

The CHIEF

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ONE YEAR MORE IN CUBA

UNITED STATES WILL RELINQUISH CONTROL JULY 4, 1908.

TAFT HEARS CONSERVATIVES

Secretary Decides Elections Cannot Take Place Until Thorough Census Has Been Taken—Next Crop Will Be Gathered Under American Control.

Havana, April 10.—That there be no elections in Cuba before next year was urged by a committee of conservatives on Secretary Taft. The members of this committee, among whom are some of the strongest men in Cuba, argued that Cuba today was torn by political passions and that at least one year must pass before these can subside and elections be carried out in a manner creditable to both the United States and Cuba. The only other desire regarding the date expressed by the conservative committee was that Cuban independence be re-established before the expiration, Dec. 19, of the present reciprocity treaty, in order that Cuba be in a position to treat for a renewal of this treaty.

The committee urged the importance of holding municipal elections first and the other elections subsequently, separately, or together, as Mr. Taft might think best.

Secretary Taft will communicate with President Roosevelt by telegraph and he probably will make a statement today. Consequently, great excitement prevails.

Although the committee of insurgent generals that conferred with Secretary Taft reiterate their statements that Mr. Taft promised them national elections in December, it now appears as a matter of fact that the secretary only said he would recommend such action to President Roosevelt.

It appears that July 4, 1908, will be the date when the control of Cuban affairs is given back to the Cuban people. A compromise which will result in the turning over of the control of Cuban affairs on the American holiday is probable. It is known that Secretary Taft insists upon a thorough census, considering such a step absolutely necessary before successful elections can be held. This undoubtedly will require more than four months, the estimate made by the liberals. Consequently, the municipal elections would fall in October or November, but as December is the month for harvesting the sugar crop, it is recognized that elections in October or November are impracticable, as they would pretty thoroughly disorganize the community as just the time when the greatest number of men are needed in the fields. The wishes of the planters will be heeded and the next Cuban sugar crop will be gathered under American control.

DAY OF CONFERENCES

Central American Representatives Busy at Washington.

Washington, April 10.—A day of conferences between the Central American representatives here in the effort to reach a basis for peace had no marked results. Having deciphered the cable response from his own government to the propositions submitted to him by the representatives of Salvador and Guatemala, Senor Corea, the Nicaraguan minister, called upon Senor Creel, the Mexican ambassador, who had been taking the part of mediator, and acquainted him with President Zelaya's answer. This made necessary further conference, which fact was taken as an indication that the Nicaraguan response was in the nature of a counter-proposition. Messrs. Corea and Creel then repaired to the state department to confer with Secretary Root and Assistant Secretary Bacon. This conference also settled matters only so far as to pave the way to another conference, which was held between Messrs. Creel and Corea and Herrante and Mejia, the latter two representing Guatemala and Salvador respectively.

Peary to Try Again.

New York, April 10.—The application of Robert E. Peary for leave of absence of three years, which was approved by the secretary of the navy, has uncovered the fact that Commander Peary definitely purposes to make another attempt this summer to reach the North pole. The three years' leave of absence, during which he made his famous journey to the

farthest point north ever reached by man—87 degrees, 6 minutes—expired last Sunday, and the new leave begins at once. It is expected the start will be made some time in June.

Twelve Killed at Lodz.

Lodz, April 10.—Numerous fights have occurred among the workmen in this district. The men were actuated by political motives, and the fighting resulted in the killing of twelve and the wounding of fourteen persons. The government alcohol stores here were robbed, the two soldiers guarding the buildings being killed by the robbers.

Mud Slide Blocks Traffic.

Cheyenne, Wyo., April 10.—A mud slide occurred at the east portal of the Aspen tunnel, on the Union Pacific railroad, and traffic between Green River and Ogden is at a standstill. The track is covered to a depth of twenty-five feet for a distance of nearly a hundred yards, and it will be many days before the blockade will be raised.

HARRIMAN MUST ANSWER

Interstate Commerce Commission Decides to Take Matter Into Court.

Washington, April 10.—According to a decision issued by the interstate commerce commission, E. H. Harriman will be made to appear in a United States circuit court in New York, in answer to proceedings to compel him to answer certain questions which he refused to answer when he was on the stand at the recent hearing by the commission in New York. The action will be brought as soon as Messrs. Kellogg and Severance, special counsel, can prepare the case for court.

The hearing before which Mr. Harriman appeared was in connection with certain transactions of the Union Pacific. On advice of counsel he refused to answer the questions put to him. It was brought out in the testimony that the Union Pacific owned a large amount of Southern Pacific stock. Mr. Harriman was asked whether any and, if so, how much of that stock belonged to himself, when he bought it and what price he paid for it, but he declined to answer.

