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THE FOREIGNERS GENERAL

Castro While Showing a Defiant Front Endeavors to Arbitrate Trouble.

London, Dec. 12.—A despatch to the Daily Mail from Willemstad, Curacao, says that the foreign residents of Puerto Cabello are talking refusal on board the German cruiser Ariadne, and that the vessels are threatening to bombard the port.

MANNED BY BRITISH SAILORS.

Port of Spain, Island of Trinidad, Dec. 12.—The captured Venezuelan gunboats are now manned by British sailors, and are doing British work.

There is one British cruiser at this port. The other men-of-war continue to blockade the Venezuelan coast. The navigation of the Orinoco River has been reopened.

PREPARING FOR WAR.

Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 12.—The government has taken preventive measures at La Guayra. All the deposits of coal at the navy yard, and all the British cars on the La Guayra Railroad, have been brought there, rendering impossible the transportation of the allied troops by rail. General Ferrer, the Minister of War, spent all day yesterday in choosing spots in the mountains, where trenches are to be dug.

The Governor of Caracas has issued the following decree:

"All Venezuelans living in the Federal District, between the ages of 18 and 50 years, must enroll themselves in the militia, any person refusing to enroll voluntarily, as a patriotic duty, will be declared a deserter, and sent before the tribunals."

Yesterday, after a long conference with President Castro, the United States Minister Bowen obtained an order for the liberation of the remaining British and German subjects who were prisoners in the harbor later all had been released. Minister Bowen and Secretary of Legation Russell continued to the jail five times, and advised the poor colored British subjects and those who were ill.

The defensive preparations at the strategic points on the heights back of the town of La Guayra are being vigorously pushed forward. The deposits of powder in the fortresses of Lavigia and San Carlos have been removed. Great quantities of munitions are being made, and everyone capable of bearing arms is offering services. The British and German Harbor Corporation has been removed. Everyone in Caracas believes the situation to be serious, and that the President Castro has allowed Minister Bowen to communicate with the Berlin and London governments, and that the State Department at Washington, this being the only hope of avoiding a serious conflict. It is reported that the British and German forces are to be sent to the ports of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. English telephone offices have been seized.

CASTRO IS SQUEALING.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A cablegram from the State Department today to the Minister Bowen at Caracas states that the Venezuelan government has requested him to propose to Great Britain and Germany that the difficulties arising from the claims for damages and injuries to British and German subjects during the civil war be submitted to arbitration.

To conformity with the understanding at their recent meeting, the British and German governments here, this proposition from President Castro will be laid before the British and German governments, and the State Department is waiting for a favorable reply. It is stated that the British and German governments are desirous of settling the matter by peaceful methods. It is stated that the British and German governments are desirous of settling the matter by peaceful methods. It is stated that the British and German governments are desirous of settling the matter by peaceful methods.

CASTRO IS AMBITIOUS.

Chicago, Dec. 12.—Miguel Alma Pietro Gonzalez, a merchant of Caracas, Venezuela, who is on a business trip through the United States, has arrived in Chicago in an interview last night, he said:

"President Castro is a man of abnormal ambition, and believes himself to be the Diaz of Venezuela. It is said to be his ambition to bring about a union of the South American Republics and place himself at the head of it. He evidently thinks that the United States will side with him in the present embargo, and, if necessary, will support his operations against England and Germany."

"The conservative people in Venezuela are strongly opposed to his ambitious policy. The radical element, however, is with him, and strengthens him in the belief that Venezuela is powerful enough to resist both England and Germany."

WOMEN AID IN DEFENSE.

New York, Dec. 12.—A despatch to the Herald from La Guayra says: Patriotic ardor has been excited to such an extent by President Castro's appeal to his countrymen that even women are assisting in the work of improving the defenses of La Guayra. They are making cartridges, and themselves useful in preparation for possible contingencies. Almost to the number of the population of the town has volunteered to assist in its defense. It is noteworthy that the troops, which are yellow flags, is designed to show that the war with which the Venezuelans are engaged is a national, and not a partisan quarrel.

Try the Deaneater at Thomas.

Thomas, Dec. 12.—The Foreign Office informs the Associated Press that the British government disclaims responsibility for the sinking of the Venezuelan vessels off La Guayra, which it attributes to the German authorities.

It is understood that nearly all the Venezuelan news which the British government gets comes thru the State Department at Washington, and is based on Minister Bowen's messages. The Foreign Office here has, however, received no trace of the reply to the demands of the powers, which Venezuela is reported to have transmitted to Great Britain and Germany thru the United States Consul at La Guayra. It has officially received a copy of President Castro's proclamation.

