUTION COMMISSION.

##### *Minority Representation.*

At its meeting on the 25th August the commission, by fifteen votes to seven, definitely rejected all proposals in favour of the representation of minorities being constitutionally guaranteed in the new Parliament.

The sub-commission had referred this point to the full commission, without itself making any recommendations.

##### *Rushdi Pasha.*

Interviewed by "Al Akram," Rushdi Pasha is reported to have stated that on medical advice he had been obliged to resign from the presidency of the Constitution Commission.

#### BEDOUIN POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

A certain amount of political activity is reported among the Bedouin.

Meetings are stated to have taken place just before the middle of August "to discuss the question of Hamed-el-Bassel Pasha," recognised as the chief of the Fayoum Bedouin. These meetings are believed to have been inspired by a certain Taher Bey Saad-el-Masri, omdeh of a sub-tribe of the Aulad Ali of Beheira, amongst whom he has considerable influence. He had previously been in touch with a representative of Al Rimah, a western tribe of the Fayoum, whose chief is Abdel Sattar Bey-el-Bassil (brother of Hamid Pasha-el-Bassil), who has been under arrest since the 14th August.

So far little has been reported indicating any tendency to foster agitation in consequence of the sentence upon Hamed Pasha-el-Bassil or the arrest of his brother.

In connection with the work of the Constitution Commission, however, Bedouin omdehs "from all over Egypt" were reported to be gathering at Alexandria with the object of presenting a petition to His Majesty King Fuad, praying that certain reservations be included in the Constitution, so as to maintain the established privileges of the Bedouin, including their exemption from military service, and the right to hold their own courts to deal with their own domestic affairs.

On Saturday, the 26th August, about thirty Bedouin omdehs were present at a meeting held at the Regina Hotel, Alexandria; among them being Saleh Bey Lamoun-el-Saadi, chief of the Minia section of Al Eawayed tribe, Abdullah Bey Lamoun and Taher Bey Sa'ad-el-Masri.

It appears that divergence of opinion arose at this meeting between the south-western tribes (including those under Lamoun leadership) on the one hand and the Aulad Ali of Beheira and the north-west. The former wished to add to the petition a supplementary one on behalf of Hamed Pasha-el-Bassil, while the Aulad Ali (and some others) protested against this, urging that it was a matter of which they had no cognisance and desired none, their only object being to preserve their Bedouin rights.

A deputation of two from this meeting was received at the Residency on Saturday, the 26th August, when the High Commissioner reminded them that the Constitution Commission, upon which the Bedouins were duly represented, was a consultative, not an executive, body, formed in order to frame its recommendations

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and submit these to the Government; that upon such recommendations the Government had to take its decisions, but that the High Commissioner could not intervene therein.

A similar deputation was received by the Prime Minister.

#### NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

##### *Organisation.*

Since the return of Hussein Rushdi Pasha from Europe, rumours of the formation of a new party in Egyptian politics have become more consistent and definite. They have now received confirmation from the announcement that authorisation for a press organ for such a party has been granted to Dr. Hafez Bey Afify, and that this newspaper, under the title "Al Siasah" ("Politics"), may be expected to appear in the course of September.

Dr. Hafez Afify was for long a member of the Zaghlulist Wafd, from which he resigned early in May 1921, as did many other "Dissentients" from Zaghlul's policy of hostility to the Adli Cabinet. When action was taken against Zaghlul and his leading followers in December 1921, there was a brief rapprochement between the Dissentients and the remnant of Zaghlul's Wafd, but Dr. Hafez Afify definitely withdrew at the end of January 1922.

The new party would, it is stated, range itself under the leadership of Adli and Rushdi Pashas, and may therefore be expected, says "Al Mokattam" (the 30th August) to adhere to a policy aiming at the attainment of the liberal aspirations of the nation by constitutional means, and favouring the conclusion of a lasting agreement with Great Britain reconciling the vital interests of both.

As an early completion of the work of the Constitution Commission is expected, to be followed by the promulgation of the Electoral Law, the publication of the party's political programme is awaited with much interest in view of the coming electoral campaign for the new Parliament.

#### THE EGYPTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

The secretariat of the Egyptian Socialist Party has announced that, on account of the exceptional circumstances existing in Egypt, and of the political crisis which the country is now passing through, the Executive Committee decided at its meeting on the 22nd August to invite all political parties and active bodies, societies and trades unions in the country to hold a congress, with the object of uniting to work for the liberation of Egypt, and for the organising of a plan of campaign. As its representatives at this congress the Executive Committee has elected a mixed committee, in view of the fact that the Socialist Party is international. The evening of the 15th September has been fixed for the holding of the congress at the Socialist Party Headquarters, Alexandria.

It should be noted that at a previous meeting (the 10th August) the Executive Committee is reported to have decided to expel from the party two members, one for having written against the party in the press, and the other for having, at a recent meeting, "expressed views of an extreme nature."

The former of these two, Salama Moussa, a leading member of the party in Cairo, opposed the transformation of the Egyptian Socialist Party into a branch of the Third International of Moscow, which was carried through by Rosenthal and his partisans, hence the acute disagreement.

The regular party meetings at Alexandria on the 19th and the 26th August are reported to have been attended, respectively, by "about sixty members, mostly Egyptian workers," and "by eighty persons, mostly Egyptian workers, including thirty Sayidi." At the latter meeting Joseph Rosenthal gave an address on "The Struggle of Social Classes."

According to information believed to be reliable the membership of the Egyptian Socialist Party for Cairo and Alexandria amounts to about 1,000.

#### EL SAYED IDRIS-EL-SENUSSI.

El Sayed Mohammed Idris-el-Senusi had intimated, through the Italian authorities, his desire to visit Helwan in order to undertake a cure there. He would travel strictly incognito accompanied by a small suite of four or five persons.

The Egyptian Government has intimated its readiness to offer him all facilities.

## THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

(a.) *The Seven Convicted Members.*

Field-Marshal Lord Allenby, as Commander-in-chief of His Majesty's Forces in Egypt, issued a proclamation under martial law, dated the 16th August, directing that no bank or other institution or persons holding any fund or money on deposit or otherwise in the name or for the account or at the disposal of any one of the seven members recently sentenced shall make any payment out of such fund or money, or honour any cheque or draft, or order to pay out of such fund or money without written permission from Lord Allenby.

The seven convicted members themselves were officially given a delay until Tuesday, the 29th August, in order to make their arrangements and declare their intentions with regard to payment of the fines imposed.

It appears to be commonly said, more especially in Zaghlulist circles, that the money accruing from the fines (5,000*l.* in each case) to which the seven members were condemned is to be devoted to paying the indemnities to the families of British officials who have been killed in the shooting outrages.

Widespread efforts are being made by the Wafd and their adherents to collect the money to pay these fines by general subscription.

The new Wafd are reported to have held a meeting at the house of a relative of El Masri Bey-el-Sa'adi, now its acting president, in order to raise subscriptions for the assistance of Morcos Bey Hanna. It is further stated that a number of rich notables, both from Cairo and from the provinces, attended this meeting, and that the subscriptions collected exceeded the amount required.

A deputation from Minia is stated to have visited Zaghlul's house on the 26th August, and to have delivered the money which had been collected in the province towards making up the sum required to pay the fine of Murad Bey-el-Sherai'i.

It was recently stated in the Arabic press that notables of Menufiya Province were undertaking to pay the fine imposed upon Elwi Bey-el-Gazzar, but that El Sayed Bey-el-Gazzar, his brother, had written gratefully declining the offer.

El Kommos ("The Rev.") Boulos Ghobrial, well known for his Zaghlulist sympathies, who has been collecting money for the Wafd, is stated to have raised about 2,000*l.* so far.

A member of the new Wafd is credited with the statement that El Masri Bey-el-Sa'adi has himself contributed 12,000*l.* to the funds of the Wafd.

(b.) *Mission to England.*

A meeting is reported to have been held at Zaghlul's house on the 21st August, which was attended by about forty persons besides the members of the Wafd. It was then proposed—

- (a.) To send a deputation to His Majesty King Fuad to protest against the imprisonment of the Wafd members, and
- (b.) To send a mission to England to lay before the British people the true facts of the political situation in Egypt.

The first proposal did not find favour with the majority; the second was almost unanimously accepted. When asked, however, whether the Wafd had the necessary funds for defraying the expenses of such a mission, Raghil Iskandar is reported to have explained that "the Wafd depended upon the generosity and patriotism of those present and other patriotic Egyptians." A subscription list for the purpose was, it is stated, accordingly opened.

Ultimately, however, the lawyer Mohammed Amin Bey Yussuf, known rather for his advocacy of the co-operative movement in Egypt than as a politician of weight, and who is related by marriage to Zaghlul, was selected as the representative of the Wafd for this mission, the cost of which is believed to be shared between the Wafd and Mme. Zaghlul. He sailed from Port Said on the 30th August, having previously sent a communication to the press, in which he demanded that British statesmanship should boldly acknowledge the obvious failure of her present experiment, which is jeopardising the prospects of Anglo-Egyptian amity. "Let the British Government scrap it, and create an atmosphere in which Egypt can breathe freely, and heal the wounds of the Egyptian nation," so going "more than half the way towards a lasting settlement recognising real Egyptian independence and guaranteeing British and foreign interests which do not encroach on that independence."

There is good reason for believing that arrangements are being made by the Wafd for a meeting in Paris between Ali Bey Shamy, Salama Bey Mikhail (who was recently at Karlsbad), and Abdel Halim Bialy, about the 7th September, at which Amin Bey Yussuf may be expected to be present.

#### THE PRESS.

1. The new party organisation evokes bitter hostility in the Opposition press, more especially in the Watanist Party organs.

In "Al Lewa" Ahmed Walki writes (the 29th August): "To avoid calling the newly-formed party 'traitors,' we will content ourselves with saying they are ready to sacrifice their country by accepting for it slavery and a death of ignominy and shame." Again (the 30th August) the same writer says: "At its very birth the new Ministerial [*sic*] Party is in the throes of dissolution. Born without strength to survive, drawing its life only from such principles as trickle from the declaration of the 28th February, its existence could only be haphazard and ephemeral. Its first breath is also its last. It is high time these wandering children of Egypt should return to the maternal breast and give ear to the maternal voice that calls them to obedience."

"Al Afkar" (the 30th August) heralds the failure of the proposed new Ministerial [*sic*] organ in the press, despite the authority and prestige of its promoters. "Why," it complains, "does the Government, when it authorises new papers in its own interest, still keep the Opposition organs silent? In common fairness it should leave an open field for the press that opposes its policy. In any case, however, this new 'Governmental' Party can in no way serve the cause of independence; its principles, derived from the declaration of last February, are inimical to the nation's interests."

2. The appointment of the Director-General to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Royal decree dated the 15th August, aroused much unfavourable comment in the Arabic press.

"Al Akhbar" declared that it proved that the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs would be an English administration in reality and in fact.

"Al Lewa" maintained that Egypt was returning to the status which existed before the protectorate of 1914 was proclaimed.

