

RESIGNATION OF MR. CHAMBERLAIN

In a Letter to Premier Balfour He Sets Forth the Reasons for Leaving the Cabinet.

DISAGREED ON FISCAL MATTERS

Premier Thinks it Paradoxical that Colonial Secretary Should Quit at This Particular Time.

London, Sept. 17.—The official announcement of the resignation of Mr. Chamberlain and two other members of the cabinet, which was announced by the Associated Press earlier in the day, was made tonight at Downing street in the following communication:

"The following ministers have tendered their resignations, which have been accepted by the king: Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary for the colonies; Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, chancellor of the exchequer; and Lord George Hamilton, secretary for India.

"The accompanying correspondence between the premier, Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, and Mr. Chamberlain."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S LETTER.

Then follows Mr. Chamberlain's letter, dated Birmingham, Sept. 9, commencing:

"My dear Balfour," in which he sets forth his reasons for resignation. An extremely interesting feature of the letter is the following statement concerning a preferential tariff:

"For the present at any rate, a preferential tariff agreement with our colonies involving any new duty, however small, on articles of food hitherto untaxed, even if accompanied by a concession of equal duties on other articles of food, would be acceptable to the majority of the constituencies. However much we may regret the decision, how- ever, I think we may think it no good government in a democratic country to ignore it. It is, therefore, that as an immediate practical policy, the question of preference to the colonies cannot be pressed with any hope of success at the present time, although there is a very strong feeling in favor of the other branch of fiscal reform, which would give fuller discretion to the government in negotiating with foreign countries for a freer exchange of commodities and which would enable our representatives to retain if no concession was made to our just demands."

"If, as I believe, you share these views, it seems to me that you will be absolutely justified in adopting them as the policy of your government, although it will necessarily involve some changes in its constitution. As secretary for the colonies during the last eight years I have been in a special sense the representative of the policy of a closer union, which I firmly believe to be equally necessary in the interests of the colonies and ourselves."

"I believe it is possible today, and may be impossible tomorrow, to make arrangements for such a union. I have had unexampled opportunities of studying events and appreciating the feelings of our kinsmen beyond the seas. I stand, therefore, in a different position to any of my colleagues, and I think that I should justly be blamed if I remained in office and thus formally accepted the exclusion from my political program of so important a part thereof."

"I think that with absolute loyalty to your government and with no fear of embarrassing it in any way, I can best promote the cause I have laid out, and I can best hope that it will be perfectly independent of my arguments, and that you should agree to my tenaciousness and my determination to defend to the hilt my policy, and to my belief in the necessity of a closer union, and to my belief in the necessity of a closer union, and to my belief in the necessity of a closer union."

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all around development of a protective policy and on the part of this country the establishment of a preference in favor of important colonial products. On the first of these requirements I am convinced with you that public opinion is not yet ripe for such an arrangement. The reasons may easily be found in past political battles and present political misrepresentations. If, then, this branch of fiscal reform is not at present within the limits of practical politics, you are surely right in your advice not to treat it as indissolubly connected with that other branch of fiscal reform to which we both attach importance and which we believe the country is prepared to consider without prejudice. I feel, however, deeply concerned that you should regard this conclusion, however well founded, as one making it difficult in your judgment to remain in office.

"Yet I do not venture in a matter so strictly personal to raise any objection if you think you can best serve the interests of Imperial unity for which you have done so much by pressing your views on colonial preference with the present at any rate, a preferential tariff agreement with our colonies involving any new duty, however small, on articles of food hitherto untaxed, even if accompanied by a concession of equal duties on other articles of food, would be acceptable to the majority of the constituencies. However much we may regret the decision, however, I think we may think it no good government in a democratic country to ignore it. It is, therefore, that as an immediate practical policy, the question of preference to the colonies cannot be pressed with any hope of success at the present time, although there is a very strong feeling in favor of the other branch of fiscal reform, which would give fuller discretion to the government in negotiating with foreign countries for a freer exchange of commodities and which would enable our representatives to retain if no concession was made to our just demands."

