

GRAVE SITUATION CREATED BY LLOYD GEORGE'S REFERENCES TO THE IRISH BOUNDARIES

Sir James Craig Hurdily Leaves London to Confer With Ulster Cabinet at Belfast—Says There Is No Precedent for Taking Territory from an Established Gov't Without Its Sanction—Accuses British Gov't of Surrendering to the Claims of Sinn Fein, Repudiating Its Pledge to Ulster.

Belfast, Dec. 15.—Premier Sir James Craig left Belfast for London this afternoon. The official reason given for his sudden departure was that a grave situation was created by a statement made by Lloyd George's reference to Irish boundaries in his speech to the House of Commons in London yesterday.

"Therefore," the letter continues, "it was with grave concern that we noted that an agreement, which materially involved Ulster's interests had been signed by His Majesty's Government without our being consulted. A question, vitally affecting Ulster, is the decision to establish a commission to review the boundaries between Northern and Southern Ireland."

"At our meeting December 9, you explained that it was only intended to make a slight readjustment in our boundary line, so as to bring to the Northern Ireland, loyalists who now are just outside our area, and transfer a corresponding equal number of those having Sinn Fein sympathies to the areas of the Irish free state."

Sir James says he reserved to the Ulster Government the right of dissenting from the appointment of a boundary commission, and he protests against the "declared intention of your government to place Northern Ireland automatically in the

Irish free state. "Not only is this opposed to your pledge," the letter continues, "it is also in violation of the general principles of the British Empire, with regard to the liberties of her people."

"The Ulster Premier says it is true that Ulster is given the right to contract out of the agreement, but only after her automatic inclusion in the Irish Free State. "The action of the British cabinet in this matter," the letter goes on to say, "is a complete reversal of its policy as declared in the King's speech at the opening of the Northern Parliament and also in the published correspondence between you and Mr. DeValera. This policy was that Ulster should remain out until she chose of her own free will to enter an all-Ireland Parliament."

"Neither explanation or justification of this astounding change has been attempted. We can only conjecture it is a surrender to the claims of the Sinn Fein that her delegates must be recognized as representatives of the whole of Ireland, which we cannot for a moment admit. "What right," the letter demands, "has the Sinn Fein to be recognized as party to any agreement concerning the defense of Belfast Lough, which touches only the loyal counties of Antrim and Down?"

Sir James asserts that the Government of Ireland act gave equal rights to the North and South of Ireland, but says "this principle is completely violated by the agreement made with the Sinn Fein, whereby the free state is relieved of many of her responsibilities with regard to the British Empire and is to be granted financial advantages which you made it clear are expected to relieve her considerably from the burden of taxation which must be borne by us."

Protest Boundary Commission. Sir James says he reserved to the Ulster Government the right of dissenting from the appointment of a boundary commission, and he protests against the "declared intention of your government to place Northern Ireland automatically in the

POWERS REACH AGREEMENT ON NAVAL RATIO

Japan Retains "Mutsu," Great Britain and U. S. Each Retaining An Equivalent.

BRITAIN'S QUOTA MORE THAN FIRST PLANNED

Total Tonnage to be Scrapped Under Revised Plan is 1,861,643 Tons.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Agreement of the "big three" naval powers on the "6-6-3" naval ratio was officially announced late today at the State Department.

Under the plan, Japan retains the super-dreadnought Mutsu instead of the old battleship Seto and the United States retains two additional ships of the Maryland class instead of the Delaware and North Dakota. Great Britain as an equivalent will build two super-dreadnoughts similar to the Maryland and Mutsu types but of greater tonnage, scrapping four old battleships of the original retained list suggested by the Hughes plan.

Resolution Presented to Re-impose Duty on Early Fruits and Vegetables from America.

THIS CLASHED WITH FREE TRADE IDEA

Convention Turns Down Resolution Favoring Sale of Beer and Wine.

Toronto, Dec. 15.—The re-election of R. W. E. Burnaby as president and a debate on a resolution to re-impose a duty on certain articles of food was a feature of today's session of the U. P. O. convention here.

Under the agreement during the ten years the United States will have 15 capital ships aggregating 525,000 tons; Great Britain 20 ships aggregating 525,000 tons and Japan 10 ships aggregating 213,000 tons.

