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WEATHER—FAIR

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MRS. CORNWALLIS-WEST INVOLVED IN SCANDAL; TEUTONS CAPTURE TWO TOWNS IN DOBRUDJA; CENTRAL POWERS MAY STATE PEACE TERMS

WOMAN INVOLVED IN ARMY SCANDAL

Mrs. Cornwallis-West, Mother of Princess of Pless and of Duchess of Westminster, Officially Severely Censured for Exercising Influence Over High Officers of War Office.

INVESTIGATION WAS UNDERTAKEN AT INSTANCE OF LATE SIR ARTHUR BASIL MARKHAM, LIBERAL MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR MANSFIELD DISTRICT OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE—AN IRISH OFFICER'S HONOR INVOLVED AT TIME, BUT HE IS EXONERATED.

London, Jan. 3.—An army scandal, involving the exercise of influence over high officers by a prominent society woman, is described in the report of a court of inquiry issued tonight, and Mrs. Cornwallis-West, wife of Col. Wm. Cornwallis-West, and mother of the Princess of Pless and of the Duchess of Westminster, is officially severely censured.

The late Sir Arthur Basil Markham, Liberal member of parliament for the Mansfield district of Nottinghamshire, who died last August, demanded an inquiry in the House of Commons into this matter, and was seconded by Irish members, who declared that a young Irish officer's honor was involved. It has since developed that the officer was Lieut. Patrick Barrett, of the Welsh Fusiliers.

Irish Officer Exonerated.

According to a statement in the House of Commons before recess he was completely exonerated. His commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Delme Radcliffe was removed his command, and General Sir John Cowan was censured, but was returned because of his good work. General Owen Thomas was also censured, and vindicated. Barrett was a sergeant in the Welsh Fusiliers. Colonel Del-Radcliffe and other officers recommended him for a commission late in 1915, and his claims were supported by Colonel and Mrs. Cornwallis-West and several prominent civilians.

Mrs. Cornwallis-West.

"Probably before this time, and certainly later," says the report, "Mrs. Cornwallis-West began to take more than an ordinary interest in Mr. Barrett, to which he consistently failed to respond. Eventually he wrote her in February last a letter of remonstrance, which she placed in the hands of his commanding officers." Barrett was severely censured by his commander without the opportunity of stating his case. Soon after that he was transferred to another battalion on the demands of Mrs. Cornwallis-West.

General Cowans Censured.

General Cowans, who aided the Cornwallis-Wests in securing Barrett's transfer, is censured for interfering with discipline. General W. H. MacKinnon, who was also concerned in the correspondence, is criticized for interfering with the affairs of the western command after he relinquished his command, but is not disciplined, because he has since retired. The court of inquiry, which consisted of Field Marshal Sir William Nicholson, formerly chief of general staff; Major General Lord Chylesmore, Justice Sir James Richard Atkin, and the Right Hon. Donald MacLean, M. P. for Peebles and Selkirk, reported regarding Mrs. Cornwallis-West:

Censure Mrs. Cornwallis.

"We have no doubt that her injudicious boasting of the power she wielded at the war office—which was confirmed to an appreciable extent by the wording of some of Sir John Cowan's letters, was calculated to bring him and the administration at the war office into disrepute. We feel obliged to render our opinion that this lady's knowledge, as revealed in this case, has been highly discreditable, both in her behavior towards the demands of Mrs. Barrett before his death." Continued on page two.

IF THERE IS GENERAL ELECTION GRITS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—A fortnight hence parliament will open and the session promises to be an exciting one. It may be the last before a general election. It is well understood that the opposition leaders have no intention of agreeing to a further extension of the life of parliament and if they come to such a decision definitely in caucus when the session opens there is no doubt that the government will insist upon a "show-down" in the house, in which case an appeal to the country would be anticipated within a short while.

Change in Sentiment.

However, there has been a great change in public opinion recently. The outlook for the Liberals is not so hopeful as it seemed to be some months ago. The prejudice against holding an election in war time is growing more pronounced also, and there is the possibility that when the rank and file of the Liberal members arrive for the session they may have a tale to tell regarding the effect that forcing the government to the country would produce which may change the

Vacancy Question.

