

MINISTERIAL VIRULENCE.

ENGLISH OPINION OF MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

The amazing outburst of Mr. Lloyd George at Newcastle on Saturday—a speech which is generally regarded as far exceeding what one paper calls “the notorious and discreditable performance at Limehouse” in violence and rancour—is the subject of general comment throughout Great Britain. It is condemned by all thoughtful and responsible writers as a mischievous appeal to the worst passions of the working classes, and even the Radical papers appear to have some difficulty in supporting it. We append some extracts:—

UNIONIST PRESS VIEWS.

What working men have to ask themselves on the lowest ground of self-interest is what they are going to gain by assisting Mr. Lloyd George. Suppose they compel one set of men to sell to another set under the market value, are the second set going to share their advantages with the working man? Are they going to be easier to deal with or more easygoing in their ways? Certainly not; hence the working man has no interest at all in the enterprise to which Mr. Lloyd George invites him. What he has a direct interest in is more employment at better wages, and that is just what Mr. Lloyd George does not know how to give him. The working man is the predestined dupe if he listens to the counsels given to him at Newcastle.—*Times*.

Mr. Lloyd George has definitely left the Girondins to join the Jacobins. He made a speech on Saturday at Newcastle—the birthplace of historic programmes—the like of which, it is safe to say, has never yet been made in this country by a Minister of the Crown, and which could not have been made by an educated man familiar with the elementary facts of the history of civilisation. The notorious and discreditable performance at Limehouse was nothing to it.—*Telegraph*.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer goes down to the people ostensibly to vindicate his financial proposals. But no sooner does he begin to speak than a most singular anomaly becomes manifest. He does not address his audience as Chancellor of the Exchequer, but as an avenger of sin, whose chosen weapon of chastisement is taxation.—*Standard*.

Mr. Lloyd George has overdone it. His violent and bitter speech at Newcastle will be read with sorrow and indignation by all right-thinking men... Now we have a Chancellor of the Exchequer... in the eyes of all the world addressing British electors as if they were a crowd of worthless tramps anxious only to steal a shirt off a hedge. Such an appeal dishonours him who makes it and insults those to whom it is made.—*Daily Mail*.

To him (Mr. George) the Budget is frankly a work of revenge. No one who reads the long and incendiary harangue on landowners which he palmed off on Newcastle on Saturday as a defence of the Budget can possibly come to any other conclusion.—*Daily Graphic*.

The most significant point in the speech was the prophecy that the yield of the new land taxes is sure to increase every year. That is exactly why we insist that the people shall be consulted before the Budget becomes law. It is no mere device for meeting the national expenses of one year.—*Express*.

If Mr. Lloyd George's beliefs and intentions are honestly expressed in his peroration, he challenges the right of every one to all that comes to him by inheritance or by any process short of immediate personal exertion. He denies to property any rights whatever, and challenges the whole basis of guarantees upon which society exists and from which enterprise derives its security. We are not concerned here to argue with this position: it is enough to note that Mr. Lloyd George adopts it, that his party newspapers do not reject it, and that the absorption of Radicalism in Socialism is proceeding before our eyes.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

One of these days, as soon as ever he likes, Peter Pan Lloyd George will discover that the majority of English people do not take their politics from the region of fairyland. They have grown up sufficiently to be positively alarmed by a gentleman who has a moustache indeed, who is a Chancellor of the Exchequer, alas! but who has not progressed in sane thought since the days when little Wales became too full of him.—*Evening Standard*.

It is because of the suggestion that an opportunity shall be given by the House of Lords to the nation to decide upon a policy which the Chancellor himself states can never be reversed that the Radicals and Socialists demand that the Lords shall be destroyed. That the country must be allowed to judge can no longer be doubted, and the Lords have now no choice but to demand that a question on which hangs the whole future of the nation shall be settled by the nation and by the nation alone.—*Evening News*.

CURIOUS RADICAL OPINIONS.

Excellent as the Limehouse speech was, we consider that Newcastle at least equals it in clearness of exposition, in its choice of concrete examples, its wit and its courage. Both speeches are, indeed, instances of a notable revival that has marked this Budget discussion.—*Daily News*.

Since the eclipse of Mr. Chamberlain, there is no man in our public life who is a greater master of the art of popular appeal than Mr. Lloyd George. His speech at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Saturday is like nothing so much as a speech of Mr. Chamberlain's in his Radical days.—*Chronicle*.

What a handicap on history the unregulated and unstimulated possession of land may be was enforced by Mr. Lloyd George, not with any bitterness or invective.—*Leader*.

The small class which has enjoyed a unique position of power and advantage by virtue of its possession of land will be seen frankly asserting its claim to veto taxation which means to destroy any Government which it thinks inimical to its interests. That is a tremendous claim, involving a gigantic struggle if it is persisted in, and it is idle to use soft words about it.—*Westminster Gazette*.

