

A PLOT TO DESTROY FLEET

ABORTED BY BRAZILIAN POLICE

Anarchistic Conspiracy, Having For Its Object the Destruction of at Least a Part of the United States Warships Comprising the Pacific Fleet, Inaugurated at Rio de Janeiro...

OFFICIAL STATEMENT

In an official note which the chief of police sent to the correspondent of The Associated Press, he says: "Some time before the arrival of the American fleet at Rio Janeiro, the Brazilian government received from Washington and Paris advices that anarchists of different nationalities intended to damage one or several of the ships of the American fleet."

The chief of police, after having made this official statement, said that he did not feel he should go into any further details with regard to the conspiracy, but he authorized the statement that the plot was organized by Fedher and he added that the people of the United States could rest easy as all of the conspirators had taken refuge in the interior.

IGNORANCE OF DETAILS

As yet the people of Brazil are ignorant of the details of the plot to do injury to the visitors, although there has been some slight inkling of the matter. The impression which the exposure of this plot will create here will be a profound one, because it is the first anarchistic conspiracy that has ever been known in Brazil.

Nothing From Evans; Navy Department is Incredulous

Washington, Jan. 19.—Rear Admiral John E. Pillsbury, chief of the bureau of navigation of the Navy Department, was greatly surprised to learn through The Associated Press to-night of the discovery of an anarchistic plot at Rio de Janeiro, the object of which is the destruction of a part of Admiral Evans' battleship fleet. It was the first intimation the admiral had had of such a plot. "I cannot believe it; it seems preposterous," said Admiral Pillsbury. He said that it would be a strange thing if the anarchists should go so far as Brazil, bent on the destruction of the Pacific-bound fleet when they probably could carry out their plot with much greater ease in this country.

WOULD MINIMIZE PERILS

Danish Company to Be Formed to Establish a Complete Towing Service Through the Strait of Magellan—Dangers Attending the Trip. Berlin, Jan. 19.—The impending passage of the American battleships through the Strait of Magellan and the widespread discussion among navigators regarding the dangers of that passage, lead unusual interest to the announcement that a company is being organized in Denmark to establish a complete towing service in these waters.

SHALL DOORS BE CLOSED

WHEN MRS. THAW TESTIFIES?

Justice Dowling Will Settle That Point This Morning When the Case is Called, Though He May Await Further Suggestions From the Attorneys Interested—Generally Believed That He Will Allow the Newspaper Men to Remain, But Close the Doors to the General Public—Exclusion of Spectators Would Establish a Precedent—Defendant Himself Said to See an Interior Motive in the District Attorney's Sudden Regard For Public Morals.

New York, Jan. 19.—When the Thaw trial is resumed to-morrow morning, Justice Dowling will be called upon to determine whether or not the testimony of Evelyn Nesbit Thaw shall be admitted. It is believed that he will freely predict that he will refuse to exclude both public and newspaper representatives, but a compromise may be reached by the exclusion of those who come from the city or who are connected with the newspaper men in the court room. The constitutional provision as to a public trial would be met and the young woman on the stand would have to face only a handful of people as compared with the throngs which thronged the court last Friday afternoon.

WOULD SET A PRECEDENT

Justice Dowling stated Friday that he would hear further suggestions from counsel to-morrow morning, probably in the afternoon. He is generally consistent in the closing of the doors—a thing never before done in this jurisdiction in a murder trial. Martin W. Littleton, Thaw's chief counsel, who partly concurred in the decision, says that he would like to see the doors closed, but he would not attempt to keep the proceedings secret, but he may co-operate with the attorneys in an endeavor to keep the general public out of the court room during the young woman's examination and cross-examination.

MY SPARE MRS. THAW

Mr. Jerome based his cross-examination last year on the ground of testing the credibility of the witness and under the rulings of Justice Fitzgerald this threw the doors wide open. Justice Dowling is inclined, however, to cut down the doors. He had previously examined the material facts and it is generally believed that neither Mr. Littleton nor Mr. Jerome will put the defendant's wife through the same cross-examination that year.

