

TORIES IN SADDLE; PREMIER IN BONDAGE

Coalition Members Owe Their Votes to Tory Aid.

FAIR WOMAN FARES BADLY

Feminine Folk Lose Because They Represented Militant Suffragettes and Unorganized.

BY JAMES M. TUOHY. (Copyright, 1918, by The New York World-Special Cable.)

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The results of the general election are a signal triumph for Premier Lloyd George's party. All his plans have succeeded. The old Liberal party, which refused to throw its lot in with Toryism, has been wiped out. All of its most prominent leaders have gone under, including former Premier Asquith, whose defeat is final and can be followed logically only by his retirement into private life.

The Irish Nationalist party has been almost eliminated as a Parliamentary force. Its seven surviving members being practically impotent.

Premier Lloyd George has succeeded, too, in his aim of not only getting rid of the troublesome Nationalists, but replacing them by 73 Sinn Feiners, including the Countess Markievicz, who, though a member of an Irish landlord Tory family, represents the Bolshevik extreme of Sinn Feinism.

Guard Set Against Revolt.

The Lloyd George-Carson scheme for Ireland is that the Sinn Feiners, if they attempt to set up their promised independent Parliament in Dublin, can be dealt with by the police and hauled into jail.

But Professor MacNeill, who is now a Sinn Fein member for the Irish National University and some of the more moderate section of the new party, are in favor of abandoning the policy of abstentionism from the British Parliament. They are prepared even to go through the form of taking the oath of allegiance to King George.

Should they each receive a member of Parliament's salary, £400 (£2000) a year. Their slur of accepting British gold, Professor MacNeill considers, could be turned to a sardonic use by funding the Sinn Feiners' salaries and using the money to carry on a campaign against England.

Join Laborites in Success.

If the Sinn Feiners decide to take their seats at Westminster, and at present the chances are greatly against it, they naturally will throw in their lot with the Labor party, the only British party with which they have anything in common.

But Labor comes back without a leader of any moment, and the Tories, as well as the Parliamentary experience, as well as the big battalions, are with Premier Lloyd George's coalition.

But Premier Lloyd George himself is the bond slave of the great Tory block behind him, and he is far less master in his own house now than in the last Parliament. Every one of his coalition supporters owes their seats not to him, but to the Tory votes which he secured for them by his pact with Bonar Law and Carson.

Lloyd George and his Liberal followers do not represent Liberalism in any sense—they represent so much as the Tories, were prepared to throw them for the sake of countering the new Government as a coalition, whereas in truth it represents the essence of Toryism, and will be run by the Tories, Anglo-American imperialists and militarists and every influence to which Lloyd George is supposed to be hostile.

Women Fared Badly.

The women have fared badly, partly because they represented the militant suffragettes, but mainly because there had been no time to organize the women's vote and get the proper women candidates.

Various electoral influences were at work in securing this overwhelming majority nominally for Lloyd George. First of all, was the feeling that he did more than any other British Minister to win the war; secondly, that former Premier Asquith had taken the matter entirely too easily; even did not attempt to put any fire into his party campaign, and in fact was a deadening influence throughout; thirdly, because the Labor Party was suspected of leanings toward the pacifists; every one of the pacifist-Laborites and Radicalism have been defeated; fourthly, the fear of Bolshevism if labor got the upper hand; fifthly, the Tory confidence that in voting for Lloyd George and the Liberals they were strengthening and not weakening their own position.

Tories in the Saddle.

Supposing that this election had been fought on the straight issue as between Liberalism and Toryism, and that Lloyd George has not deserved his party, the Liberals would have had at least 200 members in the new Parliament; but when it is supposed that

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LYDD GEORGE FACES HARD PROBLEMS

Peace Issues Complicated by Tory Extremists' Attitude.

IRISH QUESTION SINISTER

Prospect of Real Revolution Is Disclosed Imminent and Result of Politicians' Manipulations.

BY JAMES M. TUOHY. (Copyright, 1918, by The New York World-Special Cable.)

