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The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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THE ENGLISH CRISIS.

(FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, brother of "Joe" and, strange to say, an ardent Liberal, has expressed his views in a Liberal paper on the crisis. Commenting on what action King Edward might take, he says: "As to the promised action of the peers, it seems to me that the way to meet it is to go to the King and say that the Commons have voted the money necessary to carry on the services and they find that the Bill embodying those votes is being detained in the House of Lords, that they don't mean to vote any more money while the Bill remains, and that they ask the King to create a sufficient number of peers—whether that number be great or small—to cause the Bill to be voted on 'Aye' or 'Nay' without further delay."

"On that the King may do two things: He may either warn the Peers that if they do not take up that Bill and settle it definitely one way or the other he will appoint a sufficient number of new peers to do so; or the King may say that there is a quarrel between his House of Commons and his House of Lords which imperils the proper maintenance of the national services, and that he therefore will dissolve the House of Commons. It follows from that that the House of Commons itself will not for one moment have admitted the claim of the Lords either to interfere with finance or to dissolve the People's House."

"That the King should dissolve Parliament is, of course, within the Constitution, and his action therefore involves no giving away of the principle by the Liberal Party. On the other hand, if the King decides that there is no sufficient reason for dissolving the House which has shown such readiness to provide for the services of the State, the Peers will practically have to take the responsibility of their own unconstitutional position. They will be forced to reject the Bill, and then we know where we are, and we shall have a definite issue to put before the country. That issue, as I said before, must be two-fold. First, the people must be asked: Do you wish the House of Lords to arrogate to themselves the power of taxing you? And if they answer that in the negative, as they surely will, the second question is: Do you wish that a House that had shown itself capable of the violent and unconstitutional action that has forced this election to continue with the old powers of obstruction?"

On Wednesday afternoon the crisis advanced smoothly and swiftly by a further stage. The House of Lords, in brisk and businesslike fashion, surrendered their amendments to the Irish Land Bill, and substituted others which in the main embody the results of conferences between the Government and the Irish Peers, led by Lord Lansdowne. The Bill gives money to landlords, and money has reconciled the landlords to proposals which, apart from the contingent bribe, would have been rejected with contumely. Lord Lansdowne's manner during these discussions was blandly dictatorial. He "stipulated" for this point and could not agree on that point, with a decision from which clearly there was no appeal. And he re-

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minded the Government of the gratitude which was due to his friends, who have thus deigned to accept their millions of bonus, without pressing for an entirely re-drafted Bill.

The studied and chilling courtesy of Lord Crewe, his slowly uttered, hesitating, yet polished sentences, cold and hard as ice, always make the Opposition uneasy. One could detect beneath the calmness of this characteristic English drama a certain restlessness, as of men gambling intently at a roulette table, with the stakes involving their ancestral fortunes. Behind the veil of repression lies a world of prejudice, passion, and avarice; wait till these men are alone, conversing at their dinner tables, and you will know what is meant by their dour silence in public. Scores of them are interested, directly or indirectly, in selling drink. And where a man's treasure is, there will his heart be also.

Beyond these walls the horizon is heavily overclouded, with rumblings of thunder, distant yet audible. The Stock Exchange, slow to believe that investments can be seriously threatened save by Socialists, refrains from panic, but is gloomily depressed. Tradesmen look askance at the newspapers, and wonder what will happen to business this Christmas if the revolt of the Peers proceeds. The air is still but sultry; men are uncertain what to think of a situation so unusual.

LONDON, Saturday.—There is as yet no alteration in the situation created by Lord Lansdowne's Budget rejection amendment. It is reported that a number of public demonstrations in the vicinity of the Houses of Parliament have been arranged to take place on Monday evening, after the Peers have refused to grant the second reading of the Finance Bill.

NEWS OF THE WORLD.

PARIS, Saturday.—The height record for flying machines, recently established by Count Lambert in his flight of 1000 feet round the Eiffel Tower, was twice beaten on Thursday, by M. Paulhan and M. Latham, at the Chalons aviation ground. With a Farman aeroplane M. Paulhan executed a flight of nine minutes in which he attained an altitude of nearly 1200 feet. He was followed by Latham on an Antoinette monoplane, with which he remained aloft twelve minutes at a height of over 1350 feet.

NEW YORK, Saturday.—The New York Chamber of Commerce gave a banquet in honour of the various diplomatic representatives, at which the German Ambassador and the British Ambassador delivered speeches. Count Bernstorff deprecated war scares raised by irresponsible speakers and declared that international commerce was the strongest support of peace. The nations could find no better way of progressing together than through the common bonds of commercial interest, and it was therefore most desirable that Germany and America should arrive at a practical trade agreement. German-American relations, concluded the Count, would have to be reshaped after February 2, 1910, but he hoped they would remain normal, a hope which appeared to be common in both countries. Mr. James Bryce, the British Ambassador, said that there was room enough on the globe for all the great progressive industrial nations. He was convinced that international peace would be maintained. Count Bernstorff replied that Mr. Bryce had given expression to the very feeling which permeated everybody in Germany.

NEW YORK, Saturday.—According to a report from Panama, 1,000 persons have been cast into prison at Managua (Nicaragua) on suspicion of disloyalty to President Zelaya and owing to their refusal to pay the special war tax now being levied in the republic.

LONDON, Saturday.—Representatives of every religious body in England, with the exception of the Roman Catholics, held a mass meeting of protest last evening against the continuation of abuses in the Congo territory. A resolution was adopted advocating a thorough reform in the Congo, the carrying through of which was England's responsibility.

WASHINGTON (D.C.), Saturday.—Mr. McVeagh, Secretary of the Treasury, announced last night that since March 1, 1909, 104 Customs officials of the New York Customs service had been discharged and 123 degraded in consequence of dishonesty and irregular practices. Numerous other measures had been taken to eradicate the vicious element in the service.

ST. PETERSBURG, Saturday.—Violent snowstorms in Central Russia have resulted in interruption of communication by telegraph between St. Petersburg and Moscow. Other towns are also cut off from the capital, including Rostock on the Don, Tiflis, and Irkutsk.

TENERIFFE, Saturday.—The inhabitants of six villages immediately threatened by the Las Flores volcano have been thrown into panic. Many have fled to the coast where they are being embarked on board several steamers.

ST. PAUL (Minnesota), Saturday.—The Supreme Court has quashed judgment passed by the District Court of Utah on the Union Pacific Coal Company and the Union Pacific Railroad for breach of the Anti-Trust law, and ordered a new trial.

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