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THE STATE OF IRELAND.

At Queen's County Assizes Mr. Justice Andrews, addressing the Grand Jury, said the returns did not show a satisfactory indication of the state of the county. He found that that grave, dangerous, and open violation of the law called cattle driving had made its appearance in the county, and was apparently spreading. He found that the illegal interference with property had been attempted to be practised, in some cases successfully practised, at a variety of places in the county. In those circumstances he was not able to congratulate the Grand Jury on the state of the county, or to say more than that, if that illegality was not suppressed, there was a dangerous prospect before them in Queen's County.

SENSATIONAL THEFT IN DUBLIN.

While preparations were being made for the reception of King Edward at the chapter of the Order of St. Patrick it was discovered that the insignia of the Order, valued at £50,000, which were kept at the Castle, have been stolen.

ACCIDENT TO A BRITISH AMBASSADOR.

As the British Minister, Sir Arthur Herbert, and Lady Herbert were driving along in a carriage, on their way from Bergen to Christiania, one of the horses took fright at a passing cyclist when the carriage was at Filefjæld, three kilometres from Nystuen, and bolted. The carriage was thrown down a steep incline and dashed to pieces. Lady Herbert was unhurt, but Sir Arthur was severely injured, and it was feared that several of his ribs were broken. He was also badly bruised about the face. A doctor was immediately summoned from Landal, and the British Minister was conveyed on a mattress to Nystuen. He was fully conscious, but suffered severe pain, and was unable to move.

Two doctors and a nurse left Christiania by motor car for Nystuen.

The examination of the patient showed that three ribs were broken. The injuries, which at first caused considerable pain, having been bandaged, Sir Arthur consequently feels considerably better.

He will probably remain two or three days at Nystuen, and then be taken by motor car to Fagernaes, whence he will proceed by train to Christiania.

RIVER STEAMER WRECKED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The S. S. "Mount Royal" of the Hudson Bay Co., which plies on the Skeena river, is lying a complete wreck on the rocks. Five of her crew were drowned, but her passengers were saved.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE U. S. AND JAPAN.

The *Globe* learns from its New York correspondent that reassuring statements as to the Japanese situation have been forthcoming from Washington and from Oyster Bay, but the *Herald* persists in its declaration that international friction connected with the Far Eastern situation is alone responsible for the alleged decision of the Navy Department to concentrate nearly all the battleships of the United States Navy in the Pacific. The scare, it must be said, has not seized upon the American people, so far as popular opinion is reflected by the newspapers.

A few clear words from President Roosevelt would knock it upon the head. These have been said indirectly, according to a special correspondent who claims to have obtained inspiration at the fountain head. But what is really wanted is a set speech with the true ring which the people are accustomed to look for to Mr. Roosevelt, in the confident expectation that the right word would be said in the right place. The Japanese Ambassador has once more declared politely that all talk of

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war between Japan and a Power which Japan so highly esteems as she does America is perfectly preposterous. Simultaneously come polite assurances that the last thing in the world that the Japanese Chambers of Commerce are thinking of is a national boycott of American products and manufactures.

Hereafter there is a marked disposition to believe that the Chambers of Commerce do protest too much. It is not forgotten that the Chinese boycott, which inflicted upon Americans losses aggregating millions of dollars, was most politely disavowed, and indeed repudiated, by the Chinese Government and the Chinese newspapers. The argument that a boycott would inflict loss upon the boycotters, equally with the boycotted, was used in the case of the Chinese movement, but the boycott went on all the same. It is suggested that the Japanese are in such things more sensible and practical than the Chinese, or that the Japanese Government may be better able to make its influence felt in the matter, if it should really desire to put a stop to such an unfriendly attack upon a friendly Power. As much is hinted to inquirers at the Japanese Embassy at Washington, but somehow these reassuring hints and suggestions are not particularly satisfying.

