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WEATHER—FAIR.

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ANY PART OF IRELAND WANTING HOME RULE CAN HAVE IT BUT ULSTER WILL NOT BE COERCED, SAYS BRITISH PREMIER IN STORMY COMMONS DEBATE

NATIONALISTS' MOTION ASKING FOR IMMEDIATE HOME RULE PRECIPITATES BITTER SESSION IN BRITISH COMMONS

Premier Makes Declaration of Government's Policy — Home Rule for Any Part of Ireland that Wishes it but Ulster Shall Not be Compelled to Accept.

ULSTERITES AT ONCE OPPOSE PLAN AND HOPE OF SETTLEMENT IS FAINT.

Lloyd George "Howled Down" by Irish Members who Finally Leave House to Hold Conference. — Masterly Speeches by T. P. O'Connor and John Redmond—Alternative Policy Suggested.

London, Mar. 7.—The presentation by the Irish Nationalists in the House of Commons this evening of a resolution calling for the immediate application of the home rule statute to Ireland precipitated one of the most bitter sessions in months, and threw the home rule question back into its old position of uncertainty. The resolution forced the government into a declaration of policy towards self-government, namely that any part of Ireland that wished home rule could have it, but that no coercion would be employed to compel Ulster to accept. At the same time, the proposal drew from the Ulsterites the ultimatum that they would not accept, which coupled with the government's pronouncement, effectually crushed all hopes for a speedy settlement.

The Nationalists tonight, headed by their leader, John Redmond, were in conference, having withdrawn in a body from the House of Commons, and Mr. Lloyd George was facing his first embarrassing situation since assuming the premiership.

PREMIER HOWLED DOWN.

For more than an hour before the Nationalists left the house the premier had faced a whirlwind of angry censure from the Nationalist quarter, which at times forced him to take his seat because he could not make himself heard. He was called a "turncoat" on the home rule question, and one Nationalist exclaimed "hangman Carson. He is only fit to be a hangman, not first lord of the admiralty."

The Nationalist resolution was introduced by T. P. O'Connor, who asserted that the manner in which the government had handled the Irish rebellion had transformed a friendly people into one filled with bitter hatred against England. He pleaded that home rule should be put into operation immediately, for the sake of Ireland and in the interests of England, the Empire and the Allies.

At one point in his address he paid tribute to the president of the United States, saying that President Wilson, in his recent speeches and notes, had shown that the United States government recognized the rights of small nations and the principle of nationality. He called attention to the valiant service rendered by the Irish troops at the front, and asserted that they had enlisted with the understanding that home rule was to be applied to their country. In conclusion he said there were only two ways of remedy—settlement or coercion. He favored settlement.

A PLEA FOR COMPROMISE.

Mr. O'Connor was followed by Wm. A. Redmond, who made an impassioned plea for a compromise between the Nationalists and Unionists and sat down amid the applause of the house.

Thus far things had been running smoothly but Sir John Londale, speaking for the Unionists, threw a wrench into the machinery by declaring that Ulster wanted nothing to do with home rule of this sort, and sarcastically remarked that his section of Ireland had furnished troops and money from pure patriotism, and without hope of gain for themselves.

ALTERNATIVES SUGGESTED.

Premier Lloyd George followed with the pronouncement of the government, and after stating that any part of Ireland that wanted home rule could have it, suggested two alternatives for the settlement of the difficulties between the Irish factions. One was a conference of Irishmen, and the other was the setting up of a commission of enquiry to report to the government and parliament.

Mr. Lloyd George was continually interrupted, and as he proceeded, was greeted with angry jeers from the Nationalists, who accused him of deserting home rule. In conclusion he offered an amendment to the Nationalist resolution to the effect that: "This house would welcome any settlement which would produce a better understanding between Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom, but considers it impossible to impose, by force, on any section of Ireland a form of government which has not their consent."

MR. ASQUITH'S VIEW.

As the premier sat down, ex-Premier Asquith rose and began a conciliatory speech. He pointed out the seriousness of the situation, and advocated a compromise. He suggested that the ministers of the dominions who are in England should be called into act as mediators and report to parliament.

THE NATIONALIST LEADER.

John Redmond, the Nationalist leader, immediately took the floor and declared in no uncertain terms, that he would have nothing to do with further negotiations; he and his followers, he said, had been fooled once before. After a brief speech he withdrew from the House with his adherents, and the Nationalists went into conference. The only result of this meeting made known was that the Nationalists voted approval of Mr. Redmond's action.

