

A meeting of Jamaica sugar-planters passed a resolution condemning Great Britain's neglect of the West Indies, and asking for federation with Canada.

Mr Bryan's paper declares that President Roosevelt's utterances on the subject of trusts are puerile, and merely apologizing for illegal corporations, instead of denouncing them.

China is urging Russia to restore Manchuria and evacuate Neuchwang in return for the Manchurian section of the Pekin-Neuchwang railway. Russia's hesitation to comply arouses suspicion.

The Battersa Council accepted, after an acrimonious discussion, Mr Andrew Carnegie's offer of £15,000 for libraries. The extremists on the council described the gift as "blood money," sweated from the poor.

Mr Hall, a member of the Assembly, has given notice of motion favouring co-operation with Western Australia and Queensland to secure separation from the Commonwealth, on the basis of intercolonial free-trade.

"Le Mutin" semi-officially announces that the political attitude of M. Marais Montebello, the French Minister at St. Petersburg, has caused his recall, and that it is untrue that the Czar resents the Government's action.

A commercial traveller named Peardon, residing at Hurstville, Sydney, was brutally attacked by his family on Monday. He killed an infant and then committed suicide. Several of the children were dangerously wounded.

The American cruisers Wisconsin and Cincinnati have been ordered to proceed to Panama and Colon respectively to prevent the Colombian revolutionists interfering with the Isthmian traffic and bombarding Panama.

Russia intends stationing a number of shallow-draught gunboats and torpedo-boats on the River Amur (which runs through Russian territory in part and above it forms the boundary between Siberia and Manchuria).

At the instance of the National Free Church Council, an influential body of Nonconformists are organising to refuse payment of the education rate under the new bill. There is a disposition to make the movement a test question at the municipal elections.

The township of Landsborough (Queensland) is in grave danger of being swept away by a bush fire which has been raging round the place for two days. A detachment of police has been sent to rescue the women and children, and to assist in fighting the fire.

A crowd of coloured people at Bridgetown, Barbadoes (West Indies), prevented the removal of a small-pox patient, and stoned the police, injuring several. The Riot Act was read, and many arrests were made. The British cruiser Retribution has been ordered to Bridgetown.

An irreconcilable Filipino named Rios, claiming to be related to the Godhead, attacked Lagunimano, wanting to kill several women. The constabulary defeated Rios and captured his mountain stronghold. They also arrested 700 of his followers on a charge of complicity in the murders.

The Dublin Corporation has condemned the Government proclaiming under the Crimes Act "the most crimeless city in the world."

The submarine boats at Cherbourg exhibited extraordinary skill, outmanoeuvring the battleships.

Botha's relations with Kruger, Leyds and Reitz have become ruptured. He attributes the failure of the Boer generals in the recent conference with Mr Chamberlain to Reitz's defiant language. Botha declares the generals' further presence in Europe will be exclusively devoted to raising financial aid for the Boers.

Five hundred ponies at Candelia and Apulia struck for an increase of wages, and occupied the roads and prevented others from proceeding to

work. They stoned the gendarmes and soldiers, injuring several. The troops fired, killing five strikers and wounding ten. Order has now been restored.

There are strong complaints in commercial circles owing to the 'Frisco mail being delayed through the health officer not clearing the Sierra because she arrived after sundown. The Sydney mails were delayed 12 hours, while those for Victoria and Queensland suffered to the extent of 48 hours.

An extraordinary tramcar accident occurred in Renfield-street, Glasgow. Owing to an accident to the brake a car dashed down the hill on the wrong track, colliding with another car, the two then crashing into a third. All were derailed. One lady was killed and 30 passengers were injured.

A tremendous hailstorm has ruined much of the hop and fruit crops in Mid-Kent. Two hop-pickers were killed by lightning.

The damage done by the recent hail storm in Kent is estimated at £100,000. A mass of drifted hailstones nearly filled a cutting 40 yards long, ten feet wide, and six deep.

An Army order abolishes roll-calls except at reveille, and parades on Sunday, with the exception of church parades. The order also replaces regimental garrison guards by police; permits smoking in the streets whenever soldiers are off duty; minimises the duties connected with kit inspection, allows a definite period of leisure daily, and substitutes fatigue duties for defaulters' "cells."

A decree has been issued at Caracas, which orders the revolutionary general Matos to be tried for treason on the ground that he offered that if the revolutionary efforts were successful he would allow outside capitalists to control the Venezuelan finances.

The Venezuelan consul at Liverpool reported that an offer had been made to Matos in this connection.

The Rev. Smythe Piggott, successor to Brother Prince as head of the Agapemones (a peculiar religious body founded in 1859), announced on Sunday evening at their Ark of the Covenant, at Clapham, that he was the Messiah. Emotional scenes followed, several ladies testifying that his claim was correct. Two hundred unbelievers on Monday made a demonstration outside Piggott's residence.

Two thousand Government troops have surrendered at Agua Dulce, Colombia (Central America), through famine.

The Colombia revolutionists overwhelmed the Government forces on the outskirts of Santa Marta. The dead were terribly mutilated.

Owing to the revolution in Colombia the United States has sent a strong naval reinforcement to Panama to keep the railway open.

South African tactics were largely adopted at the recent German army manoeuvres, every advantage being taken of the nature of the ground. English critics, however, consider the firing lines were too crowded. Wireless telegraphy was largely and successfully used during the manoeuvres.

During the army manoeuvres at Frankfurt the Kaiser led a charge for a mile of eight thousand cavalry. It was a magnificent spectacle.

Sir E. Barton was banquetted in Montreal. Lord Minto (Governor-General of Canada) and three hundred leading commercial people were present. The Federal Premier denied any intention of accepting the rumoured Appellate Court Judgeship.

Sir E. Barton, responding to the Ottawa Corporation's hearty welcome, referred to the similarity of the people and Constitutions of Canada and Australia, and advocated an all-red line from Britain, through Canada, to Australia.

Seven miners are still entombed in the Union coal pit at Forest of Dean.

Three men were rescued from the mine. They were entombed for 180 hours, and were foodless except for a single meal. Three bodies have also

been recovered. The crowd at the pit's mouth sang the "Doxology" when the men were brought out alive.

The three miners were able to walk. They never lost hope, and prayed for their rescue. They mostly lost count of time. They had no food, but were able to obtain water.

News has been received of a fight with pirates in the Persian Gulf, in which the crew of H.M.S. Lapwing (a gunboat of 805 tons, under the command of Lieut. and Commander J. G. Armstrong) were engaged. The boats belonging to the Lawing had a serious engagement with two piratical Arab dhows in the Gulf. In the fight one bluejacket was killed and two were wounded.

News has been received that the British gunboat Lapwing (whose boats recently had an exciting fight with piratical Arab dhows, in which a bluejacket was killed) has captured three dhows in the Persian Gulf.

The Imperial Cold Storage Supply Company proposes to acquire the South African and Australian Cold Storage properties for the sum of £1,650,000. The Imperial Company proposes to increase the capital to £2,000,000 and secure subscriptions of £100,000 additional capital.

Mr D. B. De Graaf, managing director of the South African Cold Storage, joins the board. Mr J. K. Stephenson, general manager of the original company, becomes the general manager of the new combination. Mr J. H. Harris, formerly in the Melbourne office of John Cook and Co., has been appointed assistant manager.

News from India states that Private Abbott shot Captain H. E. Neave dead in his bungalow at Belgaum, Madras, on Monday week. The murderer has confessed. The motive is unknown. The victim is the son of Mr Francis Neave, of Christchurch, New Zealand. Captain Neave, who has been murdered in India, was a brother of Lieutenant A. C. Neave, who went to South Africa with the First New Zealand Contingent, and who, after being transferred to the Yorkshire Light Infantry, was killed at Paardeburg. Captain Neave was educated at Christ's College, and joined the Army ten or eleven years ago. His parents live in Christchurch.

A peculiar case was heard in the Sydney Court. Mary Green, petitioned for divorce from Wm. Green, well-known in business circles. She alleged that Green deserted her in 1868. Petitioner admitted that she had lived in New Zealand under the name of Walker, being under engagement to a gentleman of that name; and that her son took the name. She kept the Trafalgar Hotel, in Castle-rough-street, a few years ago, the son holding the license. Respondent, who is married, denied that he ever knew the petitioner, and satisfied the judge that it was a case of mistaken identity. Petitioner's counsel admitted the mistake, and the petition was dismissed with costs against her.

