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# The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## FELLOW FEELING.

### ANGLO-GERMAN TAXATION BURDENS.

The unsympathetic attitude of a man towards trouble of which he has no personal conception is notorious. But if you are suffering from toothache you never fail to get any amount of sympathy and advice, simply because most people have themselves been similarly accursed. What is true in small things is equally true in greater matters. Thus it is that at the present moment there is acute sympathy between the taxpayers of England and Germany. Both are very heavily burdened for the same object, and both would be delighted to find a remedy for their financial distress. When we come to consider the battleship race between these two countries, how utterly absurd it appears,—looked at logically, that is; but perhaps logic is disallowed in the game of politics. The situation reminds us of two men who are spending most of their time and all their funds on getting into pugilistic "form," ostensibly *pour passer le temps*. Each keeps assuring the other that he hasn't the remotest intention of ever committing an assault upon him, but the feverish training goes on none the less. Both England and Germany have assured each other of their peaceful intentions on every conceivable occasion, but both keep on building costly battleships. A savage, confronted with this situation, would make irreverent remarks on the boasted civilisation of the white man.

At the beginning of the competition, neither John Bull nor Teuton Michael were wanting in enthusiasm. But the repeated visits of the tax collector have put a different complexion on the subject. "You see," says the Government, "on your own confession you wanted these battleships—at least, your newspapers and your representatives in Parliament said you did—and you cannot therefore logically object to paying for them. Just think of the glory of having the biggest navy in the world!" The taxpayer did think, and he is now thinking also of the expense. Putting aside Anglo-German press polemics, the empty pomposities of the big papers, and the shrieking frenzy of the yellow sheets, any sane man knows how easy it would be to put an end to the ludicrous struggle. It could be arranged in half an hour, and the relief to the wage-earners of both nations would be instantaneous and permanent. Perchance the leading statesmen of England and Germany will some day have to answer for their incomprehensible lack of energy in this connection.

All the world knows of England's enormous building programme for the current year, framed on the apparent belief that Germany is secretly hastening the construction of her own ships. The London *Daily News* now professes to have knowledge of an important proposal put forward by the British Government, to the effect that the naval dockyards of both countries should be at all times open to inspection, thereby precluding the possibility that the one or other was building more ships than appeared in the public programmes. There is a good deal of common sense in this proposal, and for that reason we fear it will find little favour with the politicians. It would, however, as the London journal remarks, be the first step towards a wider and more satisfactory agreement. It is idle to deny that the strict secrecy which up to now has characterised all Germany's naval plans has been in a large measure responsible for the so-called panic in England. Mystery is always conducive to alarm, while it vanishes before candour. We must await the further issue of this alleged move, which up to now lacks official confirmation.

Another sign of the times is the tone of the French press in its comments on the shocking disaster to the airship *République*. One newspaper notes with appreciation the sympathy forthcoming from every country, but particularly from Germany,

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as a result of the accident. This universal sympathy is hailed as a new world movement, the solidarity of humanity. By the side of the German Lilienthal (the first German victim to aeronautics) lie the four Frenchmen of the *République*,—at once a symbol and a sacrifice in connection with the new era of universal peace and progress.

### WEALTHY FEMININITY.

(DAILY RECORD CORRESPONDENT.)

New York, September 18.

