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THE NEW DIPLOMACY.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Secretary Knox, of the Department of State, has made the tacit declaration that the rights of the American citizen to justice and protection are to be maintained in all countries and at all costs. With this principle no man will complain, but voices are being heard against the manner of enforcing it.

The Chicago Daily News, of December 8, 1909,

"While deeply sympathising with the principle enunciated by Mr. Knox, there are many of Mr. Knox's own good friends who do not approve unqualifiedly his state papers written in the support of it. They point out that if Mr. Knox is going to use "shotgun diplomacy" every time he enters the diplomatic arena, instead of that policy of studied and firm politeness pursued by his successful predecessors, he will, sooner or later, precipitate a real diplomatic crisis.

"Some day Knox will produce one of his tetters on a fellow who has a gun," said a leader of congress recently, "and then somebody will get hurt. I am inclined to think that Secretary Knox's policy of protecting Americans wherever they may be will command popular approval unless some picayune proposition leads to serious consequences.

"Mr. Knox has been in office less than eight months. During that time he has summarily fired Charles R. Crane as minister to China and made a heap of political trouble for the Taft administration by the method in which he did it. He sent an ultimatum to Chile on the Alsop claim, which was ignored, whereby our standing in South America was undoubtedly laid under suspicion. He has now jumped on Nicaragua -it can be characterised in no other way-and the unofficial suggestion from the state department that a commission be sent to Central America to study conditions there on behalf of the United States government as a result of the revolution in Nicaragua, had the Central American representatives in Washington jumping around like so many Jacks in the box, until it was officially repudiated. There is no question that such a commission was contemplated, and the question naturally arises, What right has the United States government to send any commission to any nation for the purpose of finding out whether or not the state department likes the way it does businness? If Mr. Knox had contemplated sending a commission to England, Russia, France, and Germany, instead of to Nicaragua, Salvador, Quatemala and Costa Rica, for the purpose of finding out what we did not like in their governments, it would not take a fortune-teller to tell what would happen."

The old gives place to the new, and the development of international relations and the annihilation of distance must produce changes in the methods of diplomacy. A nation, as a business man, must look to its credit, both financial and moral, and the country which allows its foreign department to pursue a policy of bludgeoning the weak and conciliating the strong, is running a grave danger of reprisals. In Germany and England "the man in the street" is well posted upon foreign politics and every newspaper considers its foreign news one of the most important features. In the United States the newspapers with reliable and well-informed foreign correspondents could be counted upon the fingers of one hand. The village pump is the supreme question and the diplomatic relations of the United States to other countries have no more interest to the average man, except in a business way, than the constituent parts of the Milky Way. Under these circumstances the position of Secretary of State of the United States is more free from intelligent criticism than that of any other nation, and when one considers that in addition the Secretary is responsible only to the President and has not to undergo the severe parliamentary heckling of a British or German foreign secretary, the need for a level-headed and experienced man is obvious. Your readers will recall the different manner with which Mr. Knox handled Japan regarding the question of the "open door" in Mandchuria and that in which he dealt with Nicaragua. From Mr. Knox's record up to the present it would appear that the President could have made a better choice than that of ex-Senator Knox.





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NEWS OF THE WORLD.

There was a thunderstorm at Berlin on Wednesday evening accompanied by snow and hail with the thermometer standing at 23 and a strong south-east wind blowing. Christmas traffic was considerably interfered with. The streets especially were so slippery in consequence of the thin coat of ice which formed over the pavement, that to walk was quite dangerous.

LONDON, Wednesday.—Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a speech delivered at Llanelly, declared the attempt to produce dissatisfaction between Great Britain and Germany to be criminal. People who made an attempt in that direction in order to reap a temporary advantage for their Party, were traitors to their country and to humanity.

NEW YORK, Wednesday.—It must be looked upon as a further proof of the prosperity prevailing in the States at present that the U.S. Steel Corporation intends to spend two million dollars which are to be devided among their employees as a bonus, 60 per cent of which will be paid to them in cash and 40 per cent in shares in the Company.

LONDON, Wednesday.—Mr. John Burns, in a speech delivered at Battersea, strongly condemned Mr. Blatchford's articles published in the Daily Mail. Blatchford, he said, implied, to his own disgrace that war with Germany, England's peaceable neighbour, was imminent, and he was playing wilfully with a dangerous firebrand which the Tory Press was using in order to cause great disaster. England's warships were sufficient to protect its coast against any enemy. It was to England's advantage to entertain the best of relations with Germany.

