

The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

№ 309.

DRESDEN, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1907.

10 PFENNIGS.

BAD ALBERTSHOF 7, Sedan Strasse 8 Swimming Baths: for ladies Wednesday and Saturday 10-1, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 2-5; the remaining days for gentlemen.
16, Werder Strasse 9 Turkish Baths: for ladies Monday and Friday 6-1, Wednesday 2-8; the remaining days for gentlemen. Baths of every description.

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NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA.

New York, February 7.

The uncertainty of the position in Cuba, according to the latest dispatches from Havana, continues to cause dissatisfaction among Cubans of all shades of opinion. It cannot be said that anything in the condition of affairs in Cuba at present justifies the retention of the American troops. Terrible prophecies of what will happen should the troops be withdrawn are made by the traders and speculators, who look forward to an eventual American annexation in the confident expectation that it would bring with it a "boom" in trade. These prophecies come from interested quarters where any incident which would force the United States to go a step further in the direction of annexation would be welcomed, and must, therefore, be discounted. Similar predictions were made long ago and were never fulfilled. Among the Cuban population generally, apart from the trading classes, there is a feeling of perplexity, but all parties are clamouring that the United States should show its hand, and make known clearly its intentions with regard to the future of the island.

THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

London, February 7.

The Washington correspondent of the *Tribune* is empowered by President Roosevelt to deny the sensational reports published as to his speech at the last conference with the Californian Members of Congress. The President stated that he had never asserted that Japan had sent an ultimatum to the United States in the matter of the Californian school question, nor that a state of war existed owing to this matter. The President emphatically condemned the malevolent and pernicious war rumours, which were in no way justified by facts.

A TARIFF SESSION.

London, February 7.

According to the *Tribune* it has been actually decided at Washington that the Senate is to be called together for an extraordinary session after March 4th to discuss the San Domingo treaty and the Tariff relations with Germany. It is said that a reciprocity treaty with Germany will be laid before Congress.

THE INCOME TAX IN FRANCE.

Paris, February 7.

At today's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, M. Caillaux, Finance Minister, introduced his proposals as to an income tax. In the preamble to the Bill it is pointed out that all nations have renovated their taxation system in order to reach actual incomes. The Minister said that he had not desired simply to copy the English and German systems, but had endeavoured to procure taxation to correspond with the traditions and customs as well as with the distribution of property in France. Side by side with the existing direct taxation on all kinds of income the Minister sets a general income tax which is a personal tax. This saddles incomes derived from floating or fixed capital with a 4 per cent tax; incomes derived from industry or trade are taxed 3½ per cent, while those derived from manual labour are taxed 3 per cent. The existing method of taxation of floating securities is to remain intact; the revenue to be derived from this tax is to be increased by 5 millions, without the French bonds in the possession of fathers of families with small incomes being taxed higher than before. All foreign bonds are to be allowed free access to French markets with a stamp tax of 2 per cent on their nominal value, and a tax of 5 per cent on the income derived from them. French *rentes* are to remain tax free, the income, however, derived from Government securities will not escape the general tax; on the contrary, these incomes when exceeding 5,000 francs are to be dealt with on a sliding scale beginning

at 2 centimes and rising to 4 per cent of the income; in this way it is anticipated that a revenue of 120 millions will accrue. The declaration of those liable to taxation, unless they should be proved false, are to be taken as the basis of such taxation, no tyrannical enquiries on the part of the authorities are to take place. The administration will exercise a control over banks or loan institutions; cases of fraud will be met with heavy fines.

The reading of the Bill was accompanied by applause from the Left and disturbance from the Right.

M. Rouannet asked the Finance Minister what steps the Government intended to take against those financiers who advised the possessors of French *rentes* to sell, and to buy foreign bonds instead. M. Rouannet said that the fall in Russian bonds had caused French savers a loss of well-nigh a milliard, and he accused the *Crédit Lyonnais* of having caused French savers a further loss of 269 million francs by having secretly negotiated 874 millions of the obligations of the Russian Feudal-Agrarian Bank. Russia was a country of hollowness and corruption. (Noise and interruption.)

M. Caillaux said that he would reserve his reply for the moment until a further opportunity might be given him of proving how the Government took to heart the protection of French interests. M. Rouannet, if he was speaking of countries which did not fulfil their obligations, must not refer to Russia.

M. Rouannet replied that the Russian rate of exchange had not steadied until of the 30 milliards of foreign bonds, which were in the possession of French savers, 12 milliards were Russian Government stock. During the last Russian loan a commission of 12 millions had been paid to a certain unknown X.

M. Pichon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, replied that that had been registration fees. (Laughter.)

M. Rouannet, continuing, said that during the Russo-Japanese war it had been found possible to maintain an arbitrary rate of exchange for Russian Funds and went on to speak of stock exchange manoeuvres during the last Russian loan and of the "execution" of the Grand Duke Sergius. (Interruption.)

