

AWAIT THE REPLY

POWERS EXPECT ROOSEVELT TO SETTLE TROUBLE.

DIFFICULTY NEARING AN END

Certainty that Venezuelan Problems Will Be Solved in the Near Future Through the Medium of Arbitration.

WASHINGTON.—President Roosevelt has proposed to the allied powers:

That the Venezuelan dispute be submitted to the arbitration of The Hague tribunal.

The powers have replied with a counter proposal that President Roosevelt himself arbitrate the issue.

If an agreement is reached on arbitration, the procedure would be for Mr. Bowen, representing Venezuela as a plenipotentiary, to sign with the representatives of the allies a protocol stating that the case is to be submitted to arbitration; that Venezuela admits the right of diplomatic intervention in behalf of a claimant, a principle she has always resented, and that the details of the arbitration shall be arranged in a formal treaty, which she pledges herself to sign. This treaty will provide in the greatest details for the security of foreign interests against vexatious and extortionate interference on the part of the Venezuelan government hereafter, and will insure the administration of exact justice in the settlement of claims, and especially will it relieve foreign residents of Venezuela from forced loans and persecution in times of revolutions.

The status of the arbitration negotiations, as disclosed at the State department, was that the powers were waiting for an answer from the president to the proposal that he himself undertake to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulty. The president's answer can only be guessed, for the officials decline to express any opinion of their own. However, it is believed to be a safe prediction that he will renew his suggestion that the case be submitted to The Hague tribunal, adding to the argument he has already produced, the fact the United States having claims of its own against Venezuela to the amount of about \$100,000, is a party in interest, and it would be unfair to put the president in the position of having to arbitrate his own claim. For their part, the powers bring against The Hague proposition the argument that President Castro would feel tribally bound by any decision by that tribunal, but would be certain to heed a judgment rendered by President Roosevelt. It is said at the State department that no matter how these two propositions are disposed of, there will be no backward step, and that an agreement of some kind, which will bring about a peaceable settlement of the Venezuelan trouble will result from the present negotiations.

LONDON LOOKS ACROSS WATER.

English Statesmen Want Roosevelt as Arbitrator.

LONDON.—It is believed that President Roosevelt's answer to the proposal made by the allied powers that he arbitrate the Venezuelan issues has been received in London. The strictest secrecy with regard to every phase of the negotiations is preserved, however, and it is impossible to make a definite statement, but such indications as are obtainable point to President Roosevelt's acceptance. With President Roosevelt as arbitrator the serious objections in the matter of guarantees which frequently have been mentioned at the foreign office would disappear. The promptness with which Washington deals with vital matters concerning which prolix poupariers have been interchanged in Europe astonishes diplomats here and forms an interesting phase of an engrossing situation.

Answers German Demands.

CARACAS.—The Venezuelan answer to Germany's ultimatum has just been made public. In part it is as follows: "The Venezuelan government is unable to discover in its correspondence a single sentence offensive in tone. "With regard to the publication of the note of March 8, 1901, marked 'confidential,' this note lost its confidential character through the publication of a memorandum by the German ambassador to the United States in which was incorporated the note in question. "Regarding the other points, each of which comes within a certain law, it is only necessary to call your attention to the abnormal circumstances which have paralyzed any course of action relating to these matters. The Venezuelan government is now considering the appointment of a fiscal agent. "The imperial government desires that Venezuela immediately satisfy the claims arising from the civil war and that other matters be arbitrated. "The Venezuelan government only awaits the time when the work of pacification, in which it is earnestly engaged, shall permit it to issue an order re-establishing public credit. The claims arising out of the present war, which still devastates the republic, will be treated with all justice under the laws to be passed to cover the requirements. "Upon the special command of my government I refrain from replying to that part of your note which relates to joint action on the part of Germany and the United Kingdom. A

power like Venezuela, which is in need of no stimulus to cause it to fulfill its legal obligations to its utmost ability, can never expect any course of action which shall not conform to the principles of mutual respect and the rules of reciprocal cordiality. "R. LOPEZ BARALT, "Minister of Foreign Affairs."

SOME ARBITRATION DETAILS.

Responses from Interested Governments Regarding Settlement.

