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The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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Dresden, March 3, 09.

Dear friend: Glad to know of your safe arrival here in the beautiful city of "Dresden" and supposing you know that I am now located here, I surely shall expect you to come to see me before leaving the city.

At the same time I can interest you in something that will be highly appreciated for own use or as a present—**Furs!**—
You know I always was wrapped up in furs, and here also I can't resist having plenty of them to select from, even the so much sought for black Lynx—however, I shall expect to see you at my store and I will show you all the finest furs "without hot air," and my prices to you as a friend will more than repay your visit.
Between time I remain yours truly
Opposite Cook's Tourist Office.
H. G. B. Peters.

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RICHARD WEHSENER,
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THE NEAR EAST. PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

Is it to be war or peace? Still this question cannot be positively answered, for while Austria maintains her attitude of scorn of her little neighbour, Serbia has relapsed into a state of resignation while she awaits the result of the Powers' deliberations.

The situation may be summed up thus: Russia has not actually declared her readiness to join the Powers in a common representation in Belgrade, but she has yielded to gentle pressure on the part of France and has, on her own account, warned Serbia to desist from territorial demands, as such would not be considered, much less granted by the Powers. Serbia has in answer thereto declared that she desires peace, and that she will wait for the decision of the Powers. What she will do if that decision does not satisfy her is another matter. But in any case she is ready to sell her demands for a consideration. She is open to be bargained with, and that is something. On the other hand it is not quite clear what the economic advantages are which Austria is willing to present to Serbia, and in our opinion the Austrian press is unnecessarily high and mighty in their utterances regarding the situation. There is no doubt that Austria's action in annexing the two provinces is open to criticism; and while we hold that she could not have acted otherwise, the fact remains that she did jeopardise the peace of Europe. But things having gone on well so far, she might be a little more generous in her press comments and out with the offer Austria is prepared to make to Serbia. We think that in all probability Germany will make representations at Vienna to that effect, and doubt not but that they would be favourably received. Although it would seem as if the Powers were grouped in parties, and as if there were differences between them, the fact of the matter is that the peoples, be they English, German, French, or Russian, do not want to have war, and the pressure of that popular will is too strong to be resisted by Austria and Russia. May the future show that this is not unjustifiable optimism on our part, and that with the renewed constitution in Turkey, the Protocol just signed by Austria-Hungary and Turkey, and the visible improvement of the relations between Germany and England on the one hand, and Germany and France on the other, peace will reign in Europe for the benefit of the nations.

SERBIA DEFERS TO THE POWERS.

London, March 1.

Reuter learns that the Servian Chargé d'Affaires has handed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a Note containing the declaration that Serbia has resolved to await the decision of the Powers and to do all that is possible to preserve peace.

A SERBIAN DECLARATION.

Belgrade, March 1.

A semi-official *communiqué* declares that the Servian Government, maintaining the perfectly correct attitude which has been recognised by Europe, relies firmly in the justice and benevolence of Europe; since the Government is convinced that Serbia's attitude has answered the expectations of Europe. At the same time the Servian Government expects that the people will accept with all reserve the various disquieting reports which often proceed from very

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suspicious sources. Serbia has hitherto maintained correct relations with Austria-Hungary and will continue to do so. The Servian Government expects to be supported, at the present serious moment, by every one and in all respects with complete moderation.

AUSTRIAN PRESS OPINIONS.

WELCOMES RUSSIAN INTERVENTION.

Vienna, March 2.

