

Office:
Struve Str. 5, I.
Dresden A.
Telephone
1755.

The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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FRANCE IN REVOLUTION.

From the reports which we publish in another column it will be seen that the much-advertised strike among the postal officials of France has fizzled out like a damp squib. It is obvious that there was never any heart in the movement, despite the bombastic threats and prophecies of national paralysis that were so freely made by the professional agitators. Whatever sympathy the public may have felt for the officials and their grievances will disappear when it becomes known that attempts are being made to deliberately hamper public and private business by the particularly malignant practice of cutting telegraph wires and burning letter-boxes. This latest "strike," if indeed it merits the name, is insignificant by itself; but viewed together with a long series of other symptoms it is a highly disturbing sign of the times. The legitimate grievances of the Government's employés in the postal departments have previously been described at length by our Paris correspondent. Such grievances, we are disposed to believe, exist to a greater or smaller extent in Government departments the world over. The strike of the American telegraphists some time ago, and the continual discontent of their British colleagues are proof positive that State administration is of necessity full of defects. These can only be remedied by patient and level-headed legislation. Resorts to violence defeat their own ends. It is impossible to gain the active sympathy of a man who has been put to grave inconvenience and, probably, heavy financial loss by wanton delay in the transmission of his mail. Moreover, the first strike interfered not only with vast commercial interests, but actually with State affairs of the highest importance. It was deliberately planned and carried out at a time when the political atmosphere of Europe was charged with all manner of dangerous possibilities, at a time when defective information and lack of communication with its diplomatic representatives might have landed France in serious complications. This fact naturally carried no weight with the Socialists who engineered the revolt. With them patriotism is a silly anachronism, an empty myth to be repudiated with the superior scorn which is a characteristic of the ignorant demagogue who bawls out his windy panacea for the world's evils to his sheep-like, work-shirking followers. Socialism of the most malignant type bids fair to accomplish the swift and overwhelming ruin of France. It is rampant in the army, the navy, and indeed in every branch of Government service. It feeds on illiteracy and that natural aversion to hard work which so often follows upon the rudimentary system of education prevailing in most countries in this enlightened age. It teaches the employé to regard the employer as his hereditary enemy. It blindly advocates the same system of Communalism—though on a greatly extended scale—which has proved itself over and over again to be a generator of gross injustice and rank inefficiency. It is the extreme whose anti-thesis is medieval despotism, and it is attended with results no less disastrous. France is destined to furnish a vivid example to the world of the havoc indiscipline and uncontrolled individualism can work in the affairs of a nation. The poison has spread throughout that country so widely that it is doubtful whether the antidote can be procured in time. There are many who see in a restoration of the monarchy the sole salvation of France, and we are inclined to agree. Meanwhile, it is incumbent upon M. Clémenceau and his advisers to ruthlessly repress every symptom of revolt in all the State departments, and in case of failure it will be no less their duty to resign. At the worst the French



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nation, which has not yet lost its characteristic shrewdness and acumen, will take matters into its own hands, and give short shrift to the unscrupulous malcontents and their silly dupes who are working in common for the débacle of their unhappy country.

THE IMPOTENT STRIKE.

WANTON DAMAGE TO TELEGRAPH WIRES.

Paris, May 17.

The telegraph wires have been cut in several places around Paris and in Southern France. Early yesterday morning a Post Office employé was arrested as he was about to cut telegraph wires, and, when searched, was found to be in possession of a complete set of tools for that purpose. Among the letters passing through the Post Office were found six that smelt strongly of sulphur; one of the six was actually smoking. A burning match was thrown into one of the letter-boxes near the Head Office, and the contents of the box were partly consumed. Measures have been taken for watching the letter-boxes and gas-meters. The number of Post Office men on strike has decreased by 167; of that number 122 were employed in the mail-vans on railways.

Many of the telephone connections are broken or out of order, partly through malicious damage, partly from want of supervision. The Commissary of Police at St. Germain has been informed that some men in an automobile have cut a great number of the telegraph wires in the forest of St. Germain, connecting Paris with Normandy.

