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BRITISH HOUSE MAY DISSOLVE

Dissolution Is Hastened by the Government's Surrender to Officers Is General Opinion.

GENERAL ELECTION IS SOLUTION, IS ARGUED

Liberals Dissatisfied With the Government's Treatment Of Officers—Asquith's Course Deplored.

London, March 24.—Dissolution of the British parliament has been hastened by recent events growing out of the Ulster situation, according to the opinion generally expressed today in political circles. Surrender of the government to army officers who declined to serve against the Ulstermen is particularly significant.

The Irish nationalists, it is pointed out, will not accept home rule with the government permanently excluded, while the government has found it impossible to compel Ulster to come under a Dublin parliament.

It is argued that the only way out of the difficulty is to have a general election and no one would be surprised if the government during the second reading of the home rule bill next week should offer to dissolve parliament on condition that the home rule, the Welsh disestablishment and the plural voting bills be passed.

Dissatisfaction of the rank and file of the liberals with the government's treatment of the army officers is another factor which is likely to hasten a general election.

The provincial liberal papers, as is usual, are even more outspoken on the subject of the government's surrender to the officers than are their London contemporaries. The Manchester Guardian says:

"It is with the deepest regret and some shame that we have heard of Premier Asquith's even partial acceptance of the doctrine that officers have the right to lay down for themselves the conditions under which they will continue to serve the king."

"They are so treated because they are rich men and because they have the prejudices of their class. Not only is there one law for the rich man in the army and one for the poor, but there is one standard for the rich man's loyalty to his oath and another standard for the private soldier whose sympathies are with the laboring men."

Similar documents appear in the Liverpool Post, also a strong liberal paper.

To Clear Mystery.

Col. John Seely, secretary of state for war, today promised in the house of commons that he would tomorrow lay on the table all the material and written documents which he said would clear up the whole mystery of the recent crisis among the officers of the army in Ireland. He gave this promise when he was asked by a member to confirm or deny the statement that a written assurance had been given to Brigadier General Hubert Gough that the troops would not be used to force home rule.

PROTESTING PRISONERS OF LAZARE ISOLATED

Mme. Caillaux in Condition of Extreme Fatigue—Calls For Husband.

Paris, March 24.—Fifteen ring-leaders among women prisoners in the St. Lazare penitentiary who protested against the special privileges being accorded to Mme. Caillaux were placed in isolation cells today. Mme. Caillaux, who appeared in a condition of extreme fatigue today, called impatiently for her husband, the former minister of finance. When he arrived at the jail a long conference ensued.

Denies Allegation.

Paris, March 24.—Louis Barthou, former premier, in testifying today before the committee of the chamber of deputies investigating the allegation that state ministers influenced postponement of the trial of the swindler Henri Rochette, declared that he had not supplied any documents to the Figaro. He said he had not directly or indirectly taken part in the campaign against Joseph Caillaux. On the contrary, when he heard that M. Caillaux, editor of the Figaro, intended to publish papers injurious to the public welfare he pleaded with the public not to print them and received a promise that it would not be done.

WILL DISREGARD SPEER SURRENDER

Sub-Committee will Proceed— Judge "Not Unwilling" To Retire.

Washington, March 24.—Judge Emory Speer's statement that he would "not be unwilling" to accept retirement if the House judiciary committee withdrew charges against him are to be disregarded by the Webb subcommittee, it was said today. Judge Speer's statement, given out in Macon last night, was:

"If the judiciary committee in accordance with their conceptions of duty after considering all matter which has been submitted to it, withdraws the charges against me in a manner as public as they have been made, I will not be unwilling to accept retirement upon the same terms that I might when I reach the age of 70."

The Webb subcommittee is considering the evidence taken in Georgia and soon will be ready to formulate conclusions to report to the entire committee for its guidance in reporting recommendations to the house on the proposed impeachment.

Judge Speer denied the suggestion that he retire in any way emanated from him and said he never had contemplated such action as a result of the house committee's investigation. His statement was called forth, he says, by an inquiry from Representative Adamson concerning the retirement reports.

COLQUITT'S REWARD OFFER CAUSES SERIOUS CONCERN

Proposal to Pay \$1000 For Vergara's Slayers May Re- sult in Complications.

Washington, March 24.—Governor Colquitt's offer of a reward of \$1000 for delivery upon Texas soil of five Mexicans suspected as murderers of Clemente Vergara has caused serious and war department officials serious concern for international complications.

The right of the governor to offer a reward for apprehension of a fugitive is not denied by the officials. But in this case it is feared that the offer may lead to an attempt to kidnap the Mexicans and bring them into Texas which would violate the extradition treaty between Mexico and the United States and afford the Mexican government ground for a demand for punishment of the kidnapers with all kinds of legal entanglements.