DENIES PUBLISHED STORY

Mr. Bryan Has Not Stated That He Would Stand Aside Should One Third the Delegates Oppose Him. Washington, Jan. 19.—Willis J. Abbott, of the Bryan publicity bureau, in this city, to-night denied the published statement that he had received a letter from Mr. Bryan to the effect that he would stand aside should it develop that one-third of the delegates to the Denver convention opposed his nomination.

Prominent Richmond Hotel Man Dies Very Suddenly

Richmond, Va., Jan. 19.—E. Henry Gilbert, owner of Gilbert's hotel, dropped dead to-night in his room. He had been talking to friends in the lobby of the hotel and seemed in good health. He walked to his room and three minutes later his wife found him lying dead on the floor. Gilbert was soon to be elected to the city council. He was a member of the local Shrine, Knights Templar and Elks.

WOULD NOT HURT PARTY

SO THINKS MR. HUGH CHATHAM.

Chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee Expresses the Opinion That the Legislature Will Enact a Prohibition Law and That Such a Course Will Not Reduce His Party's Majority in the State—National Board of Trade, in Which a Considerable Number of Southern Men Are Interested, Meets This Week in Washington—It is Feared by Some That the Brilliant Hero of the Merrimac Will Lose His Balance on a Hobby—Forker Talks of Taft.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.

Observer Bureau. Congress Hall Hotel, Washington, Jan. 19. Chairman Hugh G. Chatham, of the North Carolina Democratic executive committee, was in the city to-day on his way to Baltimore on business for his manufacturing company. He says that trade conditions have improved very much within the last two weeks and business is looking up. When asked about the special session of the Legislature, called by Governor R. H. Glenn to consider the railroad rate controversy, he said that he had nothing to say in an interview with me. He believes that the Legislature will give the State a prohibition law, and under the circumstances he approves of this. He does not believe that such a course would reduce the majority of the party in the State, as a leading man of the Republican party in the way of an interview to give a favorable view of the measure.

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE MEETING

A number of Southern people will be interested in the meeting of the National Board of Trade to be held here this week. The following persons will be here and an attractive program will be given: President Frank D. LaLande, Philadelphia, Pa.; First Vice President Ambrose Swasey, Cleveland, O.; Second Vice President William R. Tucker, Philadelphia, Pa.; Commissioner Albert M. Read, Washington, D. C.; Secretary James P. Paskey, New York; Clinton White, Boston, Mass.; W. B. Rodgers, Pittsburg, Pa.; L. L. Gilbert, Montgomery, Ala.; Josiah Marvel, Wilmington, Del.; Harry Weissinger, Louisville, Ky.

MUTUAL FRIENDS TRIED FOR PEACE

"The overture for peace were made by mutual friends for the sake of harmony, without any request or even suggestion from me. Nevertheless, I gave prompt and cordial acquiescence, not for any selfish reasons—for I had no desire again to become candidate for the office, and long before these troubles commenced had made that announcement to my friends—but because I felt it a duty to agree to what seemed to be the desire of the party as a whole to strengthen it." "When Secretary Taft rejected all these peace offerings, I had either to run away like a potter or to resume the contest. The resulting situation is disagreeable, but I do not regard myself as responsible for it. My only regret is that I had not taken the initiative as an official duty. I have given, if I so desired, the peace negotiations, or even considered or talked about anything of the kind on my own motion until Secretary Taft or some one speaking in his name should lead the way, and from all I hear, nothing of that kind is likely to occur. It may, therefore, be regarded as settled that the contest will be fought out to the end. Beyond this you must excuse me from making any comments."

