

posals. They take the ground that the gold is not only the property of a private bank, but that its removal from Berlin under the conditions named would result in the collapse of German currency at home and abroad.

Paris, April 20th.—Reports show that the military class of 1921 called to colours during April has yielded 210,000 men, which is more than 75 percent of youth of 20 years of age who are subject to military service. This is the first time that such a high percentage of effectives has been secured.

Postdam, April 20th.—Amid the tolling of bells, which marked the solemn hour funeral services for the ex-Empress Augusta Victoria were held yesterday in the Royal Suburb of Berlin which has witnessed so many scenes of splendour in the departed days of Hohenzollern rule.

London, April 20th.—It is practically certain there will be no settlement of the coal strike before next week. The Miners Federation has decided that the new proposals made public by the owners are too vague to afford a basis for negotiations. Both sides, however, continue to display a desire to get together, if a negotiable basis can be found and should Mr. Hodges succeed in the admiralty hard task of swinging the delegates conference Friday to his side, it is believed that another joint conference will assemble, possibly on Monday.

Melbourne, Australia, April 20th.—The Government of Mr. Hughes was given an emphatic endorsement in the House of Representatives today with a two to one vote in its favour. Resolutions which reiterate confidence in the Govt. and declared in favour of Mr. Hughes representing Australia at the coming Imperial Conference in London, were up for consideration and they were passed by a vote of 46 to 23. The motions were submitted by the Govt. to clear up the situation caused by a vote adverse to it last Friday, which was agreed to have been purely accidental.

London, April 20th.—Owing to the inability of Mr. Lloyd George to leave the country during the present industrial crisis, M. Briand will cross the channel next Saturday for a preliminary conference at Hythe, prior to a discussion of the Allied plans on the question of German reparations, and Italy and Belgium have been invited to send delegates.

Constantinople, April 21st.—The Greeks are delivering a heavy counter-offensive against the Turks near Ushak, to prevent the Turks from capturing the town. The Greeks continue their preparations for a formidable offensive, which is expected to commence in a few days, probably in an effort to reach Kutayah. The Turks are bringing up the last of the conscripts from the interior tribes, which, together with the army of Kiazim Kara Bekir, form an army of 100,000. The Turkish communication issued yesterday says

that five members of the women's battalion have been killed.

London, April 21st.—Sir James Craig, who was elected two months ago to succeed Sir Edward Carson as leader of the Ulster Parliament, left for Belfast last night to complete arrangements for the opening of the inaugural session of the Northern Chamber, which takes place early in May, following the elections which will be held May 3rd. The event will mark an epoch in the history of Ireland, said Sir James, and I for one am optimistic that a new era, which will eventually lead to settlement and harmony will be begun. The exact date of the inauguration has not yet been decided but probably both the King and Queen as well as the Prince of Wales, will be present at the ceremony. While the activities of the Sinn Feiners show a great slowing down during the last month, yet it is anticipated there will be a general rounding up of rebel leaders before the royal visit. City Hall, Belfast, which is to be the meeting place of the Northern Parliament, is considered one of the most admirable buildings in the whole British Empire for such a purpose. The coming inauguration is exciting the liveliest interest throughout Ireland, but it is not thought that the event will be marked by any startling announcement. It is probable that the speech from the throne will consist largely of a call from the King for unity and harmony and loyalty to the new Parliament, outlining at the same time the domestic policy to which the newly elected members will address themselves and emphasizing the necessity for conciliation to secure a harmonious working constitution. So far, the Sinn Fein has shown no disposition to take any part in the elections for the Southern Parliament, and unless at the eleventh hour they change their attitude, the fateful day set for the elections will pass without any action being taken to ensure the election of any parliamentary representatives.

Dublin, April 21st.—Official lists of candidates for the north of Ireland Parliament, which has been created by the Irish Act put into operation April 19th, have been completed. There are 42 Unionists, 14 Nationalists, and 19 Sinn Fein candidates selected, and from them will be elected the occupants of the two seats in the Parliament. Mr. Jos. Devlin has been chosen for the West Belfast constituency Armagh constituency, but in the event of his election he has pledged to ignore the summons to attend meetings of the body. Donegal, the most northern county of Ireland, has been the first to select a candidate for the South of Ireland Parliament. He is Major Moore, master of the Londonderry Orangemen, and he was selected yesterday as the official Unionist nominee. This seeming singularity of the situation is explained by the fact that Donegal, although its borders

extend further north than those of any other County, is not included among the six counties named by the Home Rule Act to put up what is known as "Northern Ireland", which elects a separate Parliament. These six counties are Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone, with the boroughs of Belfast and Londonderry. Donegal thus is left for inclusion for Government purposes with the south group of counties.

Berlin, April 21st.—The German Govt. has formally asked the President of the United States to mediate in the reparations questions. The note embodying the request was forwarded on Wednesday by Mr. Dressel, the United States commissioner in Berlin, to the State Dept. in Washington. It was signed by Herr Fehrenbach, the Chancellor, and Dr. Simons, the Foreign Minister. The appeal pledges Germany to accept the mediation without reservation, and to fulfil absolutely any award. President Harding may make after examination and investigation of the subject. The text of the note to President Harding follows:—"In the name of the German Govt. and the German people, the undersigned, notwithstanding the still existing technical state of war, respectfully petition the President of the United States to mediate in the reparation question and to fix the sum to be paid by Germany to the Allied powers. They earnestly urge him to secure the consent of the Allied powers to such mediation. They solemnly declare that the German Govt. is ready and willing to agree without reservations or qualifications to pay to the allied powers as reparations such sum as the president after examination and investigation, may find just and right. They formally pledge themselves to fulfil in the letter and in the spirit all provisions of any award that may be made by him abiding faith in the righteousness of the request and with undeniable sincerity of purpose, the German people through their constituted Govt., submit their appeal to the President of the United States with a confident hope that it will be granted, to the end that a final award may be made in accordance with right and justice to meet the heartfelt wishes of all civilized nations to avoid the immeasurable consequence of the imminent coercive measures and to promote the peace of the world.

Paris, April 21st. The German Govt. has refused to transfer the gold reserves of the Reich's Bank, the German imperial bank, to the Coblenz and Cologne branches.

Athens, April 21st.—A Bill was introduced into parliament yesterday providing the collection of a 50% levy on German commodities exported to Greece.

London, April 21st.—A conference of Jewish unions of England is being held today with the object of helping the striking miners.