M. Pichon interrupted the speaker and said that that had been a murder and not the execution of a sentence (applause), a murder worthy of abhorrence and condemned by the public conscience of all countries. (Loud applause.)

In the further course of his speech M. Rouannet referred the fall in French *rentes* to stock exchange manoeuvres and said that, if a frightful crash did not first occur, the French capital would return to France, but one hour of weakness could destroy French industry and the Republic; there was still time to ward off the danger. He challenged the Minister of Finance to listen to the cry of the oppressed in Russia, whom financiers wished to hurl to their destruction. (Applause from the extreme Left.)

After M. Meslier (Socialist) had also violently attacked French financiers, M. Pichon again spoke and protested vigorously against M. Rouannet's utterances with reference to the relations of France with Russia. Nothing in the position of Russia's credit, trade or industry justified attacks like those of M. Rouannet. He, the Minister, rejoiced to see that the Russian Government were adding to the guarantees already given for the loan, well known constitutional guarantees. He further stated that the French and Russian Governments were daily affording each other mutual support in foreign policy. The French Government were determined to abide by their work of peace and to remain loyal to the Russian alliance. (Applause.)

The Minister's remarks were greeted with loud applause from all sides of the House and he was warmly cheered on the left of the tribune.

The House then adjourned.

PRESS OPINIONS.

The Conservative and Moderate Republican journals comment very unfavourably on the income tax law. They especially blame the indirect taxation of the French Government stock and the State control of the deposits in the Banks. This clause will certainly have the effect of removing French capital into the treasuries of foreign Banks. The Financial Minister is called the accomplice of the socialists and revolutionaries. The Radical and Socialist journals agree for the most part without reserve to the proposals.

CHURCH AND STATE.

Paris, February 7.

The Minister of Education, M. Briand, has sent to the prefects and mayors 4 draft proposals respecting the gratuitous usufruct of the churches. These drafts refer to the agreements to be made between the prefects or mayors with the priests or associations. They differ from the drafts drawn up by the Bishops by the insertion of conditions under which notice can be given; among other things it is laid down that notice may be given when not sufficient care is taken to maintain the church and its furniture, when the church is used for other than religious purposes, or when a priest does not comply with the duties of the 1905 and 1907 laws as specified in the agreement.

A meeting was held yesterday under the presidency of the Deputy M. Pion, of manufacturers of ecclesiastical articles to protest against the Separation Law by which thousands of workers lose their daily bread.

Private telegrams from Rome confirm the report that M. Briand's scheme for the Churches usufruct is regarded as unacceptable by the Vatican. An article of the *Osservatore Romano* gives expression to the view of the Pope and the Cardinal Secretary of State.

DEAD OF COLD.

Paris, February 8.

A French merchant who was travelling in the Paris-Belfort express died on the journey in consequence of the intense cold.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

KUROPATKIN'S WORK ON THE WAR.

St. Petersburg, February 7.

Gen. Kuropatkin's great work on the war with Japan has been printed in fifteen hundred copies. The work is in four volumes of large octavo size, and each volume contains 600 pages. The first volume is entitled "Lyaoyan," the second "The Operations on the Sha-ho," the third "Mukden," and the fourth "The Results of the War." In a supplement Gen. Kuropatkin discusses the operations of the First Army, under his command. The work contains many maps, diagrams, statistics, and other material of great assistance in arriving at a clearer understanding of the task that was imposed upon the Russian General.

CENTRAL ASIAN RAILWAY.

St. Petersburg, February 7.

At present the chief of the strategic line of railway that Russia has laid down eastwards from the Caspian Sea to Tashkend, the capital and military headquarters of Russian Central Asia, has been a military officer holding the rank of brigade commander. For some time there has been a strongly expressed desire to make the railway of more use in the commercial interests of the region through which it runs. The Ministry of Ways and Communications has opened negotiations with the Ministry of War, with a view to doing away with the present system of chief management under a military officer, and it is proposed that the general traffic and management of the line shall be entrusted to an expert in railway matters, while an Army officer shall be appointed to assist the chief manager in case the railway is called upon suddenly to undertake the conveyance of troops for purposes of mobilisation.

THE EVACUATION OF MANCHURIA.

St. Petersburg, February 7.

The *P. T. A.* learns from its Tokio correspondent that the Japanese Government, with the wish to restore a condition of peace in Manchuria as speedily as possible and to bring about better relations with the Russian Government, had already finished the evacuation of Manchuria by all divisions of her troops by the end of 1906, and is at present occupied with as far as possible reducing the troops charged with guarding the railway.

REVOLUTION IN SAN JUAN.

Buenos Aires, February 8.

A revolution, attributable to purely local causes, has broken out in the province of San Juan, and the revolutionaries have got the upper hand; it is said that they have made the Government officials prisoners. The fight lasted some hours, and there were some killed and wounded. The President for the time being of the Argentine Republic summoned the Council of Ministers, who decided upon a national intervention in San Juan.

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