

# HOME RULE FOR IRELAND

RECENT MEETING OF  
COLONIAL PREMIERS  
IN LONDON HAS  
GIVEN A FRESH IMPETUS TO  
THE AGITATION FOR IRISH  
SELF GOVERNMENT - WHY  
SHOULD THE ANTIPODES  
HAVE THE PREFERENCE

HOME rule for Ireland has been the dream of loyal Irishmen for centuries, and it has never seemed more likely to be realized than now. It is certain that the prospects of home rule are brighter today than at any time since Mr. Gladstone's campaign in 1885 for governmental reform in Ireland. Since last summer conferences have been held for the object of framing a basis of action acceptable to the people of both England and Ireland have been of frequent occurrence and for some time it has been apparent that the most generous views on the subject were held in high quarters.

Argument has been advanced by the Liberals, the members of the Labor party who are firm allies of the Irish Nationalists and by the Irish themselves that if the British government can afford to grant home rule to an alien race that is removed less than a decade from an armed opposition of the most destructive character it can also afford to be equally generous to a nation from which it has derived so great a measure of its power and which has been asking for a century to be permitted to govern itself as the other British colonies are governed.

It is true that the bill recently presented to parliament by Chief Secretary for Ireland Augustine Birrell has

not met the expectation of some of the most radical and sanguine advocates of Irish home rule. A great deal more was hoped for and even expected, but what is likely to be obtained will serve as an entering wedge and more will be forthcoming.

An Irish parliament composed exclusively of Irishmen, sitting in Dublin.  
Manhood suffrage in every borough.

Government aid for the revival of Irish industries.

The new home rule parliament to consist of one body.

Merely nominal veto power, such as the governor general of Canada has but rarely exercised, lodged in a council.

Absolute right of the Irish parliament to levy taxes for local uses.

Elimination of general taxation for the support of the theological seminary at Trinity college.

This is what John E. Redmond and other influential members of the Irish

party believed at one time to be in immediate store for their constituents, but the bill presented to the house of commons by Mr. Birrell is far less liberal in its provisions. It is not expected to be satisfactory to either side. Both sides, however, see in it the promise of better things to come. The unionists do not like it because they see in it a step toward home rule, and the radicals do not feel pleased with it because it falls so far short of home rule. No one likes it, but almost every one is able to extract some comfort from it. That, probably, is precisely what the clever secretary and his associates are trying to effect—another postponement of the day so long dreaded by those who cannot see good in Irish home rule.

The Secretary's Explanation.

Mr. Birrell made an eloquent plea for the bill. He explained that it was the intention of the bill to establish a representative administrative council consisting of eighty-two elected and twenty-four nominated members, the latter to be nominated the first year by the king and thereafter by the lord lieutenant of Ireland. Elected members would be elected on the local government board franchise. The undersecretary to the lord lieutenant would be an ex officio member of the council, which would have complete control of

the powers vested in the departments to be handed over to its care.

The president of the council would be appointed by the council itself, and the chief secretary would have the right to attend the meetings. If the existing officers of the departments were retained by the council they must be given full pensions.

Exercise of the powers vested in the departments would be controlled by resolutions of the council, and the supremacy of the imperial parliament would be safeguarded by the power given to the lord lieutenant to reserve his consent to any resolution of the council and the eight departments which would be made subject to the new council.

The departments coming under the control of the proposed Irish council would be the local government board, districts board, commissioners of public works, national education and intermediate education, inspectors of the reformatory and industrial schools and the registrar general.

The supreme court judiciary, royal Irish constabulary, Dublin metropolitan police, the land commission and the prisons board would remain under the control of the imperial authorities. Mr.

Birrell went on to explain that the council being elected on a local government board franchise, peers and women could vote. The constituencies, roughly, would be the same as those of the present parliamentary areas. He did not think 107 members were too many to discharge the important duties assigned to them. The council would be elected for three years and authorized to establish as many committees as it pleased, but it must establish finance, public works, education and local government board committees, the chairman of which would be appointed by the lord lieutenant. It was proposed to establish a new educational department for primary and secondary education to be placed under the control of the council.

