

BRITISH POLITICS ARE TOSY-TURVY

Tories Shift Policies With Regularity, Losing Identity as Party.

LIBERALS GAIN STRENGTH

Hereditary House of Lords Is Described as Gone—Home Rule Wins Friends—Balfour Surrenders Tariff Protection.

BY T. P. O'CONNOR, M. P. (Copyright, 1910, by the Tribune Company, Chicago.)

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 3.—Kaleidoscope is much too mild a term for the rapid and numerous changes in the policies of the Tories in this election. They began with jettisoning the House of Lords.

"The hereditary House of Lords," said Lord Roseberry, "now is gone and the Tory party has ceased to exist." Other peers and A. J. Balfour, leader of the opposition in the Commons, repeated this momentous saying in different words.

But the most startling of all surrenders is Balfour's surrender of the tariff protection idea. His declaration that protection will not be carried without a referendum is the most daring electioneering coup in British annals.

All of these rapid and continuous changes in tactics make the Liberals describe this as the "white flag election," or, as Winston Churchill put it, "The Tories march under an officer called General Surrender."

Tories in White Terror.

These expedients are eloquent proof of the white terror of the Tories. At last they realize that their insolent rashness has imperiled everything they want to preserve—the land monopoly, the hereditary peerage and their grip on Ireland.

Of course, all the surrenders, all the reforms and all the pledges are sham. The so-called reform of the House of Lords would make the power of the peers greater than ever.

The Balfour pledge is studiously vague and already it has been repudiated by the Morning Post, chief protectionist organ, and by the really sincere protectionist candidates.

Balfour's declaration is intended to win over some of the Tory free traders and it may influence some of the elections, but it helps aggravate the mutiny against his leadership, which is strong in the Tory ranks, and gives the Liberals a triumphant opportunity for a declaration that any tariff reform at last has been stricken off Balfour.

Excitement Aids Liberals.

The election is being fought amid hourly growing excitement. I never saw the meetings so crowded and enthusiastic. The greater the excitement, the greater is the chance of the Liberals winning, but the staleness of the register is a tremendous handicap, especially in London, where in many constituencies one-third of the voters have disappeared into other dwellings.

I fear the London elections, and, as they are the first elections, they may prejudice the Liberal chance throughout the country, but Lancashire, where I will spend most of the time before election, seems as solid as ever for the Liberals.

Liverpool remains hopelessly Tory, mainly because many of the constituencies are as Orange and anti-Irish as the worst part of Belfast.

In Manchester, which is the metropolis of the free trade sentiment, only one seat is endangered. Thomas G. Horridge, the ablest and most convinced protectionist champion, is fighting for the seat where Winston Churchill was beaten three years ago, and may win, as the constituency is of a strenuous character.

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Liberals Hold Strength.

Elsewhere there is no sign of any diminution of the Liberal strength, and possibly some seats will be won in Lancashire, Scotland and Wales.

My own impression is that things will remain as they are, but that is enough. In the meantime, home rule is being pushed to the front equally by its many and its few champions. The Liberals are making daily more emphatic their home rule pledges.

Balfour has challenged Premier Asquith to agree that home rule, like protection, should be submitted to referendum. Asquith refused emphatically and the referendum is definitely opposed by the Liberal party.

The cry of "American dollars" continues, but it is given with less frequency. All the Liberal leaders, including Lord Morley, who re-enters the electioneering campaign after many years of absence from the platform, laughed it out of existence and Lord Roseberry's prestige has been greatly lowered by his joining in this ridiculous cry.

America Club of Tories.

Such violent Tory organs as the London Daily Telegraph still harp upon the cry and make a great deal of the ravings against the English people. These ravings are quoted in the biggest type and supply the Tories with new fuel to light up the smolder of the anti-Irish and anti-American Tory appeals. Things look hopeful to Ireland, through the Tory and factionist attacks in several constituencies deplete the funds and divide the Nationalist energies and retain in Ireland many able speakers. This last fact is especially unfortunate, as never was there a keener desire in England to hear the Irish members and everywhere the few who speak are received with enthusiasm.

Indeed, the present election has restored in England the old tide of emotional enthusiasm for home rule which died when Gladstone was elected.

Cork City may be won from O'Brien. Sir Edward Fitzgerald, who has the support of thousands of voters, which is the balancing factor, now is supporting Redmond. North Louth is being beaten Healy, and at best O'Brien will retain his seats in County Cork.

All Ireland Is Aroused.

But all attacks outside of Cork will fail, and the probability is that Redmond has a chance of winning two Tory seats in Midtyrosne lost by the Nationalist split at the last election and South Dublin, which was lost through the snowstorm which made the full Nationalist poll impossible.