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAMME

Nothing Very Active in the Outlook For the Week—Penal Code Debate Expected to Be Displaced by More Pressing Matters. Washington, Jan. 19.—Congress does not promise anything very stirring during the week. The penal code bill, which is the unfinished business in both houses, will be displaced in the Senate Monday by the bill authorizing the extension of the treaty of commerce with the United States to the Hawaiian Islands. In the House, the bill for the relief of the bankrupts of the United States will be taken up. The bill for the relief of the bankrupts of the United States will be taken up. The bill for the relief of the bankrupts of the United States will be taken up.

HOBSON'S WAR HOBBO

Richmond Pearson Hobson's said to be a man of learning, wide and varied information and high order of intelligence. Those who have heard him speak declare that he is most eloquent and most powerful, but there is fear in his mind lest he lose his balance, if he has not already done so, on a hobby. The papers of the country are rubbing him hard on account of his talk about war between Japan and America.

FORKER ON TAFT

Political news continues to be the most interesting of all news here. Senator Forker, of Ohio, has given out a very significant interview, and the two Buckeye factions may sheath swords and present a solid front to the enemy. The talk of Democratic victories in Ohio has alarmed the Republicans, and partisan onlookers are anxious to see peace declared between the Taft and Forker forces. Concerning Mr. Taft, Mr. Forker said: "I am not surprised to learn that Secretary Taft spoke kindly of me, for we have been friends for many years. He has a high character, and I believe he alone is responsible for the failure of all the efforts that have been made by Senator Crane, of Massachusetts, and others to bring about an adjustment of differences and restore harmony to the Republicans of Ohio. A good many people will feel more kindly toward President Roosevelt than they have been feeling recently after having read the Secretary's statement."

ENTOMBED FORTY-SIX DAYS

THREE MINERS DUG OUT ALIVE

A Rousing Reception Awaits the Men Who, For Nearly Seven Weeks, Have Been Buried Alive in a Nevada Mine—The Imprisoned Men Kept Alive by Means of a Pipe, Through Which Food and Drink Was Conveyed—Their Living on the Earth's Surface—Rescuers Fought Against Heavy Odds and the Success of Their Efforts is Rewarded With Enthusiastic Demonstration. Ely, Nevada, Jan. 19.—After having been entombed forty-six days, a thousand feet below the surface in the Bailey shaft of the Giroux mine, A. D. Bailey, P. J. Brown and Fred McDonald were rescued last night. Whistles all over the camp blew loudly while crowds cheered in the streets. "Ah," was the only word of Bailey, the first to reach the outer air. He tottered forward into the arms of comrades, who in a few minutes recognized him.

CITIZENS GREET THE MEN

The news that rescue was near at hand reached Ely from the mine shortly after 11 o'clock yesterday and many citizens went to the mouth of the shaft to greet the men. Many hours passed while the crowd waited and the entombed men and their rescuers dug vigorously to remove the earth that blocked the mouth of the 1,000-foot shaft.

SHAFT CAVED IN

On the morning of December 4th, McDonald, Brown and Bailey and two other men were working at the bottom of a shaft 85 feet below the pump station and 1,055 feet below the surface. The shaft caved in, snapping the cable used to haul the cage from the shaft and hurling thousands of tons of earth and rocks into the bottom. From the bottom of the compartment in which the men were working to the pumping station, a series of rickety ladders offered the only means of egress.

WANT CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM

Old Line Democrats to Meet in New York Thursday For the Purpose of Formulating a "Safe and Sound" Programme in the Event of Bryan's Nomination. New York, Jan. 19.—It was learned last night that a conference of old line Democrats will be held in this city next Thursday to discuss and formulate a programme to be followed in case William J. Bryan is again nominated for the presidency. Among the conferees will be Governor Hoke Smith of Georgia, Governor Claude Swanson of Virginia, Richard Olney of Massachusetts, and other prominent Democrats.

