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Berlin Office:
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The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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

THE FIRST DAILY PAPER IN ENGLISH PUBLISHED IN GERMANY.

№ 719.

DRESDEN AND BERLIN, SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 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.

Monthly Subscription Rates: For the whole of Germany and Austria, mark 1.—. For other countries, marks 2.50.

A WORD IN TIME.

At last an official utterance has been published which should, if properly understood by them, cause those firebrand editors who of late have delighted in giving first rank to their political views anent the visit of King Edward in Reval, the Macedonian question, and—last not least—the reported, though falsely reported speech of Emperor William, to stop their irresponsible remarks and adopt in some measure the dignified and quiet tone which characterizes the article published yesterday in the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*. It is headed:

ON THE PRESENT SITUATION

and reads:

In the judging of the political situation there is an unrest noticeable which cannot be accounted for by any actual facts, but only by a widely spread uncertainty as to whether a new constellation is forming and whether such a constellation could endanger the amicable settlement of pending questions. It would be wrong to deny that difficult diplomatic problems may result. But it should be borne in mind that picturing in an alarmed and exaggerated manner possible dangers is not conducive to a common-sense and wholesome solution such as the interests common to all Powers call for. In times of expectancy, such as we live in now, it is an established fact that people who delight in mischief-making come to the fore. Such times afford the most favourable ground for absurd rumours. And only a cursory glance at the papers suffices to give one an idea of the amount of diligence wherewith such malignant rumours are invented and spread. German politics, however, have especial reason for being on the look out, since nearly all such rumours are directed against them as a common point of attack. For years we have been accustomed to being represented as the real originators of the Russo-Japanese war. No wonder that again at this present moment such stale historical lies are being spread, lies which it would be easy to refute by documentary evidence.

As soon as questions concerning the Near East crop up we hear with remarkable regularity that German counsels are active in Constantinople with a view to imbuing Turkey with a warlike spirit. From this it is only a step to the assertion that the anarchist movement in Persia is fostered by Germany, that Germany sent instructors to Afghanistan, and that Germany is trying to improve her position by inciting the Islam world against Europe. Germany is further being accused of preparing an intervention in Russian Poland, and of maintaining secret communications with Mulai Hafid, &c.; all of these are untruths which could not be substantiated by even the most trifling facts. Unfortunately we have observed that such machinations against Germany are encouraged even in Germany by a love of sensation. In a moment when special significance attaches to questions concerning the Near East, a considerable amount of levity is required to throw on the public the absolutely unfounded information that the German ambassador to the Porte, Baron von Marschall, had been recalled and that he was to be replaced by the Inspector General v. d. Goltz. Still worse is the mischievous publication in the Press, in an unauthenticated and arbitrary form, of utterances made by His Majesty the Emperor in the company of his officers. The prime cause of this widely-spread rumour is the (usual) criticism passed by the Emperor at Döberitz on May 29th on the exercises of the Imperial Brigade, which 20 years before had been led by him as Crownprince past His Majesty the Emperor Frederick in review. This criticism touched only on service details and military matters. It had no reference to political questions of the day. There was no mention made in it of "encircling" and of "bringing to bay," but the Emperor expressed his conviction that the army would, in loyalty to the spirit of Frederic the Great, remain equal to their duties. Surely none of us wish to close their eyes to the possibility of danger. Our soldiers do not bear

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the unwarlike motto of the Hildesheim contingent of the former Imperial army on their caps: *da pacem, domine, in diebus nostris*. The consciousness of our strength may well inspire us with the confidence and repose which alone are worthy of a great peaceful nation."

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE PAN-ANGLICAN CONGRESS.

A woman's voice was the first to ring through the great Albert Hall on Wednesday after the reopening by the chairman of section A of the Pan-Anglican Congress, when the subject for discussion was "Sweated Industries." The chair was occupied by the Coadjutor-Bishop of New Hampshire, who expressed his regret that the Bishop of Birmingham was prevented from presiding through illness.

