

view of the solidifying hostility of protectionism Mr. Baldwin's means to drop it, anyway for the time being. Nevertheless speculation continues busy, on the assumption that an election is impending and the expectation grows that Parliament will be dissolved very soon after its first meeting next Tuesday and that an election will be fixed for December. Some of the best informed political writers, who hitherto have scouted reports of a December election, abandoned that view today and say that the section of the Conservative Party wishing the appeal to be deferred until January has been overruled and that a "snap" election, which will be held almost immediately, has been decided upon.

London, Nov. 11th.—A comparatively new Premier is believed seldom to have been called upon to meet such an embarrassing and confusing set of circumstances as Mr. Stanley Baldwin will be called upon to face when Parliament, which was only elected about a year ago, reassembles next week. Neither with nor without the Premier's wish the country has been firmly imbued with the idea that Parliament will meet only to be immediately dissolved, but it begins to appear to be exceedingly doubtful whether this course will be followed. When only a few weeks ago Mr. Baldwin announced his conviction that protection was the only remedy for unemployment, it is doubtful whether he really contemplated bringing the question up to the test of a general election so speedily and he certainly cannot have foreseen such a grave state of affairs as now has arisen out of the reparations imbroglio, with apparently no hope of a reparation conference in which the United States will participate and with Germany in a condition where nobody dares predict what the next move will be. What seems really to have happened is that Mr. Baldwin's hand has been forced by the sturdy protectionist of his party and by the presence here of Mr. Bruce of Australia and the Dominion Premiers pressing for a tariff.

London, Nov. 11th.—Under the heading of "Foreign Affairs" appears the following: "It was while the conference was sitting that the President of the United States renewed the offer of the United States Government to take part in an International conference, or inquiry, to investigate the European problem and to report upon the capacity of Germany to make payments, to which she is pledged. The conference cordially welcomed and decided to take immediate advantage of this overture and communications were at once entered into with the Allied powers to obtain their cooperation. The conference, after careful consideration of the policies which have been pursued, was of the opinion that the European situation could only be lifted on to a plane of settlement by the cooperation of the United States

and that if the scheme of a common inquiry, to be followed by common action, were to break down the results would be inimical both to peace and the economic recovery of the world." The following significant passage follows: "It is felt that in such an event it would be desirable for the British Government to consider very carefully the alternative of summoning a conference itself, in order to consider the financial and economic problem in its widest aspect." Continuing the summary says, "the conference, so much of whose time was occupied two years ago with the question of a renewal of the Japanese Alliance, noted with satisfaction the results of the Washington Conference, which added immensely to the security of the world, without disturbing the intimate relations that have so long existed between the Empire and its former ally. It recognizes with satisfaction the obligations incurred under the Washington treaties. The conference while affirming the principle of the three mile limit, thought it desirable and practical to meet the United States request for the conclusion of an experimental agreement. A special committee examined the question of negotiating treaties and while its report does not directly affirm the right of the Dominions to make treaties independently, it lays down the following principle: "It is desirable that no treaty should be negotiated by any of the governments of the Empire, without due consideration of its possible effect on any other parts of the Empire or the Empire as a whole". The committee also says that before any steps are taken for concluding a treaty, any other part of the Empire likely to be interested is to be informed. Bilateral treaties, imposing obligations on one part of the Empire only, should be signed by the representatives of the Government of that part, but where the treaty imposes obligations on more than one part of the Empire, it should be signed by one or more plenipotentiaries, on behalf of all the Governments concerned. The conference resolved that treaties negotiated at International conferences should be signed by representatives of all the governments of the Empire represented at the conference as was done at Paris and Washington.

Berlin, Nov. 11th.—The present location of the disappearing ex-Crown Prince is not known, but it is announced in official quarters here that Frederick William spent Saturday night with friends on an estate near Hildesheim, in the neighbourhood of Hanover, and would make a second break in his trip from Wieringen tonight arriving some time on Monday at Oels, where it is his intention to sojourn in his castle. The departure of the Hohenzollern heir from his island retreat and his entry into Germany does not seem to have caused the excitement in Berlin that might be expected,

as it synchronized with the Munich insurrection and widespread clamour for a dictatorship. It has aroused considerable curiosity, but popular opinion appears wholly disinclined to associate him with present or future nationalistic machinations if only for the reason that he is viewed as being wholly out of the running, in that he is considered a liability to any reactionary enterprise. From the political point of view, Frederick William's return is thought likely to bring about a serious diplomatic sequel in the nature of a formal protest from the Entente Powers, possibly greater than that already made, despite Chancellor Stresemann's brief official contention that the German Government knew of no reason in law, or in fact, which would justify its refusal to grant a German private citizen the privilege of returning to his native country. The ex-Crown Prince is reported to have given the Stresemann Government something more precise than a mere "gentleman's agreement" that he intended to conduct himself wholly as a private burgher and confine his activities to the limits of a plain country squire. The Chancellor was also given the assurance, it is said, that Frederick William would keep himself out of the range of interviewers and cameras while on the way to Oels.

Washington, Nov. 12th.—The British Government has notified the Treasury that its next payment on the war debt due December 15th, will be in Liberty Bonds. The payment will include \$25,000,000 on the principal of the obligation, and \$69,000,000 interest.

Berlin, Nov. 12th.—Adolph Hitler, leader of the Fascisti in Bavaria, was arrested after his flight, from Munich, in a villa belonging to Ernest Hanfstaengel, formerly a New York art dealer. The villa is located in Uffing, Bavaria. Hanfstaengel is credited in Berlin as being one of Hitler's financial backers.

Athens, Nov. 12th.—The King will comply with a request made by the military Republican faction that he leave Greece for a brief period, pending the clearing of the general situation. It is understood that the Monarch will depart for two months and that he will either appoint a regent or ask the Government to constitute a regency. Dynastic questions will be discussed by the assembly later. Two of the King's chamberlains, M. Nicolaidis and M. Viachos alleged to have been implicated in the recent mutiny, have been liberated.

London, Nov. 12th.—Sir Thomas Paxton, ex-Lord Provost of Glasgow, who was chosen as the Unionist candidate for the Central Division of Glasgow in the bye-election consequent upon the death of Mr. Bonar Law, has declined to accept the nomination, on the ground of medical advice against his participating in an election contest. It is suggested, however, that he is not prepared to embrace the Government's protection policy.