

LIBERALS DECIDE ON THEIR PROGRAM

Advocates of Abolition of the Second Chamber Are Overruled.

WILL REINTRODUCE AND PASS BUDGET

Plans Are All Laid in Case of Victory—Compromise Is Reached.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The English Liberal party leaders have finally pretty definitely made up their minds what to do with the house of lords in case they win at the coming national election.

Whatever plan may be adopted for genuinely popularizing England's government will involve such radical changes in the country's present legislative system that much difference of opinion has naturally existed both as to ends and methods. The extreme radicals have advocated the complete abolition of the second chamber. Those of a more moderate type demanded an elective upper chamber. The element which may be most accurately described as Conservative Liberals has argued for a combination of the elective and hereditary principle.

The group in favor of the single chamber system has been completely overruled. England is too conservative for such an innovation. Between the two other groups of Liberals a compromise has been effected and the program is this:

To Reintroduce Budget.

Assuming that the Liberals win at the polls in January, the Lloyd-George budget will be reintroduced. It will unquestionably pass. The lords themselves are pledged to cease their opposition to the chancellor of the exchequer's proposals if the country declines to vote in the election.

That will dispose of the financial problem and leave the Liberals free to turn their attention to the reformation of the legislative system. They propose to accomplish it by the constitutional change at which Premier Asquith has been hinting. A bill will be passed by the commons, declaring the lords unentitled to interfere with any financial legislation passed by the lower chamber. It may be decided not even to send such bills to the lords for ratification, but even if ratification is required it will be merely nominal, as the latter will have no veto in the election.

May Mean Referendum.

This will mean that two sessions of parliament and a referendum will be required for the passage of such a controversial measure. It will deprive the lords of the power to delay more than fulfillment of the popular will. The last vestige of their veto power will then be gone.

Then will come the very last step. The house of lords will be reduced by legislation to a mere advisory body. This number will include the office holders, whose positions carry peerages with them. It is assumed that men who have risen to high positions in the government may be taken to be competent legislators. Balance of the 150 will be chosen from among the present peers whom the commons consider really to have done something for their country as soldiers, lawyers and administrators. The original selection will necessarily be somewhat arbitrary, but it will not be permanent.

The members who are peers by virtue of their government offices have always been what is known in England as life lords. Their titles do not descend to their children. This same system will be continued under the new arrangement. The innovation will be the fact that the other peers will also only be life lords. Their titles will descend to their sons, but not their privileges to sit in the upper branch.

Serve Two Sessions.

As these peers die their places will be filled by new members, not necessarily titled, chosen by the house of commons, either from among its own membership or outside of it. The present plan is that these members shall serve for two sessions of parliament. The commons

will make their selections politically, in proportion to the political color of their own membership.

The ultimate result will be that the house of lords will include a small proportion of life members, the balance consisting of two sessions members of the commons selection. The life peers will be nominally appointed by the commons, but inasmuch as these appointments are always made in accordance with the wishes of the leaders of the party in power at the time, they will necessarily represent the majority of the people.

It is conceded that under this arrangement it will be possible to have upper and lower houses occasionally of different political complexion. With changes constantly taking place in both branches it is argued that this condition will not obtain often, certainly not more often than the same situation arises in the United States.

The Liberals agree that the present conservative house of lords may attempt to block this program at almost any stage by refusal to acquiesce in the bills necessary to carry it out. Should this happen the Liberal majority in commons will call on the King to create a majority in the commons well as in the lower house. The King never refuses his premier's requests for the creation of peers and an attempt to do so in such a case as the one contemplated would render his own position not so conferred even after the enforcement of the latter outside the bounds of probability.

Threat of King.

A threat of the King was made against the lords by Premier Lord Gray when they attempted to tie up the famous English election reform bill in 1832. The threat alone proved sufficient, the lords yielding rather than be swamped by an overwhelming number of mushroom members of their own order. The Liberal think history will repeat itself in the present case.

Titles will doubtless continue to be conferred after the reformation of the house of lords, but they will be mere empty honors and will carry with them no extra privileges nor the right to participate in the nation's legislative councils. The general view is that so soon as they become valued as from a hereditary standpoint, they will begin to go out of fashion and that the British nobility has therefore practically reached the beginning of its end.

King Edward is said to be seriously uneasy concerning the future of the crown itself. It is not an issue in the present quarrel, and while the King remains satisfactory to a majority of his people, it is more than unlikely that anything will be done to deprive him of the figurehead post which he occupies at present. Should he give signs of reactionary tendencies it would be prudent to advise the tenure of a monarch who undertook to thwart his subjects, will in the England of the present day would be extremely short.

AUTO STRIKES BOY; SKULL FRACTURED

Lad Coasting on Sled When the Collision Occurs.

Coasting down Thirtieth street hill on a sled this morning, nine-year-old Bernard Messenger collided with an automobile delivery wagon near the corner of Q street and received a fracture of the skull.

The boy was taken to his home, 114 Twenty-ninth street northwest, and Dr. G. W. Wood, of 2906 P street, was summoned. Dr. Wood recalls that an attempt would be necessary to relieve the pressure on young Messenger's brain, and had him sent to Providence hospital.

Howard Sheafe, of 1139 Fourteenth street northwest, driver of the automobile, said he had seen the machine in such a way as to avoid an accident, but that the boy was evidently unable to guide the sled to the right side of the road.

