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THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Macdonald, Labour, Member for N. Falkirk, asked if the agreement recently concluded with Russia was of a general nature or if it was only concerned with frontier disputes, or if on the other hand, as was the case with the Anglo-French Treaty, agreements which only had local importance were to replace a general *entente*; further, if Sir Edward Grey would take into account the feeling of the English people toward the Russian Government and the Russian people.

Mr. Runciman, representing the Foreign Secretary, replied that he could only repeat the answer of Sir E. Grey on June 13, to the effect that the domestic affairs of another country could never be taken into consideration in negotiations of this kind. With regard to the corresponding Anglo-French agreement, it was perfectly clear that the development of things was the result of favourable tendencies and of public opinion, which always goes its own way and does not suffer itself to be crossed, but when it has once made itself apparent, exercises the strongest influence in bringing about cordial relations between the nations.

The Indian Secretary, Mr. Morley, announced that the Imperial Government had informed the Chinese Government that they agreed that the export of Indian opium should be decreased by a tenth every year provided that a corresponding decrease was made in the home-grown article. Further they agreed to the raising of the *likin* duty on foreign opium, whereby the opium tax in China would be brought to the same level as that already levied on home-grown opium.

INDIAN UNREST.

The Government of Nepal has forbidden the publication of 3 local Indian papers on the ground that they incited the people against the Government. The Maharajah has also ordered that the Bengalees and all other foreigners in his service, are to avoid any relations with Indian agitators.

DISASTROUS FIRES IN AMERICA.

On Monday morning Longbeach Hotel at Longbeach on Long Island, one of the largest hotels on the American coast, was completely destroyed by fire. The Hotel visitors, 800 in number, barely escaped with their lives.

On the same day a six-storeyed building on the East side of New York caught fire, 15 to 20 persons lost their lives, and 30 were injured, most of them Italians.

A third of the town of Coney Island was destroyed by Sunday's fire, the damage amounting to a million dollars. The fire began in a dancing establishment and spread with great rapidity through the show booths. A woman and a child were mortally injured. Twenty seven firemen were injured while fighting the flames. Many hundreds of persons are homeless and are encamped on the beach.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR MILLER.

Professor of dentistry Miller, late of the Berlin University, died at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on Monday last.

REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT IN ECUADOR.

On account of the recent plot against the President of Ecuador 15 soldiers were sentenced to death and nine to life-long imprisonment. The Government discovered a new conspiracy in the chief town, Quito. The leaders of the movement fled thence to Guayaquil.

A NEW N. G. L. LINER.

The trial trip of the new express steamer "Kronprinzessin Cecilie", of the North German Lloyd, has been carried out to the full satisfaction of the Management. Shortly before reaching Cape Skagen the ship passed the Imperial Yacht "Hohenzollern"



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and exchanged greetings by flag signals. On the measured mile the contract speed was considerably exceeded, so that the new steamer, which in all its dimensions is a sister ship to the "Kaiser Wilhelm II.", hitherto the holder of the Blue Ribbon of the ocean, may be confidently expected to at least equal the latter.

NAVIGATION ON CHINESE RIVERS.

According to a report received by *The Morning Post* from Shanghai, the German gunboat "Vaterland" has gone up the Yang-tze as far as Tui-fu, the farthest point to which the river is navigable. The journal further reports that the gunboat will now go up the Min river as far as Kia-ting, in order to show that Sze-chuan may be opened to navigation.

COREAN AFFAIRS.

Reuter reports that all reinforcements of the twelfth brigade have already landed. According to the new plan of occupation the military occupation of Seoul by the Japanese troops was to be finished yesterday.

THE MOROCCAN CRISIS.

Buchta ben Bagdadi is not far from the fortified market town of Chechuan.

Raisuli and Maclean have gone further South. Maclean attempted to escape under the pretext

that he was going hunting, but he was caught and is now confined to his tent. His servant has been taken away from him and he is no longer allowed to write.

LOCAL.

The Grand Duke of Hesse and the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar have appointed Herren Emil and Otto Irmeler, the partners of the firm *J. G. Irmeler*, pianoforte makers to the King of Saxony, to be pianoforte makers to the Courts of Hesse and Saxe-Weimar respectively.

This evening, Wednesday, "Das Lebensfest", comedy in 3 Acts by Carl Rössler, will be given for the last time at the Central Theatre.

Tomorrow, Thursday, evening "Der Dieb", a play in 3 Acts by Henry Bernstein arranged for the German stage by Rudolph Lothair, will be given for the first time, with Herr Emanuel Reicher of the Lessing Theatre in Berlin, in the principal rôle.

The celebrated "Koschat Quintett", which is making its annual summer tournée, gave its first concert on Monday evening in the "Bergkeller".

The attendance was so large that the garden was almost completely filled before eight o'clock.

The concert was all that could have been desired, not only in point of excellent tonal balance but also in shading and expression. The various dialectic Alpine songs were immensely enjoyed by the audience. Those of special significance were "Schlaf, mein holder Engel du" by Dressler; "Die dreifache Hochzeit", quartet by Koschat; "An alte G'schicht" by the same composer; and "Was i hab", a Bavarian "Volkslied", by Karl Bohm, arranged by Rudolf Traxler; all of which were sung with exemplary finesse and colouring; the pathetic and humorous sides in the various numbers were given with wonderful effect. The enthusiasm of the audience grew to such a height that many encores had to be given.

It is to be regretted that many who attended the concert were obliged to procure their own refreshments at the buffet owing to the small staff of waiters.—*H. M. F.*

The programme of this evening's orchestral concert at the Royal Belvedere will be as follows: (1) Oceanic March, Sousa; (2) Overture, "Die Zauberflöte", Mozart; (3) Die Allmacht, Schubert; (4) Peasant Scene, "Der Evangelimann", Kienzl; (5) Overture, "Si j'étais Roi", Adam; (6) Shepherd Serenade, Petras; (7) Fantasia, "Martha", Flotow; (8) Overture, "La Princesse de Trapezunt", Offenbach; (9) Lied, "Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt", Tschaiakowsky; (10) Waltz, "Hofballtänze", Lanner; (11) Galop, "Wonnetrunk", Faust.

The guards in the city today are furnished by the Infantry Regiment No. 177. The band plays about 12.30 p.m. in the Schloss Platz.

In the *Fundamt* of the *Königliche Polizei direktion*, Schless Gasse 7, found articles—such as jewellery, gold or notes, purses, umbrellas, sticks, boas, clothing, bunches of keys &c.—which have been lost in the streets or squares or left in droschkes, and been given up, are kept.

The public are hereby informed of the arrangements of the *Fundamt*, and in particular that it is advisable to enquire for lost articles frequently within twelve months after the loss.

Finders of articles are reminded that they are compelled by law to give immediate notice of the finding of any article of the value of from three marks upwards, at the *Fundamt* or at the office of the Police district in which the finder resides.

It is urgently recommended that the loser of an article should make enquiry at the *Fundamt* personally, and not by a deputy who is insufficiently and perhaps not at all acquainted with the lost property.

Special lost property offices are established:

for the tram-lines at Georg Platz 5;

for the omnibuses at Werder Strasse 35 and at the Hauptbahnhof.

"THE LATIN HEART."

An Englishman writing in Paris on the fate of the cab horse in that city has come to the conclusion that the only chance for the poor brute is to abolish him—not by slaughter, but by rendering him obsolete. The writer thinks that the Latin heart cannot be reformed or the French limited company rendered humane. Only the spread of the autocab can avail the cab horse.