The Foreign Office officials also said they had not received information to the effect that Venezuela had requested the British government to act as arbitrator. They think it is not likely the proposition has been made, but, if such is the case, they do not consider that arbitration at this stage would be acceptable to Great Britain.

Senator Schuberger, Venezuelan Consul in London, has received a financial plan that was under way when Venezuela received the ultimatum from Britain and Germany. He says the plan by no means has been given up, although, of course, all negotiations to this end are at present at a standstill. He says less matters go to further extremes in Venezuela a settlement upon some basis as possible. He says that British and German creditors of Venezuela must eventually rely upon some financial arrangement, the only method of getting back their money.

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MR. TARTE ON MR. FIELDING

Why the Present Finance Minister Was Chosen Instead of Sir Richard Cartwright.

WAS A LESS COMPROMISED MEMBER

Protection Will Ultimately Have the Upper Hand in the Maritime Provinces.

Montreal, Dec. 12.—Hon. Mr. Tarte has some interesting comments to-day in La Patrie on the Minister of Finance.

"During the investigation which preceded the tariff revision, Mr. Fielding did his best to direct the proceedings in such a manner as to cause the triumph of his favorite theory, the lowering of the tariff. The facts brought to his knowledge and to that of his colleagues were such as to conduce to the triumph of the tariff in its entirety. Mr. Fielding alone, it is the collective work of all those who in a government are able to participate intelligently in the hands of one man the financial destinies of a country. The ridiculous doctrine that the Minister of Finance has the exclusive right to buy himself with the fiscal policy of the country was the pretext used by a good portion of the Liberal press in the recent campaign which took place under the name of the Hon. Mr. Tarte. Mr. Fielding represents precisely those industrial enterprises are so far very little developed. He is, therefore, in need of his colleagues' knowledge to aid him in reaching conclusions that will tend to the protection of the great industries of the country. Hon. Mr. Tarte, because he was a protectionist, but because he was less compromised, and because he had taken a less accentuated position than did Sir Richard Cartwright in the federal party in the Maritime Provinces in the House of Commons is in a great majority in favor of lower tariff, strange as it may seem, however, the Liberal party in the provincial arena is in favor of protection. It is, therefore, a situation that will definitely triumph in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, as in the rest of the country. Hon. Mr. Fielding is an excellent parliamentarian and a gentleman of agreeable manners, and to one doubt his honesty. He is designated in ministerial circles as the successor of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which may be pleasant to him, but the Prime Minister becomes unable to lead the party of which he is now the leader in a great measure."

UNCLE SAM BEHIND IT.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—President Castro's preparations and his public utterances are regarded in official quarters here as "designed to see how far the allies are willing to go, as a test of the further attitude of the administration at Washington, and, above all, as efforts to unite his own people in a common front with his dictatorship."

While the Marine Ministry is not completely in favor of lower tariff, it is in favor of the Liberal party in the provincial arena is in favor of protection. It is, therefore, a situation that will definitely triumph in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, as in the rest of the country. Hon. Mr. Fielding is an excellent parliamentarian and a gentleman of agreeable manners, and to one doubt his honesty. He is designated in ministerial circles as the successor of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which may be pleasant to him, but the Prime Minister becomes unable to lead the party of which he is now the leader in a great measure."

Bankers As Speculators Blamed for Stock Slump

Venezuela Affair Complicates Matters Seemingly to Indicate a World War.

New York, Dec. 12.—(Special.)—Under a flood of liquidation, from many sources, stocks declined sharply at the opening of the market today, and prices continued to sink during the rest of the morning. The lowest point reached yesterday was 31 3/8, and 3 1/2 points in many issues. Some stocks reached the lowest prices of the year, a notable feature being United States Steel common, which broke to 29 3/4, compared with 32 1/4 yesterday's closing figure. The lowest point reached yesterday was 31 3/8, and 3 1/2 points in many issues. Some stocks reached the lowest prices of the year, a notable feature being United States Steel common, which broke to 29 3/4, compared with 32 1/4 yesterday's closing figure.

DEAD TIED IN A BUGGY.

Kingston, Mich., Dec. 12.—Ellis Beardlee of Kingston was found dead in a buggy, about four miles south of his home. The horse was found lying on the road, and the driver falling out of the seat. It is believed someone killed her, then tied the body to the seat of the buggy, and turned the horse loose. Details are being obtained, as the crime took place several miles out in the country.

PROHIBITION IN NEW ZEALAND.

