

the next few years. He considered it advisable that a large number of older vessels and inferior ones, built for emergency during the war, should be scrapped. If the Govts. represented at this conference would resolve to abolish even half the present restrictions on trade and commerce, in his opinion there would be employment for a larger number of steamers than now and unemployment would be reduced.

Washington, Nov. 24th.—M. Briand, head of the French armament delegation, accompanied by Ambassador Jusserand paid a farewell call upon President Harding yesterday, as did Earl Beatty of the British delegation.

London, Nov. 24th.—A central news despatch from Rome says the newspaper *Tempo* has published an interview with Cardinal Gasparri, the Papal Secretary of State, who is quoted as having asserted that the Pope is ready for a reconciliation with Italy.

London, Nov. 24th.—Mr. Lloyd George who probably will be accompanied by Lord Birkenhead is scheduled to meet Sir James Craig tomorrow morning in what may be the last effort to induce him, as Premier of Ulster, to discuss alternative plans devised to protect Ulster's interest in the proposed all-Ireland Parliament which the Northern delegates thus far have refused to even consider formally. Meanwhile, Arthur Griffith, Chief of the Sinn Fein delegation, for the first time since the Irish conference opened in October, went to Dublin tonight to consult with De Valera, Duffy and Robt. C. Barton, his delegation colleagues. This visit to Dublin is understood to be a result of discussions during the past few days between the Sinn Fein and members of the Cabinet, at which Mr. Griffith and his colleagues are said to have made clear that they could not agree to swear allegiance to the British Crown, their idea of association with the State of the British Empire being by treaty as would be the case with foreign powers. On Tuesday the Ulster Premier will submit to his Parliament the reasons urged by the Prime Minister why Ulster should consent to treat with the Sinn Fein. It is expected that he will ask Mr. Lloyd George to facilitate full consideration of Ulster's case by publishing the whole correspondence exchanged thus far, so that Ulster may see the real state of the negotiations, but the discussions with the Sinn Fein have, by the desire of the Govt. proceeded on condition of the correspondence is not expected until an agreement or disagreement is finally reached. The Irish Liberal Federation, an organization in which the former Premier Mr. Asquith is interested, at its annual meeting today passed a resolution supporting Dominion Home Rule for Ireland, suggesting that Parliament should be asked to endorse this policy and recording its conviction that if

the conference fails, there will be no return to the policy of force.

Tokio, Nov. 25.—Crown Prince Hirohito has been designated regent of Japan.

London, Nov. 24th.—One of the most outspoken warnings ever addressed by the Foreign Minister of one Nation, to another friendly nation was delivered publicly today at a luncheon by Lord Curzon of Kedleston, to France. The Foreign Minister declared that if France pursued an isolated policy she would not in the long run injure Germany and would fail to protect herself. It was warning, if anything in plainer terms than a similar speech delivered by Mr. Lloyd George last May, at the time when France was proceeding to the occupation of Germany's Ruhr towns, which caused such a tremendous sensation. Lord Curzon's address was addressed primarily to the Washington conference on limitation of armaments and Far Eastern questions, but it was clearly an intimation to France of the effect of that country's attitude towards disarmament. It is also applied with equal force to the French policy in the Far East. "Peace will never be achieved", said Lord Curzon, "if anyone powerful tries to steal on another, and conclude an arrangement on its own account". The Foreign Minister bluntly reminded France that her safety lay not in her own strength but in the confidence of the World and he cautioned France that she could not succeed by a revengeful policy towards Germany, or be permitted by isolated action to frustrate the work of the nations at Washington. The speech, which occupied only half an hour in delivery, but was filled with striking matter, was remarkable for the expressed determination to bring Germany, into the community of Nations and for its enunciation of Great Britain's duty in the new world which succeeded the War. After saying that the Great Powers would assist Germany provided she showed sincerity, Lord Curzon added. "So long as Great Britain, France and Italy hold together, I am hopeful of this result". Alluding to the new struggling nations which have arisen from the ashes of Germany, Austria and Turkey, Lord Curzon said. We as one of the Great Powers are largely responsible for the creation of these new nations, therefore it devolves upon us to do our best to cure their rivalry, help their progress and make them instruments, not of renewed disturbance and warfare, but of future peace. The real strength and protection of France, continued Lord Curzon, "does not consist in the strength of her arms, potent as they are. It does not consist in the inexhaustible spirit of her people. It does not consist even in the justice of her cause. It consists in the fact that the conscience of the World and the combined physical forces of the World, and in them include the greatest powers of Europe, and the

United States, will not tolerate the re-appearance in the heart of Europe of a great and dangerous power that was rattling its sword in the scabbard as a menace to the peace of the World". We should convert Germany into a peaceful member of the International Court of Europe only if the Great Powers combine not only to enforce the treaty, but to make it clear that no policy of retaliation or revenge will be tolerated by them and that they will assist Germany to play her part provided she shows sincerity and good faith". Lord Curzon had previously said that no one would deny that the steps taken at Washington marked a great and notable stride forward in the moral progress of mankind. The sole guarantee of the recovery of the peace of the world, he declared, was not the old idea of the splendid isolation of any individual power, but harmonious fruitful cooperation of all powers: Disarmament enters the field of practical politics when a definite limit is placed upon the size of the navies of certain great powers, said Lord Curzon, "and still more when one of these powers comes forward and announces to the world that disarmament shall begin in her case by stopping construction on ships which already had been commenced. It fell to the lot of the Secretary of State of the United States to give the lead and it fell to the lot of our representative, Mr. Balfour, to follow it. All honour to those two men. But do not suppose that the matter is ended there. A great deal of hard work remains still to be accomplished and I would like to utter one word of caution and to suggest certain conditions which still remain to be fulfilled. It is no use reducing armaments at sea, if we are still to contemplate the piling up or accumulation of vast armaments on land. An example must not be set by one nation only, or even by two or three. It must be followed in proportion to their position and their ability by all. It is not for Great Britain to accept or submit to sacrifices, while others pass them by. A third condition is that if we who are the greatest naval power in the world, whose sea communications are the longest in the World, who have to defend coasts infinitely longer and more exposed than any other Empire in the World, who are dependent for our daily existence as a nation on the command of the seas, if we are willing to reduce our naval strength let no other powers be allowed to build up other engines or instruments of attack either in the air or under the sea, which may tender our sacrifices nugatory and which so far from leaving us in the proud position of having set an example may leave us in the perilous position of having incurred an undue risk. These are the sole precautions and conditions that I would like to attach to the proceedings at Washington.