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CRUISER TACOMA ORDERED TO BLUEFIELDS AT FULL SPEED

Danger of An Attack on the Town by Forces of President Zelaya.

CONFERENCE HELD IN WASHINGTON ON RECEIPT OF DISQUIETING NEWS AND DECISION WAS TO HURRY ADDITIONAL FIGHTING MATERIAL TO BLUEFIELDS—MARINES TO BE LANDED AT COLON FROM THE DIXIE AND HURRIED ACROSS THE ISTHMUS TO BOARD THE BUFFALO.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 11.—Disquieting news received today to the effect that there is danger of an attack by Zelaya's forces on Bluefields, resulted in orders being sent to the cruiser Tacoma to proceed under full steam for Bluefields, there to join the Des Moines. The Prairie will also sail with seven hundred marines in a few days. While the destination of the Prairie is given as Colon, the fact that she is equipped with wireless will make it easy for her destination to be changed at any moment after she sails.

News of Zelaya's probable attack on Bluefields when received here caused some apprehension and a conference was immediately held in the office of the secretary of the navy, the decision of which was to hurry additional fighting material to Bluefields.

TO MEET ANY CONTINGENCY. Thus far there is no intimation that a landing of bluejackets or marines is contemplated, but it is certain they are being placed in a position to meet any contingency. Marines from the Dixie are expected to land at Colon today and be hurried across the Isthmus and aboard the Buffalo. It is believed they will sail for Corinto.

Questioned as to the truth of statements made in an interview by Zelaya, officials said it was full of errors. One was that Zelaya disclaimed that the execution of Cannon and Groce was by his order, of which the state department has absolute truth to the contrary.

PRAIRIE TO PROCEED TO COLON WITH 700 MARINES

Philadelphia, Dec. 11.—The transport Prairie, which is grounded in Delaware river, was floated today. She is uninjured and will proceed to Colon with 700 marines on board. The Tacoma, with a number of bluejackets, has been ordered to Bluefields at once.

WILL BREAK UP "BLACK HAND"

INDICTMENTS ARE RETURNED AGAINST SIXTEEN SICILIANS AT TOLEDO, WHO ARE ALLEGED TO HAVE EXTORTED MONEY FROM ITALIANS.

By Associated Press. Toledo, Dec. 11.—That the government will endeavor to prove a wide spread conspiracy to extort money from Italians was shown by an indictment returned today by the federal grand jury against sixteen Sicilians, alleged members of the "black hand," apprehended last June.

A secret indictment was also returned, the nature of which is unknown. Six of the defendants are in jail here and the others are out on bond of ten thousand dollars each. The government hopes by this conviction to break up the "black hand" in the United States.

CLARK AND RUTT WIN SIX DAY BICYCLE RACE

By Associated Press. New York, Dec. 11.—The reconstructed team of Clark and Rutt won the six day bicycle race tonight. In the final exhibition of a mile between the two winners, Rutt won in 3 minutes and 16 seconds by only six inches.

Network of Corruption in Customs Service is Disclosed

Washington, Dec. 11.—Efforts to recover all money due and to punish the persons involved in the sugar frauds at New York are to be vigorously pushed, according to Attorney General Wickersham, whose annual report was laid before congress today. The evidence, he says, has disclosed a network of corruption, not confined to the American Refining company and extending over a period of years, affecting both importers and officers of the government. He asks for a special appropriation of \$50,000 so that the prosecutions may effectively proceed.

Murder of Thirteen-Year-Old Detroit Girl is Revealed

By Associated Press. Detroit, Mich., Dec. 11.—The murder of Helen Brown, 13 years old, of No. 271 Third avenue, was revealed today by the finding of the child's body lying half frozen in a truck yard at No. 10 Jones street. The child's face and head were frightfully cut and battered and there was evidence that she had been cruelly mistreated. Her hat lay 15 feet away from the body and it was evident that she had made a desperate fight for her life.

Footprints in the snow along the east side of the yard showed where the murderer had led his little victim to her fate. The girl's mother sent her last evening to visit an aunt in Fifth street. Mrs. Brown appealed to the police early today, when she learned that her daughter had started home from the visit. Upon finding the body, the police started practically without clue to hunt the murderer.