Wellington, N.Z., Dec. 12.—It is generally admitted that the opposition in the New Zealand Parliament will, as the result of the general election, be more effective in the new parliament than in the old, having gained the support of the liquor party, which is alarmed at the pronounced success of the prohibitionists. Prohibition newspapers say that the indications are that prohibition will be ultimately carried in New Zealand, and that the liquor traffic is expected in the control of the liquor traffic.

Fire Dogs, Screens, Ornamental and Decorative Ironwork.

Brussels, Dec. 12.—While the little Prince Leopold was being taken out for a drive by his nurse a company of the Civic Guard passed, and seeing the Prince halted and presented arms. The nurse took the baby's hand and put it to his forehead in a military salute—the first the baby had ever made.

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HAVING TROUBLE WITH IT.

Journemen Butchers and Bakers Throw in Their Lot With Strikers in Marseilles.

Marseilles, Dec. 12.—The first collision between strikers and the police occurred to-day, and as a result several persons on both sides, including a commissary of police were injured. The clash was the outcome of an attempt on the part of strikers to destroy the truck in front of a car loaded with coal, which was being sent to the port. The gendarmes charged the crowd and made fifteen arrests. The remainder of the strikers were dispersed.

Cordons of troops now guard all approaches to the port and disperse all assemblies. A strong force of soldiers and police occupy the streets surrounding the Bourse de Travail, the headquarters of the strikers. When a detachment of cavalry approached the Bourse with drawn sabres they were met by a storm of hooting, but no violence was done.

The journeymen butchers and bakers have joined the strikers. In order to prevent the bread famine the authorities have requisitioned the services of all the bakers in the Fifteenth Army Corps.

COUGHED UP THE BULLET.

Ottawa, Dec. 12.—Representative from Ashton said that James Emery, the farmer, who was shot last September by his hired boy, Patrick Larney, has recovered, and is now able to attend to his work. The doctors are confident that he will be able to leave the hospital, but he will be kept in bed when he returns from the sanitarium in the spring.

CHILD FATALLY BURNED.

St. Thomas, Dec. 12.—Edna Bancroft, the seven-year-old daughter of Samuel M. Bancroft of Mapleton, was fatally burned yesterday afternoon. She was putting some wood in the stove when her clothes caught fire and she immediately rushed into the street. Mrs. Bancroft, who was milking at the time, saw the child and ran to her aid, but she was unable to get her out of the flames before she had consumed a portion of her clothing, and she died in a few minutes.

CAPE COD MARCONI TOWER.

Wellfleet, Mass., Dec. 12.—Four great 200-foot towers erected on the bluff on the back of Cape Cod for the Marconi wireless system have been completed. The towers were built to replace a circular system of long poles, which were demolished a year ago by a northeast storm. The work of construction has been going on for about ten months.

PRESENTATION TO PASTOR.

Kingston, Dec. 12.—At a reception this evening a presentation of a silk gown and a silver tray was made to the Rev. John Mackie and Mrs. Mackie on behalf of St. Andrew's Church congregation. Rev. Dr. Barclay and Mrs. Barclay, Montreal, attended.

SUPPLYING THE COUNTRY.

Okaville, Dec. 12.—Hard coal sells here for \$8.75 a ton. This morning at 7 o'clock, 25 wagons were lined up to get loaded, some of them coming from Brampton, Streetville, Meadowdale, Port Hope, Hornby, Milton, Palermo and Brant.

James Harris, manufacturing furrier, finishing a specialty, 71 King West Street.

Hotel Albin, Stratford. Under new management. \$1.50 and \$2.00 per day. Strictly commercial house. Thomas F. Hook, proprietor.

TAKE DUTY OFF COAL.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Representative McCall (Mass.) to-day introduced a bill authorizing the President to enter into a reciprocal agreement with Great Britain whereby coal mined in the United States may be shipped into Canada free of duty and Canadian coal admitted into the United States free of charge.

STOKERS GAIN RECRUITS

Journemen Butchers and Bakers Throw in Their Lot With Strikers in Marseilles.

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LET THE BELLA PAY UP

SAYS LORD LANDOWNE

London, Dec. 12.—Foreign Secretary Lansdowne was the principal guest at the annual banquet given to-night in London of the United Club. In a speech of considerable length the Foreign Secretary touched upon the most prominent topics of the day.

He said he did not believe that in any part of the world was Great Britain open to the charge of bearing inveterate animosity to anyone, not even to Venezuela. "If that Republic," said Lord Lansdowne, "would avoid committing outrages upon British subjects and British property; if she would reply to diplomatic representations made her in perfectly courteous language there would be no need whatever of any quarrel."

