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GIVES SURPRISE TO INSURRECTOS

Report of Peace Negotiations at Washington Meets with Incredulity in El Paso Rebel Circles

HARD TO BELIEVE DR. GOMEZ PART

Attitude of Leader Madero in Regard to President Diaz' Position Constitutes Disturbing Feature

EL PASO, April 5.—The Associated Press despatches, one from a staff correspondent in the field with Madero, and the other from Washington, perturbed the local peace camp today.

The publication of the Washington telegram, in which the fact that Dr. Gomez, their revolutionary agent at Washington, and the then Ambassador De La Barra had started peace negotiations on their own account some ten days or more ago was the first jolt. It was called to the attention of the Don Francisco, father of the rebel leader. He received it after the fashion of one whose thunder has been stolen.

"I think it is not so," he remarked hopefully, and waited for corroboration.

"It's the truest thing that has come out of either camp in a long time," he was told, "and its publication was authorized by both Gomez and De La Barra. Now are you working in harmony with Gomez?"

"Oh, yes, certainly. I think it is now so."

Later, Fafael Hernandez, a sort of unofficial go-between, trying to forward the peace meeting, was told the Washington story. He too, remarked "I think it is not so." As he made the comment his brow was uplifted in eloquent appeal for corroboration.

He was assured, like Don Francisco, that the story was the simon-pure truth. Then he excused himself.

The despatch from Madero's camp west of Chihuahua, stating, among other vital facts, that the rebel leader would consider no negotiations which do not have the resignation of Diaz as a basis, spread more gloom. Yesterday all plans were made for the so-called peace envoys to visit Madero in camp. Tonight Hernandez said they did not know whether the trip would be made or not. This despatch was in advance of the word which it had been hoped would be received privately from the Madero camp.

It was accepted as authentic, and since the present peace talk has been based on the belief that formal negotiations would proceed without the immediate retirement of Diaz, the insurgent general's statement to the contrary was obviously disturbing. Nothing official could be obtained as to whether the trip to Rancho Bustillos would be attempted or not. Hernandez said they did not know. Don Francisco promised to report developments.

Story is Confirmed.

MEXICO CITY, April 5.—Minister De L Barra confirmed tonight the story of a conference in Washington before his departure for Mexico with Dr. Vasquez Gomez. He was prompted, he said, to accede to the proposal for such a conference by a belief that patriotism counselled the searching for adequate means for putting an end to the conditions which exist. He believed, he said, and impressed upon Dr. Gomez, that patriotism demands that all Mexicans unite for the purpose of strengthening the national unity.

Minister De La Barra appeared to be hopeful for an early working out of a plan which would ultimately lead to peace.

Auto Party's Mishap

VANCOUVER, April 5.—Caught in a miniature dust storm while motoring near Ashcroft, Mr. F. A. Brandt of this city and his friend, Mr. Hall, of the B. C. Express Company, and their chauffeur were dashed into a fence on a mountain road and were flung out of the car, rolling hundreds of feet down the hillside. Beyond some severe bruises the three men were unhurt. The car was completely wrecked.

Faster Panama Liners.

NEW YORK, April 5.—Sanderson & Son, agents of the Royal Mail Steam Packet, also the Pacific Steam Navigation company, have announced that the latter company, in anticipation of the opening of the Panama canal, has placed the twin screw steamers Chile and Peru on the run betwen Panama and Guayaquil. These are larger, quicker and finer steamers than those which have hitherto been in the service and they will, no doubt, be much appreciated by those traveling to this part of the Pacific from the United States.

SUB-CONTRACTORS HIT

Men Who Did Work on Trans-continental Object to Reduction of Classification.

WINNIPEG, April 5.—The sub-contractors who worked on the construction of the trans-continental line east of this city under the J. D. McArthur company will make a most vigorous attempt in the next few months to secure what they deem to be justice from the Dominion government. The amount of money involved in the case is stated to be $700,000. The contractors are fighting against a reduction of the classification, which the engineers have asked for. The reduction would mean a large loss to the men who did the work, and the courts will be called on to decide the matter.

