

ain could suspend the Irish constitution. Irishmen in the colonies would have the right to choose whether they would be subjects of the Irish or English King. If favourably received by the Irish leaders, the scheme would be submitted to a constituent assembly. Some of the southern Irish leaders, to whom the scheme was outlined described it as "preposterous". Lord Hugh Cecil, in discussing his scheme, said he still favoured union, but as that was no longer practical, politics and federation did not satisfy the Irish, who wanted distinct nationality. Great Britain must go as near to the direction they want as possible. Whatever plan was proposed, he declared, must be one formed and approved by the Irish, but also acceptable to the British. He then outlined the plan, adding "I write thus in no spirit of optimism. The significance of the proposal comes from the fact that he is the guest of the Londonderry Family, the greatest member of which was Lord Castlereagh, to whom, more than to any-body else, the breaking up of Henry Grattan's Irish Parliament and the passing of the act of union were due.

Paris, May 17th.—M. Millerand conferred on the upper Silesian question with the King of Belgium and members of the French and Belgian Ministry yesterday said the "Matin". The Attitude France and Belgium would take in case Germany should send troops into Upper Silesia without authorization from the Allies was discussed, the newspaper asserts, and a complete agreement was reached.

London, May 17th.—Tension over the Polish revolt in Silesia, which over the week-end threatened a crisis the ranks of the Entente, seemed here today to have passed for the moment at least. An exchange of views on the subject has been proceeding between London and Paris, and there seemed to be confidence that Mr. Lloyd George and M. Briand would reach an understanding when they meet. Berlin and Warsaw despatches have served to reassure the British Public, and it was believed today that neither Germany nor Poland would take steps that would increase the gravity of the situation, pending complete consideration of the problem.

Kansas City, May 17th.—The possibility that Great Britain might be drawn into conflict with the United States, through the medium of the existing Anglo-Japanese alliance, was denied by Sir Auckland Geddes, British Ambassador to the United States, in a speech delivered here last night to members of the Standard Society and the Knife and Fork Club. "The Anglo Japanese treaty said Sir Auckland was originally designed to prevent Russian and German aggression in the far east. When the treaty was renewed in 1911, it specifically provided that there should

be exempted from its working any nations with whom either Great Britain or Japan had a general arbitration treaty. Such a treaty was drawn up between Great Britain and the United States, but failed to be ratified by your senate. But in order to obviate, any possibility of being drawn into a conflict with the United States on any ground whatever, we then drew up the Peace Commission treaty.

Berlin, May 17th.—A semi-official note issued today announces, that in compliance with the terms of the allied ultimatum, calling upon Germany to pay 1,000,000,000 gold marks to the Allies in reparations within a period of 25 days, the German Govt. has offered the reparations commission this first payment on this amount to be made at once, amounting to 150,000,000 gold marks in the shape of foreign currency. Payment, it is stated, will be made at a place to be designated by the reparations commission and the balance of the sum due will be paid within the period prescribed.

Washington, May 17th.—The Borah amendment to the naval appropriation bill requesting the President to call a naval disarmament conference, will be adopted under an agreement reached today in the Senate between the opposing factions.

Washington, May 17th. —Definite though informal notification has been served on Soviet Russia by the United States Department that so long as the United States citizens are held prisoners there exists no chance of the recognition of the Soviet Govt. in any form by the United State.

Washington, May 17th. —Richard Wasburn Child, the author and former editor of "Collins Weekly", has been elected by the President as Ambassador to Italy.

London, May 17th.—In the by-election for the Abingdon Division of Berkshire, Mr Lloyd, Coalition Unionist, was returned unopposed.

London, May 18th.—Mr. Lloyd George issued a statement this morning reiterating the British attitude towards the Upper Silesian question expressed by him in his recent speech in the House of Commons, and disclaiming responsibility for the distorted reports in the French newspapers. The Premier's statement began as follows. I adhere to the statement made in the House of Commons on the subject of Silesia. Naturally I can only accept responsibility for what I actually said, and not for the truncated and distorted reports in the French newspapers. "The almost unanimous approval given by the American and the Italian as well as the British Press, to the sentiments I then expressed shows that the great Nations, who stood by the side of France in the war, meant to interpret the treaty of Versailles fairly. "I have never witnessed such unanimity on any question.

All shades of opinion in these three countries take the same view. It would be unfortunate were the French Press to take a different view, but we must tolerant of differences of opinion among ourselves. With all respect, I would say to the French Press that the habit of treating every expression of Allied opinion which does not coincide with their own as an impertinence, is fraught with mischief. That attitude of mind, if persisted in will be fatal to any Entente. The stand by the British, American and Italian public on the Silesian question ought not to be offensive to France. They stand by the treaty of Versailles. They mean to apply the terms to the treaty justly, whether they happen to be for, or against, Germany." The fate of Upper Silesia must be decided by the Supreme Council, and not by cordancy. Children of the treaty cannot be allowed to break crockery in Europe with impunity. Somebody must place a restricting hand over them, otherwise there will be continual trouble. The course of the world in the coming year cannot be forecasted. The mists ahead are more than usually dense. Much will depend on the Allies holding together. Apart from treaty obligations, events which cannot be foreseen must determine the future grouping of the nations, and the future of the world, and especially of Europe, will be determined by old or new friendship". Under these circumstances the Treaty of Versailles is a document of infinite moment, especially to the nations of the Entente. It binds us together, when there is so much to divide us. Those who treat its provisions as if they were "the sport of passion and prejudice may not have to live long to regret their hottheadness".

London, May 18th.—The Warsaw correspondent of the London Times believes the only solution of the Silesian question, without bloodshed and without sacrificing the dignity of the Allies, is to create an independent state of Upper Silesia. He declares that the plebiscite has proved a failure and adds, "Now that weapons are out, it is almost impossible either to divide the area, or give it wholly to the Poles or the Germans without provoking a struggle." He advocates independence, followed by an appeal to local patriotism, in order to counteract embittered feelings."

London, May 18th.—When Mr. Lloyd George was invited yesterday to say something concerning the statement printed in the Dublin Freeman's Journal on Monday, to the effect that he had offered to meet Eamon De Valera, and other Irish leaders, without conditions, the following statement was issued from No. 10, Downing Street, the official residence of the Prime Minister, "Mr. Lloyd George has made no statement on the subject of Mr. De Valera beyond what he already has stated in the House of Commons."