

W.F. TAFT HAS INSPIRED SECRETARY KNOX WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE ACT OF ZELAYA?

Enough Credence Given Certain Reports That Have Reached Department to Prompt Some Inquiries.

RELATIONS STRAINED TO BREAKING POINT

Mr. Knox, Acting With the President, is Fully Advised Regarding the Nicaraguan Troubles.

Portsmouth, N. H., Nov. 22.—Naval rush orders were received here today in connection with the outfitting of the gunboats Paducah and Dubuque, scheduled to return to their stations in the Caribbean sea.

Newport, R. I., Nov. 22.—The battleship Missouri, engaged in torpedo practice here, has received orders to proceed at top speed for New York. Preparations are being made to sail within a couple of hours.

Washington, Nov. 22.—Secretary of State Knox will make the next important, and possibly decisive move in the game of diplomacy being played with President Zelaya of Nicaragua.

Zelaya killed two Americans in the most summary and brutal manner. It is not expected that Zelaya will be permitted to settle at so much per head for these, or any other Americans, he may see fit to kill.

Something more than compensation will be involved in the next drastic step of the state department. The department is awaiting additional information of the details of the killing of Cannon and Grace.

The state department will probably act in recognizing the blockade of Port San Juan, Del Norte, as a recognition of the insurgency, but this is likely to be followed by what is a more important recognition of belligerency, which is of the highest consequence to the insurgent forces.

Once belligerency is recognized, Zelaya would be held to a strict accountability for any prisoners he might take, and the United States would see that they were treated as prisoners of war, according to civilized standards.

The belligerency also would improve the status of the revolutionary government before the world, likewise increasing its responsibility.

Navy Ready for Any Emergency. Secretary Meyer returned to the navy department today from Boston, and immediately took up the Nicaraguan situation with Assistant Secretary Winthrop, and Rear-Admiral Potter, chief of the bureau of navigation.

The officials told the secretary the navy is ready for any emergency which might arise. Mr. Winthrop explained that the Vicksburg had been sent to Corinto, and the Des Moines was reconnoitering in the waters near Greytown, Nicaragua, to ascertain the effectiveness of the blockade revolutionists claim to be maintaining at this port.

The report of Commander Shipley of the Des Moines will probably be sent from Port Limon, Costa Rica, to which point the ship has been ordered to proceed. The secretary also was informed that the Tacoma arrived at Colon today, and arrangements had been made to send the Marietta from Guantanamo, Cuba, to Colon, and that both these vessels could be despatched to Port Limon without delay.

Strained Almost to Breaking. Strained almost to the breaking point, it remains for the next few days to show whether the relations between the United States and Nicaragua will be snapped off short. This government has not accepted as facts beyond contradiction Nicaragua's explanation regarding the execution of the two Americans, Cannon and Grace.

Sufficient credence is given to certain statements made to the state department to prompt inquiries into the reasons back of Zelaya's action. Secretary of State Knox asserts that a demand for reparation from Nicaragua will be made should inquiries develop that certain allegations regarding the death of the Americans are well grounded.

Mr. Knox, who is acting with the full approval of Mr. Taft, is fully acquainted with the Nicaraguan trouble and is prepared to take any needed steps to bring about a more satisfactory situation than now exists. American warships are today speeding toward Nicaragua shores.

The Vicksburg There. Washington, Nov. 22.—The first American warship to arrive in Nicaraguan waters, is the gunboat Vicksburg, which has reported at Corinto, according to navy department advices. The Vicksburg is equipped with six four-inch guns, and eight guns of smaller caliber, and is in fine condition to give a good account of herself should the emergency arise.

To Await the Investigation. Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 22.—D. K. Cannon, father of Leroy Cannon, one of the Americans executed by order of President Zelaya of Nicaragua, stated this morning that he is determined to await the result of the government's investigation before entering a claim for damages for the death of his son, and the confiscation of the latter's property.

Mr. Cannon has named Representative Olmstead to recover the government to recover the body.

THINGS MOVING NOW AT MURPHY

Among Other Building Operations J. L. Smathers is Building a Modern Hotel to Cost \$75,000.

Correspondence of The Gazette-News. Murphy, N. C., Nov. 21.—The town is alive with new buildings going up. Within the next few months many thousands of dollars will be expended in the erection of modern structures.