CONGRESS WILL ADJOURN ON 21 MEN ENTRAPPED IN LAKE OF TAR

WILL HAVE CHRISTMAS RECESS OF TWO WEEKS, RECONVENING ON JANUARY 4—SOME WANTED EARLIER ADJOURNMENT.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 11.—Congress will adjourn for the holidays on Tuesday, the 21st instant, and Christmas recess will continue for two weeks, terminating on Tuesday, the fourth of January. There has been some pressure for an adjournment on Saturday the 18th, but Chairman Taft, of the house committee on appropriations, has made a strong plea for an opportunity to get the appropriation legislation started in the house that his wishes have been granted.

NIGHT RIDERS BEING TRIED

RAPID PROGRESS BEING MADE IN HEARING TESTIMONY—TWO MEMBERS OF THE BAND TELL OF THE MURDER.

Union City, Tenn., Dec. 11.—Rapid progress was made today in the trials of Garrett Johnson and Arthur Clear, alleged leaders of the night riders, charged with the murder of Captain Rankin. The police will probably close its case Wednesday.

TAFT TALKS TO THE CENSUS MEN

Washington, Dec. 11.—President Taft today notified ambitious members of congress that the newly organized machinery for taking the census shall not be utilized politically. He addressed eighty-five supervisors of the census and told them plainly that if they used their offices or permitted enumerators under them to further political ends he would remove them promptly.

CUBANS BEAT TIGERS. Havana, Dec. 11.—The Havana baseball team today defeated a picked American team 2 to 1.

FOUR HELD FAST AND COMPELLED TO WATCH THE GRADUAL APPROACH OF FLAMES—THREE BURNED TO DEATH.

Pittsburg, Dec. 11.—Entrapped in a lake of flowing tar, four men were held fast at the McClain and Irvine company's roofing plant when it caught fire today and were compelled to watch the flames gradually approaching. Three of them were burned to death, but the fourth managed to extricate himself and escape the horrible fate of his companions, although he was seriously burned. It is said the men were not employed at the works, but since winter set in, had been in the habit of sleeping there at night. In some manner the valve of a tar vat opened and before the sleeping men knew their danger they were engulfed.

SAYS HE COULD PRODUCE CHILD

SHABBILY DRESSED MAN APPEARS AT HOME OF KIDNAPPED GIRL, BUT DISAPPEARS QUICKLY WHEN QUESTIONED.

By Associated Press. Louisville, Ky., Dec. 10.—Late today a shabbily dressed stranger, giving his name as Sinking, appeared at the home of Alma Kellner, who was kidnapped last Wednesday, declaring he could produce the child. Pressed for details the man made a hasty exit. The police and detectives in an auto are searching for him.

SENSATION IS NOW PROMISED

BAN JOHNSON, OF AMERICAN LEAGUE, SAYS HE WILL NAME MEN CONNECTED WITH BRIBING SCANDAL OF 1908.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—President Ban Johnson, of the American League, today declared he will furnish a sensation for the gathering of baseball magnates in New York next week by naming the men connected with the alleged bribery scandal of the Chicago-New York series of 1908.

COAL FAMINE IS PROBABLE

St. Paul, Dec. 11.—The strike of switchmen was enhanced today by rumors from Minneapolis of a coal famine and by the report that thirty of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, switchmen and others who are on strike will return to work Monday. The coal men deny there is a possibility of a coal famine in Minneapolis. Agents of the state railroad and warehouse commission, who have been investigating the freight traffic situation in the Twin Cities affected by the strike, reported today that the companies are keeping less carload shipments moving, but that carload freight is very much curtailed.

FUN GALORE AT DINNER OF THE GRIDIRON CLUB

Guests of Prominence Heard Revelry, Song and Nonsense and Wisdom.

HOMELY TRUTHS TOLD IN STRANGE FORMS, AND MEN HIGH IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE ENJOYED MANY A JOKE AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE—NORTH POLE DISCOVERY AND EFFORTS TO ARBITRATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COOK AND PEARY ONE OF THE FEATURES.

Washington, Dec. 11.—President Taft and members of his cabinet, senators, judges, scientists and diplomats and men of high station in life spent several hours tonight as the guests of the Gridiron Club in revelry and song and nonsense, blended with wisdom. They heard many homely truths told in strange form and enjoyed many a joke at their own expense because of the genial humor in which the shafts of wit were concealed. Men of strongly opposed politics, and others who, although of the same political party, had found serious reasons for wide divergence, were present at the dinner and listened, not only with philosophy but with glee, to the comical exploitation of their quarrels.