Passengers Robbed

MUNCIE, Ind., April 5.—A masked man, armed with a revolver, held up and robbed passengers in a vestibule coach attached to westbound express train No. 27 on the Big Four railroad a few miles east of here tonight. After taking about $300 in cash the robber dropped off the rear p....form as the train slackened speed to enter the city. Several shots were fired at him as he ran, but he escaped. "Only cash, not jewelry," said the robber as he passed among the men. Ten of them had contributed their money when an electric light, marking the edge of Muncie, flashed in the car window and the robber, quitting his work, ran through the car and jumped from the rain.

BANKER'S SUICIDE

His Body Found in Cemetery Lying Across Graves of Two Dead Wives

REDDING, Cal., April 5.—E. L. Bailey, vice-president of the Bank of Northern California of this city, was found dead in a cemetery at 11 o'clock tonight, lying across the graves of his two dead wives, with a bullet hole in his head, and an empty chamber revolver by his side. The following note was found by his body: "I am weary and worn, physically and mentally unable to bear the load." Bailey had been ill for weeks and was overworked on account of a large portion of the business of the Bank of Shasta County, which recently failed, having gone to the Bank of Northern California. He was 61 years of age and was living with his third wife.

HAS OBJECTIONS TO VETO BILL

Mr. Moreton Frewen Decides to Resign His Seat for Northeast Cork for that and Other Reasons

LONDON, April 5.—Moreton Frewen soon will resign his seat in parliament for the northeast division of Cork county, as he opposes the government veto bill, and desires to create a vacancy for Timothy Healy, who was defeated in the last election.

Discussing today his proposed retirement, Mr. Frewen said: "I am convinced that the veto bill includes every wrong method for winning public opinion in England to rational Home Rule views. A second chamber of destruction, instead of construction, is incompatible with the federal solution, which is the only solution. It is quite impossible to achieve such a constitutional re-arrangement as is desired without the co-operation of both great parties.

"The furious passions that are being stirred up must make the generous financing of the new Irish government and the completion of the land purchase hopeless for many years. To have coaxed the Tories, to have conciliated the classes and creeds—this would have been quite easy. Indeed, thanks to the federal government, for which Lord Grey is chiefly responsible, the leaven was already at work, but now we are likely to be undone.

"However, it is not possible for me to advance such views. To do so in this crisis would be to weaken Mr. O'Brien and his new movement, upon which is contingent that broader settlement which I anticipate with confidence when this attempt is seen to have miscarried. The government promises Mr. O'Brien an opportunity this month to offer in the House of Commons the problem of silver exchange with Asia. He predicts a recurrence of the crisis of 1906, with equally disastrous results."

Anti-Reciprocity Move

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 5.—A special to the Dispatch from Grand Forks, N. D., says the farmers of North Dakota and other border states will insist on a hearing before the congressional ways and means committee before action is taken on Canadian reciprocity. This is one of the results of the North Dakota and reciprocity convention held in this city yesterday. Special committees have been named to gather data all along the border.

NANAIMO SHAKEN BY EXPLOSION

Powder Magazine of Coal Mining Company at Protection Island Blows Up with Startling Effect

AT FIRST THOUGHT TO BE IN MINE

Panic Caused Among Miners and Their Families—Night Engineer Probably Fatally Injured

NANAIMO, April 5.—At 11.58 tonight the powder magazine at Protection island exploded. Two distinct shocks shook the city and shattered much plate glass.

It was at first thought that an explosion had occurred in the mine. The entire population turned out, fearing the worst. The flames lit up the whole harbor and city, and until the correct cause was learned panic reigned.

There were two distinct shocks, one from explosion of the dynamite and the other of gasoline, stored in the magazine. John Jones, night engineer, noticed flames coming out of the magazine and at once notified workmen to telephone to Hamilton, the chief engineer. Then, returning to the magazine the first explosion occurred, and he was thrown forty feet, when picked up later he was found to be horribly cut about the head, one eye was destroyed and his left leg was shattered.

