

PANAMA "STEAL" STINGS OSPINA

Resentment of United States' Indifference to Columbia's Claims Caused Minister's Sensational Note.

NO PERSONAL INSULT INTENDED, HE INSISTS

Severance of Diplomatic Relations May Follow Hint That Knox's Visit Is "Inopportune."

Washington, Feb. 19.—Representative Sulzer, chairman of the foreign affairs committee which is investigating the claims of Columbia, today said the testimony adduced before the committee shows conclusively that the taking of Panama was the result of a conspiracy, carefully planned and cleverly executed.

"It cannot be justified in morals or law," he said. "The United States must make reparation for the outrage to Columbia. Unless this is done, we cannot expect the friendship or trade of our sister republics in Central and South America. The foreign affairs committee will proceed diligently with its investigation."

Columbia Wants Redress. Profound disappointment on receiving intimations that Secretary Knox did not contemplate giving Columbia assurance of the ultimate arbitration of claim against the United States was generally ascribed as the reason for the statement of Senator Pedro Ospina, the Colombian minister, last night that Secretary Knox's visit to his country at this time would be "inopportune."

It developed today that when Ospina first read the White House announcement a week ago stating that President Taft had directed Secretary Knox to visit the countries bordering on the Caribbean sea he had it with unconcealed enthusiasm.

In his statement, the Colombian minister, first drawing attention to the fact that the views are his own, and not officially those of his government, seriously criticized the United States for not submitting to arbitration the differences growing out of the partition of Panama and the acquisition by this government of the canal zone.

Aspinas is confident that his government will retaliate that Knox's visit will be "inopportune." The thought of personal insult, which position the state department is reported to have taken relative to the tenor of Ospina's communication, had not occurred. He only intended to set forth his government's impatience at not receiving what he considered proper consideration of its notes.

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SIMMONS REPLIES TO KITCHIN SPEECH

Cites Congressional Record to Show His Attitude Toward Tariff Revision.

Gazette-News Bureau, Washington, Feb. 19. Senator Simmons has made the following statement, in reply to the "keynote" speech of Governor Kitchin at Raleigh:

Mr. Kitchin's labored effort to show an inconsistency in my position on lumber and wheat as stated in my Snow Hill speech in 1902 and in my speeches on those subjects in 1903 were fully answered by me in those latter speeches.

"In 1902 we manufactured practically only high grade lumber such as Canada does not produce at all, and there was practically no competition between the two countries in the sale of this article.

"In 1903 we had largely used up our high grade lumber, and between 75 and 80 per cent of the lumber we were then and are now producing is almost identical in grade lumber Canada has a freight rate advantage over us of about \$1.50.

"In 1902 a duty on wheat, as I stated in my Snow Hill speech, would not have affected the price of wheat in this country any more than a duty on cotton would now affect the price of cotton, because we were then enormous exporters of wheat. In 1910 it was shown to the finance committee, by government statistics and testimony, that we had practically ceased to be an exporter of wheat, except what is known as macaroni wheat—a grade of wheat not consumed in this country.

All the difference in the world, in these two periods makes all the difference in the world in the effect of the tariff duties on the article involved as everybody who knows anything about this subject knows. Mr. Kitchin says that on 43 roll calls I voted 19 times against the majority, and there was applause. Mr. Kitchin did not tell his audience that he was referring to the 43 roll calls during the extra session of congress.

Is Mistaken. "Mr. Kitchin is mistaken in his figures. I have in my hand now senate document No. 275, being a compilation of all the record votes taken during the extra session. That shows the republican majority only 11 times, and against the republican majority 32 and that I voted fewer times with the republican majority during that session than any other democratic senator, excepting only three. It also shows that Senator Williams on 35 roll calls voted with the republican majority 24 times; that my colleague, on 44 of these roll calls, voted with the republican majority 24 times, and that Senator Bacon, on 45 of these roll calls, voted with the republican majority 23 times.

