

Vatican," described the debate as furnishing "proof of the irrefutable truth contained in the Emperor's speeches, both at Koenigsberg and Beuron, that the throne and altar cannot be divided in Germany, religion being necessary in the struggle against error in modern times." The reference here to Beuron is an allusion to an address by the German Emperor to the abbot and a number of Roman Catholic dignitaries in the Benedictine monastery at Beuron, where he said: "The governments of Christian princes can only be carried on according to the will of the Lord. The altar and throne are closely united and must not be separated."

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British Elections.

The first group of the series of elections in Great Britain for a new Parliament will come off on the 3d. Upon the breaking up of the Liberal-Tory conference (p. 1097) it was expected that these elections would soon occur. The Tories tried to postpone them, in fear of defeat; the Liberals were reluctant to call them, for their campaign funds were low. They have been forced, however, by the action of the House of Lords on its power to veto legislation (p. 1097).

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On motion of Lord Lansdowne (Tory) in the House of Lords, made upon the assembling of Parliament (p. 758) on the 15th, the Asquith government was called upon to send its proposed veto measure to the Lords in legislative form for their adoption with such modifications as they might agree to after debate. The invitation was accepted, and the Earl of Crewe (the Liberal leader in the House of Lords) introduced a veto measure in behalf of the Asquith government. But Mr. Asquith explained in the Commons that there was to be "no question of amendment or transformation; it is a question of acceptance or rejection; the time has come for this controversy, which obstructs the whole path of progressive legislation, to be sent for final, decisive arbitrament, to the national tribunal."

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Pending consideration of the Asquith measure by the Lords, Lord Rosebery's (Tory) proposal was adopted in resolution form. Following is its substance as reported by cable:

(1) That the House of Lords shall consist of Lords of Parliament (a) chosen by the whole body of hereditary Peers from among themselves and by nomination by the crown; (b) those sitting by virtue of their offices and qualifications held by them; and (c) those chosen from outside.

(2) That the term of tenure of all Lords of Parliament shall be the same except in the case of those sitting *ex-officio*, who would sit only so long as they hold office by reason of which they sit.

Without acting upon the measure of the Com-

mons, the Lords adopted on the 23d resolutions proposed by Lord Lansdowne (Tory) and sent them, along with the Rosebery plan, to the Commons. The Lansdowne resolutions related (1) to bills other than money bills, and (2) to money bills. They are as follows:

(1) If a difference arises between the Houses in regard to any bill other than a money bill in two successive sessions and during an interval of not less than one year, and such differences cannot be adjusted by other means, it shall be settled at a joint sitting composed of the members of the two Houses; provided, that if the measure relates to a matter of great gravity and has not been adequately submitted to the judgment of the people it shall not be referred to joint sitting, but submitted for decision to the electors by a referendum.

(2) The Lords are prepared to forego their constitutional right to reject and amend money bills which are of a purely financial character, provided effectual provision is made against "tacking," and provided that if any question arises as to whether a bill or any of the provisions thereof are of a purely financial character that question shall be referred to a joint committee of both Houses.

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To the Lords' proposals the Liberals object that they would leave the House of Commons as completely at the mercy of the Lords as ever. On the 28th Parliament was dissolved and a new Parliament called for January 31, 1911. Accordingly the campaign is now in full swing, with the question of the Lords' veto as the issue.

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"American dollars," however, has been the principal campaign cry. It was begun by Mr. Balfour (Tory leader) in his keynote speech at Nottingham. Mr. Balfour said:

The present Government talks as if it meant to destroy the British Constitution in obedience to the British democracy. Nothing of the kind. It is going to destroy it in obedience to the American subscribers to the Irish party.

Other Tory speakers took up this cry of "American dollars," and at the East End, London, on the 21st, Lloyd George replied:

Since when has the British aristocracy started despising dollars? Many of the noble houses tottering had their foundations restored by a pile of American dollars, and in twenty years \$80,000,000 has been paid by the children of Irish peasants across the sea in cruel rack rents to aristocratic Irish landlords.

Other Liberals refer to Astor, a Tory candidate for Parliament, who gets his money from American tenants by compulsion as a monopolist of valuable American land.

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The Irish in British Politics.

One of the results of the elections, if the Liberals and their allies win, will be autonomy for Ireland.