

# The Daily Record

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On account of the Whitsun Holidays our next number will appear on Wednesday May 22nd.

## THE WEST HAM GUARDIANS.

The trial was concluded on Friday, at the Central Criminal Court, of the six guardians and four officials of the West Ham Union, who are charged with conspiracy to defraud in connection with the local contracts to the West Ham Workhouse and Infirmary.

Nine of the accused were found guilty and condemned to terms of imprisonment varying from 6 months to 2 years.

## THE IRISH COUNCIL BILL.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Globe* writes to that journal, "The storm of protest with which the Irish Council Bill has been received by the local government bodies in Ireland has given rise to a feeling of apprehension in official Nationalist circles. I have discussed the situation, and the prospects of the measure being endorsed by the United Irish League Convention, with more than one prominent Nationalist. It seems to me that these gentlemen are indulging in the practice known as whistling to keep up one's courage. They pooh-pooh the attacks of the public bodies. The men who talk big in their own board rooms, it is contended, will utter only the feeblest protest when they find themselves under Mr. John Redmond's eye. The course, apparently, has been laid. The Convention, upon Mr. Redmond's explicit assurance that the Bill will be amended in very important particulars to make it palatable to Nationalists, will accept the measure. The Government will accept these amendments, and send the Bill to the House of Lords, by whom it will be dealt with in such a fashion that neither Radicals nor Nationalists will have anything to say to it when it returns to the Commons. Such a line of action would serve a twofold purpose: it would enable Mr. Redmond to save his face, and it would add another Radical grievance against the House of Lords. I give this view of the future for what it is worth. For my own part, the official Nationalists notwithstanding, I think that Mr. Redmond will experience no little difficulty in getting the Convention to take the Bill even as an instalment of the long-promised "Larger Policy"; and I am confirmed in this view by the fact that one of the principal paid organisers of the United Irish League is in the districts preaching strenuous resistance to Mr. Birrell's proposals.

Some indication of the attitude of the Roman Catholic hierarchy is to be gathered from the comments in the current issue of the *Irish Catholic*. Your contemporary says:—During a considerable portion of last year, delegates from the Irish Parliamentary Party were employed in both the United States and the Colonies beating up subscriptions on the strength of the assurance that the Liberal Government was virtually pledged to introduce a plan of reform which would be tantamount to Home Rule. So far was the deceit carried that Irish-Americans were told that, should the proposals of the Government fall short of the standard they were described as certain to reach, "a state of civil war" would be created in this country. We do not believe that Mr. Redmond, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, or any other leader has made very elaborate preparations for such an awful and deplorable contingency as this, but after their action in voting in favour of Mr. Birrell's proposals we do not envy the next delegates from the Irish Parliamentary Party the reception which will await them at the hands of their fellow-countrymen in America and Australia. If the error committed in the House of Commons is not promptly repaired, the Bill is one which should be burned at every cross road in Ireland as a protest against the indignity it offers to the nation."

## THE UNREST IN INDIA.

Reuter's Bureau announces from Calcutta that an organisation which styles itself the "National

Volunteers" and which sends out emissaries into the whole province who disturb trade, destroy foreign goods and frighten the local dealers, is responsible for the boycotting of foreign goods in East Bengal. Although the Mohamedans steadfastly refuse to participate in the boycott, trade is actually seriously interfered with; to a considerable extent labour in the fields is at a standstill. Brigands are taking advantage of the nervousness of the populace, and the maintenance of order, owing to the wide expanses of jungle and the weakness in numbers of the police, is extremely difficult.

An English newspaper correspondent, himself an Englishman who has devoted much attention to the "National volunteer" organisation, says that it was founded by certain agitators, whose names are known to the police, and is conducted from a central office in Calcutta, which being in possession of ample funds directs the branch office from thence. The members of the organisation are armed with clubs, spears and swords and in some cases with guns, and practice openly, and go about in bands inciting rebellion, disturbing trade, and terrorising all classes of the people.

The fact that no stop is put to their proceedings works very disadvantageously on the populace.

All the Calcutta papers highly approve the stand taken by Mr. Morley with regard to the action of the Government of India towards the agitators.

The *Statesman* points out that the very fact of the astonishment created by the deportation of Lajpat Rai proves the essentially mild character of British rule in India, and that the ordinary action of the police in most European countries is much stricter with respect to the rights of public meeting and free speech than any measures the Government of India has yet taken.

The *Englishman* says: "The disloyal and irresponsible language of the Indian agitators and papers has not been without effect on the problem of the settlement of Indians in the Colonies. Colonials naturally do not desire such emigrants."

