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The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

Thus far no official announcement has been made explanatory of the attitude of Mr. Asquith's administration in consequence of the rejection of the obnoxious Licensing Bill by the House of Lords. Mr. Haldane, it is true, has made a fighting speech in the course of which he declared that the Government had "drawn the sword and thrown away the sheath," but we are inclined, and so are most of the political journals in England, to believe that this is merely a rhetorical firework explosion, though one that may grievously embarrass his colleagues in the Cabinet. Lord Percy may have been somewhat unkind when he said, at Twickenham on Friday evening, that now the Licensing Bill had been rejected, as three-fourths of the members who voted for it always expected it would be, he would be surprised if the desire of the Liberals for martyrdom in defence of principles assumed any more striking form than that of taking the defeat lying down, and continuing to draw their official salaries. Mr. Walter Long probably went nearer the mark when he declared that it was too early in the day to say what the view of the country would be in regard to the rejection of the Bill by the Lords, but if the Opposition members were to judge by the attitude of the country towards the Upper Chamber in regard to their past actions, he did not think they had anything to fear. The Lords had reflected the opinion of the vast majority of the electorate. Parliamentarians, as a whole, were ready to consider and pass just and well considered measures, but that was not the policy of the present Government. The spirit which animates the Government has not been to produce anything which represents reform of existing abuses, but rather have they set themselves to express in Acts of Parliament their desire for retaliation upon their political opponents. The fate which has overtaken them in regard to most of their measures is a fate which will of necessity always overtake a Government which tries to legislate on such lines as these. Party acrimony is doubtless an irremediable evil, but for even the most powerful Government to allow political rancour to influence national business is to invite prompt and thoroughly well deserved disaster. That these tactics have been followed by the disciples of Mr. Asquith is undeniable, though we venture to think that the question of political revenge has not been the sole inspiration which prompted measures like the first Education Bill and the Licensing Bill, both now happily defunct and decently launched into oblivion.

An ingenious point raised in a despatch from our London Correspondent, published yesterday, is worthy of more than passing consideration. To the vacillating policy of the present Government in regard to all questions of national defence our Correspondent is inclined to attribute no small portion of the blame for the shadow of suspicion which still mars intercourse between Great Britain and this country. We have ourselves raised this point on more than one previous occasion, as it is obviously one of paramount interest to everybody desirous of witnessing the dawn of a new and more cordial era of Anglo-German political and popular relations. The policy of peace and international amity by paper and honeyed speech has had an exhaustive trial during the tenure of the present British Government: it has failed, and failed badly. In spite of lecturing tours on the Continent undertaken by certain Cabinet Ministers, in spite of the shining example set to foreign Governments in the vexed question of armament limitation, in spite, too, of the soft answers calculated to run away wrath, British relations with the most potential of Continental Powers have in the period named undergone no appreciable change for the better. It is a favourite performance of Liberal orators to condemn in un-mixed terms of abuse those people in England who are desirous of seeing the defensive forces of the country placed on a scale more consistent with the enormous interests involved. Naval and military agitators are stigmatised as "sensational-mongers," and accused of fomenting ill-feeling from interested motives of a sordid nature. That they do something towards engendering friction is not to be disputed, but they merely represent an effect, primarily due to the present Government's slipshod methods of maintaining the forces of the United Kingdom.



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This argument, we believe, strikes at the very root of the entire matter, and, incidentally, places the *soi-disant* peace-loving Government in the curious position of international trouble-makers. Its members would no doubt repudiate the insinuation with righteous indignation. They would supply abundant proofs of their good intentions towards the improvement of relations with this country, in which case they might be reminded that the road to perdition is paved with just such short-sighted intentions. We fear, however, that at the present moment the Government stands in too much dread of the pangs of dissolution to give more than a passing thought to matters not concerned with the first instincts of self-preservation.

GENERAL NEWS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

London, December 1.

Mr. Rees, a member sitting on the Government side of the House, having asked whether it would be possible to approach the French Government with a view of stopping the introduction into India of seditious literature emanating from French sources and passed in through French settlements in that country, Mr. Buchanan, Under Secretary for the India Office, said the Secretary of State for India was considering the matter.