The deadliness of the Limehouse speech was its hard facts. The deadliness of the Newcastle speech is also its hard facts. There has been no answer to Limehouse and there will be no answer to Newcastle.—*Star*.

Sir Edward Carson, addressing a meeting of Liverpool business men on Tuesday, referred to the Chancellor's Newcastle speech, and said Mr. Lloyd George was a demagogue and farceur. The speech would react on the man and the Party accountable for it. The Chancellor talked about a “slump in dukes,” but the fact was there was a slump in employment. The Lords had as much right to reject or accept the Finance Bill as any other Bill.

“THE SANSULOTTE.”

(FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.)

Public and Press alike agree that no more deplorable speech has ever been delivered by a Minister of the Crown than that which Mr. Lloyd George made on Saturday. It is noticeable that, while the speech teemed with fallacies, misstatements and mendacious assumptions, few even of the gravest leader writers condescend to dissect the Chancellor's oration in detail, but rather concentrate all their energy on denouncing the tone and temper by which it was inspired. “We ask,” says one paper, “all moderate Liberals whether they really think this raging, reckless demagogue ought to fill one of the highest and most important offices in the State. By every rhetorical device which he is able to command, the Chancellor of the Exchequer preached to his hearers a class war, and endeavoured to induce them to adopt that system of forced benevolences which we supposed had disappeared from the finances of this country with the lamented decease of King Henry VIII.”

Humour is not lacking in the Chancellor's threat: to compel those who possess property to place what he conceives to be the amount dictated by natural charity in the national contribution box. The peculiar humour of this threat may be seen when it is reflected that Mr. Lloyd George, himself a prosperous attorney by profession, confesses in the same speech to having defrauded the revenue and, incidentally, those poor and industrious persons for whom, he alleges, his heart bleeds. “Dukes,” says a caustic commentator on the speech, “may not object to poachers on their lands, but the guardian of the public purse may confess without shame, and even with pride, that he obtained his own amusement without even taking out the licence which the law requires.” In terms of equal offensiveness, mendacity, and flippancy he denounced “you Unionists and hypocrites, Pharisees.” It might be enquired: has he ever heard of those who laid burdens upon the people too grievous to be borne, while they themselves touched them not with one of their fingers?

Certainly this speech has alienated thousands of moderate Liberals, and there is plenty of evidence that the Prime Minister, Mr. Haldane, Mr. Birrell, Lord Morley, and the other one or two Cabinet Ministers who have not forgotten the dignity attaching to their high office are incensed and disgusted at the unrestrained verbal hooliganism of their irrepressible colleague.

LATEST AMERICAN MAIL NEWS.

TO THE UNITED STATES.

October 17.—*Lusitania*, from Liverpool, mails due in New York October 22. Mark letters “Via Colon—Queenstown per Cunard Line,” and post not later than 1 o'clock p.m. today (Thursday).
October 16.—*Philadelphia*, from Southampton, mails due in New York October 23. Mark letters “Via England,” and with name of steamer, and post not later than 1 o'clock p.m. today (Thursday).
October 19.—*Kronprinz Wilhelm*, from Bremen, mails due in New York October 26. Mark letters “Via Bremen,” and post not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Monday, October 18.
October 21.—*Teutonic*, from Liverpool, mails due in New York October 28. Mark letters “Via England,” and with name of steamer, and post not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Monday, October 18.

TO CANADA.

For the information of Canadian readers it may be mentioned that a fast mail steamer of the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company leaves Liverpool for Quebec and Montreal direct every Saturday. Letters intended for Canada by this direct route should be posted in Berlin and Dresden not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Thursdays, and be marked: “Via Liverpool by Express steamer.” At the same time it should be remembered that

Canadian letters can also be sent by one of the New York steamers, and that if mailed by steamers direct from German harbours they obtain the benefit of the 10-pennig rate for 20 grammes.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Letters for the above steamers should be mailed in the boxes at the station (Berlin, Lehrter Bahnhof; Dresden, Hauptbahnhof) or at the General Post-office at the time mentioned.
Letters bearing a 10-pennig stamp per weight of 20 grammes are only valid for transit by a German steamer sailing direct from a German port. They will not be sent by an English or French steamer.

NEXT AMERICAN MAILS DUE IN BERLIN AND DRESDEN.

Today (Thursday), by the S.S. *Mauretania*, left New York October 6.
On Sunday, October 17, by the S.S. *La Touraine*, left New York October 7.
On Monday, October 18, by the S.S. *St. Paul*, left New York October 9.
On Wednesday, October 20, by the S.S. *Kronprinzessin Cecilie*, left New York October 12.
On Friday, October 22, by the S.S. *Campania*, left New York October 13.
On Saturday, October 23, by the S.S. *La Savole*, and the S.S. *George Washington*, both left New York October 14.

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