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THE ENGLISH JOURNALISTS IN GERMANY.

The English journalists arrived in Munich on Sunday morning after a comfortable journey from Dresden in the special sleeping-car train placed at their disposal by the International Sleeping-Car Company. The official reception took place in the Künstlerhaus, where a dejeuner was given. The usual cordial speeches were made by both hosts and guests.

During the afternoon the Prince Regent received the visitors in the Residenz Schloss.

At 4 o'clock a special performance of "Tannhäuser" was given in the Prince Regent Theatre.

In the evening a banquet was held in the old Rathaus at which most of the prominent men in the Munich world of art and letters were present. The Mayor proposed the health of King Edward, and Mr. Ellerthorpe of the *Daily Telegraph*, in proposing the toast of the Prince Regent and the Emperor William, said that the idea that Germany's prosperity was England's disaster was nonsense. England's sun would not set if Germany's sun rose. The Publisher of the *Münchener Neueste Nachrichten* welcomed the guests in the name of Munich journalists, and Mr. Baily of the *Western Morning News* replied. All the speeches were most hearty.

THE WAR BALLOON CATASTROPHE.

The two officers who were in the balloon which ascended from Aldershot on the occasion of the visit of King Edward and Prince Fushimi, and which was found floating in the Channel, were reported saved. This report, unfortunately, turns out to be untrue, and there is little doubt Lieutenants Caulfeild and Leake have both been drowned.

The one hope to which their friends and relatives cling is that the Lieutenants may have been picked up by some steamer which was unable to communicate by wireless telegraphy, not having the apparatus on board.

If this theory be correct, a few days ought to suffice for news to arrive in England which will set at rest the minds of the missing officers' relatives.

One theory offered by an Aldershot ballooning expert is worth quoting, though it does not hold out much hope of the officers' safety.

"I think it just possible," said the expert, "that the aeronauts suddenly discovered that they were about to drift off land, and jumped to the ground, for at 8.15 the balloon was only 100ft. high, and was descending. If this is what happened, it may be that they severely injured themselves, and may now perhaps be lying in some remote spot dead or unable to move."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S RETURN.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain returned to England on Saturday from the Continent. In spite of recent optimistic telegrams, those who saw him were much shocked at Mr. Chamberlain's broken appearance.

THE UNREST IN INDIA.

The *Daily Mail* learns from Simla that immediately after the visit of a well known agitator disturbances took place directed against Europeans. The immediate cause was the chastisement of a native student by a doctor, whom he had insulted in the street. A mob assembled before the English club and gave vent to their passion for destruction. An official who came to the assistance of those in the club with some native policemen was set upon by the mob and wounded, as was the doctor.

THE LABOUR TROUBLES ON THE RAND.

The Prime Minister of the Transvaal, General Botha, has received a deputation of strikers and informed them that two Commissioners would be appointed to enquire into the strike and the Government would give effect to their report. He added that the passing of an arbitration law would, in his opinion, be useless unless the Mining Companies agreed to be bound by it.

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NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE STEEL TRUST.

The London *Standard* learns from New York that the Steel Trust has adopted a new method of manufacture by which the firing expenses will be reduced to a minimum by making use of the gases generated during smelting. Hundreds of gas engines for this purpose have been ordered. Four similar engines which have been on trial for two months have given complete satisfaction. All the works belonging to the Steel Trust are to be furnished with these engines. The saving to be made by these new arrangements is estimated at a million dollars annually.

GERMAN-AMERICAN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

President Roosevelt has issued a Message containing the text of the commercial agreement with Germany.

The State Department publishes a statement in which regret is expressed that it has not been found possible to obtain the minimum tariff for all American goods; such a situation can only be reached by considerable concessions to be arranged in a mutual treaty accepted by Congress.

The Department also publishes a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Cortelyou, to the President, dated April 9th, in which he remarks that the proposed commercial agreement will further the friendly relations between Germany and America, and will otherwise be of advantage to the country.

THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY.

The Court has condemned the Waters and Pierce Company, which is connected with the Standard Oil Company, to a fine of 1,623,000 dollars and withdrawn the right of the Company to carry on business in Texas. The Company will appeal against the sentence.

EARTHQUAKES IN ECUADOR.

