

THE DRESDEN DAILY

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AMERICA AND THE MOROCCO CONFERENCE.

Senator Lodge, the leading member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States Senate, a leading authority on all questions connected with the United States policy with regard to other nations, contributes an article to a London paper, commenting on statements which have been made in America and Europe touching the presence of American representatives at Algeiras. The Democratic party in America have professed to see in the participation by America in the Conference a disregard of Washington's warning against "entangling alliances" and of the principles laid down in the Monroe doctrine. European critics have confined themselves to expressing surprise at America sending delegates to a conference not solely concerned with commercial matters.

Mr. Lodge describes the American criticism as based on an erroneous conception of Washington's advice and the principles of Monroe, while European critics he looks upon as ignorant of American action in the past towards Morocco, and as holding a perverted idea of America's settled policy towards other nations. A century ago America found it necessary to wage a little war with the Barbary states, with a view to protecting her commerce in the Mediterranean, while in 1863 and again in 1880 the United States joined with the European Powers in making treaties with Morocco; and this latter fact alone is at once the reason and precedent for American action at the present time. The warning of Washington against "entangling alliances" was due to the trouble caused by the treaty of alliance between France and the United States, during the war of Independence. When the French revolution involved France in war with the other European powers, including Great Britain, France insisted that the United States were bound to take part in these hostilities. Washington, however, and his supporters considered that the Franco-American treaty only bound the United States to participate in a defensive war; and as the war then raging was offensive, he decided on a policy of neutrality, which made him very unpopular for a time in his own country. It was this alliance, which prompted the words used by Washington in his farewell address; and to this policy of abstention from such alliances, whether right in the abstract or no, America has rigidly adhered since the days of the first President of the United States, nor is there any likelihood that it will ever be departed from. The Monroe doctrine declared that Europe must not interfere with the Government established in America, and that no portion of the American hemisphere was open to further colonisation, and reiterated the allegiance of the country to Washington's policy; but this policy never contemplated the exclusion of the United States from agreements with one or more European Powers as to matters affecting trade or commerce, or from international conventions, entered into for the promotion of such objects as peace. Mr. Lodge points out that the Monroe doctrine is not international law, but is a policy supported by America, and which America is prepared to maintain by force if necessary. It is the "balance of power" policy as applied to the Western hemisphere, and the Americans will uphold it, as the balance of power is upheld by the nations of Europe, because it is essential to her peace and safety. But while America does not permit outside interference in affairs solely concerning her, there is no reason why she should not make agreements or attend conferences touching the trade or peace of the world. It would be a violation of the Monroe policy and Washington policy to seek territory, especially in Europe. But that is the last thing America desires to do. Some years ago America did propose, for strategic reasons, to purchase the Danish Islands, but on Denmark, owing to outside pressure, objecting, America relinquished her design at once, but on the understanding that no other Power would be permitted

to take these islands or any American territory especially in the Caribbean Sea. The only reason why American delegates are at Algeiras is because Americans were signatories to previous treaties, and because American commercial interests are involved in the settlement of the matters in dispute. The influence of the United States will be used, as it was in the previous year, when the Moroccan trouble began, for the promotion of the world's peace. Under the Hague convention, to which the United States was a signatory, each nation has a right to offer its good offices for the settlement of differences between other signatory nations. With what brilliant success this offer was made last summer, the world has seen, when the mediation of President Roosevelt paved the way to the conclusion of the devastating war between Russia and Japan. "It is in conformity to the same policy that the influence of the United States has been used hitherto in the Moroccan question, and will be used at Algeiras, to prevent war if there be a danger of it between two great powers, both friends of the United States, the conflict between whom would be a dire misfortune, which would call down upon the aggressor the reprobation of civilized mankind."

PAYMENT OF M. P.'S.

In spite of one or two hostile speeches, the House of Commons by a large majority passed a resolution declaring it desirable that members of Parliament should be paid, though opinions varied as to whether the charge should be borne by the Exchequer or by local rates. It is interesting to note that England is practically the only country where legislators give their services for nothing. Judging by the following list, America is the M. P.'s paradise.

The existing practice as to such payments in British Colonies varies thus:—

	Per an.
Australia	£400
New Zealand	300
Tasmania	100
West Australia	200
South Australia	200
Queensland	300
New South Wales	300
Victoria	300

Canada pays £500 for a Session of more than thirty days; if the Session be less, £4 for each day's attendance.