Foundation has been laid for the new "Regal" hotel, which is to be four stories high, costing \$75,000. This property is owned by J. L. Smathers, a wealthy citizen of Murphy, who, realizing the advantages of the city and the need of a modern hotel, undertook himself to supply the need of the city.

Mr. Smathers, hardly middle-aged yet, has accumulated in the past few years a small fortune, and has, in a measure, retired from active business. Reared in Haywood county, he came to Murphy a young man and started in business, the wholesale grocery business, also dealing largely in shipping of tanbark.

By energetic business methods Mr. Smathers has established several wholesale houses in different towns. \$20,000 School. Located on an ideal site in the heart of the residence portion of town, Murphy's new graded school will be built. Work has begun in the excavating of dirt and a rock crusher is on hand to prepare the rock for a reinforced concrete foundation.

Plans and specifications were drawn by Messrs. Cunningham, architects, of Greenville, S. C., for a \$20,000 school building, modern in every respect, giving ample room for the accommodation of 800 or more children.

New Department Store. G. W. Candler, a native of Buncombe county, but better known as a progressive merchant of Murphy, will open up a \$25,000 stock of general merchandise in the new store room under the Regal hotel, now being erected.

Mr. Candler has two and a half stores here already, one a department store and the other a men's furnishing establishment. His new venture will therefore show that he believes there is still room for another business of this kind here.

JUDGE JUSTICE GIVES DECISION

Power of Henderson Board of Commissioners Restricted in the A. & S. Bond Matter.

Gazette-News Bureau. Hotel Gates, Hendersonville, Nov. 22.—That the power to levy taxes and create a sinking fund is clearly limited and restricted to within ten years of the date of issue was the decision handed down by Judge M. H. Justice Saturday afternoon, when the petition of Col. S. V. Pickens and others was presented by the present board of county commissioners to the court for its opinion in reference to the matter of the county of Henderson creating an annual sinking fund to pay the bonded indebtedness derived from the issuing of bonds for the building of the Asheville and Spartanburg railroad.

Judge Justice in his decision will enjoin the county, or any of its officers from collecting any more of the said taxes to create a sinking fund. This relieves the free land holders of Henderson county of something over \$2000 in taxes every year until 1925, when the bonds fall due; aggregating over \$25,000 saved in taxes for the entire time.

Judge Justice's decision is viewed with general satisfaction throughout the county.

"REBELLION" HAS BROKEN OUT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

It was learned late this afternoon that there is a "young rebellion" among many of the public school children of Asheville against the decision of the school authorities to allow only one day for the Thanksgiving holiday. Heretofore at the Thanksgiving season the children of the public schools have been given Friday in addition to the day set apart for the giving of thanks by the governors of the several states of the Union and the president of the United States and when this year the school authorities said that only Thanksgiving day would be allowed the children became "wrought-up."

It is said that a sort of "round robin" was signed today by more than 300 of the 350 pupils of the High school declaring in effect that they would have the regular holiday whether or no. It is understood that these children have agreed among themselves that they will not attend school Friday, believing that the day rightfully belongs to them and it remains to be seen just what sort of an attendance there will be at High school on that day.

In the event that the signature of the "round robin" stands it is evident that the attendance will be about as slim as a prohibition meeting on a cold, rainy night.

Mr. Merrick Improved. Duff Merrick, who sustained a fall on the steps of the Asheville club Saturday night, due to an attack of vertigo, was much improved today, and will probably be out by Wednesday.

POSTAL COMING WITHIN 90 DAYS

Connections to Be Had from the West and South—Large Office Here, Is Expected.

Following The Gazette-News' story Saturday afternoon telling of the coming of the Postal Telegraph-Cable company to Asheville, S. B. Price, general superintendent of construction, who has been getting the rights of way for the line, has announced that his company expects to have an office in operation in Asheville within 90 days.

The plan of the company is to build through from Knoxville, by way of Morristown to Asheville and thence to Spartanburg. The company is already building between Knoxville and Morristown, and will soon open an office in Morristown, and will then start towards Asheville. At the same time it is expected that work will begin on the line between Spartanburg and Asheville. This will give Asheville direct telegraph communication between the eastern and southern cities and Chicago and other points in the west.

While the company does not reach as many places as the Western Union, it is stated that its lines are more direct, and it boasts of being able to handle business with greater rapidity, especially to large business centers.

The Asheville office, it is thought, will be made one of the relay points and central offices, with accommodations for a large force of operators will be secured here on one of the principal business streets.