This represents a total of 66,200 tons for Great Britain, more than the United States was allowed, the announcement said. The age of the older British battleships.

The official announcement said the agreement was "dependent on a suitable agreement with France and Italy" as to their naval ratios but that the ratio as between the three big powers was not to be affected by the French and Italian negotiations.

Under the final arrangement the United States will scrap the same number of capital ships as proposed in the original United States plan. The thirty American vessels to be scrapped under the original proposal had a tonnage of 525,000 and those to be scrapped under the present plan have a tonnage of 520,000.

Japan will scrap the same number as under the original plan, but the amended list substituting the old Seto for the new Mutsu makes the total tonnage to be scrapped by Japan 213,000 tons in place of 448,000 tons in the original plan.

Great Britain which was to have scrapped 19 capital ships under the original plan will build two new ships. The British tonnage to be scrapped under the original proposal was 525,000 and under the revised proposal will be 660,000.

The total number of capital ships by the three powers under the first United States figure was 66 and under the revised figures will be 68.

The total tonnage to be scrapped will be 1,878,043 tons in the original plan and is 1,861,643 tons in the revised plan.

Compromise May Be Reached in Coal Wage Dispute

Large Number of Sydney Miners, However, Who Oppose Any Wage Cut.

Sydney, N. S. Dec. 15.—That a compromise agreement will be the outcome of the Montreal conference between the Nova Scotia coal operators and the United Mine Workers on rates of pay and working conditions, seems to be the prevailing impression in the Cape Breton coal fields tonight.

There are, of course, a considerable number of the United Mine Workers who are opposed to any wage cut whatever, and would insist upon the renewal of the Montreal agreement, and go to any length to enforce their demands. On the other hand, there has been much unemployment, and the general impression seems to be that, if President Barter and his officers succeed in negotiating a new schedule at a reasonable wage rate, there will be little opposition, particularly if the lower rate is accompanied by a guarantee of steady employment at the mines.

JAPAN ACCEPTS CHINESE OFFER

Washington, Dec. 15.—Subject to Tokio's approval the Japanese delegation today accepted the Chinese offer to pay 53,000,000 gold German marks for the Kiaochow-Tainan Fu railroad in Shantung plus what Japan has made in permanent improvements, but less deterioration.

DECISION NOT YET REACHED BY IRISH DAIL

Debated Anglo-Irish Treaty Four Hours Without Arriving at Definite Verdict.

PUBLIC SESSION FURTHER DELAYED

When Delegates to Conference Will Give Reasons They Recommend Treaty's Acceptance.

Dublin, Dec. 15.—The second private session of the Dail Eireann today having under consideration the Anglo-Irish treaty, lasted until nearly eight o'clock this evening and adjourned without reaching a decision. It will re-assemble in private session tomorrow at eleven o'clock to continue its deliberations.

The most that can be said tonight is that there is a strong possibility that the public session, at which it is hoped to take a vote on ratification of the treaty, may not be held until Saturday, if matters should progress no further tomorrow, however, than they have today, it was thought likely that even Saturday's sitting would be private, and that the public session thereafter would be postponed until next week.

To Make Position Clear

The interpretation placed on all this is that it is felt to be undesirable to debate the controversial points in detail in the presence of the newspapermen, and that public sessions of course will be arranged beforehand.

The delegates to the London negotiations, and some of their supporters, are said to be determined to afford themselves an opportunity of stating in public to the Dail Eireann, and through the Dail to the country, the reasons why they recommended acceptance of the treaty.

The opponents of the agreement are equally anxious to explain their objections to it. Some of them object to inclusion of Ireland in the British Empire and some to the Eireann Council as the Supreme Court of Appeal, and there are numerous objections to assuming a share of Great Britain's war debt.

Dr. Ada English, one of the women members of the Dail, commenting on the situation this evening said: "We need a strong man to get our leaders together. We must have this treaty."

Heated discussions were indulged in before this afternoon's meeting was called, various members of the Dail gathering in groups about the corridors of University College. They were so engrossed in their discussions that the meeting, which was scheduled to assemble at four o'clock, was not held until an hour later.