The Cape of Good Hope pays 1 guinea for each day of attendance, with an allowance to a Member resident more than fifteen miles from the House of Parliament of 15s. for personal expenses for every day of absence from home on his Parliamentary duties.

Natal gives £1 daily travelling allowance in the cases of Members who reside three miles or more from the place of Assembly.

In Newfoundland provision was made in 1905 for a sum of £1,660, representing the salaries of thirty-six Members. Eleven described as "resident in other parts" received £60 each, and twenty-five, resident in St. John's, £40 each.

The following is the practice in the foreign countries named:—

Austria (Lower House)	16s. 8d. per day.
Denmark (both Houses)	6s. 8d. per day.
France (both Houses)	£360 per ann.
Prussia (exclusive of travelling expenses)	15s. per day.
Greece	£72 per Session.
Italy	Free travel.
Japan (exclusive of travelling expenses—both Houses)	2,000 yen.
Netherlands—First Chamber-to Members at a distance	16s. 8d. per day.
Netherlands—Second Chamber—exclusive of travelling allowance	£166 per ann.

Sweden (exclusive of travelling expenses)	11s. per day.
Norway (exclusive of travelling expenses)	13s. 4d. per day.
Switzerland (exclusive of travelling expenses)	20 francs per day.
United States (senators and representatives, exclusive of travelling expenses and stationery allowance)	£1,000 per ann.

TELEGRAMS.

BERLIN, March 10. The president of the Administration in Potsdam has offered a reward of 3000 Marks for the arrest of Hennig the murderer.

PETERSBURG, March 10. At yesterday's sitting of the Ministerial Council the Minister of the Interior stated that, according to the reports which had reached him from the representatives of various Jewish communities, they were afraid that considerable excesses against the Jews were imminent and that their fears were based on sufficiently sound foundations. In any case the necessary precautionary measures had been adopted by the Government.

PARIS, March 10. The Minister of the Interior has received a despatch announcing that a fire has broken out in the coal mines of Courrières (department Pas de Calais). Three mines appear a perfect sea of fire. The flames are bursting out of the pit shafts. It is impossible to give even approximately the number of victims. In the morning 1800 miners had descended into the mine, and it is hoped that the majority have been able to save themselves in the side galleries.

PARIS, March 10. Sarrien has definitely undertaken to form a Cabinet. He has assured himself of the cooperation of Bourgeois and Poincaré.

PARIS, March 10. The mining disaster at Courrières is attributed to explosions of firedamp in shafts 4 and 11, caused by a fire which had been raging for three days in shaft 3, and had extended to shaft No. 2. All the supports and framing in the galleries were blown away by the explosion, and in many places the roof fell in. The rescue operations which were immediately begun were much hindered by the escaping gases. An engineer who had entered a shaft had to be carried out, to save him from suffocation. Up to noon 120 miners had been brought out alive from shaft 11, only one from No. 3 shaft. It is feared that many are still in No. 3. A telegram received at the Ministry of the Interior at 3 p. m. says, that a number of miners had been saved, but gives no particulars. It is much to be feared that the disaster is of an unprecedented character, and that nearly a thousand lives have been lost; inasmuch as no one has yet been rescued from either of the shafts 2 and 4. The people are terror-stricken. The scenes at the pit's mouth are dreadful.

President Fallières was much shocked at the news, and sent an orderly officer to the mine to convey his deep sympathy to the people. In the lobbies of the Chamber also, much sympathy was expressed. Further details are awaited with anxiety. The Ministers of the Interior and of Public Works have gone to the scene of the disaster.

PARIS, March 10. According to a telegram from Lens, 5.35 p. m., it was ascertained that 1795 miners had entered the shafts, of which so far only 591 were in safety. All further attempts at saving more lives seem hopeless.

WASHINGTON, March 10. *Reuter* reports that the State department have received information from Manchuria to the effect that trade and traffic are nearly normal. The Chinese Governor is desirous of taking over the civil authority. The Japanese troops will soon have evacuated Manchuria.

LENS, March 10. Midnight. The number of killed is said to be 1219.

LENS, March 11. The representative of President Fallières, the Minister of the Interior and