

REICHSTAG DISSOLVED.

PREMIER'S APPEAL VAIN.

Government Defeated on Southwest African Question.

Berlin, Dec. 13.—The Reichstag was dissolved suddenly this afternoon, amid scenes of considerable excitement, after the defeat of the government's bill for a supplementary appropriation to support the troops in German Southwest Africa.

The action, although foreshadowed several days ago, took the government by surprise, as disunion means a direct attack on the Clerical party, which has had such intimate relations with the government that it frequently has been characterized as the governing party.

THE CHANCELLOR'S APPEAL.

The Chancellor replied that between now and January 4, 1907, 4,000 men would be brought home, and that after January 4 more troops would be recalled according to the military situation.

"If we shrink from this last sacrifice," he said, "we shall be guilty, in my opinion, of a great national crime. I cannot believe that the House will arrive at such a fatal resolution, which would be equally deplorable from the financial, military, political and national points of view.

After the speakers of the various parties had been heard, Prince von Bismarck made a final appeal for the passage of the bill. The Chancellor said he felt it to be his duty to call attention to the serious responsibility in the present vote.

PRINCE BECOMES AGITATED.

As Prince von Bismarck continued he became more animated, and as he spoke he was clearly agitated.

"People say I carry out only the directions of the supreme authority of the empire," he said. "That is an impudent falsehood! Nobody is urging me and nobody is pushing me on. I need directions to recognize the national necessity which is here involved."

"The question is whether we mean to maintain our national policy, our general national policy, or not. The question is whether we mean to preserve our position in the world, whether we purpose to maintain our reputation abroad."

The reading of the decree of dissolution was followed by an extraordinary scene of tumultuous applause and disorder. The Socialist members hurried from the hall before Count von Bismarck, president of the Reichstag, could propose the usual three cheers for the Emperor.

SHAH'S HEART AFFECTED.

Condition Little Changed—His People Generally Apathetic.

Tehran, Persia, Dec. 13.—The condition of the Shah remains practically unchanged, although to-day he rallied slightly after yesterday's relapse. At a consultation of physicians yesterday evening it was found that his majesty's heart had become seriously affected, adding a new complication to the situation, which already was considered grave.

CONGO DETAILS OUT.

Official Bulletin Gives Exact Terms of Ryan Concessions.

Details of the concessions granted by King Leopold to Thomas F. Ryan and his associates in the Congo Free State have just appeared in "The Official Bulletin" of the Congo Free State. According to "The Bulletin," Mr. Ryan is interested in two distinct exploiting companies, the Congo International Lumber and Mining Company, and the American Congo Company.

The American Congo Company receives the right to harvest rubber and other vegetable products over 2,470,000 acres, plus two strips of 12,000 acres each along a navigable river and may at any time purchase 1,000,000 acres which it has the privilege of applying for two years, as rubber, the only restriction imposed being that the concessionaire agrees to replant yearly fifty pounds of vines for every two hundred pounds of rubber extracted. It receives a free hand in its treatment of the natives.

WACK ON CONGO AFFAIRS.

Repudiates Language Attributed to Him—Kowalsky After Thief.

Henry Wellington Wack, author of "The Story of the Congo Free State," said yesterday that he did suggest to the King of the Belgians that he grant a concession in the Congo to Americans, but that it was not with any idea of influencing action that might be taken by Congress on the efforts made to have this country interested in Congo affairs.

Mr. Wack, who disclaims all connection with any alleged Belgian lobby at the capital, repudiated the construction placed on his suggestion to King Leopold by a morning paper. He also repudiated the language printed as the substance of what he had said to the King on the subject.

"I did say to the King, talking to him in the spring of 1905, that he ought to let a streak of white and blue through the yellow and black in the Congo. I referred to the yellow and black and the black of the natives."

In May Mr. Wack returned to this country, and in June wrote a letter to the King, of which this is a part:

"It was my belief while writing the book 'The Story of the Congo Free State' that a large land interest held and worked by the Americans in the Congo would, if it resulted in extinguishing the blighting mouth of British merchants, to close the Congo to the American people, and to close the Congo to the American people in the face of such American interests in the Congo."

The political as well as economic and financial interests of the American and Belgian people are interested in the desirability in the present situation concerning the Congo Free State.

BRITAIN, AMERICA AND THE CONGO.

Expression from Washington of Desire for Reforms Welcomed in London.

London, Dec. 13.—Sir Edward Grey, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House of Commons to-day as to whether the British government proposed, in conjunction with the government of the United States, to summon an international conference to discuss the administration of the Congo Free State, declined to announce any action, if any, the government intended to take, but said that the government at Washington had expressed a desire to contribute toward the realization of reforms in the Congo.

AMELIORATING CONGO CONDITIONS.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, the British Ambassador, to-day called at the State Department and discussed with Secretary Root, among other things, the question of the reported atrocities in the Congo country, and particularly the Lodge resolution recently presented in the Senate, pledging the support of that body in the event the President should take any ameliorating the condition of the people of the Congo Free State. Ambassador Durand said that the agitation in England was similar to that in this country, and it was not improbable that England had received from the Congo Free State more concrete details welcomed by the British government.

NEW-YORK TRIP BY THE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1906.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER