

Editor,
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THE TIMES

A DAILY NEWSPAPER

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THE TIMES
Port Limon, Costa Rica (G. A.)

The Festival of Empire.

UPWARDS OF 300 BUILDINGS BEING ERECTED AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Every Day Finds Some New Wonder Introduced.

London.—Everything in connection with the preparation of the Festival of Empire, the Pageant of London, and the All-British Exhibition of Arts and Industries is progressing most favourably, and there is not the slightest question that this is going to be the most wonderful and successful series of exhibitions ever organised in the Old Country.

Every day finds some new wonder introduced; every day sees an increased demand by British manufacturers for space in the grand old building chosen to reveal their products. Already nearly 600 stands have been arranged for. Some of the sections of the Industrial Exhibition are full, but in others there is still room for enterprising demonstrations, which will at once be attractive and educational. One may form some idea of the vastness of this Industrial Exhibition when one knows that the Palace itself is nearly 80 acres in extent, and has over a mile of wide galleries.

Sir George Frampton, R.A., with the Earl of Plymouth and others prominently associated with the Festival, have decided upon a scheme of decoration for the interior of the building. It was no easy matter to fix upon the best methods of adorning the many bays, because the Palace is an engineering rather than an architectural triumph.

The announcement of the fact that King George V. will, in celebration of his Coronation, entertain 100,000 children at the Festival of Empire on June 8th, has done much this week to draw public attention to this colossal work of patriotism and philanthropy. At the same time it will come as a surprise to most people to learn that the Council of the Festival of Empire is erecting in all

OVER THREE HUNDRED STRUCTURES

on the 350 acres of ground ranging from the 270,000 Ottawa Parliament buildings to decorative kiosks.

The painting of that 800 yards of the Palace which faces the grounds is proceeding apace at the hands of 300 daring decorators who look like flies as they crawl about the dizzy glasshouse front.

The colour chosen is two shades of French grey, and every piece of wood and iron work has to be cleaned before its two coats of colour are put on, while all the glass work has also to be cleaned, certainly the highest window cleaning contract on record.

The four large ornamental basins which stand amid the lawns of the main terrace are to be retained, and the fountain arrangements have been overhauled by Mr. G. W. H. Harris, A.M.C.E. He found the old arrangements to be wonderfully good and a few alterations will be necessary, though a centrifugal pump, driven by electricity, is to be installed in order to effect an economy

in the water used. As it is 80,000 gallons of water an hour will be thrown into the air from over 600 jets, the highest being 60 feet.

Mr. Harris has also in hand the arrangements for fire prevention. A mile and a half of new water mains are being laid down in order to feed 50 hydrants in various parts of the ground. There will be a permanent Fire Brigade of 25 men, while 200 other attendants will be specially trained, and everybody on duty in the place will be instructed in the use of the hydrant, and four special kinds of extinguishers. Moreover day and night men will be on duty to keep the keenest eye on the scenery and pavilions.

The Jamaica Garrison.

It is reported in military circles that it is the intention of the War Department to station a full battalion of white troops in Jamaica on the completion of the Panama Canal in 1915.

An Interesting Problem

An interesting and important problem has confronted the new Union Parliament of S. W. Africa, "Should marriages between white and colored persons be forbidden by law? The answer to the question doubtless means much for the future of the country, but there is also a moral and a legal issue involved, and it has been tackled by Mr. Gaughran, Vicar Apostolic of Kimberley in the following letter:

While all are agreed that marriages between the white and black races are, generally speaking, very undesirable, and while we are, therefore, glad Mr. Gaughran for the best of intentions in introducing the prohibitory clauses in the Marriage Bill, nevertheless, in view of the leprological consequences certain to result from the adoption of this clause, it is the duty of every lover of the country to protest against it, and to oppose it by every legitimate means. The result of a mixed marriage of the kind referred to is, at worst, but a physical evil, while the prohibition will issue a flood of moral evil incomparably more ruinous and of graver an effect probably not foreseen by the author of the clause is that it will, if accepted, bring men who so greatly desire to live as dutiful and law-abiding citizens, into conflict with the law.

Whatever the new law may enact, it will be the duty of the Catholic Clergy, for whom I speak with authority, to list as marriages of the kind referred to, if that people call upon them to do so.

They must take the consequences of their approval to the law of Parliament, in order to be faithful to the Law of God.

I have no right to speak for the clergy of other denominations, but I feel sure that many of them will take the same view of their duty.

A law which thus conflicts with conscience can not long be maintained. Universal experience prove that, speaking generally, the less the State interferes in the matter of marriage, and the more the freedom of the citizen is respected, the better.

Beyond prohibiting what the moral law plainly forbids, and determining the legal status and rights consequent on marriage, it ought to be enough for the State to be satisfied that marriage has been contracted according to the formula of any recognized religious body and to accord it formal sanction.

In a country such as this it is only by a certain self-restraint on the part of our lawmakers that serious difficulties and complications can be avoided.

TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

High Prices for Seats.

London.—From information furnished by the Directors of the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, it appears that the prices to be charged for the Coronation gala

performance range from 100 guineas for grand tier boxes to one guinea for a single seat in the gallery.

A Huge Fraud

According to "El Noticiero" the Medical Faculty of San José received an official communication from the British Consul stating that a certain individual in this town, holding a certificate as a dispenser is practising as a medical man, that this individual sometime ago wrote a certain firm of printers in the United States requesting them to send him a Medical Diploma in blank, bearing the official seal of the Consul General of the United Kingdom, the printers immediately forwarded the original letter to the Consul General for his information.

It is sincerely hoped that the Fiscal to whom this communication has been sent by the Faculty will take up steps intended to discover and arrest the barefaced man; and that an example should be made of him in order to put a stop to the practice that is a menace to humanity and which has been allowed to go on here from year to year unchecked. How many persons have been hurried to a premature grave by these night hawks and bids of pret, it is not impossible to say that they do exist and carry on their nefarious business too well known to the public.

Mishap of s. s. "Albion"

We learn through the "Telegraph and Guardian," Jamaica that the s. s. "Albion" of the Hamburg American Line which returned to Kingston on Friday 24th ult., was on her way to her way to Kingston for New York.

Captain Forward the loading of the Company in Kingston left for the scene of the wreck, and with the assistance of the steamer "Westphalia" and "Crotalia," pulled off the "Albion" on Thursday 23rd, the same day on which she started operations. The "Albion" was removed from the reef practically unharmed. A quantity of her cargo was thrown overboard during the salvage operations. The vessel went ashore in rough weather.

Britain and United States.

PAPERS STILL DISCUSSING THE IDEA OF ARBITRATION TREATY.

Conservative Press on Defensive Alliance.

London.—The discussion in the newspapers of an Anglo-American arbitration treaty continues unabated. Sir Edward Grey's speech at the banquet of the International Arbitration League last night appears to have removed one of the chief objections to Mr. Taft's proposal, as urged by the Conservative Press, that a treaty would involve a defensive alliance, and strong hopes are expressed in the editorials that negotiations for the treaty will soon begin.

The "Daily Telegraph" declines to believe that the negotiations would be up-reeked like those undertaken by Lord Palmerston when he was Ambassador at Washington, and thinks that an

Anglo-American treaty might speedily be followed by a similar German-American settlement.

The idea of a treaty is strongly opposed by the Imperialist organs like the "Outlook" and the "Saturday Review," the latter displaying its usual anti-American bias.

The "Spectator" says: "An arbitration is the only way in which we could enter upon a treaty of arbitration with perfect confidence. She is neither aggressive nor acquisitive. She is regarded as a world-wide Power and may be described as a satisfied nation; and arbitration is the only method for which she has any reason to be satisfied nations for the simple reason that it means the maintenance of the status quo."

Neuralgia, Toothache and Swellings are cured with Kirk's Pain Balm.

Current News.

The s.s. "Cortez" will be cleared by the United Fruit Company for Colon tomorrow. She will take mails and passengers.

Passports were issued yesterday by the Government as follows: For Jamaica 12, Col. 10, Cuba 2 and Brazil 2, Total 16.

The s.s. "Limon" of the United Fruit Company line of steamers sailed from this port on Sunday last for Boston. She carried one passenger whose name is Mr. M. Lindman. Her cargo was 30,000 bunches bananas.

The train dispatcher received a wireless message from the "Carthag" that is now on her way to this port to secure a first class coach to accommodate 30 tourists who will be starting for the port on the arrival of the boat to day.

On Saturday last, young lady's native of the Republic, who was a passenger on the train for San José last 23d. When the train was three miles from Limon she reported her loss to the conductor, telling him that she had the amount tied up in her handkerchief and he should search the passengers. This she could not be satisfied to do, saying he had no authority to do so. She was disappointed by her "hard" 23d.

Ernest Williams, a man employed as carpenter at the car shop in the northern railroad, called on the Police Court Judge yesterday and asked him to em-

ploy Mr. Mullings, the Superintendent of Works to let him have his time check as he had left the Company's employment since last month. The Judge sent a note to call Mr. Mullings, who came accompanied by a foreman named Hinds who told the Judge that Williams was found loafing when he should be working, and when spoken to struck him. Williams did not deny "punching" the man, but did say when he was abused by him, the Judge fined Williams 210 and ordered Mr. Mullings to give the man his time check, which is to be sent to the Judge to be given to Williams.

A man named David Hibbert, a Jamaican, was taken up in Limon, suffering from insanity and sent to San José to be placed in the Lunatic Asylum. The man was refused admittance and sent back to Limon; we distrust not being a native of the Republic they could not find space for him. If this is so, and he has grave reasons to believe so, the fact that foreigners (especially Jamaicans) have a lien on this institution, they being the strongest supporters of the San José Lottery. We can safely say 80 per cent of the profit of this huge concern is from the Jamaicans alone, this being so why should they shut out one solitary case. It would be a black day for Chapin Asylum if the Jamaicans were to shut down (cease to buy) lottery tickets.

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