It is reported from Guayaquil that three violent earthquake shocks were felt on Saturday; the bells of the churches began to ring of themselves, at which the inhabitants much alarmed rushed into the streets. No actual damage has been done in Guayaquil, but it is feared there may have been in the interior.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE SHIPPING STRIKE.

The seamen on strike in Cette attempted on Saturday to induce the crews on several ships to strike; they also attempted, but in vain, to prevent the S. S. "Ville de Sfax" from sailing, by blocking the harbour mouth with barges. Captains and ships' officers at St. Nazaire have decided unanimously to join the strike. The fishermen and fish salesmen in Toulon have declared themselves in complete sympathy with the strikers and the sale of fish has ceased.

In Bordeaux out of 1,000 registered seamen 600 are on strike.

In Dunkerque the strikers rejected the proposal to allow foreign ships to enter the harbour with the assistance of pilots and tugs.

In Toulon the strikers gave permission to the Captain of the ship "Edmund Gustav", with a cargo for Hamburg, to put to sea; they subsequently withdrew this permission and the ship has, in consequence, not left the harbour.

ANTI-MILITARISM.

The General Labour Union of the Seine Department held a meeting on Sunday to protest against the arrest of the anti-militarists Bousquet, Lewy, Marek and Yvelot. M. Jaurès made a speech in which he said that the Government had made a serious mistake in ordering those arrests. The anti-militarists had only repeated what Ministers had said. The speaker declared it a crime for workmen in uniform to fire on workmen in blouses. The only remedy was that property should be common to all. He called upon the workmen to form themselves into syndicates, in order that they might be the masters. M. Jaurès then violently attacked the Government which, he said, was reactionary, and the majority in the Chamber which was still more reactionary; and concluded by referring to the proletariat that had been aroused in the South, and to its unpunished rising. Thereupon a resolution was unanimously adopted, protesting against the unjustifiable arrest of the anti-militarists. The meeting passed off without incident.

TERRIBLE BALLOON ACCIDENT IN ROME.

On the occasion of the National Fête a shooting competition was opened in Rome on Sunday in the presence of the King and Queen. At the close of the opening ceremony a military balloon ascended. At a height of 300 meters the balloon, in consequence of electrical discharges from the atmosphere heavy with storm, took fire and was dashed to the earth. Terrible excitement prevailed among the spectators. Captain Ulivelli, who was in the balloon, was carried in a dying condition to the hospital. The King and Queen were deeply moved. The King visited Captain Ulivelli and sat for half an hour by his bed; the unfortunate man died in the course of the afternoon.

THE SITUATION IN MOROCCO.

The latest news from the Pretender's camp states that the Sultan's adherents have been successful in all their engagements, for which reason the Sultan has determined to strike a great blow. He has dispatched large quantities of ammunition to the scene of hostilities. On Sunday 500 Askaris from the Tangier mahalla were to proceed to Nuluya via Melilla to strengthen the Sultan's forces there. It is expected that these Askaris, who have been drilled daily for months by English and French instructors, will contribute considerably to the efficiency of the Sultan's forces and will render possible the final overthrow of the Pretender. The departure of the Sultan from Fez will, under the circumstances, without doubt be delayed.

The *Kölnische Zeitung* learns from Tangier by telegram dated Sunday that, according to reports from Ceuta, the landing of French troops at Tetuan is designed to bring pressure to bear on the Governor there with a view to the conclusion of a purchase of land between Ceuta and Tetuan which is desired by the French. The troops will embark when that object has been accomplished.

THE UNREST IN CHINA.

Half way between Amoy and Swatow a fight took place between Imperial troops and the rebels; 700 men fell. The rebels retired, but it is expected they will resume hostilities as soon as the troops are withdrawn. The rebels are well organised but badly armed. There has been no looting and foreigners have not been molested. The cause of the rebellion is the neglect of the officials in the famine-affected districts to distribute rice and meal. Disturbances have broken out at Tshang-Tshu, 30 miles distant from Amoy; the inhabitants fled to Amoy.

The *Morning Post* learns from Shanghai that the rebels in the vicinity of Swatow and Amoy have murdered officials, burnt official buildings, and taken possession of various towns and villages. The Taotai of Swatow only reports losses of the rebels from the fear that the devastation caused by them may bring about the interference of foreigners.

The *Daily Chronicle* reports from Hongkong that the British squadron has returned there from