Further reports on the incident near Del Rio, Texas, where Mexican federalists fired across the Rio Grande at American troops say more than 500 shots were directed at the soldiers, to whom fleeing constitutionalists surrendered.

N. C. PHYSICIAN FOUND DEAD; GAS JET OPENED

Indications That Young Dr. Kinsey Committed Suicide In Washington.

Washington, March 24.—Dr. Oliver Kinsey, a young North Carolinian, graduate of Johns Hopkins university and who was awaiting a commission as an army surgeon, was found dead in the bath room of his boarding house today. Gas was flowing from a jet and all the cracks in the room had been stopped up.

Dr. Kinsey was a native of Kinsey, N. C.

TRIAL OF HANDSOME JACK KOETTERS BEGUN

Chicago, March 24.—The state has begun its case against Jno. B. (Handsome Jack) Koettler, accused of killing Mrs. Emma Kraft of Cincinnati, in a Chicago hotel November 14, 1912. Stephen Malate, assistant state's attorney, declared the state would prove that Koettlers under promise of marriage, lured Mrs. Kraft, who was advanced in years, to Chicago, borrowed large sums from her and finally crushed her head with a hammer.

TROOPS GUARD IN DEPEW, N. Y.

Militia Regiment Sent to City To Quell the Disturbances Arising From Strike at Coupler Works.

SOLDIERS COMPELLED TO USE BAYONETS

Special Train Carrying Work- ers Held Up Yesterday Running Under Military Protection.

Depew, N. Y., March 24.—Troopers of the 74th militia regiment were placed on guard here today after civil authorities found themselves unable to quell disorder growing out of the strike at the Gould Copper works. A serious situation had developed because of yesterday's rioting in which one man was killed and several wounded.

The special Lackawanna train carrying workers from Buffalo which was held up yesterday came through today under military protection. When it reached the main entrance to the Gould plant a crowd of strikers and sympathizers were gathered but they were dispersed. They met again, however, at another entrance and soldiers were forced to use bayonets to scatter them. One wounded man was carried away by his companions.

Departure of the troopers from Buffalo was delayed when motormen deserted their cars after the soldiers got aboard. They were suspended and under leaders demanded their reinstatement today threatened strike rumors were heard.

PRESIDENT ENDORSES PROGRESSIVE MOVE

Raleigh, March 24.—Endorsing the movement among the progressive democrats for a state-wide primary, a mass meeting to be held in Raleigh in April to counsel on this and other progressive measures President Wilson under date of March 21, writes Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, of his interest in the matter and says:

"I must admit that I was very much surprised to learn that so great and progressive a state was so far behind the procession in a matter of such capital importance to the people. May I not express my deep interest in your efforts to bring about the necessary legislation? I am sure it would cheer democrats everywhere to see this done by North Carolina."

IS REARRESTED FOR MURDER OF HUSBAND

East Woodstock, Conn., March 24.—Mrs. Amanda U. Lawson was arrested today on a bench warrant charging her with the murder of her husband, Jonas P. Lawson, a well-to-do farmer, last August. This is the second time Mrs. Lawson has been under detention charged with his death. She was released the first time, as the grand jury failed to indict her.

When Lawson's body was found it was in a stall with a lively horse and it was at first thought that the farmer had been kicked to death. Investigation, however, the state claimed, showed he probably had been battered to death in the cellar of the Lawson home then placed in the stall in an endeavor to cover up the crime.

HAS ALTITUDE RECORD WITH ONE PASSENGER

Johannistal, Germany, March 24.—Linnekegel, a German aviator, today established a world's altitude record for a flight with one passenger in an aeroplane by attaining a height of 18,000 feet in his monoplane from the aerodrome here.

The previous record for a flight with one passenger was made by the late Edmund Perreyon, a Frenchman, who on June 3, 1912, rose to a height of 16,270 feet.

PAGE'S ACCOUNT OF SPEECH RECEIVED

Washington, March 24.—Ambassador Page's own complete account of his London speech on the Monroe doctrine which caused the senate to demand an explanation by the state department has been received by Secretary Bryan. He took the speech with him to the cabinet meeting and planned to transmit it to the senate later.

Taubebaum on Trial.

DURHAM SUFFERS A MILLION DOLLAR LOSS FROM FIRE

Entire Block Including Duke Building and Other Struc- tures Were Burned.

Durham, March 24.—Fire which originated shortly before midnight and raged unchecked for three hours did damage estimated at \$1,000,000 in the center of the business section here. The breaking of a water main hampered the work of firemen and for a time the entire downtown section of the city was imperiled.

An entire block of business buildings, including the five story structure owned by Brodie L. Duke, tobacco manufacturer, was destroyed, and buildings in an adjoining block greatly damaged. A heavy wind added to the difficulty of checking the conflagration.