Another meeting of the Nationalists has been arranged for tomorrow.



Shade of Washington: "Oh! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

AUSTRALIA TAKES PART OF IRELAND

Senate Adopts Resolution Calling for Home Rule for Ireland "Without Undue Delay."

Melbourne, via London, March 7.—The Australian senate by a vote of 28 to 2 today adopted a resolution calling for home rule for Ireland "without undue delay," substituting that phrase for the word "immediately."

Senator Stewart, a Laborite, said Sir Edward Carson, un molested, had formed a force to fight the British authorities in Ireland and was then brought into the cabinet. As a result there came the revolt in Ireland, in which people were killed. The reason why Sir Edward was not molested, the speaker added, was that he belonged to the privileged class.

Senator Gould, ministerialist, during the debate, said a self-governing dominion should not express an opinion on home rule for Ireland.

WILSON ILL BUT NOT SERIOUSLY.

Washington, Mar. 7.—President Wilson took to his room today with a cold taken about a week ago, and made worse during his inauguration Monday. After seeing a group of senators early this morning and then conferring with Secretary of State Lansing and Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, he decided to see no callers and went to his bedroom. His condition is not considered serious.

row, and the deepest interest attaches to this, as there are many who still feel, in view of the statements of the premier and Mr. Asquith concerning a possible settlement, that an early opportunity should be taken to submit proposals in a more concise form for the consideration of the parties concerned.

Timothy Healy, who did not follow Mr. Redmond's lead in quitting the house, sarcastically predicted, in the course of a speech late tonight, that "Mr. Redmond, who made such a dramatic skedaddle from the house, will return with his tail between his legs." He also declared that the Irish people would "be able to take the measure of this pre-arranged play acting."

From the day the home rule bill was introduced, in 1902, Mr. Healy had never known Mr. Redmond to hold out the hand of friendship to the Conservative party. On the contrary, he had tabooed every suggestion the Conservatives had made for an agreement. He charged that Mr. Redmond had deliberately upset the Nationalist party, and thereby created Sinn Feinism.

BRITAIN STILL RULES THE AIR.

London, Mar. 7.—Replying to a question in the House of Commons today, James McPherson said the government did not accept the accuracy of the report recently sent from Berlin that the Germans had brought down eighteen airplanes on the western front in a day. False statements such as these, he said, were made in order to elicit the truth. "I can assure the members," he added, "that we still maintain mastery of the air."

AUSTRIA CALLS CLASS OF 1920 TO THE COLORS

Youths of 17 and 18 and Men of 54 to 61 Warned for Immediate Service.

Paris, March 7.—A Zurich despatch to the Temps says that the Austrian minister of war has called into service the class of 1920, that is, youths born in 1899 and 1900. The recruits, it is stated, must present themselves on March 10 for immediate service. The despatch adds that it is reported that the Austrian government is likely to call out men aged from 54 to 61 years who are capable of giving military service.

CUBAN REBEL CAPTURED.

Havana, March 7.—Announcement was made at the president's palace today that a message had been received there stating that Jose Miguel Gomez, former president of Cuba, had been captured, with his entire staff, by Col. Collazo, commander of the government troops.

WILL INDICT BIG WESTERN SUGAR TRUST

Cost of Living Commissioner will Take Proceedings Against British Columbia Refineries.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Mar. 7.—The Attorney-General of British Columbia today telegraphed Mr. W. F. O'Connor, the cost of living commissioner, granting him permission to indict the British Columbia Sugar Refineries Company. Considerable surprise has been expressed in Ottawa that this permission should have been so long delayed. The Attorney-General of Alberta who was asked for similar permission replied in the affirmative some time ago and the delay of British Columbia has hindered progress. The British Columbia Sugar Refineries Company has an agreement with a number of western jobbers and wholesalers for the maintenance of prices and the elimination of competition. Mr. O'Connor proposes to indict the company for "criminal conspiracy" under the cost of living regulations. Meanwhile the company has notified its customers, freeing them from the agreements.

MOVES FOR A SANE EASTER.

Chicago, Mar. 7.—A movement to oppose the custom of display of new attire on Easter was begun here today by 125 officers of the Chicago Christian Endeavor Union. The use of this day for sartorial display was deplored on general principles, but particularly because of the European war.