THE CASABLANCA ARBITRATION.

London, December 2.

The *Evening News* states that Sir Edward Fry, who was the chief Delegate of Great Britain at the last Hague Conference, has been appointed one of the arbitrators in the Casablanca affair.

A telegram from Paris of the same date announces that the French Government has chosen M. Louis Renault to represent France in the arbitration. M. Renault was a prominent member of the Hague Conference.

OUTRAGES IN IRELAND.

London, December 1.

Two men were brought into Galway yesterday, under strong police escort, charged with being concerned in an attack on a Constabulary patrol at Gurteen on Saturday night. The police allege that the patrol was attacked by a dozen men, who tried to take their rifles from them. In the struggle, the rifles were smashed and the police then produced their revolvers. Two shots were fired, but it has not yet been ascertained if any of the assailants

were injured in the struggle. The police arrested one man on the spot, and another yesterday. A Ballinasloe message states that the party of men, who were armed and wore masks, were lying in a drain beside the road until the patrol passed. They then suddenly sprang upon the patrol and made an attempt to disarm them. The police fought desperately, using the butt ends of their carbines, but two men were severely injured. Eventually the police opened fire, their assailants then retiring. One constable's ribs were broken and his shoulder was dislocated. The two men arrested were taken to Athery yesterday, where they were remanded to Galway Gaol.

AMERICAN OFFICER'S DEATH.

(From our own correspondent.)

London, December 1.

Mr. Walter Schroder held an inquest at Paddington today on the body of Col. Frederick Augustus Sawyer (68), of the United States Army, lately residing at a boarding house in Eardley-crescent, South Kensington. Mr. Corbould Ellis, solicitor, of Clement's-lane, said deceased was doing business for people in New York in connection with railroads. His wife lived at Garden City, Long Island, and his daughter was the wife of Professor Keith, of Massachusetts University. Deceased had been distressed by his business, and the prolonged separation from his wife and family seemed to prevail upon his mind. Henry Crudeson Howard, a chartered accountant, said deceased served in the Civil War in the United States and obtained his promotion as colonel then. Dr. Lowe having given evidence, a verdict of death from natural causes was returned.

SIR ROBERT HART'S PROPHECY.

London, December 1.

Sir Robert Hart was, at Lisburn yesterday, presented with an address of welcome enclosed in a solid silver casket by the local council on behalf of the town, with which he was closely connected in his earlier years.

In the course of a speech, Sir Robert made a remarkable prophecy. In a hundred or two hundred years' time, he said, the 400,000,000 people of China would be as strong in arms, individually and nationally, as the great Power of Germany was at the present moment. Then they would turn to the rest of the world and say, "There must be no more war."

NEWS FROM AMERICA.

THE SUPPRESSED KAISER INTERVIEW. NEW YORK NEWSPAPER APOLOGISES.

New York, December 1.

The *World* publishes a cablegram it has sent to Prince von Bülow accepting the latter's verdict on the synopsis, which it recently published, of the alleged interview between the German Emperor and Dr. Hale, to the effect that "such stupidly absurd words the Kaiser could not have uttered," and, as a matter of simple justice to the German Emperor and the German people, publishes also an editorial expressing sincere regret for the publication of the synopsis, which it regards as "misleading and mischievous."

The cablegram declares that it was an honest mistake committed through over-zeal, without the knowledge of the proprietor and the chief editor. The proofs were sent to Dr. Hale, and corrected in his own hand-writing, and this was naturally accepted as evidence that the article, as printed, was personally approved by him.

FRISCO POLICE CHIEF COMMITS SUICIDE.

London, December 2.

The *Daily News* publishes a report from San Francisco that Mr. William J. Biggley, the chief of Police, jumped out of the police boat into the sea as he was crossing the bay on his return from Belvedere, and was drowned. This suicide is doubtless connected with the trials now proceeding on charges of administrative corruption.

\$75,000 FOR A RUG.

New York, December 1.

Mr. Pierpont Morgan has just added to his collection of art curios a magnificent rug from the Imperial Palace at Peking, for which he has paid a record price, stated to be 75,000 dol.

(Continued on page 2.)