

The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE ENGLISH JOURNALISTS IN DRESDEN.

We desire to extend to the band of English journalists who arrive in our midst today a most cordial welcome and we are convinced that of all the memories of their visit to Germany they will carry back to England, none will be more pleasant than those of this fair city on the Elbe. Not only are the great London journals represented but such well-known provincial papers as the *Scotsman*, the *Irish Times*, the *Sheffield Independent* and the *Manchester Guardian*, to mention only a few. We regret that what may still be regarded as the leading journal of the world, the *London Times*, has not thought fit to send a representative. Our London correspondent on Tuesday called attention to the refusal of the journal in question to be represented on this occasion, and seemed inclined to attribute it to the fact that some of the English organisers, notably Mr. Stead of the *Review of Reviews*, have been accused of misrepresenting the real purpose of such tours. But surely not one of the journalists whom we are welcoming today can have any other purpose than that of cementing tighter the bands that ought to unite two great countries whose peoples have a common origin, ideas, religious and otherwise, to a great extent similar, and have ever been in the van of the progress of civilisation. Visits such as that taking place in Germany cannot but do good in mitigating the rancour of that misguided portion of the Press in both countries which seems intentionally to foster ill feeling. The articles on German aims and German schemes which are so constantly appearing in such journals as the *Daily Mail* and *hoc genus omne* are a constant source of irritation to Englishmen living in Germany, who are almost inclined to wish that others would follow the example of the Swansea Free Library authorities in boycotting that particular journal, though there is some fear that the only result of such action may be to give the *Daily Mail* a gratuitous advertisement. In its columns on Saturday appeared a circumstantial account of a supposed plot against the life of H. M. the German Emperor, in which there was not a grain of truth, not, that is, as far as any plot against His Majesty was concerned, and we in Germany know full well that at no period of his illustrious reign has the Kaiser been more beloved than at present.

We are confident that our visitors will return to England more than ever convinced that the feelings of educated, right-thinking Germans towards Great Britain are of the most friendly nature. We trust that our visitors will thoroughly enjoy their day in Dresden, we notice with great gratification the courtesy extended to them by H. M. the King in receiving them at Pillnitz, and we shall be anxious to hear their opinions of "Salome"!

THE ENGLISH JOURNALISTS IN GERMANY.

In the course of the banquet given to the English journalists by the Berlin Chamber of Commerce, the President of the Chamber, Herr Herz, proposed the toast of King Edward and the Emperor William, and the vice-President of the Chamber, Herr Mendelssohn, that of the guests.

Mr. W. Stead, of the *Review of Reviews*, after a humorous reference to his somewhat imperfect acquaintance with German grammar, in the name of his colleagues expressed his gratitude for the cordial reception which they had been given. "If any one of us", he continued, "came here merely as a guest, he will certainly return as a friend; we only hate those whom we do not know, and we fear the unknown. When we started for Germany, our thoughts turned to the mighty German eagle, to militarism and chauvinism, and we find only friends and brothers. The German army is the only army in the world that can boast that for 35 years it has never been engaged in war.

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Germany has a peace-loving Emperor, and King Edward is a *Commis-voyageur* of peace. Ministers like Prince Bülow and Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, Ambassadors like Graf Wolf-Metternich and Sir Frank Lascelles, are the servants of peace. All Heads-of-States desire peace". Mr. Stead went on to mention Schiller and Goethe and the brothers Grimm who were regarded by children all the world over as Germany's greatest authors. Some of his, the speaker's, fellow-journalists, who had never been in Germany, had conjured up in their imagination a fabulous Germany full of monsters. For such people nothing could be better than a trip to Germany. It was true that for the great mass of the people foreigners would always remain strangers, and consequently it was the duty of the Press to strive at making the nations know each other better. Press correspondents in foreign countries were the true Ambassadors of the people, journalists the interpreters for foreign nations. Mr. Stead concluded "some journalists in both countries do not work for friendship but for enmity, do not strive for peace but for war. 'Tis pity, but 'tis true. In future I hope that such villains who throw lighted torches into the powder magazines of the nations, may be treated as incendiaries. As Bismarck united Germany, may a yet greater Bismarck arise one day to bring into being a federation of all mankind".

