

The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

No 357.

DRESDEN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1907.

10 PFENNIGS.

BAD ALBERTSHOF 7, Sedan Strasse 7, Sedan Strasse 7, 16, Werder Strasse 16, Werder Strasse 16. Swimming Baths: for ladies Wednesday and Saturday 10-1, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 2-5; the remaining days for gentlemen. 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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THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

There was a very scanty attendance in the House at the first sitting after the Easter recess.

Mr. Byler, Member for Salford, N, asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if his attention had been called to the astonishment and disappointment aroused throughout France at the decision of the Government to oppose the Channel Tunnel scheme, if he received a communication in this sense from the French Government and if he could give the House the assurance that the cordiality of the *entente* had not suffered.

Mr. Runciman, Under Secretary of State, replied on behalf of the Foreign Secretary, Sir E. Grey, that he had received no communication of any kind on the matter from the French Government, and that he was of opinion that the reasons of the English Government for rejecting the project were fully understood and appreciated by the French Government. After reminding the House of the Government statement on the matter on March 21st, Mr. Runciman said that it was beyond question that a definite statement of that nature could bring no unpleasant consequences in its train.

The House then continued the debate on the budget.

H. M. S. "TRAFALGAR" AGROUND.

H. M. S. "Trafalgar" twin screw battleship, 11,940 tons, went aground on Monday near Devilspoint, Stonehouse. Tugs were sent to her assistance and they succeeded in towing her off and bringing her into harbour where she will be docked, to ascertain the damage done to her bow. In her forehold there are 18 inches of water.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE U. S. A. AND CANADA.

The Government in Washington has drafted a treaty, which provides for the nomination of a joint commission to discuss all the differences between the United States and Canada. It is hoped that Mr. Secretary Root and the English Ambassador, Mr. Bryce, will soon arrive at an understanding with regard to a *modus vivendi*, which will remain in force until the ratification of the treaty by the Senate.

THE U. S. AND GERMANY.

The announcement of the *Associated Press* that the German Ambassador in conjunction with Mr. Secretary Root has arrived at a basis for a new *modus vivendi*, is described in reliable circles as premature.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE POST OFFICE EMPLOYÉS AND THE STRIKE.

The Prime Minister, M. Clémenceau, the Minister of Public Works, M. Barthou, and the Under Secretary of State, M. Seinyan, had a conference on Monday, with reference to the attitude to be adopted by the Government towards the higher and lower officials of the Post and Telegraph services in the question of their joining the general strike of workmen. It was decided to take disciplinary measures at once.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

THE IMPERIAL DUMA.

The House was on Monday occupied with the agrarian question. Many speakers discussed this matter before half-empty benches. At about 4 p. m. the Prime Minister and some of his colleagues made their appearance. M. Shulguin, monarchist, opposed the socialist doctrines of the abolition of proprietary titles to property, and in irony introduced a motion whereby the abolition of all rights in material and spiritual property is demanded. His speech was applauded by the Right and received by the Left with signs of the greatest ill-will. A peasant Deputy next spoke, who made merry at the

idea that property was inviolable and sacred and concluded with the threat that the embittered people, if it should once attack its enemies, would know no restraints and would finally become master. M. Constantinoff of the Party of peaceful renewal, moved that the House should express its displeasure with the member who had dared to jest with that Honourable House. (Sensation on the Right, applause from the Left.)

The House adjourned at 6 p. m.

THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT.

On Monday afternoon two workmen of the Poznansky factory in Lodz were severely wounded by revolver shots in the vicinity of the factory. Their assailant escaped. In the afternoon there were further collisions between the Nationalists and the adherents of the extreme party. One person was killed and two were wounded.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT CHARBIN.

During a violent storm which raged on Sunday night, for the third time within a week fire broke out in the Chinese suburb of Fudiahm; the whole business quarter over an area of two square miles was destroyed and thousands of Chinese are homeless.

THE HAMBURG LABOUR DIFFICULTIES.

In spite of the fact that many English dockers have returned to their own country the Hamburg-America line continues to engage others of the thousands that are offering their services.

At Hamburg on Monday 3,826 men out of 4,376 proceeded to work. The rest who refused to work will be sent back to England at once, some 300 having already left on Saturday in various steamships. Both on Saturday and Sunday there were renewed anti-blackleg disturbances.

THE MOROCCAN CRISIS.

The Moroccan Minister has stated in a letter that he cannot understand how the murder of Dr. Mauchamps can be considered a reason for the occupation of Udja. In view of the services he has rendered and his advanced age, the Governor of Marakesh cannot be called to account. Perhaps his son would come to Tangier to beg for pardon in his name.

PROVIDENCE BY STRIKE.