WASHINGTON.—Secretary Hay has received partial responses from the governments of Great Britain, Germany and Italy, respecting the proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulties. Great Britain is favorable to arbitration with proper safeguards; Germany accepts arbitration in principle, but finds a multitude of small adjustments to be made before entering into the agreement; Italy, as the junior partner of the allies, declares that it is favorable to arbitration, but would be bound by the action of the senior partners.

As far as England is concerned the safeguards referred to are believed to relate to the question of guarantee, which is full of difficulties. In this connection some consideration is again given to the feasibility of responsible parties assuming responsibility for any award assessed against Venezuela. If this can be arranged the United States government will do what it can to reduce their risks. The feeling is growing here that The Hague tribunal should undertake the case if arbitration is agreed to. Mr. Bowen, it is reported, wishes to come to Washington in order personally to effect an adjustment with the resident ambassadors of the allies, but, while the State department makes no statement on the point, it is believed that it does not regard this plan with favor. It is also pointed out that in some phases the disputes will not admit of arbitration. Such, for instance, as the attacks on British and German subjects and the German legations at Caracas, and the arrests of consular officers.

The United States government inclines to the view that there is a disposition to insist needlessly on guarantees for payment of any judgment that might be rendered by the arbitrators. It believes that the force of public opinion would absolutely insure a settlement.

COLORADO CONTEST CLOSE.

Hard to Pick Winner in the Senatorial Race.

DENVER, COLO.—Senator Henry M. Teller arrived here from Washington today to spend the Christmas holidays and to look after his interests in the contest for re-election. In addition to Teller, the announced candidates are: Former Senator Edward O. Wolcott, Frank C. Goudy of Denver, District Judge Walter N. Dixon of Pueblo, and Irving Howbert of Colorado Springs. Teller claims the entire democratic vote on joint ballot and will likely get it, as there is no one opposed to him in the democratic party. The remaining four candidates will divide the republican support. Goudy claims to have pledged about two-thirds of the republican members of the legislature and this claim is said by well-informed leaders to not be too sanguine. A great deal depends upon the outcome of contests now before the state canvassing board. Should the democrats be seated, the house will stand: Democrats, thirty-two; republicans, thirty-three. On the canvassing board are two populists, elected through fusion with democrats. Failure to accept propositions for fusion at the recent election held out by populists, has placed the democrats in an attitude of unfriendly relationship with the populist party, and it is feared they will seek revenge now through their representatives on the canvassing board. The illness of Representative-elect Jones, a republican, at Hot Springs, also complicates matters. Should he be compelled to remain away and the democrats be seated the vote in the house would be a tie.

Want No Consumptives.

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—The committee appointed by the state senate to report on consumptives coming to California from eastern states and the proposed plan to establish a state institution for their care has decided to recommend restrictive legislation. It was decided not to support the plan of establishing a home for patients, the committee being of the opinion that such a move would only result in encouraging persons suffering with tuberculosis to come to California.

Pension Appropriation.

ST. LOUIS.—The joint trial of five former members of the house of delegates on charges of bribery, which began on Tuesday, ended Friday night in a sentence of five years for each man. The defendants, John A. Sheridan, Charles J. Denny, Charles Gutke, Edmund Bensch and T. E. Albright, after hearing the verdict, filed motions for a new trial and were released on bond.

WASHINGTON.—

The senate on Wednesday passed the pension appropriation bill without discussion. It carried \$139,847,000. An urgent deficiency bill was also passed. The amount carried by this bill is \$1,148,400, and includes an item of \$500,000 to enable the secretary of agriculture to stamp out the foot and mouth disease, which has become epidemic in the New England states.

NEBRASKA IN GENERAL

TEACHERS COMING IN FORCE.

Superintendent Looks Forward to a Well Attended Meeting.

Superintendent of Instruction Fowler believes the meeting of the state teachers this year will be more successful and of more interest than any previous meeting. In an interview he said:

"The teachers of Nebraska are coming to the state association this year in larger numbers than ever before. The vastly better program is attracting them. Many will be here Monday and Tuesday (29th and 30th) to take the state examination for life certification. In fact the office of the state superintendent of public instruction will not be large enough to contain them all. Many other teachers will be in Tuesday to see the art exhibit before the regular meetings begin. The county superintendents will all be here Tuesday to attend the business session in representative hall and to discuss school law. The educational council will meet Tuesday evening and Wednesday forenoon, and Wednesday afternoon nine meetings of the auxiliary association will be in full blast. From that time until Friday night you won't be able to throw a snowball on O street, or between the Lindell and the Lincoln, from St. Paul's church to the university without hitting a schoolman. And they will not all dissolve from view Friday night. Many will remain over Saturday to do some shopping, and others will remain faithful to the program at St. Paul's church Friday evening and go to the 'play' at the Oliver Saturday afternoon or night. "Much Ado About Nothing."

CLAMORING FOR GRAIN CARS.

Farmers Complain That They Cannot Get Their Crops to Market.

THAYER, Neb.—The farmers living around Thayer are complaining bitterly of the treatment that the Farmers' Grain Elevator company is receiving at Thayer from the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroad. They assert that the Elkhorn is furnishing the trust elevators with empty cars and that the farmers are unable to get a car. Officers of the company are leaving for Omaha, where they will see the proper officials and see if they cannot receive fair treatment from the Elkhorn. The grain bins are full and farmers have had to stop threshing machines. They think it pretty hard to have to stop taking grain when the company elevators are taking in grain right along and are receiving cars. BENEDICT, Neb.—Elevator men on the Kansas City & Omaha railroad complain that since the road has been operated by the Burlington it is harder work to get cars than under the old management. Every elevator is full of grain and many of them in York county on the Kansas City & Omaha have filled the driveways. Corn shellers and threshing machines have had to stop, as elevators cannot take any more grain.

FREE DELIVERY IS ASKED.

Protest Against Changing Land Leasing Laws.

WASHINGTON.—Representative Burkett on Wednesday called at the postoffice department, and requested the establishment of a free delivery service at Plattsmouth. Three deliveries of mail in the business portion and two deliveries in the residence sections is desired a day.

Saves Life by a Miracle.

BEATRICE, Neb.—Gus Schmidt, a resident of this city, came very near losing his life while shoveling snow off the roof of a brick building. He accidentally slipped off the rear edge of the roof that was concealed by the heavy snow drifts and fortunately caught himself by a piece of 2x4 projecting from the fire wall. He hung there for some time suspended forty feet above the ground, and by the greatest effort succeeded in pulling himself back on the roof, thereby saving himself from a serious if not fatal accident.

Found Hanging in Barn.

BLOOMFIELD, Neb.—William Hilke, a well-to-do German farmer, living south of this place, was found hanging from a beam in his barn. When the body was discovered life had been extinct for some hours. Hilke was a widower with several small children. It is supposed grief over the loss of his wife impelled his rash act.

Wins Oratorical Contest.

CRETE, Neb.—In the annual oratorical contest held here three of its best orators contended for the honor of representing Doane in the state contest soon to be held in Lincoln. Arthur F. Gulliver, the representative of the sophomore class was the successful contestant. "David Livingstone" was the subject of his oration. Mr. E. W. Altrater won second place, and with it the honor of being chairman of the delegation to the state contest.

Mrs. Guy Barton, who has been held at Sheridan, Wyo., on the charge of killing her father-in-law, returned home to Plattsmouth, accompanied by her brother, Lawrence Stull. Mrs. Barton was released upon bail pending her trial, which is set for February 2.

Governor-elect Mickey was a visitor at the State Industrial school at Kearney, dropping in without announcement on his coming. He made a critical inspection of all parts of the institution, but made no comment on the administration of Superintendent Boghtol.

A new democratic daily will be started in Fremont about January 1, or before. A stock company has been formed and will be incorporated as soon as a few preliminaries are out of the way. The stock will be \$4,000, of which Waldo Wintersteen of Fremont will own half and about twenty leading democrats of the city and county the other half.

The "Hello Bill" company, which showed at Beatrice, had the receipts of the box office and baggage attached by Miss Mildred Claire and Frank T. Glenn, members of the company, who claimed that Manager Kellogg owed them back salaries to the amount of \$100 each. Mr. Kellogg denies the fact that he owes the alleged debt and proposes to fight the case.

Fire broke out in the store of the Anderson Mercantile company at Neligh and the fire and water rendered the stock of merchandise nearly a total loss. The stock was probably worth \$10,000, on which there is but \$2,000 insurance. The fire came from a lamp set too near some cotton wrappers displayed on a line through the store. The building is badly damaged.