The *London Star*, in commenting on the visit of the English journalists to Germany, writes: "The speech of Herr v. Mühlberg deserves the attention of those who are continually endeavouring to stir up public opinion against Germany. It is a way of speaking that sensible Englishmen can understand; it shows that Germans differ but little from us in their aims, and that we can work together just as well as with other nations at our world-tasks. We confidently hope that Herr v. Mühlberg's challenge to German and English journalists to destroy false legends and unjustifiable mistrust may not fall into oblivion in London or Berlin, when the festivities are at an end."

The *Westminster Gazette* writes: We record with sincere pleasure the success of the visit of English journalists to Germany. In a most happy manner they represent all shades of political opinion in Great Britain, and while they have been received with winning, magnificent hospitality by their hosts, whose kindness and attention we recognize and appreciate, we welcome the fact that the speeches made on either side at yesterday's banquet were distinguished by sincerity and moderation, the peculiar property of both nations. The free exchange of views and social courtesies will do much to prevent those misunderstandings which, sad to say, are only too often nourished by a portion of the Press in both countries.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In reply to a question relating to the situation in Persia, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Sir Edward Grey, stated that according to a tele-

gram received at the Foreign office from the British Ambassador in Teheran, the situation in the Provinces, which had been to a certain extent critical, had now improved and in the South order prevailed.

STRIKES IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND.

The strike of seamen in Glasgow is reaching an acute stage. After the ship owners had declined to answer the demand made by their employés for an increased wage, the strike began at once with the men paid by the month. The men in receipt of a weekly wage wish now to vote on the strike question. The Atlantic liners which should have left on Saturday have been unable to collect crews. The members of the United Engineering Union, employed in the engineering works on the North-East coast, have decided to go on strike in case their demands for increased wages are not granted.

MISHAP TO A BALLOON.

The military balloon which was sent up from Aldershot in the presence of H. M. King Edward and Prince Fushimi of Japan has been found floating in the channel by fishing boats.

A later wireless telegram from the Scilly isles states that the officer who was in the balloon has been rescued by the coastguard.

SERIOUS AFFAIR IN EGYPT.

Reuter announces that an officer of Egyptian nationality and 25 men were sent in April from Dongola to Birnatron, a place 250 miles away. No news had been heard of the party but now the officer's body has been found. A sergeant and three men have returned but there is no trace of the others.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE RAILWAYS.

On Thursday, Memorial Day, the day on which the graves of those who fell in the civil war between 1861 and 1865, are visited and decked with flowers, the statue of General Lawton was unveiled in the presence of President Roosevelt in Indianapolis. The President made a speech in which he said that one of the great tasks before the nation was the maintenance of the right of property, which was threatened not so much by socialists and anarchists as by rich robbers. The whole strength of the nation must be employed to prevent crimes against property as well as crimes of violence. If it was necessary for the nation itself to possess control over the business management of great fortunes, especially of those of corporations, it was so in the first degree in the case of the means of transit between the various States, viz. the railways, and every Federal Law which dealt with this question was a step forward on the right path. The Federal Government must be given a control over the railways similar to that over the national banks. To procure sound conditions in railway management an enquiry into the circumstances of the individual railways was first necessary, which enquiry must be undertaken by the Inter-State Commerce Commission. The Federal Government would thus be in a position to make all over-capitalisation impossible in future, and to prevent any one plundering other people by burdening the property of the railways with debentures and putting the money in his own pocket, instead of employing it for improvements and for legitimate business objects. Above all it was necessary to procure better means of transport, to construct new lines, to erect new railway stations, to improve the service generally, and that without delay. To procure more extended, safer and quicker means of transport was more important than to procure cheaper means of transport. Measures must also be taken to improve the lot of the railway employés by giving them higher wages and shortening their hours of duty. A complete stop must be put to the granting of rebates and other manipulations, but the freight rates must, on the other hand, be so arranged as to procure a suitable interest and so secure the subscription of the necessary capital. He, the President, must lay stress again on the fact that the first principle in railway management must be honesty, and that too for the highest as for the lowest employés, each of whom must in his position strive not only for the interest of the Company but for that of the public.

The President concluded with an appeal to the owners of large fortunes to make a good use of them and to keep in view the common weal as well as their own interests.

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