Even "Al Ahram" asked: "Is this appointment the way to encourage confidence in the minds of the Egyptian public? We do not think so."

A communiqué from the office of the President of the Council of Ministers pointed out that the appointment was in succession to that of Mr. Greg, vacated at the end of last year, and had been promised to the new director-general before the last phase of the negotiations which resulted in the declaration of last February. The communiqué denied that the position of the director-general was analogous to that of an adviser, or that he would participate in future negotiations or in the political work of the Egyptian representatives abroad.

3. "Al Ahram," suspended on the 14th August, was permitted to resume publication on the 18th August.

The "Liberté," suppressed by the Council of Ministers on the 29th July, was authorised to reappear by decision dated the 21st August, "the council considering that the duration of the period during which this paper ceased to appear was deemed sufficient."

[ E 9716/1/16 ]

No. 74.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—*

*(Received September 22.)*

(No. 323)

(Telegraphic.) R.

*Ramleh, September 21, 1922.*

MY telegram No. 306 of 29th August.

Four persons accused of attempting to murder Mr. Brown and murdering his coachman will be tried by a military court on 27th September.

Prosecutor considers he has good case.

Investigations into other shooting cases continue and evidence is accumulating.

Enclosure 3 in No. 76.

*Treaty of Sèvres: Proposed Article 112.*

NO doubt the sole object of His Majesty's Government in proposing this article is to secure the regular payment of the annuities formerly charged on the tribute. But the method suggested appears to me to be open to the gravest objections from an Egyptian point of view. The payment of the tribute was always regarded as marking the position of Egypt as a subject State; if England is to take over from Turkey the right to receive tribute from Egypt, it will at once be said here that the protectorate has been revived in an aggravated form. I venture to suggest that the adoption of such a clause would greatly increase our difficulties here. In any case, I hope that no such clause will be adopted until Egyptian Ministers have been consulted; if it is adopted, it might well become a point of honour for any Egyptian Government *not* to pay the annuities.

On the other hand, there ought to be no great difficulty in arranging that the annuities shall be paid and secured in the same manner as those for the service of the Egyptian Debt, *i.e.*, by the Caisse de la Dette or its successors.

W. G. HAYTER.

*Ministry of Justice, Cairo, July 12, 1922.*

[E 10013/61/16]

No. 77.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—*  
(Received September 27.)

(No. 744.)  
My Lord,

*Handlch, September 16, 1922.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copy of a report on the general situation in Egypt compiled by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government for the period from the 1st to the 10th September, inclusive.

I have, &c.  
ALLENBY, F.M.,  
*High Commissioner.*

Enclosure in No. 77.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from*  
*September 1-10, 1922, inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

SUMMARY.

*Events of the Period.*

ZAGHLUL PASHA left the Seychelles on board a British warship on the 18th August, and, passing through the Suez Canal on the night of the 28th and 29th August, landed at Gibraltar on the 3rd September, where a residence had been taken for him by the British authorities. His health is believed to have improved, and Mme. Zaghlul's departure in order to join her husband appears to have been postponed.

2. The military court, after a trial extending from the 31st August to the 6th September, convicted three of the men charged in connection with the attempted murder on the 23rd April of Farghal, the king's witness in the recent Cairo bomb conspiracy case. A fourth man accused was acquitted.

3. Amin Bey Yussuf, who, on the 30th August, left Egypt for England on a mission on behalf of the Wafd, reached Paris on the 5th September, and left for London some days later with Ali Bey Shamsi.

*Political Situation.*

Zaghlul's transfer appears to have been warmly approved by Egyptians generally, in spite of very grudging acknowledgement by the Opposition press.

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There is evidence that the Zaghlulists now desire to open a campaign in favour of the corresponding transfer (on alleged grounds of health) of the five members of Zaghlul's Wafd still detained in the Seychelles, while their campaign for the complete repatriation of Zaghlul himself naturally continues.

The news of the Kemalist victory over the Greeks in Asia Minor has been received with enthusiasm, and is heralded by the Watanists especially as of good augury for their cause in Egypt.

The proposed new political party of moderate views is the subject of bitter attacks by the organs of the Opposition, who, however, have failed in their efforts to extract any immediate public statement of its policy. There is no evidence at present of any great interest in political questions, still less of unrest, in the provinces generally.

#### Forecast.

The outlook for public security generally continues reassuring.

#### SAID PASHA ZAGHLUL.

The following communiqué was issued from the Residency, dated the 4th September, 1922:—

"It has already been announced that His Majesty's Government were considering the question of the transfer of his Excellency Saad Pasha Zaghlul from the Seychelles to another place more suitable to the state of his health. A decision was duly reached, and his Excellency, accompanied by his valet and his cook, left the Seychelles on the 18th August in a ship of His Britannic Majesty's navy, which is due to arrive to-day at Gibraltar, where a residence has been prepared to receive him. He will be detained there under conditions similar to those of his detention at the Seychelles Islands.

"His Excellency the High Commissioner has written to Mme. Saad Zaghlul Pasha informing her of the transfer of her husband to Gibraltar, and stating his readiness to facilitate her departure to join her husband whenever she wishes to do so. The movements of Mme. Saad Zaghlul Pasha will naturally not be subject to any restrictions.

"The conditions of his Excellency Saad Zaghlul Pasha's detention at Gibraltar will not allow of persons visiting him except with a special permission from His Majesty's Government, which will only be granted in very exceptional cases."

Later, under the same date, a supplementary communiqué was issued as follows:—

"His Excellency Saad Zaghlul Pasha landed at Gibraltar yesterday morning. His health seemed fairly good, and he expressed his satisfaction with the arrangements which had been made for him.

"On arrival at his residence, accompanied by the Colonial Secretary, officer in charge of administration and the colonial surgeon, the chief of police handed him a copy of the ordinance providing for his detention at Gibraltar."

It is known that Zaghlul Pasha telegraphed to Mme. Zaghlul the day after his arrival at Gibraltar to say that his health was "better," and, later, that he was much better, having recovered from his journey.

Zaghlul Pasha has also telegraphed in the same sense to many adherents throughout Egypt, amongst whom something of a telegraphic campaign of greetings and urgent good wishes for his prompt return to Egypt has been inaugurated, at the suggestion, it is believed, of the present Wafd.

Although the transfer of Zaghlul Pasha had been kept secret, and even his passage through the Suez Canal on Monday night, 28th to 29th August, had been effected without becoming known, there had been general expectation, after his Excellency the High Commissioner's letter to Mme. Zaghlul (before the middle of August), that the British Government would, on the ground of his health, remove him ere long from the Seychelles. The news, therefore, was received with little surprise, especially as the five members of the Wafd still remaining in the islands had been permitted before the end of August to send telegrams to Egypt over their joint signatures, from which that of Zaghlul himself was conspicuously absent. It is, however, noteworthy that this was misinterpreted in some quarters, and that so late as 4th September it was reported

that "it is now being commonly rumoured (in Cairo) that Zaghlul is either dead or severely ill." Mme. Zaghlul herself is stated to have telegraphed her anxious enquiries to the Seychelles as late as the end of August.

There is no doubt that by the very large section of Egyptians who had been genuinely anxious concerning Zaghlul's health in his exile the news of his transfer was welcomed with great satisfaction. Even "by the local supporters of the pasha" at Alexandria, it is reported the news was "received with great joy," and in Cairo "with marked satisfaction by the general Egyptian public."

*Attitude of the Arabic Press.*

This feeling of joy was by no means reflected in the press, which had remained completely in the dark. On the 4th September, the date of the Residency communiqué, "Al Akhbar" urged that, in view of the general anxiety throughout Egypt, owing to the absence of Zaghlul's signature to the telegram from the Seychelles published the previous day, an explanation was imperatively called for.

"Al Nizam," however, suggested that the absence of Zaghlul's name, though variously interpreted, was quite natural, as Zaghlul had previously sent a similar telegram on his own account.

"Al Lewa" declared that no one knew what had happened to Zaghlul, and demanded a prompt solution of the enigma from the Egyptian Government and the military authorities.

Resentment, easily to be understood, at the success with which the secret of Zaghlul's transfer had been safeguarded by the responsible authorities, may have coloured the reception of the news, which was but grudgingly acknowledged in the press of next day.

"Al Alram" (5th September) said: "We could wish that the change had been back to Egypt, not merely to another place of banishment. This is indeed the desire of all Egyptians, and on its realisation they have been counting. By his transfer to Gibraltar no sweetening of the exile's lot has been achieved for Zaghlul, for, to an exile, the Seychelles and Gibraltar are both alike."

"Al Afkar" (5th September) asked what was the use of transferring Zaghlul to Gibraltar if his companions were to stay behind in the Seychelles, where their healths, like his, were bound to have suffered from a climate so different from that of Egypt. Moreover, what pleasure could Zaghlul find in his new place of detention, when deprived of his companions' company? Apostrophising Zaghlul on his passage through the Suez Canal, "Al Afkar" (5th September) adds: "If only the population of Egypt had known of this in time, all the world in the land of the Pharaohs would have risen to its feet in salutation of the object of its veneration, thus hurried from one place of exile to another."

"Al Nizam" (5th September), less grudgingly than the rest, expresses gratitude to the military authorities for having taken into consideration the state of the Wafd leader's health, but begs for similar consideration to the other exiles; still better that all may be brought home to Egypt.

"Al Mokattam" (6th September), in an article entitled: "From the Seychelles to Gibraltar and then to Egypt," expresses hopes that the transfer of Zaghlul is but a prelude to yet another transfer, namely, home to Egypt, and declares its belief that the High Commissioner will yet see his way to realising this wish of all Egyptians.

THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

1. Now that Zaghlul Pasha has been transferred to Gibraltar, signs are not wanting that the Wafd, claiming to have brilliantly succeeded in its campaign for his removal from the Seychelles on the ground of his health, will endeavour to extend this campaign in favour of the five companions of Zaghlul who still remain there, Fathallah Pasha Barakat, Sinnot Bey Hanna, Atef Bey Barakat, Mustapha Bey-el-Nahas and William Makram Bey, on the double ground, first, of the unhealthiness of the Seychelles for them (as now acknowledged in Zaghlul's case even by the British authorities), and, second, of the cruelty of depriving Zaghlul of the valued companionship of his fellow-exiles.

It is known that suggestive expressions of anxiety as to their health are already being sent to the five members of the Wafd in the Seychelles.