The late Mr. E. H. Harriman, in a characteristic will of less than 100 words, appointed his widow as the sole heiress to his vast property, which is stated by those who know to be between 75 and 100 million dollars. The will therefore places Mrs. Harriman among the richest women in the world, if indeed she does not prove the richest. Besides his widow Mr. Harriman left three daughters and two sons. Mrs. Harriman came from a wealthy family and brought her husband a large dowry which, when he later commenced his Wall Street operations, must have stood him in good stead. Only a very few American captains of finance have left their entire fortunes to their widows. Before Mr. Harriman's death Mrs. Frederick Penfield, of Philadelphia, was the richest woman in the world, with a fortune of 80 million dollars. Mrs. Russell Sage was also left by far the largest portion of her husband's fortune, namely, 66 million dollars. Mrs. William B. Leads was bequeathed the use of 30 millions during her lifetime; Mrs. Phoebe Hearst the use of a similar sum; Mrs. William K. Thaw that of 10 millions, and Mrs. Morris K. Jessup of 10 millions. Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, senr., received two millions in cash and an annual income of 250,000 dollars by the will of her husband, which dealt with property to the tune of 125 millions. Mrs. Marshall Field, widow of the Chicago department store magnate, received three millions from property valued at 200 millions. Mrs. Henry Smith received ten per cent. of her husband's fortune of 30 millions. Mrs. Thomas Wannamaker was bequeathed a third of the 30 millions left by the great Philadelphia merchant. Mrs. H. H. Rogers is now in the enjoyment of an income of 100,000 dollars; which, however, appears a comparatively small sum in view of the amount of her late husband's fortune,—namely, 100 millions. Mrs. Charles T. Yerkes was dealt with more generously, receiving 1,700,000 dollars from the 7½ million dollar estate of her husband. Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer was left an annuity of 50,000. Her husband's fortune was estimated at 20 million dollars.

## NEWS OF THE WORLD.

A calamity is reported from New York which will assuredly have the effect of exasperating public opinion against the organisation known as the Black Hand. During the so-called Italian Fête held in Jersey City on Monday a bomb exploded near a Church school. The children, about a thousand in number, who were in the school were seized with a panic, because they had heard that the Black Hand intended to blow up the school. There was a general rush downstairs to the exits, which were found closed. The children crowded upon one another and many were thrown down and trampled upon. The report does not state that any life was lost, but eight girls and five boys were carried to hospital in an unconscious state.

The Finance Bill was again under discussion in the House of Commons on Monday. The special debate is to close on October 6, but other clauses will remain to be discussed, and the session will in any case be prolonged till the beginning of November.

There has been a change of Ministry in Persia. M. Sepehdar has been appointed Prime Minister and M. Ala es Saltaneh Minister of Foreign Affairs. The new Government has replaced the Governors of all the provinces except Kaswin and Astrabad with new men. Prince Zill es Saltaneh has left Teheran for Europe after paying 100,000 tomanes to the Government in specie, and giving bills for 200,000 tomanes.

At an official reception held by the Committee of the Hudson-Fulton Tercentenary in the Metropolitan Opera House in New York on Monday, Grand Admiral von Köster presented the congratulations of Germany, and expressed his own thanks for the splendid hospitality shown to him. Nowhere, he said, was greater interest in the celebration felt than in Germany, a country knit to America by bands of friendship, of race, of commerce and scientific work, as well as by a century of friendly relations. Admiral von Köster further expressed Germany's admiration of the work that had been accomplished, with irresistible energy and creative impulse, by the American people and declared that Germany was proud that her sons had participated in the building up of the country, of the State, and of the city of New York.

A great meeting took place on Monday afternoon on the Champ de Mars at Athens, of 90 societies and corporations from Athens and the Piræus; to protest against the recent home-political proceedings and to express the unanimous wish of the nation to enter on the path of progress and regeneration by reforms in all branches of the administration. A resolution was passed that an address should be presented to the King through the Prime Minister, M. Mavromichaelis, expressing the devotion of the nation to the King and the Constitution, and calling upon the Government to carry out the necessary reforms. Similar meetings are to be held throughout the country.

There were 70,000 people present at the meeting. After the address had been adopted, a procession was formed and proceeded to the palace, where the address was presented to the King. His Majesty, in a written answer, expressed his confidence in the Government and the Chamber, and his hope that the regeneration of the country would be carried out in accordance with the Constitution. The crowd thereupon continued to cheer enthusiastically for the King until he appeared on the balcony and made a short speech. Cheers were also given for the Prime Minister. Order was nowhere disturbed.

A six-floor building at Pittsburg was destroyed on Monday by an explosion due to the ignition of cinematograph films. Many people were injured. A later despatch states that the building was occupied by the Columbian Film Exchange.

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