

MILLERAND FAVORS BASIC LAW CHANGE

Will Attempt to Enlarge Electoral College When He Becomes President

NOT TO BE FIGUREHEAD

By the Associated Press
Paris, Sept. 21.—Revision of the French constitution, which will give great stability to the government and change the electoral system which chooses the president of the republic, will be attempted by Premier Millerand when he takes office as president, according to newspaper reports. His work in the electoral college include not only members of two houses of parliament, but delegates from local elected bodies and from great corporations.

M. Millerand also believes the president should be less of a figurehead than has been the rule in the past, and that official should play a role of confident and cordial collaboration with the government in office. In other words his idea will be that the president should be like the head of a stock company, in which the ministers would take the part of directors and the premier the manager director. He is convinced, it is said, that this plan would assure great stability and cohesion in the executive branch of the government.

In his address outlining his program upon entering office, M. Millerand said it was not much the dispositions of the French constitutional system which aroused criticism as its application.

"The essential guarantee of liberty," he declared, "is a division of powers within the government. Each department should be independent in its own sphere and should not impinge on territory of another. Tyranny may be defined as a union of all powers under one head, whether it be a person or an assembly. Responsibility of the executive power, which theoretically chooses and appoints, inevitably disappears the day when it merely ratifies decisions instead of freely choosing. These decisions are whispered in his ears under threats which are sometimes but thinly veiled. We must break with this system and give to each department entire authority according to its rights. The president of the republic is today elected by 500 members of Parliament. Constitution-

ally, he is not the creature of Parliament, but is really the first representative of France.

"Serious reasons rule out the election of president by universal suffrage, but between that method and the method of today there is a gulf which can without danger be bridged, in my opinion, with great advantage by considerably enlarging the electoral college."

The resignation of Paul Deschanel as president of France, which he handed to Premier Millerand at Rambouillet last week, was read simultaneously in the Senate and Chamber of Deputies when those bodies reconvened today.

"My state of health," wrote M. Deschanel in his letter, "no longer permits me to assume the high functions with which your confidence invested me upon the occasion of the session of the National Assembly on January 17 last."

"The absolute obligation imposed upon me to take a complete rest makes it my duty to no longer delay announcing to you the decision I have been compelled to reach. It is infinitely painful, and it is with profound heart pangs that I renounce the noble post of which you deemed me worthy."

"The duty of the president of the republic involves at all times grave responsibilities. It demands activity and energy, free from all weakness, during the years when victorious France is called upon to reconstruct her domestic resources, meanwhile assuring abroad integral application of the treaty of peace, so gloriously but so dearly gained."

M'SWINEY WEAK ON FORTIETH DAY

Cork Lord Mayor Has Restless Night, Says Irish League Bulletin

GOVERNMENT IS DOUBTFUL

By the Associated Press
London, Sept. 21.—Lord Mayor MacSwiney, of Cork, passed a very restless night at Brixton prison, where he entered, this morning, the fortieth day of his hunger strike, according to a bulletin issued by the Irish Self-Determination League. He had some sleep, but it was quite fitful, and he was very weak this morning, the bulletin stated.

When asked the direct question whether MacSwiney was being fed, a home office official said this morning: "Not that we know of, but you must remember his relatives have free access to him."

This is the first time officials have qualified the statement that, as far as

the government's doctors know, the lord mayor is not receiving nourishment.

The prison physician reported this morning that MacSwiney was considerably weaker than he was yesterday.

Queenstown, Sept. 21.—The wife of Joseph Kenny, one of the hunger strikers in the Cork jail, who claims American citizenship, has made a sworn statement to the effect that the soldiers who arrested her husband after raiding their house had placed in a sewing bag in the house cartridges which they accused Kenny of having in his possession.

The American vice consul here last night received the papers on which Kenny's claim for American citizenship is said to be based. They proved to be merely a declaration made by Kenny at

Monpa, Nev., in 1904, of his intention to become naturalized. No evidence was submitted to the consul to show that Kenny had completed the naturalization process before returning to Ireland.


BOMB EXPLODED IN MADRID
Great Damage Caused by Dynamite in Suburb of Spain's Capital
Madrid, Sept. 21.—(By A. P.)—A dynamite bomb exploded in front of the Friends' Club in Talavera, a suburb of this city, yesterday, doing enormous damage, but inflicting no casualties.

The police have found a number of dynamite cartridges and also a detonator. One arrest has been made.

FRENCH REPULSE TURKS
Battleships in Harbor Drive Back Nationalists in Asia Minor
Constantinople, Sept. 21.—(By A. P.)—Turkish National forces in Southern Asia Minor are continuing their fight against French troops of occupation there. Ten thousand Turks and Arabs are besieging Adana, and others are daily shelling Tarsus with old five-

inch German guns operated by German officers. Frequent attacks are being made on Mersina, an important seaport southwest of Adana, but they have been repulsed by the fire from the guns of French battleships in the harbor.

Americans in Adana have limited food supplies, but distribute what they can to 2,000 persons daily.



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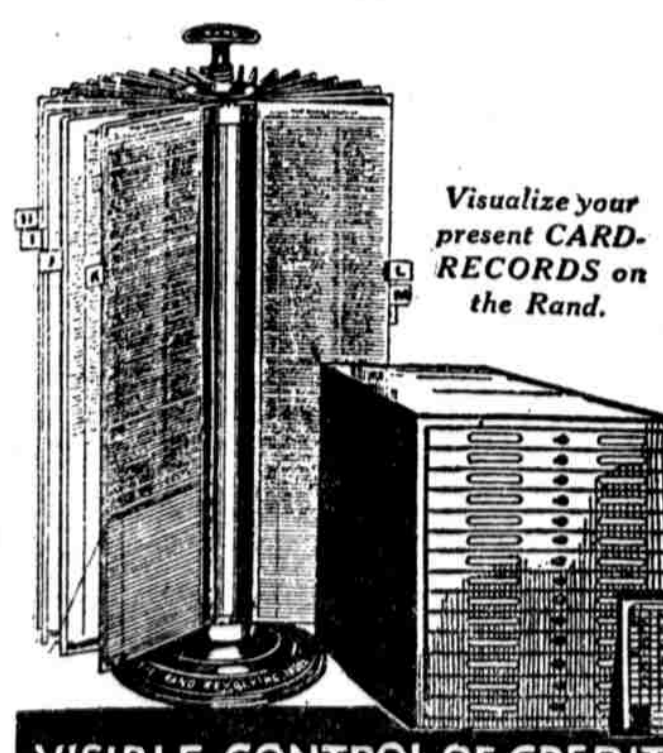
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