2. It seems probable that, as already foreshadowed in the press, Zaghlulist agitation on behalf of their exiled leader, now that he is in Gibraltar, will be concentrated in an effort to make out that his transfer there can only be regarded as a half-way



step to his complete repatriation. The fact that Mme. Zaghlul is delaying her departure from Cairo, in spite of the facilities guaranteed her for joining her husband, has not prevented references in the press to the loneliness at Gibraltar of Saad Pasha Zaghlul, now separated from his companions, as well as to the necessity, if Egyptian sympathy is to be conciliated, of Great Britain's completing the reversal of her policy by restoring him to Egypt. There is good ground for stating that Taher Bey-el-Cozy, who arrived on the 3rd September in Berlin, is proceeding to Paris forthwith, and is already urging that permission be obtained for him from the British authorities to enable him to visit Zaghlul at Gibraltar, ostensibly on private affairs. Taher Bey-el-Cozy, who is a near connection by marriage of Mme. Zaghlul, left Egypt on the 23rd June, ostensibly to make a cure, and spent some time in Vienna. His passport was viséd for France, Italy, Germany, Jugoslavia and England. He was expected to attend the projected Zaghlulist Congress in London towards the end of July, which, however, proved abortive. He is in close touch with Ali Bey Shamsi and Abdel Halim-el-Biali, and is, there can be no doubt, engaged in propaganda for the Zaghlulist cause and, more especially, for the repatriation of Zaghlul.

3. Amin Bey Yussuf arrived in Paris on the 5th September, and, apparently, in company with Ali Bey Shamsi, left for London two days later. In Paris he was interviewed by Renter's representative, and expounded his views on the political situation. Immediately after reaching London, where he is in close touch with the "Daily Herald," he gave similar interviews to various newspapers.

"Wadinnil" (5th September) states that the object of Amin Yussuf's mission from the Wafd is to enlist the good offices of the British authorities in London on behalf of their fellow-members who were recently condemned.

#### THE KEMALIST VICTORY.

The news of the rapid advance of the Kemalists forces in Asia Minor and the collapse of the Greek army based on Smyrna has been received with enthusiasm by Egyptian Moslems. As early as the 1st September the Central Khalifat Committee in India had telegraphed from Bombay that 9 o'clock on Friday night, 8th September, had been fixed as the time when prayer should be offered generally for victory over Greece by the Islamic armies. The committee, it is stated, sought to obtain a Royal firman for observing prayers at that date and hour throughout Egypt.

Friday passed quite peacefully. Stories that any provocative anti-Christian procession took place in Alexandria are reported to be quite untrue.

"Al Lewa" (9th September) states on the authority of its Alexandria correspondent that "in all the mosques after the Friday prayer there were joyous manifestations for the victories won in Anatolia over the Greeks. Coptic deputations took part in these same rejoicings in the mosques." This statement, however, lacks corroboration.

The following report in this connection is of interest:—

"It is said that Prince Omar Toussoun, Mohammed Pasha Said, and other notables of Alexandria sent a request to the new Wafd, and to Sheikh Mohammed Shakir and other leading Zaghlulists in Cairo, asking them to try and make arrangements for a meeting or banquet in honour of the French diplomatic agent, as a sign of recognition of the services rendered by the French to the Turks in particular and the Islamic world in general. Accordingly, on the 3rd September, Sheikh Mohammed Shakir, with some others, called on Mohammed Bey Wahid. The latter pointed out that a certain amount of press preparation for such a meeting would be required, and as a result wrote two articles for 'Al Ahram' and 'Al Akhbar,' in which he lauded the French and expressed the gratitude of Moslems to them. Since the publication of his articles, Wahid Bey, with others, has been engaged on propoganda in order to gain support for the proposed meeting."

The following is from the article on "France and the Moslems," contributed by Wahid Bey to "Al Ahram" (4th September):—

"Three hundred millions of people are glad of heart to-day. They smile in joy that France has shown her sympathy with the Moslem world by supporting those who have risen to defend their country against aggression. Three hundred millions of people in the East and the West send to-day to the French nation their heartfelt greeting. Our hearts pulsate with our great gratitude. Each throb repeats our thanks for the stand which France has taken. We extend our hands

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to the French nation on the day when, manifest as the sun at noon, she has shown openly her friendship for the Moslems. We extend our hands to the French nation, to the nation of civilisation, and of the sciences, in acknowledgement of her support to our brethren the Kemalists. We thank the 'Temps.' We thank the French press. To France to-day, from the depths of our hearts, we say again and again: 'Our thanks to you, how noble is your action! How great the friendship you have shown us!'

#### THE EGYPTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY IN ALEXANDRIA.

A meeting of the party was held on Saturday evening, the 2nd September, when Husni-el-Orabi gave a brief introduction to a course of addresses he proposes to deliver upon—

1. The preparation of the people for revolution.
2. The control of the people during revolution.
3. The reconstruction of the country after revolution.

About forty were present, most of them being of the effendi class; a few only were working men. It is noteworthy that the party has taken something of a fresh start recently, having obtained a considerable number of recruits from the former class.

An elderly workman, an Egyptian, who is stated to have passed nine months in Soviet Russia, raised some discussion by asking if it was not the duty of the Socialist Party to assist working-men adherents, if, owing to their advanced views, they were prematurely dismissed from their work.

Joseph Rosenthal replied that financial assistance should come from the trades unions, the Socialist Party being concerned only with the moral and intellectual guidance of its members.

It was also pointed out that an enormous fortune, "exceeding even that of Prince Omar Toussoun," would be required if the party were to intervene financially in order to support the workers in all their strikes against employers.

The formation was announced of several party branches in inland towns, the secretary-general, Husni-el-Orabi, explaining to a sheikh, who raised the question, that ten persons were a sufficient number to form a party branch in country districts, provided this branch was controlled by the nearest Socialist centre. The latter would retain the right to dissolve the branch, should its activities prove to run counter to the principles of the Egyptian Socialist Party.

It was announced that it had been decided that the party should open a free school for teaching the Arabic language.

(The meeting lasted forty minutes.)

#### *The Groupe Clarté.*

The Groupe Clarté met on Thursday evening, the 7th September, in Alexandria, about thirty being present, for a discussion between Dr. Georges Petrides and Joseph Rosenthal. The former attacked the "Third International" and the excesses of the Soviet system, as not being in conformity with Marxist principles. The Russian revolution, he held, was premature, and would prove a failure. Joseph Rosenthal replied with a defence of the Soviets.

#### THE SHOOTING OUTRAGES.

The Giza Provincial Council at a full meeting, held on the 9th September, unanimously passed a resolution condemning in strong terms the political crimes of which Englishmen have recently been the victims.

This resolution was forwarded to His Majesty the King, the Prime Minister and to the Under-Secretary of State for the Interior.

The Provincial Council of Girga had already passed a similar but briefer resolution.

#### *Military Court Trial.*

Four men, charged in connection with the attempt on the night of the 23rd April last to murder Hussein Mustapha Farghal, king's witness in the recent Cairo bomb conspiracy case, were brought up on the 31st August for trial by military court under the presidency of Lieutenant-Colonel H. M. Craigie Halkett, C.M.G., D.S.O.

The charges were made under martial law, first, attempted murder, and, second, possession of arms without a licence contrary to proclamations of the Commander-in-chief, dated the 14th May, 1916, and the 20th February, 1922.

The trial concluded on Wednesday evening, the 6th September, when three of the four, Hafez Hassan Aly, Ahmed Rushdi and Aly Yussuf were convicted; the fourth man, Tewfik Ahmed Azab, being acquitted. The sentences have not yet been confirmed and promulgated.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF ARMS.

Military Court Trials.

The following is a summary (in continuation of that given in the report for the 1st-15th August) of the official returns of cases tried up to the 2nd September, 1922, before the military court, Cairo, for unlawful possession of arms and ammunition, and subsequently confirmed:—

Individuals charged, 23; cases dismissed, 1; admonished, 1; sentences quashed, 3  
Sentences after confirmation—

10 years' penal servitude	...	...	...	...	1 case.
6 "	"	"	"	"	1 "
5 "	"	"	"	"	2 cases.
3 "	"	"	"	"	3 "
1 year's imprisonment with hard labour	...	...	...	...	5 "
6 months'	"	"	"	"	2 " *
3 "	"	"	"	"	1 case.
1 month's	"	"	"	"	1 " †
1 year's police supervision	...	...	...	...	1 "
Admonished	...	...	...	...	1 "

The above cases were from the following areas:—

Cairo (including Embabah, 2; of which: admonished, 1; sentences quashed, 2)	...	...	...	...	8
Minuliya Province	...	...	...	...	7
Sharqiya	"	"	"	"	2
Qalyubiya	"	"	"	"	2
Giza	"	"	"	"	1
Assouit	" (of which: dismissed, 1; sentence quashed, 1)	"	"	"	3

Note.—One death sentence is still under confirmation, as noted in the report of the 1st-15th August.

THE PRESS.

Foreign news has been the outstanding theme in the Arabic press. The Kemalst victory has been universally celebrated in enthusiastic articles, which, claiming it as the triumphant vindication of a just cause, also extol the great military qualities of the Turks and their leader. "No one," writes Abdel Kader Hamza in "Al Afkar" (8th September), "can blame Egyptians for rejoicing on behalf of their Oriental brethren, victims, like themselves, of a policy, pitiless and unjust, which sought implacably to deprive them of the right to live. The victory raises high the head of the only Oriental Power which counts among independent States. Egyptians may well rejoice at the victory of that right which they themselves still seek to wrest from the claws of the British lion."

Attention is also drawn to events in Mesopotamia and Palestine, by the Opposition press especially. England is credited with pursuing everywhere the same Imperialistic policy as in Egypt. Thanks, however, to the spirit of union among Moslem nations, the settlement of the Egyptian question is bound to react on all alike. It is awaited with universal anxiety.

In domestic politics, on the other hand, there seems to reign a certain sense of lassitude. The reading of public would appear to be concerned rather with the depressed financial situation, and to take more interest in the newly-formed Economic

\* In one case "with ten lashes."  
† 'Of £5.'

Council, and kindred topics, than in party recriminations. The Zaghlulist press seems to be more especially affected, and its tone, though bitter as ever, to be somewhat less confident and assured.

Constitutional questions continue to be discussed, and controversy is sustained with regard to ministerial responsibility and the Royal prerogative. The latter is strongly upheld by the "Liberté" and the "Revue égyptienne," both of them Zaghlulist. "Al Ahram," perhaps the foremost on the other side, demands (4th September) that in its opening session the new Parliament should have full power, as a National Assembly, to effect modifications in the new Constitution. "Al Watan" (1st September) continues to uphold the necessity of guaranteed minority representation for the Copts.

The new political party organisation continues to be bitterly attacked by the Zaghlulist and Watanist organs, as opposed to "Al Ahram" and "Al Mokattam," which, with "Al Istiklal" and "Al Watan," are friendly. The former accuse the Ministry of being in league with the British Government, and of setting up the new party as a means to carry out their policy of subservience; both are, therefore, hostile to the welfare of Egypt.

"Al Akhbar" demands (7th September) an immediate declaration of the new party's programme, while maintaining (8th September) that at present there is no room for parties in Egypt, which only serve to belie the unity of the nation.

For "Al Nizam" (8th September) it is but the fruits of British intrigue, and will fail, the situation in Egypt being much the same as that in Persia in 1920. "Al Nizam" had previously declared (3rd September) that the party rôle was to create a favourable atmosphere for the coming elections, thereby paving the way for the adoption by Parliament of the Milner proposals. It was, it added, a "triple alliance" between Ministerialists, Adlists, and the dissentient Zaghlulists (this last wing "totalling three").

