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The disturbances of yesterday in CAIRO have left an effect of unrest in the town and there are many rumours current mostly to the effect that during the next two days there will be big trouble here. Further the situation has in the last forty eight hours definitely taken on a new aspect and one which, while well known in CONSTANTINOPLE and ASIA MINOR, was not to be expected in CAIRO.

The agitators have found that patriotism alone is not strong enough in the Egyptian to enable him to withstand reprisals for any length of time. Appeal must be made to the fanatic side of his nature. In the early days of the agitation the fact that we stood in the way of the independence of EGYPT sufficed to nerve the mob. Now, however, their religious fanaticism is being worked upon. A year ago it would have been focussed upon the Copt, but today he is a compatriot and immune, and the hatred of the mob is now apparently concentrating on the Armenians, who, as a Christian Sect, have never been very prominent in Egypt. Now, however, ~~they~~ according to reports, they are being singled out for attack, and share with us the hatred of the mob.

Extremist propaganda has spread the story that we have given arms to the Armenians to help in suppressing the Nationalist movement and according to the reports given by the Armenians themselves, they are surrounded by hostility and can expect no justice from the Mahomedan.

A further report says that a prominent Armenian was advised by an Egyptian friend to have a statement put in the native press that the Armenians were in sympathy with the Egyptian movement, and were glad to speak openly for a friendly small nation. Nothing less than this would save them in the coming troubles.

All the Christians living in the poorer quarters of the town are very apprehensive.

Today for the first time since the beginning of these disorders, the Sultan has appeared in the limelight. On his way to the Mosque at the Abdin he received a tremendous ovation from the crowd who mingled their cheers with cursings ~~of~~ of the British. This is the first time the Sultan has ever received any recognition of any warmth from his people.

The attitude of the Egyptian Army is being very closely watched but as yet, though as is natural, their sympathies have been with the Nationalists, their discipline has on the whole held. They are, however, being very highly tried. The same applies to the police whose position is even more difficult than that of the soldiers. It is known that the Nationalist Party are confident that the discipline will shortly break, both in the army and in the police, which will add enormously to our difficulties.

In foreign and Christian Egyptian Circles there is certainly a good deal of uneasiness, chiefly owing to the fact that disorder and sedition persist in CAIRO while at MANSOURAH and TANTA, which has been marked down as hotbeds of Nationalism, the situation is almost normal. It is true that this is due to the presence of troops in these two towns, but it is therefore, all the more disconcerting that our military activities in CAIRO have produced so little effect.

The tone of all these disorders is daily becoming more and more fanatic. The CAIRO rioters are turning for orders to the fastness of their religion, the El Ashar, and daily listen to politics, sedition and religion preached from one and the same pulpit.

There is in this situation an opportunity for the Sultan to use his sudden popularity in the interests of his people. The High Commissioner has asked the Egyptian people to help him to restore order by peaceful methods. The answer has been the Government Strike and the present fanatic disorders which have taken place with the apparent acquiescence of those who signed the proclamation. The Sultan is the head of his people, and as Sultan has natural religious influence, which he is at present not exerting. For him to use it now in checking this moving spirit of fanaticism which is ruining his country would at once earn for him respect, while in time his own people would realise that he had saved his country.

Such action by the Sultan backed by a clear and detailed statement of our future policy here would go a long way towards re-establishing law and order on a satisfactory and amicable basis.

(sgd) O.M. Tweedy, Captain,
for Lt. Col. G.S.I.

2nd Echelon,
G.H.Q., E.E.F.
4th April 1919