The probability is that Redmond will return four or six in addition to his present members. Everywhere the Irish are more aroused and more united than at the by-election and in England especially their ranks are more united.

SKETCH OF GREAT IRISH LEADER WHO WRITES OF BRITISH CRISIS FOR THE OREGONIAN.



T. P. O'CONNOR.

LAWYERS IN DISPUTE

Hot Legal Controversy Arises at Le Blanc Trial.

FOREIGN TONGUE MAY SAVE

On Knowledge of English Language Hangs Vital Point in Case of Hattie Le Blanc, Charged With Death of Laundryman.

OVERTURES COUNT LITTLE

(Continued From First Page.)

quent, causing among foreigners a feeling of excitement rather than alarm. The foreigners would not be unduly frightened if the city itself were taken.

The revolutionists have given too many assurances of their friendliness for that. An example occurred yesterday. A factory superintendent on the outskirts of the town telephoned that he had seen 30 insurgents moving around a distant hill.

Two shots, possibly signals, he said, had been heard and a detachment of soldiers were on their way out to meet the enemy. It was the lunch hour and most people waited to complete the meal before starting for the scene. Automobiles and cabs were called into requisition and a large number of persons took the five-mile trip.

Such occurrences are growing monotonous, but each time the soldiers cavalcade makes the trip, hoping with their own eyes to capture one indisputable fact from the mass of rumor which forms the gossip of the streets and of the clubs.

Rebels Gaining Strength.

Every mining and business man who arrives here yesterday and today agrees on certain points—that the revolutionists are gaining in strength, that they are well officered, that they treat foreigners with the greatest consideration and that they have plenty of money. Business, he adds, has been greatly depressed by the uneasiness and excitement of laborers. There is no truth in the report that mines in the Madras district are short of food.

The mines in that section usually have a supply 60 days ahead of present needs. A story typical of the situation comes from Madras. At that point a store owned by a German named Jungk was entered by revolutionists recently.

The next day a leader of the insurgents appeared with the list of the goods confiscated. It tallied exactly with one made up by the storekeeper. The insurgents produced a large roll of money from which he paid the usual price of the goods. He then insisted on paying for the broken locks, explaining that he and his comrades had plenty of money.

The revolutionists are by no means solely of the poor class. In fact, the small ranchowner is said to be largely leased. The insurgent commander at San Andreas is Francisco Valdez y Vasquez, a chemist and assayer of this city, who is also the author of a book on assaying.

The usual trains now move on the railroad. They are scrutinized at various stations, but are otherwise unmonitored. There is no truth in the report that the government of this state has been changed or that a change is expected. The son of Enrique Creel, Foreign Minister, who was reported missing a week ago, has been heard from and is perfectly safe.

No demonstration has occasioned here by the inauguration of President Diaz at Mexico City.

GENERAL MERRITT IS DEAD

Commander in Manila Campaign Dies After Brilliant Career.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Major-General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., retired, died today at Natural Bridge, Va. General Merritt was a resident of the District of Columbia at the time of his death.

General Merritt was the military commander in charge of the first detachments of United States troops who landed on the Philippine Islands. His land operations against Manila were conducted under his direction.

He was born in New York, June 16, 1836, and appointed to the military academy from Illinois in 1855, graduating and becoming a brevet lieutenant in the second dragoons July 1, 1860. He served throughout the Civil War with great distinction. He was retired from active service in 1890.

Detroit Defeats Quakers.

HAVANA, Dec. 3.—The Philadelphia American League baseball team was defeated here by the Detroit nine today in the first game of a series to be played, the first: Detroit 6; Philadelphia 2.

SLOW AND SURE S TARIFF BOARD IDEA

Work Concentrated "for Moment" on Paper, Woolen and Farm Products Schedules.

ADVICE IS CONFLICTING

Chairman of Commission, Voicing Views of Taft, Pleads for Dispassionate Consideration of Knotty Problems.

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—Henry C. Emery, chairman of the Tariff Commission, tonight gave the first official utterance regarding the details of the tariff board in an address made before members of the Chicago Association of Commerce, following a banquet at the Congress Hotel.

He made a strong plea for a permanent tariff board or commission, free from partisan influence, to conduct an extended investigation into the industrial effects of the tariff and then to revise the various schedules without partisan interference.

Taft Approves Views.

Chairman Emery's address was the first official utterance of the definite aims of the Tariff Board and the methods it intends to employ. It can be assumed that he spoke for, and with the approval of, President Taft. He made a clear, strong plea for a permanent Tariff or Commission, free from partisan influence, to meet the growing opinion that a new agency should be provided by the Government which impartial inquiry might be carried out.