The unconscious man was brought to town in a launch. He has relatives here and in Vancouver.

The cause of the disaster cannot be ascertained.

In the mines the men feared a disaster had happened at the other shaft, and arrangements were made for their exit at mine No. 1, but assurance was soon given that this was unnecessary. What at first was thought to be an awful catastrophe caused dread among miners and their families, and the docks were crowded with men and women. When the correct news was given cheers rent the air.

For some time after the explosion it was dangerous to approach the scene on account of the ground being strewn with unexploded sticks of dynamite. The damage to mine property is unestimated. The loss by destruction of plate glass in the city was about $1,200.

So great was the shock that it was felt in Vancouver, and enquiries were received if an earthquake had occurred here.

The latest report from the hospital is that Mr. Jones' injuries will probably prove fatal.

Coal Strike Situation

FERNIE, B. C., April 5.—The strike situation remains the same, with very little transpiring to throw any light on the situation. News is simmering down to discussion of the statements and caustic comments coming from both sides.

WORKERS MOURN DEAD FRIENDS

Remarkable Procession in Streets of New York Following Bodies of Victims of Factory Fire

KNEELING TO PRAY ON WET PAVEMENT

NEW YORK, April 5.—Rain reduced to less than 75,000 the army of 200,000 workers who had planned to march today in memory of the victims of the Washington Place factory, but what the storm took away in numbers it added to in solemnity.

The demonstration will long be remembered by those who took part, and by countless thousands who came to look on, but who unconsciously found themselves joining in the wave of emotion which swept the line of march.

Simultaneously with the removal from the morgue for burial of the eight coffins containing unidentified victims of the fire, in which 144 lives were lost, workers poured from sweatshops and garment factories and formed in line.

The downtown section was headed by

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LARGE LAND DEAL

Sale of 12,600 Square Miles of Land at Magdalena Bay, Mexico, Practically Completed.

TACOMA, April 5.—The practical completion of arrangements for the sale of the Flores-Hale estate, comprising 12,600 square miles, on Magdalena Bay, on the peninsula of Lower California, for over $15,000,000 was announced tonight by Ezra P. Savage, ex-governor of Nebraska, who is one of the owners. The land is owned by a syndicate headed by J. E. Blackman, New York; Mr. Savage, Tacoma; E. D. Morgan Rowland, New York; Leslie M. Shaw, former secretary of the treasury, and other eastern men.

The land is said to have been sought by the Japanese government just prior to the war game for a coaling station, but their offers were refused.

Two foreign and one American syndicates has an option, but which one is not announced. The land is rich in gold, copper, iron, nitre, salt and other minerals as well as rich in agricultural resources. It comprises nearly the whole town at Magdalena Bay.

NO THROUGH RATES

White Pass and Yukon Railroad Gives Surprising Announcement to the Steamship Companies.

SEATTLE, April 5.—Officials of the Alaska, Pacific Coast and Grand Trunk Pacific Steamship companies have been notified by A. L. Berdoe, general manager of the White Pass & Yukon railroad, that, effective immediately, all tariffs naming through freight and passenger rates between Seattle, Tacoma, Port Townsend, Vancouver and Victoria and points on the White Pass & Yukon and connecting lines via Skagway have been withdrawn.

Discrimination in rates made by the steamship companies to points on the railroad is given as the cause.

The announcement was a surprise to the officials of the steamship companies, and means that all passengers for points on the White Pass & Yukon will have to be re-ticketed and all freight rebilled at Skagway. It is explained that a variety of rates on the vessels of the Alaska, Pacific Coast and Grand Trunk Pacific Steamship companies made charges for shipments to points on the railroad until to some of the shippers and the White Pass & Yukon, deciding not to be a party to any through rates, announced that the local tariff would obtain on the railroad.

ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE EMPIRE

Meetings of Imperial Conference Subject of Question in Lords — Prime Minister to Preside

LONDON, April 5.—In the House of Lords today Earl Selborne asked the under-secretary of the colonies if it was the intention of the prime minister to preside at the meetings of the imperial conference.

He said all matters to be discussed at the conference were of vital importance to the empire, because this linked the chain of common co-operation, and was becoming of ever-increasing importance. The meetings of the conference were closely watched, and the discussions followed with greater attention in the Overseas Dominions than in the United Kingdom.

Lord Lucas replied that the premier would preside at the first meeting, and as many subsequent meetings as practicable. In his absence the secretary for the colonies would preside.

The Morning Standard, discussing the commercial treaty between England and Japan, says the worthlessness of most-favored-nation treaties would be exposed by discriminatory duties which the United States would impose upon British goods if reciprocity with Canada comes into operation.

Deputy Prosecuted

BERLIN, April 8.—The government prosecutor has caused proceedings to be taken against Mr. Liebknecht, the well-known Socialist deputy of the Prussian Diet—and a lawyer by profession—before a court of honor of the Berlin chamber of advocates. The proceedings are in connection with Mr. Liebknecht's action at the Socialist congress held at Magdeberg last year, when he attacked the Prussian and Hessian authorities in violent language on account of the Tsar's visit to Germany. In the accusation Liebknecht is stated to have rendered himself open to the charge of slandering the Tsar and the governments of Prussia and Hesse and of using "provocative language."

The committee of the Berlin Chamber of Advocates at first declined to proceed or to open the customary preliminary inquiry, on the ground that Liebknecht's utterances were "political." The chief government prosecutor thereupon lodged a complaint with the Kammergericht, which made an order for proceedings to take place without any preliminary inquiry.

QUEBEC BRIDGE CONTRACT LET

St. Lawrence Bridge Company to be Entrusted with Task of Replacing Structure that Collapsed

RESTRICTED PLAN IS ADOPTED

Mr. Ralph Smith Gives Expression to Radical Opinions on Reciprocity — Canada and Japanese Treaty

OTTAWA, April 5.—After two years of deliberation, the government has decided to let the contract for the construction of the bridge across the St. Lawrence at Quebec. The first bridge undertaken by the Phoenix Bridge Company fell in process of erection, involving a fearful sacrifice of life and a loss to the government of over six million dollars. Then a commission was appointed to consider new plans. The commission consisted of H. A. Vautelet, a Canadian engineer; Ralph Modjeska, of Chicago, and Henry Fitzmaurice of London. Their joint efforts resulted in the adoption of tentative plans upon which a number of firms tendered. That of the St. Lawrence Bridge Company has been accepted.

In announcing the awarding of the contract, Hon. George P. Graham, minister of railways, said in the House today: "The original intention, and in fact, the scheme contemplated until very recently, provided for roadways and street railway traffic as well as steam railway tracks. The majority of the board, after full consideration, recommended the acceptance of the tender of the St. Lawrence Bridge Company upon a design of their own, which included provisions for street railway and driveways. In doing so, they called attention to the fact that another design had been submitted by the same company for a purely railway bridge. By the adoption of the latter proposition it was pointed out that a very material saving could be made. The government fully considered this suggestion, and as a result the contract has been signed with the St. Lawrence Bridge Company for a railway bridge, which will also have two four-foot sidewalks. The cost of this will be at the estimated quantities, $8,850,000. Considering the very many difficulties that have to be surmounted in the entire project, in my opinion, it is the very best possible contract that could have been made, and I fully believe that these purely Canadian companies are competent to accomplish the task they have undertaken, and that the result will be a credit not only to Canada, but to the ability of the men at the head of these great industries. As the province of Quebec contributed $250,000 and the city of Quebec $300,000 to the original bridge scheme, as subsidy for the construction of the roadways, it is but fair that these amounts should be returned."