In order to facilitate construction work, the company is planning to purchase rights of way for its wires on the poles of independent telephone companies. The company does not follow the lines of railway but takes the shortest direction between two places. The coming of the Postal company to Asheville, seems in keeping with the general wave of prosperity which seems to have hit here.

PRESIDENT TAFT HAS A BUSY DAY

Supreme Court Justices Call and Discuss Matter of the Appointment of Justice Peckham's Successor.

Washington, Nov. 22.—President Taft had a busy day at the White House. He continued to consult freely with members of the Supreme court regarding the appointment of Mr. Peckham's successor. Justices Brewer and White were among the callers, and the question of filling this high judicial place was discussed. There was no intimation who will be selected.

Senator Borah, who has been west investigating the government irrigation projects, conferred with the president. It is understood that the senate committee on irrigation will recommend a bond issue of \$20,000,000 for the completion of approved projects. Mr. Taft, in his Spokane speech, said he favored a bond issue for this purpose.

Secretary Ballinger was with Mr. Taft some time. Leaving the executive office he declared his petition for pardon in the case of Will Swink, under sentence to serve time on the roads for selling whiskey, was premature, as Swink's appeal in the Supreme court is still pending.

GOVERNOR CONSIDERS PARDON APPLICATIONS

It is Said He is Unlikely to Grant Pardon to Black or Lance—Other Cases.

W. R. Gudger returned yesterday from Raleigh, where he and Judge Thomas A. Jones and Frank Carter Saturday appeared before Governor Kitchen as attorneys for and against procuring pardons for several prisoners.

While Governor Kitchen did not make any definite announcement in the cases, he gave attorneys an idea as to how he stood in several cases. Mr. Gudger this afternoon expressed the belief that a pardon could hardly be expected for Wiley Black, especially since five Asheville physicians, among them Dr. Whittington and Dr. H. B. Weaver, had written the governor advising against Black's pardon, and to the effect that the jail confinement was not so injurious to him. Mr. Gudger also was of the belief that the governor would hardly pardon Joseph Lance.

After the hearing in the matter of a pardon for "Lawyer" Thompson, serving a term for killing another negro in the old American saloon, the governor intimated that he would probably pardon Thompson. He also intimated that he might commute the sentences of "Cap." Jones and the other negro boy who were sentenced to serve 15 years for entering a room. The governor intimated that the petition for pardon in the case of Will Swink, under sentence to serve time on the roads for selling whiskey, was premature, as Swink's appeal in the Supreme court is still pending.

The Work Goes On. In the mine levels the work of the explorers went on unceasingly. Re-lays of sugar miners succeeded those whose strength failed. Those who staggered from the pit mouth were surrounded instantly and a babel of questions was hurled at them.

"We can see the bodies. There are piles of them. They're dead, boys! all dead," was the reply of the first, and those who followed gave no more cheering answers.

"But they could be lying back there!"

CENSUS REPORT IS MADE PUBLIC

It is Found That 8,109,737 Bales Had Been Ginned up to November 14th of This Year's Crop.

THE ANNOUINED BY THE SEVERAL STATES On November 14, 1908, 73.3 Per Cent. of the Entire Crop of the Country Had Been Ginned.

Washington, Nov. 22.—The census report shows 8,109,737 bales of cotton, counting round bales as half bales, ginned from the growth of 1909 to November 14, compared with 9,595,809 for 1908. Round bales included this year are 123,858, compared with 173,908 for 1908. Sea Island 68,607 for 1909, compared with 56,791 for 1908.

Cotton ginned by states to November 14, 1909, compared with that ginned to the same date in 1908, follows:

Table with 3 columns: States, 1909, 1908. Florida 51,635 51,497; Georgia 1,559,671 1,564,937; North Carolina 466,513 415,434; South Carolina 973,407 938,926.

On November 14, 1908, 73.3 per cent. of the entire crop of the country had been ginned. Distribution of the Sea Island cotton for 1909 by states is, Florida, 23,477; Georgia, 38,913; South Carolina, 6,217. Statistics in this report for 1909 are subject to slight corrections when checked against the individual returns of the ginners being transmitted by mail. The corrected statistics of the quantity of cotton ginned this season to November 14, are 7,017,849 bales.

MOSS SHELTERS THE BOLL WEEVIL

The State Crop Commission of Louisiana Makes a Discovery and Issues a Bulletin Today.