For "Al Lewa" (2nd September) it is a Conservative Party, led by Mohammed Pasha Sherefi, subservient to England and prepared to abandon the Soudan, a statement which evoked a denial by Sherefi Pasha in "Al Ahram" (5th September).

"Al Akhbar" declares it to be a Moderate Party (1st September), and to this "Al Lewa" so far subscribes by averring (3th September) that Lord Milner is coming to Egypt when "a proper atmosphere of calmness has been prepared for him by the Moderate Party of Adli."

The Opposition press seeks to make political capital out of an interview with "a leading member of the party," reported by the "Manchester Guardian" correspondent, in which, in order to facilitate the abolition of martial law, the establishment of special tribunals was suggested.

The adherents of the party are apostrophised by "Al Lewa" (5th September) as "satellites of the 'abject party,' criminals, the creatures of tyrants, daggers of the aggressor which are plunged into the vitals of your nation." This article, signed by Ahmed Wafik, was supplemented next day by an attack on the suggested special tribunals. These were "based on the principles of Denshaway." Quoting from the late Watanist leader, Mustapha Pasha Kemal, a description of the executions at Denshaway on the 27th June, 1906, Ahmed Wafik declares the new party, "so-called Liberal," is composed of the "pioneers of hanging," "whose aim, while remaining themselves England's most devoted flunkys, is to ensure the slavery of Egypt."

[E 10043/1/16]

No. 78.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Marquess Curzon of Kedleston.—*  
*(Received September 27.)*

[By Wireless.]

(No. 322.)

(Telegraphic.) R.

*Ramleh, September 27, 1922.*

TRIAL of Brown case has been postponed on discovery of new evidence which tends to connect it with main series of outrages.

On the other hand, the Zaghlulist Wafd, it was rumoured, would seek to utilise the Prince's visit by sending telegrams to him soliciting his intervention on behalf of Zaghlul's repatriation. Whether they did so or not has not been made known, but the other rumours were soon proved to be without foundation.

There is good reason for believing that from London the Zaghlulist Wafd was strongly urged by the Coptic agent and correspondent, Louis Fanous, to extend a hearty welcome to the Prince, on the ground that this would be exceedingly beneficial both to the Egyptian cause and to the Zaghlulists themselves as serving to disprove the misrepresentations of their enemies.

His Royal Highness's visit was quite unofficial. He delivered no speech beyond addressing an audience composed mainly of British army rank and file, when he gave away the prizes after boxing contests within the barrack-square at Kasr-el-Nil.

No demonstrations of any sort were attempted, even when His Royal Highness, accompanied by less than half a dozen of his suite, strolled about the bazaars in the Mousky, incognito, but recognised, making sundry purchases as an ordinary tourist.

While comparatively little notice of the Prince was taken by the Egyptian public generally, it still remains true that as he drove through the streets His Royal Highness aroused considerable, and always friendly, interest, and that his youthful and engaging personality much impressed, and clearly delighted, all classes of Egyptians, and very specially those of the lower ranks.

Police precautions were in evidence throughout the visit, which remained unmarred by any incident of any kind that could be construed into hostility, with the one exception (reported by "Al Ommah," the 8th June), that the "Society of the Mothers of the Future" sent a wireless telegram to the "Renown" to protest against the Prince's visit as being of a political character and provoked by the despotism of the Sarwat Cabinet. The "Mothers of the Future" therefore intimated their intention of boycotting the visit and of wearing mourning on the day His Royal Highness arrived.

There were, it may be added, no outward signs of this threatened boycott.

ALEXANDRIA.

*The Anatolian Distressed.*

Collections in aid of the distressed in Anatolia continue to be made, a certain local Sheikh Ahmed appealing for these at the Aboul Abbas Mosque on Friday. No incident occurred.

*The Egyptian Socialist Party.*

At a party meeting on the 10th June, attended by about thirty-eight members, after a lecture appealing for unity and "direct action" against capitalism, Joseph Rosenthal spoke of the results of the Russian revolution, and said that the chief enemy of the cause of the workers was the working-man reformer, who, being opposed to revolutionary and violent methods, desired to compromise with the capitalist. The party is printing a manifesto of protest (in Arabic and French) for general distribution, and Rosenthal is credited with the intention of touring the provinces for party propaganda. This has, however, been forbidden by the Director of Public Security.

PORT SAID.

*The Anatolian Distressed.*

Out of the sum of £ E. 260 which Ali Bey Leheita is reported to have collected on behalf of the distressed in Anatolia, he has forwarded, it is stated, £ E. 180 to Prince Omar Toussoun's fund for this charity.

THE PROVINCES.

From Gharbiya the inspector reports:—

"There appears to be practically no interest in politics in the villages, where the bad water supply and the scarcity of money are the all-absorbing topics.

"It may, in fact, be said that politics are confined to the large towns, to Azharists and to the somewhat considerable class of half-educated persons, who, considering themselves superior to manual labour, live on their fathers."

Heavy rain fell a fortnight ago in Northern Gharbiya. It did much damage to cotton crops, as well as to threshing floors.

With regard to Wasta (Beni Suel), the chief inspector reports :—

" The state of public security, which during the last year has seemed to be getting steadily worse all over Egypt, has recently been particularly bad in the Markaz of Wasta, owing to the fact that no less than six criminals, all of whom had escaped from Tura Prison, have been terrorising the country. Two of these have now been accounted for. One of them, who, to escape arrest, murdered the moawin of police at Wasta ten days ago, was driven to bay in the adjacent desert. There, as he was still resisting arrest and seeking to destroy their lives, the authorities were forced to shoot him. A second was shot under similar circumstances on the 13th June. Four criminals, however, are still at large."

#### THE STATUS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.

Supplementing the recent Royal rescript of the 14th April, which regulated the order of succession to the throne, a law, (N) 25 of 1922, dated the 10th June, has been promulgated, establishing the status of the various members of the Royal Family, and appointing a special council, attached to the King's Cabinet, in order to deal with questions that exclusively concern the Royal Family. The duties of the council will be partly consultative and partly executive.

#### THE PROPOSED REDUCTION IN OFFICIALS' SALARIES.

The announcement that a 20 per cent. curtailment of the war-time allowance for high cost of living, involving a corresponding reduction of salaries and pay for officials and Government employees, would take effect from the beginning of July has evoked strong manifestations of discontent and general protest.

While Cairo has naturally been the chief centre, the feeling has been universal. Thus, from Alexandria it is reported :—

" The daily-paid employees of the Customs Administration, to the number of about 200 persons, met at the Terbanna Mosque on the night of the 14th to discuss the reduction by 20 per cent. of the war allowance. It was decided to send delegations of protest to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance."

Similarly from Gharbiya :—

" The report that a further 20 per cent. will be removed from the war allowance has raised a storm of bitter protest among all Government employees.

" A more unfortunate time could hardly have been chosen, as the expenses of the Bairam are always above the average."

In Cairo, representative meetings of Government employees were held in the Esbekieh Gardens on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Petitions were taken to the chief of the King's Cabinet for submission to His Majesty, as also for transmission to the Prime Minister and Council. Deputations of protest have met individual Ministers, more especially his Excellency the Minister of Finance.

The Zaghlulists are reported to be trying to make capital out of this spirit of discontent, their hostility to the Ministry naturally disposing them to promote a corresponding feeling among Government employees.

#### THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

Three members of the Zaghlulist Wafd, Wissa Bey Wasif, Elwi Bey-el-Gazzar and Murad Bey-el-Sher'i, visited El Sayed Hussein-el-Qassabi at Tanta on the 4th June, the occasion being a family celebration. There was a gathering of from 200 to 300. Speeches were made, mainly referring to the coming elections. Poems were recited in praise of Zaghlul, to whom a telegram of greeting was sent. No untoward incident occurred. There was no attempt at demonstration, police arrangements preventing any undue excitement in the town.

A further evening entertainment in Cairo was projected for the 15th June in the premises utilised by the Abu-el-Hol Club on the 6th May. Though the Ma'arif Club remained ostensibly in the background, its president, Tewfik Tadros, was credited with being the organiser of the meeting, at which the members of the Zaghlulist Wafd were to be present. The entertainment, however, was prohibited by the authorities.

The lawyer Abdel Halim-el-Biali is reported to be leaving on the 16th June for Europe, and to be taking with him documents on the Egyptian question, doubtless for purposes of Zaghlist propaganda, more especially in France and England.

The following report, based on conversations with members of the Zaghlist Wafd, is of interest:—

"The Wafd have now lost confidence in the newspaper men who have heretofore been working for them, such as Hafiz Bey Awad, Abdel Kader Hamza, Mohammed Bey Ibrahim Hilal, Abdel Hamid Hamdi, &c., all of whom have made use of the Wafd in order to obtain Government posts.

"Hafez Awad, they say, has justified his reputation for being a master intriguer by the way in which he has arranged to have the Ministry seize the book which he had started to publish. He has also succeeded in prevailing upon Abdel Kader Hamza to proceed in the same way with his book."

To this may be added a rumour that the Zaghlist Wafd are now anxious to secure the newspaper "Misr" as their organ in the press, and that Fakhry Bey Abdel-Nur is conducting negotiations to this end.

#### THE PRESS.

##### *The Prince of Wales's Visit.*

While duly chronicling the movements of His Royal Highness in Cairo, the Arabic press passes the Prince's visit without comment or appreciation. An exception, however, is to be noted in the case of "Al Istiklal," which published an article of strong censure on the action taken by the "Society of the Mothers of the Future," stigmatising their attitude as a breach of good manners, discreditable to the women of Egypt and demonstrating their unfitness to meddle in public affairs.

In marked contrast to the Arabic newspapers, the Zaghlist "Liberté," on the eve of the Prince's arrival, made a strong appeal to the whole Egyptian people to greet the heir to the Crown of Great Britain with the warmest welcome. "Like the King, his father, the Prince is not a British politician. He represents the British people, and is above politics, with their fallible and temporising methods and transitory Ministries. At home and abroad he is the symbol of the enduring nation."

The "Liberté" claims that Zaghlul, by welcoming British Members of Parliament to Egypt last year, secured by his wisdom "Egypt's best defenders in the present House of Commons." If Zaghlul himself is responsible for giving this wise lead to the nation, "it is for us to prove, by our welcome to the Prince, that we also know how to gain a new and powerful friend. . . . Convinced of the necessity and the possibility of a sincere friendship between the British and Egyptian peoples, which policy alone is both idealist and constructive, we welcome His Royal Highness with enthusiastic sympathy."

##### *The Law of the Royal Family.*

The law establishing the status of members of the Royal Family and creating a special council has been very cordially received by the Arabic press generally, which finds little to criticise and much to approve (with a warmth in some cases distinctly enthusiastic).

##### *Compensation for Foreign Officials.*

There have been persistent rumours of "tension" between the higher British authorities and the Egyptian Government on the subject of a settlement of the pending question of the compensation to be paid to foreign, and especially British, officials on their compulsory retirement from Egyptian Government service.

