

Berlin Office:
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The Daily Record

Dresden Office:
A. Struve
Strasse 5, I.
Telephone:
1755.

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

THE FIRST DAILY PAPER IN ENGLISH PUBLISHED IN GERMANY.

№ 704.

DRESDEN AND BERLIN, TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 1908.

10 PFENNIGS.

The Daily Record is delivered by hand in Dresden, and may be ordered at any Post Office throughout the German Empire. It is published daily, excepting Mondays and days following legal holidays in Dresden.

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GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

KING EDWARD'S JOURNEY TO RUSSIA.

It is reported from London that the royal yacht "Victoria and Albert" is under orders to leave Portsmouth tomorrow (Wednesday) for Sheerness, in order to embark King Edward and Queen Alexandra for the journey to Russia. Simultaneously the yacht "Alexandra" will proceed to Brunsbüttel, the North Sea entrance to the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, and pass through to the Baltic, there to await the disposal of their Majesties. During their passage through the canal the yachts will be unaccompanied by warships, which will effect a junction with them in the Baltic.

Later: Four torpedo-boat-destroyers will escort the royal yacht from Sheerness to the Kiel Canal entrance. Four other destroyers will go with the armoured cruisers "Minotaur" and "Achilles" to Kiel, whence the combined flotilla is to accompany the "Victoria and Albert" to Reval.

AN ANGLO-FRENCH ALLIANCE.

Writing on the proposal to conclude a formal alliance with France, the London review *Outlook* says: Without asking from France anything in return, the British people have virtually engaged themselves to join with her in warding off an unprovoked attack by Germany. There is no evidence to show that the French are prepared to reciprocate in kind. The British, never without a touch of Quixoticism in their composition, have read into the *entente* meanings and obligations that its framers never contemplated. The French, more emotional on the surface, but infinitely more prudent and restrained at heart, while not less enthusiastically in favour of the *entente*, have not yet translated it, even subconsciously, into a definite policy. We think the time has come when all uncertainty should cease, and when clear and formal expression should be given, in terms of politics, to what is at present an alliance of sentiment.

THE GERMAN CLERICAL VISIT.

On Saturday morning the German clergymen were received at Buckingham Palace by King Edward, to whom they were presented by the German Ambassador. His Majesty addressed the visitors in German, expressing his pleasure at their presence and hoping that their visit to England would prove most agreeable to them from start to finish. He then spoke of the sights which the clergymen had already seen, and mentioned Cambridge University, where he himself had been educated. Mr. Allen Baker, M.P., was heartily congratulated by His Majesty on the successful result of his efforts to bring about this visit. The clergymen were then escorted through the Palace and shown everything of interest.

Later in the day they paid a visit to the Franco-British Exhibition, and in the afternoon attended a garden-party given in their honour by the Bishop of London.

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.

The South-Eastern passenger boats "Onward" and "Queen" have been in collision in the Channel. The "Onward" was bound from Folkestone to Boulogne, and the "Queen" was coming from Boulogne to Folkestone. Both vessels have arrived at Folkestone, the "Onward" having put back. It has been ascertained that the "Onward's" bows were stove in, and that the lookout man (Allstock)

was killed. It is understood that this was the only casualty.

A Dover telegram announces the occurrence yesterday of a collision between the Dutch steamer "Bermeo," from Rotterdam to Barry, and the English steamer "Queenswood," bound for Hamburg. The catastrophe, which resulted in severe damage to both vessels, was a result of the fog. Still another collision occurred yesterday between the S. S. "Loanda" and an unknown Spanish vessel. The former craft had to be beached, while the Spanish boat was damaged at the stern. The "Loanda's" crew were safely landed.

BALLOON RACING AT HURLINGHAM.

An international balloon race took place from the Hurlingham club grounds to Maidenhead on Saturday, in which twelve English, thirteen French, three German, one Swiss, and two Belgian balloons participated. The winner was Mr. Pollock, an Englishman, whose balloon "Valkyrie" landed only three hundred yards distant from the designated spot. Another Englishman, Mr. Brewer, came in second.