An Irish Fund.

For the financial purposes of the eight departments a certain annual sum, to be determined by parliament every five years, would be charged to the consolidated fund and paid into a separate Irish fund. The present cost of the eight departments was estimated at a little over \$10,000,000 yearly. The government proposed to hand over in addition the sum of \$2,250,000 yearly, of which \$1,500,000 must be devoted to

public works and the general development of the country, including other statutory payments.

An Irish fund, therefore, to the amount of a little more than \$20,000,000 annually would be created. The Irish fund would be paid in to a special Irish treasury, to be created by an order in council and having an Irish treasurer at its head.

The council would have the power to appoint or remove the officers of the eight departments mentioned above, but the rights of the existing officers would be preserved.

Under the bill any British subject would be able to hold the office of lord lieutenant, without preference for any religious belief. A clause was also included providing that no preference whatever shall be shown to any religious denomination in appointment and that any resulting from such preference shall be invalid.

In conclusion Mr. Birrell said:

"The government has been told that the bill paved the way for home rule. If the bill passes and the new council is a success, the I dare say it might pave the way. If, on the other hand, it is a failure, it might present considerable obstacles, but surely the unionists will not refuse Ireland an op-

portunity for training her people to acquire any right they ought to possess, because if the measure proves successful one of the difficulties in the way of home rule will have been removed."

From this it may be seen that the provisions of the bill now under consideration are substantially as follows:

First.—The head of the administration will be the lord lieutenant, as now, but all religious disability will be removed.

Second.—The administration will be in the hands of a council of 106 members, 82 elected and 24 nominated by the crown. In the election women and peers will have the right to vote.

Third.—The council will have control of finances, public works, education and local government works and agriculture.

Fourth.—The imperial government retains full power over the supreme court, constabulary, land commission and prisons.

Fifth.—The lord lieutenant has the veto power over measures passed by the council.

Sixth.—The sum of \$20,000,000 annually will be paid into the Irish treasury from the imperial treasury, to be expended under the direction of the council.

Seventh.—The Irish treasury is to be created by the council, with an Irish treasurer at its head. The council has no power to levy taxes.

The Home Secretary.

Augustine Birrell, home secretary for Ireland, who has been prominent in the drafting of this new measure, was until quite recently president of the British board of education and succeeded James Bryce, who resigned to become ambassador to the United States. He is a native of Liverpool, born in that city in 1850. His father was a nonconformist minister, a preacher of considerable note, and his mother was a Scotchwoman. The young man distinguished himself at Cambridge, from which institution he was graduated in his twenty-second year. Three years later he was made a barrister and is now a bencher of the inner temple, although he has in recent years devoted most of his attention to politics and literature. He is the author of many notable essays and of a life of Charlotte Bronte that has brought him fame.

IRA C. RANSOM.

## ALWAYS GROWING.

English is now spoken by about 125,000,000 people. A century ago it was spoken by 20,000,000 people only. During that period no other leading European language has made the slightest advance. German has held its own and is spoken now by 80,000,000, but this is no higher percentage of the total number of people of European descent than it had a hundred years ago.

The United States alone, it is estimated, will contain 200,000,000 when the twenty-first century dawns. As the learning of English is compulsory in India, 300,000,000 more people are being annexed to the English speaking world.

The leading languages of continental Europe at the beginning of the last century—French, German and Spanish—while declining or stationary in Europe itself, are making gains on other continents. There are only 18,000,000 Spaniards in Spain, but 35,000,000 Americans talk Spanish.

Some 20,000,000 people speak German outside of Germany, and twice as many people talk Portuguese in Brazil as there are in Portugal itself, while French is the language of 14,000,000 people outside of France.

## The Magnetic North Pole.

In Harper's for April, Capt. Read Amundsen tells his own story of his discovery of the north magnetic pole, and his unique voyage in a 70-foot boat through the Northwest passage. His account of the discovery of the pole is interesting.