Statements in the English press in Egypt, and in the London newspapers from their correspondents in Egypt (which have been re-telegraphed), have been much discussed in the Arabic press. It has very generally supported the position of reserve stated to have been taken up by the Egyptian Government. Even the Opposition organs are constrained to join in this attitude of support, and suggestions of a possible Cabinet crisis as a result of this "tension," repudiated with asperity, have been seized upon for the manifestation of no little general irritation.

"Al Ahram" writes: "They (the English) really are amazing. They will admit no discussion, will bear no opposition. They demand a blind obedience. They want to squander public money right and left, oblivious of the fact that the treasury is

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empty, having been deliberately drained dry before they handed it over. They forget that the Egyptian Government is responsible to the nation and will be responsible to Parliament. For them it suffices to formulate a demand; the Egyptian Cabinet must just accept it or resign. . . . But they deceive themselves if they think the enemies of the present Ministry would welcome its fall, were that fall due to British demands. We are independent now, and it is not in London that the resignation of an Egyptian Cabinet is to be decided; it is in Cairo."

For "Al Istiklal," "the attitude of the Egyptian Government is perfectly logical. It is for the country to authorise payment. Were the Ministry to give way, it would only court its own condemnation."

"Al Mokattam" and "Al Watan" equally support the Government. The former hopes, and believes, that the Prime Minister will find a solution that both satisfies the legitimate claims of the English officials and safeguards the nation's interests.

The latter, remarking that the fall of the present Ministry would by no means be in the interests of British policy, considers that the Prime Minister's attitude has not belied the expectations of the country, whose rights and authority it has maintained. "Even those hostile to the Cabinet must support it in the honourable position it has taken up." "Al Watan" relies on the skill and wisdom of the Prime Minister and of the High Commissioner, after his great services to Egyptian independence, "to find a peaceful solution of present misunderstandings."

"Al Nizam" supports the Ministry, while demanding the publication of the actual facts. "The Government has no right to pledge the country's credit so seriously without the authorisation of Parliament."

In "Al Akhbar" the editor of "Al Ahaly" (suppressed) demands: "What right have the English to talk of dismissing an Egyptian Ministry? Haven't they declared we are independent? Does an Egyptian Cabinet hang on English good-will? If it is enough for them, in order to get what they want, to threaten our Government with a 'disembarkation in force,' we may well fear that every single question still pending between us will be so solved before Parliament meets and negotiations are begun. To-day, compensation; to-morrow, the Soudan; the day after, minorities. Truly, our hearts are wrung with anguish."

"Al Onnah" declares the country as yet is not bound by any engagement, and declines to agree to there being either a Ministerial crisis or any scheme for compensation at all.

#### *The Soudan.*

The Soudan has continued to figure somewhat prominently in the Arabic press, whose abnormal sensitiveness has been illustrated by an outburst over the phrasing of the telegram of congratulation on the occasion of the Bairam feast addressed to His Majesty King Fuad by the acting Sirdar. This began: "In my own name and in the name of all ranks of the Egyptian army." Failing to realise that, as the telegram was sent by the acting Sirdar as such, this phrasing was presumably perfectly correct, a certain retired miralai demanded in "Al Akhbar" (the 12th June) "why only the army was mentioned, not the whole Soudanese population?" He found therein a proof that English policy spared no effort to detach the Soudan definitely from Egypt, and demanded that the Egyptian Government should call the acting Sirdar to account.

"Al Ahram" concurred. The telegram was "strange and disquieting . . . being contrary even to the policy of the 1899 Convention." Failing to recognise that "all ranks" included "officers," "Al Ahram" asked: "What is the meaning of the ranks of the army? Do its officers no longer exist?" Further, echoing the demand that the acting Sirdar should be called to account, it asked: "Have we reached such a pitch of anarchy that a telegram like this can be passed in silence?"

An article in the "Near East," which made use of the expression "disloyalty," has also been commented on with much bitterness. A Soudanese junior officer had been charged with "sedition." Both the miralai in "Al Akhbar" and "Wadimil" consider it is impossible for the Egyptian Government to remain silent, the latter urging it is intolerable that England should be left to continue the policy she is pursuing in the Soudan.

"Al Watan," on the other hand, has had a series of articles pointing out the humorous side of these polemics. The junior officer charged with sedition is a Dinka, it appears, educated at Gordon College, Khartoum. He is, indeed, says "Al Watan," a convincing proof of British tyranny, which first stopped the lucrative slave trade from the Soudan to Egypt, then taking this lad from his parents,



imprisoned him for four years' education, so as to make him an officer. Otherwise he might have come to Egypt as a slave. Negro slaves have been sadly lacking in the palaces of Cairo, since English tyranny interfered with the slave trade at its source. But Dinkas, if obtainable, are of fine physique, and would still be greatly in demand.

"Al Lewa" has published articles to prove that the evacuation of certain small posts, announced in army orders, presages the preliminary abandonment of large tracts of the Soudan. In fact, some of these posts were found unhealthy; others were only held during operations, which have been completed; none were of the nature of permanent military stations.

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No. 6.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.---(Received July 3.)*

(No. 487.)  
My Lord,

*Ramleh, June 25, 1922.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a report on the general situation in this country, compiled by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government, for the period from the 15th to the 21st June, 1922, inclusive.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,

*High Commissioner.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from June 15 to 21, 1922, inclusive.*

(Strictly Confidential.)

SUMMARY.

*Political Situation.*

THE opposition with which the Ministry is confronted on account of the 20 per cent. reduction in cost of living allowance continues. Feeling amongst those affected is high. The fact that this reduction is being made before the new cadres have been established has added to the sense of grievance, and the time of the year, just after the Bairam Feast, with its inevitable expenses, is felt to be singularly unfavourable for the enforcement of this reduction in income.

The comparative quiescence from Zaghlulist agitation in the cities is still marked. There is reason for believing that the party leaders are turning their hopes rather to a campaign in Great Britain for achieving the repatriation of Zaghlul.

*Forecast.*

The outlook is practically unchanged, the general outlook for public security remaining favourable.

GENERAL.

His Excellency the High Commissioner and the staff of the Residency left Cairo for Alexandria on Friday, the 16th June, preceding the Court and Ministries, which move to Alexandria for the summer on the 22nd June.

*The Nile Flood.*

Though it started a week later than the normal, as registered at Huseires, the Nile flood is at present rising there quite normally

CAIRO.

*Unlawful Possession of Arms.*

The military court in Cairo has recently tried nine cases of men found in possession of arms without a licence.

Of these, one was acquitted.

Sentences so far promulgated have been: One to three years', one to four years', and two to twelve years' imprisonment, all with hard labour.

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## ALEXANDRIA.

There was a small Zaghlulist demonstration after the prize-giving at a school ("Tarkiat-el-Fata-el-Masri") on Sunday afternoon, a number of boys from the Abbassieh Secondary School, led by a well-known agitator, persistently shouting "Long live Zaghlul and those with him!" His Highness Prince Omar Toussoun, his Excellency the Governor and other notables were present. Many of the notables expressed their disapproval of this untoward incident.

*The Anatolian Distressed.*

Subscriptions for this charity continue to be collected after the noon prayer on Fridays. In aid of it a sheikh spoke briefly at the Aboul-el-Abbas Mosque. There was otherwise no incident.

## THE PROVINCES.

With regard to the Markaz of Wusta, to which reference was made in last week's report, a third of the notorious gang of six escaped convicts who have been terrorising the district has now been accounted for. His arrest was effected during the past week. Three, however, are still at large.

## THE 20 PER CENT. REDUCTION OF ALLOWANCE.

This not unnaturally remains the topic of most immediately acute interest to Government officials and employees. That Zaghlulist partisans were seeking to make political capital out of it to the detriment of the Ministry was noted in last week's report. There are also reported attempts to make use of it for anti-British propaganda in two ways—first, by representing it as a financial necessity imposed upon the Egyptian Government in order to meet the inflated claims of British officials to compensation for removal from their posts at a time when the budget is seriously depleted; and, secondly, as due to English instigation, the motive alleged being the desire to demonstrate the dissatisfaction of Egyptians at the conduct of public affairs under the new régime.

Representative meetings of Government employees at Cairo were noted last week.

At Alexandria a similar meeting was held on Sunday afternoon at the Nebi Daniel Mosque, at which it was decided to act in co-operation with Cairo. A further meeting is to be held at the end of June, at which a decision, it is stated, will be taken as to the advisability of a strike in July.

At Port Said feeling among Government employees is reported to be particularly bitter, not only because the actual cost of living at Port Said is always higher than in Cairo or even Alexandria, but because, on this very account, they have previously petitioned for extra assistance without success.

With regard to the provinces generally the chief inspector reports:—

"The talk in the provinces this week turns almost entirely round the question of the reduction of 20 per cent. of the war bonus. One inspector reports that no more unfortunate opportunity could have been found to make the reduction—just after the Bairam holiday, when Government officials have incurred greater expenses than usual. Another inspector reports that, as far as Government officials are concerned, the situation is pregnant with all unpleasant possibilities."

"Protests have been sent to the papers by the employees of different administrations in Beheira, and strong resentment is felt by the interior officials in the markazes everywhere, and will continue to be felt until the alterations in the cadre are put through."

There have been rumours in Cairo of a probable strike of railway and other personnel under the Ministry of Communications, amongst whom feeling is reported on high authority to be very high. This is specially true of the Telephone Department. That the moment for the reduction is particularly unfortunate is much insisted on. After the expenses of the Bairam Feast, the succeeding month is always one of a certain penury for the lower-paid classes, who will, under the reduction, have to face the cost of living for a somewhat longer period than the full month on an income permanently reduced in many cases by one-sixth.

#### THE REPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES.

The Coptic Orthodox Patriarch has, in an interview published on Monday, the 19th June, pronounced in favour of proportionate representation for minorities.

A rumour had previously been current that Gallini Pasha Fahmi, Tewfik Bey Doss, and Iyas Bey Awad, Coptic members of the Constitution Commission, were considering the advisability of their resigning from the body, were no provision made for the special representation of minorities.

#### THE SOUDANESE OFFICER CHARGED WITH SEDITION.

Much political capital has been made, more especially by the Watahist "Al Lewa-al-Masri," out of the case of a Soudanese officer charged with sedition. "Al Lewa" has taken it for granted that this officer merely sought to uphold Egyptian suzerainty over the Soudan, and that his crime was the expression of his laudable desire to put an end to the condominium of Egypt and Great Britain in the Soudan.

On the 19th June "Al Ahram" and other newspapers announced that the accused officer had asked the Egyptian Bar to designate counsel to conduct his defence, and that Morcos Bey Hanna, the present head of the Egyptian Bar, together with Mohammed Kamil Hussein, well known as a labour agitator, and Abdel-Rahman el-Biali, had offered to take up the case and proceed to Khartoum for the purpose.

The officer in question is Mulazim Awal (1st Lieutenant) Ali Abdel-Latif, of the 10th battalion, himself a Dinka.

It was reported that he was the author of a document setting forth the principles of a society called "The Soudan United Tribes Society" in Cairo.

