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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE ROYAL VISIT TO BERLIN.

OFFICIAL DATE AND ARRANGEMENTS.

ENGLISH PRESS COMMENT.

(From our own correspondent.)

London, January 19. Official arrangements respecting the visit of King Edward and Queen Alexandra to Berlin next month are now announced. According to these, their Majesties will leave London on February 8, arriving in Berlin the following day. The return journey will be commenced on February 12, so that the visit will not extend over three days. This arrangement will permit of the King's arrival in London in time for the opening of Parliament.

Commenting in a leading article on the hopes expressed in the weekly political review of the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung that the visit of the English sovereigns will result in a development of amicable relations between England and Germany, the Westminster Gazette remarks: "We heartily reciprocate this friendly desire and can assure our German contemporary that the English people are as ready as their German neighbours to terminate the present condition of mutual suspicion. We have not the slightest wish to see Germany isolated, and it was without the least feeling of rancour that we witnessed the alliance between the German Empire and Austria-Hungary which, conferring as it did benefits on both lands, thereby materially strengthened the prospects of European peace. That is a result plainly demonstrated by the recent Balkan crisis, and we hope that this bond will exert a lasting and tranquillising effect on the affairs of Central Europe.'

These amicable sentiments are echoed in many other influential journals; in fact, no discordant note has yet made itself heard. In political circles there is a tendency to avoid undue expectations of any immediate or drastic change in Anglo-German relations as the result of the King's visit, which, however, is confidently expected to prove the eventual basis of an new era. The conciliatory and sympathetic attitude of the German press is also greatly appreciated, and is here construed as an indication of the cordial welcome which King Edward will meet with upon his arrival in Berlin. The gracious courtesy of his Majesty which is a constant feature of his intercourse with foreign nations, and the indubitable peace-loving propensities of the German Emperor, supported by the efforts of the Anglo-German press, cannot fail to bring about marked improvement in the relations between the two dominant European powers.

EXPENDITURE ON ARMAMENTS. MR. HALDANE'S VIEWS.

London, January 19. Speaking at Halifax yesterday, the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Haldane, said that England had taken the lead in the endeavour to lessen the expenditure on armaments; but, until the nations came to recognise that those enormous expenses could be reduced in the interests of peace and social reforms, it would be impossible to relax the preparations for the defence of the country.

CALIFORNIA AND

ARBITRARY MEASURE PASSED.

Sacramento, January 19. The anti-Asiatic measure formulated by the Californian State Senate and principally directed against the Japanese, was read for the third time'in the Senate here today. This measure, prohibiting as it does foreigners-everybody not a naturalised American subject-to own any sort of landed property in the State, is viewed with mixed feelings by those to whom California represents everything that stands for enterprise and progression. The measure which has now become law was recently described by President Roosevelt as "a piece of folly, bad faith, and iniquity." Besides the property embargo, it empowers the various Californian communities to separate Japanese residents from the white and confine them to certain localities, bars Japanese from public schools, and puts various severe restrictions upon them in their conduct of business.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO. GLOOMY SOCIALIST FORECAST.

Paris, January 19.

The debate on the interpellation on Moroccan affairs was continued by M. Jaurès, who expressed his fears that the conciliatory attitude and disinterestedness of France in Morocco, the object of which was to facilitate a rapprochement between Germany and France, were not agreeable to the hostile diplomacy of leading circles in Germany; and that an Anglo-German conflict, which in certain quarters was described as unavoidable, would frustrate all hope of peace. M. Jaurès then declared that the settlement of the ludicrous Casablanca incident had led to a triumph of the Arbitration Court, and that both countries had quite recently been working together for a peaceful decision of the Balkan question.

M. Pichon, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, said he was entirely in favour of arbitration, thanks to which sound human understanding had lately triumphed. France had put an end to anarchy in Morocco. The agreements with regard to the Algerian frontier were being carried out. Mulai Hafid had promised to safeguard international compacts. M. Régnault, the representative of France in Fez, would take no step that could violate the integrity of Morocco; he would also come to an understanding with the Sultan as to the indemnity payable to France.

VIOLENT ATTACK ON MR. ROOSEVELT. CONGRESSMAN SILENCED.

Washington, January 18. In the house of Representatives today, one of the members, Mr. Willett, made use of such violent language against the President that a motion was made, and carried by 126 votes to 78, that Mr. Willett be no more heard.

CHOLERA IN ST. PETERSBURG.

St. Petersburg, January 19. There were sixty fresh cases of choleraic attacks in the capital on Sunday.

THE FUTURE OF MESSINA.

REBUILDING OR ABANDONMENT?

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS CONTINUE.

Rome, January 19. In spite of the Government's repeated declaration of its intention to completely rebuild the city of Messina, the vexed question is not regarded here as having been definitely settled. Opposition to the rebuilding scheme continues to grow in strength, and is supported by the statement given out by Professor Paterno, the eminent seismologist. "Messina no longer exists," he said, "and can never again rise upon the same spot even if that should be desired. Messina will remain nothing but a vast cemetery." This pessimistic point of view is borne out by all who have personally visited the scenes of devastation along the Straits. The history of Messina teems with instances of subterranean disturbances more or less violent, and sound common sense must be irrevocably against hurling a challenge to Fate by reconstructing the desolated city. Indeed, every day brings reports of fresh shocks felt. Professor Paterno's opinion merits careful attention for many reasons, chief among which is the rumour, apparently founded on fact, that the Italian Government intends to devote a large portion of the immense sum donated from all quarters to the relief funds, to the rebuilding of Messina. The populace is described as depressed and hopeless under the long series of misfortunes which have overtaken them, and if the rebuilding scheme is eventually materialised, it is a moot point whether inhabitants

Rome, January 19. The Osservatore Romano states that the amount of the contributions sent direct to the Pope for the benefit of sufferers by the earthquake catastrophe is 1,408,192 lire.

will be found for the new buildings.

Reggio nell' Emilia, January 18. A sad fatality has occurred here. During a performance at a cinematograph theatre for the benefit of the sufferers by the earthquake, there was an alarm of fire. A panic ensued, and in the crush at the exits two people were killed and several badly hurt.

Rome, January 19. Signor Bollati, the General Secretary of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, has been informed by the American Ambassador that the Navy Department at Washington, with the authority of President Roosevelt, is loading six steamers with 500,000 dollars' worth of timber, and other materials for the building of 3,000 houses with out-offices, for immediate despatch to South Italy, for the benefit of the survivors from the earthquakes. A sufficient number of carpenters for the speedy erection of the houses will take passage in the steamers. Two of the ships were to start yesterday, the rest in the course of the week.

Messina, January 18. Another sharp undulatory shock occurred here at 3.30 p.m. today. The weather is bad. A strong, cold wind is blowing and snow falling.

Palermo, January 18. The German training ship "Victoria Luise," and the steamer "Illyria" with the Emperor's huts for the sufferers at Messina, have arrived here.