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THE WORLD'S UNREST.

At irregular intervals, the scientists tell us, the earth's crust gives indications of disturbances which may involve one or both of the hemispheres. Volcanos, which for ages have lain dormant, break into sudden and violent eruption; islands disappear, and new ones arise in the course of a few hours to take their place. The elements composing the globe would appear to wage internecine warfare, with results frequently disastrous to terrestial inhabitants. The solar system, too, is not exempt from similar phenomena, but unrest among the heavenly bodies rarely influences this sphere on account of its comparitive remoteness. Mankind, in common with the countless other component parts of the vast universe, is subject to periodical waves of unrest, one of which is manifestly sweeping over the world today. It would be difficult to point to a period in modern history when such widespread symptoms of internal and external derangement were visible in so many countries as is undoubtedly the case now. All the great nations and a number of minor States are occupied with problems arising out of home or foreign affairs, many of which contain the germs of devastating conflict; and nothing but the maintenance of good sense and the exercise of strong self-control can render these pernicious germs innocuous. On every hand there is talk of ancient institutions tottering on their fundations, and threatening to involve in their fall the fortunes of unnumbered millions. Here and there a long-sustained political system collapses without noise, the débris being utilised as a base for the erection of a nobler structure. The downfall of Turkish autocracy is a case in point, though subsequent events have constituted a serious menace to the new and enlightened régime which it is to be hoped will replace the maladministration of Abdul Hamid and his entourage of sycophants. But though the collapse of the old system seemed for a time to be isolated and purely beneficial in its effects, the ultimate result has not yet been reached, and no man may foretell the end with certainty. That highly inflammable territory collectively designated the Balkan Peninsula has been brought perilously near to ignition by the bloodless revolution at Constantinople, Turkey, Austria-Hungary, Servia, and Montenegro have all been drawn into the vortex, and that they may each extricate themselves without further endangering the peace of Europe appears at the moment a prospect only to be held by the extreme

Morocco is another example of the prevailing unrest. That remote country has done more to set Europe by the ears than any circumstance in recent history. It is true that the smouldering fire of international distrust occasioned by events in the land of the Moors has been temporarily dampened by diversions nearer home, but it has by no means been extinguished for good and all. At any moment the flames may break out afresh, to threaten the somewhat flimsy structure on which universal tranquillity at present rests for want of a firmer foundation. In England the demon of disquiet is raising his awesome head in the shape of a concerted movement amongst the working classes towards a more equable share in the good things of life. Anti-revolutionary by temperament and tradition, the England of today is face to face with a condition of affairs which in former times and in other lands has precipitated economic cataclysms. The urgent question of unemployment is too complicated to be dealt with at length here, as has been done to some extent in previous issues, but to the casual observer it is quite evident that this questions bids fair to become the paramount issue in Great Britain. It cannot be expected that many thousands of men and women, unable to obtain the barest means of existence by honest or dishonest means, will be content to lie down and die without making some strong protest against the social condition under which their unhappy state has been brought about. The isolated outbreaks that have so far occurred are, it is to be feared, only a prelude to other and infinitely graver manifestations of popular revolt. The betterment of the living conditions of the working classes is a problem demanding the immediate and whole-hearted attention of every British statesman and politician, if sheer anarchy is not to become rampant in the land. We have mentioned but a few of the symptoms of that wave of unrest which now engulfs the world. Their name is legion, and their

possibilities of dangerous development are incalculable.



H. G. B. Peters

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It is impossible to ignore the fact that we are today standing at the threshold of great happenings, which are likely to disturb the equilibrium attained by the world after the bounteous years of peace and prosperity with which it has been favoured.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, October 20. A member of the House having asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in case of Russia coming to an agreement with Turkey as to the free passage of Russian ships through the Dardanelles, the British Government would make their consent to that agreement dependent on the granting of similar rights to British ships, Sir Edward Grey replied that the Dardanelles question was not one of the points that would be considered by a Conference. In his opinion, it would only add to the difficulties of the situation to enter upon a discussion of questions with which it was not at this moment necessary to deal. The honourable member who asked the question might, however, rest assured that, in every discussion of this matter, the Government would take care that British interests did not suffer.