WAR ON MEMPHIS GAMBLERS

Seventy-One Prisoners, Nearly All Negroes, to Face Police Justice To-day as Result of New Police Commissioner's Campaign. Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 19.—When the docket is cleared in the city court to-morrow, seventy-one prisoners, practically all of them negroes, will answer to the charge of gambling on several raids during last night and early to-day, conducted under the personal supervision of Police Commissioner Edward H. Crump and without the knowledge of the police department. Mr. Crump was recently elected as a member of the board of fire and police commissioners on an independent ticket and among his pre-election pledges were that the law prohibiting gambling on the Sunday closing law should be rigidly enforced. Notwithstanding the fact that Chief of Police O'Haver had issued positive instructions to those under his jurisdiction, Mr. Crump was informed that the instructions were not being carried out, and securing a force of special deputies, personally supervised the raids.

Killed in a Street Fight

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 19.—Casimir Dusicki, a Polisher, of 218 Harvard street, was killed in a street fight at Campbell and Harvard streets early to-day. He was 35 years of age. He was arrested recently in New Orleans on a charge of having embezzled about \$8,000 of police funds, arrived here to-day in custody. Kemp disappeared last July, and nothing was known as to his whereabouts until he was apprehended in New Orleans. Upon his arrival here to-day he was taken to the United States marshal's office and released on \$5,000 bond.

Abandoned District Police Clerk Taken Back to Washington

Washington, Jan. 19.—James Arthur Kemp, former chief clerk of the police department of this city who was arrested recently in New Orleans on a charge of having embezzled about \$8,000 of police funds, arrived here to-day in custody. Kemp disappeared last July, and nothing was known as to his whereabouts until he was apprehended in New Orleans. Upon his arrival here to-day he was taken to the United States marshal's office and released on \$5,000 bond.

President Sends Gold Spoon to a New York Youngster

New York, Jan. 19.—President Roosevelt has sent a gold spoon as a gift to 5-year-old Charles Baldwin, the youngest of eight children of Police Captain Sylvester Baldwin, of the Charles street station. Captain Baldwin has known President Roosevelt for many years and recently visited the White House with his youngest son. The President talked with the youngster for several minutes. The gold spoon will be framed by Captain Baldwin.

SPURNED LOVER SUICIDES

LAUDANUM THE MEANS USED

George B. Proffett, a Young Columbia Draughtsman, Infatuated With a Stenographer Who Did Not Return His Love, Takes Laudanum to End His Miserable Existence—Drank the Drug While at Bed With His Room Mate Early Yesterday—Some Small Suspicion of Murder Entertained by Friends—Chief of Police Dargan, of Darlington, Found Dead in the City Hall Building With Bullet Hole Through His Head—Coroner's Jury Unable to Decide as to Suicide or Murder. Observer Bureau, 1422 Main Street, Columbia, S. C., Jan. 19.

CHIEF OF POLICE FOUND DEAD

Chief of Police A. E. Dargan, familiarly known as Rab Dargan, a bachelor about 50 years old, who had been chief of police of Darlington for fifteen years, was found dead in a room in the city hall building there early to-day. The coroner's jury, after about 16 o'clock this morning, in the room in which he had his office, said he expected to go away and did not want to leave in debt. Just before retiring he asked for a photograph he had given Miss Delk and tore it up and threw the pieces into the parlor fire.

EXPLOSIONS SCATTER CROWDS

At 9:35 o'clock the explosion of some four or five cartridges caused the crowds to scatter, going in various directions, for no one knew whether or not there was stored in the building several hundred pounds of the combustible.

FIREMAN FOUND UNCONSCIOUS

During the conflagration one of the firemen, Capt. Virginius Martin, of the Liberty Hose company, was found in an unconscious state, by one of his fellow firemen. Captain Martin was carried from the building and after being out in the fresh air for a short time recovered sufficiently to go back to his post. Several other firemen came near suffocating.

ENGINEER DIES AT HIS POST

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 19.—A wreck occurred on the Central of Georgia Railway, near Macon, at 2 o'clock this morning, when the passenger train bound for Savannah from Atlanta struck a split switch at the Macon and Athens Junction.