The document, besides criticising strongly the policy of the Soudan Government on various questions, claimed "the right of the Soudan to choose its own ruler, who should be one of the Shereefs."

It also demanded a free press, and the abolition of the Soudan Penal Code.

Particulars have not yet been received from Khartoum, beyond the fact that Ali Abdel-Latif was tried under section 96 of the Soudan Penal Code for "exciting disaffection to the Government established by law in the Soudan," and was found guilty. He had already been sentenced to a year's imprisonment some time before Morcos Bey Hanna and the other members of the Egyptian Bar in Cairo offered to take up his defence.

As far as the facts are known at present, it would appear that, while his aim was to excite disaffection against the Soudan Government, this officer was not seeking to substitute a purely Egyptian Administration for the existing régime.

#### EGYPTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

A manifesto entitled: "Explanation of the Egyptian Socialist Party," has been issued by the executive committee, and published in the Arabic press in leaflet form. It has also been printed for distribution.

It lays down in thirteen articles certain conditions which the party demands should be embodied in the new Constitution. These may be summarised as follows:—

- (a.) No Senate. A single Chamber elected for a term of nine months. Secrecy in Parliament to be abolished.
- (b.) All sovereign power to emanate from the people. The nation to have the right of making peace or war. The King to be deprived of the right to declare martial law.
- (c.) Recognition of syndicates. Compulsory free education. Asylums for the old. Protection of minors. Care of workers incapacitated through accident in the performance of their work.
- (d.) Liberation of the Soudan.

#### THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

The inauguration of the new Coptic Church at Heliopolis on Friday afternoon, the 16th June, was made the occasion, after the religious ceremony was concluded, for political speeches in the Zaghlulist interest, Hamad Pasha-el-Basil and a good many members of the "Wafd" being present. The gathering was estimated to number about 2,000.

Salaana Bey Mikhail spoke of the union of Moslems and Copts, inveighed the present Ministry, and attacked those who were raising any question of minorities in Egypt.

Ali Bey Shamsy spoke in criticism of the Ministry and of the Constitution Commission.

Salih Mohammed Ali, described as a Soudanese student of the Engineering School, who has previously been noted as in evidence as a speaker at the Abu-el-Hol Club meeting of the 6th May, made a speech in which he accused the Ministry of carrying out the plot against the Soudan which Adli Pasha had concerted with the British Government. He called upon students, during their summer holidays, to rally to their duty by spreading the Nationalist call throughout the country.

This was followed on Monday forenoon, the 19th June, by a similar political meeting at Abbassieh, advantage being taken of the celebration of St. Michael's Day at the Coptic Church there, for which a very large attendance (estimated as high as 10,000) had gathered. At least four members of the Zaghlulist Wafd were present, and, after the religious service was over, Wissa Bey Wasif made a very long speech, in which his bitter attacks on the Ministry were repeatedly cheered by the audience.

Through their leading agents in the provinces, the Wafd are reported to be making considerable efforts to collect funds at the same time that these are working for the Zaghlulist election campaign.

Rumours of the death in exile of Zaghlul Pasha continue to be spread for political purposes. In fact he is known to have telegraphed as recently as the 20th June that his health was good.

With reference to recent rumours of a "Ministerial crisis," from which, it was noted in last report, the Zaghlulist Wafd were seeking to derive political capital, two mutually destructive rumours may be noted as coming from Zaghlulist sources.

According to one, the Ministry is represented as still wholly under the influence of the British authorities, whose constant interference hampers it in its work and deprives it of independence.

According to the other, there is no Ministerial crisis at all, but the rumours that there was such a crisis were expressly started by the Ministry itself, in order to show that it is, in fact, quite independent of the British authorities and working with entire freedom.

The departure for Europe of the lawyer Abdel Halim-el-Biali, presumably on a mission of propaganda for the Zaghlulist Wafd, was noted in last week's report.

It is reported that he will shortly be followed by Tahir Bey-el-Lozy, a man who is credited with having great influence with Mme. Zaghlul. He is closely connected with her family by marriage. He is said to be leaving for London, where he hopes to organise strong propaganda in favour of Zaghlul's repatriation and the Zaghlulist cause. The ground for this, it is believed, has been prepared not only by Dr. Hamid Mahmud, who, in addition to being the chief Zaghlulist agent, is also the correspondent for "Wadimil," but also by the brothers Abu Bakr and Ibrahim Ratib, who left in March and April last with the special task of getting into close touch with Egyptian students at various European centres.

The contemplated scheme of propaganda appears to include a congress to be held in London before the end of July, to which all Egyptian associations in England would be rallied, as well as delegates from similar associations on the continent, and as many prominent English sympathisers as possible.

#### THE PRESS.

##### *The Reduction of Allowance.*

While admitting the "precarious condition" of Egyptian finances at present, the press generally distinctly tends to side with the Government employees in their protests against the 20 per cent. reduction of the allowance for high cost of living.

If economies are necessary, it is urged, as they certainly are, a more evident spirit of equity should be shown in effecting them than is found in the Ministry's proposals.

Two counter-suggestions are urged.

The higher officials are in receipt of a rise of £E. 300. If the allowance for high cost of living, which most seriously affects the lower grade officials, is to be so drastically cut down, the higher officials should first of all be called upon to forgo the substantial increase by which they have benefited.

In the second place, criticism is directed to the fact that the pay of members of the Legislative Assembly is still continued, a concession to men of wealth, whose functions long ago expired.

*The Soudanese Officer charged with Sedition.*

The case of this officer, Ali Abdel-Latif, has figured very largely in the Arabic press, which, without waiting for the full facts to be made known, has vehemently denounced the action of the British authorities in the Soudan, and their policy as inimical to Egypt.

Much is made of the fact that the trial was not expressly delayed in order to allow a lawyer from Cairo to intervene for the defence. Another fact, however, is not noted, namely, that to be entitled to plead in the Soudanese courts a lawyer must be in possession of a Soudanese licence.

"Al Nizam" (the 21st June) declares: "An Egyptian officer says that the Soudan constitutes an integral part of Egypt. Forthwith the Soudanese Government is at sixes and sevens, and decides upon his trial by a military court. An acting Sirdar makes an attempt to deny the lawful authority of the King of Egypt over the Soudan by omitting in his famous message of Bairam congratulation all mention of civil officials, and of the Soudanese themselves. Yet the Minister of War says nothing. At least, if he breaks the silence, it is only to ask why traditional routine has not been followed."

"Al Oumrah" asks how long is this Ministerial silence to last with regard to events in the Soudan? What does it mean? Are they afraid of closing the door on negotiations just at a moment when England is said to be labouring to set up an impassable barrier between Egypt and the Soudan? The whole country demands of the Ministry some revelation of its attitude to the rights of Egypt.

"Al Akhbar" (the 21st June) says: "Events have proved, and recent trials especially, the strength of the Soudan's attachment to Egypt, and the intense feeling of discontent nourished by the Soudanese against British administration."

"Al Lewa-al-Masri" (the 20th June) demands: "Since when have men been liable to punishment for saying the Soudan is a part of Egypt? Is there something behind that we do not know? Or is it a part of that policy, which, aiming at the separation of the two countries, seeks to apply the gag to all who would maintain that the Soudan is Egyptian territory? We cannot believe the Egyptian Government will remain silent, if it is true that this officer is accused of having protested his loyalty to Egypt and to Egypt's King."

Even "Al Watan" (the 21st June) goes so far as to say: "There is no doubt this officer interpreted the feeling of the country." It urges, however, a more judicial attitude. "Has an officer on the active list the right to engage in politics? Everywhere this is forbidden. And this officer has clearly exceeded the limits of what is allowed." "Al Watan" adds: "There is no country in the world where the sittings of a military court would be interrupted so as to give time for counsel from another country to arrive on the scene for the accused's defence."

*The "Ministerial Crisis."*

Discussion of the alleged "Ministerial crisis" has for the most part died down. As was noted last week, the firm stand which the press ascribed to the Government in face of "British pressure" on behalf of the "principle of compensation" for displaced foreign officials met with general approval, in which even the Opposition newspapers concurred. Of this, echoes still linger.

The following paragraph from the correspondent of the Zaghulist "Wadinnil" may be quoted:—

"The question of the compensation of British officials has been postponed till the period of negotiations. I will not say that the Egyptian Ministry has dictated its decision to the British Government: it makes no such claim. But it has given ear to the voice of its conscience and had regard to the wishes of the nation. In deference to public opinion it felt bound to resist the High Commissioner's demands, and, in consequence, the question of compensation has been left in suspense until the nation can have its say. Hence, though we reproach the Prime Minister with leaning on the support of British bayonets (*sic*) and martial law, that does not prevent us from recognising in this instance that the attitude of his Ministry has been praiseworthy and unambiguous, showing a conscience awake to its duty."

[E 6804/490/16]

No. 10.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received July 9.)*

(No. 212.)

(Telegraphic.) R.

*Ramleh, July 8, 1922.*

YOUR telegram No. 179 of 6th July: Compensation of officials.

I am adhering to provisions of scheme, though in some cases where circumstances peculiar to individuals concerned justify it I intend to demand compensation in excess of scale laid down.

I must, however, retain suspensory veto on applications to retire both where genuine damage cannot be shown and where the individual is necessary to administration.

If it is essential to make disclosure contemplated in last paragraph of your telegram, I suggest as preferable wording "we intend that compensation of British and foreign officials who may be dismissed or wish to retire shall not suffer by its not having been accepted."

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[E 6812/633/16]

No. 11.

*Treasury to Foreign Office.—(Received July 10.)*

Sir,

*Treasury Chambers, July 7, 1922.*

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Mr. Oliphant's letter of the 28th ultimo, relative to the Soudan Loan Ordinance and other matters concerning the Gezira irrigation scheme.

The draft ordinance (which my Lords understand has actually been passed) is satisfactory as far as it goes, i.e., it gives the Soudan Government the necessary power to borrow. But, as my Lords have reason to know, it was drafted on the supposition that the Soudan Government would borrow on its own credit; and consequently some additional legislation will be needed to meet the requirements of the guarantor in so far as part of the borrowing will be by means of a guaranteed loan. It will be necessary to provide (a) for a charge on Soudan revenue and assets for interest on any money found by the guarantor under the guarantee (cf. ordinance of 1919, section 4); and (b) in the event of the guaranteed loan carrying a sinking fund for the management of that sinking fund (cf. ordinance of 1919, sections 6-10). But it will not be possible to deal with these matters until the details of any guaranteed issue are settled; and my Lords only desire to mention them now to prevent any misunderstanding at a later date.

My Lords would be willing to regard an invitation to tender to the firms mentioned in paragraph 2 of the letter under reply as sufficient to comply with the condition that competition should be invited. It appears to them very desirable that tenders should be asked for at the earliest possible date.

I am, &c.

O. E. NIEMEYER.

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[E 6912/61/16]

No. 12.

*Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby to the Earl of Balfour.—(Received July 12.)*

(No. 515.)

My Lord,

*Ramleh, July 3, 1922.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of a report on the general situation in Egypt compiled by the Public Security Department of the Egyptian Government for the period 22nd to 30th June, 1922, inclusive.