In answer to a further question, whether the British Government believed that the matter could be settled between Russia and Turkey, Sir Edward Grey said he did not consider the moment opportune for referring to the subject (Hear, hear). With regard to the officers attached to the Macedonian gendarmerie, the Minister stated that the Turkish Government had not yet replied to an enquiry by the Powers as to the withdrawal of these officers. In any case, the Government would not recall officers whom the Turkish Government wished to retain in the service.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S PROPOSED VISIT. (From our own correspondent.)

London, October 19. Rarely has a public announcement created such lively interest and unbounded satisfaction as that made in the London press last week, to the effect that Mr. Roosevelt will, after the conclusion of his hunting trip in Africa, pay a visit to England. It is stated on good authority that the distinguished guest will deliver the Romanes Lecture at Oxford University in 1910, and will presumably be the

recipient of an honorary degree at the Encaenia. All the newspapers print articles, couched in the warmest terms, on the subject of this impending visit, and this circumstance furnishes striking proof of the great personal popularity of the President amongst all classes in England. It is not difficult to discover the causes of this popularity. The President, by his persistent and courageous fight against the unclean elements in American politics, and his robust and essentially manly conduct of that campaign, has strongly appealed to British sentiment; more so, indeed, than any other American chief executive.

The Times publishes a particularly sympathetic leading article dealing with Mr. Roosevelt's proposed visit. "His reputation (Mr. Roosevelt's)," it says, is secure in this country as that of the greatest American President who has appeared since the days of Abraham Lincoln. The greatness of Lincoln was for many reasons not universally recognised or acknowledged in this country until after his premature and tragic death. But the hand of the assassin, which robbed the Republic too soon of the services of Lincoln, bestowed upon it, in a sense, those of Theodore Roosevelt; and the whole world followed from its start with peculiar interest the Presidential career of the man who, in the ordinary course of American politics, seems destined to a future of comparatively restricted political importance. Mr. Roosevelt represents, in origin, a different phase of American social life from that of the great President of the people; nor does it appear, indeed, of slight advantage for the even and wholesome expansion of the Republican future that a position of unusual power and influence should have been won, in fair turn, by a President who belongs more to the social type of Washington than of Andrew Jackson. Distinctions of this kind, however, carry little weight in American politics.

It is reported here this morning that, if time permits, Mr. Roosevelt, when he comes to England in 1910, will extend his visit to Ireland. It will interest Daily Record readers to learn that there is good reason for believing that his itinerary may also be extended so as to include a brief visit to Berlin, whence he some time ago received a cordial invitation.

SUFFRAGETTES IN CONCLAVE,

London, October 20. Queen's Hall was crowded yesterday afternoon when the Women's Social and Political Union held an "At Home," and there was quite a crowd outside anxious to witness the arrival of the three ladies who are to appear on remand at Bow-street on Wednesday on a charge of inciting the people to rush the House of Commons. The guests were received by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mrs. Pankhurst, and the presentation to Miss Christabel Pankhurst of a beautiful bouquet was the signal for hearty applause.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who presided, said that rather than put into practice the Liberal principle of taxation with representation the present Government preferred to send 300 women to prison and preferred to call out 6,000 policemen to protect the House of Commons from a deputation of a few women (laughter). They had met to hear Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst perhaps for the last time ("No"). She meant for the last time for a few weeks or months (laughter and applause). They were glad, satisfied, and thankful for the results of Tuesday's demonstration. There was no injury to life or damage to property, and the only bill against them was for two windows broken. They held up the traffic, as they said they would, for four hours, and they rushed the House of Commons in the person of one woman. With regard to the latter event members of Parliament now talked about a lack of honour among women. That, she thought, was rather like the pot calling the kettle "smutty" (laughter).

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence afterwards warmly contradicted the story published in the London Press as having been told by an M.P. of a Suffragette having approached him in Palace Yard, and, when a policeman approached, embracing him round the neck. That, she said, was an attack upon the honour of the women—an honour which had been established before the world. It would not do, in a woman's movement, she said, if every woman could not show a stainless reputation. To the members of the House of Commons she said: "Leave off talking this nonsense about a sense of honour till you have cut dead in your own house this defiler of every standard of good breeding" (applause). (Continued on page 4.)