BUMPED THE BUMPS.

Charming Peddler—Like a scoundrel of the place, sir?

Toutant (who has been mountaineering)—Thanks. I think I have enough already.—Meggendorfer Blatter.

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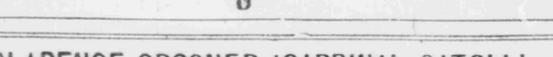
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Off Overcoats. We're sacrificing stock because we will have to vacate our Avenue store by January 15th. Men's wear bar reduced.

Joseph Auerbach, 1405 F Street

The Young Lady Across the Way

The young lady across the way says she saw in the paper that a large number of postmasters had been confirmed and wasn't it fine to see so many men in public life coming into the church.



CLARENCE GROSNER CARDINAL SATOLLI WEDS MISS CERF IS NOT IMPROVED

Washington Man and Pittsburg Girl Principals in Smoky City Marriage.

A wedding of interest to Washington took place last evening in Pittsburg, Pa., when Clarence W. Grosner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Isidor Grosner, of Washington, and Miss Florence B. Cerf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Cerf, were married at the Rittenhouse. The Rev. Dr. Leonard Lelover performed the ceremony in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends.

Miss Cerf wore a handsome bridal gown of white satin with a tulle veil arranged with orange blossoms. She was attended by Miss Baer, of Pittsburg, as matron of honor, and two flower girls, Miss Ruth Grosner, of Washington, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Lucille Cerf, of Pittsburg, sister of the bride.

Hiram Grosner, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. The house was effectively decorated for the occasion in yellow and blue, the colors of the University of Michigan, the alma mater of the bridegroom and the men of the bride's family.

A large reception and dance followed the ceremony and later Mr. and Mrs. Grosner left for New York, whence they will sail tomorrow morning for a bridal trip to Europe. They will reside in Washington at the Tulasee after their return.

Among the guests at the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Isidor Grosner, parents of the bridegroom, from Washington; Sylvan Grosner, brother of the bridegroom, from the University of Michigan; Gerald Grosner, brother of the bridegroom, from Washington, and his sister, Miss Ruth Grosner, of Washington.

PEACE CONFERENCE SET FOR SATURDAY

Reign of Bloodshed in Nicaragua Soon to Be Ended.

(Continued from First Page.)

appear that there was nothing official in Kimball's call upon Madrid, the act is generally recognized as a tentative recognition of the new President. If the United States had no intention of accepting Madrid, it is considered highly improbable that the American admiral would have deemed it his duty to "pay his respects" to the Nicaraguan executive.

People Are Relieved.

The news of the probable conference and the consequent abandonment of the proposed march against the capital has greatly relieved the tension here, and the people are breathing easier than at any time since Estrada announced his intention of leading an army against Managua.

Admiral Kimball returned to Corinto today. Friends of Madrid today denied that he was responsible for the reported attack on an American boy at Grenada, which was reported to the American State Department by Vice Consul Caldera, and which the vice consul has been requested to investigate in order to make a more complete report to his Government.

Madrid says he will also investigate the affair, and if it is found the authorities of Grenada acted without warrant, he will severely punish them. The new President is anxious to avoid any further cause of friction with the United States.

ZELAYA IS NOW FREE FROM MOLESTATION

Zelaya, the deposed President of Nicaragua, who is now on Mexican soil, was allowed to flee from his country with the full knowledge and consent of the United States, and this Government will not molest him in the future.

Although there have been printed in the impressionistic press of the country from day to day insinuations that the State Department of this Government can have Zelaya captured and sent back to Nicaragua for punishment of his crimes, the United States has no idea of doing any such thing.

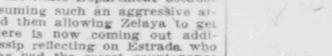
According to the agreement reached between this country and Mexico, as exclusively described in The Times on last Thursday, Zelaya was to board the Mexican gunboat Guerrero at Corinto, proceed to Mexican soil, and in a short time be sent by Mexico to Europe. To this plan, the State Department agreed without reservations, for at the time it was made the representatives of the Mexican government explained that Mexico would not undertake to carry it out unless this Government refused to interfere with it in any of its stages.

The position taken by the State Department at that time was that it would be satisfied with the expatriation of Zelaya and his disappearance from the American continent.

The announcement of the plan in The Times astounded the whole Diplomatic Corps in view of the position of the State Department at first that it would hold Zelaya personally responsible for the execution by him of the two Americans.

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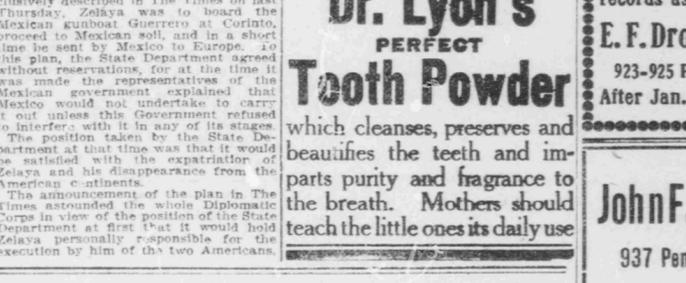
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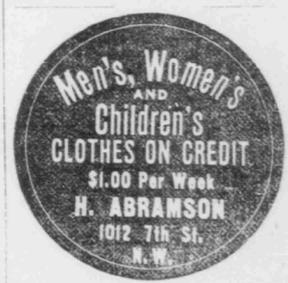
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