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means this morning practically recognize the certainty of the Liberals coming into power, while admitting that Mr. Chamberlain had gained a brilliant triumph by winning Mr. Balfour over to his opinions. Mr. Chamberlain's project, only containing that the country is not yet ripe for it. It is clear, however, that he regards retaliation as a step which he would not take. The tariff and the taxation of food. That the Unionist party as a whole does not agree with this view is equally self-evident.

The Conservative papers, while congratulating Mr. Chamberlain on his courage and devotion to his principles, regret his action because it is his belief that the country will never consent to the taxation of food.

The Standard declares that the raising of the preferential issue was perfectly gratuitous. There was never the smallest evidence that either the mother country or the colonies were pressing for it. To throw this apple of discord into the arena of party politics, the Standard thinks, was an unfortunate error, all the more regrettable because the statesman who did so much to create a solid Unionist column has been the one to shake its foundation.

It is this element of doubt regarding the wisdom of Mr. Chamberlain's course, in spite of his tremendous personal popularity, which leads the Unionist to count more upon the weakness of the Liberal party, due to its internal divisions, than to the strength of their party in the coming contest. The Liberal, on the other hand, and laborer, with the discredit attaching to the government as the result of the report of the South African war commission and the strong free trade tendency in the country as revealed by the recent bye-elections, they look forward to an appeal to the country with the utmost confidence.

The radical Daily News, in its joy, declares: "Mr. Chamberlain has met his Waterloo, and in his heart he knows it. His campaign will be invested with the character of a lost cause."

Spencer, Liberal leader in the house of lords, in an interview last night, admitted that the news came as a complete surprise to him, and though it was satisfactory from a party point of view, it would mean a very stiff election fight with such a powerful opponent as Chamberlain.

According to the Daily Telegraph, which is supposed to be closely connected with Mr. Chamberlain, the contents of his letter to Mr. Balfour announcing his intention to resign were unknown to his colleagues at Monday's cabinet council, and much comment is made on the successful manner in which the secret was kept.

The premier has known for so long that Mr. Chamberlain would resign, it is supposed that all the details of the reconstruction of the ministry were practically arranged this week, and that he will be able almost immediately to submit a new cabinet to the king.

Strong demands are made in the papers for the election of Lord Lansdowne and the others concerned in the report of the South African war commission. Rumors are current that Viscount Milner, the high commissioner in South Africa, may be invited to become minister for the colonies, that Mr. Broderick will take the India office, and that Arnold Forster will take the war office.

It is understood that the resignation of Mr. Chamberlain is a serious blow to the government, and that the reconstruction of the ministry will be a difficult task.

Mr. Chamberlain's resignation was a greater surprise even than in London. He is apparently busily engaged in preparing his campaign, but devoted last night to make any public statement.

The bye-election in the constituency of St. Andrews, Scotland, to replace a Liberal Unionist, Henry Torrens, was held last night. Mr. Chamberlain was reported to have been present, and to have been very much interested in the result.

The election was fought with unparalleled keenness on the part of the Liberal Unionists, and the report of the South African war commission.

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MACEDONIA MAY BE OCCUPIED

By Russia and Austria to Prevent a War Between Turkey and Bulgaria.

TURKEY DOES NOT AGREE TO IT.

Plan Meets With Favor in Berlin, Vienna, London and Also in Paris.

Berlin, Sept. 17.—The military occupation of Macedonia by Russia and Austria is thought here to be the only expedient sufficient to prevent war between Turkey and Bulgaria. This suggestion does not originate in Berlin. It reached here some days ago, as an inquiry from Vienna to the foreign office as to what Germany thought of the two powers intervening, such intervention to be barely long enough to restore order and reorganize the Turkish constabulary properly.

The inquiry, it was assumed, rested upon a Russian-Austrian agreement. The identical question will probably be put to all the signatories of the Berlin treaty. The German reply appears to have been considerably affirmative. Since the territory to be occupied was Turkish, Turkey's consent ought to be secured. Germany then would have to object.

