

sented the position of the French Government to the committee in a note declaring that the Govt. of the Republic is ready to associate itself with the collective restitution of the territory leased in China to various Powers, with the understanding that the principle being admitted and all private rights being safeguarded, the conditions and details of the restitution will be regulated in accord between the Government of China and each of the Governments interested." As regards the attitude of the British Govt. to the request of the Chinese delegation for an abrogation of these leases, Mr. Balfour stated that the Govt. would be perfectly ready to return Wei Hai Wei to China, as part of a general arrangement intended to confirm the sovereignty of China and to give effect to the principle of the "open door". This surrender, however, could only be undertaken as part of some such general arrangement, and he spoke with his Government behind him when he said that on these conditions he was prepared to give up the right which we had acquired. The British Government's policy was to make use of the surrender of Wei Hai Wei to assist, in securing a settlement of the question of Shantung. If an agreement could be reached on this question the British Govt. would not hesitate to do their best to promote a general settlement by restoring Wei Hai Wei to the central Govt. of China. Regarding Hong Kong Mr. Balfour said he hoped that he would carry the conference with him when he asserted that the safeguarding of the position of Hong Kong was not greatly a British interest but one in which the whole world, was concerned. He was informed that Hong Kong was easily first among the ports of the world excelling in this respect Hamburg before the war, and New York.

London, Dec. 5th.—The Irish peace negotiations have broken down, according to statements in responsible quarters today, and the Dail Eireann delegates are expected to return finally to Ireland on Tuesday or Wednesday. The truce still remains in effect and no immediate resumption of hostilities is looked for. The crisis in the Irish peace negotiations held the exclusive attention of official circles this morning. Mr. Lloyd George obtained an audience with the King and explained the situation to him, after which the peace representatives had a conference. This was followed by a meeting of the entire Cabinet. The Unionists of South Ireland, headed by Lord Middleton, are still exerting their influence in behalf of a settlement. They have asked Mr. Lloyd George to meet them it was made known this noon. The correspondence in connection with the negotiations will be made public by the Government, it was stated, and Mr. Lloyd George is expected

ed to make an explanatory statement. On the Government's side, it was indicated, the argument will be that the refusal of the Sinn Fein to accept allegiance to the King made an agreement impossible, since that condition was insisted upon by the British, and was in addition an essential preliminary to securing any assent from Ulster.

London, Dec. 5th.—The British Government "White paper", issued last night, regarding the recent negotiations with an Egyptian delegation on the abandonment of the British protectorate over Egypt, shows as had been previously indicated, that the Egyptians rejected the proposals of Lord Curzon, chiefly owing to the military provisions. The reply of the Egyptian delegation states that the proposals reserved to Great Britain the right to maintain her military forces at all times throughout Egypt, and to control communication, which "constitutes occupation pure and simple, destroys every idea of independence and suppresses even internal sovereignty." The reply also said the British proposals were unacceptable, as they failed to guarantee to Egypt the sovereignty of the Sudan and her control of the Nile.

Berlin, Dec. 5th.—According to the "Zwoelfuhrblatt", Ex-Emperor William has decided to marry again. The lady of his choice, the newspaper says, is the widow of the High officer from Danzig, who was killed in the war. The newspapers profess to have received the information from a most trustworthy source.

New York, Dec. 5th.—Mr. Steed, Editor of the "London Times", declared in a speech before the Canadian Club on Saturday, that the United States has lost credit throughout the world by "repudiating the Versailles Treaty" and dishonouring the signature of its legal representative. "We had to take President Wilson at his face value", Mr. Steed said, "which at the time was not far from being his true value. Nations, like individuals, cannot go back on their signatures without losing credit, and the sad truth is that, in the repudiation of the Versailles treaty, the United States people lost credit throughout the world. When 119,000,000 sturdy, intelligent, honest people lose their credit, it is a calamity. When those people speak English and share in general the ideal of allegiance to the same kind of laws and believe the same things are worth while that other English speaking nations believe, the calamity is doubled." Mr. Steed asserted that for the United States to dishonor the signature of its legal representative in Europe "was one of the most flattering events in the moral history in the world". The editor declared that the greatest feature of the Washington conference in his opinion, was that it represented an attempt on the part of the administration of this great nation to

make good, or re-enter in its own way the work of International cooperation for the welfare of mankind.

London, Dec. 6th.—It is now officially announced that the Government officials and the representatives of the Dail Eireann have reached an agreement, the terms of which will be submitted for the acceptance of Parliament and of the Dail Eireann. A copy of the agreement has been sent to Sir Jas. Craig, the Ulster Premier, by a special messenger. After a session which lasted from 11.15 last night until 2.20 this morning the meeting of the Government Ministers and Irish Representatives in the Downing Street residence of the Prime Minister separated, and a member of the Cabinet's reply to a question as to how things stood, said "the news isn't bad. An agreement, in fact, has been reached, the terms of which will be communicated to the press in time for the Wednesday morning papers." The delegates looked very tired and grave as they left the Premier's residence to enter waiting cars. Asked whether he had anything to say, Michael Collins, the Sinn Fein Minister, answered sharply "not a word" answering the question "are you coming back" Mr. Collins answered hurriedly "I don't know, I don't know", and shutting the door of his auto, he drove off with Mr. Griffith and Mr. Barton. A few minutes later Lord Birkenhead and Mr. Churchill left. Their appearance suggested that the strain of the conference had been a severe one.

OUR MILITARY STREETS

Streets along the waterfront have been given military names and shortly signs will be put up to mark them and make them known.

The marginal street along the bulkhead, running east from the Porto Rico Line pier to the Texas Company is General Pershing Road. The street between the street car and tracks and the American Railroad station is named after Gen. Foch, while the Street running south from Gen. Foch street to the bulkhead and in front of the station is Gen. Haig street. There is a short street running east from Gen. Haig street between Gen. Pershing Road and the station which has been designated Gen. Petain.

The small parked place along the waterfront, across from the Federal building, where several guns are now mounted, is now officially known as Gen. Townshend Place.

These names were approved by Guillermo Esteves, as commissioner of the interior, on the suggestion of Waldemar Lee and J. Ruiz Soler as members of the harbor board.—*Porto Rico Progress*, Nov. 24th.