

PREMIER ASQUITH TO REQUIRE?

Reported That He May
Follow Mr. Bryce in
Washington

IS HIS LEGISLATIVE BURDEN TOO HEAVY?

Choice of His Successor
will Cause Much Trou-
ble in Ranks of British
Liberals.—Lloyd George
Best Bet.

(Special Cable to The Standard. Re-
gistered in accordance with the Copy-
right Act.)

London, Dec. 6.—Considerable sur-
mise has been occasioned by some cas-
ual words spoken by Premier Asquith
in the Commons on Wednesday night
in the course of the debate in commit-
tee on the Home Rule Bill. The occa-
sion was unimportant, the house
empty, and there was nothing to de-
mand the remark which was to the ef-
fect that with regard to the position
of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, he
could not find a successor. He said
"I shall have nothing to do with it."
People ask what this means. Probably
it does not mean dissolution, the home
rule bill is too fine a tactician to
give the show away. More probably
it hints at his own retirement which
I have no reason to believe, is within
measurable distance.

The premier has been much worried
of late by the indifferent attitude of
his colleagues which he has had to
explain away and sometimes rebuke.
This, and other signs of want of disci-
pline in the government are galling
in addition to the annoyances of the
Macedonian and India affairs de-
scribed in these cables.

Shoulders Heavy Legislative Burden.

He has also shouldered an almost
intolerable legislative burden, and is
faced with a serious revolt among the
moderate Liberals over the disendow-
ment of the Welsh church. He also
shrinks from the prospect of women
getting a vote in the government
franchise bill. He has declared female
suffrage a national calamity, but he
sees his colleagues actively engaged
in devising methods of granting it on
his own bill. On Wednesday after-
noon, before the remark above quoted,
the minister of education has been ad-
dressing a mass meeting of suffragettes.
It is not surprising that Mr. Asquith
should feel overpowered by the desire to
escape such heavy anxieties. Rumors
reach me that he may seek retirement
at Washington as successor
R. Hon. James Bryce. This is only
rumor, and there is no precedent for a
prime minister becoming an ambas-
sador, but new precedents are being
made every day.

Picking Successor May Cause Trouble.

Were Mr. Asquith to retire, the
choice of his successor would inevitably
produce serious dissensions in the
Liberal party and probably be the first
step towards dissolution. It is well
known that it is Mr. Asquith's inten-
tion to designate Sir Edward Grey as
his successor, who would not be ac-
ceptable to a large section of the party.
Although of commanding ability,
Sir Edward Grey has a rigid person-
ality, and is little known in the coun-
try. Lloyd George would be the popular
choice, but he is viewed with disfavor
by many Liberals.

It is pretty well known that the re-
cent cabinet meetings have been
stagnant, Lloyd George being the centre
of the cyclones. Were he chosen
leader, Winston Churchill would prob-
ably commence a movement to de-
tach himself from the Liberal party
at the head of a considerable body
of moderates, thus somewhat re-
versing the Liberal-Unionist seces-
sion of 1886. Mr. Churchill's attitude
of late seems to indicate a consider-
able divergence from his colleagues.
An interesting statement respecting
profit-sharing and labor co-partnership
schemes has just been issued by the
Board of Trade. Several schemes
have failed, but 123 now exist affect-
ing 100,000 workmen. In profit-sharing
schemes, the workers get a fixed
share in the profits of the undertak-
ing and results show that this increas-
es wages by an average of five and a
half per cent.

In co-partnership the workers' share
of the profit accumulates in the cap-
ital of the business, and he thus gains
the position of a shareholder. This
form of profit-sharing is markedly on
the increase, and is apparently pre-
ferred to the former. The experi-
ence is entirely favorable to the sys-
tem as developing the efficiency of the
workers and improving harmonious
relations between master and man.
It is probably in the extension of the
sympathy that an escape will be found
from the strikes which, as other re-
turns show, have produced disastrous

PRIDE AND SATISFACTION REIGNS IN BORDEN'S PROPOSAL

MR. BORDEN'S PROPOSAL

THE WIND GONE OUT OF LIBERAL'S SAILS

They Dare Not Oppose Mr. Borden's Naval
Policy, Except in Half-Hearted Fashion—
Minister of Marine Introduces Important
Bills.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Dec. 6.—The Liberals went
into caucus this morning and stayed
there for a long time. It was a solemn
gathering. The outcome is the ap-
parent determination to stick to the
old Laurier policy. Ideas for the
coming debate, while at the same
time, carefully avoiding any real op-
position to the government proposals.
The opposition, following the given
cue by Laurier yesterday, emphasized
in today's caucus, will declare their
devotion and loyalty to the Empire,
but will place their own interpretation
upon the Admiralty memorandum,
protesting to find therein justification
of the Laurier navy scheme.

It is expected that Mr. Laurier
will treat with mild disapproval
as he does not oppose the proposal
that the Canadian minister should
participate permanently in the delib-
erations of the Imperial Defence Com-
mittee, and will take the position that
the ships constructed by Canada
should be maintained by Canada and
subject in large measure, to Cana-
dian control. The leader of the oppo-
sition after the caucus this morning
is the following statement:

Liberals Raise A Dismal Outcry.