But the vacancy question has become serious. There are nineteen vacant seats in the house and a number of soldier members are overseas. This affects the government majority to a considerable extent for only six of the nineteen vacancies are Liberal, and so a call has been sent to all the overseas members to return if possible for the opening of parliament. Half a dozen of them at least will be unable to do so.

The government majority which was forty-seven before the war began is now much smaller. It is not expected that there will be any very important government legislation brought down next session. The most important matters today relate to the war and these are dealt with by order in council under the war measures act. It is said, however, that a private bill will be introduced to prohibit the manufacture or sale of whiskey in Canada. Sir Robert Borden will go to England about the middle of February and attend the imperial conference.

TWO CHILDREN KILLED IN A SNOW-SLIDE

Manchester, N. H., Jan. 3.—A score of little girls, marching into the Park School yesterday afternoon, were buried in a mass of snow and ice which slid from the schoolhouse roof. Two of the children were killed and four others are seriously injured. Doris McCreery, aged 8, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCreery, is dead at her home, her skull having been crushed by an enormous cake of ice. Her unconscious form was borne to the office of the principal, but she died before physicians could reach the scene. Little Mildred Hunkins, aged 7, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hunkins, was found bleeding from the nose and mouth. She died five hours after the accident.

CANADA RECRUITED 178,537 MEN IN 1916

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—During the year just closed 178,537 men were recruited in Canada, or nearly half the total of 385,955 since the outbreak of war. In the last fortnight 2,517 men enrolled, a decrease of 700 in comparison with the preceding two weeks. Figures by military districts since the war began are:

Toronto, 85,384; Kingston, Ottawa, 41,294; London, 31,325; Montreal, 33,993; Quebec, 7,729; Manitoba, Saskatchewan, 77,254; British Columbia, 152; Alberta, 34,517; Maritime Provinces, 34,802.

In the last fortnight the totals have been: Toronto, 487; Kingston-Ottawa, 367; Montreal, 312; Manitoba, 284; British Columbia, 260; Saskatchewan (now a separate division), 207; Alberta, 166; London, 152; Quebec, 38; Maritime Provinces, 234.

MUST FILL IN THE NAT. SERVICE CARDS

Montreal, Jan. 3.—"The filling in of the National Service card is obligatory," so states Mr. Peterson, secretary of the National Service Commission, in a letter to the Montreal Board of Trade, in reply to a letter addressed to Sir Robert Borden asking the question.

REV. G. CAMPBELL MORGAN
WILL RESIGN PASTORATE.

London, Jan. 3.—The Rev. Dr. G. Campbell Morgan has announced his intention to resign the pastorate of the Westminster Congregational church, Buckingham Gate. His retirement is due to overwork.

DR. WILLIAM OLDRIGHT
IS DEAD IN CHICAGO.

Toronto, Jan. 3.—Word was received today of the death in Chicago of Dr. William Oldright, professor of the University of Toronto, until five years ago.

German Note Probable.

London, Jan. 3.—It is reported from Berlin that Germany will shortly issue an explanatory note to the neutral powers in connection with certain statements in the Entente's reply to the German peace proposals, says a despatch to the Central News from Amsterdam.

SENATOR LODGE CENSURES COUNT VON BERNSTORFF, THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES

Says Latter Had No Right to Give Out Newspaper Statement Approving President Wilson's Peace Note—Senate Defers Action—Canadian Born Senator Offers Peace Resolution.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Action on Senator Hitchcock's resolution to have the senate endorse President Wilson's peace note was again deferred today, after a long debate. The resolution went over for discussion again tomorrow at the request of Senator Hitchcock, its author, after a spirited debate in which Senator Lodge and Borah, Republicans, opposed action at this time.

The debate was marked by an attack by Senator Lodge upon Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, because of the latter's action in issuing a newspaper statement approving the note. The action, Senator Lodge said, added to the misunderstandings about the purposes and added to the opinion that it was timed and intended to aid Germany in making the peace terms she seeks.

