

Fire Sweeps Elk Lake City Diaz Refuses Peace Overtures No Hold Up at Ottawa

LIBERALS NOT LIKELY TO OBSTRUCT SUPPLY

Government Orders Will Have Precedence Every Day and Some Real Business Will Be Transacted — Maclean Amendment to R. & O. Bill on Monday.

By Tom King. OTTAWA, Feb. 15.—The indications are that the government will keep a firm grip on the house for the remainder of the session.

Monday will be largely occupied with the discussion and vote upon the Maclean amendment to the Richelleu & Ontario Navigation Company's bill, which places the capitalization of their company under the supervision of the railway commission.

Tuesday the government will move the second reading of the naval bill, and pressure will be brought to have the bill itself finally passed as soon as possible.

There is still some talk among a section of the Liberals about holding up supply and forcing an appeal to the country, but judging from yesterday, such a program is not likely to be adopted or long adhered to.

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PEACE OVERTURES REFUSED BY DIAZ; REBEL CHIEF FIRM

Madero Must Resign Before Armistice Is Arranged—Life and Death Struggle Continues.

HE IS LOSING GROUND

De La Barra Plays Part of Peacemaker With Hopes of Final Success—Fighting Heavy.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 15.—Unsuccessful efforts to arrange an armistice between the rebels and the federal forces fighting a life and death struggle in the streets of Mexico City, marked the opening of the seventh day's battle.

Diaz's firmness in this respect was indicated by the activity of his gunners, who continued the bombardment at intervals during the night, and after dawn increased their fire until it was more violent than it had ever been.

Most of those in Mexico City, who know President Madero's constancy of purpose, were pessimistic today regarding his resignation.

Francisco De La Barra, the former provisional president, played the part of peacemaker today and promises to become as stable in this crisis as he was in the adjustment of the difficulties of the Madero revolution, which terminated in the overthrow of Porfirio Diaz.

May Be Intervention. The presence of the war vessels of three foreign nations at the port of Vera Cruz and the developments of the past six days appear to have convinced even the Mexican cabinet ministers that it would be a mark of great forbearance should foreign intervention be delayed, and this has been bluntly urged on President Madero, as a motive for his resignation.

The aggressiveness of the rebels during the night, brought about further scenes of panic among the people, thousands of whom filled the streets during every lull in the fighting and hastened to take masses away from the danger zone.

Groups of rebel soldiers deployed along Vera Cruz, and the rebels of buildings on Turin street and Barcelona street, maintained for a time an almost incessant rifle and machine gun fire.

The annual meeting of the Mackay Co. was held in Boston on Saturday. Sir Edmund Osler was elected a trustee to fill the vacancy left by the late R. Smith of the firm of Osler & Hammond.

On what may be his last visit to Toronto, the Duke of Connaught reached the city at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, from Brantford.

He was met at the station by Lieut.-Governor Gibson, and Major Caldwell from the government house, Sir Henry Pellett, W. G. Gage, and Dr. James L. Hughes, representing the National Sanitarium Association.

The Duke was driven to Convocation Hall, where he received the word of the raising of the King Edward Memorial Fund.

Afterwards the Duke dined privately at the York Club, with a few friends, leaving Toronto for Ottawa on the 10:30 p.m. train.

The health of the Duchess makes it improbable that the Duke will remain in Canada for very much longer. He was not accompanied on his Toronto trip by either the Duchess or Princess Patricia.

CASTRO TO ENTER STATES AT WILL Federal Court Sustains Writ on His Behalf—Government Opposed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Cipriano Castro is free to come and go in the United States at will. Judge Ward, in the federal district court this afternoon sustained writ of habeas corpus in his behalf, overruling the immigration authorities.

Castro has been out on bail for some time pending a decision in the case. The government bitterly opposed the entrance of the former Venezuelan president on the ground that he was an undesirable in that he refused to answer certain questions concerning the international affairs of Venezuela, and the murder of General Paredes, a political opponent.

The special board of inquiry at Ellis Island first refused him admission on a decision which was affirmed by the department of commerce and labor. General Castro then carried his case into the courts.

H. R. H. Duke of Connaught at Brantford Saturday



Arrival of His Royal Highness at Brantford. He was met by the mayor and council and tendered a civic reception at the depot. Photo by The Sunday World Photographer.

SIR EDMUND OSLER ON MACKAY BOARD

An Important Announcement Will Be Made Later—Largest Receipts in History of Cable Company.

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YOUNG MAN ENDS LIFE WITH GAS

Joseph Hooley, Blackford, Found Dead in Room at the Bromell House.

Joseph Hooley, aged 20 years, was found dead in his room at the Bromell House, Queen and Strachan avenue, Saturday afternoon. The gas jets were turned full on, and the room was filled with the fumes of gas.

Hooley lived at Blackford Village, and only registered at the hotel on Friday. The body was taken to the morgue, but an inquest will not be held.

No Arbitration

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Officers of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers voted unanimously today to reject the amended plan of arbitration submitted last night by fifty-four eastern railroads.

