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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In answer to a question the Secretary of State for India, the Rt. Hon. J. Morley, stated that during the first six months of the year 1907 632,953 persons in the Punjab and 1,060,067 persons in all India died of the plague.

Before the Government replied to a question relating to the comparative strength of the German fleet and the English Channel Squadron Mr. Pirie, Liberal, Member for North Aberdeen asked if the Government had considered the harm done to the interest of international peace by a constant comparison of the forces of a friendly nation with those of Great Britain.

Lieut. C. Bellairs, Liberal, Member for Kings Lynn asked if the Government was aware that such comparisons, drawn up by the German Emperor, were annually laid before the German Parliament. In answer to this question the Civil Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. G. Lambert, gave details as to the strength of the two fleets.

TO ENCOURAGE IMMIGRATION.

The Federal Government of Australia intends to institute a special cable service of news from Australia for the English Press to encourage immigration from the mother country.

THE LABOUR TROUBLES ON THE RAND.

The miners on strike at Johannesburg have decided to resume work on the old conditions. Since most of their places, however, have been filled by Afrianders, work is scarce.

BUSINESS FAILURES IN CAIRO.

A number of private firms in Cairo have closed their establishments and intend to go into liquidation. It is feared that many others will follow their example.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE U. S. NAVY.

In order that the battleship "Vermont" may be commissioned, the battleship "Iowa" will be deprived of her crew and will be retired from the active fleet.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S POPULARITY.

The inhabitants of a newly-arisen town in Alabama have placed on permanent record their affection and admiration for President Roosevelt by christening the place Teddyville.

THE GERMAN NAVAL MANOEUVRES.

The German High Seas Battle Fleet, with 22 big torpedo-boats, has sailed for its summer manoeuvres of four weeks in the northern waters of the Atlantic Ocean. These manoeuvres will be carried out off the Faroë Islands, which lie 185 miles N. W. of the Shetland Isles; thence the fleet will sail for the Shetland Isles, and after going through a series of attacking manoeuvres there, the fleet will sail for Heligoland, where a series of manoeuvres of attacking and defending the mouth of the Elbe will be carried out. The former battleship, "Deutschland," which is now acting as the harbour ship, "Jupiter," is to serve as a target for gunnery practice during the forthcoming manoeuvres.

SERIOUS AFFRAY IN BERLIN.

As a foreman-mason was leaving a new house in the Müller Strasse on Tuesday afternoon he was suddenly attacked by strikers. In order to defend himself he drew a revolver. This was the sign for a general attack. Within a few minutes some hundreds of persons collected and threatened to storm the new house, and it was not until mounted policemen appeared that the mob dispersed. The foreman-mason was conducted to the railway station under police protections. Four persons were arrested.

Extensive choice of hand-made Saxon Damask Table-Bed-Ladies' and Gentlemen's **LINEN** Joseph Meyer (au petit Bazar) Neumarkt 13, opposite the Frauenkirche.

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NEWS FROM FRANCE.

HONOURING THE U. S. NAVY.

President Fallières gave a dinner on Tuesday in honour of the officers of the American squadron lying off Brest. The President and Mr. White, U. S. Ambassador exchanged toasts, alluding to the friendly relations between France and the United States, and drank to the prosperity of the American and French navies.

MAJOR DREYFUS' RETIREMENT.

Major Dreyfus is reported to have sent in his papers. It is said that his resignation is caused by the refusal of General Picquart to promote him to the rank of Lieut. Colonel, although his term of service warrants it. It is known that for some time the relations between Major Dreyfus and the War Minister have been strained.

The Socialist group intend to make a political matter of Major Dreyfus' retirement. The *Humanité* writes "Major Dreyfus is sending in his papers because he has not been promoted, although his contemporaries are already Lieut. Colonels and several officers junior to him are now above him. General Picquart, however, will not hear of his promotion and replies to a Socialist Deputy 'We have done enough for Dreyfus; we have no desire that he should cause the Government more political anxieties.'"

THE ALLEGED ATTEMPT ON THE PRESIDENT'S LIFE.