It may be, and it has been so suggested in some quarters, that the whole scheme of a boycott has been put forward, with a view to intimidating the local authorities in California into some action, in satisfaction in whole, or in part, of Japanese susceptibilities. Such an idea is, however, distinctly amusing to all those acquainted with the present state of public feeling on the Pacific Slope. The suggestion that the Federal Government may be worried into some concessions has more probability. What is certain in the opinion of all responsible persons, and most newspapers, is that there can be absolutely no danger of war between the United States and Japan.

A cablegram from Oyster Bay, dated yesterday, states that President Roosevelt has caused it to be announced through Admiral Brownson that the projected voyage of American battleships to the Pacific Ocean next winter, is concerned with speed trials and also is intended to show that the American navy is in a position to defend at the same time the coast lines of the Atlantic and the Pacific. This demonstration must not be taken in any way to mean that there is a belief in the danger of war. Mr. Roosevelt's intention must rather be regarded as being that the fleet should serve to ensure international peace. No moment could be more favourable for such demonstrations than the present, when the United States are at perfect peace with all nations.

THE WAR AGAINST THE TRUSTS.

The towns of Spokane and Seattle have both complained to the Inter State Commerce Commission that the steel freights charges from Pittsburg on the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railroads are far too high.

Mr. John Rockefeller was called as a witness on Saturday before the Chicago District Court. He stated that his position of President of the Standard Oil Company was purely an honorary one and that for 8 or 10 years he had taken no part in the company's business. He believed that the outstanding capital of the company was 100 million dollars, the yearly profit being about 40 per cent. After some further examination he was allowed to leave the stand.

A NEW NAVAL BASE.

The *Associated Press* announces from Washington that negotiations are to be conducted by Mr. Secretary Root during his approaching visit to Mexico for the purchase of a naval base in Magdalena Bay, Lower California. Numerous officers consider that the value of Magdalena Bay to the United States is great enough to warrant the purchase of all Lower California, if necessary.

A cablegram, dated Monday, from Washington states that M. Adeo has denied that the Government intends to buy a naval base in Mexico. The statement originated solely in the fact that Mexico has recently consented to the United States establishing a permanent coaling station in Magdalena Bay; this station will contain the coal for the annual gunnery trials of the American battleships.

THE KAISER'S HOLIDAY.

The "Hohenzollern" with his Majesty the German Emperor on board has arrived at Bergen accompanied by the despatch boat "Sleipner". The Royal Yacht exchanged salutes with the fortress and anchored off Puddefjord.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE PRESS ON M. PICHON'S SPEECH.

Most journals express their lively satisfaction at M. Pichon's speech.

The *Aurore* says they were gladdening and encouraging words that M. Pichon spoke in the Chamber and they would be well received outside the frontiers of France.

The *Petit Parisien* considers that the speech, which in every way gave a full explanation as to the international situation, would give satisfaction since France's relations with Germany were replete with courtesy and her foreign policy could disturb no one. The ministerial statements had shown at the right moment that international relations have not been for years so correct and smooth as now. This fact need not lead France and her diplomats to childish sulking or to imprudent zeal and passionateness.

The *Gaulois* on the other hand says that M. Pichon confined himself to the merest generalities.

THE WINE-TRADE CRISIS.

Nearly 100 mayors held a meeting at Montpellier on Sunday and decided only to resume their official duties when their action had been approved by the voters and if the Government took steps to relieve the distress in the South. They further demanded the release of the arrested persons and the withdrawal of the troops.

A meeting of mayors of the Arrondissement at Narbonne decided that each individual official of the municipality should again hand in his resignation.

In Châlons-sur-Saône the representatives of the vine growers have held a meeting at which Law accepted by the Chamber touching wine-adulteration was declared wholly insufficient.

A meeting of peasants, brandy-distillers and tavern keepers has been held at Lille, at which violent protest was made at the claims of the South. Several parliamentary representatives attended the meeting.

THE GARIBALDI FÊTES IN ITALY.

Representatives of the Government, Parliament, the army, the municipal authorities of Rome and other cities, Garibaldian Unions and other Leagues marched in procession on Sunday from the Vatican to the Garibaldi memorial, where numerous wreaths were deposited. A vast crowd cheered the procession *en route*. At the foot of the memorial Senator Cavalli made a speech which was enthusiastically applauded.