"During February I began the encircling of the magnetic pole, and continued at this work until the month of June. During this latter month I went a sledging expedition to King William land, to the supposed situation of the pole. Here a sensitive de-

clinometer showed the magnetic pole to be north of my place of observation. Immediately after this occurrence the needle turned, showing the pole to be to the south of my position. This very interesting and important fact proves what of late has been assumed on theoretic grounds, namely, that the magnetic pole is movable and is not stationary in its situation."

## Topaz Weighs Forty Pounds.

Edward Hawk, a young assayer, brought into town from a point about seven miles north of here, in what is

known as the Copper mountain district, a giant specimen of clear topaz, probably one of the largest that has ever been found, as it weighs 40 pounds. It is very beautiful (six-sided), with each plane almost as perfect as could have been done artificially. Its full value is hard to determine, but as ordinary-sized topazes of the high-grade type of this one bring about \$10 each, it is not difficult to see that a large number of elegant stones can be cut from the Hawk topaz—fully 1,000 at least.

The stone is about three times as long as it is broad, and its form is not

unlike that of a six-inch gun. It is almost transparent, light passing through it easily without much refraction, the result being that the rays emitted are nearly as brilliant as those from a diamond.—Victor (Colo.) Dispatch to the New York World.

## How Actors Learn New Parts.

N. C. Goodwin learns a new part by saying it into a phonograph, which then repeats it over and over to him until he knows it perfectly.

Richard Mansfield learns new parts

in the morning, walking up and down his library. One morning often suffices for the longest role.

Ethel Barrymore, seated before the fire, has her maid or secretary read her new parts aloud till she has mastered them.

William Gillette memorizes new parts on long country walks. Henry E. Dixey finds that his mind is at its best for mastering new parts late at night, and accordingly he will often remain at his desk till sunrise, a manuscript before him, his lips moving rapidly.

Mme. Bernhardt rarely attempts to

memorize a part save in the presence and with the help of the playwright.

## The New Campanile Condemned.

As appeared inevitable when the first part of Prof. Luxardo's official report to the Syndic of Venice was published during the summer, the new Campanile is condemned. The second part of the professor's report has now been issued to the public, and he unequivocally recommends that the new structure shall be cut down to the base of its foundations, and that a fresh beginning be made.

This drastic course is urged as the re-

sult of a careful analysis of the materials used. He finds that the blocks of brick used contain an excessive proportion of sulphurous anhydride, amounting in the case of some of those examined to five grams. The cements also contain sulphates in such proportions as to seriously impair the stability of the tower.

His verdict is that the work will have to be pulled to pieces and be built anew with more satisfactory materials.—Rome Correspondence Pall Mall Gazette.

In most cases, headaches can be cured with glasses. H. O. Jensen fits them correctly, 52 Main Street.

# A Big Week in Linens, Napkins, Towels, Doylies, Center Pieces, Scarfs, Imported Swisses, White Goods, Wash Goods and Domestic.

EVERY ARTICLE AT A REDUCED PRICE FOR ONE WEEK.  
AN EXTRACT FROM A SIGNIFICANT LETTER FROM A MANUFACTURER.

Knowing you are having an immense business while many are complaining, we have taken the liberty of sending you a few cases of Linens, Swisses, white goods and wash goods. These were a cancellation of a prominent Western firm, on account of late delivery. We have billed the goods to you at a discount, which will permit you to run them out special.

WE WILL JUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT AND GIVE OUR CUSTOMERS THE BENEFIT OF LOWERED PRICES.

To the shipment we have added some of our regular stock, so that the sale will be a big one. Splendid variety, beautiful patterns.

## Plain White Irish Suiting

Linens Medium Weight.

2,000 yards 35c regular for 18c  
1,500 yards 45c regular for 25c  
1,000 yards 55c regular for 35c  
500 yards 65c regular for 45c

## Sheer Linen Cambric.

500 yards \$1.00 regular for 65c  
1,000 yards \$1.25 regular for 85c  
2,000 yards \$1.50 regular for 1.10  
4,000 yards \$2.00 regular for 1.50

## 90 inch All Linen Sheetting.

\$1.75 grade for yard... \$1.10  
\$2.50 grade for yard... \$1.50  
Brighton figured and dotted lawns, values up to 25c yard for 12 1/2c yard.