Another question which he refused to answer and upon which the commission desires light was whether or not any of the directors of the Union Pacific were interested in the sale of certain shares of stock of the New York Central railroad at the time they were sold to the Union Pacific.

STANDARD OIL FILES ANSWER

Makes General Denial of All Charges in Government's Bill.

St. Louis, April 10.—The answer of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, John D. Rockefeller, Henry H. Rogers and other individual defendants and about forty of the defendant corporations to the government's ouster suit was filed in the United States circuit court for the Eastern district of Missouri.

The answer was filed by counsel, Judge H. S. Priest of St. Louis, and comprises a general denial of all the charges in the bill filed by the government and denying each paragraph in the bill in its order. With the denial was filed a bill of exceptions to all other parts of the government's bill, comprising thirty-seven exceptions, on the grounds of irrelevancy.

The denial and bill of exceptions were filed with James R. Gray, clerk of the court, which is not in session at this time. It is stated the first matter to be taken up before the court will be the hearing of the arguments on the bill of exceptions. These arguments will be heard before the four judges, Sanborn, Hook, Adams and Van Devanter, sitting together. The time for the hearing has not been set, but the next term of the court will be held in St. Paul in May, and it is considered possible the hearing may come before the court in St. Paul.

Serious Floods in Serbia.

Belgrade, Serbia, April 10.—The widespread floods, caused by melting snow, are growing more serious. Many towns are practically under water. The military authorities are making every effort to save life and property.

WILLIE SELLS IS PAROLED.

Kansas Convicted of Murder While Young Is Released by the Governor.

Topeka, Kan., April 10.—Governor Hoch granted a conditional pardon to Willie Sells, the quadruple murderer who has been in the Kansas penitentiary since 1888, serving a life sentence. The principal condition of the pardon is that Sells must not in any manner exhibit himself for the purpose of making money.

Mine Promoter O'Hara Arraigned.

Denver, April 10.—John J. O'Hara, a mining promoter, who was indicted by the federal grand jury in session at Pueblo last week on the charge of using the mails to defraud, was arraigned before United States Commissioner Hinsdale, in this city.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA.

Railway Commission Busy.
Lincoln, April 6.—The state railway commission has selected H. J. Winnett as chairman and D. G. Powell as one of the rate clerks.

Doughman Kills His Wife.
Nebraska City, April 5.—Near the town of Burr, C. C. Doughman shot and killed his wife. The man claims the shooting was accidental. Neighbors charge the couple quarreled because Doughman had been drinking. Officers are investigating.

Farmers' Association Winds Up.
Topeka, Kan., April 5.—The Farmers' Co-operative Shipping association, with exchanges over Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska, decided to wind up its affairs at once. Certain members claim independent grain dealers worked the ruin of the association by spreading dissension.

Green Bug in Nebraska Wheat Fields.
Omaha, April 9.—According to dispatches received by Omaha grain men the green bug has appeared in southern Nebraska within the last few days. Thus far the insect has done no damage to the wheat in Nebraska, but it spreads fast and works rapidly, and it is feared that the crop will suffer great damage unless something develops to stamp out the pest.

JURY FOR NEBRASKA LAND CASE

Twelve Men Selected to Try Huntington, Todd and Hoyt.

Omaha, April 9.—A jury was secured in the district court to try the case of the United States against Thomas M. Huntington, Fred Hoyt and Ami B. Todd for conspiracy to defraud the government out of use, possession and title to large tracts of public lands, conspiracy to secure fraudulent filings on public lands through old soldiers and others. The defendants were all originally included in the big indictment brought against Richards and Comstock.

GRADING WILL BEGIN IN MAY.

Nebraska Central Interurban Road to Be Pushed Rapidly.

Hastings, Neb., April 8.—Secretary J. H. Rodgers of the Omaha and Nebraska Central Railroad company said that a contractor would begin grading for the interurban road early in May. The officers of the company had hoped to have the work under way by the last of March, but the contractor who was first employed was unable to leave other work for which he had already been engaged. The contractor now engaged will begin work at this end of the line. W. H. Fuller, chief engineer, will this week begin the task of placing grade stakes along the right-of-way.

TO TEST BUCKET SHOP LAW

Proprietors Contend that the Act is Unconstitutional.

Lincoln, April 9.—Operators of so-called "bucket shops" in Lincoln propose to test the new law, which goes into effect July 1, providing for the suppression of offices wherein dealings in stocks, bonds, petroleum, cotton, grain, provisions or other products is carried on.

