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KING EDWARD ENTERTAINS THE FRENCH PREMIER.

The French Prime Minister, M. Clémenceau, left Carlsbad by automobile on Wednesday morning. On arrival at Marienbad he proceeded at once to the Hotel Weimar where he was most cordially welcomed by H. M. King Edward. The Premier lunched with the King and in the course of the afternoon returned to Carlsbad whence he left yesterday for Munich en route for Paris.

At luncheon M. Clémenceau sat on the right, Sir E. Goschen on the left of the King who paid the Prime Minister great attention. After luncheon all the other guests retired and M. Clémenceau remained for an hour alone with the King. At three o'clock he took leave of his Majesty, who charged him with messages to President Fallières and thanked him for accepting his invitation.

To the journalists waiting in the porch M. Clémenceau said that he could give them no details. All European matters including the Moroccan question had been broached. In the course of conversation it had been agreed that the international situation offered an entirely peaceful outlook. Immediately upon his return to Paris M. Clémenceau will give a report of his interview to Messrs. Fallières and Pichon and together with the latter agree upon a communiqué.

M. Fontin, Chef de Cabinet, said that the King's invitation was regarded as a great attention to France. King Edward wished to honour France in the person of M. Clémenceau; the invitation was also a sign of the enduring *entente cordiale* between England and France.

According to the *Figaro* M. Clémenceau said, after the breakfast with the King of England at Marienbad, that the conversation referring to general politics and in particular to Moroccan affairs had touched also on the visits to Wilhelmshöhe and Ischl.

ACCIDENT TO H. M. THE GERMAN EMPRESS.

On Wednesday afternoon H. M. the Empress when walking near Wilhelmshöhe slipped on the wet ground and injured a vein in her left leg. Her Majesty will in consequence be confined to a couch for some time. She has been obliged to give up the idea of going to Schwerin, Hannover and Münster.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Scottish Land Bill, which was recently criticised so violently in the Upper House by Lord Rosebery, has been dropped by the Government, since the Opposition had announced their intention of moving drastic amendments to it.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE CRISIS IN MOROCCO.

Mr. J. B. Lonsdale, Conservative, Member for Mid Armagh, directed the attention of the Government to the losses of Englishmen in Casablanca and to the statement of an English missionary that while the French, German and Spanish Governments had taken measures for the protection of their subjects, the British Government had taken no such steps; he asked, therefore, what was being done to protect the life and interests of Englishmen in Morocco.

Mr. Runciman replied that Sir E. Grey regretted to be obliged to state that according to the report of the English Consul the property of English and other inhabitants of Casablanca had suffered considerable damage. He, Sir E. Grey, had, however, no knowledge of the English missionary's statement mentioned by Mr. Lonsdale. The British Government held the view that the French and Spanish Governments must do all in their power to maintain order in the open Moroccan harbours. The Government had complete confidence in the steps taken by both Governments to protect life and property in these harbours. No other Power had sent forces to Casablanca and the British



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Government on this point found itself in agreement with all the other Powers. So far as was known, the British Colony had left Marakesh on August 11, and proceeded to the coast. The British Consuls in Fez and El 'Ksar had received instructions to take all measures in their power for the retreat to the coast of all Englishmen in their districts, should necessity arise.

SHOULD GOVERNMENTS PAY DUTY?

The Custom House in Sidney has confiscated a consignment of goods from London destined for the Government of New South Wales, since payment of duty on the same had been refused. A telegram from the Federal Treasurer to the Prime Minister of New South Wales pointing out the serious consequences of persisting in illegal action, was answered by a cable stating that the attempt to impose duties on State or Royal property was illegal, and was opposed to the finding of the highest Court of New South Wales which was to be looked upon as valid so long as no other legal decision had been given.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

The *Globe* learns from its New York correspondent that to Mr. Taft's speech so much importance had been attached by the Administration that copies were supplied in advance to the news agencies. It fits in fairly with the forecasts, necessarily endorsing and emphasising the anti-Trust campaign of President Roosevelt, while repudiating all intention of attacking *bona fide* business combinations and methods. Legislation was even hinted at, designed specifically to protect honest corporations against over-zealous State law-makers.

