

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

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WHEN THE HEAT WAVE COMES.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

New York, August 2.

Though heat breaks no bones, it seems to melt them. No one who has not spent a summer in New York can understand what New Yorkers have to suffer in the dog days. New York weather is perhaps the most capricious in the world. A man may want a greatcoat one day and wake up to stifling heat the next. A "heat wave" lasts a week or longer, and each day brings its tale of deaths from sunstroke. Though no great faith is placed in the prognostications of the official weather-prophets who have their offices and look-out station high in a sky-scraper, yet all eyes are turned imploringly towards them for any sign that may give hope of a change. Too often the change is long in coming. The humidity of New York's air makes the heat more oppressive than dry heat of the same degree. Any who possess the means and can spare the time may, of course, escape to higher regions where they will find comparatively cool breezes, leafy shade, and lower temperature; but the number of these favourites of Fortune is small. The great mass of the population of New York must swelter and languish in the oven-like atmosphere of the town.

The sufferings of the poor families in the crowded tenement houses of the East-Side are inconceivable, as indeed their hygienic condition under such circumstances is indescribable. The air in the rooms is stifling. When the last rays of the sun are gone, there is a general exit to the roofs and the small balconies that give access to fire-escape ladders attached to the walls outside; and there, on roof and balconies, the people pass the night. To some it is their last night; every morning the police reports contain cases of deaths of men, women, and children by falling during sleep from a roof or balcony. Still larger is the number of deaths within the dwellings. The mortality among the small children during great heat, partly for want of food that cannot be prepared, is appalling. Ice, always dear at such times, is quite out of reach of the poor.

The roofs and fire-escape balconies are not the only resorts of the New York poor at night. Numbers, sometimes whole families, betake themselves to the public parks, where the wide grassy spaces are thickly covered with sleeping figures. Policemen make their rounds among them from time to time on the look-out for pickpockets. The most favourite sleeping place, for those who can get there, is the shore of Coney Island, as near the surf as they dare go. It is but a small strip of shore that has been left unoccupied by the great pleasure buildings that cater for the wants and amusements of the classes that are not poor. Here also are plenty of policemen to watch over the sleepers.

NEW YORK'S RUSH TO THE SEA.

The *Globe's* New York correspondent cables to his paper as follows: A glaring, breathless summer day drove all New Yorkers who were able to leave town to the seaside last Sunday. Newport, crowded already, suffered a great week-end influx by reason of the yachting, while the other half of society flocked to Coney Island by every available boat. It is estimated that fully half a million New Yorkers were conveyed that day alone to this, their most popular, playground, but their lot on arrival was not an enviable one, owing to the sweltering heat. The sea, for some distance out, was as crowded as the beach, and thousands were unable to bathe because the stock of costumes gave out. Many ingenious private speculators, foreseeing this state of affairs, had secured costumes early, and afterwards sub-let them, asking, and obtaining, as much as two dollars a suit.

HEAT CAUSES RAILWAY DISASTER.

London, August 10.

The great heat yesterday caused a section of the rails on the London and North Western railway to expand, thereby derailing an express train as it was crossing a bridge. The locomotive was completely overturned, and the driver and fireman met their deaths. The first carriage was hurled right over the wrecked engine and smashed to fragments. Ten passengers were injured, but their injuries are not such as to endanger life.

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KING EDWARD'S MARIENBAD VISIT.

King Edward left London on Tuesday afternoon for Marienbad, accompanied by his usual suite. He was due to arrive at the famous Bohemian resort yesterday evening.

His Majesty's visit this year, coming after the unfortunate friction which characterised Austrian and British relations as a result of the recent Near Eastern crisis, is hailed on all hands as proof that the crisis exercised no permanently detrimental effect on the cordial feeling that has endured between the Governments of London and Vienna for many years. In this connection the following extract from an article in the Vienna *Fremdenblatt*, perhaps the most authoritative journal in the Dual Monarchy, will be read with sympathetic interest:—

"If the conclusion that a difference of opinion exists between Emperor Francis Joseph and King Edward is drawn from the circumstance that this year there is to be no meeting at Ischl, that would be an untenable deduction. The friendly relations of the two Sovereigns continue uninterrupted, and have received no check. That statement applies equally to the political relations of the two countries, which quite recently assumed an undeniable coolness; but this period of misunderstanding and opposition may today be said to have been overcome, because England has finally expressed her approval of the annexation. One result of Austrian policy during the crisis is that today there is no conflict between the respective Oriental policies of England and Austria-Hungary."