A cable message from Melbourne states that the report of the Royal Commission on the management of the railways asserts that the experiment of so-called non-political management of the railways had not been satisfactory either to the general public or the employees. The accounts had not been properly kept, and did not clearly represent the results of the work of the department. The merchandise and passenger rates were such as would not be commended by any man of sound business capacity. The Minister had no control over the management, and his appointment was misleading to the department and a deception to the public. The report recommends a Commission of three, with the Minister as chairman, the Minister to have the power of veto over the decisions of the board by a written memorandum, which would be presented to Parliament with the railway reports.

The deaths are announced of Sir Frederick Abel, Director of the Imperial Institute, aetat 76; and Mr. Philip James Bailey, author of the poem "Festus," aetat 85.

(Sir Frederick A. Abel, C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S., was born in London in 1827. His name is known principally in connection

with chemistry and explosives. His published works are "The Modern History of Gunpowder," 1865; "Gun Cotton," 1866; "On Explosives," 1872; "Researches in Explosives," 1875; and "Electricity Applied to Explosive Purposes," 1884. He was a member of the British Ordnance Committee, also Chemist to the War Department, and Chemical Referee to the Government. From 1887 he was Ordnance Secretary of the Imperial Institute, and was also its director. He was created C.B. in 1897, and was knighted in 1883.)

(Philip James Bailey was chiefly known as the author of the poem "Festus." He was called to the Bar in 1840, but did not practise much, and devoted himself chiefly to practical composition. "Festus" was published in 1839, and passed through 11 editions in England and upwards of 30 in America. Other works by Mr Bailey were "The Angel World," 1850; "The Mystic," 1855; "The Universal Hymn," 1857, all since mainly incorporated with "Festus.")

## GENERAL CABLES.

### THE KING'S CRUISE.

The King and the Royal party paid a delightfully unceremonial visit to Dunrobin Castle (the Duke of Sutherland's seat), where they chatted and encouraged the boyish competitors at an aquatic tournament. The King endured deer-stalking in rough country without harm. The party proceeded to Invergordon, travelling to Balmoral via Elgin, Ballater and Aberdeen.

The King and Queen will visit the city on October 18, on their return via the South to London, and attend a thanksgiving service in Westminster Abbey on the 19th.

### GERMANY AND HAYTI.

The gunboat Cretea Pierrot, belonging to General Ferriin, leader of the rebellion in the negro Republic of Hayti (West Indies), seized the German steamer Markomama, at the entrance to Port-au-Prince (the capital of Hayti), confiscating the arms and ammunition aboard. Considering it an act of piracy, the German cruiser Panther shelled and sank the gunboat off Gonaives.

New York accounts say the crew escaped to Cape Hayti, but a cable to Paris says they were drowned.

Prior to the Panther's action the Washington authorities showed little disposition to question the gunboat's act if the seizure were within the territorial limit.

The German cruiser Panther's commander ordered Admiral Killick to remove the crew and surrender the Cretea Pierrot in five minutes.

He afterwards extended the time to fifteen minutes, on condition that the rebels abandoned their arms and ammunition. The crew disembarked in great disorder. The Panther's boarding detachment discovered the Cretea to be on fire. The cruiser then sank her with 30 shots.

The Germans are delighted at the prompt punishment of the Cretea Pierrot, the Haytian revolutionists' gunboat, shelled and sunk by the German cruiser Panther.

The Berlin "Post" says the incident is a lesson to revolutionists and ephemeral Governments in Central America that they must not dare to interfere with international trade.

There is little criticism in America over the Cretea Pierrot incident, except that Germany should rather have used the birch than the club in administering punishment to the rebels for their seizure of the German steamer.

Washington officials consider that the Monroe doctrine has not been violated, since no territorial aggression took place.

A cablegram from Gonaives (Hayti) asserts that Admiral Killick personally fired the magazine on the Haytian revolutionists' gunboat Cretea Pierrot, and went down with the ship, which was moored close to the shore, when his vessel was shelled by the German gunboat Panther.

The Haytian revolutionist, General Chickoye, has been executed at Port-au-Prince.

General Firmin, in a violent proclamation, accuses the authorities of Hayti of instigating Germany to destroy the gunboat Cretea Pierrot.

Anti-German placards have been posted in the towns of Gonaives and Saint Marc.