Even then the members had to be reminded by officers of the "Irish Republican Army" that the Speaker had called the assembly to order.

Mr. George B. Jones Declared Elected In Kings-Queens

Proceedings Adjourned at Monday Carried Out at Hampton Yesterday.

Hampton, N. B., Dec. 15.—The adjourned declaration proceedings from Monday were resumed here today by Sherif P. A. McLeod, Ralph St. John Frense represented George B. Jones, A. E. Pearson and J. H. McFadyen represented Dr. Duncan H. McAllister, W. H. Hunter represented G. Harold Perkins, Willis M. H. Parlee, was clerk to the sheriff.

The returns from Canning No. 1 were made as follows:—George B. Jones—118. Duncan H. McAllister—118. G. Harold Perkins—3. Spoiled—3.

J. Frank Roach, deputy returning officer of Stoddard No. 14, A to M made the following returns:—George B. Jones—67. Duncan A. McAllister—69. G. Harold Perkins—69.

On account of the absence of the statement of poll, J. Frank Roach was sworn and made affidavit to the returns. After the returns were announced the totals showed:—George B. Jones—551. Duncan A. McAllister—444. G. Harold Perkins—365.

George B. Jones was then declared elected by the sheriff. Mr. Jones was called on and in a brief address thanked the electors for their support.

Dr. McAllister being called, after thanking the electors for the support given him, said that he was a good loser, but that there was a few things in the election that he did not like. Mr. Jones would go to Ottawa while he (McAllister) would stay at home and try and steer things the way they should go. A new Government was elected and it was now up to them to see what they could do.

Mr. Perkins was the next speaker, and after thanking the electors, he admitted that he was defeated, but said that he was not beaten justly. There was no word of any protest during the proceedings.

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IN STIRRING SPEECH BONAR LAW PLEADS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE IRISH PEACE TREATY

Former Government Leader Had Been Confidently Relied Upon by "Die-Hards" to Support Lord Carson in Opposing Treaty—His Speech Materially Weakened the Carsonite Attack and Has Insured British Ratification of the Pact.

London, Dec. 15.—The event of the day, in connection with the Irish settlement, was the decision of Andrew Bonar Law, Unionist leader in the House of Commons and one of the strong men on the Ulster side, to accept the treaty, and, if not, to invite Ulster to come into the settlement at all events to counsel acceptance of the boundary commission, which the Marquis of Londonderry, in the House of Lords, hinted Ulster might reject.

Mr. Bonar Law had been confidently relied upon by the "die-hards," if he spoke at all, to support Lord Carson in opposing the treaty, or, at the worst, to remain neutral. His speech has taken much of the force out of the Carsonite attack, and is considered to have insured ratification of the treaty by an overwhelming majority in the House of Commons.

Had he opposed the treaty there would likely have been an acquisition to the forces of the "die-hards" estimated at from 40 to 50, who expected to vote against ratification.

Take Vote Today

The vote is expected to be taken in both Houses of Parliament tomorrow afternoon and most important incident in tomorrow's debate is likely to be Lord Birkenhead's reply to Lord Carson, the two men having been closely associated in Ulster's anti-Home Rule campaign.

Winston Spencer Churchill, Secretary for the Colonies, and Herbert H. Asquith, in the House of Commons, warmly defended the treaty, the former premier, however, with possibly a remembrance of his own fate in his efforts to settle the Irish question, uttered a warning to beware of the malignant genius hovering over all Irish affairs.

Viscount Bryce, in the House of Lords, made a striking contribution to the debate. He admitted that the treaty was imperfect in form, but contended that Great Britain was entitled to the experiment of throwing the responsibility of its own administration on Ireland.

When the Commons adjourned tonight, Austen Chamberlain, the Government leader, in reply to various questions, admitted that it was undesirable that Parliament should be prorogued before the result on the discussions at Dublin was known; therefore, it might be necessary that the session be carried into next week.

But, said Lord Cheers, he declined to admit that the House ought to wait for the Dublin decision before voting on the question of ratification. On the contrary, he thought, the House ought to express its views without waiting for the Dail Eireann; therefore the House would sit tomorrow evening and as long as might be necessary.