CABINET MINISTER'S FIGHTING SPEECH.

Hull, August 10.

Mr. M. Samuel, M.P. for Whitechapel, in a speech delivered here today, referred to Lord Lansdowne's speech and said that, if the Upper House attempted to alter the Finance Bill, the Lower House would not put up with such an invasion of its rights.

MAURETANIA'S NEW RECORD.

The Cunarder "Mauretania" arrived at Daunt's Rock, Queenstown, from New York on Monday at 10.10 a.m., making the passage in 4 days 17 hours 20 minutes, and beating her previous best passage by one minute. She averaged a daily speed of 25.89 knots per hour.

The "Mauretania" holds all eastward and westward records for the highest daily runs, her eastward highest day's run being 610 knots, and her westward 673. The "Mauretania" proceeded to Liverpool after landing mails and passengers.

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

TURKEY HAS NO MARTIAL INTENTIONS.

London, August 10.

Reuter learns that no information has been received in London of the Ambassadors of the Cretan protecting Powers having actually made joint representations in Constantinople. But there is good reason to believe that the Ambassadors have individually been very active in endeavouring to prevent the present differences with regard to Crete assuming a character menacing to the peaceful relations between Turkey and Greece. The report that any differences of opinion exist, that would lead to separate or special action on the part of one or the other of the four Powers, is untrue. With reference to the report that the *status quo* in Crete previous to the 27th of July last is to be restored, it is stated that as yet nothing has occurred to make such a step necessary. The interchange of opinions between the parties chiefly concerned in the Cretan question justifies the conclusion that there is no intention of proceeding to extremities.

Constantinople, August 10.

The Grand Vizier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs replied to the representations made yesterday by the Ambassadors of the four Powers, that the Porte had no warlike intentions, but only wished, in case the answer of Greece should not prove satisfactory, to give expression to its dissatisfaction by recalling the Turkish Ambassador from Athens. The answer given by Greece would be considered at the Cabinet Council tomorrow. Some of the Ambassadors of the protecting Powers considered that the passage in the Note, stating that Greece had neither instigated the annexation act of the Cretans nor replied to it, was satisfactory to Turkey.

Paris, August 10.

Contrary to other reports in circulation, the Agence Havas asserts that it is not the case that France has as yet officially proposed to Great Britain, Italy, and Russia that the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin should be invited to take part in the solution of the Cretan problem. France intends, however, as soon as the question is ripe for solution, to request Austria-Hungary and Germany to unite with the protecting Powers in settling it.

Constantinople, August 10.

During the reception given at the Russian Embassy today the Finance Minister said that the reply of Greece had made a favourable impression on the Government.

Paris, August 11.

The *Matin* thinks it not altogether correct that the initiative in inviting Austria-Hungary and Germany to co-operate in the settlement of the Cretan question should have been taken by France, but regards the result as fortunate that both those Powers have officially taken steps to lend the four protecting Powers the support of the advice which they have tendered jointly at Athens and Constantinople. The Greek Ambassador said, with reference to the hoisting of the Grecian flag in the fort at Canea: "No one denies the fact that the Grecian flag was hoisted by the Cretans on various buildings in Canea. Turkey alone is surprised at that fact, and appears to be excited in consequence."

DEATH OF MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S SISTER.

The death is announced of Mrs. Mary Davies, only sister of Mr. Lloyd George. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was deeply grieved on Monday morning, on receiving a telegram, at Downing-street, announcing the death of Mrs. Davies, who was the wife of Capt. Philip Davies, who had command of one of the Australian mail boats. Mrs. Davies, who had been ill for some time, died at Criccieth, at the house of her uncle, Mr. Lloyd, who brought her up with the Chancellor of the Exchequer when they were left orphans in childhood. Mrs. Davies was 48 years of age, and the senior, by two years, of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mrs. Lloyd George left Downing-street last week to visit Mrs. Davies, and will remain at Criccieth until after the funeral.