The *Fremdenblatt* writes: Russia's advice to Serbia to renounce her territorial demands thoroughly accords with the previous interchange of views between the leading statesmen of Austria-Hungary and Russia, and is in unison with the programme for a Conference which was accepted by all the Powers. If the Russian Cabinet thinks it can attain the object of preserving peace by any other way than that which the Powers had in view, it will meet here with the most friendly disposition. Perhaps the influence of Russia at Belgrade is more effective than that of a collective step by the Powers would be. Serbia must give up, not only her wish for territory, but also her demand for autonomy in Bosnia, in whatever form; she must declare, definitely and unmistakably, that she excludes Bosnia for ever from her aspirations. For the sake of future peace, no form of words can be accepted but one which makes her renunciation absolute and irrevocable. It would be a mistake to suppose that the communication of the Servian Cabinet to the Russian Government and Russia's reply have finally settled the matter. In the first place, one must wait to see whether Serbia will actually make the declaration recommended by Russia; the place where it has to be made is Vienna, and not until it is made there will the time have arrived for a conversation about economical advantages for Serbia. The communications on this subject must pass between Vienna and Belgrade. Serbia must ask us what we have in mind to offer her, as it is for us alone to determinate the extent of the economical facilities to be secured to her. That is not a European question, but purely an internal affair of Austria-Hungary.

HUNGARIAN PRESS OPINION.

HIGHFLOWN LANGUAGE.

Budapest, March 1.

The *Pester Lloyd's* Vienna correspondent, writing on the foreign situation, says: "Austria-Hungary will not be inconsolable, if the joint step of the Powers at Belgrade is not taken. Austria did not suggest the mediation of the Powers, and it is known in Vienna that only the voice of Russia is heeded at Belgrade. If Russia succeeds in bringing about a reversal of feeling in Serbia, it will be the part of the Servian Government to make a formal declaration in that sense to the Foreign Office in Vienna, and to request Austria to say what economic facilities she would be disposed to grant to Serbia. Further negotiations would then be carried on directly between Austria-Hungary and Serbia, without the intervention of any other Power."

RUSSIA'S ACTION IN FRENCH COLOURS.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND AGREE.

Paris, February 28.

The *Temps* has reason to believe that the Russian standpoint with respect to the joint step to be taken at Belgrade by the Powers may be said to be: that, while Russia does not fail to recognise the utility of such a step, she will take up a separate position in the common action, as a friend of the first degree. Russia will therefore negotiate singly with Serbia before taking part in the joint action proposed by Germany. That proceeding, the *Temps* thinks, is quite justified and may serve the purpose. The Servians will perhaps be more amenable to reason in negotiations conducted exclusively by Russia. It will be Russia's part to point out to Serbia how lacking in point of legal grounds and practical value her claims for territorial compensation are. The Servians maintain that the railway which is offered to them will be at the mercy of the Austro-Hungarian Government. Supposing that assumption to be true, do the Servians believe that the strip of territory they demand will be better protected? Would not Austria-Hungary, in case of a conflict with Serbia, be able to cut off the communications immediately? Such a cession of territory, therefore, would only have a symbolic value. A railway, a free port, or any other economical guarantee, would have the same value for Serbia. That is the view of the French and British Governments, who are in perfect agreement in that respect.

SERBIA MUST GIVE IN.

The *Temps* has also reason to believe that the Russian Note is a kind of answer to the most recent communications addressed by Serbia to the Russian Government. In this Note Russia emphasizes her wish to be of service to Serbia. The Note expresses gratification at Serbia's pacific intentions, and declares that, to Russia's knowledge, a demand for territory would be entirely futile and might bring about war with Austria-Hungary. If, therefore, the Powers friendly to Serbia were to defend Serbia's interests successfully, Serbia must first give up her territorial claim. If M. Milovanovitch adopts the advice of Russia, the Powers are ready to make that result known to the Vienna Government; in which case the Note prepared in Berlin would not be required.

A REPORT DENIED.

Belgrade, March 1.

The report that Turkey had prohibited the transport of war material to Serbia is described in authoritative quarters to be incorrect.

FOREIGN OFFICERS IN TURKEY.

Paris, March 1.

The Agence Havas issues a report from Constantinople that the Turkish Government has decided to retain in the service of Turkey most of the French, Italian, and British officers who have been attached to the Macedonian *gendarmérie*.

RETURN OF PRINCE FERDINAND.

Vienna, March 1.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria arrived here today on his return from St. Petersburg.