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MR. BALFOUR ON FISCAL REFORM.

At the annual meeting of the Primrose League held in London on Friday, the ex-Premier Mr. Balfour, made a speech in which, among other things he said there existed no idea of voting against the budget.

In his opinion the basis of taxation must be extended, some sort of preferential treatment should be granted to the Colonies, in order to strengthen on a commercial basis the ties uniting the individual members of the Empire. The Colonial Premiers had convinced him, the speaker, of a practical, commercial fraternity of the Empire.

Amid deafening applause Mr. Balfour prophesied that in the end Great Britain would accept the principle of preferential treatment. The attitude of the Government to the Colonial Premiers was, in his opinion, contrary to common sense. It would sap the vigour and strength of the Empire.

ACCIDENT AT THE NAVAL PARADE.

The naval parade in honour of the Colonial Ministers took place on Friday. As the torpedo boat destroyer "Coquette" was passing H. M. S. "Dreadnought," on board of which vessel were the Colonial Premiers, she collided with a coal barge. Great excitement was caused on the crowded deck of the "Dreadnought". Happily no one on board the "Coquette" was injured, but her bows were damaged.

THE ENGLISH CANAL COMMISSION.

The English Canal Commission after visiting Antwerp, have arrived in Cologne, preparatory to study the canal system in Germany. It is expected that the President of the board of Trade will shortly join the Commission. After leaving Germany the Commission will visit Holland for the same purpose.

ON FIRE IN THE BAY.

A Lloyd's telegram announces that the S. S. "Silverlip" bound for London with a cargo of benzine from Singapore caught fire in the Bay of Biscay on Wednesday last and was abandoned by her crew, five of whom perished in the flames. The rest, four of them suffering severely from burns, were picked up and landed at Plymouth.

THE UNREST IN INDIA.

The rioting at Rawalpindi, briefly announced yesterday, seems to have been of a serious character. The mob of natives burnt some trams and the furniture of two bungalows, looted the mission and garrison churches and the business premises of a contractor and did other damage. A detachment of armed police eventually dispersed the rioters. Order is now maintained in the town by the 10th Hussars.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

DOCK STRIKE IN NEW YORK.

A strike of dock hands, hitherto unimportant, threatens to assume graver dimensions. A strong police patrol is guarding against any eventual disturbances. The number of strikers is estimated at 8,000.

CORRUPTION IN NEW YORK.

The *Globe* learns from its New York correspondent that the session of the New York State Legislature is expected to close on the 16th inst., and some of the newspapers are saying that it is a pity it was not shut up long ago. It is declared that in spite of a "Reform" Governor being in power at Albany, there has been quite as much "graft" in connection with the Legislature as in former sessions, and Senators and Representatives are freely mentioned by name as having received money, or reward in other forms, for political services rendered.

There is a Republican majority in the State Senate which, it is complained, has been used in

the most unscrupulous fashion on behalf of people interested in certain legislation. The Fowler Bill, for instance, which deals with the right of New York City to bring its water supplies from the Catskill Mountains and other distant sources, was passed last week only by the most ferocious pressure of the Republican party bosses. The measure has been described in the newspapers as "a grab pure and simple," and the phrase seems to be perfectly apt.

Tammany has been unusually busy at Albany this session, and it is believed that the recently announced reconciliation between Mr. McClellan and the local Democratic leaders in New York was the result of some "deal" arranged in the State capital. Governor Hughes has been doing his best to keep his party in the straight path, but as far as outsiders can judge, and as far as the newspapers declare, no great amount of success has attended his reforming efforts.

A ROYAL VISIT TO BRAZIL.

H. M. King Carlos of Portugal has signified his intention of accepting the invitation sent him by President Pinna to visit Brazil next year, on the occasion of the festivities in connection with the centenary of the opening of Brazil's harbours to trade.

AMERICAN-GERMAN TARIFFS.

The *Nordd. Allg. Ztg.* publishes the new German-American commercial treaty whereby Germany receives all the tariff reductions which America may grant to foreign countries. The agreement guarantees customs reductions to Germany. The export value is to serve as the basis for appraising duties. As a counter concession Germany will grant lower rates as given to Belgium, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Russia, Switzerland and Servia by treaties, but with some exceptions. The treaty is to remain in force for a year, but in case no fresh treaty is signed within that time, it will continue valid. Six months notice on either side abrogates the treaty. The proposals were to be laid before the *Reichstag* yesterday.

GERMAN SHIPS LEAVE JAMESTOWN.

