

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES CALLED PLUTOCRATS OF THE VERY WORST TYPE

Socialists in Chamber of Deputies Assail the Two Countries, Accusing Them of Desire to Strangle Continental Europe.

BITTER ATTACK ON THE ALLIES

Speaker Pleads for Solidarity With Soviet Russia and Assails Catholics for Their Position in War.

Rome, Wednesday, Dec. 10.—Russia was to the fore again today in the Chamber of Deputies when the Socialists branded England and the United States as most plutocratic of all states. Deputy Clocchi, Socialist, declared that an Anglo-American combination existed to make Odessa, Danzig and Flume centers from which to reach out and strangle continental Europe.

The Socialist Deputy, Professor Graziadei, asserted that the war was suspended only temporarily. He said the Bourgeois had hoped that life would be resumed as before the conflict, but that the general elections had disillusioned them. He declared the war had had the effect of awakening the strength of the Socialists of all countries. The Catholics strove against the war because of the question of temporal power, and because they feared the defeat of the Central Empires, he said. As this the Socialists applauded, while the Catholics shouted their disapproval.

Addressing the Catholics, Deputy Graziadei declared, "your priests and your propagandists were defeatists." All the Catholics rose protesting. Graziadei continued, "in fact you were not at the front." Deputy Cavazzoni, Catholic, shouted, "I was there."

Graziadei then took up the Russian situation. "The Russian recruits, addressed against Russia and starving Russian women and children as it has already starved those of Germany," he asserted. "We must proclaim our solidarity with the Russian people."

Deputy Graziadei urged opposition to the Anglo-American union, recalling that for three centuries continental Europe had been covered with blood for the special purpose of serving England's policy.

Three More Ships Are Victims of Sweeping Gales

No Further Particulars from Honsea, Chetopa or Mercian Reported in Distress Thursday.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 12.—Tonight three steamers were added to one subtracted from the long list of vessels which have fallen victims to the series of gales now sweeping the North Atlantic. The three steamers added to the list are the E. D. King, Leyon en route from Montreal to Halifax in ballast, ashore at White Head; the West Loftus, which had the disabled Davidson County in tow, sleek and making for the nearest port, and the Shoba, which is calling for assistance on a point 30 miles east of Halifax.

On the other hand, the United States Shipping Board's tug Bison is reported safe at Port Hastings, after having been given up for lost since Tuesday. No further particulars are available regarding the Honsea, a British steamer in distress near Sable Island, with her crew and passengers reported reports herself as unmanageable owing to a damaged propeller, two hundred and fifty miles off Halifax, and the Mercian, a Levland liner, reported to be on the thirty-five miles south of Cape Race.

The American steamer Lake Deswood, ashore at Port Hood Island, is resting easily on a sandy beach with eight feet of water at her stern and two feet at the bow. She is not leaking, an ail in the opinion of her commander, Captain O'Brien that, with favorable weather conditions, she can be floated. The wrecking tug Maggie Marshall and the Sarnia City left yesterday for the scene of the wreck and are due to arrive there at noon today. The crew are standing by.

The Lake Deswood, which was reported aground at Blue Cape, is resting on a beach and is not leaking. Captain Clark, her master, advised by telegram that the Sarnia City left yesterday for the scene of the wreck and are due to arrive there at noon today. The crew are standing by.

HELD FOR TRIAL ON PERJURY CHARGE

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 12.—Nathan Segal and Adolph Friedman, who were convicted during the recent election of having offered to bribe an electoral candidate, were committed for trial today on charges of perjury. The charges were based on evidence given at the bribery trial.

The Cabinet Situation in Spain No Nearer Satisfactory Solution

Madrid, Dec. 11.—The Cabinet situation as it stood tonight found its latest development in an effort by Manuel Aldeanosa, former Foreign Minister, to organize a Cabinet replacing the Toca Ministry. Foreign Minister, who gave up early in the week an effort to form a Ministry, has now suggested that he again undertake the task by issuing a statement saying it was impossible for him to form a Government without the support of a large majority of the Cortes. He said that as the chief of the Conservative party, he did not consider himself called upon to head a temporary Cabinet merely to secure the passage of the budget.

UNIONIST PARTY REACHES MOST CRITICAL JUNCTURE WITH THE THREATENED LOSS OF ITS LEADER

Impaired Health Makes it Imperative the Prime Minister Relinquish Public Life—Colleagues Urging Him to Remain Until Parliament Meets That Party Caucus May be Held—Problems of Politics and Reconstruction Crowding in Upon Cabinet With Ever-Increasing Force—Cabinet Reorganization Foremost.

Special to The Standard

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—The Unionist party has reached a critical juncture in its career. After a life of two years into which it has crowded much of achievement, political, as well as administrative, it has at last reached a position where it finds itself threatened with the loss of its creator and leader, and this at a time when it is standing at the cross-roads between crystallization into a permanent party or disintegration and possible defeat. After nine years as Prime Minister Sir Robert Borden, there is reason to believe, desirous to relinquish public life and there are those who believe that before the next session of parliament is over the Unionist party, or whatever is left of it, will have a new leader and Canada a new Premier.