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BRIBERY MONEY FOR MR. LORIMER

Story of "Slush Fund" Told by Chicago Man Causes Some Sensation at Illinois Company

$100,000 USED TO ELECT SENATOR

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., April 5.—Clarence S. Funk, general manager of the International Harvester Co., before the state senate bribery investigating committee today, exploded the biggest sensation of the Lorimer bribery case.

Mr. Funk testified that Edward Hines of Chicago, millionaire lumber dealer, asked him, as manager of the harvester company to contribute $10,000 to reimburse certain men who had put up a $100,000 "slush" fund to elect William Lorimer to the United States senate.

The harvester company manager further testified that Mr. Hines named Edward Tilden, a wealthy Chicago packer, as the collector of this fund to reimburse the men, who, as Mr. Hines was quoted as having said, had "underwritten" the election of Lorimer.

Mr. Funk said the object he had in giving this testimony was to save H. H. Kohlsaat, publisher of the Chicago Rec-

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PULPWOOD POLICY

New Brunswick Government Adopts Idea of Manufacture at Home.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 5.—The government today through the Hon. Mr. Grimmer, surveyor-general, introduced in the legislature a bill to prevent the export of pulp wood from the crown lands of the province. The act provides that every timber license or permit conferring authority to cut spruce or soft wood trees, suitable for manufacturing pulp or paper, shall be subject to the condition that all such timber cut under authority of such license or permit shall be manufactured in Canada.

HARDSHIPS IN ITALY

Laborers Suffering for Want of Food Indulge in Savage Rioting

MILAN, April 5.—The hardships of Italian laborers, owing to heavy increases in the price of food, while provoking lively demonstrations in most of the larger cities on the mainland, are also acute in Sicily. An imposing mass meeting has been held at Messina, where the bulk of the new settlers since the earthquake are living under miserable conditions, which have already reacted significantly on the crime statistics for that region.

Savage rioting has been reported from Maro, in Girgenti province, on the opposite side of the island. The populace, tired of ditch water and the procrastination of the municipal council in providing an aqueduct for drinking water, wrecked the public offices, sacked the Borghese and Civil Service clubs, and then, piling the furniture into heaps, burned both buildings to the ground, shouting the while a battle cry of "Give us bread and drinking water."

The mob attacked the Carabinieri fiercely with stones, knives and revolvers. When the rioters had finally been put to flight, the main square of the town was littered with bodies of wounded soldiers and civilians.

Lord's Day Alliance

TORONTO, April 5.—The Lord's Day Alliance of Canada today appointed Rev. C. H. Hustis, of Red Deer, Alberta, field secretary for Alberta and British Columbia. He will enter upon his new duties on May 1. The increasing importance of the work in the West made it necessary to appoint a permanent field secretary, and Rev. Mr. Hustis was considered the most capable man. His headquarters will be either in Calgary or Vancouver.

DEFENCE PLANS IN AUSTRALIA

Compulsory Military Service for Youths and Construction of Navy—Education Test for Immigrants

VANCOUVER, April 5.—Australia's dread of the "Yellow Peril" was voiced here today by Hon. Alex Poynton, of the Commonwealth parliament, who is enroute to London for the coronation. On account of Australia's unfortunate experience with Asiatics, the exclusion act, he says, is most rigorously administered. In consequence of this exclusion the federal government considers it a possibility that Japan might make an attempt to take possession of the large and rich territory yet undeveloped and in keeping with its policy, the government has adopted a defense scheme, practically on the lines of Switzerland, which provides that every boy from the age of 14, rich or poor, is subject to military service to the extent of a certain number of drills eevry year, continuing until he attains the age of 26, when he is drafted into the regular forces in readiness to be called upon if necesary. Recently 120,000 were enthusiastically enrolled. As regards the Australian navy, 22 ships are to be built, three of which are almost ready, some at Sydney and others in England. To keep out white undesirables the reading and writing test in English is enforced.