Mr. Kitchin says that I voted against reciprocity and that reciprocity provided for reduced duties on farming implements, barbed-wire fencing, etc., but Mr. Kitchin did not tell his audience that this treaty on these articles of farm consumption only when imported from Canada and that Canada makes no farming implements or barbed-wire for export.

"Nor did he tell his audience what is the fact, that the free list bill, for which I voted, not only reduced but removed all duties upon farming implements, barbed-wire, bagging and ties, and imported into this country from anywhere else in the world, and that upon the floor of the senate I repeatedly stated that I would vote for the reciprocity bill if this free list bill was added to it, by way of amendment, so that the president could not veto the one without the other.

"Nor did he tell his audience that while I voted against President Taft's reciprocity treaty, which Senator La Follette, a strong tariff reformer, had characterized as a bill against the farmers and in the interest of the trusts, I voted for all of the democratic tariff bills which passed the house came to the senate during that session of congress.

"On reciprocity I voted with the insurgent republicans and against a majority of the stand-pat republicans and my own party. It was a republican administration measure.

ACCUSED SLAYER OF 3'S ARRESTED

Will McEntire Held for Old Crime Committed in Rutherford.

Special to The Gazette-News. Rutherford, Feb. 19.—It has been stated here upon good authority that Will McEntire, who is accused of murdering three men in the upper part of this county several weeks ago, and for whose arrest and delivery the governor offered a reward of \$350, has been arrested in Tampa and that extradition papers have been applied for. McEntire will be brought to this place at an early date, and the people await, with eager interest, his examination and the further developments of facts in this crime.

BLOW GEORGIA BANK SAFE AND GET \$2500

Explosion So Violent Sleepers in Rooms Above Are Thrown from Beds.

Atlanta, Feb. 19.—Robbers early this morning blew open and rifled the safe of the Anstall bank of Anstall, Ga., obtaining \$2500 cash and valuable papers. The explosion was so violent that guests in a hotel above the bank were thrown from their beds. Bloodhounds are pursuing the robbers.

ONLY NINE SURVIVE OF THE ERNE'S CREW

Rescued Sailors Tell of Battle With Stormy Sea—Ten Drowned or Missing.

Liverpool, Feb. 19.—The British steamer Cuban, which arrived here last night from New Orleans, brought into port nine of the crew of the British ship Erne, which was wrecked in a heavy storm at sea. The Erne was bound from Boston, February 1, for Buenos Ayres. The Cuban passed her on February 8, in latitude 49, north, longitude 50, west, and rescued those of the crew who had managed to keep themselves alive. Six of the crew were drowned, while the master of the Erne, Captain Fickett, his wife, the second mate and a passenger are missing. Only the cargo was kept from the wreck.

HAS RYAN'S SECRETS

Burns Used Dictograph in Iron Workers' Office to Gather Dynamite Evidence.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 19.—Whatever Frank M. Ryan and other indicated union officials have said in their office about the dynamite conspiracy since last October is alleged to have been learned by the government through a telephonic apparatus in the headquarters of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.

WORKMEN TRAPPED AS BUILDING FALLS

Three Story Steel and Concrete Structure in Pittsburgh Suburb, Collapses.

Pittsburgh, Feb. 19.—The three and one-half story concrete and steel office building of the Spang-Chalfant company's steel plant at Acton, a suburb, collapsed today. Several workmen were caught in the debris.

Take Up Chemical Revision. Washington, Feb. 19.—The chemical tariff revision bill was taken up for debate in the house today. A vote is not expected until Friday.

PITNEY NAMED TO HIGH COURT

New Jersey Jurist to Succeed Harlan as Associate Justice on The Supreme Bench.

"JIM CROW" DECISION COST HOOK THE PLACE

And Protests of Unions Eliminated Nagel as a Factor—No Opposition to Nominee.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The president this afternoon sent to the senate the nomination of Mahlon Pitney as associate justice of the Supreme court.

The statement that Pitney would be named as successor of the late Justice Harlan was made at the White House after a call by John W. Griggs, former attorney general, and a delegation of New Jersey lawyers. Chancellor Pitney has long been a prominent figure in New Jersey.