The speakers were: Miss Constance Smith, Mr. G. R. Askwith, K.C., the Rev. J. H. Dove, of New Zealand, the Rev. Dr. W. E. Chadwick, vicar of St. Giles's, Northampton, the Hon. F. S. Grimwade, of Melbourne, and others.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

B Section of the Congress, which met at Kensington Town Hall, under the chairmanship of the Bishop of Calcutta, gave itself up to a discussion of Christian Science.

The debate was opened (according to the *Globe*) before a densely packed audience by Dr. Eleanor M. Reed, of the United States, who said that while many were inclined to scoff at the reported cures by Christian Science, and to ascribe the supposed results to imagination or hypnotism or mere suggestion, this was not true of those who had honestly investigated evidence. The thesis she suggested was that the cures by Christian Science were the result of physical processes induced by the mental and physical practices of its adherents, and that the results were wholly independent of the question of the truth or error of the tenets by which the practices were inspired.

Dr. M'Comb (Boston, Mass.) said the educated opinion in America regarded Christian Science with amused contempt. Yet at the root of Christian Science there was a great truth, although perverted, and the Church should thank Mrs. Eddy for calling attention to it.

Agnosticism formed the chief subject of the afternoon session, and was dealt with by the Right Rev.

J. E. C. Welldon, Dean of Manchester, who described it as the public profession of ignorance.

THE TERRITORIAL FORCE. UNIFORMS TO BE WORN.

A special Army Order was issued on Tuesday night containing the regulations in regard to the uniform of the Territorial Force.

Except in the cases of corps for which special uniforms have been sanctioned, and which join the Territorial Force as complete units of the same arm, full dress uniform will, as far as possible, conform to that of corresponding units of the Regular Forces, silver lace and white metal buttons and ornaments being substituted for gold lace and gilt metal. Existing Yeomanry regiments wearing gold lace and gilt buttons are permitted to retain these distinctions. The uniform for the ranks will be:—

Mounted Services.—Jacket, drab serge mixture, universal pattern; pantaloons, drab Bedford cord; headdress, service dress cap of universal pattern (units in possession of a slouch hat may continue to wear it in place of or in addition to the cap).

Dismounted Services.—Jacket, drab serge mixture, universal pattern; trousers or knickerbockers, drab mixture; headdress, service dress cap, universal pattern; for Scottish regiments the glengarry cap.

Two suits of uniform will be provided for each man, one of which must be service-dress. The other may be used as an undress or "walking-out" uniform. An annual grant for each efficient non-commissioned officer and man is sanctioned for the maintenance of clothing and equipment, and will be paid to the county association.

Officers will wear uniform similar to that of the Regular Army, with certain modifications. Units that desire for any special reason to obtain permission to wear gold lace and gilt ornaments must submit applications through county associations for consideration. Each case will be considered on its merits.

Men who have been returned as efficient four times may wear on the right forearm a star made of silk or worsted. The four returns of efficiency need not be in consecutive years, nor in the same unit. An additional star may be worn for every further aggregate of four years.

Previous efficient service in the Yeomanry or Volunteers will count towards the award of this badge.

EXTRADITION REFUSED.

Halifax (Nova Scotia), June 16.

A man named Kouko Fulman Kalke, who was arrested on a steamer which arrived from Liverpool, and has been in custody here for several months on a charge of embezzlement preferred by the Russian Government, was released today. Russia sought the extradition of Kalke, but the Court refused on the ground of the ambiguity and incompleteness of the charges.

NEW ZEALAND LABOUR SHORTAGE.

Wellington, June 17.

Sir J. G. Ward, the Premier, speaking at Gisborne regarding native lands, stated that by the end of the present year there would be 1,500,000 acres available for settlement.

Mr. McNab, Minister of Lands and Agriculture, interviewed at Christchurch, declared that unskilled farm labourers were required in every part of the Dominion, and good wages were offered to able-bodied men. The shortage of labour in the country was likely to be more severe in the future than at present, because a huge area of land would be opened up in the north island.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

NOMINATION OF MR. TAFT FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

The Republican National Convention have nominated Mr. Taft as the party's candidate for the Presidency.

At the sitting of the Convention on Thursday, after the rejection of the report of the minority of the Resolutions Committee, the Convention adopted by acclamation the report of the majority of that

(Continued on page 2.)