The man Maillé, who fired a revolver at the President was returning from the military review on Sunday, is said to have suffered from the persecution mania since boyhood; his council has demanded his examination by experts in lunacy.

THE HAGUE CONFERENCE.

The Third Committee of the Hague Conference held a plenary sitting on Tuesday and passed a resolution relating to the enforcement of the Geneva Convention in Naval warfare.

The Sub-Committee appointed to discuss the arbitration Court question also held a meeting, at which the discussion of various resolutions was commenced. After many speeches had been made the debate was adjourned until tomorrow.

BELGIAN CLAIMS ON VENEZUELA.

The Belgian Foreign Minister has stated that the report is correct that Venezuela has signified her intention of declining to comply with the decision of the Hague Court of Arbitration whereby Venezuela is ordered to pay 10 million francs to her Belgian creditors. Should the payment be refused, the Belgian Government will take the necessary steps, since the decision of the Court is irrevocable, and in the case of non-fulfilment of any such decision the Court would be seriously compromised. The Government will leave no means undone to assist Belgian interests to prevail.



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A TERRIBLE ALPINE ACCIDENT.

A fatal accident has occurred on the Dreispitz in the Bernese Oberland. Hans Wyttenbach, a student of 18, who had been staying at a boarding house at Reichenbach, started with some companions to make the ascent of the Dreispitz (2,523 metres), which is not regarded as a dangerous peak. The accident occurred while the party were traversing a slope. Wyttenbach is supposed to have been seized with vertigo. He fell and rolled over several times, and then his head struck a stone with such violence that he expired almost immediately. The body was brought back to Reichenbach, and has since been removed to Berne, where deceased's family live.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

CRUELTY TO PRISONERS.

The *Rigaer Rundschau*, describing the extraordinary rigour with which political prisoners are guarded in the central prison in Riga, which recently became notorious for the tortures carried on within its walls, mentions the following incident.

On Sunday afternoon last a female political prisoner, a young girl of eighteen, came to the iron-barred window of her cell on the third floor for a breath of air. One of the sentries in the courtyard below instantly levelled his rifle and fired at the girl, but happily missed her.

An hour later two male politicals, confined on the same story, and also suffering from the abnormal heat, came to their barred window for air. The crack of a couple of rifles immediately rang out. One of the prisoners was shot in the right arm and the other in the left shoulder, and both were removed to the prison hospital.

The sentries were acting on one of the many stringent orders issued by General Baron Meller-Zakomelski, the ruthless "pacificator" of Siberia, latterly and popularly known as "The Butcher of the Baltic Provinces."

SUPERSTITION OF THE RUSSIAN PEASANTRY.

One of those incidents, which throw such a striking light upon the deplorable superstition and ignorance of the Russian peasantry has just been brought to the notice of the Press of South Russia by a Deputy of the late Duma. In the Taurida Government a poverty-stricken peasant sold a few weeks ago his "place in Heaven" to another peasant, and he gave a receipt for the money thus received. The receipt was duly drawn up and signed; it is in these words:—"On May 9, 1907, I, the undersigned, Nikolai Nikiforovitch Tyutyunov, a peasant of the village of Dogmarovski, eight and thirty years of age, as the result of my helpless poverty and extreme want have sold all my place and rights in Heaven to my fellow villager, the well-to-do peasant Makar Feodosyevitch Selenski, for the sum of 50 roubles (five guineas), which I have well and duly received from him, as witness my signature, Nikolai Nikiforovitch Tyutyunov. Witnessed by the village-elder of Dogmarovski."

LABOUR TROUBLES.

The workmen, 15,000 in number, of the great Nokolska weaving factory in Orechovo-Suevo have struck work. The directors have declared they will dismiss all the men and shut down the factory if work is not at once resumed.

UNREST IN ODESSA.

The maltreatment of the proscribed by the Black Bands in Odessa continues. In the last few days 30 persons have been seriously injured. The Jews are constantly being beaten.

THE MOROCCAN CRISIS.

The Imperial mahalla which, with the Sultan at its head, is to proceed against Raisuli and effect, if possible, the liberation of Kaid Sir Harry Maclean,