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#### ENGLISH NEWS.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AT HIGHCLIFFE.

The Emperor, attended by his suite, proceeded on Sunday morning by automobile to Christchurch, and attended divine service there.

#### THE EMPEROR ENTERTAINS SCHOOLCHILDREN.

The Kaiser went for an automobile ride on Saturday, and at 5 o'clock he entertained about 150 schoolchildren to tea and cakes at the school-house. The hall was bedecked with English and German flags, the tables gaily decorated with flowers. The schoolmaster and his lady assistants were present. His Majesty, accompanied by several gentlemen of the neighbourhood, appeared on the scene at 5 p.m., and was presented with bouquets by four little girls. He partook of a cup of tea, chatting in a most kindly fashion with the youngsters, and afterwards cut the large ceremonial cake, which was immediately divided among the children present. His Majesty took his leave amid vociferous cheering from his juvenile guests.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND TARIFF REFORM. Mr. H. Payton, chairman of the West Birmingham

Liberal-Unionist Association, has received the following letter from Mr. Chamberlain:-

"Highbury, November 29. "My dear Payton,-I hope you will take the first opportunity of thanking your committee for the kind resolution and for their good wishes. I hope it may not be long before I take my place again in the front rank of the fight for Unionism and the policy for which it now stands.

"I am more than ever convinced that the future of this country depends upon the adoption of Tariff Reform, and none will profit more from this change than the working classes of the kingdom, who are called upon at the present time to fight competitors with their hands tied behind their

"Thanking you and your committee for all the support that they have given me,-I am, yours truly, J. Chamberlain,"

### OIL FUEL FOR TORPEDO CRAFT.

A Standard report from Plymouth says that the Admiralty has taken measures for the maintenance of larger liquid-fuel supplies at the different harbours around the English coast, for the use of the torpedo-boat flotillas.

### THE EFFECT OF MODERN GUN-FIRE.

On Friday and Saturday last the Channel Fleet engaged in shell-practice with the obsolete battleship "Hero" as the target, in order to determine the effect of gun-fire upon the various parts of a warship's equipment and armament. The newspapers report that the shortest range was 7,000 yards, whilst hits were made at 13,000 yards. The armour of the "Hero" was not pierced by the projectiles, but everything else was torn and shattered. The fire-control apparatus was destroyed almost immediately after firing began.

#### NEWS FROM AMERICA.

A NEW PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

In a letter addressed to the Republican League in Ohio Senator Foraker accepts the League's support of his presidential candidature.

#### MORE WARSHIPS FOR AMERICA.

The Standard reports from Washington that a Presidential message to Congress, issued yesterday, asks that the building of four warships of the most powerful type, and armed with the largest guns, be authorised, in order to meet the requirements of the Navy.

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# The Anglo-Saxon Tharmacy

MR. TAFT IN MOSCOW.

The American Secretary of War, Mr. Taft, arrived in Moscow on November 30th.

### MINE DISASTER IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Through a fire-damp explosion in a mine at Naomi, great masses of coal fell in, stopping up the entrance to the mine and shutting in 60 miners. Much loss of life is feared.

#### LARGE CONFLAGRATION IN AUSTRALIA.

According to a telegram published yesterday by the Frankfurter Zeitung, a fire broke out in Melbourne at 10 o'clock on Sunday night, which raged fiercely and was not got under control until past midnight. The business premises of Messrs. Clark and Company, general import and export merchants, were entirely destroyed, together with other buildings in the neighbourhood, among them some wooden erections belonging to the Chief Post Office.

#### THE ACCIDENT TO THE FRENCH AIRSHIP.

The accident to the French airship "La Patrie" was caused by the engineer's clothes catching in the machinery. During repairs on Saturday the airship was caught by a strong gust of wind and dragged for forty metres. Two hundred people were holding on to her ropes but had to let go. The airship disappeared in a westerly direction.

It was stated in the war ministry that in anticipation of a storm the car of the dirigible balloon "La Patrie" had been filled with ballast but the gust of wind had upset the car so that the ballast fell out and the balloon rose into the air. Up to Sunday midday no news of the vagrant balloon had been received at the ministry.

The torpedo boat "Tourbillon" has been sent out

to search for "La Patrie".

News has been received from different sources in England and Scotland to the effect that a dirigible airship, whose name is made out through the telescope as "Patrie," and containing 3 persons, was seen in the neighbourhood of Wales and Bel-



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A large manufacturer has offered his own billoon the "Ville de Paris" to the War Minister, as a substitute for the "Patrie." The Minister of War is said to have given an order for the building of two airships after the model of the "Patrie," for which a credit of 500,000 frcs. has been asked.

No news has yet been received at the Ministry of War about the missing airship "La Patrie". It is believed that the air-valves, which worked very slowly, prevented the escape of much gas, so that the balloon is probably still in the air. The strong winds which prevailed throughout the night carried the balloon at a speed of 80 kilometres an hour, so that she must have travelled a great distance.

#### THE RUSSIAN DUMA.

STRONG SPEECH BY M. STOLYPIN.

In the sitting of the Duma, on Friday last, President Stolypin made a memorable speech in defence of his government policy.

He said:- "As the aim of the Government's programme has been obscured by hostile utterances, I regard it as necessary once more to explain the objects and intentions of the Government. I pass over the attacks made upon the electoral law of June 3, as it is not for me to defend the right of the Emperor to shield, in the moment of danger, the Empire which God has entrusted to his care.

"Neither will I concern myself with the statements that our form of Government resembles Oriental despotism. I think that I have already declared in the name of the Government that we have a system of popular representation which has been granted to us by our autocratic monarch, and must therefore be accepted by all his faithful

"But there is one charge which I must contest, What I have said here on the subject of the inviolable position of judges has been regarded as a threat. But in exceptional cases, where it is a question of saving the Fatherland, measures have to be taken which are not customary in the normal life of the State. History shows that even in such a progressive country as France the principle of the irremovability of judges has been temporarily suspended.

"The Government has also been taxed with the intention of confining its whole efforts to repression and of holding aloof from productive work. The aims of the Government are of quite another kind. Besides stamping out the revolution, the Government has set itself the task of raising the people to the level, where they can really partake of the blessings which have been bestowed upon them. So long as the peasant is poor, and so long as he is not in free possession of his own land and remains under compulsion of the system of communal holdings, so long will he remain a slave, and no written law will help him (cheers on the Right and in the Centre).

"Therefore the Government will in the first place direct its efforts towards improving the lot of the peasants and institute a system of free independent and small holdings, in order in this way to establish the culture and welfare of the whole Empire. Decentralisation has also been spoken of here.

"A Polish representative has referred to the necessity of enlisting the services of the local Zemstvo forces in the work of the Government. To this the Government has no objection, but the forces on which it can rely in this case must only

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