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№ 343.

DRESDEN, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1907.

10 PFENNIGS.

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THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, March 20. Mr. Runciman, in reply to a question, informed the House that the British Minister in Teheran had reported that the guards of the Russian legation in Teheran and of the Russian Consulate in Tabris and Urmia had been slightly increased. Similar steps on the part of the English Government were at present considered neither necessary nor desirable.

The Prime Minister moved certain amendments to the procedure relating to the discussion of the individual clauses of Bills. Under the system existing at present the discussion in detail of Government measures takes place before the whole House; by the new amendments all proposals with the exception of those relating to finance or to exceptionally important measures are to be handed over for discussion in detail to special committees. The Prime Minister said that his proposals would give the House new life and new strength.

This afternoon a number of suffragettes again attempted to force their way into the precincts of the House of Commons, but were prevented by the police, who found it necessary to arrest 66 of

ATTACK ON A SOUTH AFRICAN BANK.

Johannesburg, March 20. Two men armed with revolvers today made a daring attack on the local branch of the National Bank in Harrison street. Levelling their weapons, the men demanded the cash in the bank. The bank officials and the two men exchanged shots; one of the latter was shot in the mouth and overpowered; his companion was also secured. One bank official was shot in the arm.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE CENTRAL REPUBLICS.

New York, March 20. President Roosevelt is being urged that the moment is opportune for this country to intervene in the war now proceeding in Central America. It is more than probable, however, that the struggle will be over before such intervention can be brought about, as, according to the most trustworthy reports, Nicaragua has repeatedly beaten the forces of Honduras, and the Honduran rebels, who have had the support of Nicaragua, are now in full possession of the capital, with the legal President in full flight. The accounts as to the origin of this sanguinary little war are still conflicting, and the part taken by the other Central American Republics is still in doubt, although it is positively asserted that all of them are more or less implicated

In view of the disregard shown by the disoutants to the advice of the Governments of the Inited States and Mexico, it is suggested that the Honduran Provisional Government shall be boycotted, and a reversion to the status quo ante be insisted upon. But practical men say that would be carrying sentiment too far, and that there is not the slightest reason why accomplished facts should not be recognised frankly and fully. The agent of Honduras in Washington contends that country has been the victim of a piratical and treacherous attack, and he has called attention in particular to the buccaneering exploits off the Honduran coast of a flotilla of Nicaraguan socalled warships.

Very little has reached here of the proceedings of these vessels, but it is alleged that they have been quite contrary to civilised warfare and interhational law. Full information has been requested from Mr. Philip Brown, Secretary of the United States Legation at Tegucigalpa, who, as far as can made out, has been having a lively time, having been present at a number of fights.

FINANCIAL UNREST.

New York, March 20. The Banker Isaac Seligmann had an interview with President Roosevelt today, in the course of which the latter declared his readiness to take any step by which he might restore confidence; he did not, however, see what he could do; he was not responsible for the attitude of the legislative bodies of the individual States to the railways, and he regretted that attitude. He said that he was inclined to meet the railway companies halfway; he had the utmost confidence in Mr. Secretary Cortelyon and he would not interfere with any steps he might take.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE "JENA" DISASTER.

Paris, March 20. A memorial service was held today in Notre Dame in memory of the victims of the "Jena" disaster. The coadjutor of the Archbishop of Paris, Mgr. Annette, celebrated mass. The Minister of Marine was represented at the service which was attended by many deputies and senators.

At today's meeting of the Senate, M. Monis moved that a Commission of nine members should be appointed with full powers to enquire into the "Jena" disaster, and also into the other disasters which have happened to the fleet in recent years. The Minister of Marine, M. Thomson, said that the Government would agree to this and would give the Commission their cordial cooperation. He stated that the Commission of naval officers has described as incorrect the idea that the explosion took place in the after powder magazine of the "Jena" and has confirmed the view that the disaster was due either to a short circuit, or to a fall of shells, or to changes that had taken place in the chemical condition of the explosives. All the ammunition had been examined last September, and the artillery staff did not believe that the explosion was caused by decomposition of the powder. The enquiry must be conducted seriously and in cold blood. After some discussion a Commission of 12 was appointed.

THE CHAMBER.

Paris, March 20. The House today rejected by 578 votes to 154 a proposal of Abbé Gayraud (Catholic Republican) that religion should be unrestricted in the naval and military hospitals. The motion was caused by the fact that a priest, summoned to the bedside of one of the men, injured by the explosion on the "Jena", was refused admittance to the hospital. M. Thomson, Minister of Marine, said that religion was unrestricted and that priests were admitted to the bedsides of those patients who had desired to see them, in accordance with the regulations of the

In the further course of the sitting M. Jaurès introduced his motion demanding the appointment of a commission of 22 Members to examine the political scope of the Montagnini papers. The motion also called for the immediate publication of all the documents in order to defeat the ends of mischievous articles and to make clear the provocative attitude of Rome.

