

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

# The Daily Record

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and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## KING AND PARLIAMENT.

The fierce political struggle in England which is now obviously approaching a climax has gained in popular interest ever since there was excellent reason for believing that King Edward had personally endeavoured to reconcile the two factions. Royal interference in public matters, common as it is in many monarchies, has been unknown in Great Britain for many generations. Since the decisive struggle between the Crown and the Parliament, which ended in the decapitation of King Charles the First, no British monarch has openly entertained political opinions inclining towards one side or the other, although practically all the Georges were suspected of political intrigues under the rose. This very wholesome abstention from public meddling in Constitutional questions has done much to make the Throne so popular with all classes in the United Kingdom, and we may be very certain that, in departing from it by a single step, King Edward was actuated by a sincere regard for the welfare of the nation. It may even be that his Ministers not only sanctioned, but strongly advised him to offer his mediation. This probability, however, does not appear to have occurred to certain London journals, which have been publishing veiled criticisms of his Majesty's action.

The fundamental principle of good statesmanship is compromise, and without a due observance of this principle no party, however strong in mere numbers, can hope to achieve practical results. The English Cabinet is accredited with an inflexible aversion to compromise in the Budget dispute. It is reported that the Prime Minister, courteously, but firmly, rejected the King's suggestion of a common agreement between the two Houses, whereby the Peers, in return for the privilege of making certain amendments to the more obnoxious clauses of the Finance Bill, would guarantee its smooth passage through the Upper House. But Mr. Lloyd George has taken upon himself the task of acting as spokesman for the Cabinet: "The Finance Bill must pass with every new tax as it stands. We shall not retreat one inch from our present standpoint." In face of language of this order the most conciliatory elements can do nothing save allow events to take their course. It appears highly improbable that the Peers will pass the Bill as it stands. On the other hand, they would take grave risks if they rejected it arbitrarily. The referendum advocated by the *Times* and other journals appears to us at once the most practical and fairest middle course, but there are indications that the extremist element in the Cabinet have definitely made up their minds to reject even this unexceptionable compromise.

## MR. CRANE'S INDISCRETION.

President Taft, says a Washington cablegram has intimated his acceptance of the resignation tendered by Mr. Crane, the American Minister to China. Previous to this official announcement President Taft had sent from Riverside (Cal.) a long cipher message to Washington declaring that any statement made by Mr. Crane must come before the State Department, where the entire matter would be dealt with. It was known beforehand, however, that whatever Mr. Knox recommended President Taft would approve.

Mr. Crane has issued a detailed statement, in which he says that prior to the receipt of the letter from Mr. Knox, Secretary of State, he had already telegraphed to President Taft the State Department's objections to retain him, declaring that the things he had done had been "in the effort to carry out my understanding of your wishes as expressed by you to me." He told President Taft that no mistake had been made, except by the State Department, and that he did not consider the proceedings of the Department consistent with his self-respect or dignity. He therefore awaited Mr. Taft's desires before acting, adding, "You will understand that my resignation is in your hands."

Mr. Crane, in further conversation in regard to his position, said that he committed no indiscretion, as in discussing the commercial and political situation in the Orient he was only following the wishes of President Taft, who had told him to make his utterances on this subject "red hot."



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## THE DANGER OF THE INCIDENT.

Cable advices from New York announce that some of the newspapers apparently intend to make party capital out of the action of Secretary of State Knox in cancelling Mr. Crane's appointment to the Peking Legation. Mr. Crane himself is endeavouring to shift part of the responsibility for his grave indiscretions to President Taft, and it is by no means improbable that the President will be drawn into a controversy which may become mischievous and even inimical to the national interests.

In the opinion of responsible public men, Mr. Crane demonstrated his unfitness for a diplomatic career within a week of the announcement of his appointment to be United States Minister to China. He seemed to go out of his way to make speeches upon the delicate subject of American and International politics in the Far East, and he crowned his indiscretions by according an interview to the *Chicago Record-Herald*, in the course of which he divulged confidential information which he had received at the State Department, and which was intended solely for his guidance.

The tone of all his speeches and statements to newspaper reporters was strongly anti-Japanese, and the most awkward part of this awkward business is that the Tokio Government must know, or at any rate strongly suspect, that that tone was the result of Mr. Crane's conversations with the Secretary of State.