Independent of Teutons. Senator Lodge expressly said, however, that he accepted, in full faith, the declaration of the president in the note that it was in no way associated with the peace proposals of the Central Powers.

Precedents of mediation overtures received by the United States during the civil war were cited at length by Senator Lodge. He read to show how Secretary Seward had rejected suggestions of France and Great Britain for mediation. Senator Hitchcock interrupted to say that the case was different, where there was civil war and where independent powers were in conflict. "I do not think," he said, "that where it is a war between independent powers there is any precedent or authority for the position that an at-

tempt by a neutral would be resented or regarded as an unfriendly act." No Unfriendly Act. Senator Lodge replied that he had explicitly said that there had not been any unfriendly act. "Only good Seward," he continued, "to show that every nation had a right to decline mediation, and that we had illustrated it ourselves."

President Roosevelt, in his autobiography, Senator Lodge said, shows that he offered mediation to Japan and Russia only after he was certain both sides desired it. "We are asked," Senator Lodge continued, "to give our full approval to the president's note which, as I shall proceed to show, goes far beyond any proposition merely to bring the belligerents together. He had a perfect right to send that note, and make an experiment to see if he could get them together. That experiment, so far as one belligerent is concerned, has failed—we have no reason to suppose that it will have any better success with the other side."

Attacks Von Bernstorff. At this point Senator Lodge, declaring the purposes of the president's note had widely been misrepresented, attacked the German ambassador, Count Von Bernstorff for giving out a newspaper statement approving the note.

"It is hardly to be wondered at, with such a statement as that from the German ambassador," said Senator Lodge, "that there should be general misinterpretation of the note, a general belief that it was designed and timed so as to help Germany in attaining a peace upon the terms she desires to impose."

Referring to the statement of the president that his address to the belligerents was in no way prompted or associated with the original peace note from the Central Powers, Senator Lodge declared he accepted the president's statement but that, unfortunately, a different impression had been created both at home and abroad. (Continued on page 2)

TEUTONIC ALLIES TO STATE
THEIR TERMS OF PEACE?

Former Hungarian Premier, Julius Andrassy, is Quoted as Asserting that President Wilson Knows What They Are—A Berlin Pronouncement.

London, Jan. 3.—Reuter's Telegram Company tonight publishes the following on the reply of the Entente Allies to President Wilson's recent note, suggesting that the belligerents state their terms of peace: "The document is still undergoing slight modification of the draft, and will not be published until a day or two after it is in the hands of the president. "The note will be more positive than the reply to Germany, and is expected to indicate, in more precise fashion, the only preliminaries upon which the Allies are prepared to negotiate. In again going over the ground of the responsibility of war it is likely that the Allies will emphasize the only possible terms for peace, thus contrasting sharply the German note, which purposely was of a negative character."

Washington Silent. Washington, Jan. 3.—Coincident with the receipt today of confidential advice giving the broad outlines of the Entente reply to President Wilson's note proposing a discussion of peace terms, Colonel E. M. House, the president's friend and adviser, arrived at the White House. The colonel's last visit was followed by the despatch of the president's note. At the same time press despatches from London told of a speech by Count Julius Andrassy, former premier of Hungary, who had just returned from a peace proposal was only a manoeuvre.

CALM ON BATTLE FRONTS EXCEPT IN ROUMANIA

In Latter Country Teutonic Allies Have Gained Further Considerable Successes by Capturing Towns of Matchin and Jijila in Northern Dobrudja.

ROUMANIANS AND RUSSIANS ARE TENACIOUSLY FIGHTING TO HOLD BACK ENEMY AT SEVERAL POINTS IN NORTHERN WALLACHIA—LIVELY ARTILLERY DUELS IN PROGRESS IN VERDUN REGION AND IN BELGIUM.

The period of comparative calm which has existed on all the battle fronts for some time, except in Roumania, continues. In no theatre, aside from Roumania, has an important engagement taken place, the activity everywhere being carried out by means of the artillery and by small patrol parties.