The distinguished company learned in an authoritative way the truth about the discovery of the North Pole through a scientific commission which reported personally to the Gridiron Club, and undertook to arbitrate the differences between Peary and Cook, who in this instance were represented by Edward L. Keen, of the Washington Post and San Francisco Call. One of the explorers said he had identified the pole by the resemblance of the climatic conditions to inauguration day in Washington. He had qualified for his task by climbing Capitol Hill to reach the appropriations committee and was equipped with a fountain pen and megaphone. The pole (Continued on Page Seven).

IN DELIRIUM WOMAN ACCUSES HER HUSBAND

Only Survivor of the Savannah Tragedy Talks of J. C. Hunter.

HE IS ARRESTED, THOUGH THE BELIEF PREVAILS THAT A NEGRO KILLED THE AGED MRS. GRIBBLE AND HER DAUGHTER—NEGRO WAS SEEN TO ENTER THE HOME WITH AN AXE IN HIS HAND, BUT NO CLUE CAN BE FOUND AS TO HIS IDENTITY—LARGE REWARDS OFFERED.

Savannah, Dec. 11.—A statement by Mrs. Maggie Hunter, the only survivor of the three women who were attacked and two of them killed here yesterday afternoon, made in her delirium at a hospital, where she hovered between life and death, caused the re-arrest of her husband, J. C. Hunter, today.

Physicians and nurses listened with hopes of catching a clue from the ravings of the injured woman of the perpetrator of the crime, which caused the deaths of the aged Mrs. Eliza Gribble and her daughter, Mrs. Carrie O'Rourke, heard Mrs. Hunter say her husband struck her. Despite this many believe a negro is the murderer. He was seen to enter the house at the time of the murder with an axe in his hand. Search for the negro continues but no trace of him can be found. Governor Brown today offered a reward of \$200 for the murderer. The mayor here had previously offered a reward of one thousand dollars. Accompanied to the cemetery by a few relatives, the bodies of the two murdered women were buried this afternoon.

200 HELD IN JAIL. There are now in the city prisons over 200 negroes, held either under suspicion that they may either be connected with, or have guilty knowledge of the crime, or detained for protection. Not a few of the prisoners asked to be locked up until the popular frenzy has time to cool off.

With daylight came no cessation of the efforts of the officers to run down the murderer. As fast as one section of the county had been scoured the posse left for another. The universal determination was that "we have got to get that man." The officers are devoting not a little of their time to scotching the public feeling. It is realized that in the present inflamed condition of the popular opinion, the formation of a mob might easily follow even a partial identification of a suspect.

J. M. Ward May Be Elected President of National League

New York, Dec. 11.—The chances of the election of John M. Ward to the presidency of the National Baseball league appeared brighter today, although John A. Heydler's friends were fighting hard to keep him in the position and declared their confidence of winning out. Ward is not energetically backed by Charles W. Murphy, president of the Chicago club, but President Charles H. Ebbetts, of the Brooklyn club, declares that it is certain that five of the eight clubs will vote for Ward on the first ballot, thus electing him. Outside of the fight for the presidency, it is expected that there will be a strong coalition over the plan to change some of the rules governing the game, and this will meet the annual meeting of the league next Tuesday one of the most interesting in recent years.

MRS. A. F. REED IS SENT TO PEN.

WOMAN WHO ATTEMPTED TO SECURE \$100,000 FROM MRS. GIBBEVIE CHANDLER PHIPPS BY BLACKMAIL IS SENTENCED.

Denver, Dec. 11.—Mrs. Allen F. Reed, recently convicted of assault and attempting to blackmail Mrs. Genevieve Chandler Phipps, of Denver, out of one hundred thousand dollars, was this afternoon sentenced to not less than one year, nor more than eighteen, in the penitentiary.

ELLIS ENTERS A PLEA OF GUILTY

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 11.—Following a denial of his motion for bail, W. Y. Ellis today pleaded guilty to the murder of N. P. Willis, whom he shot in the court room here. The Ellis trial recently resulted in a hung jury. Sentence will not be determined until after his sanity is investigated. In the trial Ellis based his defense on a plea of insanity.

WARSHIPS PROMISED FOR MARDI GRAS IN PENSACOLA

Senator Fletcher and Local Citizens Call on Secretary Meyer.

