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WEATHER—CLOUDY.

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BRITISH COLUMN NOW WITHIN EIGHT MILES OF BAGDAD; CITY'S CAPTURE IS HOURLY EXPECTED

NATIONALISTS APPEAL TO BRETHREN OVERSEAS TO HELP SAVE SITUATION

Charge Lloyd-George With Breaking Former Agreement in Connection With Home Rule Bill.

Will Send Copy of Manifesto to President Wilson and Premiers of the British Dominions Beyond the Seas—Hope Yet to Come to Terms.

London, Mar. 8.—A manifesto issued today by the Nationalists says the constitutional movement may yet be saved, but only by the active assistance of all level-headed Nationalists in Ireland, and especially the millions of the Irish race in the dominions and in the United States.

"To them we appeal," says the manifesto, "promptly to use all means in their power to induce the government to deal with Ireland in accordance with the principles for which they are fighting in Europe. We especially appeal to America in this connection with a view to the application so clearly and splendidly enunciated in President Wilson's address to the senate."

The manifesto contains the declaration that the attitude adopted by the premier, Lloyd George, in the course of yesterday's debate in the House of Commons shows an entire change of position on the Ulster question and the home rule question generally, and is a breach of faith with the Irish party and the Irish nation.

The Nationalists decided to send the manifesto to President Wilson and the premiers of the British dominions.

Would Forever Deny Self-government.

London, Mar. 8.—The text of the Nationalist manifesto is as follows: "The premier in his speech yesterday in the debate on home rule took up a proposition which, if adhered to, would involve denial of self-government to Ireland forever. He laid down the principle that the minority in Northern Ireland should have the veto so long as they chose to exercise it of self-government for united Ireland. That is a position to which the representatives of Ireland can never assent."

"He asserted that he had never changed his position on the so-called coercion of Ulster. That is not true. He was a party to the drafting of the original home rule bill, which applied to all Ireland. He was a party to the rejection, in two successive sessions, in the face of a most vigorous protest from representatives of Northern Ireland, of amendments to exclude Ulster, and, when under pressure of threatened rebellion, he and the government, of which he was a member, weakly yielded to the threats of rebellion hurled at them by Sir Edward Carson, the present first lord of the admiralty."

"The government of that day, through the present prime minister, agreed to us to consent to the concession of country option for a strictly limited period. We agreed on the pledge, repeatedly given by Mr. Lloyd George on his own behalf and on behalf of the government, that if we consented to this concession we should never be asked for any further concessions, and that the government would undertake to see that settlement through at any cost. How, then, can Premier Lloyd George say that he never changed his attitude on the question of Ulster?"

The manifesto sets forth that the negotiations undertaken at the request of the government last July referred to a strictly war arrangement, with the understanding that year after the ending of the war things would revert to the status quo ante, and that the attitude of the prime minister took last night showed a total change on the Ulster question, and generally on the question of home rule for Ireland, and a breach of faith to the Irish party and nation, and would tend to intensify distrust of pledges of British ministers, and have a serious effect in strengthening the power of the revolutionary movement in that country.

Situation Serious.

"In view of the terrible seriousness of the situation for Ireland and the empire, created by this speech of the prime minister," continues the manifesto, "we feel it would be idle to prolong the debate, and felt bound to mark, in the most emphatic method open to us, our sense of the gravity of the situation, and meet immediately for consultation as to the future policy of the Irish Nationalist party."

Appeal to Overseas Irish.

"The action of the British govern-

ment since the formation of the coalition in May, 1915, culminating in the prime minister's speech, has made the task of carrying on the constitutional movement in Ireland so difficult as to be almost impossible. The constitutional movement can yet be saved, but only by the active assistance of all level-headed Nationalists in Ireland, and, to a special degree, by the millions of the Irish race in the dominions and in the United States. To them we appeal most earnestly to come to the aid of those who have rescued Ireland from being made the cat's paw and tool of Germany, and who are struggling against terrible odds to keep open the road to Irish liberty through peaceful, constitutional means—a struggle in which we are hampered by the British government, which plays into the hands of the Irish pro-German revolutionary party with stupid perversity, worthy the worst reactionary of Petrograd.

Government Aiding Germany's Work.

"So far as Ireland is concerned the government is doing its utmost to aid Germany's work, and so long as this attitude is followed we, as Irish representatives, while retaining our attitude towards the war and remaining firmly convinced of the justice of the allies' cause, and so long as we resolve to do all in our power to aid in bringing it speedily to a successful issue, feel bound to oppose the government by every means in our power."

"The Australian Senate have already spoken effectively in support of Irish freedom, and, in behalf of the Irish nation, we tender them grateful thanks. To the men of Irish blood in the dominions and the United States we appeal. They should promptly use all means in their power to bring pressure on the British government to act towards Ireland in accordance with the principles for which they are fighting in Europe, and we especially appeal to the American people to urge upon the British government the duty of applying to Ireland the principles so clearly and splendidly enunciated by President Wilson in his historical address to the United States Senate."