DUKE HERE FOR VERY SHORT STAY

In Toronto Saturday Evening On What May Be His Last Visit to This City.

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CHIEF CONNAUGHT VISITS INDIANS

Six Nations Reserve at Brantford Receives "Ka-Rah-Kon-Tye" With Acclaim.

BRANTFORD, Feb. 15.—Welcomed by over 3000 Brantfordites, the Duke of Connaught today made his first visit to this city since 1869.

The duke party arrived at 10:30 a.m., on the T. H. and B. Railway, and in the waiting room he was welcomed by Mayor Hartman. The civic welcome was read by City Clerk Leonard, after which the city representatives were presented to the duke.

A brief reply was made by his royal highness, after which a Brantford Scout was presented with the silver Wolfe medal. The welcome was a brief account of the fact that the duke had to make a trip to the Six Nations at Oshewaken Reserve, and had to catch the 2:20 train for Toronto.

At the reserve the duke had one of the most unique experiences since his arrival in Canada two years ago—he sat at luncheon with the chiefs of the Six Nations, was received into the tribe, made a chief, and christened with the euphonious name "Ka-Rah-Kon-Tye."

The Duke of Connaught was accompanied by Hon. Dr. Roche, minister of the interior; Hon. I. B. Lucas, representing the Ontario Government, and Major Gordon J. Smith, superintendent of the Indian office of the Six Nations, who introduced him to the chiefs.

His visit to the reserve was the biggest event in the monotonous life of the reserve for some time. Indians of every description were up bright and early to make preparation for the royal visit, and when the duke arrived he saw them spick and span in their fantastic regalia.

Chief Hill, in full war costume, and plumed headdress, read the address to the royal chief, first requesting his royal highness to be seated in his council chamber for a conference with his brother chiefs. The address was the tribal one of welcome and in imagination called for the performance of many of their Indian customs.

No Interference. WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Following the White House statement that the attitude of the United States toward Mexico was unchanged, state department officials took occasion to formally deny that intervention had been determined upon. This was intended as a reply to statements made public in Mexico City today.

ELK LAKE CITY IS DESTROYED TWO LIVES LOST

Fire Started in Matabanic Hotel and Raged With Fury Thru Entire Business Section.

HUNDRED THOUSAND

Is Financial Loss With Small Insurance—Several Missing and May Be in the Ruins.

ELK LAKE CITY, Feb. 15.—Two men were burned to death and two others are missing as a result of a fire which destroyed the Matabanic Hotel, the Hudson Bay Company's store, J. R. Booth's office building, the firehall, the Gowganda Trading Co., Laing and Jordan's store, Wilson's barber shop, the Bank of Commerce, and three other small stores. The dead:—

EDWARD O'KEEFE, ROBERT SOVIE. The missing:—SOPHIA, a stranger, ECKNER, a stranger, O'Keefe and Sovie were burned to death in the Matabanic Hotel, and Jack Fraser, the bartender, fractured his hip jumping from a window of the top storey.

The fire started at 3 o'clock a.m. in the kitchen of the Matabanic Hotel and spread with great rapidity before it was discovered. Fanned by a high wind the flames threatened to lick up everything built of wood. The hotel was burned to the ground and the flames swept to the Hudson Bay Company's store, J. R. Booth's office building and the other buildings.

The loss will reach \$100,000, exclusive of merchandise stocks carried, which will run into much money. There was only \$50,000 insurance placed in the town, and \$10,000 of this was on the hotel.

The fire at Elk Lake City is a serious setback, following right on the heels of the great impetus the town and district received thru the completion and opening to traffic of the T. and N. O. Railway. The best part of the business section is wiped out.

The T. and N. O. Railway station was situated a quarter of a mile away from the scene of the conflagration, and was not touched by the flames. The principal hotel, the King George, is safe, being separated from the blaze by a street one hundred feet wide.

It is feared the loss of life may be greater than reported, as the flames had gained such headway in the early hours of the morning before effective measures could be taken to warn everybody and fight the fire that there is a possibility of men having been burned while they slept.

AIMED AT CAT KILLS HIMSELF

Looked at Gun to See Why It Would Not Go Off — James Mortson Dead.

When he attempted to shoot a cat on his farm, near Gormley, Ont., Saturday, James "Burt" Mortson, aged 28, was so terribly injured that he died at 5:30 p.m. Saturday. The young man received the charge of shot, intended for the cat, in the lower part of the abdomen.

Elijah Rose, a farmer living at Gormley, heard the report of the gun and rushed to the rear door of Mortson's house. There he found the man groaning on the floor.

Before lapsing into a state of unconsciousness Mortson said that he had attempted to shoot a cat on the fence to test his aim. The cartridge hung fire, despite the efforts of Mortson to cause the discharge.

He then turned the muzzle of the gun towards his abdomen while he tried to extract the cartridge. Just as he did so the powder exploded, the shot entering Mortson's body.

After medical attendance had been secured the young man was taken to Toronto on the Metropolitan car. Ellis' private ambulance met the car and conveyed the patient to the Western Hospital.

SUNDAY WEATHER: Colder.