

# The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## THE CASE FOR GERMANY.

The following article, contributed by one of our readers, possesses special significance in view of the attacks made on Germany in the Russian Duma during Thursday's sitting, a lengthy report of which we publish on this page.

(BY A GERMAN CONTRIBUTOR.)

There are signs in many quarters of a revival of anti-German feeling, which has been accentuated by the course and the final result of the negotiations with regard to the Balkan problem. Many sensational statements have appeared in the foreign press purporting to narrate the nature of Germany's part in the negotiations. It is said point-blank that Germany threatened to mobilise her troops on the Russian frontier if the Russian Government did not at once officially countenance Austria's annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that this drastic move promptly settled the question. This story was first put into definite form by the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, a journal whose statements are consistently flavoured with mendacious sensationalism. In its edition of Thursday (April 1) the semi-official *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* gave a categorical denial to this preposterous report, but no doubt the *Daily Mail* and other papers of that nature will carefully overlook this; or at least dismiss it as the usual official quibbling. The semi-official journal pointed out that Germany throughout the course of the Balkan situation had kept rigidly to a policy of peace. She had advised Russia in a friendly spirit to consider the calming effect it would have were she to declare her readiness to recognise the accomplished fact, and the soundness of this advice has been amply proved by the alacrity with which Russia's recognition was followed by the other Powers, so that the "Balkan crisis" ceased to exist within a day or two.

Sensational journalism is also entirely to blame for the suspicions of German policy entertained in Great Britain. As the lucid article in yesterday's *Daily Record* plainly showed, our naval efforts are grossly exaggerated. Over and over again responsible German statesmen,—and even the Emperor himself—have explicitly assured the world at large that Germany's navy is in course of creation for the sole purpose of defending her growing maritime trade and her coastline, which latter, though very limited, is of incalculable value. But all these denials are "pooh-poohed" away by newspaper correspondents and editorial writers who know the German official brain better than it knows itself. English readers are asked to take the word of a feather-brained pressman before that of honourable statesmen. The tyranny of the press has never been so strongly exemplified as it is today. A great percentage, if indeed not all, of the present deplorable international friction is originally manufactured in obscure newspaper offices. I will conclude this short article with an appropriate quotation from Bryant's *Prose Writings*:—"The press, important as is its office, is but the servant of the human intellect, and its ministry is for good or evil, according to the character of those who direct it. The press is a mill which grinds all that is put into its hopper. Fill the hopper with poisoned grain, and it will grind it to meal, but there is death in the bread." Those words might have been written today, so aptly do they sum up the situation. The grain which is distributed broadcast among the reading public of Europe today is poisoned by malevolent racial animosities into the cause of which we had better not enquire.

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## U.S. EMBASSY IN LONDON.

Speaking at a banquet given in honour of Dr. Eliot, the ex-President of Harvard University, President Taft gave it to be understood that Dr. Eliot had been offered the post of United States Ambassador in London, and was now considering the matter.

Mr. Root had previously referred to the offer in a speech of which the following concluding passage caused the greatest enthusiasm: "Should it befall that Dr. Eliot is accredited Ambassador to one of the great Courts of Europe, there we shall know that our great Republic in all its good qualities of truth and sincerity of nature, in all its pious ideals and aspirations, is represented by a man, an American gentleman, a scholar, a sage indeed."

President Taft's speech was devoted almost entirely to an eulogy of Dr. Eliot and the educational ideals for which he stands. He endorsed all that Mr. Root had said, and concluded, "and especially do I share every word of Mr. Root regarding what may happen to Dr. Eliot in the future" (cheers).

## THE INDIAN ARMY.

London, April 2.

Lieutenant General Sir O'Moore Creagh has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, in succession to Lord Kitchener, who has held the post since 1902.

## UNITED STATES FINANCES.

Washington, April 2.

United States Government revenue during the month of March amounted to 53,377,012 dollars, the expenditure to 56,444,534 dollars. The National Debt showed an increase of 3,088,574 dollars over the month of February. The National Treasury contains the sum of 1,726,508,202 dollars.

## THE AWAKENING OF EGYPT.

Port Soudan, April 2.

The new harbour works of Port Soudan were publicly opened yesterday by the Khedive, in presence of the chief Egyptian and British-Egyptian authorities.

## THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR AT PARIS.

Paris, April 2.

On the occasion of the birthday of Prince Radolin, German Ambassador to France, he received a cordial congratulatory telegram from the German Emperor and the gift of a beautiful bronze group.

## THE POPE'S HEALTH.

Rome, April 2.

On Wednesday, for the first time since last October, the Pope left his apartments and enjoyed an hour's stroll in the Vatican grounds.

## THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

### DUMA DEPUTIES ATTACK GERMANY.

St. Petersburg, April 2.

The Imperial Duma assembled yesterday to discuss the Military Budget. The Court gallery contained many members of the Imperial family, and the tribunes were crowded in every part of the chamber. Extreme excitement characterised the debate when Russia's foreign policy came into question. The Budget Reporter, M. Gutschkoff, introduced the Budget and recommended its adoption. Russia, he said, was today passing through a period of national sorrow, and the situation demanded the exercise of national strength. Comparisons between Russian and German armies were made by military speakers, one of whom said that Russian citizens paid two and a half times as much for their army as the Germans, and while the Russian troops were more numerous, they were not so well equipped as the German. The Russian Staff was overcrowded, 10 per cent. more officers being employed in the bureaux than in Germany; in spite of which the German organisation was infinitely superior.

A Deputy of the Extreme Right said that there was a feeling of sorrow in regard to the events of the last few days, during which Russia had sustained defeat and ignominy. He placed the blame for this "second Tsushima" which the nation had experienced in great part on the Duma majority, who had announced in loud terms to the world the impotent condition of the Russian army. The Austrian military attaché, he declared, recently made a report to his Government on Russia's military powerlessness. In consequence of this same impotency a series of menacing acts had been directed against Russia, culminating in a sort of ultimatum—unheard of previously in the thousand-year history of Russia. The speaker concluded by exhorting the Government not to annihilate public confidence in the army.

After the midday recess Count Bobrinski (Moderate Right) resumed the debate with a violent anti-German speech. He asserted that the German authorities were effecting a strategical colonisation of Russia's western provinces with the object of furthering Germany's advance towards the East. In the Russian Empire some 5,200,000 Germans lived, the greater part of whom were useful citizens; but German settlers were introduced into the western provinces for military purposes. More than half a million Germans were now settled in Poland, particularly around the fortresses of Dubno and Kovno. Nearly all the land between the forts was owned by Germans. The speaker drew attention to the danger arising out of the Germanising movement in Cholm. In different Polish towns there existed German rifle teams, destined to act as scouts and picquets for the advance guard of the German movement towards the East. He then dealt with Prussia's Polish policy, and blamed the Russian authorities for utilising German influence to repress Polish aspirations. He concluded by remarking that this was no time for indulging in recriminations over the events of the last few days, or for expressing Russia's sorrow; "but," he said, "we must clench our teeth and set to work. That will be the best answer of Russia to her enemies and friends. There will come a time when Russia, in common with her Slavie brothers, will demand a reckoning!"

M. Tschaidse (Socialist) said that the foreign Powers knew quite well the estrangement existing

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