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GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

KING EDWARD'S HOLIDAY.

King Edward arrived at Biarritz on Saturday evening.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S LETTER.

According to a *Reuter* telegram, a Cabinet Council was to be held before the House of Lords met yesterday, to consider the question of the Emperor's letter in all its bearings. Lord Tweedmouth would, it was presumed, fully explain the matter to his colleagues.

A VACANCY IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. C. Goddard Clarke, Liberal member for Peckham, died on Sunday.

COUNT AND COUNTESS SZECHENYI.

A London correspondent writes us that Count and Countess Szechenyi, the latter formerly Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, of New York, who recently arrived in England found themselves the victims of almost as much curiosity as they were in New York. Everywhere they went they were observed by hundreds of persons and batteries of ready cameras were prepared for a shot at them every time they ventured out of doors. These attentions annoyed the count, but he made no attempt to beat any of his tormentors, as he did in New York.

Even on the way over on the "Kaiserin Auguste Victoria" the couple could not get away from the camera fiends and were snapped by scores of fellow-voyagers.

Szechenyi was angry when he found a squad of reporters and newspaper photographers awaiting the couples' arrival. "Are we suspicious characters?" he shouted at the camera men.

"Go away. We won't talk. We want to be alone," he told the newspaper men.

The attention they received caused the Szechenyis to decide on a hurried trip to Paris.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

NEW YORK REPUBLICANS FAVOUR HUGHES.

A New York telegram of Saturday says that the Republican Committee of the State of New York has passed a resolution in favour of the candidature of Governor Hughes for the Presidency.

BRITISH WARSHIP GOES TO IQUIQUE.

H.M.S. "Shearwater" left Victoria (British Columbia) for the South on Sunday, as the strikers in the saltpetre camps at Iquique had threatened the British inhabitants.

THE HORRORS OF CHILD LABOUR.

Senator Beveridge (Republican, Indiana), has introduced a bill which seeks to legally prohibit child labour. During his speech Senator Beveridge quoted statistics regarding the exploitation of children which were positively appalling. According to the figures some 10,000 children annually lose their lives in American factories, while 250,000 fall prey to degeneration or chronic disease.

President Roosevelt is believed to be an enthusiastic supporter of the bill.

FINANCIAL HORIZON CLEARING.

The New York State Banking Department has endorsed the plans for the rehabilitation of the Knickerbocker Trust Company, in view of which fact the Court has permitted the Company to resume business. The stock exchange hails this decision as a portent of the gradual recovery of the financial situation and a favourable indication for the money market.

ANOTHER HARRIMAN RAILROAD.

The president of the Georgia Central Railway Company, says an Atlanta telegram, has announced that Mr. Harriman has purchased the line for amalgamation with the Illinois Central Railway Company. The last-named railroad by this deal gains access to the Atlantic seaboard at Savannah.

JAPAN'S ULTIMATUM TO CHINA.

According to a *Reuter* communication from Pekin on Saturday the irreducible minimum of the



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Japanese claims is: restoration of the ship and cargo and payment of ample compensation within a reasonable time. In case of refusal or delay Japan will, in accordance with the conditions stated in the ultimatum, take the requisite steps without delay. Japan expected an answer on Sunday; she rejected the offer of China to institute an enquiry and insists on an apology for the hauling down of the Japanese flag on board the "Tatsu Maru"; she will not accept mediation as she holds that China is undoubtedly in the wrong. In handing in the ultimatum Viscount Hayashi expressed Japan's sympathy with China with regard to the smuggling of arms but added that China could not expect mediation so long as she did not permit Portugal to take part in it.

A telegram of yesterday reports that no complete understanding had been arrived at between Japan and China in respect of the "Tatsu Maru" incident. The Chinese Foreign Office persists in the view that the matter cannot be settled without a thorough enquiry into the facts. A member of the Foreign Office had a long conference with M. Takahira on Sunday on the subject of the measures that are to be taken with regard to the cargo. China proposes that the weapons and war material shall be conveyed back to Japan and that the permit for their shipment shall be cancelled, and further that Japan shall guarantee to suppress the trade in war material from Japan to the continent. Japan let it be understood that she was disposed to consider the subject.

According to an *Agence Havas* telegram from Lisbon dated Sunday, the Chinese authorities declare that the "Tatsu Maru" was captured on the high seas and, therefore, that there was no violation of Portuguese waters.

A later report from *Reuter* says that since the Chinese Government was taking no action in re-

gard to the seizure of the "Tatsu-Maru" Japan, on the 5th inst., repeated her demands and insisted upon a prompt answer, hinting at the same time that in the event of China failing to answer the Japanese Government would be compelled to take steps to uphold the dignity of the nation and ensure the safety of Japanese subjects abroad. China answered the following day, expressing her deep regret at the lowering of the Japanese flag and promising that the responsible officials would be punished. With reference to the seizure of arms and ammunition on the "Tatsu-Maru," an answer would follow later.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

THE FRENCH PRESS ON THE EMPEROR'S LETTER.

The director of the Paris *Figaro*, in the Sunday edition of that paper, severely condemns the fuss that is being made in England about the Emperor's letter, and says: "Part of the English Press is presenting just now a spectacle which anywhere but in England would be at once described as laughable. It must be acknowledged that the English people, who are so quick to condemn hastiness in other nations, generally show more calmness and dignity. The letter of the Emperor to Lord Tweedmouth is quite intelligible. It was a private letter in which the Emperor, whose special interest in naval affairs is well known, discusses a matter of that kind with a prominent expert. He spoke as a seaman to a seaman, conversing with him on a subject the discussion of which concerns the Emperor more than anyone else; that is to say, the German navy. The Emperor is known to be a brilliant and free talker. He has corresponded with Lord Tweedmouth, as he conversed with him after dinner at Buckingham Palace or Windsor Castle. Did he not during his recent stay in England enter into personal relations with the official world and the English aristocracy? Has an Emperor no right to correspond with his friends? It is incredible that an idea of that kind should have caused such a turmoil of imputations and explanations in a country which one would really have taken to be less nervous."

PORTUGUESE COURT RECEPTIONS RESUMED.

The first reception by Dom Manuel and the Dowager-Queen of Portugal held since the assassination of Dom Carlos and the Crown Prince, took place at Lisbon on Saturday afternoon. The ceremony lasted three hours and was largely attended.

MURDER OF A CONSULAR OFFICIAL.

The Italian Consul-General at Saloniki, in his capacity of *doyen* of the Consular body there, has recommended General Hilmi Pasha to take measures to maintain order, in view of the murder of the dragoman of the Greek Consulate-General. The police have found a woman who, a few moments before the murder, saw two suspicious looking men near the place where the crime was committed, and heard them talking to each other in Bulgarian. The bullets which have been extracted from the body of the deceased belong to weapons of the kind usually carried by the Bulgarian bands. The Athens Press characterises the crime as a proof of the activity of the Bulgarian bands, whose deeds of violence are generally committed on Christians.

AFFAIRS IN PERSIA.

The London papers of yesterday published a report from Teheran that the Shah had issued a rescript complaining of the attitude of the Parliament with regard to the bomb outrage, and declaring that he will himself take the necessary measures in a short time.

TRAGIC SEQUEL TO A MESALLIANCE.

Wilhelmine Adamovitch, the divorced wife of Leopold Wölfling, formerly Archduke of Tuscany, was taken to a hospital at Vienna on account of mental derangement. She had bought a revolver with which she threatened to shoot her sister, her lawyer and her former husband. In a fit of violent insanity she tried to shoot herself, but was restrained and taken to the hospital for her own protection.