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THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ESPERANTO CONGRESS.

Here in Dresden, at the end of a strikingly successful week's work, and at the very moment when the closing meeting of the Congress was being held and the walls of the Vereinshaus were reverberating with a whole-hearted ovation to Dr. Zamenhof, it is a little surprising, though not in the least disconcerting, to read badinage of the kind contained in the following lines, taken from a London contemporary:—

"It may or may not have been noticed that the Esperanto Congress, which one was told was triumphantly successful last year at Cambridge, meets this year at Dresden under a cloud. For there is a split among the faithful, a schism among the orthodox. Bold disciples of Dr. Zamenhof hint that he is packing the Congress, and eliminating such delegates as he finds inconvenient. He is arbitrary, for he will not accept their reforms; but the remedy of the discontented is so obvious that they have already acted on it. They, too, had a universal language up their sleeve: and 'Ido' is, has been, or will be—we do not know which, the world takes so little notice of its greatest benefactors—put forth in competition with Esperanto, Volapuk, and a few others. The whole root of the trouble, it would appear, lies in the question of an accent; but it is not very easy to see how such troubles are to be avoided. If the inventor of a language is not to be allowed to do what he likes with his possession; if he has to go about in fear that every disciple will shortly start a new language of his own, well, the life of an inventor of languages will not be worth living, and one great source of amusement for the world will be lost. For the present, however, while Esperanto struggles with Ido, one need not fear any lack of fun. But there will one day be more universal tongues than ordinary languages."

Since reading those lines a *Daily Record* representative has had an interview with Dr. Mybs, the President of the Dresden Congress, and we have his authority for stating that there has been not the slightest indication of a "split" or any shade of disagreement among the 1,500 Esperantists of many nationalities whose signatures are on the Congress books; but that, on the contrary, the week has been throughout a signal tribute to Dr. Zamenhof and to the value of his universal language. No other has been heard in the Congress, except the native tongues of not-yet-but-will-be Esperantists, and who, so far as any rival auxiliary language is concerned, are among the most eager of Dr. Zamenhof's disciples. "Enthusiastic" is the only word to describe the spirit in which the members of the Congress separate. If the evidence of our own senses were not enough, we have the testimony, than which nothing could have been more emphatic, of German, French, Spanish, and English Esperantist members that the Dresden Congress has been a complete and brilliant success. The opening, with Dr. Zamenhof's grateful acknowledgment of the Royal, Ministerial, and municipal recognition and support accorded to him; the performance of the Goethe-Gluck musical drama at the Royal Opera, the triumph of which, over and above the technical triumph of Esperanto as exhibited by the chief performers, consisted in making the great, mixed audience acquainted with Germany's greatest poet; the ball on Friday evening; and, finally, the ovation to Dr. Zamenhof at the closing meeting yesterday;

each and all together were in the highest degree satisfactory. At the final meeting yesterday an English speaker said that, great as was the success of the Cambridge Congress, the Dresden Congress has surpassed it in its propagandist efficacy.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE WIGAN COLLIERY DISASTER.
London, August 21.
According to a telegram from Wigan, thick clouds of smoke were issuing from the Maypole colliery. Experts believe that another explosion has occurred. King Edward has sent a message of sympathy to the Mayor of Wigan.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE IN BERLIN.
London, August 21.
The *Daily Chronicle* publishes a report from its Berlin correspondent that he was authorized by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to state that the exclusive object of his visit to Berlin was to study the German system of old-age pensions and insurance against sickness, and that the visit had nothing whatever to do with international policy; all statements and suppositions to the contrary were baseless, whether in Germany or in England. The Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs were quite in accord with what was being done by Mr. Lloyd George, who had from the first resolved to discuss every important point with his two colleagues in the Cabinet. It was quite a matter of course that neither Mr. Asquith nor Sir Edward Grey thought for a moment that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would in any way exceed his official instructions or that any interference with their respective departments would occur.

DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.
Reuter telegraphs from The Hague that Sir Henry Howard, the British Minister, will retire from his position on October 1. It is thought that he will probably be succeeded by Sir Alan Johnstone, Minister at Copenhagen, or Sir W. Conyngham Greene, Minister at Bucharest.

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S HOLIDAY.
New York, August 21.
Mr. Roosevelt is expected to leave on his South African shooting tour by a White Star liner, sailing on March 7 next. He will embark on a Castle liner at Madeira, and will arrive in Cape Town on March 21. It is announced that the White Star Company will provide a special shooting gallery on the deck of the vessel on which Mr. Roosevelt sails, in order that he may practise en voyage.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES AUTOMOBILISTS.
President Roosevelt on Thursday, at Oyster Bay, received the automobilists who drove the American car in the New York to Paris race.

HUNGARIAN CRIMINALS CAUGHT IN NEW YORK.
New York, August 21.
A band of robbers and murderers who had fled from Hungary, and evaded the police of several

European countries, were arrested on landing from a steamer today. The New York police will send them back at once to Hamburg. They formed one of the bands most dreaded in Hungary, the last outrage with which they are charged being the murder of a merchant in Waizen, whom they had robbed of 40,000 kron.

SAFETY OF MISS PECK.
New York, August 21.
A cablegram has been received from Lima announcing that Miss Annie Peck, the lady mountaineer, who (as stated in the *Daily Record* yesterday) had been missing since accomplishing the ascent of Mount Huascaran last week, is safe. Her party experienced numerous exciting adventures during the dangerous descent.

MOTOR ACCIDENT IN MINNEAPOLIS.
New York, August 21.
A terrible motor accident, as the result of which two persons have lost their lives, and a third has been fatally injured, is reported in a dispatch from Minneapolis.
Mr. John Glueck, a rich brewer, residing in the district, was motoring in company with his wife and a New York lady named Mrs. Emma Libaire. Their automobile collided with a train on a level crossing, and Mr. and Mrs. Glueck were killed instantaneously, while Mrs. Libaire sustained such terrible injuries that she is not expected to recover. Mrs. Libaire is a well-known member of a New York choir.

U.S. OFFICERS AND NEW ZEALAND.
Wellington, August 21.
The Government Bureau reports that a considerable number of officers of the U.S. Fleet called at the Bureau and made inquiries with regard to settling in New Zealand. Some of them spoke of making a start here when their periods of service have expired. Many expressed their admiration of the country, which they regard as a splendid place in which to settle.

Sydney, August 21.
An officer of the "Connecticut," in an interview, stated that not until the enthusiasm of the visit to New Zealand had quieted down could its full significance be realised. The sentiment underlying the cordial reception of the U.S. Fleet was, he said, one of most genuine friendship, based on racial affinity, on common language, religion, and institutions, and on a community of interests. No one in the Fleet doubted that the people of New Zealand felt that the coming of the Fleet to Australasia was the recognition of a future of identical interests in the Pacific, having in view the preservation of the Anglo-Saxon States for their own people.
While the Washington Government had assured the world that the cruise was a practical cruise for the development of the Fleet, the world at large, especially the people of New Zealand, saw a much greater motive in it.

ANOTHER CHINO-JAPANESE DISPUTE.
Peking, August 21.
The arrest and fatal maltreatment of a Chinaman, who was formerly an officer in the Japanese army, by Japanese soldiers in the house of an official in the War Department, has caused a serious difference with Japan. The Wai-wu-pu is by no means satisfied with the apologies tendered.