THE G. R. CROWE IS SUCCESSFULLY FLOATED

New York, March 7.—The Toronto-owned British freight steamer G. R. Crowe, which went aground Monday night on the east bank of the Ambrose Channel, opposite Connetquot Island and three miles from Norton's Point, was floated tonight by the wrecking steamer or Chancery, two tugs and a pilot boat. Signals were displayed yesterday saying the vessel required "immediate assistance." She was on her way to an unnamed port via Halifax.

CHINA WILL ENTER THE LISTS AGAINST GERMANY; WILL SEVER RELATIONS

Premier of China Carries His Point Over President's Refusal and Will Again Lead Government.

Peking Learns that Relations with Berlin will be Broken off at Once and Chinese Republic will give Full Aid to Entente Powers.

Peking, Mar. 6.—(Delayed)—The immediate breaking off of relations with Germany is expected here, and it is generally predicted that China will join the Entente.

This belief is due to the fact that despatches from Tien-Tsin say that Tuan-Chi-Jui, who resigned March 4 and left for Tien-Tsin, had decided to return to the capital immediately and resume the premiership. It is said that President Li Yuan-Hung has agreed to give the cabinet full power to frame the foreign policy.

The cabinet is known to favor the severing of relations with Germany, and parliament is showing a disposition to follow the leadership of Tuan-Chi-Jui rather than that of the president.

A despatch from Peking, March 4, said the cabinet had decided to join the United States in severing diplomatic relations with Germany, but that the president refused to approve of such action. Thereupon the premier resigned and left for Tien-Tsin, accompanied by several other members of the cabinet.

Shelled Huns Near Verdun

Paris, Mar. 7.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"On the Verdun front our batteries took under their fire enemy detachments in the northern outskirts of Malincourt Wood. We effectively shelled German organizations in the Eparges Wood. The artillery fighting was quite active in the sectors of Maisons De Champagne and Embermenil. There is nothing to report on the rest of the front.

"The Rumpler (airplane) which fell on March 6 inside our lines north of Laval, was brought down by Lieut. Pinzard, the fifth enemy airplane over which this pilot has triumphed."

Belgian communication: "A reciprocal bombardment was carried out east of Ramsacappele and north of Dixmude."

HUNS READY FOR A FREE BELGIUM

Germany Prepared to Free Belgium with Garrisons at Antwerp, Liege and Namur — An Impossible Proposition.

Havre, March 7.—The German government, according to information received here through confidential agents, is considering the publication of Germany's terms of peace. Under these terms Belgium would be declared independent subject only to permanent German garrisons at Antwerp, Liege and Namur, and to the control by Germany of ports and railways. Belgium, under the terms, would have no national army, but would be policed by a gendarmerie.

GERMANY TIGHTENS SCREWS ON BELGIUM

Havre, Mar. 7.—General Von Bisping, governor-general of Belgium, has issued a decree ordering the seizure throughout Belgium of certain articles for removal to Germany when the quantities held by any owner exceed certain specified numbers or weights. There are sixty articles on the list, including tablecloths, napkins, silks, manufactured or raw; waterproof stuffs and sarments; oleoils, woolen yarns; fibres of every sort; animal hair bristles, felt, old or new-blankets; tarpaulin, leggings, knee bandages and other sanitary articles. The country, according to advices received here, is being emptied under the decree of everything useful to Germany.

LINERS RUN BLOCKADE OF SUBMARINES

Two Trans-Atlantic Passenger Vessels Reach New York After Successful Voyage.

New York, March 7.—The Associated Press tonight sends out the following: "Two trans-Atlantic passenger liners arrived here tonight, after having successfully run the German submarine blockade.

"The White Star liner Baltic, which brought 126 cabin and ten steerage passengers, docked tonight, and the French liner Rochambeau will dock tomorrow, after spending the night at quarantine.

"The Baltic was several days overdue. The delay was attributed by passengers to the following of a new course far from the regular steamship lanes. The vessel sighted no submarines. It was reported, although she left port unescorted by warships.

"The steamship was commanded by Captain J. Branson, transferred for the one trip from the command of the White Star liner Adriatic. The Baltic carried two large extra funnels astern, which are to be used for spreading dense clouds of smoke to screen the vessel from hostile war-craft. Tests made on the voyage here, it was ascertained, proved the plan would be effective."

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