

STATES CENTURY BEHIND EUROPE

BERAL LEADERS IN CONFERENCE GOVERNMENT PRESS IS PESSIMISTIC

London, Feb. 22.—Premier Asquith is playing a lone hand. His staff is predicted even by his own press unless he acquiesces to demands of his party's erstwhile in the legislative programme.

Mr. Asquith is accused to-day of being both his own party and the Liberals and Laborites. It is said that his promises regarding the subject cannot be kept.

Mr. Asquith resigned his office within three weeks. The rumor was current to-day that the minister actually was preparing his resignation. This, however, was denied.

Parliament is dissolved a new election of course, will be necessary. In the event it is deemed almost certain that the Asquith wing of the Liberal party would be eliminated.

Under the chaotic condition prevailing it is apparent that the only legislation possible is the passage of the Budget. It is certain now that it cannot pass through the House of Commons.

After the budget is passed, persons are conversant with the fact that the House will be dissolved.

After the deadlock Lloyd George is reported to resign as Chancellor of the Exchequer and Winston Churchill the Secretaryship.

Attitude of Laborites. London, Feb. 22.—The forty parliamentary members of the Labor party to-day joined with the Nationalists in opposing the Liberal and the programme outlined by Premier Asquith.

Press Comments. London, Feb. 22.—Ministerial papers are greatly agitated, as is deducible from the following expression of the Liberal Morning Leader: "Parliament dissolved from sensation to sensation till at last it adjourned, brought to breathless standstill by the terrifying situation which now confronts us."

MAY REACH AN AGREEMENT

COUNCIL AND OAK BAY WATER SUPPLY POSSIBILITY OF SPECIAL MEETING BEING CALLED TO CONSIDER QUESTION

San Francisco, Feb. 23.—"The American government is a barbarous institution. It shows utter disregard of human life and makes widows and orphans in many families," declared Miss Amy Bernardy, special commissioner of the Royal Italian commission of immigration, who is in this city today.

Miss Bernardy has been in the United States for more than a year. In that time she has been collecting data and information for use by the Italian government in the regulation of its immigrants to America.

Miss Bernardy expresses her opinion of certain conditions in this country and compares them with those of Italy. Speaking of her researches, she said: "I am touring all over the United States, visiting the colonies at factory centers, the mines and in the cities. I believe I know why there are so many families of widows and orphans. It is due to a barbarous disregard of human life, which is so appalling that I do not understand how a people given the opportunity with the ballot to amend their conditions, can tolerate conditions that are worse than those tolerated anywhere in Europe to-day."

"You accomplish a tremendous amount of work. This is admirable, but the method is abominable. There is little or no legislation to protect the laborer. The Italian government would protect the lives of the working class. Even your insurance here is all for corporations, but there is practically none for the workmen."

"I have made a study of mining conditions here only as they related to women and children. In this country there is no protection for the families of miners. In the factory districts conditions are a little better. Even when the buildings themselves are everything to meet the requirements of the law, the tremendous strain of the rush of life here blights the Italian constitution."

"Another blight in this country is the criminal disregard of building laws. The moment will come when these evils will be corrected. It is not because any superior precaution is taken or because the people are more careful about the architecture of their homes."

"San Francisco had a splendid opportunity to correct some of these evils after the fire, but I am convinced not much use was made of the opportunity."

DESERTERS SWELL RANKS OF REBELS NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS PREPARING TO FLEE

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23.—The capture of Granada, thirty miles southeast of Managua, was reported to the state department to-day in a message from General Moffatt, dated at Bluefields, Monday night. The same dispatch also contained a report that the revolutionists had seized the steamship Victoria on Lake Nicaragua.

IS BAR TO DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTS TO POLICY OF PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

John Dorsey Gives Views Respecting Granting Hotel Licenses

John Dorsey, of Aldermere, a pioneer frontiersman of British Columbia, is in the city, having come down for the winter. Mr. Dorsey has witnessed almost every move in the direction of the opening up and development of the "New North," and is, therefore, familiar with conditions in that section of the country.