I have, &c.

ALLENBY, F.M.,

*High Commissioner.*

## Enclosure in No. 12.

*Report on General Situation in Egypt for Period from June 22 to 30, 1922, inclusive.*

[*Note.*—In future this report will be issued thrice monthly so as to cover the periods 1st to 10th, 11th to 20th and 21st to the end of each month.]

(Strictly Confidential.)

## SUMMARY.

*Political Situation.*

Though feeling is still reported to be high among those affected by the 20 per cent. reduction in cost of living allowance, actual agitation appears to have declined without having achieved concerted action towards organised opposition in protest.

The absence of outward manifestations of Zaghlulist activity in the cities is still marked. There is confirmation of the previous statement that a campaign on behalf of Zaghlul's repatriation is to be attempted in London next month.

*Forecast.*

No change has occurred to render the general outlook for public security less favourable.

## GENERAL.

His Majesty the King and suite left Cairo on Thursday morning, the 22nd June, for the summer residence of the Court at Alexandria.

The Royal train made brief stoppages *en route* at Benha, Birket-el-Saba, Tanta and Damanhour, at all of which places His Majesty was received by omdas, notables and provincial officials.

A large number of Egyptian and European notables welcomed His Majesty at Alexandria, and along the route to Ras-el-Tin many Egyptian spectators lined the pavements. The palace was reached about noon.

A minor incident at Alexandria was subsequently reported. Street boys with a few better-class Egyptians, after following the Egyptian army guard of honour to their camp, attempted a small demonstration, with cries for Zaghlul. This was easily dealt with. It appears, however, that these would-be demonstrators surrounded Prince Omar Toussoun's car, which was obliged to stop, when some shouts of "Long live Prince Omar Toussoun!" as well as of "Down with the Ministry and all traitors!" were given.

Some of the notables who had attended at the railway station were heard to comment with approval on the absence of a British guard of honour to receive His Majesty, as being an outward sign of the progress Egypt had made towards complete independence.

*The Rank of "Nabil."*

By Royal rescript, dated the 21st June, 1922, the new rank of "Nabil" has been established for the descendants of Mohammed Ali in the male line, being Moslems and children of legal wives, who do not, under the recently promulgated law of the Royal Family, hold the rank of Prince.

*The Nile Flood.*

The Nile is rising normally at Roseires.

## THE 20 PER CENT. REDUCTION OF ALLOWANCE.

From Cairo it is reported that, while the spirit of discontent in consequence of this reduction is still very keen among Government officials and employees, no decision, so far as known, has been arrived at with regard to projected strikes, of which there has been a good deal of talk. This is true also of the railway and other staff of the Ministry of Communications.

With regard to the provinces, the following was reported from Qena (dated the 23rd June):—

Politics are in abeyance, Government officials being engrossed in discussing the reduction of the war bonus. Telegrams are being sent daily to His Majesty the King asking him to intervene on their behalf.

A central committee in Cairo has circularised the provinces asking them to co-operate in concerted action by sending telegrams on the 24th June stating that they propose to resort to passive resistance if Government insists on reducing the war bonus. There is, however, no organisation at Qena capable of engineering a strike, or of carrying out any of the threats of the officials.

#### COMPENSATION FOR FOREIGN OFFICIALS.

Considerable feeling has been aroused by the decision of the Projects Department to dismiss a considerable number of foreign officials, chiefly French and Italian, without compensation. Some of these are stated to have been in the service of the Egyptian Government for as long as thirty years, and, though serving on contract and belonging to the non-pensionable staff, they belong to a category of officials which throughout the negotiations hitherto has been admitted as entitled to compensation.

It is understood that they have appealed to their respective Governments for support, especially in view of the Prime Minister's recent declaration, when he postponed a settlement until the new Parliament could deal with it, that the Egyptian Government did not contemplate the dismissal of foreign officials, and was prepared to deal generously with cases of officials whose future was prejudiced.

Meanwhile the British Officials' Association has issued a statement regarding the present position, communicating both to British and foreign officials the interim proposals of his Excellency the High Commissioner for dealing with individual cases, as they arise, before the new Parliament can deal with the whole question. The association does not recommend these proposals. It is admitted that the new régime prejudices the position of every foreign official, and in the opinion of the association it is unfair that each official should have to prove the amount of harm which he has suffered. The association considers that serious practical difficulties would arise in the assessment of each case on its own merits. It also considers that the acceptance of the temporary scheme would weaken the position of the officials in general, especially as the right to go is vital to their cause.

A definite scheme, which admits that officials have the right to leave, with safeguards for the interests of the Egyptian Government, together with a defined basis of compensation, is the only fair way of dealing with those who want to go and those whose services are dispensed with.

The above requirements are provided for in all the schemes of compensation which have been put forward, the original scheme, the counter-proposals drawn up by the Egyptian delegation to London, the recent scheme drafted under instructions from the High Commissioner, and Sidky Pasha's scheme, which latter has been accepted by Sarwat Pasha as a basis.

#### THE CONSTITUTION COMMISSION.

The commission has adjourned till the 8th August, when it will meet in Alexandria.

According to "Al Omnah," Yussef Cattawi Pasha, the Hebrew member of the commission, has resigned.

On the other hand Anba Youannes, the Coptic Archbishop of Alexandria, who had previously intimated his desire to resign for reasons of health, has now, according to "Al Ahram," withdrawn his resignation as a result of the adjournment until August.

Suggestions had not been wanting that his resignation was in reality due to political considerations.

#### *Representation of Minorities.*

The statement made in an interview by the Coptic Patriarch in favour of the representation of minorities has been previously noted.

In this connection the following was reported on the 24th June:—

The Patriarch's statement has given rise to animated discussion in Egyptian circles.

Leading Copts, who do not belong to the Zaghlulist Party, are much pleased with the Patriarch's statement.

The Zaghlulists and their Coptic followers, on the other hand, are said to be greatly annoyed. They sent a deputation, which included Dr. Neguib Iskandar, to



wait on the Patriarch on the morning of the 23rd June. The latter declined to see them, merely sending them word that he had no modification to make in his previous statement.

Subsequently, however, two other interviews with the Patriarch were published in the press, which rather obscured the position. The final impression left is that his Beatitude is in favour of the representation of minorities within the Egyptian Parliament, but that he hesitates, in view of the hostility shown to the proposal, to run counter to the majority by a definite expression of his opinion.

INDUSTRIAL UNEMPLOYMENT.

There is serious dearth of employment at Port Said at present. One firm engaged in shipping and coaling states that work has dropped recently to one-sixth of what it was not long ago, nor do there appear to be any prospects of revival in the near future.

Several of the workmen's syndicates, including those of the tailors, bootmakers and bumboatmen, are reported to have succumbed through lack of funds.

On the 27th June the local branch of the Manual Workers' Syndicate (of which Dr. Mahgub Sabit is the Cairo president) held a fête in Port Said for the purpose of raising funds. It, however, revolved itself into an ordinary meeting, very sparsely attended, at which speeches were made imploring the workers to be united.

At Alexandria about 200 day-workmen of the bonded warehouses went out on strike on the 28th June, owing to a reduction of pay from 15½ to 14 piastres per day. The strikers dispersed to their homes without incident, and resumed work the following morning on learning that outside labour would be engaged to replace them.

THE EGYPTIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

A summary was given in last report of a manifesto on the subject of the proposed Constitution which the Executive Committee of the Egyptian Socialist Party had published through the medium of the newspapers. It was not, however, made clear that, in addition, a circular has been printed in leaflet form entitled "Exposé of the Egyptian Socialist Party."

This document, which is signed by Aly-el-Enani, Salamah Moussa, Mohammed Abdullab Enan, and Mahmoud Husni-el-Oraby, begins with an attack on existing "capitalistic and individualistic systems," under which the overwhelming majority of human beings and peoples are robbed of the fruits of their toil.

To alleviate this tyranny, the "Brethren of Labour in Egypt" have founded the Socialist Party, which seeks to realise the following principles:—

(a.) *Political.*

- (i.) The liberation of Egypt and the whole Valley of the Nile from the yoke of foreign imperialism.
- (ii.) The freedom and self-determination of peoples, and brotherhood among all nations on the basis of equality and reciprocal profit.
- (iii to vi.) Opposition to imperialism, militarism, dictatorship, armaments (by land, sea or air) aggression and aggressive wars, secret treaties.

(b.) *Economical.*

To abolish the system by which the tyranny of capitalists and speculators leads to the "sweating" of workers, and to replace it by a Socialistic system based on:—

- (i.) Nationalisation of material resources and means of production for the benefit of the whole nation.
- (ii.) Fair distribution among producers of the fruits of their labour in conformity with personal efficiency and productiveness.
- (iii.) Suppression of capitalistic competition.

(c.) *Social.*

- (i.) Free, obligatory education to be a common right of all, men and women, and by it true democratic teaching to be disseminated among all classes.
- (ii.) Improvement of labour conditions by enhanced wages, pensions for old age, and compensation for enforced idleness.
- (iii.) Women in the Orient to be emancipated and to receive a useful and productive education.

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The Egyptian Socialist Party will endeavour to realise its principles by party struggle and peaceful propaganda, relying on—

1. The foundation of free syndicates, agricultural and industrial, as well as of syndicates of production and consumption.
2. The election of Socialist members to Parliament, municipal and other local representative councils.
3. The emancipation of electoral and representative rights from financial and other fetters, such rights to be on as extended a basis as possible both for men and women.
4. Press and platform propaganda.

In realising these peaceful aims the party relies for success on the sympathy and good-will of the nation.

#### *Party Meeting at Alexandria.*

The meeting on the evening of the 25th June, when about seventy persons attended and Joseph Rosenthal gave an address on "patriotism," was chiefly remarkable for an unexpected Zaghulist demonstration.

The following is the report:—

"An Egyptian workman dressed in a gallabieh asked to be allowed to speak. He was given permission by El Orabi, who did not know him personally and who told the audience that he (the workman) would be responsible for his own words. The workman then spoke in poetical form of his misery at the commencement of the war and of his career in the Egyptian Labour Corps, where he had been obliged to work to keep his family, although he hated the English. He ended his poem by two verses about Zaghul Pasha, at the mention of whose name the audience broke into cheers for Zaghul.

"Husni-el-Orabi did not hide his annoyance caused by the fact that the members of the Egyptian Socialist Party should so compromise their principles of Socialism by cheering a Nationalist leader."

#### THE CASE OF THE SOUDANESE OFFICER ALI ABDEL LATIF.

With reference to the offer made by Morcos Bey Hanna and other members of the Cairo Bar to proceed to Khartoum for the defence of Ali Abdel Latif, a communiqué, issued at Khartoum, points out that, under the regulations as to advocates in the Soudan, a licence to practise in the Soudanese courts is required, and for this privilege a considerable annual fee is paid.

The legal secretary has made it a rule that he will not grant permission to casual advocates from elsewhere, whether from Egypt or from Europe, to appear in official cases at Khartoum so long as a choice of advocates who regularly practise there is available for anyone. To do otherwise, the communiqué points out, would be quite contrary to the practice in all civilised countries, would be most unfair to advocates who make their livelihood there, and would put upon them a most undeserved slur.