But Turkey has not agreed to this, the reason put forth being that Turkey's prestige is endangered, the intervention having gone too far for Turkey to withdraw. She has been told she must put down the uprising promptly, and was doing so. It was now nearly stamped out, and the port of the single shot would be a work, and also to defend itself against Bulgarian aggression.

With the calling out of the reserves of the fourth and sixth corps, Turkey is now on a war footing, only two Arabian corps remaining at peace strength. The fresh mobilization, according to German military opinion, would take three weeks, and if the troops are to be employed in European Turkey it will take considerably longer. A month from now, however, Turkey will have all the reserves available.

The Ludwig-Löwe company of Berlin has completed an order for 100,000 cartridges for Turkey. The last of them, it is understood, are in transit. This company is also delivering to Turkey the latest model of the Mauser rifle, which is used by the German army.

GREAT BRITAIN WILLING. London, Sept. 17.—The proposal that Austria and Russia occupy Macedonia was received here in time to be submitted to the cabinet at its recent meeting. It is understood that the reply of Great Britain was that, while willing that this should be done, provided the powers agree, and that Great Britain is ready to assent to any proposition looking to a settlement of the present situation in Macedonia, and that the views of the powers concerned.

The porte has expelled the Daily Mail's correspondent at Monastir, who had appealed to the British ambassador.

ITALY APPROVES. Paris, Sept. 17.—The officials of the foreign office say Italy has approved the Austro-Russian note regarding intervention in Macedonia, and add that France will doubtless make similar representations at Sofia and Constantinople.

The foreign office understands that Russia has signed any attempt at a popular movement in Bulgaria in support of the Macedonian insurgents will meet with her strongest disapproval.

CURTIS JETT'S TRIAL. Some Very Sensational Developments Outside the Courtroom. Cynthia, Ky., Sept. 17.—The taking of testimony was begun today in the case against Curtis Jett for killing John Patrick at Jackson, Ky., over a year ago. In the case against Jett and White here last month Capt. B. J. Even was the only eye-witness that Commonwealth Attorney Byrd was able to introduce today. He introduced four eye-witnesses, whose testimony created so much comment as to make the situation sensational to night.

The feature of the afternoon was the testimony of John Patrick, who was compelled to leave Breathitt county because from his law office across the street from the courthouse at Jackson he had witnessed the shooting of Cockrell and saw what happened after the shooting of Marcum.

But the most sensational developments today were outside of the courtroom. Mr. Jett, the mother of Curtis Jett, made open overtures not only to the attorneys for the commonwealth, but also to Thomas Cockrell, a brother of the victim. After her conference with these persons during the noon recess, she continued them during the afternoon and evening with Daniel Hurst, the father of Mrs. Marcum. Judge John Patrick, Attorney W. Vaughn and others, asking them to intercede for her son. Another conference is to be held tomorrow morning with Governor Stewart, and it is currently reported that Curtis Jett may then make a confession.

According to the best information from those who were in the conferences today, Curtis Jett offered through his mother to make a confession implicating the other men in the feud murders in Breathitt county, but he insists on saving his uncle, and for this reason the commonwealth would not accept his overtures. It is stated that the commonwealth's attorneys would not accept anything except a clean breast of the whole affair, and they seem to be confident that such a confession will be forthcoming before this trial is concluded. The prisoner thinks he has been deserted by those who were expected to stand by him.

Jett is receiving letters from former companions in Breathitt county, and especially from Thomas White, who is now in jail at Covington, Ky., awaiting the result of his appeal on a life sentence for being an accomplice with Jett in the killing of Marcum. These letters encourage Jett to be hopeful and stand firm. It is reported that Jett has already made a confession to his mother. There is another rumor that he will take the stand in the Cockrell case and make a full confession as a witness.

Lieut. Mitchell Suicides. Leavenworth, Kan., Sept. 17.—Lieut. Mitchell, Second Kentucky infantry, a student officer in the general service and staff college, committed suicide at Fort Leavenworth this afternoon about 4:30 o'clock. Lieut. Mitchell's wife was in Kansas City spending the day and did not return home until about 7 o'clock in the evening, when she found him dead. Lieut. Mitchell was married three