## 10,000 yards Bleached and Unbleached Table Linen.

64 inches wide, 65c grade for 45c  
70 inch wide 75c grade for 55c  
72 inch wide 85c grade for 65c  
72 inch wide \$1.00 grade for 75c  
72 inch wide \$1.25 grade for 1.00

## 72 inch wide \$1.50 grade for

\$2.10  
72 inch wide \$2.00 grade for \$1.50  
72 inch wide \$2.50 grade for \$1.75

100 dozen all linen silver bleach 20 inch napkins: \$2.25 regular for \$1.85.

## Hemmed and Hemstitched Huck and Damask Towels

Size 17-34, 180 grade for, each \$1.25  
Size 18-35, 12 1/2c grade, for each \$1.00  
Size 19-40, 200 grade for, each \$1.00  
Size 19-40, 22 1/2c grade for, each \$1.00  
Size 19-42, 250 grade for, each \$1.00  
Size 19-40, 300 grade for, each \$1.00  
Size 20-42, 400 grade for, each \$1.00  
25 dozen fine towels, values up to 75c each, choice for 50c each.

## Our Entire Line of Japanese Drawn Work Linens

Consisting of Doylies, Center-pieces, Scarfs, all sizes from 6 inch up to 45 inch.  
\$1.00 grade for ..... 65c  
\$1.50 grade for ..... 1.00  
\$2.00 grade for ..... 1.34  
\$2.50 grade for ..... 1.67  
\$3.00 grade for ..... 2.00  
\$3.50 grade for ..... 2.33  
\$4.00 grade for ..... 2.66

## 50 inch Egyptian figured Bat-

iste, values up to 15c a yard for 8 1/2c yard.

Taffeta Checks 10c value for 7 1/2c yard.

## Our Entire Line of Pattern Cloth with Napkins to Match.

Will be reduced 25 per cent off from regular prices. All linens sold by K. O. B. are guaranteed to give entire satisfaction, or your money is refunded.

## \$5.00 grade for ..... \$3.75

\$7.50 grade for ..... \$5.62  
\$10.00 grade for ..... \$7.50  
\$15.00 grade for ..... \$11.25  
\$20.00 grade for ..... \$15.00  
\$25.00 grade for ..... \$18.75

Every yard of Wash Goods must go regardless of profit.

## Figured and Dotted Imported Swisses.

In all the new Poppy-Tulip-Rose-Shamrock and Fern designs.  
25c grade for, yard ..... 16 2/3c  
40c grade for, yard ..... 25c  
50c grade for, yard ..... 33c  
65c grade for, yard ..... 45c  
75c grade for, yard ..... 50c  
85c grade for, yard ..... 58c  
\$1.00 grade for, yard ..... 75c  
\$1.50 grade for, yard ..... 95c

## 50 inch Manchester figured

Batiste, values up to 22 1/2c yard for 19 1/2c yard.

## 36 inch Berkeley Cambrics

Short lengths from 1 to 5 yard lengths.  
No. 60 18c value per yard for 12 1/2c  
No. 100 25c value per yard for 18c  
No. 120 30c value per yard for 20c  
No. 180 35c value per yard for 25c  
We will have to limit the above, as we only have 3,500 yards to 10 yards a customer. The first 350 customers get the benefit of this bargain.

## Fancy French Vile Tissues in

all the new plaid effects, values up to 50c yard for 18c yard.

Silk Foulards, all colors, 50c regular for 30c yard.

36 Percale dark colors, red, cadet, navy, grey and black, 15c value for 12 1/2c yard.

25 inch fancy Crettonne, values up to 15 1/2c a yard, for 8 1/2c yard.

28 inch Zephyr Ginghams, values up to 10c yard, for 6 1/2c yard.

# KEITH O'BRIEN Co.