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The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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AMERICA'S NEW ART ERA. ONE EFFECT OF TARIFF REVISION.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

New York, April 13.

According to the new Tariff Bill now before Congress works of art, such as paintings and sculptures, that are more than twenty years old will be put on the free list; whereas those works, under the Dingley tariff, are subject to an *ad valorem* duty of 20%. It is reckoned that, if this duty is abolished as proposed in the Bill, the valuable collections of pictures purchased by Americans abroad will be brought to America. A number of American millionaires are in possession of extensive collections which they keep abroad because they are unwilling to pay the present high duty. In the opinion of lovers of art here, the free importation of works of art would mean for America the beginning of a new art-epoch. The artistically and materially valuable collections would be accessible to the American public in museums, as it is the intention of their owners to make them; the interests of art in this country would be promoted, and the understanding of art by the great mass of the people would expand. The works of art collected in Europe by American millionaire art-lovers might rank with those of any one of the famous European picture galleries. At the head of those art-lovers stands Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, whose collection is valued at 5,500,000 dollars. The value of his collection in his London home is put at 2,595,000 dollars; the most valuable works contained in it being: Gainsborough's "Duchess of Devonshire" (150,000 dollars); Rubens' "Portrait of the great Duke" (125,000 dollars); a Raphael "Madonna" (500,000 dollars); and Fragonard's "Du Barry Paneele" (1,000,000 dollars). Sir Purdon Clarke, the Director of the Metropolitan Art Museum here, put the value of the Morgan collection in London three years ago at from three to four million dollars. Some years ago Mr. Morgan purposed bringing his collections to America, but it was calculated that the duty on them would amount to two million dollars. He has always cherished the intention to bring his pictures to the Metropolitan Museum, of which he is the soul and greatest patron, and thus to give New York one of the most valuable of art collections without, however, renouncing his right of ownership. Mr. P. A. Widener, the Philadelphia art patron, estimates the value of the collections of Americans whom he knows personally, and who leave their works of art in their residences in Europe because of the duty, at 30,000,000 dollars. The duty-free introduction of famous pictures would have a purely economic importance for young American painters, apart from the artistic stimulus which they might derive from the works. They would be able to study the old masters in museums at home without having to make journeys to foreign lands. It is believed that the work of American painters will be adequately protected by the provision that only paintings more than twenty years old are to admitted duty-free.

CARUSO'S VOICE.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

Signor Caruso, interviewed on his arrival at Liverpool on the Cunard liner "Mauretania," on Tuesday, indignantly denied the stories which have been published in the American press with regard to his voice. "There is," he declared, "no truth in them. My voice is as good as ever. Some foolish man wrote those stories. It was professional jealousy." Caruso intends taking a holiday, chiefly in London, until August, when he will begin a concert tour of the provinces.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

ENGLAND AND THE BALKAN DISPUTE.

London, April 22.

Mr. Hazleton (Nationalist) asked if the Government had recognised the annexation of Bosnia and the Herzegovina; if that recognition implied and included the assent of the Government to the violation of Article XXV. of the treaty of Berlin; and why the demand for an international Conference had been given up.

Mr. McKinnon Wood, Under Secretary for the Foreign Office, replied that the British Ambassador at Vienna had handed to the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 17th instant a Note informing him that the British Government consented to the abolition of Article XXV. of the treaty of Berlin. That proceeding did not include the consent of the British Government to the violation of the said article; it was adopted because the two treaty Powers most directly interested had come to an understanding on the matter. All the Powers signatory to the treaty had agreed to make the desired alteration in the treaty; the conditions which Great Britain as one of the signatory Powers considered essential had been maintained.