Plans are being made by a number of local business men to purchase the south half of block 17, Flora City addition, and present the same to the City of Ashland, to be used as a public park. The ground is finely located for a park, being within one block of the business center. F. H. Chickering and C. N. Folsom are circulating a subscription paper, headed by a donation of \$1,000 from E. A. Wigenhorn, and ranging in amount from \$150 down to \$50.

The Nebraska Association of Osteopathic Physicians held its annual convention in Lincoln. A number of interesting papers were read and discussed and a legislative committee appointed, which will look after matters of interest to the association before the coming legislature. These officers were elected for the coming year: Dr. Milligan of Grand Island, president; Dr. Moss of Ashland, vice president; Dr. George Beaman of Omaha, secretary.

Twenty-four hours after leading his bride to the altar, Mead Morrell, a fireman on the Burlington railroad, lost his life in a head-on collision at Table Rock. Train No. 64, standing in the yards, was about to pull out. Train No. 67, coming into the yards at twenty-five miles an hour, crashed into the standing engine. Both engines, their tenders and a number of cars of merchandise were totally destroyed. Morrell was told to jump, but evidently did not have time.

Governor-elect Mickey was in Nebraska City to investigate the management of the institute for the Blind. In an interview Mr. Mickey stated that he found the people very well satisfied with Mr. Morey, the superintendent at the institute, but that there is some dissatisfaction as to the way in which the school is managed. Mr. Mickey said he had not yet decided whether he would retain Mr. Morey, but would carefully investigate the situation before rendering a decision.

Much legislation is asked from the coming legislature by the legislative committee of the State Teachers' association, which met in Lincoln with State Superintendent Fowler. One of the most important recommendations is in regard to the age of teachers. The committee was unanimous that no person under the age of 17 years ought to be permitted to teach in the public schools of the state. This measure will result in many changes if adopted by the legislature. There are hundreds of teachers in the state below that age. To exclude them will cause a greater demand for older teachers and the increased demand will probably be followed by a raise in the wages that the teachers will receive. The rules of the State Normal school at Peru may also have to be changed to conform to the new measure.

The four men who robbed Hayden Bros. at Grand Island, Saturday night were captured in Kearney and the Grand Island chief of police arrived and identified some of the articles stolen.

The water famine at Nebraska City is over and the company has all the water needed to supply all of the demands of the city and industries. The river has been rising steadily for some time past and now there is three feet of water at the intake pipe at the pumping station.

Grover White, a Winnebago Indian, was fined \$100 and costs and sentenced to sixty days in the Douglas county jail for giving liquor to Indians on the reservation. This is the first instance where an Indian has been fined for such an offense, and establishes a precedent. If the law is enforced in the future, federal officials say, it will do much to break up the liquor traffic on Indian reservations, as it will prevent Indians from buying liquor, for fear of punishment, and giving it to their tribesmen.

VENEZUELA SUBMITS; ARBITRATION WINS

Financial Interests of the Country Urge President Castro to Yield—Minister Bowen Undoubtedly Will Be One of the Arbitrators—Britain Admits State of Warfare—The Sinking of the Venezuelan Battleships.

It is now more than probable that the difficulty between Venezuela and the powers will be arbitrated. Although no definite conclusion has been reached, it is generally conceded that Minister Bowen will be one of the arbitrators.

This action was the result of a demand made upon President Castro by large financial interests in Caracas, urging him to bow to the superior force and yield to the power of the allies, receding as gracefully as possible from the position he has taken. Strong pressure was brought to bear upon him to influence him to take this action. A large number of the merchants of Caracas presented the matter to the president and urged him to this course. They submitted that Venezuela was powerless against the mighty strength of England and Germany, assisted through the ultimatum of Italy and the withdrawal of the Italian minister, by the strength of that country.

It is reported that President Castro has decided to yield to the wishes of the delegation and sue for peace through Minister Bowen. He is reported to be willing to accept the terms of the British and German ultimatum.

From the beginning of the trouble President Castro has acted with ex-

traordinary energy. He has transformed the entire country into a vast camp, having raised more than 40,000 men, whom he has well armed, equipped and transported from every direction to La Guayra and Porto Cabello, occupying territory even temporarily. We do not think it desirable on either military or other grounds. All the conditions governing such a blockade have been carefully considered and will be published in due time for the information of neutrals.