REPORT OF COL. CURRIE NOT READY

Has Been Submitted to Minister of Militia who will Present it to Parliament.

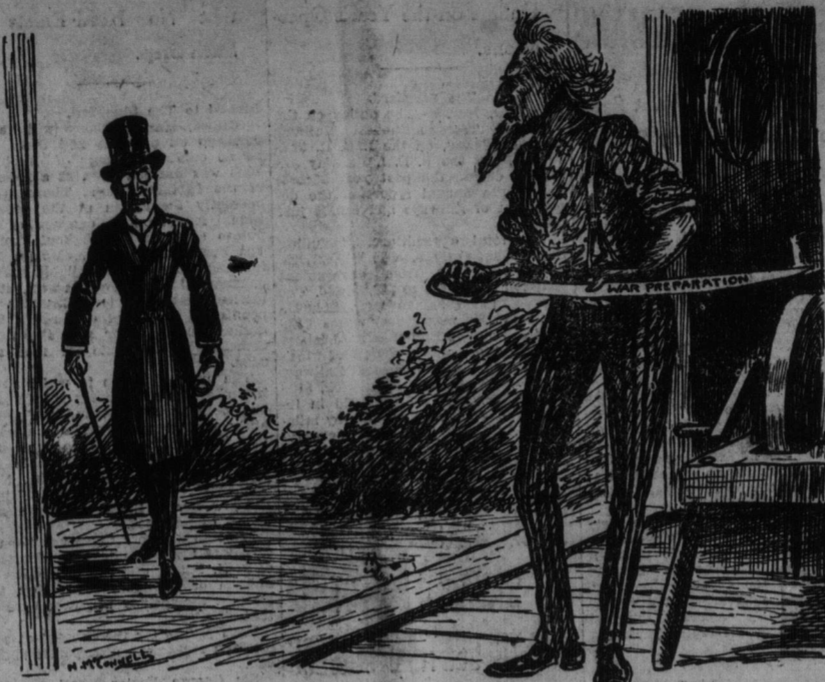
Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, March 8.—Col. Herbert Bruce, M. D., of Toronto, who made an investigation of the Canadian medical services in Great Britain for General Sir Sam Hughes, sent his report to the Minister of Militia today. This report, which has been given considerable unofficial publicity, was the direct cause of the investigation conducted by Surgeon General Bapiste, Col. Bruce's report will be tabled in parliament. Col. Bruce will sail from New York this week for England. He has been appointed one of the British medical inspectors general at the front and will be associated there with some of the most notable British surgeons.

U. S. MINISTER TO JAPAN HAS DIED.

Washington, March 8.—George W. Guthrie, of Pittsburgh, United States ambassador at Tokyo, died today, according to a telegram received here late this afternoon. He was appointed ambassador to Japan May 20, 1913.

AFTER THE INAUGURATION



Uncle Sam: "Get out of them Sunday clothes, Woodrow. I want you to turn the grind-stone."

FRANCE IS CULTIVATING HER FIELDS AND HAS PLENTY OF FOODSTUFFS

Can Afford to Smile at Submarine Blockade—Clean-up Along the Ancre Still in Progress Writes Stewart Lyon.

Paris, March 8. (By Stewart Lyon, Special Correspondent Canadian Press.)—So far as foodstuffs are concerned France smiles at the submarine blockade. The strain of the war has not prevented the cultivation of the land even here in the north. In a motor run along the coast towards the Canadian field headquarters a remarkable proportion of tilled soil is seen. Whereas in the English midlands fully half the land along the railways is devoted to grazing, here the landscape has the brown of the plowed field. The work of farming is largely done by old men and women, with facilities lessened through the use of the farms for billeting men along the lines of communication and the use of the roads to bring up munitions supplies only. "The wonderful industry of the French peasant enables the work of food production to go on under these difficult conditions."

GERMANS PLANNED TO FOMENT REBELLION IN BRITISH INDIA

Renegade Hindu Physician and German Chemist Received More than \$60,000 for this Work from Member of Von Bernstorff's Staff—Case Now Before Special Jury in New York.

New York, Mar. 8.—Evidence designed to show that Dr. Chandre Chakrabarty, a Hindu physician, and Ernest Sokunna, German chemist, received more than \$60,000 from Wolf Von Igel, a member of the staff of Count Von Bernstorff, former German ambassador in the United States, upon the order of Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, German foreign minister, with which to foment a rebellion in India, was reported tonight to have been presented to a special federal grand jury here.

The information was contained in papers confiscated in the government's raid on Von Igel's office in Wall street, while seeking evidence in the plot against the Welland Canal. The papers were officially used by the government for the first time today, it was stated, their utilization having heretofore been prevented by the vigorous protests of Count Von Bernstorff.

CANADIANS BOMBARD HUNS OUT OF LINES

Further Details of Early Morning Raid by Maple Leaf Lads on German Trenches.