Aside from the loss of the Duke building, individual losses were, in most instances, less than \$50,000. Many offices in the larger buildings were swept by flames and a dozen stores of various sorts destroyed with their stocks. The total loss was said today to be half covered by insurance.

The flames originated on the second story of the Duke building. According to the best information available the point of origin was near the elevator shaft. Smoke was first discovered coming from the building at about 11 o'clock and a general alarm sent in. Firemen had been at work but a few minutes when a water main burst, depleting the pressure so that the fire apparatus was practically useless. Before the break could be repaired flames had ascended the elevator shaft and were leaping from the fifth floor of the building.

Carried by the wind, the fire rapidly spread in a northwesterly direction. Before it was checked, after 2 o'clock this morning, practically the entire block had been destroyed and several buildings in another greatly damaged.

An investigation to determine the cause of the conflagration was started today. One report was that the flames originated near a barrel of oil which had been left near the elevator shaft of the Duke building. Another was that a defective wire was responsible.

15 YEARS OLD BOY HAS DESPERATE REVOLVER BATTLE WITH POLICE

Terre Haute, Ind., March 24.—15 year old boy barricaded in a gun shop held off a squad of police with a continuous revolver fire today, until wounded in many places, and his clothes blood soaked, he staggered from his fortress and surrendered. The lad—Ernest McWilliams—was found early today in the gun shop and when his surrender was demanded he replied with a fusillade. In the battle that followed all the window panes in the store were shattered and an automobile behind which the boy had taken refuge was riddled with bullets from the officers' weapons.

TWO U. S. TROOPERS FIRE ON MEXICAN FEDERALISTS

Exchange Shots With Small Detachment Pursuing Constitutionalists.

San Antonio, Texas, March 24.—Only two United States troopers engage in the exchange of shots Sunday with Mexican federal soldiers at McKee's Crossing, according to the official report of Captain George W. Winterburn, who was in command of the detachment of the Fourteenth cavalry stationed at that point. The bullets fired by the cavalrymen were effective, however, and the Mexicans were soon put to flight.

Captain Winterburn's report was received at Fort Sam Houston, headquarters of the southern department of the United States army last night. He confirmed previous dispatches with regard to the incident, declaring that it was only after three horses had been killed on the American side of the border that the order to return the fire was given. Captain Winterburn stated that the detail was made up of eight men, and that while two of the men engaged the Mexican soldiers, the others rounded up the fugitives as they reached the Texas side of the Rio Grande. His report did not say as to the casualties on the Mexican side. None of the United States soldiers were hurt.

CHAMBERLAIN'S TOLLS SCHEME

Senator Offers Resolutions For Repeal of Provision Ex- empting U. S. Vessels On All Canals.

IN LINE WITH PANAMA EXEMPTION REPEAL?

Resolution Calls on Secretary Or War For Information Relating to Mainte- nance of Waterways.

Washington, March 24.—Basis for an important phase of argument against the administration proposal for repeal of the Panama tolls exemption was placed before the senate today by Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, in a resolution to pave the way toward repeal of a section of the rivers and harbors act of July 5, 1884, providing that no tolls or operating charges be charged on any vessels belonging to the United States.

After setting forth the purposes sought by the government in the act of 1884, the Chamberlain resolution, which calls upon the secretary of war for information relating to maintenance of rivers and canals, declares:

"Whereas, if the free tolls clause of the Panama canal act is to be repealed and tolls are to be levied upon vessels engaged in the coastwise trade of the United States, the policy of the government is to be completely reversed and the act of July 5, 1884 ought to be repealed and tolls charged upon all the improved waterways and canals of this country so that there might be a uniform system for the use of these utilities;

Therefore, in anticipation of a possible repeal of the free tolls clause of the Panama canal act and of a reversal of the time honored policy of the United States with reference to river and harbor improvement and canal construction and operation of these government utilities free of charge to all commerce and in order to ascertain the facts in reference to these improvements, be it resolved,

"That the secretary of war be requested to furnish to the senate the following information: First, the amount expended by the United States in river and harbor improvement since the adoption of the constitution; second, the amounts expended in the construction of canals covering the period of time; third, the amounts that the several states have raised to be used in co-operation with the United States; the names of the rivers which have been improved and the amounts that have been expended on each, the harbors that have been constructed and improved and the amounts expended on each; fifth, the total commerce in tonnage and in value that passes through said rivers and harbors and canals; sixth, what charges are made for tolls on any thereof, and what amount of tolls would it be necessary to charge on each for the purpose of reimbursing the government for the expenditures heretofore made and for the maintenance and upkeep thereof; seventh, what classes of vessels, whether domestic or foreign, are permitted to pass through or into each of these rivers and harbors and canals and what discrimination, if any, is made in favor of domestic shipping; eighth, what amount might be realized by the United States if a reasonable toll were charged on all shipping passing through said rivers and harbors and canals; ninth, what, if any, treaties are in force between the United States and any other foreign power which would force the United States from charging tolls against such foreign governments; even in cases where it might be determined to charge a toll on its own vessels passing through such rivers, harbors and canals; and, tenth, what is the present cost per annum to the United States for maintaining and operating said rivers, harbors and canals."