Full particulars of this case are not yet to hand, but the following facts, officially verified, correct certain misstatements that have received publicity in the newspapers:—

1. Ali Abdel Latif was not tried by a military tribunal, but before a mudir's court. The trial was a civil one, for contravening section 96 of the Soudan Civil Penal Code. Ali Abdel Latif refused to plead, which the court accepted as equivalent to pleading "Not Guilty." The date of the trial was the 15th June.
2. The document for the publication of which Ali Abdel Latif was put on trial for sedition contains no reference to Egypt, nor does it advocate Egyptian Nationalist views either directly or by implication. It claims "the right of the Soudan to choose its own ruler, who should be one of the shereefs."
3. It has been stated that numerous officers and civilians have been arrested for expressing the same opinion as Ali Abdel Latif. "Al Akhbar" announced that more than twelve such persons were awaiting trial. "Al Ommah" stated that eighteen Soudanese and Egyptian officers and thirty-two Soudanese officials had been arrested on the same grounds.

The following are the facts :--

" While awaiting trial, Ali Abdel Latif was placed under close arrest in charge of the 14th Soudanese battalion at Omdurman. Contrary to military regulations, five officers were found visiting Ali Abdel Latif in his quarters. Of these, two were detained temporarily under close arrest, from which they were released to open arrest on the 12th June, i.e., before the trial of Ali Abdel Latif. The three other officers were not placed under arrest, being merely detained in Khartoum pending the result of a court of enquiry. This has been duly held and its proceedings submitted to the Sirdar for consideration.

" The detention of these officers was due to their visiting Ali Abdel Latif contrary to military regulations. It had nothing to do with the charges against Ali Abdel Latif himself.

" So far as known, no arrests other than these five have been made in connection with this case, nor is it true that any individuals are now awaiting trial for expressing the same opinions as Ali Abdel Latif."

4. " Al Akhbar " stated that 3,000 persons gathered before the court to learn the verdict, which caused general discontent.

In fact, about 300 persons, mostly of the lower class, gathered outside the court. There was no attempt at, nor any sign of, disturbance whatever.

The following are extracts from recent comments in the Arabic press :—

" Al Ommah " (the 25th June): " News from the Soudan, in any case, proves that national sentiment is awaking there and spreading with great rapidity. Hatred of imperialism and of its authors has become an article of faith for all the Soudanese. The news proves also that the British authorities are taking measures of great severity to stifle this movement, which, however, has attained a strength that is irresistible."

" Al Akhbar " (the 25th June): " The refusal to allow this officer to defend himself has produced a very bad impression, as has the fact that the procedure followed in the course of this trial left no doubt as to which would be the verdict given. Thus, a staff officer was summoned before the court for the purpose of degrading the officer who was going to be condemned. . . . But what pains us more are the reproaches levelled by our correspondents at the Egyptian Government. The silence of the Minister of War, in view of the refusal to allow an officer to defend himself, when brought before a court of justice, is a matter as astonishing as it is deplorable."

" Al Afkar " (the 26th June): " May we ask the Prime Minister what is really happening in the Soudan in the way of imprisonment and torture, with or without trial? . . . If he says nothing, if the recital of these calamities moves him no more than a story of the ' Arabian Nights,' have his supporters any justification henceforth for singing his praises? "

" Al Watan," however (the 26th June), urges caution and common sense. " We cannot understand what extremists hope to gain by making out the Egyptian Government incapable of saving a Soudanese officer alleged to be innocent. Do they not realise that by doing this they are destroying the confidence which officers of the army repose in their Government and strike a blow at their sentiments of loyalty? "

" With regard to the legal secretary's communiqué, we disagree entirely with certain newspapers who maintain that it prejudices the rights of the Egyptian Bar, and is directed towards separating the Soudan definitely from Egypt. On the contrary, it is merely intended to protect lawyers practising in the Soudan from outside competition. No Egyptian rights are prejudiced, for nothing forbids an Egyptian lawyer to establish himself at Khartoum and exercise his profession there. In Egypt itself lawyers who practise in the courts of first instance can only plead before the courts within the jurisdiction of which they reside."

The following are other comments on the legal secretary's communiqué :—

" Al Nizam " (the 26th June): " The Soudanese Government has sought, first, to prevent Egyptian and European lawyers from going to the Soudan to defend their clients, and, second, to forge another link in the chain by which British policy aims at separating the Soudan from Egypt " (sic).

" Al Afkar " (the 27th June): " The Press Bureau has given out a communiqué published under martial law at Khartoum. Has our Press Bureau, one asks oneself, become an English Embassy, whose function it is to give the lie to what is attributed to the English? If, in any case, it has sought in this to defend the policy of the Egyptian Government, it had much better not have broken silence."

" Wadinnil " (the 27th June): " Great Britain is putting forth every effort to separate the Sudan from Egypt, losing no chance of driving deeper her policy of division. Henceforth all is clear. Egyptians know what passes in secret and in the open. They are well aware that British policy seeks to profit by every circumstance."

INTERDICTION OF TWO SWISS NEWSPAPERS.

By decrees, published in the " Official Gazette " of the 22nd June, two Swiss newspapers have been forbidden entry into, or circulation and sale in, Egypt. These are:—

- The " Tribune de Genève," for publishing attacks offensive to the Sovereign of Egypt.
- The " Tribune d'Orient," also of Geneva, for publishing false and misleading statements in regard to Egypt, its Government and its Sovereign of a nature to disturb public order.

According to " Al Istiklal," " the only man responsible for these restrictions is Sheikh Ali-el-Ghayati, the Damietta journalist and poet, who absconded (to Constantinople) in 1910, when he was tried by default and sentenced to a year's imprisonment for seditious poems in his book ' Watanyati ' ( ' My Patriotism ' )."

From Turkey he went to Switzerland, where he ultimately became editor of the Oriental section of the " Tribune de Genève."

Early in the war he wrote against the Central Powers and Turkey and in favour of the new Egyptian régime. In July 1915 he was allowed to return to Egypt, but, falling under suspicion of being concerned in pro-Khedivist propaganda, he was arrested and sent back to Geneva in August at the expense of the Egyptian Government. Thereafter he apparently reverted to his earlier, strongly Nationalist, views, and came to be regarded as an extremist.

The " Tribune d'Orient " is a small fortnightly newspaper, partly in French and partly in Arabic, started by Sheikh-el-Ghayati early in 1922. Its motto is: " The Orient for Orientals." It describes itself as " a fortnightly organ for the defence of the rights of the reviving East."

THE ZAGHLULIST WAFD.

In the last two reports mention has been made of the departure for Europe, and especially England, of certain Zaghlulists, the lawyer Abdel Halim-el-Biali and, later, Tahir Bey-el-Lozy.

Yet another prominent adherent has followed, Ali Bey Shamsy, who since February has been a full member of the Zaghlulist Wafd, left Cairo for Europe on the 30th June. Mohammed Farahat, Cairo correspondent of the Zaghlulist " Wadinnil," of Alexandria, is reported to be also leaving for England, presumably to act as special correspondent. The congress in London, mentioned in last report, is provisionally fixed for the fourth week in July.

It has been noticed that recently in the House of Commons the Zaghlulist cause has been chiefly represented by Mr. Mills, a member not generally credited with special influence. There is ground for stating that the Zaghlulist leaders in Egypt, appreciating the situation as unsatisfactory from their own point of view, have made various efforts to remedy matters through Dr. Hamid Mahmoud, and that the adherents who have left on this most recent mission hope to succeed in bringing their cause again more prominently before political circles in London, and, if possible, to rally adherents of greater influence to their side.

There is some reason for believing that the Zaghlulist Wafd is considering the feasibility of taking legal proceedings with a view to the release of Zaghlul, but what shape they are to take is not yet clear.

In Egypt itself, while Zaghlulist efforts in preparation for the coming elections continue, and are combined with endeavours to raise party funds, it is reported that the leaders' hopes for the repatriation of Zaghlul himself are tending to centre in the

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political manœuvre of securing his return to Parliament, while still in exile, by as many individual constituencies as possible. Should he be so returned for a good many important seats in the Chamber, the demand for his repatriation would, it is hoped, prove irresistible.

Meanwhile there are reports of tension and dissension within the Zaghlulist ranks, and even within the Wafd itself.

In view of the coming elections, the spirit of dissension already showing itself among Zaghlulists is said to be causing their leaders anxiety. In various parts of the country keen rivalry and competition are reported to exist among many of the more prominent Zaghlulists for membership in the new Parliament.

At the same time, considerable jealousy and suspicion among the members of the Wafd itself and their immediate partisans are alleged to exist, partly on grounds connected with the collection of party funds.

#### THE PRESS.

In the Arabic press, and especially in the organs of the Opposition, there has been a noticeable abatement of tone in the last ten days. Even the most strenuous opponents of the Government seem for the time being to have relaxed the vigour of their attacks.

On the other hand, the supporters of the Government have shown appreciably more activity. In "Al Abram" and "Al Mokattam" numerous articles have appeared, contributed by correspondents who approve of the policy of the Ministry. Nor has their challenge been taken up.

This absence of serious reply appears noteworthy. The conclusion seems inevitable that the position of the Ministry is stronger than it was, while a certain discouragement prevails in the ranks of the Opposition.

The reduction in allowance for high cost of living has continued to be the subject of protest, but most of the newspapers treat it somewhat perfunctorily. "Al Lewa" is rather an exception, and with it the "Journal du Caire" is still giving it serious attention.

Otherwise, the case of the Soudanese officer and the communiqué of the legal secretary at Khartoum have been the themes most dwelt upon, the Opposition papers appealing to the Prime Minister to break the silence so far maintained on the Government side. They are united in interpreting the incidents as a fresh manœuvre, characteristic of British policy, for separating the Soudan from Egypt.

[E 6893/1/16]

No. 13.

*War Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 12.)*

Sir,

*War Office, July 11, 1922.*

IN reply to your letter of the 21st April, 1922, on the subject of the maintenance of British troops on the Suez Canal, I am commanded by the Army Council to inform you that the present location of troops within the Canal zone is as follows:—

Moascar	...	...	1 brigade R.F.A. (less 1 battery).
			1 infantry battalion (less 1½ companies).
Ismailia	...	...	1 field company R.E.
			1 squadron R.A.F. (less detachments).
Kantara	...	...	1 company.
			Detachment R.A.F.
Suez	...	...	1 platoon.
			Detachment R.A.F.
Port Said	...	...	1 platoon.

Of the above, the company at Kantara and the platoon at Suez are shortly to be withdrawn, but the platoon at Port Said is being retained at the request of the High Commissioner.

So far as the Council can foresee, it should not be necessary to maintain indefinitely a force of British troops in the Canal zone. The Council, however, base this opinion on the assumption that no objection will be raised to the location of troops at or near Cairo and Alexandria, the control of which centres alone makes it possible to dominate the situation in the event of internal disorder.