The German cruisers "Roon" and "Bremen" left Hampton roads shortly before midnight on Thursday. Cordial farewell signals were exchanged with the American ships. The German Commodore Kalau vom Hofe, who had paid a farewell visit to Admiral Evans in the morning and again expressed his thanks for the kind reception of the German crew by their American comrades, was together with the English Admiral entertained at dinner by the President of the Navy League.

THE SITUATION IN MOROCCO.

Raisuli with 300 men has fetched his mother, his chief wife and his baggage from Tazerut and retired into the mountains again.

Elkmen is threatening the Beni Aros with retaliatory measures.

News has reached Tangier that considerable excitement prevails in Mazagan. A caravan belonging to a German named Hedrich, and escorted by native sharpshooters has been attacked and plundered about 6 kilometres from the town. Hedrich and his friends have armed themselves and are guarding his house.

SERIOUS EXPLOSION IN CANTON.

A powder magazine exploded on Thursday evening with terrible force. 21 corpses have been found and over 100 persons are known to have been injured. 15 buildings are completely destroyed and over a hundred seriously damaged. The historic five-storied Pagoda has been slightly injured, a 200 ft. long piece of the town wall has been destroyed.

It is believed that the explosion was due to the carelessness of the officer on guard, as his corpse with a tobacco pipe in the hand has been found. Later telegrams place the number of the injured at several hundred.

LOCAL.

His Majesty King Friedrich August yesterday morning formally opened the Third International Horticultural Exhibition in the Ausstellungs-Palast. The vestibule, which is entered from the Stübel Allee, had been most tastefully decorated in honour of His Majesty's visit. Round the cornice, from which festoons of fir leaves were draped to the centre of the dome, were ranged pale blue and white hydrangeas, while the four great urns were decorated with the same blooms and with white Madonna lilies. A screen separated the vestibule from the main Hall and on it, against a background of fir leaves, was the letter A, formed of white azalea petals, surmounted by a small crown of cowslips and flanked on either side by shields bearing the Royal arms also worked out in blossoms. His Majesty King Friedrich August, who wore the uniform of a General, was accompanied by Prince Johann Georg in Gardereiter uniform, by Princess Johann Georg and Princess Mathilde. His Majesty, who drove up in a four-horse Victoria, was received by Ober-Gartendirektor Hofrat Bouché and Oberbürgermeister Beutler, the band of the 1st Grenadier regiment playing "Den König segne Gott!" The Royal party were conducted to seats, and after an invisible choir had sung an ode of welcome accompanied by the organ, Hofrat Bouché delivered an Address of welcome to His Majesty. Unfortunately, owing to the acoustics of that part of the building, and to the fact that the speaker stood in an extreme corner, the words of the address were lost to most of those present including, evidently, the Royal party. His Majesty then graciously signified his assent to the Exhibition being declared open, and after three hearty cheers had been given for the House of Wettin, the Royal party were conducted through the Exhibition. The large Hall, which last year represented an Evangelical church, had this year been turned into a Caucasian Alpine Landscape, the details of which had been carried out with a taste and artistic effect beyond all praise. Winding paths, flanked by magnificent rhododendrons and many huge azaleas, lead up to an elevation from which a panoramic prospect is obtained of the snow-clad peaks of the Caucasus mountains. There are several other halls less artistically decorated but containing finely grown azaleas, camellias, hydrangeas, cinerarias, rhododendrons, &c., and in one room is a wonderfully beautiful show of roses most artistically arranged. There is also an Italian, a Japanese, and a Cloister garden, a collection of cacti, and a house of water-plants. In the grounds are glass-houses full of rare blooms, exhibitions of garden implements, &c., while a path, newly constructed, leads to the Botanical Gardens where the Victoria regia house and the orchids are sure to attract hosts of visitors. His Majesty expressed himself most pleased with all he had seen and warmly congratulated those responsible for the artistic success of the Exhibition.

The Exhibition will be open daily up to 10 p.m. until Sunday next the 12th inclusive.

A Football match will be played today on the Nossener Brücke ground between the Dresdner Sport Club and the "F. C. Prag". This promises to be a very interesting game, as on the last occasion when the two teams met at Prague, the score at the finish was 2 goals all. The sides will be as follows:

Prag:

Baco.

Bob. Schwarz.

Cimera. Kurpiel. Frey.

Este. Merz. Paul. Kutschera. Turm.

Dresden:

Schmidt.

Index IV. Quin.

Index II. Grilling. Assmann.

Dunker. Richter I. Neumann. Richter II. Geyer.

The guards in the city today are furnished by the 1st Grenadier regiment No. 100, whose band will play in the Neustadt about 12.30 p.m. Tomorrow the guards will be furnished by the 2nd Grenadier regiment No. 101, and the band will play in the Schloss Platz about 12.40.



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