

BERLIN

The American Woman's Club of Berlin has for some time past been engaged in preparing preliminary plans for a reception in honour of Mrs. David Jayne Hill, wife of the American Ambassador. It now transpires, however, that Mrs. Hill has informed the Club of her inability to fix a definite date at the moment, owing to her many engagements. The reception has therefore been postponed.

The following detailed report of the American Association of Commerce and Trade's banquet (briefly reported in yesterday's *Daily Record*) is furnished by our Berlin correspondent:

Upwards of one hundred American officials and businessmen assembled on Saturday night in the Kaiser Saal at Hotel Adlon at the annual banquet of the American Association of Commerce and Trade.

As usual Benjamin Franklin's birthday, January 17, was chosen as the most appropriate anniversary for which to hold the Association's reunion for the year, although as January 17 this year fell on a Sunday, the actual birthday anniversary was necessarily ante-dated by one day. Benjamin Franklin was duly honoured. "It is peculiarly fitting," said President Hesseberg, in his customary toast of the Association, "that we, as a commercial organisation, founded with the object of improving the commercial relations between Germany and the United States, should commemorate the birth of the man who was one of the first to recognise the great benefits to be derived from treaties of commerce. Benjamin Franklin, moreover, was not only the wise diplomat and the shrewd businessman, but also the genial companion, who took pleasure in the society of his many friends, and who knew how to enjoy the good things of this world. The cellar in his house at Paris contained many a bottle of good wine, and he is reported to have said that he would like to be preserved in a cask of rare old wine, and be restored to life 100 years later in order to observe the progress of America. . . . Franklin would indeed have been surprised," Mr. Hesseberg concluded, "could he have foreseen the tremendous strides our country has made in wealth and power since his day."

The significant feature of the evening was the address delivered by the American Ambassador, Dr. David Jayne Hill. German newspapers aptly term the Ambassador's speech "hervorragend," and comment upon it as "doing all honour to the statesman as well as to the scholar." His splendid characterisation of the distinctive traits of the American people was a masterpiece in itself.

"The average American citizen," said Ambassador Hill, "believes in the power of knowledge and the possibility of finding a solution for problems that have never yet been solved. He feels that the greatness of his country does not lie in any material thing that any man possesses, but in the freedom with which every man may expand his own inherent energies, with the confident assurance that he can secure protection for all his rights."

"There is, I think, no people in the world that has in general less respect for material possessions in themselves than the American people. The proof of this is found not only in our noble philanthropies, but also in the fact that, with the largest opportunities for realising the popular will, the people of the United States have never developed any strong movement for the equalisation of wealth. What they believe in, and insist upon, is equal opportunity for all, and that each should be rewarded

Frl. Kriebitz, German lessons. Highly recommended by English teachers in Berlin. At home 3-4 Wilmersdorf, Wilhelmstrasse 118.

Vernon Spencer
Teacher of Piano. Studio: Spichern Str. 22.

Marie Pfaff Hohenstaufen Str. 35, III.
Singing-mistress At home 12-2 o'clock.

Mme. Nattenheimer, Kaiser Allee 203, W. 15
Piano accompaniment for songs and duets.

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according to his deserts. The strongest point in American character is the supreme delight of demanding and defending fair play.

"So deeply embedded is this idea in the hearts and minds of the people that their whole conception of government is based upon it. The American citizen holds his public representatives to severe account, mercilessly exposes their delinquencies and considers that they are amply rewarded if they can manage to preserve the public confidence. He is willing to forget mistakes of judgment, but downright cowardice or meanness he never entirely forgives."

"To be freely chosen as the chief magistrate of eighty-five millions of people who have been taught that they are sovereigns, and who honestly believe it, is an honour not surpassed anywhere on earth; for it implies the application of tests and the demonstration of qualities of an extraordinary character. Of such a leader are justly required courage that is beyond the reach of intimidation, purity of motive that is immune from reproach by the most enlightened conscience, and unswerving fidelity to the noblest aspirations of the human race. These are the ideals which the American people love to associate with the highest office in their gift, and that they have been, are, and will again be realised is their proud belief."

"Gentlemen, I invite you to rise and drink to the health of the President of the United States"
In a subsequent happy allusion to "Commerce," the Ambassador said:

"For my own part, I believe that Commerce,—the mutually beneficial exchange of commodities, for which this Association stands,—will finally prove a Cinderella in the family of nations; who, led by the fairy wand of international friendship based on justice, will rise from her drudgery to be mated with her prince and sit in council with him. When Commerce, supported by industry, hushes the voice of jingoism and bids the passions of the peoples to be still; when Commerce refuses to pour her treasures into the witch's cauldron of international strife; when Commerce erects her tribunal of reason in the market-place of international exchange, then will our Cinderella come to her own, and her more favoured sisters will wonder at the startling transformation effected under the fairy's wand!"

Mr. Hesseberg, the President of the Association, in his address already referred to, laid interesting emphasis upon the change which has come about in the general financial position since he spoke from the same place twelve months ago. At that time, immediately following the 1907 crisis the screw had just been put on vigorously, with the result that the cry was "Brakes down" all along the line and business was brought to a sudden standstill, with generally calamitous results. "But now the pendulum has swung the other way. With confidence restored, money has come out from its hiding-places, and where we had stringency before, we now have superabundance. Fifteen months ago business had to be rudely checked by high rates for money. Today the opposite is the case, and sluggish trade has to be stimulated by excessively cheap rates."