In reply to a question as to the loan for the Canton-Hankow railway, Mr. Wood said the conditions offered by the German group had been refused by the British and Chinese Corporation.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, then brought in the Welsh Disestablishment Bill, the contents of which are the same as those of the Bill introduced by the Liberal Government in 1895. It provides for the disestablishment of the Church of England in Wales; removes the Welsh bishops from the House of Lords; and places the gifts made to the Church since the year 1662 for hospital, educational, and similar purposes under the administration of the County Councils. The Bill will be opposed by the Unionists; and doubts are expressed as to whether the Government will attempt to carry the measure through the House of Commons this Session.

At the evening sitting, the Labour party moved a resolution in favour of the inviolability of private property at sea in time of war. In the course of the debate that followed Mr. McKenna, the First Lord of the Admiralty, said that it was a powerful weapon in the hands of Great Britain that, so long as she held the supremacy at sea, she could cripple the commerce of a foreign country. Mr. McKenna then referred to the instructions given to the British plenipotentiaries at the Hague Conference and said he hoped the resolution would be rejected. The matter was then allowed to drop.

THE TARIFF BILL AMENDED IN THE SENATE.

Washington, April 21.

The Finance Committee of the Senate has adopted an amendment to the Tariff Bill which provides for the establishment of a Customs Court, to which appeals may be made against the decisions of the Customs officials.

THE AMERICAN RAILROAD OCTOPUS.

Washington, April 22.

President Taft has promised to institute an enquiry into the complaints made by the commercial societies of Utah that they are charged special and exorbitant rates for railway freight.

THE SULTAN'S FATE.

QUIETER TIMES IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

The storm at Constantinople is dying away as suddenly as it arose, and will probably vanish leaving Sultan Abdul Hamid still on the throne in spite of the vigorous efforts made in many quarters to unseat him for good. The danger of a terrible civil war which appeared imminent a few days ago has now been averted by the skilful management of the Young Turk leaders, who have succeeded in quite winning over to their cause the troops comprising the garrison of the capital. The following telegrams outline the situation since Wednesday:—

Constantinople, April 22.

An official manifesto issued this morning denies the reports of conflicts between the Young Turk army and the troops garrisoning Constantinople. It is further stated that there is no cause for unrest either among the soldiers or the populace, as the Government is taking every measure to maintain order and security. The people are therefore advised not to take seriously the various disturbing rumours which are only circulated with a view to creating fresh trouble. The press is reminded of its patriotic duty, and warned not to publish any news of a disquieting nature.

The Sultan's son, Prince Mehmed Burhaneddin Effendi, who was accused of having been implicated in the late reactionary movement, has sent a note to several newspapers describing this report as false, and denying that he was concerned in the demonstration made before the Yildiz by mutinous artillerymen. No fewer than 262 Young Turk officers were murdered in the course of the revolt last week, eight of them being done to death before the eyes of the Sultan at the Yildiz. Up to now the Young Turk Committee have arrested 200 suspects, who are believed to have been stirring up sedition among the Committee's troops.

Constantinople, April 22.

An agreement has finally been reached between the Young Turk Committee and the Yildiz, on the following basis: The idea of an abdication on the part of the Sultan is to be abandoned. The greater part of the local garrison will be disbanded and replaced by Salonika troops who are loyal to the Young Turks. Further, 600 Salonika gendarmes will be entrusted with the maintenance of order in the capital. The Salonika troops, whose advance guard is already lying before Constantinople, will not enter the city. The Government will issue a calming proclamation to the people. All soldiers will have to take a new oath. The Government guarantees to ensure the submission of the Constantinople garrison, with the exception of a small part of the Yildiz bodyguard.

(FROM WOLFF'S PRIVATE CORRESPONDENT.)

Constantinople, April 22.

The concentration of the Macedonian army around the capital is completed. Every day reinforcements arrive in the shape of deserters from the Constantinople garrison, but every new arrival is closely examined because it is believed that many reactionaries are thus seeking to ensure their safety. There is little chance of the garrison offering any resistance in case an advance on the capital is ordered. The populace is decidedly more tranquil.

Aleppo, April 22.

A terrible panic has broken out here. A large number of criminals imprisoned in the local gaol

(Continued on page 2.)