PARIS, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Reports concur in representing the results of President Wilson's visit to London and his conferences there with the Premier and Cabinet as having been most satisfactory. The question has now been raised of harmonious action at the peace conference. The elections had distracted attention of the British from the prospective conference, and had naturally tended to undue prominence certain popular and personal issues, such as the punishment of the ex-Kaiser, for instance. The question has now been submerged and here is general recognition of the duty of the government to settle down in the Paris meeting to adjustment of really vital peace problems.

Whether or not the report may be accurate, that a basis of agreement in peace terms has been reached between the President and the British Government, it is certainly believed in authoritative quarters here that substantial progress toward a settlement has been made, and that the air has been cleared of certain misconceptions regarding the American and British points of view.

Keeping of Pledges Sworn.

It may be said that Premier Lloyd George is under no misapprehension respecting the magnitude of the task he has undertaken, and that he must overcome, in his determination to secure a lasting peace, these difficulties will not present themselves merely in the peace conference, but they also are inherent in the constitution of his parliamentary authority.

His outspoken avowal to his constituents of the necessity of a government which shall try its best to fulfill its promises "I pledge myself not to remain at the head of the government, but will go with the people to any other mandate," is profoundly significant.

Power to dissolve Parliament and to compel another appeal to the people, which resides in him as Premier, is the most potent weapon he possesses with which to counter the reactionary tendencies which are surely developing in the Tory majority of the coalition. He is under no illusion in that matter and his career shows, whatever may be said of his political tactics, that he has indomitable courage.

His declaration may have been prompted by the efforts of certain extreme Tories to have the vigilance committee to guard against his "kicking over the traces."

Supervisory Scheme Resented.

In the last Parliament were two official committees of members, called the League of Nations and the Unionist war committee, whose function was to ginger up the government in the prosecution of the war. The Liberal war committee now represents a large proportion of Lloyd George's Liberal-Coalition Parliament following.

The movement now afoot in Tory quarters is to extend the scope of work of the Tory war committee, with the view of watching over the interests of British imperialism in connection with peace negotiations. Premier may well resent this scheme of supervision, considering the overwhelming vote of combined Toryism and Liberalism which has re-elected him to office.

As a sign of the disposition of the Tory majority to dominate Parliament, this extension of the functions of the Tory war committee, if made effective, is highly important, although there is no constitutional provision for giving Parliament the rights possessed by the American Senate in respect to treaties, that will be the result of its effectively exercised in Parliament by defeating the government, if the peace conditions should prove unacceptable to the majority of the House; and that majority happens, in this case, to be Tory.

Extremists Seek Representation.

It is believed the Premier has the full confidence of his Tory Ministerial colleagues, and that he has already subjected to pressure to include in the new government Tories of a more extreme type, particularly Sir Edward Henry Carson, who has been suggested for the office of Home Secretary. The Premier has or had great admiration for Carson, who has the powerful support of the new Tory party, although he proved a conspicuous failure in the coalition governments, from which he resigned on side issues. He has an office, he will, choose in the new government, but perhaps the condition of his health and his unwillingness to sacrifice again his great legal practice, as well as his ambition to be the next Tory Premier, may decide him to remain outside. But he may be reckoned with, in or out of power, and particularly if he accepts the office of chairman of the new Tory war committee.

Lloyd George's desire to have representative members in the Cabinet is shared by his Tory colleagues, but he is unlikely to find labor members willing to serve unless in short choicery from the ranks of the Coalition-Laborites, who are disowned by the labor party, and who owe their return to Parliament largely to Tory votes.

Irish Question Grave.

Aside from the Premier's other difficulties there is the eternal Irish question, which at this moment has assumed a particularly sinister aspect. The greatest known in the relations of the two countries.

According to Lloyd George's own paper, this content has been developed from the extinction of the Constitutional Nationalist party and the establishment of the Republican-Intrinsic Sinn Fein.

Ministers who fancied it clever policy to assist the Sinn Feiners, in order to get the upper hand of the Tories, are face to face with a real revolution in Ireland, as the immediate consequence of their manipulations. With so many puzzling and wondrous elements to worry him, Lloyd George will need all his resources to carry him through the jungle of obstacles that confront him at the proudest moment of his career.