The truth is that Sir Robert Borden's health is greatly impaired and that unable to give to his office the attention which these vital duties of reconstruction demand he is urging upon his colleagues the necessity of giving up his post. When a few days ago Sir Robert returned from the South it was thought that his health and strength were completely recovered. For a few days indeed, he showed signs of his old energy and vigor, turning up at his office early and quitting it late. But a reaction soon set in. Faced with problems pressing and difficult, Sir Robert discovered that his strength still fell much to be desired, and for some time past he has been suffering greatly from insomnia. The result is easily imaginable. With the Prime Minister unable to give attention, or even time to a number of difficult problems, all kinds of issues and problems are in danger of being permitted to drift under such a condition, are threatening to set in. The Premier, there is reason to believe, is willing to retire at any time, but his colleagues, fearful of the effect which his resignation might have upon the fortunes of Unionism and the Government, are urging that he remain until the party gets together next session and decides upon its future course. It is likely that their views will prevail and that Sir Robert will remain until February brings the session, and with it a caucus of the party to decide as to the future.

Health Impaired

of Trade and Commerce, makes his acceptance of the post conditional upon the Government promising that Sir George shall not go to London. And there the matter stands. Sir George may have a seat in the Senate, or he may become Parliamentary Librarian, or he may have the choice of a number of other posts of minor but well salaried character, but he has set his heart upon London and is looking out for the High Commissioner-ship or nothing.

But the Department of Trade and Commerce is not Sir Robert's sole cabinet worry. Hon. A. L. Sifton, who has been filling the Minister of Public Works since Mr. Curvell's resignation, has been informed that if the Government should make a statement to this effect, his action would have the appearance of taking part in the discussion of an American issue.

Crown To Finish Presentation of Case Against Russell

With the Evidence of Over 100 Witnesses in Prosecution Rests Today—Defence to Call Dozen Witnesses.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 12.—With the evidence of over one hundred witnesses in the case of the crown against R. B. Russell, accused of seditious conspiracy, will be completed tomorrow, according to a statement by A. J. Andrews, K. C., leading counsel for the crown, at noon today. There remains less than a dozen witnesses to be heard, besides a large amount of documentary evidence that has to be put in.

J. E. Bird, second counsel for the defence, said today that between ten and fifteen witnesses would be called on behalf of Russell among these, he said, would be the accused himself and probably two or more of the seven accused.

ISLAND DECIDES ON GOOD ROADS

Will Take Advantage of Federal Road Grant and Expect to Expended \$400,000 Next Year.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Dec. 12.—It was announced by Hon. George E. Hughes, member of the government, at a meeting of Retail Merchants Association last night that the government are planning to take advantage of the federal road grant and expend \$400,000 on roads next year.

NORWEGIAN MINES SOLD TO BRITISH

Christiansand, Norway, Dec. 12.—The Norwegian coal mines in Spjelsbergen have been sold to a British concern for £200,000. The sale was made subject to the approval of the shareholders.

CLEMENCEAU'S VISIT CAUSE OF SPECULATION

The Exact Purpose of His Trip to London to Confer With Premier Lloyd George Arouses Great Interest in Paris.

Paris, Dec. 12.—(By The Associated Press)—Great interest has been aroused here by Premier Clemenceau's visit to London, and considerable speculation has appeared as to the exact purpose of M. Clemenceau's trip. It has been learned from a high authority, however, that the official point of view of the French Premier's mission differs from that of the press. In that his purpose is not, as has generally been reported, to find a substitute for the support of France which has been expected from the United States. It was, this authority declares, to consult with the British Premier regarding a number of questions that require more or less urgent treatment, and which the United States in the present situation, is not able to take up efficiently.

AMERICA'S ACT MAY CAUSE CONFERENCE

Press Infer the Visit is for the Purpose of Finding Substitute for Support of France Expected from States.

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FRIENDS AND OPPONENTS IN U. S. OF IRISH REPUBLIC APPEAR BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMM.

Advocates of Freedom for Ireland, Headed by Justice Cohan of New York, Plead for Passage of Bill Recognizing "Republic of Ireland"—Opponents Present Strong Arguments Why United States Should Keep Its Hand Off and Not Act in a Manner Embarrassing to England.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Advocates of freedom for Ireland, headed by Justice Cohan, of the New York Supreme Court, appeared before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, today, to urge passage of a bill by Representative Mason, Republican, Illinois, to authorize appointment of diplomatic and consular representatives to the Republic of Ireland. In the delegation were Frank P. Walsh, of Kansas City; Bourke Cochrane, of New York, and others who have been active in seeking diplomatic recognition for the independent government headed by Eamon De Valera, who arrived here yesterday to confer with Irish leaders from over the country. Arguing in support of his measure, Representative Mason said it would not constitute a complete recognition, but simply show the willingness of Congress to do its part to that end.