A delegation of local citizens who recently left here for Washington to attend the Rivers and Harbors Congress, accompanied by Senator Duncan U. Fletcher and others of the Florida congressional delegation, paid a visit to Secretary of the Navy Meyer on Friday, according to information that reached here yesterday, and elicited a promise from that official to send warships to Pensacola for the Mardi Gras carnival of 1910. This will be welcome news to those of this section, and especially to the Carnival Association and those who are working to make the carnival an even bigger success than the last one.

FREIGHT RATES ORDERED DOWN

ADVANCE MADE BY LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE FROM NEW ORLEANS TO MOBILE AND PENSACOLA, WILL NOT STAND.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The freight rate advance on certain classes by the Louisville and Nashville from New Orleans to Mobile and Pensacola, Fla., via intermediate points, are held by the Interstate Commerce Commission to be unjust and unreasonable, and were ordered reduced to the sum of local rates.

MAYOR REILLY AND TREASURER IN CONFERENCE

MAYOR INFORMS TREASURER THAT GOOD SECURITY WILL BE EXPECTED OF HIM BY TUESDAY OR COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION

Mayor Reilly and Treasurer Howland met in the office of the city executive yesterday at noon in the city hall and discussed the question of the bond of Mr. Howland, the treasurer. The latter informed the mayor that it was possible bond in the sum named would be made and filed by Tuesday of this week. Should such be correct, the matter will be closed at that time. Should, however, the bond be not furnished by Tuesday night, the mayor has authorized the statement that a special meeting of the council will be called for action on the question. The treasurer will then be given opportunity to appear with counsel if he so desires, and the matter will be thrashed out and settled. The matter of a bond, however, will not be allowed to go over later than Tuesday night of this week if such is not furnished. At least, that is how things were understood last evening at the city hall.

The mayor placed the matter up to the council, it was asserted, for disposition when he wrote the body. His letter was referred to the finance committee and for five weeks the communication was not officially heard from. Then at the last meeting of the council the finance committee submitted a report practically endorsing what the mayor had written more than a month previously. While for particulars were not presented by the mayor, it is said in some quarters that the council will be the next source where the case should be handled. The action in giving tacit endorsement of the finance committee's report and not so strongly endorsing that portion as appertaining to the treasurer's case was not thought to be the proper manner in which the case should have been handled. The case, by the council's action, goes back to the original source, which means that the mayor again has it put up to him for disposition.

From conversation with members of the council, there appears to be no disposition to oust the present treasurer, but a bond will be demanded, even in the usual course of things, if there are no great responsibilities at present attached to the office.

TROUBLE WITH CHARGED WIRE

HIGH WIND AND RAIN EARLY THIS MORNING CAUSED SOME CONFUSION WITH OVERHEAD LINES IN THE CITY.

Overhead electric light and telephone wires suffered to some extent early this morning during the high wind which prevailed between midnight and 2 o'clock. Some of the lights went out at times but flickered into life again, while wires crossed at points, several times causing the fire alarm indicators at police headquarters and truck houses to sound two or three times. One policeman was shocked when he tried to report from a police telephone box to the station. He reported that he inserted his key in the box when he received a severe shock. He reported from a private telephone thereafter.

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE CUT TO SIX CLUBS

Augusta, Ga., Dec. 11.—At a meeting of the directors of the South Atlantic League today it was decided to cut the league to six clubs. This eliminates Knoxville, Chattanooga having joined the Southern League. Columbus, Ga., remains in the league. It is believed Charleston will get the Columbus franchise, which is said to be for sale.

Army Officers Are Opposed to Modification Physical Tests

Washington, Dec. 11.—How determined army officers are to preclude modifications of the Roosevelt physical tests was shown today in the annual report of Gen. J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff. "Physical tests and physical training should not be abolished," says he, "but conditions connected therewith can undoubtedly be improved. He announces that modifications of the system, suggested by ex-secretary of war, will be made to the secretary of war. While Gen. Bell does not outline what these modifications will be, it is believed they will provide that officers serving in the tropics and officers about to return on account of age shall be exempt from taking the tests. No increase in the strength of the army is recommended at this time. Gen. Bell, however, asks for extra physical training should not be abolished on detailed duty and absent from their commands. A most important subject for the general welfare of the country, Gen. Bell says, is the means of raising a volunteer army for the organization of a volunteer army to raise the fitness of the army has made a declaration of war.

PRESIDENT TAFT IS EXPERIENCING HIS FIRST TEST AS THE NATION'S EXECUTIVE



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