The main work of investigating the industrial effects of the tariff had been divided into three main parts, he said, requiring three sets of investigators of different types. The first part is the collection of facts regarding each dutiable article, showing its character and localization of its production at home and abroad, statistics of output, imports and exports, rates of duty to add value, and the like.

The second part of the work is the collection of data regarding costs of production at the mill. The third and most important part of the work is the gathering of statistical information from the best experts available regarding home and foreign prices, local variations in each industry, and the general conditions of competition at home and abroad.

The first part of the work, he said, can be pushed rapidly, but the second is to be extended. The third must be concentrated for the time being on a few main lines of inquiry and carried out with caution.

Cost Experts at Work.

The speaker mentioned the different groups of investigators in each field and referred to the fact that experts on cost accounts would take the checks have the actual conversion costs at the mill of every leading pulp and paper plant in the country, taken directly from the books, and would then be ready to take up at once the next schedule.

"You can appreciate the necessity we are under of concentrating our chief efforts at first on a few main lines," said Mr. Emery. "Naturally every one who has some personal opinion on the tariff has a particular schedule in mind which he thinks needs immediate revision, while we have had a vast amount of sample and public spirited but entirely conflicting advice as to what we ought to take up first and exactly when we ought to have the work completed."

He advised wisely or unwisely we decided to concentrate for the moment on schedule M (pulp and paper), schedule K (woolens and woollens) and schedule G (farm products). Preliminary work is being done on schedule A (chemicals); schedule C (metals and manufactures of) and schedule I (cottons). And the more detailed work on these will begin as soon as possible.

The speaker urged strongly the necessity for maintaining a sane sense of proportion regarding the influence, whether for good or evil, of tariffs and of tariff investigations.

Tariff Not Philosopher's Stone.

"Just as there are some who give practically all the credit for prosperity to the tariff, and others who think the tariff the cause of most of our troubles," he said, "there are those who think an impartial investigation of the tariff is a menace to all business, and others who think that such an investigation will, by some magic process, at once make every man's income adequate for his expenditure and solve the age-long problem of making both ends meet."

"Many economic theorists have attempted to find the philosopher's stone of which they dream, and have made high to all who wish them high, and low to all who wish them low. It would be a fine thing if the farmer could always get two dollars a bushel for his wheat, and the working man pay only a dollar a barrel for his flour."

It is both inconsistent and unfair to demand at one and the same time that the tariff shall be revised on the basis of an impartial and scientific investigation of the facts, and yet be revised with impulsive haste as a political expediency. The two demands are irreconcilable and you must choose between them. So far as we are concerned, it does not matter which of these various attitudes either you or the people prefer. The President has given us a task to find out the facts, and we shall not depart from our resolve to refuse to substitute for such facts half-formed guesses or opinions under orders or pressure from any man, any interest, or any popular clamor."

COUPLE STRANGELY DEAD

Bodies of Man and Wife Found; No Clue as to Cause.

NEW YORK, Dec. 3.—Henry Hasnack and his wife Anna, a middle-aged couple, were found dead today in their rooms on East Seventy-first street and an autopsy will be necessary to determine the cause of death, which physicians say, must have occurred at least two days ago. There was nothing to indicate murder and no definite evidences of suicide.

A post-mortem found in the house seemed to indicate that the husband had died first. It was dated yesterday, addressed to Mrs. Hasnack, signed "Thomas O'Reilly," and read:

"I called to see you Friday evening in regard to the funeral of your husband. Will call again Sunday morning before the meeting."

One theory immediately propounded by the police was that Hasnack died

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HOWARD ASKS VINDICATION

Man Pardoned in Goebel Case to Run for State Senator.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 2.—Another man who was convicted in connection with the assassination of Governor Goebel will seek "vindication" at the polls. James Howard today announced his candidacy for State Senator on the Republican ticket in the 11th Kentucky Senatorial District. Lyle Caley Powers, who was elected to Congress from the 11th District at the recent election, Howard was pardoned for his alleged connection with the assassination of Governor Goebel.

Henry E. Yousey, who is the only man now in the penitentiary serving a life sentence for complicity in the Goebel murder, swore he aimed the gun for Howard, and that the latter fired the shot that killed the Governor.

Auto Wrecked, Baby Escapes.

TRINIDAD, Colo., Dec. 3.—Hurled over a 25-foot embankment and pinned beneath an automobile, the baby daughter of Mrs. Frank Berry, of this city, clasped tightly in its mother's arms, was taken from the wreckage unharmed yesterday. The mother received serious injuries, as did also J. Neitzke, the driver of the machine. Other members of the party saved themselves by jumping when Neitzke lost control of the car.

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