The resolution was referred to the committee on inter-oceanic canals.

No Debate Today.

There was no prospect of getting the tolls exemption repeal bill before the house today. Administration leaders, however, hoped the rivers and harbors bill would be out of the way so the tolls debate could be begun on Thursday.

In the hope there might be a possibility of getting through with the rivers and harbors bill late today Chairman Henry of the rules committee was ready to submit a rule for immediate consideration of the repeal bill with 15 hours of general debate and shutting off any amendments or motion intervening motions except a motion to recommmit to the commerce committee.

Senator O'Gorman had read to the senate letters and telegrams commending his opposition to the tolls repeal. One telegram from the New

(Continued on Page Nine).

VANTAGE POINT WON BY VILLA

ANOTHER REQUEST FROM SUFFRAGISTS

Ask That Congress Recognize Women as "People and Citizens."

Washington, March 24.—Woman suffragists, headed by Rev. Olympia Brown of Wisconsin, president of the Federal Suffrage league, today sought the aid of the house elections committee in behalf of the French bill to provide that women who are citizens of the United States and possess similar qualifications as are required of men voters shall be eligible to vote "in all states of the union at elections for members of the house of representatives and the United States senate."

Mrs. Clara Bewick Colby of Portland, Ore., speaking for the bill, declared that under the constitution and the interpretations of the courts "women were people and citizens, and congress, therefore, should recognize them as such and extend the rights of federal suffrage to them." She cited the decision of Chief Justice Tenney that the words, "people of the United States" and "citizens," are synonymous terms and mean the same thing, and added that the constitution now provided that "the people" should choose the members of the house and senate.

"A law enabling women of all states to vote for members of the house and senate," said Mrs. Colby, "is necessary not only to prevent unjust discrimination and to secure a balanced representation in congress but to protect the right of suffrage in those which have it." Mrs. Colby pointed out that women, by leaving states where they now vote, not only lost their local rights but were treated as though they were no longer citizens of the United States.

Steamer Agrand.

Washington, March 24.—An unknown steamer was reported around today south of Fowey rocks near Miami, Fla. The revenue cutter Yamacraw sailed from Savannah to her assistance.

To Destroy Monroe Hull.

Washington, March 24.—The revenue cutter Onondaga was ordered today to blow up any portions of the sunken Old Dominion liner Monroe that may menace navigation. The steamer's hull will not be disturbed and her cargo may still be saved.

Though Stubbornly Resisted And Checked, Rebels Take Strategic Position Be- fore Torreon.

FEDERALS MAKE SALLY BUT ARE BEATEN BACK

Rebels Confident of Ultimate Capture of Key to South Though Not Expecting Such Resistance.

El Verjel, Mexico, March 24.—Meeting stubborn resistance at Gomez palacio, above Torreon, Francisco Villa and his 12,000 rebel troops yesterday began the most important battle of the present revolution and Villa's march to Torreon was seriously checked. The field hospital here today is crowded with wounded who streamed into El Verjel as fast as they could be returned from the front. Given emergency attention here, the seriously wounded were hastened on to the general hospital at Bermejillo.

The federal loss appears to have been heavier than that of the rebels, but no accurate estimate of their dead and wounded has been made.

Apparently determined to deal General Villa a crushing blow before he actually reached Torreon's gates, General Velasco sallied out of the invested city under cover of guns on the sides of Cerro de la Pajar and strongly garrisoned Gomez palacio. Made confident by his easy victories en route when Villa heard the report from his scouts that Gomez palacio was strongly fortified, he ordered an attack. While the federal guns on Cerro de la Pajar belched a murderous fire, Villa's cavalry was hurled against the mountain side and after desperate fighting they took the water tank on the crest of the bluff. They had secured first vantage in the engagement.

From there they fought on to the Brittingham soap factory, inflicting engaging the defending forces within and upon the buildings. Another hour and the federal retreated to the quarter where the hottest fighting of the battle took place. Fighting from the front gaining ground foot by foot, the rebels finally drove Huerta's men back again toward Torreon. They retreated in good order, maintaining insistent firing as they were beaten back.

Villa reiterated confidence that Torreon would be his by Thursday. Juarez, exico, March 24.—Although desperate fighting continued, it was

(Continued on Page 9).

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Gazette-News Tuesday Mar. 24

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