Baton Rouge, La., Nov. 22.—The state crop commission finds in the picturesque Spanish moss, a seriously threatening danger to cotton planters. The commission issued a statement today, saying the moss shelters an enormous number of boll weevils.

DR. BATTLE IS APPOINTED TO SUCCEED GEN. YOUNG

Becomes Surgeon-General of the State Troop, With the Rank of Colonel.

The Gazette-News Bureau. Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, Nov. 22.—Robert S. Young of Concord, for over ten years surgeon-general of the North Carolina National guard, is retired with the rank of brigadier-general.

He is succeeded by Dr. S. Westray Battle, of Asheville, with the rank of colonel.

Bingham-Mooney Thanksgiving.

Bingham Saturday afternoon defeated the Tennessee "scrubs" by a score of 8 to 3 in a football game witnessed by a goodly number of enthusiasts. The playing of Bingham, however, was not up to standard and many of those witnessing the game were disappointed. The chief game that Bingham will play this season will be the game that will end the season on that with Mooney Thanksgiving day.

"Transportation" Party. Something new in a progressive card party has found favor with eastern hostesses. The game played is 500 and the party called a transportation party. The various tables were arranged to indicate the different modes of transportation, beginning with the most primitive and continuing to the very latest. The tally cards were, in their order, ox carts, buggies, street cars, railroad trains, automobiles, balloons and air ships. At the goal was a miniature air ship, made of sweet chocolate, for the winner; the booty prize was a little metal mule—probably a hint that the recipient would "have a kick coming."

Mr. Merrick Improved. Duff Merrick, who sustained a fall on the steps of the Asheville club Saturday night, due to an attack of vertigo, was much improved today, and will probably be out by Wednesday.

THREE ARE DEAD AS RESULT OF AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT, AT CUTHBERT, GA.

ARE LIVING MEN STILL IN MINE?

Exploring Parties Today Made Discoveries Which Has Caused Hope to Spring Anew.

Cherry, Ills., Nov. 22.—Two exploring parties in the St. Paul mine today found indications that a large number of men are still in the last workings.

Daybreak came with rain and snow. Chilling winds banished many morbidly curious from the pit mouth. Close to the dimly outlined shaft structure, women huddled together, seeking consolation. Three times the entrance to the cemetery, Past the mine entrance to the cemetery, mourners numbering less than a dozen stumbled along behind. No church services have attended any of the funerals.

Rescuers coming to the surface at noon reported live rats discovered in the newly explored portion of the mine. This increased the hope that the rats came from remote sections of the cavern, where comparatively pure air remained, and that if rats could live there, men also could. Mine officials declared that if any more men are brought out alive the work would have to be done within 24 hours, as the men must necessarily be almost starved. Rats, he said, would be able to live longer, because of their ability to find crumbs and scraps of food scattered about from the men's lunches.

The searchers this morning were able to pass far into the galleries. Two hundred men are still unaccounted for. If the men still alive, imprisoned in the depths, they are probably too weak to aid in their own escape. It is now nine days since the disaster occurred, and possible survivors have gone without food or water. The rescue parties are working frantically to remove timbers, dead animals and earth-falls, which block the way to the east workings. Rain fell all last night.

Four more bodies lying in the black damp were hoisted. Gas made it impossible to reach a score of others, although they were in plain view.

Giving Experts Much Anxiety. Washington, Nov. 22.—Word was received this morning from officials of the United States geological survey, at Cherry, Ills., to the effect that the fire in the mine is giving the government experts much anxiety. The experts are watching the situation closely, in order to protect the lives of rescuers. Masses are analyzed constantly.

Mixtures of fire damp and oxygen would prove fatal. The government experts are endeavoring to avoid further fatalities. The experts say that 20 miners brought out alive Saturday, twelve were discovered in a helpless condition, still breathing poisonous gases, rescued by oxygen helmet corps.

Cherry, Ills., Nov. 22.—Hope aroused by the rescue alive of 20 entombed men from the St. Paul mine, just one week after the starting of the fatal fire, was crushed Sunday, for not one more of the 310 men caught by the fire was found.

The day was spent in removing bodies and in burying the corpses heretofore recovered. Last night the records showed that of the 310 men left in the mine last Saturday night 198 are still missing, while 92 bodies have been found and 20 men rescued alive.

The fire that broke out afresh was smothered Sunday and explorers were able to work in the mine, but black damp in one of the galleries defied the men, as did cave-ins and other debris.