"The government is most anxious that these operations, the necessity for which we deeply regret, should be as little inconvenient to neutrals as they can possibly be made. No difference will be made between the vessels of the various neutral powers. I think it is quite likely that the United States will think that there cannot be such a thing as a 'pacific blockade,' and I, personally, take the same view. Evidently a blockade involves a state of war."

GERMAN POSITION IS STATED.

No Occupation of Venezuelan Territory to Be Considered.

The German foreign office denies explicitly that the German squadron in Venezuelan waters has orders to seize Margarita island, adding that no occupation of the territory of Venezuela will occur. The officials allege that a systematic effort is apparently being made to

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represent Germany as the propelling power in the coercion of Venezuela and as being responsible for all the harsh measures.

For instance, they say, the bombardment of the forts at Porto Cabello is ascribed to German initiative, whereas the officials say without reservation that the bombardment was at the British commander's suggestion, the Topaze being the British ship.

The German commander participated in the firing as a loyal ally.

The German government is not insisting on more severe measures than the original plan contemplated, and regards the sinking of the "two diminutive, wholly unseaworthy craft," as an "insignificant incident."

The Berlin newspapers print from Kiel a statement that the German cruisers Ariadne, Amazon and Niobe are again being equipped for departure to Venezuela, but the correspondent of the Associated Press is informed officially that no such orders have been given and that it will depend later upon the demands of the blockade whether additional vessels will be sent.

German Officer Was Killed. It has been learned that an officer of the German cruiser Vineta was killed during the bombardment by a rifle bullet fired from the shore. The Vineta left Porto Cabello suddenly for Willemstad, Curacao, where she arrived with her flag at half-mast. It is believed she went to Willemstad for the purpose of burying the body of the dead officer.

American Vice-Consul Volkmar, German Consul Tiede and British Consul Kolster have prevailed upon the German and British commodores to desist from their plan to disembark marines, seize the cannon in Fort Solano and ask for the capitulation of Porto Cabello.

The allies have released Gen. Bello, who was made a prisoner in Castle Libertador, and have promised to release the other prisoners in a few hours. Fort Solano and Castle Libertador are not to be garrisoned by Venezuela as long as the present difficulties continue. This is agreed upon to avoid another bombardment.

Argentina Not to Interfere. It is denied officially that Argentina intends to intervene in the Venezuelan affair, although the press protest against the actions of the Anglo-German fleets. In the chamber Deputy Martinez protested against what he termed the brutality of the powers against weak nations and invited the Argentine government to initiate a policy aimed frankly at securing the solidarity of South America by means of an agreement of mutual defense and independence among all South American nations. M. Martinez's resolution was referred to committee.

Stranger Fulfillment of Dream. The strange fulfillment of a dream was revealed at an inquest at Bradford, Yorkshire, recently. Benjamin Pearson, aged 21, a mill hand, was killed by falling backwards in a hoist shaft. Ezra McNeill, a fellow workman, said he told his colleagues he had dreamt that Pearson was dead at the bottom of the shaft. A companion replied in jest, "We had better go and see if your dream is true." To their dismay they found it was true for the remains of Pearson were in the well.

Most Noted Sicilian Brigand. A worthy successor to Musolino, the noted Sicilian brigand, now in prison, has arisen in the person of one Varasolona, whose fame even threatens to eclipse that of the other robber. Already 600 persons are waiting trial for aiding him in various ways. Salom, so far has succeeded in capturing officers sent to capture him. A bandit is hidden in the cave some half a dozen times a dozen and a

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Showing Relative Distances of England, Germany and Points in North America from Venezuela, and Don A. F. Pulido, Venezuelan Charge d'Affaires at Washington.



President Castro.

In the expectation that the allies would attempt to land at one or both of these points.

But there has been a change of feeling, and the prominent men of Venezuela who were at one time ready to lead the people in defense of their country now consider that justification to take the men of the republic away from their families and their work does not exist. They have resolved to discover a means to bring about arbitration, or at least treat with the allies. The means sought is thought to lie through the United States legation, and satisfactory results are on every hand expected to follow.

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