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# The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

London, March 12.

The Navy Estimates for 1909-1910 amount to £35,142,700, compared with £32,319,500 in the previous financial year. The sum set down for the building of new ships is £2,285,770; the new ships to be begun being four battleships of the "Dreadnought" type, six protected cruisers, twenty torpedo-boat destroyers, and a number of submarines on which it is proposed to expend £500,000. The First Lord of the Admiralty announces that the Government may find it necessary to prepare for the rapid building of four more large battleships to be begun on the 1st of April 1910. He therefore asks Parliament for power to issue the requisite notices in advance, so that the ships in question may be begun on the 1st of April 1910 and completed by the 1st of April 1912.

London, March 12.

In the memorandum of the First Lord of the Admiralty, from which the above particulars were taken, it is stated that, owing to the long duration of the strikes in private yards, the building of the ships most recently begun had been seriously delayed for a portion of the year past. It is also announced that the Government, in view of the want of dock accommodation on the East coast for the largest ships and of the long time required for the construction of permanent dry docks, is considering the advisability of providing floating docks in certain ports.

## NICARAGUA AND SAN SALVADOR.

HOSTILITIES COMMENCED.

Mexico, March 12.

It is reported here that war has broken out between Nicaragua and El Salvador. An engagement is said to have taken place between the Salvadorian gunboat "Presidente" and the Nicaraguan gunboat "Momotombo."

Mexico, March 13.

Three Nicaraguan gunboats attacked the San Salvador gunboat "Presidente" last Tuesday. The "Presidente's" first shot in reply disabled the Nicaraguan flag-ship, which had to retire out of range. It is reported, however, that the damage was quickly repaired and that the gunboat rejoined her consorts in pursuit of the "Presidente," which kept up a running fight. The final result of the action is not as yet known here.

## THE U.S. SEND WARSHIPS.

Washington, March 13.

The State Department has suddenly recalled the American representative in Nicaragua, in consequence of the agitation and intrigues that are being carried on in the Republic, and of the indifferent attitude of President Zelaya. The United States and Mexico have resolved to take energetic steps to secure peace in Central America. If necessary, an armed intervention will be resorted to. It has been expressly stated that the United States and Mexico are fully agreed as to the policy to be pursued with respect to Nicaragua.

Washington, March 12.

It is officially reported that a protected cruiser will remain on the west coast of Nicaragua until the arrival of the American gunboat "York Town"; and that the "York Town" will be stationed there, while another gunboat and a cruiser will cruise off the Atlantic coast in the neighbourhood of Honduras.

**EXQUISITE PAINTING ON CHINA**  
**RICHARD WEHSENER,**  
DRESDEN, Zinzendorf Strasse 16.

## TURKEY AND SERVIA.

Constantinople, March 12.

The *Osman Lloyd* writes: "The Servian reply has caused the Porte uneasiness. The Porte will be cautious and reserved with respect to the transport of war material through Turkish territory, and will not allow large quantities, particularly of dynamite, to pass. By the advice of the Porte, Servia has countermanded a number of orders for war material."

Constantinople, March 12.

The permission for the transport of Servian war material is limited and conditional, and refers only to the cargo of the steamer "Crimé." The cargo of the "Orinoque," which is on her voyage to Turkey, will be examined before further permission is given.

## SERVIA AND AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Belgrade, March 12.

M. Milovanovitch, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, when asked by Count Forgach, the Austrian Minister Resident, what Servia's reason was for calling up the third contingent for one day's exercise with weapons, gave an evasive answer.

Vienna, March 13.

The *Neue Freie Presse* hears from an authoritative source that the report to the effect that the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador in Belgrade, Count Forgach, had made an enquiry regarding the reason why the Servian Government had called out the third contingent, is absolutely without foundation.

Cologne, March 12.

The *Kölnische Zeitung* publishes a report from Belgrade that, according to trustworthy information derived from Government sources, the Servian Government intends very shortly to address a special note to Austria-Hungary, on the subject of Count Forgach's communication.

Belgrade, March 12.

Graf Forgach's note has been handed to the Servian Minister for Commerce and Finance, who will draft a reply for the consideration of the Cabinet. In its final form, the Servian answer to Count Forgach's note cannot be given before next week at the earliest. In Government circles it is reported that its purport will be that Servia is not in a position to amalgamate the question of the annexation, which is a European question, with that of a treaty of commerce.

Belgrade, March 12.

The comments of the Austro-Hungarian Press on the Servian circular despatch, which are for the most part favourable, have caused a certain amount of confusion in Belgrade, and this finds an echo in the local journals. Some of the newspapers express the hope that Austria-Hungary will endeavour to humiliate Servia still more, and so drive the Servian people, in despair, to turn out the present Government and appeal to arms. A supplementary credit of 5,400,000 francs for army requirements has been laid before the Skupstina for approval.

## DEATH OF AN EX-MINISTER.

London, March 12.

The Right Honourable Hugh Arnold-Forster, M.P., formerly Secretary of State for War, died today.

## THE OPPOSITION AND TARIFF REFORM.

London, March 12.

Mr. Balfour, speaking at the Constitutional Club today, said that tariff reform was the first item of the Unionist programme, and to it the earliest attention of any Unionist Government must be directed.

## THE EMPEROR FRANZ JOSEF.

Vienna, March 12.

The *Neue Freie Presse* states that the Emperor Franz Josef will entertain the Diplomatic Body in Vienna at dinner on the 17th and 20th instant, and that the Servian Ambassador will be among the guests invited.

## TURKEY AND AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Constantinople, March 12.

The Turkish newspapers state that the Cabinet, in order to strengthen the good relations of Austria with the Turkish Government, has resolved to appoint four Turkish Consuls in Bosnia. In official circles the conviction is felt that this initiative of the Porte will make a good impression in Austria-Hungary.

## KING PETER AND ABDICATION.

The Rome correspondent of a London contemporary claims to be in a position to state that the reports which credit King Peter of Servia with a desire to abdicate are absolutely correct. His Majesty, it is learned, has given expression to this desire at St. Petersburg, as well as at Rome, but King Victor and the Czar are both doing their utmost to dissuade him, believing that such a course would lead to disaster.

What wonder that he who lived a life without care before and now finds himself in a veritable hornets' nest, should long to be rid of the burden of a position he was never fitted for, and which must be all the more unbearable since his son the Crownprince seems to be his worst enemy.

## THE OPIUM QUESTION IN HONGKONG.

Hongkong, March 11.

The Governor of Hongkong has addressed to the Legislative Body a detailed memorandum on the opium question, in which he alludes to the resolute endeavours of Hongkong to put an end to the ignoble opium trade, and lays stress on the incapacity of China to carry into effect her undoubtedly sincere desire to cooperate in the suppression of the trade; since smuggling continues undiminished in the Chinese ports. A successful suppression of the ignoble trade was impossible because the price of opium in China was only half what it is in Hongkong. In the Governor's opinion, the abolition of opium divans in Hongkong would be more likely to lead to the extension than to the prevention of opium-smoking. In conclusion, the Governor's memorandum announces that, in consideration of the loss which the carrying out of the opium policy of Great Britain would have on the revenue of Hongkong, the British Government would ask Parliament to make a material contribution to the finances of the colony.