CORINTHIANS WILL VISIT THE COAST

VANCOUVER, April 5.—The Corinthians, one of the crack football teams of the Old Country, will visit Vancouver and Victoria next August, according to a letter from the secretary of the Canadian Football Association, and which was read at the meeting of the Senior Amateur League last night. The C. F. A. is now arranging the Old Country Tennis itinerary and Vancouver and Victoria are included. A special meeting of the Vancouver and District League will be held tomorrow night at the National Sports' Club to discuss the matter, and, if possible, complete arrangements for the visit of the Britishers.

Conservative Nomination

BELLEVILLE, Ont., April 5.—West Hastings Conservatives today nominated the sitting member, E. G. Porter, K. C., M. P., for the next Dominion election.

LIVELY SESSION IS IN PROSPECT

First Day of Business in House of Representatives Gives Indication of Vigorous Political Contests

RECIPROCITY MAY BE LONG DELAYED

President Taft's Message Concerning Agreement is Brief —Democrats Carry Through Their New Rules

WASHINGTON, April 5. — Both houses of congress listened to President Taft's brief message urging the adoption of the reciprocity agreement.

Then when the senate adjourned, the Democratic house proceeded further with its organization by adopting new rules.

These are largely a repetition of those that have been handed down by many congresses. The Democrats claim that their greatest reform is taking from the speaker his power to appoint committees and to designate the chairman of each committee. The new rules provide for the election of committees and their chairman.

The second reform is an answer to the former Democratic practice of permitting amendments to appropriation bills when such amendments tend to reduce expenditures.

The rules continue "Calendar Wednesday," and the unanimous consent calendar, and seek to perfect the rule for the discharge of committees. This latter effectively does away with the former practice of stifling legislation in committees.

A special order limiting debate on the rules to four hours brought out a cry of "gag" from the Republicans. The speeches were more or less of a political nature and there was no serious fight on the rules.

The Republicans claimed they were debarred from making such a fight because of the further provision of the special order that only one substitute set of rules could be offered by the minority. A roll call was demanded by the Republicans even on the adoption of the rules.

The political battle, which raged for four hours, was but a foretaste of others to come and which are expected to make the present congress notable. Representative Mann was ably seconded by Former Speaker Cannon, and Representative Dalzell and Olmstead. Mr. Mann charged the Democrats with insincerity, inasmuch as they spoke in praise of the rules and said they had no purpose to take away from themselves as a majority the right to control legislation. He charcterized the rule for the discharge of committees as "an utter absurdity, not to say idiotic."

Chairman Henry of the new rules committee, retorted that the rules thus characterized had called out the most doleful spech from Mr. Mann that he had ever heard that gentleman make. He also said the fault people had found in the past was not much in the house rules as the bad Americanism of those rules.

Mr. Cannon's speech was easily the feature. He was greeted with applause from both parties when he arose to make his maiden address of the session.

"I want to say here and now," he declared, "that substantially the rules proposed by this legislation are an endorsement of nearly all that is good in the rules that have evoluted since the adoption of the constitution, and therefore I am not going to criticize the rules merely because the majority of the house proposes to adopt them.

"Sometimes majorities and minorities tear passion to tatters and appeal from the standpoint of demagoguery and clap-trap to people that would not know a rule or a code of rules if they met it in the middle of a street.

"And now it is said we have a unanimous consent calendar. I am glad that we have. Along with that is the saying, in the language of the distinguished gentleman from Kansas, Mr. Murdock, and the universal representation of the uplift magazines, that it is no longer necessary to crawl upon your knees, hat in hand, to ask the speaker for recognition for unanimous consent. When the unanimous consent calendar is called, if my judgment prompts me to object to the introduction of a bill, no doubt the man in charge of that bill will figuratively come on his hands and knees, with his hat in hand—even the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. Murdock) —trying to convince his co-member on the floor that the consideration of the bill ought not to be objected to."

Mr. Cannon criticized the rules for not permitting the discharge of the

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