Some of the Bengali papers are silent, but others abuse Mr. Morley for yielding weakly to the Government, and declare that the boycott was not at the bottom of the Bengal disturbances.

Bipin Pal, an orator who has returned from Madras, declares his intention of retiring from public life, and of not making any more speeches.

## NEWS FROM AMERICA.

### GEN. KUROKI IN NEW YORK.

Following upon the various entertainments, official and private, given to Gen. Kuroki during the past week or two, and which culminated recently in a grand banquet at Sherry's Restaurant in New York, an unofficial Japanese visitor, Baron Ozawa, is beginning to attract attention by the freedom with which he talks upon things in general to all comers, and particularly to the newspaper reporters. The Baron is being taken very seriously, although he has himself disclaimed any importance either to himself or to his presence in this country. Several papers insist that he has been charged with a confidential mission to find out what the Americans really think of Japan and the Japanese, and to "prepare the way" for the reception of Prince Fushimi at Washington, and the conclusion of some sort of understanding between the two Governments. Fortunately, most of all this chatter is so obviously lacking either in knowledge or authority that no harm is likely to be done by it. It may be as well to state, however, that neither Gen. Kuroki nor Baron Ozawa has been entrusted with anything in the shape of a mission, and that if the Prince should look in at Washington, on his way home, the visit will be quite an informal affair.

### THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL SCANDALS.

Abraham Ruef, the San Franciscan "boss," has made a long statement declaring that while he

pleaded guilty on Wednesday, he is innocent, though guilty of conniving at municipal corruption. He will not say for the present whether Mayor Schmitz, who is indicted on a similar charge, is guilty or not. He declared that many of the accused were innocent of evil intent, having become involved through compulsion. They would not be further disgraced through any confession of his. Others had worked with their eyes open. Of these he would speak freely when the time for so doing arrived.

Ruef pleaded guilty to a charge of extortion arising out of the payment of £230 by a restaurant proprietor who wished to sell alcoholic drinks without the necessary licence.

There are more than sixty other indictments against Ruef, in respect of which the grand jury had returned true bills.

Other well-known San Francisco politicians are implicated in the allegations of wholesale bribery and corruption, which affect practically every municipal department.

The power of Ruef and his gang has now been broken, adds the *Times* correspondent at New York, as was proved by the complete failure of the street car employees' strike. The citizens testified their appreciation of the courage of the unarmed strike-breakers in braving the assaults of union men by pelting them with flowers.

## FRENCH TRAITORS ARRESTED.

At the instance of the Paris Attorney General in Cairo and Alexandria three Frenchmen by name Portier, Burtot and Blanchard have been arrested on a charge of making copies of drawings of the fortress in Biserta harbour and selling them to a foreigner.

The French police learnt of this theft from a letter from a Dutchman living in London who offered to restore the stolen plans for 15,000 francs. It is said that no great importance is attached to the affair by the Ministry of Marine.

## THE INTERLAKEN MURDER.

Tatjana Leontieff, the murderess of Mr. Müller, of Paris, has been removed from the Lenzberg prison and placed in a Berne asylum, her mind having given way.

## NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

### THE PLOT AGAINST THE CZAR.

Besides the soldiers arrested some days ago in Czarskoje Selo, a Cossack non-commissioned officer of the Czar's body guard has also been taken into custody as well as a member of the Court chapel choir. They admit complicity in a plot against the Czar's life. Owing to their evidence 3 more soldiers have been arrested as well as a whole number, some say 30, of members of the fighting revolutionary party. A non-commissioned officer belonging to the Guard is under grave suspicion of having intended to admit the conspirators into the Palace.

### THE DUMA.

The Duma was occupied on Thursday with a motion to appoint a committee to examine the Bill relating to public education introduced by the Minister for Education, M. v. Kaufmann. The Minister thanked the House for the attention paid to his Bill and laid stress on the necessity of public education, since Russia was the only country where the number of illiterates was so great. The last statistics showed that only 29 per cent of men and 13 per cent of women in the country could read or write. Russia was behind all other nations; the people must be lifted out of their ignorance, and the principle must be helped to conquer which was proclaimed by Peter the Great that public education was not the privilege of the individual but a necessity of the whole people. They must make gigantic sacrifices for this object; they would have to multiply the education estimates, already 16 million roubles, sevenfold, but no expense must be spared. That would be the best way of employing the national resources since the foundation of the Empire. Eight million children could not be taught because Russia needed 250,000 schools and only possessed 90,000. He concluded by saying that society must abolish political unrest in the schools, the Government could not combat this evil without the help of parents and of society in general.

## WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Strong northerly winds, variable skies, passing showers, temperature not much altered.

Prager Strasse 35  
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