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Tuberculosis on Increase, Every Fourth Death Being Due to That Disease.

(Copyright, 1918, by The New York World-Special Cable.)

VIENNA, Dec. 29.—(Special cable.)—The Department of Health has just issued a sensational report regarding the suffering of the Viennese since the beginning of the war. Though people require from 2500 to 3000 food calories daily, Vienna's war rations, which are now only 1500, are insufficient to that, yielded only 746 calories a day.

The result has been that a large number of persons have lost upward of 25 pounds in the last four years. Even the wealthy lost an average of 25 pounds. Deaths rose appallingly, the city of Vienna alone registering 45,131 last year, against 32,268 in 1914.

Every fourth death within the city boundaries is now due to tuberculosis, which has assumed proportions that cause doctors the gravest alarm. Although it is impossible to tell the number of deaths due to starvation, the report states that from 7 to 11 per cent of the deaths this year have been due to underfeeding, but official reports of food mortuary examinations say the percentage is much higher, ranging between 24 and 20 per cent.

The health of the children is causing great anxiety, for out of 54,800 examined during the year by the medical authorities only 4537 were found in a healthy condition. Their average weight is considerable, especially in children between 10 and 15 years of age, whose average weight is only 77 pounds, whereas in 1914 it was 85 pounds. Moreover, these children have not grown at all since the outbreak of the war, with the result that their bodies are full of fat, and their mothers and fathers consist largely of stunted adolescents with premature old faces, pallid and hollow-eyed.

HUNS REPORTED WELL FED

NO NEED FOR ALLIES TO HASTEN RELIEF.

Pre-War Rolls of Fat Not in Evidence, but People Generally Appear Fit.

(Copyright, 1918, by The New York World-Special Cable.)

LONDON, Jan. 2.—An article written by a member of the allied naval commission in German waters on the subject of food conditions in North Germany is published by the Times today. The writer is careful to point out that he deals only with what various members of the commission saw with their own eyes in a very considerable area and that he ignores hearsay evidence regarding other parts of Germany.

"If food conditions in the rest of Germany are as good as those reported worse than in Odenburg, Mecklenburg and Schleswig-Holstein, there is certainly no need for haste on the part of the Allies to hasten their relief. None of the members of the various sub-commissions reported having noticed any evidence of palpable under-feeding among any of the inhabitants. Indeed, they are of the unanimous opinion that the whole population, both urban and rural in the German States, are being fed near enough to normal requirements to keep them at full physical vigor. As a member of the intelligence staff, I have spent many years in the country before the war said:

"You don't see so many people with rolls of fat as you do five or six years ago, but you do see a healthier, harder and generally more fit looking population."

"As to clothes, the Germans would certainly have had the best of the comparison."

PERSHING THEATER OPENS

Playhouse Only One Maintained Exclusively for Soldiers.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The Pershing Theater, said to be the only playhouse in the United States maintained exclusively for soldiers, and to which admittance is free, will be opened tonight by the New York Community Camp Service.

The initial bill will include a symbolic fantasy, "The Message of the Star of Gold," presented by a volunteer cast led by Miss Margaret Vale, a niece of President Wilson, and a musical comedy, "The Masqueraders," presented by the Pershing Musical Comedy Stock Company.

Continent Crossed to Nurse Family.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—G. Ed Ross, former secretary of the State Highway Commission, arrived here today, after traveling from Atlanta, Ga., to nurse his family of six, all ill with Spanish influenza. With 226 houses in quarantine here, it was impossible to secure nurses for handling the cases, and the trip across the continent made by Mr. Ross was to prevent his family from dying for lack of care. He is in the employ of the Federal Government as an auditor.

MILLIONAIRE'S WIDOW DIES

Mrs. Emeline A. Sweeney, of Spokane Passes Away.

SPokane, Wash., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Mrs. Emeline Agnes Sweeney, widow

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