"It might add," said the Foreign Secretary, "that Venezuela should be content to put herself on a moderate allowance in the matter of revolutions. In less than seventy years Venezuela has indulged in the luxury of 103 revolutions; these revolutions in two years seems to me to be altogether unreasonable."

"I am glad that in Venezuelan waters, at this moment, German and British warships and sailors are acting side by side in enforcing the just demands of these two powers."

Continuing, Lord Lansdowne said that, in smallland, the Italian government was giving Great Britain the invaluable facilities in the conduct of operations, and that he hoped soon to dispose of these revolutionary wars in two years seems to me to be altogether unreasonable.

CABLE LAYING FAILED.

San Francisco, Dec. 12.—An unsuccessful attempt was made to-day to lay the shore end of the Pacific Cable. A strong, unfavorable tide was the chief cause of the failure. The day was perfect as to weather conditions, and the occasion had been marked as a semi-holiday. Fully 25,000 people gathered at the beach, one-half of them school children, to witness the beginning of the cable laying. An attempt was made to draw the cable ashore. The hawser sagged so that it was impossible to draw it ashore thru the strong tide. Just before the attempt was abandoned several men were knocked down by the hawser for a final pull. The hawser flew up and struck Clarence H. Mackay on the chin and knocked him off his feet. Another man was rendered unconscious for a short time, and Frank Hotelling of New York sustained a severe cut on the forehead.

JOHN MACKAY DEAD.

Prominent Manufacturer of Bowmansville Passes Away, Aged 65.

Bowmansville, Dec. 12.—John Mackay, proprietor of Caledonia mills, died this morning at his late residence, Roy Cottage, in his 65th year. He was a native of Rossie, Scotland, and came to this country while quite young. He was married to Mrs. Mackay, who survives. He was a member of the Scotch and West Indian churches, and was a member of the Dundee and Glasgow societies. He was a member of the Dundee and Glasgow societies. He was a member of the Dundee and Glasgow societies.

GOAL STRIKE-COMMISSION.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 12.—The greater part of to-day's session of the anthracite coal strike commission was taken up in presenting cumulative testimony on matters that have already been heard by the commission. This testimony tended to show that there has been excessive docking, that many men were arrested and jailed, because they went on strike rather than do the work of strikers, that they are paid one price for mine cars of all sizes, and that they are not paid for all the eight-hour day because the mine cars are not used for the full day, and that they ought to receive higher wages.

MINISTER STILL STAYS.

Paris, Dec. 12.—Minister of Marine Affairs has not been recalled, in spite of a rumor that he intended going to London. The rumor was in circulation yesterday. It was based on the action of the Budget Committee, in restoring to the minister his connection with the Mediterranean fleet, which were suppressed by M. Pelléan in the naval budget. The minister has accepted the commission's decisions in the matter.

ANGLO-ABYSSINIAN TREATY.

London, Dec. 12.—The Foreign Office has issued the text of the Anglo-Abyssinian treaty, which was ratified Oct. 28. By this treaty Great Britain obtains a lease of a slice of territory near Itano on the River Baro, as a commercial station, and its right to construct a railroad thru Abyssinia, connecting the Sudan with Uganda Territory.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay.

Nothing better on the list for comfortable and stylish wear than a gentleman's fur lined overcoat. The Dineen celebrated fifty-dollar overcoat stands alone as the biggest bargain in the city. Due over board of. They are lined with high-class muskrat and have wide, heavy collars and lapels. Store open to-night.

CLUDY AND MILDER.
Meteorological Office, Toronto, Dec. 12.—5 p.m.—Fair, cold weather to-day, generally through Canada to-day. Conditions are now favorable for somewhat milder weather in Ontario, whilst in Quebec the cold continues. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 10 below—2 below; Victoria, 32—22; Winnipeg, 18 below—2 below; Port Arthur, 6 below—12 below; Montreal, 12 below—2 below; Ottawa, 10 below—4 below; Toronto, 2 below—2 below; Quebec, 12 below—2 below; Halifax, 6—18.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

Dec. 12. At. From.
Newfoundland, Portland, Glasgow
Liverpool, London, Glasgow
Quebec, Montreal, New York
Halifax, Boston, New York
Glasgow, Montreal

Six o'clock dinner at New Ontario Hotel HARDLY.

Of trousers and suitings
The tailors boast and yet
No cobblers' sets of boots
His customers may get.