M. Castelnau from the Right opposed the motion, characterising it as unworthy of France and illegal.

M. Denys Cochin (Conservative) reminded the House of the intervention of Austria-Hungary, alluded to the excitement which had pervaded the diplomacy of Europe, denied that the papers were important and reproached the Government with tyrannising over consciences.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Pichon, formally denied that any excitement had arisen among European diplomats. He pointed out that on January 20th he had refused to hand over the papers of Mgr. Montagnini to an advocate. In the most courteous way he had suggested that it would be better if a foreign embassy would undertake to represent the interests of the Holy See. Some days later the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador had visited him and told him officially that his Government had no desire to interfere in the conflict between France and the Vatican. The Ambassador

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had then asked if the Government would object in any way, should the Austro-Hungarian Government ask to be allowed to take over the papers of the former Nuntiature. The Government had no objection to handing over the papers to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador; those were all the facts of the case. All the papers lodged in the former apartments of the Nuntius Lorenzelli or described by Mgr. Montagnini as dating from a time anterior to the breach of diplomatic relations were handed to the Austro-Hungarian Embassy without the Government having cognisance of their contents.

M. Pichon added that the Government were perfectly justified in their expulsion of Mgr. Montagnini, who possessed no official capacity, and the Pope's claim to jurisdiction over the Catholics in France was directly opposed to the constitution of the country. He denied that the Diplomatic Corps disapproved of the action of the Government. No Power had replied to the Pope's protest.

M. Pichon concluded: "No foreigner may shelter himself beneath diplomatic privileges in order to organise a conspiracy." (Loud applause.) M. Clémenceau denied that they need spare the

weaver of a plot because he was a priest. The Chamber adopted M. Jaurès' motion by

370 votes to 164.

UNREST IN ROUMANIA.

Czernowitz, March 20. News comes from the frontier districts that the peasant disturbances in Roumania, especially in the northern part of Moldavia, are increasing. The town of Burdujeni has been destroyed. Some 3,000 Jewish fugitives have taken refuge in the neighbouring towns of Itzkany and Suczawa on the other side of the frontier. The disturbances in the Roumanian town in the vicinity of Synoutz continue. Some 2,000 rioters are on the march to Mihaileni where violence is hourly expected. From there too, Jewish fugitives, mostly women and children, are crossing the frontier for safety. The capital of the district, Jassy, is being besieged by 30,000 peasants. The garrison is too weak to be able to oppose the large force. 300 peasants have attacked Pacurani but were driven back with great loss by the soldiers. The War Minister has ordered the mobilisation of the 4th army corps and the Chamber has approved of his suggestion to call up all the reserves for 14 days. A regular pitched battle lasting several hours has taken place at Bohoshani between poor Jews and peasants; on both sides there were killed and wounded. Drunken soldiers took part in the looting, demolished houses and fraternised with the mob. The distress is appalling The movement is spreading and threatens to extend over the whole of upper Moldavia.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

THE DUMA.

St. Petersburg, March 20. The Labour group and the Moderate group of peasants demand that an agrarian committee shall be formed before anything else. The finance and Budget committees were discussed and it was decided to postpone the election of these committees. A proposal to nominate a special committee for organising relief in the famine-stricken districts led to a long debate. The Deputy of the Don district, Kaklugin, said that even among the Cossacks there was famine and many Cossacks were forced to beg. M. Fedoroff, Deputy for St. Petersburg city, said that it was necessary to adopt radical reforms in fighting the famine, since mere relief measures led to nothing in a country which like India and China is a classic land of

In the further course of the speeches many speakers, mostly peasants, made violent speeches, making all possible suggestions without making any definite proposal for relief in the congested districts.

M. Roditcheff pointed out the impossibility of direct relief by the Duma, and demanded of the Deputies to proceed in accordance with the law which allowed them and indeed made it their duty to demand an account and to control the department existing in the Ministry of the Interior for the relief of famine, and to exercise the functions of a parliamentary body. The question of the appointment of a relief committee occupied all the rest of the sitting. Professor Kissewitter of Moscow associated himself with M. Roditcheff's remarks and pointed out the necessity of controlling the relief measures of the Government. He concluded by saying "If we see mismanagement, we shall not