Only Victim of a Wreck on the Central of Georgia Railway

The engine was thrown broadside into the ditch, two express cars were wrecked and Engineer W. B. Tarver was killed. His colored fireman, John Williams, was painfully hurt. The fireman had jumped, but the engineer remained at his post.

Mad Clerk, Rooter and Burke and the Express Messenger was shaken up, but sustained only slight bruises. None of the passengers were injured.

BIG FIRE IN THE TWIN CITY

THE DAMAGE IS NEARLY \$100,000

At 7:15 Last Night a Blaze Was Discovered in the Y. W. C. A. Over the Big Hardware Store of Brown-Rogers Company, and For Four Hours the Firemen Told a Tremendous Battle to Save the Block From Destruction—Private Company of R. J. Reynolds Factory Called to Give Light—Captain Martin, of Hose Company, is Found Unconscious in the Burning Structure and Other Firemen Are Nearly Suffocated—Blaze Started From Fire in Stove at Vesper Service. Special to The Observer.

Winston-Salem, Jan. 19.—One of the most stubborn fires that has visited this city in years occurred to-night and it was only by the persistent and heroic work of the firemen that one of the city's principal business blocks was saved from destruction.

The fire originated in the rooms of the Young Women's Christian Association over the store of the Brown-Rogers Hardware Company, on the corner of Main and Fourth streets. It was discovered at 7:15 o'clock. Before it had made much headway, but it was not until 7:45 that it could not be easily extinguished, as it started in the ceiling of the top floor. The fire department, both white and colored, of the city, struggled desperately with the flames for four hours before they had the fire under control.

THE BROWN-ROGERS COMPANY DOES ONE OF THE BIGGEST WHOLESALE AND RETAIL HARDWARE BUSINESSES OF ANY CITY IN THIS STATE AND ONLY CARRIED ABOUT A \$75,000 STOCK.

A small portion of the stock was destroyed by fire, but the water damage will amount to thousands. Some estimates place the damage at \$40,000 to \$50,000. The flames were confined to the top floor, the partitions and roof being burned out.

THE FLAMES SPREAD TO THE BUILDING IN WHICH ARE THE RETAIL STORES OF F. C. BROWN AND THE WINTON CLOTHING COMPANY, BUT THE FIRE DAMAGE TO THESE WAS SMALL, THE DAMAGE TO THE BUILDING BEING LIMITED TO A TOTAL OF \$10,000 TO \$15,000, MAKING FROM THE BUILDING A LOSS OF ABOUT \$100,000 AS ESTIMATED BY CONSERVATIVE MEN.

GETTING TO THE BLAZE

The fire was discovered by some one who happened to be passing along Main street near the building. Two of the fire companies are located within a few yards of the burning structure and were upon the scene before the fire had made much headway. It was evident from the start that the blaze would be hard to subdue. Located as it was in the ceiling of the second floor of the building, it was indeed hard to get to and the streams of water that were played upon the burning structure amounted to practically nothing until the partitions had burned and the roof had fallen in. Then the firemen were able to get to the blaze itself, and when this was done it was only a short time until the blaze was under control.

THE FIRE WAS WITNESSED BY SEVERAL THOUSAND PEOPLE, THE STREETS ON EITHER SIDE OF THE SQUARE BEING LINED WITH MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THEY BEGAN TO GATHER AT THE FIRST TAP OF THE alarm and from then until midnight the square was a steady stream of people from every section of the city.

THE CROWDS WERE ORDERLY, HOWEVER, AND GAVE THE FIREMEN LITTLE OR NO TROUBLE. SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE NIGHT THE BUILDING LOOKED AS IF IT WERE doomed to destruction. The firemen directed several streams of water over the top of the building, which were effective from the time being.

FROM THE FIRST VIEW THE FIRE REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME UNTIL, THOUGH, OF COURSE, IT WAS GRADUALLY eating its way into the heart of the building.

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