In Roumania, the Teutonic Allies have gained another considerable success in the capture in Northern Dobrudja of the towns of Matchin and Jijila, on the eastern bank of the Danube, opposite the important town of Braila and forcing the Russians to a point just south of the Danube where the river bends and separates Dobrudja from Bessarabia.

Invaders Keep On. In Moldavia and Northern Wallachia the invaders are keeping up their gains both northward and eastward from the Transylvanian Alps region. At several points in the centre of the lines in Northern Wallachia, however, the Russians and Roumanians are tenaciously fighting to hold them back, and according to Petrograd in the region southwest of Pocsani and near the River Rimnik the Teutonic Allies were defeated, the defenders taking several villages and capturing six officers. 205 men, five cannon and eight machine guns.

On the western front lively artillery duels are in progress in Belgium and on several sectors in the region of Verdun. On the Austro-Italian front bombardments alone have taken place. There is still no news concerning the operations in Macedonia.

Paris Denies Berlin Report. A wireless report from Berlin crediting to Swiss sources advice to the effect that a German submarine has torpedoed and badly damaged near Malta the French battleship Verite is declared by the French ministry of marine to be absolutely false. Another Berlin report says that since the beginning of the war Entente warships of a total tonnage of 759,430 tons, not including auxiliaries and special type ships, have been sunk.

Enemy Active. London, Jan. 3.—The British official communication issued tonight says: "In the neighborhood of Soester and on the southern half of the Ypres salient the enemy's artillery was very active during the morning. Elsewhere there were intermittent artillery bombardments on both sides."

Two Zeppelins Destroyed. London, Jan. 3.—Two Zeppelins have been destroyed at Tondern, Schleswig, by a fire due to defective electric wiring in a recently constructed double shed, says a Reuter despatch from Copenhagen, quoting the Ribe, Jutland, Stifts Tidende.

Progress on Tigris. London, Jan. 3, 3.05 p. m.—Some further progress has been made by the British on the Tigris front, where offensive operations recently were resumed after a long period of quiet during the hot weather. The following official report from this front was given out today: "Since December 26 operations on the Tigris front have been impeded by heavy rain, which has fallen almost daily and reduced the ground to a morass. In spite of these adverse conditions further progress has been made on the right bank of the Tigris, east and northeast of Kut-el-Amara."

French Statement. Paris, Jan. 3.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads: "The usual cannonade took place at various points along the front." "The Belgian communication: "A violent artillery action occurred in the region of Steenstraete this afternoon. Our batteries seriously damaged the German positions. There was the ordinary activity on the rest of the front."

11 KILLED
40 HURT
IN WRECK

Edinburgh, Jan. 3.—Eleven persons were killed and 40 injured today, when a train loaded with persons returning to Edinburgh after the New Year holiday, collided with a switch engine ten miles outside the city.

EMBEZZLEMENT OF
\$8,500 CHARGE AGAINST
FORMER P. O. CHIEF

Bangor, Me., Jan. 3.—Albert K. Glass, for many years in charge of the money order division of the Bangor post office, is under arrest, charged with embezzling \$8,500 from the government.

W. J. UNDERWOOD DEAD

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 3.—W. J. Underwood, 65 years of age, until recently general manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, died today. Mr. Underwood was a brother of Fred D. Underwood, president of the Erie Railroad Company, and was widely known in railway circles of this country and Canada.

TWO N. B. MEN DEAD

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—Casualty list: Died—Alfred Cady, Chatham, N. B. Wounded—Arthur Smith, Grand River, N. S. Killed in action—J. P. Paul, Red bank, N. B.

SIR ROBERT BORDEN
ABLE TO BE IN OFFICE.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Jan. 3.—The Prime Minister, who has been indisposed for a day or two, was able to be at his office this afternoon.

Greek Minister Resigns. Havre, Jan. 3.—Spyridon Levidis, the Greek minister to the Belgian government, has resigned, the minister not being in agreement with King Constantine's policy.