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GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, June 29. In reply to a question as to the seizure of the English steam trawler "Arcadia" by a German torpedo boat off Norderney for fishing in German territorial waters, Mr. Pease, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said that the facts were as had been stated, and that the captain of the vessel had furnished a report to Sir Edward Grey through the British Consul at Hamburg, who had instructed the Vice-Consul at Cuxhaven to keep the case in view. The Secretary of State had also given orders that the exact spot where the trawler was at the time of the seizure should be ascertained. Mr. Pease added that there was no reason for supposing that the German Court would come to any decision contrary to the treaty obligations of Germany or to the stipulations of international law. A final opinion on the details of the case could not be given until after the hearing before the German Court.

DEATH OF AN EX-AMBASSADOR.

London, June 29. Sir Edward Malet, formerly Ambassador to the Court of Berlin, died yesterday.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE MEXICAN UNREST.

New York, June 29. A telegram from El Paso states that the Mexican Government is sending troops in haste to all places where order has been disturbed. Travellers arriving at El Paso report that the bridges of all the railway lines leading to Torreon, except the Mexican Central Railway, have been destroyed. In Torreon 1,500 men are ready to resist an attack by the revolutionaries who have occupied Matamoras.

U.S. TROOPS TO THE MEXICAN BOUNDARY.

Washington, June 30.

By order of President Roosevelt the commander of the Texas troops has been instructed to send as many troops to the Mexican frontier as may be needed there for the maintenance of orderly conlitions and for the prevention of violations of the

U.S. FINANCES.

New York, June 29. The finances of the Union will show tomorrow, the last day of the financial year, a deficit of some sixty million dollars; whereas the previous year closed with a surplus of 83,222,961 dollars. Inland axes and dues show a decrease of 20 millions; but, next to the increased expenditure, the coniderable falling off in the amount of Customs revenue is the most remarkable and unsatisfactory eature of the accounts. The import of costly commodities has diminished in consequence of the general depression. The total decrease in Customs receipts is 60,000,000 dollars. The value of imports in New York harbour alone was 137,888,066 ess than in the previous year, automobiles and lewellery in particular showing a great reduction.

GRAF ZEPPELIN'S AIR-SHIP.

ANOTHER ASCENT.

Friedrichshafen, June 29. Graf Zeppelin's air-ship left its shed at 11.45 a.m., and was towed out about a mile towards the middle of Lake Constance. At 12.25 the ascent began.

Slowly and surely the ship rose, the wind meanwhile freshening from SW., and steered first for Constance. Then turning to Romanshorn, it successfully executed various manoeuvres along the shore. Between Romanshorn and Arbon a turn was made lakewards in the direction of Friedrichshafen. The wind, which had been blowing for an hour from the SW. now shifted gradually to NW., so that the ship's course was against the wind. At half-past 2 the air-ship was again over Friedrichshafen, when it turned towards Constance and was soon out of sight. Today's ascent was only a working trial with the altered and enlarged steering apparatus astern, which has so far proved favourable. The greatest height attained was about 1,000 feet. The long journey to Mayence will probably begin on Thursday.

Graf Zeppelin's air-ship made an average speed of 55.6 kilometers (35 miles) an hour, and attained a height of 250 meters (820 feet) by driving power only, without throwing out ballast. Wireless telegraphic communication from the ship was tried with gratifying success. Off Romanshorn, at 2.45 p. m. a descent to the surface of the lake was made, which occupied about a quarter of an hour, the Zeppelin motor boat being in attendance. The ship then proceeded along the Swiss shore nearly as far as Rorschach, whence it sailed before the wind to Friedrichshafen. At 4.30 p. m. it was off Manzell and there carried out several turning manoeuvres, then steered for Constance and stopped there some time; but continued its course along the Swiss shore, and finally descended to the lake at halfpast six o'clock about two miles from the shed. Thence it was towed home by the motor boat.

ALLEGED MURDER BY A CIRCUS DIRECTOR.

Munich, June 29. Frau Seisele, the chief witness in the Niederhofer trial, now accuses the former circus director David Niederhofer, whose death sentence for the murder of the Herr Henschel has been commuted to one of penal servitude for life, of having also murdered a rich young giantess and stolen her diamond ornaments.

NEWS FROM FRANCE.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN FRANCE.

Paris, June 30. It is reported in Parliamentary circles that M. Briand, the Minister of Education, will accept the recommendation of the Committee of the Chamber in favour of the continuance of capital punishment, but will oppose executions in public. The Minister will also propose that, in case of the commutation of a death sentence by the President, the alternative punishment of imprisonment shall be made specially severe.

NEWS FROM ITALY.

THE FIAT AUTOMOBILE COMPANY.

Turin, June 29. According to statements in the Stampa and Gazzetta del Popolo a search was made by the police yesterday under judicial warrants in the houses of the President and two of the Directors of the Fiat automobile Company. Another such visit was paid to the offices of the Company. The Gazzetta di Torino says that the Directors of the Company are accused of having, in order to conceal the operations of a member of the Board, falsified the accounts of 1906 by entering in them important sales that never took place. The Gazzetta di Torino asserts that the allegation of fraud was repudiated by the President at the last meeting

and that the accusations referred to earlier business transactions. The Board of Directors of the Fiat Company has energetically protested against the domiciliary visits.

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

FATAL FLOODS IN RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, June 29. Owing to a cloud-burst which occurred among the hills near Alexandropol, torrents rushed down into the town, and swept away more than 100 people. Hitherto 37 bodies have been recovered.

SORRY WELCOME TO BALLOONISTS.

Warsaw, June 29. A German officer and two civilians who landed from a balloon near Petrikau on Saturday night were taken today under a strong guard to Warsaw.

GAMBLING IN OSTEND.

Brussels, June 29. A great demonstration took place yesterday in Ostend in consequence of the closing of a gambling club. The crowd of demonstrators marched in a long procession with bands of music to the Kursaal and there made a great noise in honour of Director Marquet, who has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for contravention of the betting laws. The procession then marched to the Town Hall, where the leaders lodged a petition, to be forwarded to the King, praying for the repeal of the laws against gambling in Ostend and Spaa, The Kursaal is occupied by police officials.

LABOUR RIOT IN SWEDEN.

Gottenburg, June 29. On the arrival here today of 350 English non-Unionist workmen, street demonstrations commenced on a large scale. When the police attempted to disperse the mob, they were received with a volley of stones and some shots were fired. Several persons were hurt, and a fire broke out during the disturbances in a large wood-store.

PERSIAN AFFAIRS.

Taebris, June 28. The President and one member of the Endjumen have sought refuge in the Russian Consulate General. In the evening the Consul General was approached by representatives of the active opposition party in the town, with a view to his mediation for the restoration of peace and order. At his suggestion the firing was stopped.

Taebris, June 29. The Russian Consul General, accompanied by his secretary and a dragoman, and escorted by 30 Cossacks, drove through the parts of the town in which fighting has occurred. There has been no firing today. A meeting has been held at the Consulate by inhabitants of the disturbed quarters of the town, to discuss measures for restoring order.

A report from Urmia dated Monday stated that all was then quiet in the town and neighbourhood.

MOROCCAN AFFAIRS.

Oran, June 29. On the receipt of a report that an officer who was surveying near Ainreyda, in the Udjda district had been attacked by Moroccans, a mounted company of Goumiers was sent to the spot. The Moroccans were dispersed with considerable loss after a short engagement. The French suffered no

(Continued on page 4.)