"The development of the country," said Mr. Dorsey, "is being retarded seriously owing to the foolish policy of the government in the matter of granting hotel licenses in new districts. There is a woeful lack of accommodation for travellers, and the consequence is that the work of the prospector is hampered and the development of the country postponed."

"The territory along the Skeena River and in the Bulkley Valley," continued Mr. Dorsey, "has probably the poorest hotel accommodation of any section of British Columbia. There are two licensed hotels at Hazelton. It is another 80 miles to Hazelton; and in the whole stretch of the intervening distance there is no accommodation for travellers."

"From Hazelton the traveller must go a distance of 50 miles before he strikes another hotel, at Glacier. At Aldermere, twelve miles further on, there are two hotels with licenses. A third hotel had been here, but in the early days its license was revoked owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the commissioners, and given to another house, and it has not since been restored."

"Now just picture to yourself travellers for the past five years leaving Aldermere for Hazelton having to pack their blankets and their hotel on their backs, setting up camp at night wherever they might find themselves. At only one point is there a stopping place. This is known as Mooseskin Johnny's Hotel, on the Indian reserve, and white men are allowed to use it if they choose."

"A year ago this winter three farmers and their wives and children went to Hazelton for their supplies. Night came upon them when they reached Mosquito Flats, and they had to camp and tie their horses to trees. That night the thermometer dropped to 40 degrees below zero. I wonder how Hon. W. J. Bowser and his staff of license commissioners would have liked to find themselves in that predicament?"

CLASH BETWEEN TURKS AND BULGARIANS

Number of Soldiers Reported Killed in Fight on the Frontier

SEVENTY-FIVE CARS WRECKED

RESULTS OF STRIKE RIOTS AT PHILADELPHIA

No Settlement Yet in Sight—Both Sides Confident of Victory

(Times Leased Wire.) Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 23.—A total of 75 wrecked street cars is the result to-day of three days of rioting and pillage attending the strike of the street car men here.

Officials of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company declare that the company is operating more cars to-day than at any other time since the strike began. The strikers assert that the company's failure to run an adequate number of cars will win their fight for them.

No tangible efforts have been made to settle the difficulties, and it was predicted that each side would fight on principles it considers vital to its welfare.

The city was quiet during the night. No cars were operated after 6 o'clock, however. At the car barns, where hundreds of strikers breakers are housed, there was little or no disorder.

A committee of labor leaders returned here to-day from Washington, D. C., where they had a conference with Senator Boise Penrose, of Pennsylvania. Senator Penrose promised to use his influence to prevent the state militia from being called upon to take police or strike duty in Philadelphia, provided present conditions grew no worse.

The Transit Company officials to-day reiterated their announcement that they will not submit their difficulties with the men to arbitration.

MINISTERS AFFILIATE WITH TRADES COUNCIL

Application of Vancouver Ministerial Association is Granted



JOS. MARTIN—"Here's where I begin to really enjoy British politics!"

FINANCES OF MANITOBA

Winnipeg, Feb. 23.—Hon. Hugh Armstrong, provincial treasurer, yesterday delivered the budget speech. The conditions during the past year, he said, were the most satisfactory in the history of the province. He reported a surplus of \$640,000. Manitoba's expenditure during the past year was five million dollars. Of this amount a million and a half was expended on telephone construction.

BLIZZARD PREDICTED IN NORTHERN STATES

Storm Signals Are Hoisted Along the Shores of Lake Michigan

Chicago, Feb. 23.—The weather bureau here to-day ordered storm signals hoisted along the shores of Lake Michigan and accompanied the warning with a prediction of a great blizzard which will sweep through the northern section of the United States. Within eight hours the mercury dropped thirty-five degrees and the worst blizzard of the year Chicago has experienced brought the thermometer to six degrees below zero to-day.

UNIONISTS AND HOUSE OF LORDS

A. J. Balfour Says There Can Be No Compromise With Liberals

TRENCHANT SPEECH BY JOSEPH MARTIN

Characteristic Pronouncement By Ex-British Columbian in the Commons—Criticizes Asquith for Failure to Keep His Promises.