Sir James Craig's official rejection of the treaty has now been published. In his letter to the Ulster Premier he declares that all the Government's pledges to Ulster have been violated and that it seems that Ulster will not

be able ever to enter the Irish Free State. Sir James, however, is coming to London, possibly to consult the Prime Minister again and it is possible that he had knowledge of Mr. Bonar Law's attitude, which may have an important sequel.

Cheers Greet Law.

When Andrew Bonar Law rose from the corner of the ministerial back benches, he was greeted with prolonged cheers. He apologized for his reappearance on the ground that, after a man had read his own political obsequies and obituary notice, it showed bad faith to come to life again. Explaining that he was not only come to speak with the greatest reluctance, he announced at the outset, his acceptance of the treaty. He had no responsibility for it, but felt that on such an important matter it would be almost cowardly not to express an opinion.

Mr. Bonar Law said that at one time seemed that Ulster might be forced into an all-Ireland Parliament and then he might have been called upon to admit that his fears had been justified. With the exception of the proposed modification of the boundary," he continued, "the policy of the Government has proposed in the agreement represents the alternative policy which I should myself have recommended to Parliament on my own responsibility. For that reason no other course than acceptance of the agreement on my part is possible."

Ulster Not Coerced.

"Mr. Bonar Law in continuing the presentation of his views, treated as nonsense the idea that Ulster would be economically coerced into entering an all-Ireland Parliament. He predicted that owing to inexperience in administration, Ireland's taxation at first would be higher than Britain's."

Adopting a conciliatory tone with regard to Lord Carson and the other opponents of the treaty, and pleading for a dispassionate discussion Mr. Bonar Law said he had noticed with great grief the bitter feeling growing up in Ulster, which he added, "to me is one of the most disastrous things that could happen. That feeling is not justified by anything in the agreement, and I am inclined to believe that it exists less on account of the provisions of the treaty than on account of what happened here and in the press before the agreement was published."

Bitterness Unjustified.

He considered bitterness against Ulster also unjustified, because Ulster was only trying to carry out the act of 1920 which, unfortunately, the Southern Parliament would have nothing to do with. What had been asked of Ulster was not concessions, but the surrender of everything. He defended the Ulster men from the charge of merely fighting for their pockets, and went on:

"When Sir James Craig first committed me on the question of joining an all-Ireland Parliament, and I refused that it seems that Ulster will not

Little Headway In Stewart Murder Trial At Newcastle

Star Witness for Crown Called to Witness Box Just Before Court Adjourned.

Special to The Standard. Newcastle, N. B., Dec. 15.—The third day of the Stewart murder trial showed little headway being made. In all, 11 witnesses have been examined. Those on the stand today were James Murray, Clyde Munroe, Mrs. Thomas Sherry, Louis Martin and Matthew Lalonde who gave very much the same evidence as at the preliminary hearing about threats made by Stewart against Ross. Just before adjournment was made this afternoon John Savoy, one of the star witnesses for the Crown was called. Savoy is the young man who drove Stewart to the Latulippe place on the night of the murder and was at one time charged with the crime himself. His evidence will be taken tomorrow morning.

Main C. N. R. Line Blocked Four Hours By Engine Trouble

Reorganization of Ontario Cabinet Not Considered

Toronto, Dec. 15.—Premier Drury declared emphatically today that there was no truth in the story that he was considering a cabinet reorganization with Liberals taking the place of the labor representatives. He also denied a report that he was in conference yesterday in Toronto with Hon. Mr. King.

Salaries Telephone Executives Revealed At Rate Hearing

Vice-President of Bell Telephone Co. Finally Released from Witness' Chair.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The fourth day's hearing of the application of the Bell Telephone Company to the Railway Commission, in Ottawa, this afternoon, saw C. P. Sise, the company's vice-president, finally released from the witness chair. R. A. Reid, counsel for the Attorney General of Ontario, used up a great deal of the day in getting on the records calculation which he expected, he said, would show the company in possession of large amounts of money counted for by statements made by their financial brokers.

