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The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Mr. John Morley and Sir Henry Fowler took the oath and their seats in the House of Lords on Tuesday, the former as Viscount Morley, the latter with the title of Viscount Wolverhampton.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At the sitting on Tuesday Mr. Bowles (Cons., Lambeth) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Governments of Belgium and Norway had been invited to take part in the new North Sea convention, and if not on what grounds the invitation had been withheld.

Sir Edward Grey replied that the negotiations with the other countries which had joined in the convention had been conducted by Germany. He could not say whether any negotiations had taken place with Belgium and Norway on the subject, but the position of those countries was the subject of earlier agreements.

In answer to a further question, where the precise place was at which the confluence of the North Sea with the Baltic mentioned in the North Sea convention occurs, Sir Edward Grey said that, for the purposes of the agreement lately concluded for the maintenance of the *status quo* in the North Sea and the Baltic, it sufficed that it had been recognised that the North Sea extends eastward till it unites with the waters of the Baltic. Thus the assurance was given that the two agreements left no dividing gaps between them, and therefore no definition had been inserted in the North Sea convention.

Mr. Rees (Lib., Montgomery District) enquired whether Turkey had entered into fresh negotiations respecting heavy financial obligations for three new sections of the Bagdad railway, and if so, whether His Majesty's Government were willing to allow their consent to the 3% increase of the Customs duties to hold good, though that increase had never been intended to provide means for such a purpose.

Sir Edward Grey said he had heard that negotiations were in progress for advances in connection with the Bagdad railway. A condition of Great Britain's consent to the increase of the Customs duties was that the proceeds therefrom should be reserved for Macedonia. He had no reason to suppose that that condition would be disregarded; the question of renouncing it had not come before the Government.

THE INDIAN FRONTIER SITUATION.

At the different stations on the north-west frontier, says a Simla telegram, there are now altogether 31 battalions of infantry, 15 squadrons of cavalry, and 64 field guns mobilised.

The known losses of the enemy during Monday's fighting at Landi Khotal amounted to some 60 men, but they were probably considerably greater since many Afghans were shot down while in flight. Three Mullahs who had concealed themselves in a ravine were killed by a shell.

Reuter reports that all rumours to the effect that troops are to be sent from England to India in consequence of the situation on the frontier are quite groundless. The military forces available in India are numerous enough to cope with any emergency.

A later message from Landi Khotal says that Safi-Mullah and his men have left the Bazar valley and

recrossed the Afghan frontier, and that this probably ends the unrest in the Khyber districts.

CAVALRY IN SCOTLAND.

The military correspondent of the *Globe* writes that the want of a cavalry regiment in Scotland was rather awkwardly apparent on the occasion of the opening of the Scottish National Exhibition in Edinburgh by Prince Arthur of Connaught on Friday last. The streets were crowded and lined with troops, and there was a great procession of State carriages, &c., but it was impossible to find a proper escort for His Royal Highness. As a makeshift eight non-commissioned officers of the R. A. Field Battery, quartered at Jock's Lodge (Piershill) were called into requisition; and these worthy soldiers, armed with carbines, were the best attempt that proud Scotland could make at a mounted escort to one of the Royal Family. This, of course, is no reflection on anyone but the War Office authorities, who persist in their refusal to station a cavalry regiment in Scotland, notwithstanding the urgency of the matter from the very serious point of view of the military efficiency of the troops in the command.

FEATHERED LINGUISTS.

At the London Hippodrome there is a "turn" of more than ordinary interest on the programme. This is supplied by two birds—an Indian parakeet and a South American parrot—which sustain conversations in three languages, i. e. English, French and German.

THE VANDERBILT COACH.

A minute or two before scheduled time on Monday forenoon, Mr. Alfred Vanderbilt flicked his whip across the ears of the leaders, and his handsomely appointed coach, the "Venture," moved away from the Hotel Victoria, London, on its first business run to Brighton. The weather was dull when the coach was sent off, with cheers from the many hundreds who had gathered in Northumberland-avenue. Harnessed to the coach were four greys—Viking, Tom King, Vanaky, and Volt. The coach on this occasion was chartered by Mr. R. C. Vanderbilt, brother of the Millionaire whip, and on the box seat alongside Mr. Alfred Vanderbilt, who sported a light grey frock coat and high hat, sat his sister-in-law.