"The caucus was most enthusiastic
and absolutely unanimous and proud
that the memorandum of the Admiralty
clearly establishes what they al-
ways contended, that there is no em-
ergency in this they find full justifica-
tion of the principle of the Canadian
naval policy which can be expanded
to the full extent of the figures sug-
gested in the memorandum and this
they consider the true imperial policy."

Liberals Raise a Dismal Outcry.

Nearly the whole of this working
day was consumed in Liberal outcries
over dissimulations. The pretext for their
discontent was a resolution brought in
by Hon. Frank Cochrane relating to
the provident fund of the I. C. R. This
is a very meritorious piece of leg-
islation and the return to Mr. Coch-
rane for his attitude was rather slat-
tery.

The provident fund legislation con-
tains no provision for reimbursing a
man, who is dismissed, for his contri-
butions to the fund. Mr. Cochrane had
taken the ground that
Mr. Cochrane had taken the ground
that a man, who has been dismissed
for participation, stands on a different
footing from a man who has been dis-
missed for personal misconduct such
as drunkenness and he has undertaken
to return to participants who have
been dropped the money they have
put into it.

PRINCE LOUIS IS FIRST SEA LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY

Prince Louis of Battenberg
Appointed to Succeed Ad-
miral Sir Francis Bridgeman
Who Has Resigned.

London, Dec. 6.—Prince Louis of
Battenberg, who commanded the At-
lantic fleet in 1905, has been appoint-
ed first sea Lord of the Admiralty in
succession to Admiral Francis C. B.
Bridgeman, resigned. Rear-Admiral
John R. Jellicoe, ex-commander of the
Atlantic fleet, has been given the ap-
pointment of second sea lord, made
vacant by the promotion of Prince
Louis of Battenberg.

THE BESSIE C. BEACH, FROM ST. JOHN SCHOONER ASHORE IN THE FOG

The Bessie C. Beach, from St.
John for Philadelphia, Ran
Ashore on New York Coast.

East Hampton, N. Y., Dec. 6.—The
three masted schooner Bessie C.
Beach, Capt. Charles A. McKee, bound
from St. John, N. B. for Phila-
delphia, ran ashore in a heavy fog
today, two miles west of the Napo-
les life saving station. The crew, six
men, came ashore in their boat. The
vessel which lies well up on the beach,
carried a cargo of wall bath. The
vessel cutter Hawk is expected to
come to her aid.

GERMAN CATHOLICS IN OPEN REVOLT

TROUBLE POT
AGAIN BREWS
MEX. REVOLT

DOCK WORKERS AT VERA CRUZ STRIKE.

Alarm in State of Durango is
Spreading, Peons Being
Incited to Rise Against the
Government.

Special to The Standard.

Mexico City, Dec. 6.—The govern-
ment dynamite factory at Dinamita,
thirty miles northwest to Torreon,
fell into the hands of the rebels today.
The strength of the rebel force is not
known. A train destined for Dinamita
was turned back and communication
with the place has been cut.
Alarm is increasing in the State of
Durango, where the rebels are report-
ed to be concentrating and inciting
the peons to revolt.

The strike of the dock workers at
Vera Cruz has become general. Four-
teen hundred men are involved. Several
passenger steamers, including the Ward
liner Monterey are experiencing diffi-
culty in discharging their cargoes.

WIENNA SCENE OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE

Turkish Ambassador and Os-
man Nazami Pasha Author-
ized to Negotiate for Turkey
with Greek Representatives.

London, Dec. 7.—Telegraphing from
Constantinople, the correspondent of
the Daily Express asserts that Vienna
has been chosen as the scene for peace
negotiations between Turkey and
Greece. He says the Turkish ambas-
sador at Vienna has received full pow-
ers to negotiate with the Greeks, and
that he will be assisted by Osman
Nazami Pasha, the Turkish ambas-
sador to Germany.

BISHOP OF QUEBEC IN ANGLICAN CHURCH OPPOSES UNION PLAN

Quebec, Dec. 6.—The Bishop of Que-
bec has issued a pastoral letter to all
the clergy of his diocese strongly con-
demning the circular letter with the
proposals for church unity which has
been drawn up by certain clergymen
of the Anglican church in Canada.
The letter is signed not only by the
Bishop, but by the whole Cathedral
council, consisting of the Dean, Arch-
dean and the Canons of Quebec.

MAN AND WIFE IN A SUICIDE PACT

London, Dec. 6.—Julius Booth, an
American and his wife, were found
dead in bed today at Brightlingsea,
Essex. They both had been shot and
it is believed that their deaths were
the result of a suicide pact. Booth
recently had been running a moving
picture show at Brightlingsea.

SYDNEY COAL SHIPMENTS.

Portland Argus, Dec. 4.—Another coal
steamer arrived here yesterday, the
Blackbeath coming from Sydney, C.
B., with 7,449 tons for the Grand
Trunk, which will be unloaded at the
company's coal pockets, where the
result of a suicide pact.

ACTRESS WINS A \$22,000 ACHION.

New York, D. C., Dec. 6.—Edith St.
Chair, actress, won her \$22,000 suit
against Klay and Erlanger today, when
a jury declared her contract for the
amount with the theatrical firm valid.

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