

demanded that the Mountain Battalion and The Sacred Brigade should also be disarmed.

*December 3:* In an atmosphere of mounting suspicion E.A.M. called for a mass demonstration of protest. At first permitted, the demonstration was later banned by the Government, but the demonstrators persisted. Shots were exchanged and a bad situation arose.

Lieutenant-General Scobie, British Commander-in-Chief, made this statement: "I stand firmly behind the present constitutional Government until the Greek State can be established with legal armed force behind it and free elections held. I will protect you and your Government against any attempt at a coup d'état or acts of violence which are unconstitutional."

*December 8:* General Scobie reported rioting by E.L.A.S. troops "in defiance of all orders both by the Greek Government and myself and the advance of E.L.A.S. troops towards the centre of Athens." Soon there was full scale warfare.

*December 25:* Mr. Churchill and Mr. Eden arrived in Athens.

*December 30:* Archbishop Damaskinos was appointed Regent by the Greek King, who added that he was

"resolved not to return to Greece unless summoned by a free and fair expression of national will."

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*January 1:* General Nicholas Plastiras, an exile from 1933, assumed office as Prime Minister. Mr. Churchill received a memorandum from the Central Committee of E.A.M., which said: "The Greek People experienced on the happy occasion of your coming to Athens a feeling of deep relief."

*January 6:* The Socialist and Popular Democrat Parties disavowed the revolt. The Socialist Party published a resolution utterly condemning civil war, the Agrarian Party announced itself prepared to come to terms with the Government, and trade-unions expressed thanks for their deliverance and their confidence in the Government.

*January 8:* Athens had been cleared of E.L.A.S. troops.

*January 9:* Negotiations for a truce began.

*January 15:* "Cease Fire" sounded.

*February 12:* The Greek Government and the E.A.M. concluded an agreement providing for a plebiscite on the monarchy and for a general election to be held this year.

# The town commissioner

A KORERO Report

THE MEMBERS of the local authority in a small New Zealand town are Town Commissioners, not Councillors, but in essentials the local authority is the same: a small body of men elected by their fellow-townsmen to manage the affairs of the community. Although the powers of a Town Board are not as great as those of a borough, many towns are bigger than some boroughs. As a point of interest there are in New Zealand seven independent town districts with

a population of 1,000 or over and twenty-one boroughs with a population of less than 1,000.

Board meetings where the five to seven Commissioners each district is allowed by Act of Parliament, debate affairs; committee meetings, where perhaps two or three Commissioners thrash things out in detail—that is the way of it. Their main task is to provide amenities for the townspeople, water, light, drainage, playing-fields, and parks.