(Special to the Times.) London, Feb. 23.—In the Commons Joseph Martin caught the eye of the Speaker late last night and in his speech maintained that the only reasonable interpretation to put on the premier's pledge made in Albert Hall was that he would ask the King for a guarantee to create, if need be, a sufficient number of new peers to force the veto bill through the House of Lords.

They had the right, he said, so to construe the pledge, and it was no adequate explanation to say now that what Mr. Asquith had in his mind was an act of parliament. No subsequent explanations, though given in perfect good faith, could effect the original statement. He was a loyal Liberal, and he had been elected to support the present government. He would not, however, have been elected to support merely reform of the Lords, which he understood was contemplated by the government.

The government, he declared, would put him in a false position if they called on him to support a proposition of that kind. He appealed to the government not to destroy the great power placed in their hands simply because of any fear of approaching his Majesty in order to obtain the necessary assurances.

The Chronicle's parliamentary correspondent refers to the extremely able speech of Mr. Martin, who spoke with trenchant power, but in a tone of voice louder than is usually heard in the Commons.

Mr. Martin, it will be seen by the foregoing, has fully justified the interest displayed in his first appearance. Canada, the Illustrated London weekly, just to hand, says: "Despite the defeats sustained by Mr. Hamae Greenwood, Dr. Molson, Mr. Foster Boulton, and other candidates more or less intimately associated with Canada, the

WILL TRY TO BREAK RECORD. Train Loaded With Silk Valued at Nearly \$1,000,000 Is Rushing to New York.

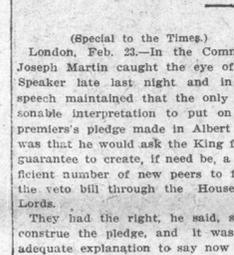
Seattle, Wash., Feb. 23.—Headed by a rotary snow plough a Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound fast freight loaded with a shipment of raw silk from Japan, is climbing the Cascade mountains this morning, in an attempt to break the Tacoma-New York record, already held by the road.

DAFT INVITED TO YUKON. Dawson, Y. T., Feb. 23.—The American Society of the Yukon and all Dawson is anxiously awaiting a reply to a telegram from Washington to the invitation wired President Taft yesterday afternoon to extend his Alaskan visit to the Yukon. The other towns of the district will combine with Dawson to coax Mr. Taft to make the trip.

OPERATIONS MAY BE EXTENDED. Dominion Coal and Steel Officials to Meet

MURDER MYSTERY UNSOLVED

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 23.—Another "explanation" of the Tamalaque murder mystery was exploded to-day when Margaret McKeany, who was declared positively last night to be the murdered woman, walked into police headquarters.



JOSEPH MARTIN.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 23.—The mystery of the woman who was brutally slain on the mountain slope remains to-day deeper and farther from solution than ever before.

Cordova, Alaska, Feb. 23.—A determined move to check a revival of gambling here is under way to-day under the leadership of the United States marshal. Seventeen men playing poker were arrested here last night. The cases will be tried this afternoon.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 23.—General Chekoff, Russian minister of war, to-day announced that Abdul Hamid, deposed Turkish Sultan, is alive at his palace in Salonica.

OTTAWA'S NEW POLICE CHIEF. Ottawa, Feb. 23.—The board of police commissioners yesterday, at a special meeting, accepted the resignation of Major S. DeLaronde as chief of police and appointed Assistant Inspector Alex. M. Ross to the position.

ANY JEWS ARE BANISHED FROM RUSSIA

Large Number Will Make Their Homes in Canada and England

London, Feb. 22.—Vast emigration of Jews from Russia to Canada and England is predicted by the Jewish Chronicle in consequence of a circular issued by Premier Stolypin. The central powers of St. Petersburg are accused of having strained the immigration laws in this direction. It is pointed out that all Jews who have lost their privileges to reside outside the limits of settlement since the issuance of the circular must either be banished from the empire or be banished from the country. There are 11,000 Jews at Kiev alone awaiting their exile and many of these remainders are expecting banishment.