Justice Cohan told the committee that his delegation in Ireland was trying to get the bill introduced in the House of Representatives. He said that the majority of 20,000,000 Americans of Irish descent and was pleading in behalf of a government which was well organized and firmly supported by its people. He said that the bill would be purely an executive function, outside the authority of Congress. Justice Cohan answered that the two branches of the government should cooperate to make the recognition complete. American recognition, he said, would convince Great Britain that the only solution was a grant of full freedom.

Canadian and U. S. Union Chiefs Assemble For Conference At Wash.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—Chiefs of the International Union of Canada and the United States, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, began assembling here today for the conference called for tomorrow by the Federation's Executive Committee to discuss various matters affecting union labor. The steel and coal strikes are expected to be among the chief topics considered, but Federation officials attach even greater importance to the formulation of measures to oppose enactment of anti-union legislation contained in the Cummins Railroad Bill now before Congress.

Farmers' organizations have been invited to send representatives to the conference, but there seems some doubt today as to the number that would accept. Several farmers' societies at their annual meetings declined to accept, but no word has been heard from several. It was said today at Federation headquarters.

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Retail Merchants Of Winnipeg Ask Board To Cease

Committee Waits on Board of Commerce and Requests They Go About Their Investigations in Different Manner.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 12.—Twenty members of the Retail Merchants' Association, with E. Loftus, K. C., as spokesman, appeared before the Board of Commerce today and told that body that it was going about its business in the wrong way to attain its object and asked that maximum profit-making be abandoned. The small retailer would be driven out of business if it continued, Mr. Loftus argued, the poorer class of purchaser would be deprived of bargain sale benefits, which would be no longer possible, and there would be detrimental reaction on healthy trade, and bankruptcy would result which stocks purchased at high prices would have to come suddenly under the ruling.

Mr. W. P. O'Connor told Mr. Loftus that he was wrong in saying that the objects of the board were to enable the public to purchase necessities at the lowest price consistent with cost of conducting business; on the contrary, its object was to detect persons charging undue profits. Asked if what he was requesting, particularly, was that the board should be abolished, Mr. Loftus replied that he supposed that is what it amounted to. Mr. O'Connor told him he had appeared before the wrong body; he should go before the Government.

ANOTHER BOARD OF CONCILIATION FOR N. S. MINERS

Labor Dept. Appoints Board to Investigate Dispute Between Maritime Coal Ry. and Its Miners.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 12.—The Minister of Labor has appointed a board of conciliation to investigate the dispute between the Maritime Coal, Railway and Power Company of Macan, N. S., and its coal miners. Mr. G. C. Ratcliffe, of Montreal, will represent the employers, and Mrs. J. C. Watters, of Inverness, N. S., the men. Judge George Patterson, of Cumberland County, will act as chairman of the board. This makes the fourth board of conciliation which has been established in connection with the Nova Scotia coal miners.

BRITISH MISSION ARRIVE AT CAIRO

Secrecy Surrounded the Arrival—Detachment of Troops at Arrival of Train.

Cairo, Monday, Dec. 8.—Secrecy surrounded the arrival of the British mission headed by Viscount Milner, secretary for the colonies. The party was driven to a hotel before the population was aware of its presence. Detachments of troops were about the station in the rain, but they are such familiar sights in Cairo that the natives did not suspect the reason for their presence.

INTRODUCTION OF IRISH BILL AGAIN HELD UP

All Former Confident Press Predictions Regarding Prospects of Home Rule Bill Have Now Been Dropped.

London, Dec. 12.—(By The Associated Press)—The announcement in the House of Commons yesterday that the introduction of the Irish Bill would have to be postponed, at least for a few days, has caused the press to drop all confident predictions regarding the prospects of a Home Rule measure, the comment now expressing general uncertainty. The staunch Unionists, especially the Ulstermen, have been indifferent or opposed to the bill as outlined in the press and have all along given voice to doubts of its being introduced before Christmas, believing the cabinet ministers too greatly divided for an agreement to be reached.

Government Realizes That the Proposed Scheme for Two Parliaments is Not Acceptable to Any Irish Faction.

This supposed division among the cabinet members was emphatically asserted in Unionist circles today. It was further declared that the proposed scheme for two parliaments with a consulting central council, does not appeal to any section of Irish opinion, and the government has been made aware of this by representations from the part of the various political sections.

It is not questioned that the postponement of the bill's introduction was actually done, as stated by Mr. Bonar Law, to the visit of Premier Clemenceau with whom Premier Lloyd George is now occupied. It was declared by some in the lobby circles, that this excuse for a postponement came opportunistly for the government. Elsewhere the belief is expressed that a section of the cabinet is seriously trying to get the bill introduced before the Christmas holidays and the Premier is credited by some with the intention of carrying the bill before the second reading of the bill before the vacation period, although not expecting to carry the measures further until next session.

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TOO WIDE A GAP BETWEEN MINISTERS

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TIGER DINES WITH KING AND QUEEN

Much of Advantage to Both England and France Expected from Clemenceau's Visit to London.

London, Dec. 12.—M. Clemenceau went to Buckingham Palace this afternoon, where he had tea with King George and Queen Mary. In the evening he dined with Earl Curzon, of Kedleston and Lady Curzon, and later visited a theatre.

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