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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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BRITISH TARIFF REFORM.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

London, May 20.

The somewhat Gilbertian situation arising out of the recent display of French gowns at No 10 Downing Street, the official residence of the Prime Minister, under the auspices of Mrs. Asquith herself, has had an amusing sequel which will go far towards allaying the popular indignation which the first act of the comedy appears to have created. Mrs. Asquith, in fact, has now given a large order for gowns to an English dressmaking firm, and it is expected that this will placate the trade generally. But the mischief has been done, and it is becoming daily more apparent that the probably thoughtless act on the part of the Prime Minister's wife has done more to propagate Tariff Reform principles than a month of arduous political campaigning. Chambers of Commerce and trade associations all over England are despatching peppery telegrams to unfortunate Mrs. Asquith, mostly worded as follows:—

"That this meeting strongly protests against the Prime Minister's official residence being used for trading purposes, and especially for the promotion of foreign competition with English traders."

It is further said that every mail brings a deluge of heated communications to the same lady, who so far has maintained a dignified silence on the subject. The Tariff Reform papers and speakers are naturally playing this easy game for all it is worth. Incidentally, the Budget has given them another lever for raising the mass of public opinion against Britain's present fiscal system.

It is now generally admitted that, however careful Mr. Lloyd George has been and however scientifically he has arranged his basis of new taxation, his proposals will inflict severe burdens on many classes which the Government has hitherto professed to benefit. Great Britain's capabilities of taxation are already strained to their utmost. Revenue decreases in just the same proportion that expenditure mounts upwards, and while it would be absurd to speak of financial difficulties, the consensus of opinion is that the time has come for drawing fresh revenue from foreign sources. That Tariff reform is gaining new adherents every day is undeniable. It is rare indeed that you hear serious opposition to the scheme from the man in the street. As an interesting experiment he is coming to regard its trial as urgent, and I do not believe for a moment that any sane Liberal will be found who denies that the General Election will mean a complete change in our fiscal system. Free Trade apparently is dying of inanition, and its decease will assuredly occur immediately after the next Government's accession to power.

DEATH OF AN OIL MAGNATE.

New York, May 20.

Mr. H. H. Rogers, president of the Standard Oil Company, died yesterday.

ANOTHER WRIGHT AEROPLANE TRIUMPH.

Pau, May 21.

M. Tissandier, the well-known French aeronaut, yesterday made some extensive and highly successful experiments with a Wright aeroplane. The apparatus was aloft for one hour and two minutes, during which time it covered a total distance of over 57 kilometres.



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IMPOSING TURKISH CEREMONY

CURIOUS INCIDENTS OF THE OATH-TAKING.

Constantinople, May 21.

The new Sultan went in state to Parliament yesterday, to take the oath of loyalty. The short journey to Stamboul was made by water, and the Imperial party then entered carriages. Mohammed V. was seated beside Mukhtar Pasha, and other members of the Sultan's family and suite followed. The procession was everywhere greeted with enthusiastic applause. At the entrance to the Parliament buildings his Majesty was received by the assembled Ministers, and upon reaching the session hall all the Senators and Deputies burst into prolonged cheering. The ceremony proceeded in accordance with the programme. The reading of the Imperial speech was frequently interrupted by loud applause. Then followed the administration of oath to the Deputies. There were a number of untoward incidents in connection with this ceremony. The Sultan, who had occupied the President's chair during the reading of his speech by the Grand Vizier, now adjourned to the Imperial box and listened with interest to the proceedings. The President of the Senate commenced to recite the oath as follows: "I swear to remain loyal to the Sultan so long as he respects the Constitution," but he was at once interrupted by loud cries of dissent from all parts of the building. The Grand Vizier and the two Presidents hurriedly held council together, with the result that the oath was put in the following amended form: "I swear that I will remain loyal to the Sultan, the Fatherland, the Nation, the Constitution, and all the duties imposed upon me." Each Deputy was called upon by name and recited this oath, but certain objections were still raised. The clerical element, in particular, expressed their dissatisfaction at the absence of any religious allusion in the oath, and more than one Deputy declined to say more than "I swear." This attitude caused a scene, and for a moment the Chamber was in disorder, the Sultan all the while sitting in his box and surveying the commotion with intense interest. Finally, however, the oath was administered all round, and the Chamber then adopted a resolution to present his Majesty with an address of thanks. The Imperial party then left the building amidst renewed cheering. Previous to the ceremony Mohammed V. graciously consented to being photographed at the entrance of the Chamber. Many members of the diplomatic corps were present.

Constantinople, May 21.

The alarmist reports from Damascus and Erzeroum are devoid of serious foundation. The news appears somewhat belated, and is believed to refer to the state of affairs that prevailed anterior to the restoration of order in the districts named.

From an authoritative source it is reported that all material differences between the Orient Railway Company and Bulgaria have now been settled. Bulgaria has expressed her readiness to restore at the earliest possible moment the entire rolling stock of the Company, and to pay two million francs as compensation for her use of the railway since its seizure last autumn.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

AMERICAN SCHOLAR'S PLAIN SPEECH.

Lake Mohonk, May 20.

Dr. Butler, the President of the Columbia University, opened the annual Mohonk Conference on international arbitration yesterday and said, in the course of a long speech: England's suspicions of Germany were an unreasonable outbreak of passion. In consequence of a change in the position of the two important nations, due to economical and intellectual causes, Germany's importance was steadily increasing while England's pre-eminence was receding. But in these causes there was nothing to provoke war. A war would hasten the change that had begun. Dr. Butler then alluded to the immense progress made by Germany in all spheres, particularly in that of commerce. Germany was now the schoolmaster of the whole world in the international spheres of industry and commerce. Keeping pace with the extension of her commerce, she was increasing her fleet. He asked, what ground was there for England's assumption that the German fleet was directed against England? Of all the fleets of the world, it was said, the German fleet was the only one built specially for purposes of attack! The whole idea was ludicrous, and England's suspicions of Germany were entirely groundless. It was the duty of the friends of the English to convince them of the unreasonableness of their attitude with regard to Germany. England was the aggressor and must give up her attitude before a further step can be taken towards securing the peace of the world. England must, in her own interest, get to know Germany better and learn from her. She should study German schools and German social policy, instead of using up the energy and the money of the impoverished people in the vain endeavour to arm herself for a state of international hostility that only existed in the imagination of England. The two-Power standard was directed against Germany alone. Pains should be taken to cultivate a better understanding between the two countries, and to proclaim the stupidity and frivolity that permitted any elements in either of them to sow dissension.

New York, May 20.

Count Bernstorff, the German ambassador, who was among the guests at the annual dinner of the National Union of Manufacturers yesterday, said in the course of a speech, that the German protective tariff had in no way a prohibitive effect. In case it should be possible, as he sincerely hoped it would, to conclude a new German-American commercial treaty in the winter, Germany's markets would be open to Americans. Count Bernstorff laid special stress on a considerable extension of the trade on both sides.

In answering the Ambassador's speech, Mr. Fowler, a member of Congress, said it would be better for Americans to look at their own inland commerce, amounting to twenty-five milliards and enjoying the advantages of protection, than at the ten milliards of foreign commerce in which the whole world was concerned.

MRS. ANNIS ON THE STAGE.

New York, May 20.

It is announced that Mrs. Annis, who was a prominent figure in the trial of Capt. Hains for the murder of her husband, Mr. William Annis, last August, will shortly appear on the music-hall stage, in order to earn sufficient money to support her young sons.