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# The Daily Record

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# GENERAL NEWS.

### NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

London, July 30.

The Old Age Pensions Bill and the Irish Universities Bill were read for a third time in the House of Lords today.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, July 30.

Mr. Arthur Stanley asked the First Lord of the Admiralty whether, having regard to the fact that German destroyers of the current year's programme had already been laid down, he would consider the advisability of spending more than £4,000 a-piece before March 31 next on the 16 destroyers to be laid down by Great Britain.

Mr. McKenna replied that the question of the naval expenditure on the shipbuilding programme in the current financial year was fully considered by the Board of Admiralty when the vote for ship construction was brought before Parliament in the present month. The vote was approved so recently as the 13th inst.

Mr. Arthur Stanley asked the right hon, gentleman whether he would consider the necessity of increasing the number of destroyers especially designed for work in the North Sea, having regard to the fact that Germany has 60 of 26 knots so designed.

Mr. McKenna: The number of destroyers was being increased annually in accordance with requirements.

Mr. C. Wason asked whether, in the interests of peace and friendly relations between great nations, the First Lord would consider the inadvisability of answering questions drawing invidious comparisons.

Mr. McKenna said he objected most strongly to such questions.

Mr. Bellairs asked the First Lord on what date the orders were given for the three German battleships of the 1908-9 programme; and whether he could state if the fourth armoured vessel of this year's programme had yet been ordered by Germany, when he anticipated that the design of the armoured cruiser of this year's British programme would have been settled, and when the Board propose to lay down this vessel and the other armoured ship of the 1908-9 programme.

Mr. McKenna said they had no official information that orders had yet been given by Germany, although it was understood from the Press that the three battleships were allotted to various builders in June. No information had yet been published with regard to the fourth armoured vessel. The type of the armoured cruiser had already been settled by the Admiralty; it was an improved 'Invincible.' The complete design would be settled not later than October. It was proposed to lay it down at Devonport in February, 1909, and to complete her in two years. They would lay down the other armoured ship in 1909, and complete her in two years.

In reply to a question as to the danger alleged to have existed in the manoeuvre ordered by Lord Charles Beresford, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. McKenna, said that the Admiralty Court had examined the situation of the fleet at the time the signal for the manoeuvre was given, and was satisfied that the manoeuvre was in nowise dangerous. (Cheers.) When Rear-Admiral Scott believed that the carrying out of the order would have involved danger, he was justified in taking another course, and Lord Charles Beresford signalled to him to that effect at the proper time.

Sir George Doughty asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what compensation the German Government proposed to make to the owners and crew of the British fishing boat "General" for her illegal seizure by a German gunboat in May last.

Sir Edward Grey replied that no claim had as yet been submitted to the German Government; that he was awaiting the official report of the enquiry; and that the matter was receiving his careful attention.

THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE MOVEMENT.

At a meeting of the International Arbitration League today a resolution was unanimously passed,

assuring the German people that the people of the United Kingdom have no feeling of hostility against Germany but would welcome a closer cooperation of both countries.

The independent group of the Labour party in the House of Commons has resolved to send to Herr Bebel, the leader of the Social Democrat party in the German Reichstag, a copy of the resolutions passed by the group, condemning the recent attempts to create feelings of ill-will between Germany and England. The group further resolved to send a deputation of the Labour party to Germany, there to enter into communication with municipal authorities.

### NAVAL VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA.

London, July 30.

It has been decided that a squadron of firstclass armoured cruisers shall visit South Africa
during the autumn, at the time of the approaching
convention for the Federation of the South African
Colonies.

Rear-Admiral Sir Percy Scott will be in command of the squadron, which will consist of his present flagship the "Good Hope," and the cruisers "Antrim," "Carnarvon," and "Devonshire," of the Second Cruiser Squadron. Rear-Admiral C. H. Adair will remain in his present flagship, the "Drake," and take command of the First Cruiser Squadron, in Sir Percy Scott's place.

### NEWS FROM AMERICA.

### MR. TAFT UNDER FIRE.

A contemporary reports from Cincinnati that the steamboat "Island Queen" was fired on during her trip up the Ohio River on Tuesday night with Mr. Taft, the members of the Republican notification committee and several guests on board. Mrs. C. B. Russell, who was standing on the hurricane deck below the seat occupied by Mr. Taft, was struck in the face and breast by small shot, but was not seriously injured. A young man standing near also was hit.

Mr. C. B. Russell said: "I was standing by my wife's side, but was not hit. It was lucky that we were not closer to the Ohio shore. I saw the man plainly, and at first thought him merely an enthusiastic celebrator. I don't like to believe the shot was fired with malicious intent. It may have been only chance that a spent shot struck just below where Mr. Taft was sitting."