Professor William Morris Davis, the Harvard Exchange professor, provided the humorous note. His wittily drawn contrast between the American and German savant alone furnished laughter enough for the whole evening.

Gheimmrat Ludwig Goldberger, author of "The Land of Unlimited Possibilities" (America), brought the series of toasts to a close. He spoke in German in praise of the Association, and dwelt at length on German hopes for revision of the American tariff.

Prominent guests of the evening, besides those already mentioned, were:—

Consul-General Thackara; Rev. Dr. John R. Crosser; Secretary of the Embassy, Joseph C. Grew; Vice-Consul General Cauldwell. The contingent of American Consuls from other cities of Germany includes: Consul Harris, of Nuremberg, Consul Brittain, of Prague, Consul Thompson, of Louver, Consul Dr. Hurst, of Plauen, Consul Lourie, of Erfurt, Consul Spahr, of Breslau, Consul Hannah, of Magdeburg. Hamburg was represented by several prominent American businessmen, including: Mr. McCann, of the Morris Packing Co., Mr. Brecht, of the Fairbanks Co., and Mr. Summer, of the Keystone Match-Case Co.

Eugen Bachmann Master of German elocution
Tempelherren Strasse 17, IV.

CHURCH SERVICES: BERLIN.

S. George's Church, Monbijou Garten.
Second Entrance: Oranienburger Strasse 76B.
Sundays: 9 a.m. Celebration of Holy Communion.
11 a.m. Matins and Sermon (followed by a second Celebration on 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday in the month).
Fridays: 6 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.
11 a.m. Litany.
Holy Days: 9 a.m. Celebration of Holy Communion.
The Chaplain: Rev. J. H. Fry, M.A., Savigny Platz 7, Charlottenburg.
American Church, Motz Strasse 6, Nollendorf Platz.
Sundays: 11.30 a.m. Regular Service.
4.30 p.m. Song Service.
Communion 2nd Sunday of each alternate month from January.
Reading Room and Library open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Rev. John Crosser, D.D., Pastor.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE AND TRADE IN BERLIN
Berlin W. 8, Friedrich Strasse 59/60.
MOST COMPLETE COMMERCIAL READING ROOM in Germany
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Geo. S. Atwood, Secretary.

Berlin, January 19.

The German Relief Committee has given notice that the Hamburg steamer "Florenz" arrived at Catania on Friday morning last, with the stores purchased at Naples by the Hamburg committee. The "Florenz" was the third steamer sent by the Hamburg committee to the scene of the catastrophe. Telegrams have been received from Naples stating that these stores have been of great service to the suffering survivors. Two sisters of the Red Cross, who were sent out from Hamburg, have joined the Berlin expedition under Dr. Colmes in Syracuse. Supplies of clothes, provisions, and hospital necessities are asked for from Palermo; and the Consul at Catania begs for further assistance. Director Alexander of the Residenz Theatre has sent 800 marks as the proceeds of a performance given for the benefit of the Committee's funds. More contributions are urgently needed. The offices of the Committee are at Alsen Strasse 10, Berlin.

FORGED POST-OFFICE ORDERS.

PARISIAN JOURNALISTS INCRIMINATED.

Paris, January 19.

The discovery that forged foreign Post-Office Orders are in circulation has led to the arrest in Paris and the provinces of several persons, some of whom belong to the newspaper *La Guerre Sociale*. A police search at the offices of the newspaper and in the lodgings of the individuals arrested has resulted in the discovery of incriminating documents.

RUSSIA AND AERIAL NAVIGATION.

St. Petersburg, January 19.

The Czar has acceded to the request of the All-Russian Aero Club to be permitted to institute an all-Russian collection for the creation of a Russian airship fleet which in time of war should be at the disposal of the naval and military authorities, and serve for the defence of the country.

FRENCH BIRTH STATISTICS.

AN INCREASE AT LAST RECORDED.

Paris, January 19.

The statistics of population published in the official Gazette for the first six months of the year 1908 show an increase in the number of births. This is the first time for several years that an increase has been recorded.

TEXAS AND THE OIL TRUST.

HEAVY FINE CONFIRMED.

Washington, January 19.

The Supreme Court of the United States has confirmed the decision of the Court in Texas by which the Waters Pierce Oil Company, of St. Louis, was sentenced to pay a fine of 1,623,000 dollars, and excluded from the territory of Texas for violation of the anti-Trust law of that State.

PERSIAN AFFAIRS.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN ATTITUDE.

London, January 19.

Reuter learns that the report that Great Britain has agreed to a Persian loan is incorrect. The Government has been informed that certain proposals have been submitted in writing by Russia as to reforms in Persia, but they have not yet reached London. The proposals are of such a nature as to make intervention impossible.

St. Petersburg, January 19.

Within the last few days the St. Petersburg correspondents of certain foreign newspapers have telegraphed to their editors information taken from Russian papers to the effect that joint action was being taken by Russia and England in Persian affairs, and that the information bore an official character. The St. Petersburg Telegraphic Agency is authorised to declare that no such information, official or semi-official, has been given.

MR. ROOT AS NEW YORK SENATOR.

Albany, January 18.

At the meeting of the Republican members of the New York State Legislature which is to be held today, State Secretary Root will be nominated as candidate for the Senate in succession to Senator Platt. The State Secretary's election is certain.