Toronto, Mar. 8.—Douglas Robertson cables the Evening Telegram as follows: "Further details of the big Canadian raid on the German trenches on March 1st, described in the official despatch yesterday, are now to hand from wounded Canadian soldiers who have reached England."

"Our trenches were 100 to 200 yards from the German line at this point," said a wounded man. "We went over the top at 5.40 in the morning just at the grey dawn, advancing in waves. The Boche seemed prepared for trouble. His trenches were heavily manned, and we met with a stiff machine gun fire, but our bombers went for him."

FRENCH TAKE GROUND FROM THE GERMANS

Successes Won by French Army in Champagne—Enemy Driven Back.

Paris, March 8.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads:

"In Champagne after intense artillery preparation our troops succeeded in capturing the greater part of a salient occupied by the enemy on February 15 between Butte Mesnil and Maisons De Champagne. One hundred prisoners, among them two officers, remained in our hands."

BRITISH MESOPOTAMIAN CAMPAIGN DRAWS NEAR TO SUCCESSFUL CULMINATION

Turks Withdraw Before Onslaught of Invaders and "City of Caliphs" is Bound to Fall.

POSSESSION OF BAGDAD WILL MEAN CONTROL OF CONSTANTINOPLE LINE

Through High Wind and Severe Sand Storm Gen. Maude's Men Marched on to Success—Ctesiphon Evacuated by Enemy who Flew to City Proper.

London, Mar. 8.—British cavalry is now within eight miles of Bagdad. This statement was made today by Major-General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office.

General Maurice said the Turks made no defense of Ctesiphon.

It had been believed that the Turks might offer serious resistance when Ctesiphon was reached. This town is about twenty miles below Bagdad.

The British war office indicated that little opposition has been offered by the Turks since the fall of Kut-el-Amara on Feb. 26. The British have advanced nearly 100 miles in that time.

Ctesiphon Evacuated.

London, Mar. 8.—An official statement issued tonight says that the British forces found Ctesiphon evacuated, and their cavalry spent Tuesday night 8 miles south of Bagdad.

The statement says: "Telegraphing Tuesday at midnight, General Maude reported that little opposition had been encountered by our pursuing troops Tuesday, though a high wind and a sand storm rendered marching arduous."

"A Turkish force which attempted to oppose our advance at Lajj Monday had evacuated its positions by Tuesday morning, and our cavalry passing Ctesiphon, which was found to be unoccupied, bivouaced for the night near Bawi, six miles southeast of Dialah, which is situated at the confluence of the Dialah river and the Tigris, eight miles from the southern outskirts of Bagdad."

"During Monday and Tuesday 85 Turks and one Turkish gun were captured."

TURKS HARD PRESSED ON THREE SIDES.

The Turks are being harassed on three sides by the Entente Allies. British troops under General Maude, operating along the Tigris river in Mesopotamia, have driven the Turks back until British cavalry is within eight miles of the southern border of the important town of Bagdad.

To the northeast in Persia the Russians have gained further advantages over the Ottoman forces, in retreat westward from Hamadan, having occupied the town of Kangavar.

Another army of King George, operating against the Turks in Palestine, has pressed them back northward almost to the gates of Jerusalem. At last reports the Turks in all three regions were in retreat. Whether it is their purpose to make a stand at Bagdad has not become evident.

MINOR ENGAGEMENTS ON OTHER FRONTS.

On the other fronts bad weather is keeping the operations down to minor engagements and artillery fighting. On the front held by the British in France slight additional successes have been achieved in the Ancre Valley and near Blaches, but southwest of Chaulnes and south of Arras the Germans raided British first line positions after heavy bombardments and captured a few men.

In the Champagne the French have rewon from the Germans a salient captured Feb. 15 between Butte Mesnil and Maisons De Champagne, taking more than a hundred prisoners. Bombardments are in progress at other points on the French line.

ONTARIO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY UNITES IN WAR RESOLUTION

Unanimously Votes to Do Everything in Their Power to End Struggle.

Toronto, March 8.—Party politics were laid aside in the legislature this afternoon when the house joined in adopting a resolution moved by Sir William Hearst and seconded by N.

W. Rowell, K. C., leader of the opposition, reaffirming belief in the righteousness of the cause for which Great Britain and her allies are fighting, and pledging themselves anew to assist the fight for freedom by the uniting of fighting forces and military resources, by conserving resources as a people, and by exercising industry, thrift, and economy. Patriotic addresses were delivered by both party leaders, whose utterances were frequently punctuated by applause in which the whole house joined.

NATIONAL CHAMPION.

Boston, March 8.—Nathan Halde, of this city today won the national amateur billiard championship at 18.2 ball line. His defeat of T. Henry Clarkson, also of Boston, by a score of 400 to 224 made it impossible for any of the six other championship contenders to defeat or tie him in the remaining matches of the round-robin tournament.