Before leaving Washington Mr. Taft talked informally with a few privileged reporters, and took occasion to declare that the views which he proposed to express in the course of his speeches on his way to the Pacific coast were those of President Roosevelt, as well as his own, and that they would not be confined to the Trusts, but would include such burning questions as the tariff and the regulation of the railways. As a matter of fact, he went over the whole ground in his first speech, and his subsequent utterances will presumably be merely elaborations of his arguments. Incidentally Mr. Taft posed to the reporters at Washington before starting on his journey as the ardent patriot who was prepared to sacrifice all personal desires and predilections on the altar of his country. He had, it seemed, just "drifted" into the position of a Presidential candidate. He would have preferred to pass the closing decade of his public work as a judge in the calm judicial atmosphere of the Supreme Court at Washington, but the country and the party had decided another course of use-

fulness for him, and he had no option but to obey the call.

The programme of Mr. Taft's tour includes calls upon the Emperor of Japan, the Emperor of China, the German Emperor, and King Edward. He is undoubtedly charged with a mission of the first importance, but neither he nor the State Department will discuss that subject. No fitter man for the mission can be found in the public life of the United States at the present moment, not even excepting President Roosevelt. He is a general favourite, a man of massive physical build, charming manners, and acute intellect. As a Presidential candidate, he is head and shoulders above all other Republican leaders in the running for the White House. Nevertheless, powerful influences are already at work against him, and plans are afoot which, if they are carried out successfully, will prevent Mr. Taft from obtaining the nomination of the National Convention next summer.

TERRIBLE MOTOR ACCIDENT.

The American millionaire Mr. Root and his whole family have lost their lives in a terrible motor-car accident. During a drive he was seized by the unfortunate idea of racing an express train. The car came to a curve when the railway tracks crossed the street, a fact of which Mr. Root seemed unaware. He himself was driving but failed to hear the engine's signal as he is deaf; the engine driver as a last resource attempted to reach the danger spot quicker than the motor-car; when Mr. Root saw this he also put on his top speed and the inevitable collision followed. The motor-car was completely wrecked. Mr. Root and his son were thrown under the engine and killed on the spot. His mother and sister were hurled far into a field and were also picked up dead. His daughter was mortally injured.

A BANK SMASH.

The Portland Trust and Saving's bank has been forced to cease payments, having been unsuccessful in spite of securities offered, of procuring a capital of 100,000 dollars. The liabilities are said to be 25,000,000 dollars.

THE MORENGA INCIDENT.

According to the latest intelligence received in Berlin, Morenga is at present near the Gamsib Kluft close to the frontier, but it is uncertain whether he is on German or English soil; no reliable information has, as yet, been received as to the number of his followers.

Herr Dernburg, Secretary of State, who is at Muansa, on hearing that Morenga had crossed the frontier, sent Lt. Colonel Quade to German South-West Africa.

WRESTLERS COME TO BLOWS.

Violent scenes occurred in the Circus Sporn at Düsseldorf on Wednesday evening. Some wrestling contests were going on and in one bout Steurs, a Belgian wrestler, took an unfair hold of his opponent Sturm of Berlin. Both wrestlers began to box each other's ears, while the public stormed the ring and had to be driven back by police and firemen. The judges disqualified both wrestlers, and the police prohibited their further appearance.

THE HEALTH OF DR. LUEGER.

Vienna papers announce that the condition of the Mayor, Dr. Lueger, has given rise to anxiety during the last few days; he has had repeated fainting fits.

STORM WORKS HAVOC IN JUTLAND.

Despatches from Copenhagen report that the North West part of Jutland was visited on Wednesday morning by a terrific storm which did enormous damage. The storm was accompanied by a powerful water spout which lifted roofs off houses and knocked down walls. Two horses standing in a courtyard were lifted 20 ft. into the air and deposited outside the courtyard. A dog is said to have been carried along in the air a distance of 200 ft.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

THE ATTEMPT ON THE CZAR'S LIFE.

In the trial of persons accused of being concerned in an attempt on the lives of the Czar, the Grand Duke Nicolas and M. Stolypin, three witnesses proved that relations existed between the accused. Other witnesses testified that the accused could not have been members of a criminal organisation.

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