On the announcement of the chairman this afternoon that the board allowed the question as to salaries paid to Bell Company executive, C. P. Sise, questioned by Mr. Reid, stated that the president received \$30,000 yearly; the vice-president, \$20,000; second vice-president, \$10,000; general superintendent of the plant, \$10,000; general commercial superintendent of the plant, \$8,000. Between \$5,000 and \$10,000 a year, Mr. Sise said was paid to the general superintendent of traffic, the comptroller, the chief engineer and the divisional manager. He said he did not remember any other officials as earning salaries as high as these.

Questioned by T. R. Waddell, representing the City of Hamilton, Mr. Sise said that the factors, which determined the fixing of the proposed increased rates, were chiefly population and the number of telephones.

Mr. Sise agreed with Mr. Waddell that the rates in the different cities would be upon the value of plant and equipment. "If he said," the board thinks it wise for the company to spend \$400,000 or \$500,000 in order to make an appraisal of the property, in order that the telephone rates may be based on the value of the plant, and will establish rates on that value, we will only be too glad to do it, because we know the value of the property greatly exceeds the book value. But as long as the board goes on allowing emergency increases, based on capital stock, it would be nothing but waste of money to do this."

King May Cancel "Vets" Appointment

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 15.—John D. McNell, a veteran of the 8th Nova Scotia Battalion, has been appointed to the vacant post of collector of customs at Baddeck, Victoria County. Whether the appointment will be recognized by the new Government is a subject of much speculation there.

Nothing Doing In Cabinet Situation Says Premier-Elect

Gives No Intimation as to When the Change of Gov't Will Occur.

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—(Canadian Press) "All's quiet along the Potomac tonight" as far as the cabinet situation is concerned. Conferences and "conversations" are, of course, taking place but beyond these there is no development. During the afternoon the Premier-elect, Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, had a number of callers, and a group of newspaper men who were included among the callers, said he had nothing to say on cabinet matters.

Ernest Lapointe, M. P.-elect, and Hon. Jacques Bureau, of Three Rivers, returned to Ottawa this afternoon, during the evening met the Liberal chief at his office. Another caller during the afternoon was J. P. Molloy, defeated Liberal candidate in Provencher (Manitoba), who was in Ottawa for the day.

Hon. Mr. King said he could give no intimation as to when the change of Government would take place. When he was called upon and asked by the Governor-General to form a Government he would be able to make a statement in the matter, but not until then.

British "Gold Star Mother" Sailed For Home From Portland

Entertained at Maine City by American Legion and Portland Rotary Club.

Portland, Maine, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Amelia E. McCudden, British "Gold Star Mother," who came to this continent to place a wreath on the grave of the United States unknown soldier at the funeral exercises at Arlington cemetery, sailed for home today on the White Star-Dominion liner Canada. She was accompanied by her daughter, Kathleen, and her escort, Lieut. F. J. Kersey. Representatives of the American Legion and the Rotary Club accompanied her to the dock. In a telegram read at a farewell dinner to her, President Harding said:—"Please express to Mrs. McCudden the assurance of my highest regards and best wishes for a pleasant voyage. Her visit to America has been the means of bringing closer the ties among peoples who have sacrificed together in a great human cause."

Compromise May Be Reached in Coal Wage Dispute

Large Number of Sydney Miners, However, Who Oppose Any Wage Cut.

Sydney, N. S. Dec. 15.—That a compromise agreement will be the outcome of the Montreal conference between the Nova Scotia coal operators and the United Mine Workers on rates of pay and working conditions, seems to be the prevailing impression in the Cape Breton coal fields tonight. There are, of course, a considerable number of the United Mine Workers who are opposed to any wage cut whatever, and would insist upon the renewal of the Montreal agreement, and go to any length to enforce their demands. On the other hand, there has been much unemployment, and the general impression seems to be that, if President Barter and his officers succeed in negotiating a new schedule at a reasonable wage rate, there will be little opposition, particularly if the lower rate is accompanied by a guarantee of steady employment at the mines.

Forty Gallons of Real Rum Seized

Sydney, N. S., Dec. 15.—Forty gallons of real rum were seized last night at Sydney Mines by Chief of Police Hall, who caught a taxi driver in the act of hauling the stuff from the Canadian National Railway's yard to some foreigner on Pond street.