Several newspapers publish a report from St. Mihiel, in the Department of Maas, that a number of reservists who had completed their service struck up the "Internationale" as their train was starting. A colonel of infantry had the train stopped, and the men taken back to barracks and imprisoned.

At a meeting of Post Office employés on strike held yesterday evening, inflammatory speeches were delivered assuring the strikers of the support of the Workmen's Syndicate. A resolution was ultimately passed expressing the unshaken confidence of the meeting in success and the wish that the strike may continue.

DESTRUCTIVE TORNADO IN AMERICA.

New York, May 16.

The tornado which has raged through parts of Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma wrought great destruction. Twelve persons were killed, and about 100 injured.

SNOBBERY IN WASHINGTON.

A rich lady of Washington, U.S.A., has agreed to pay \$3,000 a year for the pew next to that occupied by Mrs. Taft in the Episcopal church which the President's wife attends.

ROOSEVELT VS. TOLSTOY.

Mr. Roosevelt, in an article in the *Outlook* on the life of Count Tolstoy, declares that his teachings, if logically applied, would mean the extinction of humanity in the space of a single generation.

UNREST IN TURKEY.

ABDUL HAMID'S SON ARRESTED.

Constantinople, May 17.

The past week has been fruitful of signs that the Ottoman Empire is by no means yet in a state of tranquillity. The sensation of the week occurred on Saturday in the arrest of Prince Burhan-Eddin, Abdul Hamid's favourite son, by order of the Court Martial. The prince is now imprisoned in the War Ministry. It is believed that he will be tried for treason and may possibly be condemned to death.

The news from Salonika is most disquieting. That city is the headquarters of the Young Turks, and it is therefore all the more remarkable that the reactionary movement continues to flourish there. Advices from Damascus state that the situation there is such as to demand the instant despatch of at least ten Macedonian battalions. Izzet Pasha, one of Abdul Hamid's favourites who fled when his master was overthrown, is busily engaged in spreading reactionary doctrine in Damascus. He has formed an Arabian Committee, and they have succeeded in winning over the population to the support of the deposed Sultan. An armed revolt against the Young Turks and a massacre of the Christians is believed imminent. Erzeroum has thrown off its allegiance to the Young Turks, the leaders of whom have had to flee the city. A Macedonian force is marching there to take punitive measures against the rebels, but it is feared that a terrible massacre will take place before the troops arrive. The commandant of Albania petitioned the Government to vest him with full powers, otherwise he refused to proceed further against the reactionaries. The Government has refused this demand, as they fear that repressive measures would create a revolt. There is no doubt that the week opens inauspiciously for the reform party, who are faced with many problems and are threatened on many hands with violence and massacre.

Constantinople, May 16.

The provisional Budget which has been approved includes a monthly allowance of £1,000 to the deposed Sultan Abdul Hamid. About thirty of the officers arrested by order of the Court Martial have been released. According to the Turkish newspapers, Reuf Pasha, formerly Minister of the Interior, has again been appointed High Commissioner of Egypt; and Ghalib, the Governor of the sandjak Bengazi, has been made Governor-General of the vilayet Djarbekr.

Constantinople, May 17.

Early this morning five prisoners were hanged before the Mosque of St. Sophia. Those executed were an artillery captain, a lieutenant, and three police agents.—The Turco-Bulgarian protocol was ratified by the Turkish Parliament last night, and all outstanding questions of importance between the two countries are thus satisfactorily disposed of.

A SEQUEL TO THE STEINHEIL CASE.

Paris, May 17.

A man named Allaire, who was arrested on Saturday at Versailles on suspicion of having committed various crimes, has made a statement to the police that he, together with an accomplice named Tardevin, was implicated in the murder of the artist Steinheil and his mother. The police are searching for this Tardevin, who is still believed to be in Paris. Tardevin is known extensively in Parisian artist circles, as he formerly worked as a model for many famous sculptors.