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The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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A SHAMEFUL SIGHT.

And 'tis a shameful sight,
When children of one family
Fall out and chide and fight.

It would be almost impossible to imagine a more complete fiasco than the recent Olympic Games in London proved to be, so far as their ostensible object of promoting a cordial spirit of friendly rivalry was concerned. From start to finish the proceedings were marred by perpetual bickerings between the officials of the Stadium and those responsible for the management of the American competitors. At an early stage in the Games unpleasant murmurings made themselves heard from the benches where American visitors had flocked to witness the athletic prowess of their compatriots. Exception was taken to practically all the conditions governing the sports, and especially prominent among the dissentients was Mr. James Sullivan, American Commissioner to the Olympic Games, who saw fit to comment upon the British Amateur Athletic Association in terms characterised by rank discourtesy and ignorance of sportsmanlike etiquette. Into the details of that deplorable controversy we do not propose to re-enter, the situation having been reviewed in an impartial manner by our London correspondent at the time. Indeed, the whole matter should have been allowed to remain in that limbo to which all such unpleasant happenings should be promptly relegated, but a recrudescence of the episode has been aggravated by a message from across the Atlantic to the effect that the Amateur Athletic Union of America has declared that "the athletes registered with the Union will not be allowed to compete in future international events unless the management of such events is approved by the Union." It is easy to trace the issue of this pompous platitude to the influence of Mr. Sullivan, who is president of the Union. A platitude it is, in as much as the Union entered its athletes for the Olympic Games on just such an understanding. The proclamation therefore resolves itself into a fresh thrust at the British management of the Games. Those gentlemen, whatever abuses may have been laid to their charge, refrained at least from diligently sowing seeds of discord between the sporting communities of Great Britain and the United States several months after the original controversy had been forgotten by the public at large. Several of the American officials, immediately upon their return home, busied themselves with supplying to representatives of third-rate newspapers material for copy of a nature eminently calculated to convey to the American public an impression that sport in England had become a byword for unfairness, trickery, and gross favouritism, and that the English umpires were to a man prevaricators and bigots.

The American sprinter Carpenter, it will be remembered, was disqualified for what the judges were unanimous in calling a gross violation of the most elementary rules of cinderpath racing, as recognised both in England and everywhere else. The consensus of opinion was against him, only the ultra-enthusiastic among his countrymen setting aside the judges' decision and refusing to view the matter with impartial eyes. But the malcontents lost no time in sending off vitriolic despatches to certain journals which cater to the "tail-twisting" element in America, and so the canard spread that fair-play had ceased to exist in England. Among sportsmen—using the designation in its literal sense—there is an unwritten law to the effect that the umpire's decision is final, and a defeated competitor who makes himself ridiculous by his inability to accept a reverse in a manly fashion is blackballed. This principle was rigidly carried into effect by American sportsmen themselves in 1895, when Lord Dunraven contested the American Cup with his yacht "Valkyrie." The circumstances of that contest were so analogous to the Olympic dispute that they are worth recalling for purposes of comparison. During the race of September 10, 1895, the British yacht was rapidly overtaking the American "Defender," when, from some cause never thoroughly explained, the "Valkyrie" fouled the American's boom, with the result that the race, although the challenger finished 47 seconds ahead, was awarded to the defender. The second race was arranged two days later, but Lord Dunraven, the owner of the challenger, withdrew his yacht on the ground that the Ame-



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rican officials were guilty of favouritism, so that the defender had a walk-over in the last race. The unfortunate English nobleman was a target for all manner of abuse in the American press at the time. He was stigmatised as "no sportsman" because he disagreed with the decision of the judges. We commend the careful study of this historic incident to Mr. Sullivan and his satellites as a more profitable and manly employment than the stirring-up of bad blood between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon race. Cordial co-operation is a feature of all competitions wherein Britishers and Americans engage, when they are unhindered by the officious interference of incompetent managers; but if, as it appears, athletic contests cannot be arranged without the assistance of biased officials on both sides, in the interests of Anglo-American relations it is fervently to be hoped that we may be spared for many a long year the repetition of such competitions as the recent Olympic Games, which were finally converted into a mud-slinging spectacle happily without parallel in the annals of sport.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