Obviously this entirely destroyed Mr. Crane's possible usefulness as United States Minister at Peking, where he would have been brought into daily contact with Japanese influence and policy. It is, of course, ridiculous to suggest as some American newspapers have, nevertheless, not hesitated to suggest, that the Japanese Government has raised officially with the State Department the question of Mr. Crane's appointment. Such interference would not be tolerated for a moment at Washington, and the Japanese Government is far too shrewd to venture upon it.

Mr. Knox has taken his almost unprecedented action for the reason, which is really unanswerable, that Mr. Crane would be regarded at Peking as a Chinese partisan, and as such would at once come into serious conflict with Japanese diplomacy. Such a position would be full of possibilities of danger, and would make the representative of the United States powerless to promote effectively real American interests in the Far East. That is the view of the situation held by Mr. Knox, and the entire personnel of the State Department at Washington.

## NEWS OF THE WORLD.

For the information of our readers we would draw attention to the fact that the German Customs examination at the Dutch frontier is now characterised by greater stringency than formerly. The official staff has been reinforced, and every measure is now taken to prevent the smuggling of tobacco and coffee into this country.

A despatch received from Bluefields, Nicaragua, at Colon reports a defeat of the Government's troops by the rebel army near Greytown.

The Land Development Bill passed its second reading in the House of Lords on Thursday. The opposition agreed to the Bill as a whole, but reserved the right of making several amendments when it comes up for the third reading.

At the aviation contest at Juvisy on Wednesday, Count Lambert was adjudged by the Committee to have won the prize for the best round. The result of the race for a prize offered by the Society for Aviation were as follows: First, M. Paulhan; second, Count Lambert; third, M. Gobron. The prize for the greatest distance covered by a single competitor was won by M. Paulhan, with Count Lambert second and M. Gobron third.

President Fallières and several of his Ministers attended the aviation meeting at Juvisy on Thursday to witness M. Paulhan's flight for the distance prize. The aviator rose at once to a height of 150 metres, covered three rounds in quick succession, manoeuvred over the flying ground, and flew six kilometres across the open country, returned to the ground, and finally landed from a height of 80 metres smoothly before the President's stand. M. Fallières heartily congratulated the successful aviator, amidst the enthusiastic plaudits of the spectators.

On the Juvisy flying ground yesterday morning one of the aviators, M. Pichet, fell with his machine from a height of 15 metres to the earth. He sustained severe injuries, losing an eye and breaking his left leg.

A serious disaster has occurred in Holland in connection with the removal of some wreckage along the coast between Waterweg and Scheveningen. On Thursday afternoon a quantity of dynamite was being conveyed to the scene of operations in a barge, when it exploded. The barge was blown to pieces and six workmen were instantly killed.

The *Paris Figaro* states that King Edward has intimated his intention of revisiting Biarritz some time during the next season, to stay a month or six weeks. His Majesty is said to have selected a villa for his residence. The King will travel incognito, but, nevertheless, will pass one or two days in Paris on either the outward or homeward journey, and will have an interview with President Fallières.

An interesting relic of the period of the Crimean War was recently found in Memel Harbour, in the form of a sword belonging to Capt. John Foote, who commanded the British corvette *Conflict*, and who, with four seamen, was drowned in the harbour in April, 1854, owing to the capsizing of a ship's boat. Capt. Foote had been on shore in connection with some prizes which he had brought into Memel. The find was reported to the Emperor William, who ordered inquiries to be made, with the result that the weapon is to be restored to Capt. Foote's son, Vice-Admiral Randolph Foote, President of the Ordnance Board.

Admiral von Koester, commanding the German squadron at New York which took part in the Hudson-Fulton celebrations, has issued a note of thanks to the people of New York, in which he says: "For this magnificent reception and the overwhelming hospitality I am in a great measure indebted to the esteem and regard which binds Americans of German origin together. I am convinced that the celebration will constitute a valuable link in the old chain which unites Germany and America in friendly relationship. It has been a particular pleasure to me, this opportunity of renewing old friendships with the representatives of other nations."

Mr. J. Ridgely Carter, First Secretary at the American Embassy in London, who has been appointed United States Minister in the Balkans, will leave London about the middle of next month. Mr. Ridgely Carter will first return to Washington in order to receive his instructions from his Government, and will then proceed to Bucharest. Mrs. and Miss Ridgely Carter, who are now in Paris, are expected to return to London next week, and will travel to America with Mr. Ridgely Carter. Mr. W. Phillips, who will succeed Mr. Ridgely Carter, is not a stranger to London. He was private secretary to Mr. Choate during the latter part of that diplomatist's Ambassadorship in England.