While the strike which at one time threatened to break out in the whole of the Paris provision trades holds off, there seems reason to fear that all the French seaports will soon be involved in a general struggle which will have about it this singular feature, that it is not for wages or any other immediate benefit, but is to be ranked in the, for a strike, curious category of a provident movement. It will be, if it breaks out, a strike for old-age pensions. The Government propose £12 a year, but a friend of the seamen has asked for £24, and that amount they are preparing to strike for. Every port is affected, from Dunkirk to Marseilles.

VILLA FRANCA.

It may be doubted if any place's name is geographically so widespread as that of Villa Franca, which has just been made painfully familiar to the world by the earthquake which, for the second time in its history, has overwhelmed it, after an interval of 350 years. Besides this unfortunate town in the Azores, there seem to be in the world at least thirteen different towns named Villa Franca, all of them being places of some importance. Two of them occur in the New World—one in Brazil and one at the opposite end of the Continent, in Paraguay. There are also four Villa Francas in Spain, two in Italy, one in Portugal, and one in Southern France, besides a harbour at Nice. Some of them have seen a good deal of history in the making. Probably the spot most usually associated with the name by the cosmopolitan public is Villa Franca, near Verona, where Napoleon III. met the Emperor Francis Joseph after the French victories at Magenta and Solferino, and compelled Austria, after ages of possession, to give back Lombardy to Italy.

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MR. HALDANE AND THE ARMY.

The very remarkable letter issued by Earl Roberts and a few colleagues on behalf of the National Service League and published in the London Press is sure to attract much notice among the general public, surfeited as they have been of late years by the cut and dried plans of successive Secretaries of War. Ever since the Boer War showed that England still relied to a great extent on her well-known capacity for "muddling through somehow", various chiefs at the War Office have promulgated their own pet schemes for remodeling and rejuvenating the army, but neither Mr. Brodrick nor Mr. Arnold Forster gained acceptance as heaven-sent reformers, and their schemes have long been relegated to the limbo of oblivion. And now, as in duty bound, the new War Secretary, after prolonged study of the institutions of the greatest continental military Power, has come along with yet another scheme for the organisation of a National army. For that part of his scheme which reduces the regular army by ten battalions and mangles the Horse and Field artillery, Mr. Haldane can hardly be held responsible, for the noisy cries for retrenchment that arise from certain benches on the Government side of the House always find a ready listener in the Prime Minister, who, having emerged at last from the cold shades of Opposition, is ready at all times to make any sacrifice to retain the position and power he has at length attained. It is the other part of Mr. Haldane's scheme which shows some creative ability and a certain amount of originality. But the task he has set himself has proved beyond his powers, say his critics, for he has endeavoured to provide a striking force of 160,000 men ready to proceed on service beyond the seas at a moment's notice, and to form a territorial army at home which will efficiently supply the place of the striking force when absent and that too, while securing a substantial reduction in expenditure and adhering to the principle of voluntary enlistment.

"What will there be behind the Regular forces under Mr. Haldane's scheme?" ask Lord Roberts and his colleagues on the National Service League, "when they have gone abroad—and they are to be organised on the supposition that they will be available as a solid body for foreign service—there will be nothing behind them except the so-called training battalions, which are simply enlarged depots and a mass of men who are the old volunteers under a new name. The militia which, notwithstanding its shortcomings, was of great value in the South African War will be gone." It is on this point, viz. the abolition of a force which is at once the oldest and has always been the backbone of England's defensive forces, that Mr. Haldane's critics are most severe. Instead of taking the best and most efficient militia battalions for his model, Mr. Haldane wishes to level the whole force down to the status of the volunteers, but this training on a volunteer basis, as Lord Roberts points out, will not produce forces capable of meeting highly trained troops in the field, the only troops which a Home defence army would be called upon to encounter. The idea of making a trained army out of men whose sole military experience has been limited to a few drills spread through the year and a fortnight in camp is not a particularly hopeful one, and there is much in Lord Roberts' contention that an army which takes six months before it can act as an army is simply an armed crowd. The remedy proposed by the National Service League is obviously the only logical one. They ask that the six months training laid down by Mr. Haldane as necessary to make the territorial forces fit for the field, should precede the crisis and that it should be compulsory on all able-bodied males throughout the country. That the idea of compulsory service is one which it may yet take years to make the great mass of Englishmen swallow, is true enough, but that proscription must come at last if the country is ever to maintain an efficient defensive force, can hardly be doubted. Its most embittered opponents have to rely on the most fallacious arguments, for the growing and undoubted prosperity of Germany, in spite of what they call the burden of armaments, is a continual thorn in their side. Lord Roberts has done many services to his country, but he will eclipse them all should he succeed in inducing his fellow countrymen to insist that it is the first duty of every male citizen to take a share in the defence of the land to which he belongs.