SIR EDWARD GREY ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
London, November 19.
In a speech delivered at Scarborough today Sir Edward Grey, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said the question in dispute between France and Germany in Morocco had been settled in a manner consistent with the dignity of both countries, and that the agreement had heightened the feeling of confidence and respect between the two States. With reference to the debate in the German Reichstag Sir Edward Grey remarked: "The only reason I have for alluding to this subject is that the circumstances under which the debate took place were such that the representatives of the various parties in Germany were moved to express their views with unusual freedom. In spite of that freedom, every one will have remarked that not a single word fell from the representatives of any party that could be construed as indicating hostility to England. I wish that that should be noted, appreciated, returned, and requited in every utterance made in our country with regard to Germany."
Sir Edward Grey then went on to speak of Turkish affairs, praising the conduct of the present Government. "We have no wish to acquire territory," said the speaker, "that could bring us into conflict with foreign countries; we have no wrongs to be repaired, no debts that must be settled with

other countries. We have only one thing to do: to uphold and protect a great Empire, and to bring the extensive interests of that Empire into harmony with the growing interests of other Powers. Difficulties may arise, but even the greatest difficulties may be settled by diplomacy. Foreign Governments lived, like the British Government, from hand to mouth, and had not such deep-laid plans as people supposed. We must maintain our naval strength so that it must be capable of meeting any combination. It is impossible for us to stop half-way between perfect security and complete annihilation. The present Government will endeavour to satisfy the country, so far as the strength of the fleet is concerned, that we are strong enough to guarantee it perfect security and our supremacy at sea. But we will aim also at convincing others that our strength at sea is maintained for our own protection and not as a menace to any other country."
With regard to Macedonia, Sir Edward Grey said that Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria had taken action at a moment when the state of affairs in the Balkans and Near East appeared more hopeful than at any time in the last thirty years. A Conference, it was to be hoped, would peaceably decide the consequences of that action.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, November 19.
A representative of the Government, replying to a question as to the commerce of Trinidad with Venezuela, said that the state of affairs at present was unsatisfactory. British relations with Venezuela had engaged the attention of the Government and the Embassy at Caracas for some time past. The British Minister at Caracas had done and would continue to do all in his power to bring about a change, but the Government could not hold out a prospect that his efforts would be soon crowned with success.
The Prime Minister announced that the Education Bill would be brought in very shortly. If the proposals of the Government contained in the Bill, said Mr. Asquith, should not commend themselves to the House as the best conceivable, they would nevertheless be found to be of such a nature that all parties who desired to see the end of the strife that has so long hindered a settlement of this question would be able to accept them without being unfaithful to their principles. Leading Nonconformists and the Archbishop of Canterbury had—with the reservation that they were not empowered to make a binding engagement on behalf of the Nonconformist Churches and the Church of England respectively—given an assurance that they would agree to the settlement proposed in the Bill, and vote for the measure. Discussions with members of the Roman Catholic Church had also taken place.

MR. BALFOUR AT CARDIFF.

London, November 20.
Mr. Balfour, speaking at Cardiff yesterday, said: "We believe that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and his colleagues are keeping up the tradition of continuity. We are determined that nothing we say or do shall weaken the voice of England in the European Council. Discussion and criticism of foreign affairs should only be entered upon with great care. In no case will we seek to gain any party advantage at the expense of a national policy."

LONG DISTANCE BALLOON TRIP.

(From our own correspondent.)

London, November 19.
Yesterday morning the largest balloon in Great Britain ascended from the grounds of the Crystal Palace in charge of Mr. A. E. Gaudron, with the object of breaking the record for long-distance ballooning. The expedition has been organised by the Daily Graphic, and it is hoped that the balloon may reach Siberia. In the car with Mr. Gaudron were Mr. C. C. Turner, of the Daily Graphic staff, and Capt. E. Maitland. The balloon, which has a lifting capacity of two tons, has been equipped in an up-to-date manner with a water trailer, which will be used while the balloon is making its passage across the North Sea. The party is carrying instruments for observation purposes, and it is hoped that some valuable information will be forthcoming as the result of the trip.
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