The return journey was made on the following day. On her other trips the coach is at the disposal of the general public at a charge of 15s. per head, with an extra charge for the box seat.

M. FALLIÈRES' NAVAL ESCORT.

Owing to so many warships attached to the French Northern Squadron being in Moorish waters, the naval escort to accompany President Fallières to England will consist only of four vessels; they will be the armoured cruiser "Léon Gambetta," the flagship of Admiral Jaureguiberry, commander of the Northern Squadron, the dispatch-boat "Ibis," which is the guard-ship of the North Sea and Channel, and two of the latest destroyers belonging to the squadron. On leaving Boulogne, President Fallières will be saluted by every warship that is available.

A NARROW LIBERAL VICTORY.

The by-election at Wolverhampton on Tuesday resulted in the return of the Liberal candidate Mr. G. R. Thorne by a majority of only eight votes. The figures were: Mr. Thorne, 4,514 votes; Mr. L. S. Amery (*Unionist*) 4,506 votes. At the last election in 1906 the Liberal majority was 2,865, so

it will be readily understood that Tuesday's contest was practically a moral victory for the Unionist party.

AMERICAN NEWS.

THE ATLANTIC RATE WAR.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* publishes a report from New York that the Italian steamship lines have reduced their steerage passenger rates by 33 per cent.

SOUTHERN COTTON FIRM INSOLVENT.

The great cotton firm of Inman and Company at Augusta (Georgia) has become insolvent. The liabilities amount to one and a half million dollars.

THE ROOSEVELT EXCHANGE PROFESSOR.

Columbia University, New York City, has appointed its president, Professor Benjamin Wheeler, as the Roosevelt professor in Berlin for 1909/1910.

MR. FAIRBANKS' POSITION.

Writing on the coming Presidential election in the United States, Mr. Sydney Brooks dismisses Mr. Roosevelt as an impossible candidate, and says that Mr. Taft is the one most likely to be elected. That Mr. Fairbanks is a patriot is sufficiently proved by the fact that he is Vice-President of the United States. No one but a patriot would ever dream of accepting so thankless and futile an office. Except Mr. Roosevelt, no Vice-President in American history has been elected President. Nine times out of ten the post is the grave of a man's political ambitions. It carries with it no duties worth speaking of, no political authority, and only a moderate amount of social prestige. It remains as John Adams described it, "the most insignificant office that ever the mind of man contrived or his imagination conceived." Mr. Fairbanks, however, has made a valorous effort to turn its insignificance to account, and to use it as a stepping-stone to the Presidency itself.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

The *Correspondenz Wilhelm* of Vienna learns from most reliable sources that the condition of Emperor Franz Josef's health is excellent. His Majesty works every day in his accustomed manner. The first meeting of the Emperor Franz Josef with the German Emperor and Empress will take place at Meidling today (Thursday), where the Imperial train from Pola will arrive at half-past nine in the morning. The Austrian monarch travels from Schönbrunn to the Meidling southern station, where he will enter the Imperial train. The arrival of the German Imperial couple with Prince August Wilhelm and Princess Victoria Louise at the Penzing Bahnhof in Vienna is expected at 10 o'clock this morning.

Later: All the public buildings in Vienna are gaily decorated with bunting and banners, and private houses are not behind in presenting a festive appearance. Tucher Strasse as far as the Burgtor makes an imposing spectacle, the Burgtor itself being wreathed in garlands and flags. All the railway stations at which the exalted guests will arrive are gorgeously decorated. A huge triumphal arch has been erected on the Schlossbrücke; flowers and banners have been lavishly used to make this arch a monument of beauty, and the result is magnificent.

The yacht "Hohenzollern" with the Imperial family on board, and accompanied by the German warships "Hamburg" and "Sleipner", arrived at

(Continued on page 2.)