### NEWS FROM FRANCE.

## SANGUINARY STRIKE RIOTS.

Vigneux, July 30.

A crowd of several thousand strikers assembled here today, carrying red flags, and receiving the troops by singing the "Internationale" and with loud cries of "Down with the Army." Stones were thrown and revolver shots fired against the dragoons, who were ordered to disperse the mob, but there were no casualties. The demonstrators then marched off through the fields, followed by a detachment of dragoons, who were fired on several times. During the tumult that followed a captain of gendarmes was badly hurt. The soldiers charged and drove the crowd back towards Villeneuve. Several people were injured.

Vigneux, July 31.

The riots were renewed here today with fatal results. Twenty times were the demonstrators ordered to disperse, and the troops fired four volleys in the air before the order finally came to fire on the crowd. Two strikers were found dead on the ground, another dying while being conveyed to hospital. Fifteen were suffering from sabre cuts. Two officers sustained cuts and bruises from the fusillade of stones; three soldiers were badly injured, and some twenty slightly hurt. Reinforcements to the member of 500 men have been sent from Paris to the disturbed district.

### THE AMNESTY IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

Constantinople, July 30.

All common prisoners were released from the prisons in Constantinople today. Public enthusiasm for the Constitution continues unabated, and the oath of fidelity to the new system, sworn by the Sultan yesterday, has made a further good impression.

## PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN NOTES.

(From our New York correspondent.)

THE PARTY CONVENTIONS AND THE PRESS. As the Republican National Convention at Chicago was from the first minute entirely under the influence of Rooseveltism, so at Denver the Democrat Convention was swayed from first to last by Bryanism. All the prophecies in which many of the newspapers had indulged of lively opposition showing itself at the respective Conventions against Roosevelt-Taft or against Bryan, proved to be fables. The leaders of both parties had their reins well in hand, and the business was in each case settled as quickly, surely, and smoothly as if—to borrow a metaphor from the American Press—the leaders had driven a steam roller over the Conventions.

So far as outward appearances went, the Demoeratic Convention differed from the Republican in that it established a new record for political enthusiasm. In Chicago the name of Roosevelt was frantically cheered for 45 minutes. It seems as if a good many of the visitors to Denver attended the Democratic meeting with the express intention of breaking all records of Convention enthusiasm. The very first official mention at the Convention of the name Bryan was seized upon as an opportunity. It was 17 minutes past 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the second day of the Convention when the blind delegate from Oklahoma, Senator Gore, mounted the platform. A minute later the name of Bryan fell from his lips. It was as a match applied to a powder magazine. The speech then and there ended, in the middle of a sentence, and there followed a demonstration in favour of the son of Nebraska which for enthusiasm was unparalleled in the annals of American political gatherings. Delegates and spectators jumped up on their chairs, waving flags, hats, coats and handkerchiefs and shouting with all their might. The Convention Hall, which holds 12,000 people, was crowded, and actually shook with the tumult. The heat in the building was intense. When the storm of cheering had continued for more than an hour and appeared to be increasing in vehemence, the Chairman endeavoured to subdue it with a few vigorous raps with his hammer. He was unsuccessful. Then he sent for a large wooden mallet and hammered with both hands, but without result, except that of adding to the din. Two sturdy Democrats, each armed with a mallet, went to his assistance and all three hammered together in regular rhythm and with great energy. Quiet was only restored when the delegates and public were exhausted and could shout no more, and that was at 10 minutes to 3 o'clock. Thus, in their capability of enthusiasm, the Democrats had beaten the Republicans.

Agreeable as such enthusiasm must have been to the party leaders on either side, it weighed heavily on the shoulders, or rather on the pens and pencils, of the huge army of newspaper men that was arrayed at both Conventions and had to report in detail everything that occurred before and behind the scenes. What a weight of work the reporting of the two Conventions entailed, not only on the pressmen but on the telegraphists, may be judged from the following figures. The Press messages despatched by the telegraph companies of Chicago on the Republican Convention comprised about 5,500,000 words. On the average, 700,000 words a day were telegraphed to the newspapers throughout the country during the eight days that the Convention lasted. In one case a message of 6,000 words was despatched in 40 minutes. Those figures include the special messages of the newspapers, but not those of the Press agency The Associated Press, which sent reports of the Convention totalling 50,000 words a day to its subscribers over its own wires. The figures of the Denver reporting have not yet been fully made up;" but a cursory comparison of the two achievements already shows that money was no object in the reporting on the Democratic side.

# WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY

of the Royal Saxon Meteorological Institute.

Moderate north-westerly winds, variable skies, somewhat cooler, rain at times with partial thunderstorms.