SOEUL, Wednesday.—Prime Minister Yi, while out driving in a small Japanese waggon, was stabbed in the abdomen and the lungs by a young Corean and mortally wounded. He was taken to hospital. His Kuli was likewise stabbed and died soon after. The perpetrater of the deed was arrested. He is supposed to be a member of a secret political society.

LONDON, Wednesday.—The number of dead recovered from the débris of Messrs. Arding & Hobbs' store is now stated to be nine. Three victims are lying at the Hospital in a serious condition, while from 15 to 20 were slightly injured.

LONDON, Wednesday.—The condition of Mr. Haldane's eyes is about the same as yesterday. The doctor advises complete rest, and it is probable that Mr. Haldane will not be able to leave his house for a week or ten days.

LONDON, Wednesday.—In response to inquiries today at Whittingehame, where Mr. Balfour is in residence, it was stated that the right hon. gentleman was better and making satisfactory improvement, Even under the most favourable conditions, however, Mr. Balfour will be unable to venture out of doors before the beginning of the New Year.

LONDON, Wednesday.—It is stated that every seat in Great Britain is to be fought by the Unionists at the approaching election.

That means that the three existing vacancies—Mid-Durham, the Bosworth Division of Leicestershire, and Kirkcaldy—will be provided with Unionist candidates before we are much older. There is no such thing as a forlorn hope in any constituency, for the tide is turning rapidly in all parts of the country against the Government. The boast of certain Radical orators that a sweeping victory awaits the Cabinet at the polls is regarded as merely an expiring effort to attract money to the war-chest of the Radical caucus.

LONDON, Wednesday.—Pathetic scenes were witnessed at Messrs. Arding and Hobbs' depot in the Falcon-road yesterday morning, when a roll call was taken. Mr. F. W. Lloyd, the general manager, standing on a table, first of all took the names of the men and girls as they came in, and then asked the ladies to leave. The men then stood before him with heads uncovered, and after referring to the terrible nature of the fire, Mr. Lloyd said that all they could do was to dispense with the services of the employés, and that they must accept a week's notice from today: The money would be paid in advance, and those who had no means of getting to their homes would be provided with funds to enable them to do so.

"Before you go," added Mr. Lloyd, "we want you to leave your addresses with the clerk appointed to take them."

Mr. Arding, chief of the firm, standing in front of the table, and facing the employés, then attempted to address them. "Now, gentlemen, this is a most painful thing," he commenced, but broke down convulsively sobbing. "Excuse him," said Mr. Lloyd, and the employés cried their assent.

Mr. Arding, commencing again, said all the employés would bear him out that the firm had taken great care. "Please God," he added, "we shall be spared to have a building again." At this point he was again overcome by his emotion, and after making a further brief statement was led away.

Mr. Hawes, a neighbouring draper, then said he was sure it would be the feeling of the employés that Mr. Arding had taken great care for their safety, and he asked them to signify that that was their feeling. On this the employés signified their assent. As Mr. Arding was speaking tears were streaming down the faces of most of the men.

NEW YORK, Tuesday.—A dispatch from Rama, Nicaragua, states that Gen. Estrada, commanding the Revolutionists, began on Monday a forward movement against the Zelayans all along the line. The forces of Gen. Gonzalez, commanding the Zelayans, were scattered along a line eight miles in length between Recreo and Mico Junction. Gen. Estrada expects to surround and harass the Zelayans, forcing them to leave their trenches, when they can be more easily attacked.

ST. PETERSBURG, Wednesday.—An explosion occurred in Astrachan Street yesterday, causing the death of Colonel Karpov, chief of the political police, who was caught in a trap. A detective was seriously injured. The perpetrator of the crime, one Voskressenski, had no less than seven different passports on his person.

The circumstances preceding and surrounding what no doubt is an act of political fanaticism, are not quite clear as yet. A young man calling himself Michael Voskressenski took the apartment where the explosion occurred a few days ago. Yesterday a gentleman he alleged to be his uncle, came to stay with him, bringing his man-servant. At the moment of the explosion the young man seems to have been on the stairs. He ran into the street without his hat and coat, and there was arrested by a policeman before he could draw his revolver. It was not until later that the alleged uncle was discovered to be Colonel Karpov, who was litterally torn to pieces by the explosion, and that the man-servant was a detective, who was seriously injured.