With a single exception the proprietors contend that the law is unconstitutional, and also declare that if enforced it will be an infringement on the rights of interstate commerce. F. H. Pierson, the oldest dealer in the city, has closed out his business since the law was enacted.

FARMERS KEEP YOUR CORN

Advice of Cuthbert Vincent as to Damp Corn Shipped Into Omaha.

Omaha, April 5.—Cuthbert Vincent, elevator and grain commission merchant of Omaha, calls attention to the fact that an unusual quantity of damp corn is now being shipped into Omaha much to the loss of corn raisers.

"A large consignment of this character of corn was received in Omaha Thursday," says Mr. Vincent, "and in such a damaged condition that it will not net the consignor much more than 10 or 15 cents. This applies only to the piled corn, shelled direct from the outdoor piles, where it has laid all winter absorbing moisture. The farmers would do far better to keep this character of corn at home and sell it even at a loss to local feeders. This is the germinating period for corn and the slightest dampness will damage it incalculably."

NETTLETON ON THE RESULTS.

Says People Must Remain Awake to Hold What They Gained.

Lincoln, April 8.—The legislature has accomplished a vast amount of good work, but whether it will be lasting or not depends upon whether the people remain wide awake to look after their own interests. Should the next legislature be controlled by the corporations, the good work done by this session may all be undone. It may be that in some details some of the laws enacted will have to be revised later, but that was to have been expected when so much of importance

is to be done. This session may mark the beginning of a new era, all dependent upon whether the people keep on the watch. It has, I believe, forever ended the secret caucus for the organization of the house. This legislature set the precedent and likely never again will the members of the house go back to the old way of organizing."

The above is the way Speaker Nettleton spoke of the session of the Nebraska legislature which closed Saturday.

CONGRESSMAN AFTER THIEVES

Pray of Montana Leads Party in Pursuit of "Kid Curry" Gang.

Havre Mont., April 10.—Congressman-elect Charles N. Pray of Montana led a surrounding search, which intends to bring to justice all the surviving members of the "Kid" Curry gang of horse thieves and train robbers. It is hoped even to capture the "Kid."

The little Rockies, a Choteau county bunch of mountains detached from the main range and surrounded by plains on either side, is to be surrounded by state and United States officers.

Officers who went out of Havre with Pray announced as their purpose the possible recovery of the body of A. G. Gill, who disappeared mysteriously from his ranch at the foot of the Little Rockies at the beginning of the winter. Gill was declared an informer by the Curry gang and was shot at several times by assassins on his rounds over the mountain roads. About Nov. 15 Gill left his ranch and he has never been seen since.

Pray was state's attorney of that county and has long been noted as a vigorous prosecutor of range thieves.

TWO DIE FROM POISONED WHISKY

Stranger Commits Crime at Fort Scott for Purpose of Robbery.

Fort Scott, Kan., April 10.—Joseph McKulecky and Joseph Salva, both of whom lived near Burlington, Kan., where they owned farms, were poisoned by a stranger here, evidently for the purpose of robbery. Both men died a few minutes after they had been found in a dark side street.

McKulecky was Salva's father-in-law. They had recently sold their farms and were on the way to Springfield, Mo., to look for a new location. They were met here by a stranger, who engaged them in conversation and offered them whisky, which they drank. They were taken violently ill and fell in the street.

CLARK PERKINS, SECRETARY

State Board of Railway Commissioners Is Organized for Work.

Lincoln, April 10.—The state railway commission elected Clark Perkins, formerly of the St. Paul Republican, secretary, at a salary of \$2,000 a year. It elected Clem Crosswaite of University Place stenographer, at a salary of \$70 a month, and U. G. Powell of Lincoln rate clerk, at a salary of \$150 a month. H. J. Winnett was chosen some time ago as chairman of the commission. Mr. Perkins, who is secretary of the Republican state committee, recently removed to Aurora to run a paper there, but he will be in shape to remove to Lincoln next Monday to begin his new duties.

Former Asylum Attendant on Trial.

Norfolk, Neb., April 10.—Forest Ellis, a former attendant at the Norfolk insane hospital, was put on trial at Madison, charged with assaulting a patient with intent to do bodily harm. He and three others, Joe Wiles, Wilson Byerly and Bert Minniecks, were indicted by a grand jury last fall, called at the instance of Governor Mickey.

Urge Peasants to Resume Work.

Bucharest, Roumania, April 10.—The government has issued an appeal to landholders and farmers to return to their properties and arrange with the peasants to resume work. It promises laws that will improve the lot of peasants without working injury to the legitimate interests of the landholders.

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