THE INDIAN FRONTIER EXPEDITION.

Operations against the Mohmands have been brought to a close with the destruction of the Khoda Khel stronghold by the 2nd Brigade. Lieut. Young, of the 67th Punjabis, was dangerously wounded, also ten native rank and file wounded.

THE MURDERS IN EGYPT.

A Civil Court, says a Cairo telegram, was held at Kamlin from May 19 to 23, for the trial of the 23 persons arrested for attacking Government troops at Katfiya. The accused were charged with an offence under the Soudan penal code, the penalty for which is either capital punishment or imprisonment for life and confiscation of property. Five pleaded guilty. The Court found 20 guilty, and acquitted three. Twelve of the guilty were condemned to death, and eight to imprisonment for life, all with confiscation of property. The Court recommended the reduction of some of the sentences.

Later: The twelve death sentences have been commuted to imprisonment for life.

RAILWAY COLLISION IN EGYPT.

At six o'clock on Friday evening the express train from Alexandria for Cairo ran into a goods train which was coming out of a siding between Damanhour and Tantah. It is reported that about six persons were killed and fifty injured, but full details have not yet been received.

Later: The accident occurred at Kuesna, and the casualties were two killed and six seriously, and nine slightly injured. Among those seriously hurt is a Miss Morgan.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

OBSTRUCTION IN THE SENATE.

Senator Lafollette continued his obstructive tactics in the Senate throughout Friday night, thus preventing any progress being made with the Currency Bill. At two o'clock on Saturday morning he announced that he intended to continue his speech until eight, when it is probable that other Senators opposed to the measure relieved him and continued the work of obstruction.

THE AMERICAN WHEAT CORNER.

The corner in wheat which has been manipulated by Mr. James Patten and his friends is still main-

tained, says a New York telegram, despite the frantic efforts of the bears to break it down. Chief among those adversely affected by Mr. Patten's operations is Mr. Armour, and on Saturday the Chicago millionaire made a supreme effort to defeat the bull operator. All day the greatest excitement prevailed in the Chicago Market, but at the close Mr. Patten's position was, if anything, firmer than before, and the price has risen two cents. It is now 81 cents a bushel.

A later telegram from Chicago announces that Mr. Patten, whose dealings in the wheat and corn markets have caused so great a sensation, has declared his intention of carrying his cornering operations no further for the present. Mr. Patten, it is asserted, has now cleared fully two million dollars by his speculations.

PROFESSOR KOCH AND THE LEPERS.

A Honolulu despatch says that Professor Koch has returned there from the leper colony at Molokai, where he studied the arrangements for the care of those afflicted with the terrible disease.

GERMAN CRUISER AT PHILADELPHIA.

The German cruiser "Bremen" arrived at Philadelphia yesterday. Festivities in honour of the officers and crew have been arranged by the German population.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

Congress, says a Washington telegram, adjourned yesterday.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

We hear from Washington that the Senate has adopted the report of the Committee on the currency bill.

NEW SAN DOMINGO PRESIDENT.

The election at San Domingo has resulted in the election of General Cáceres as President of the Republic of San Domingo.

FAMOUS CHAUFFEUR KILLED.

Cedrino, the famous Italian racing chauffeur, was killed instantly on Friday on the Pimlico track at Baltimore. The car skidded and overturned. Cedrino's neck was broken.

THE COTTON STATISTICS FRAUD.

Mr. Theodore H. Price, the speculator in cotton, against whom proceedings are pending on account of alleged unsavoury transactions in connection with the premature publication of the official cotton statistics some years ago, has been released at New York City under bail amounting to \$10,000. Three other individuals are still held in connection with the affair, among them the former assistant of the Bureau of Statistics in Washington, Edward Holmes by name.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL.

In the course of a Ministerial Council held at the Elysée on Saturday, President Fallières told the members how gratified he had been by the consideration of King Edward and the cordial reception of the British public. The Council approved the plan according to which M. Fallières will leave for Scandinavia during the latter half of July, and return at the beginning of August.

(Continued on page 2.)