It was not even discovered whether there are more men alive in the mine galleries, although the explorers work with almost superhuman strength and rapidity.

The finding of 37 bodies and their removal were the only visible results of yesterday's endeavors.

The Bells Toll. All day long the tolling of church bells resounded in Cherry and Spring Valley. Eighteen bodies were buried in a field south of Cherry. At the mine a dozen victims in coffins awaited removal while a score of coffins were piled nearby for others that might be brought to the surface.

Services for the dead men were held outside the churches, into which Coroner Malm deemed it inadvisable that the bodies be taken.

From the yet unfilled graves in which the Roman Catholic dead were placed, the priests hurried to the mine entrance to administer the last rites to any dying man that might be brought up.

Through a gallery the bodies of 37 men could be seen. Preparations for the taking out of these bodies were rushed when the morbid throng about the mine had thinned and the black damp had been overcome.

The Work Goes On. In the mine levels the work of the explorers went on unceasingly. Re-lays of sugar miners succeeded those whose strength failed. Those who staggered from the pit mouth were surrounded instantly and a babel of questions was hurled at them.

"We can see the bodies. There are piles of them. They're dead, boys! all dead," was the reply of the first, and those who followed gave no more cheering answers.

A Would-Be Bridal Party Dashed from a Bridge Over the Central of Georgia Railroad.

TWO WOMEN IN CAR RECEIVED SEVERE INJURIES

The Chauffeur Attempted to Light a Cigarette While Car Was Running Thirty Miles an Hour.

Cuthbert, Ga., Nov. 22.—Three are dead and two fatally injured as a result of an automobile accident here late last night. The dead: Curtis Williams, Fort Gaines, Ga.; James and Horace Shepard of Edison, Ga. The injured: Miss Helen Mattox, 20 years old, of Coleman, Ga.; Miss Mary Mattox, 16 years old, of Coleman, Ga.

The accident occurred two miles west of here as the party was returning from Cuthbert to Coleman. Speeding to be married, James Shepard and Miss Helen Mattox, accompanied by Miss Mary Mattox and Horace Shepard, left in an automobile at Fort Gaines, and driven to Cuthbert by Williams. Reaching there all the ministers refused to marry the couple on account of their youth, neither having passed their twentieth birthday.

Thus foiled the party dashed away. While whizzing along at 30 miles an hour, Chauffeur Williams, attempting to light a cigarette, lost control of the machine while crossing a 30 foot bridge over the Central railway. The party was dashed to the tracks below, the machine falling upon Shepard and Williams. Williams' neck was broken, death resulting instantly, while the two Shepards were frightfully injured, death following shortly.

Miss Helen Mattox was badly cut about the face and arms and received internal injuries. Miss Mary Mattox was terribly injured.

The women were removed to a farm house, while the bodies of the three men were brought here on a hand-car.

THE REPORT IS NOT CONFIRMED

The Government Wireless Station Hears Astor Yacht, Nourmahal Has not Been Located.

Key West, Fla., Nov. 22.—The government wireless station at San Juan, Porto Rico, continuing communication with the wireless station here this morning, finds there is no confirmation of the presence there of the steam yacht Nourmahal, with John Jacob Astor and a party of friends aboard. The yacht has been missing several days, and is believed to have been caught in the West Indian storm.

PROPOSED AUTO TRIP TO HENDERSONVILLE

A Number of Asheville Gentlemen Expect to Make the Trip That Has Been Planned for Next Sunday.

The proposed trip of a number of Asheville automobilists to Hendersonville next Sunday is arousing considerable interest among the members of the Asheville Motor club and many are planning to make the run. It is planned to leave Asheville early Sunday morning for Hendersonville, take dinner there and following the dinner, a tour of the town and points of interest will be made, including a run around Kauhough lake.

Dr. M. H. Fletcher is chairman of the touring committee and all who desire to take the trip are requested to hand in their names to him. The Motor club already numbers 40, and new members are being almost daily recruited.

Capt. Russler on Fishing Excursion. Capt. C. H. Russler left this afternoon for Buck Shoals, Henderson county, where he will be joined by a party of friends and will enjoy a fishing and fishing excursion for several days. The party will be the guests of Baker Edwards and a pleasant time is anticipated. Capt. Russler is a good fisherman and hopes to be able to maintain his reputation on this occasion.

Risco is Electrocutted. Albany, N. Y., Nov. 21.—Edward Risco, who was electrocuted here last night, was the last man to be executed in Albany.