It once seemed certain that President Taft would name Judge William C. Hook of the United States Circuit court or Secretary Nagel. There were protests against Judge Hook because of his decisions in Oklahoma cases involving the two-cent fare law and the "Jim Crow" car law. The latter case Hook decided in favor of the railroads and against the negroes. This, it is said, caused the president to turn from the Kansas jurist. Labor organizations protested against Secretary Nagel's appointment on the ground he had been too lenient in the enforcement of immigration laws.

When Pitney is confirmed, Taft will have had the extraordinary experience of constituting a majority of the highest tribunal in the land. In addition to naming five new justices of a court of nine, Taft also has the distinction of elevating Associate Justice Edward D. White to the chief justiceship, making six Supreme court appointments during his years in the White House.

HIS LIQUOR TALKING LED TO HIS ARREST

Not Generally Believed Henry Daly Knows Anything About Death of Unknown.

Special to The Gazette-News. Bryson City, Feb. 19.—Henry Daly, the young man who was arrested near Murphy a few weeks ago on suspicion that he knew something about the human bones which were found on Anderson's "Bald" several months ago, is still in jail here but it is not generally believed that he had anything to do with the death of the unknown man, and in all probability he would have been released but for the fact that there is a pistol carrying charge against him.

JEALOUS, CUTS THROAT OF RIVAL CALLER

Kentuckian First Attempts to Blow up Residence of Woman Who Received Another.

Bowling Green, Ky., Feb. 19.—After attempting to blow up the home of Florence Timley, it is alleged, Marlon Crockett attacked George Williams, a caller and cut Williams' throat from ear to ear.

MR. HAYES AT CORNELL

West Asheville Man Enthusiastic as a Student in the Fruit Culture Course.

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 19.—Rutherford B. Hayes of Asheville, son of former President Rutherford Hayes, matriculated today as a student in fruit culture at Cornell university. Mr. Hayes wants to get in touch with the latest phases of agricultural development, he said.

Boyce Attacks Attorney; Courtroom in an Uproar

Port Worth, Tex., Feb. 19.—"That's insulting," exclaimed young Lynn Boyce, as lawyers for the defense in the Sneed trial questioned his mother today. Rushing from the rear of the courtroom, Boyce lunged for the examining attorney. Six men intervened before the youth was ejected.

REPUBLICANS SPLIT; NEAR RIOT AT MEETING

Both Sells and Massey Nominated for Congress in Tennessee.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 19.—The first Tennessee congressional district republicans have two candidates for congress and two newly-formed congressional committees as a result of a split in their convention at Greeneville Saturday. Congressman Sam R. Sells was nominated for re-election and Dr. Z. D. Massey, former congressman, was nominated by a faction favorable to his candidacy.

The convention was a scene of riot and disorder. The trouble began when announcement was made that the congressional committee, favorable to Massey by a vote of 7 to 5, had decided to admit to the theater only by ticket. Waiting men, by hundreds, carried the place by storm when the doors were opened and filled the large hall. When it became known that the congressional committee had decided to allow Sells only 40 votes of 116 in the convention the temper of the Sells supporters was almost unmanageable. Chairman Shipley of the congressional committee called the convention to order and announced Adam Bowman of Washington county for chairman. Bowman endeavored to act but the gavel was snatched from his hand. Substituting his heavy walking cane for the gavel, Bowman pounded for order when an unidentified man who had snatched the gavel from him struck him on the head with it. Mussey men rushed to his aid and a general mix-up followed.

GOV. AT ROCK TO BEGIN HIS CAMPAIGN SOON

Speaks at Raleigh—Rumors of a Morehead-Butler Paper in State Capital.

Gazette-News Bureau, The Hotel Raleigh, Raleigh, Feb. 19. Former Governor Aycock will soon make a speech in Raleigh launching his campaign for the United States senate. It will be in the nature of a political and not a personal speech but his friends throughout the state will have something to say, it is said, to be optimistic about the result.

GOV. HIRAM JOHNSON OUT FOR ROOSEVELT

Says His Statement Was Issued With the Knowledge but Not Necessarily Sanction of T. R.

New York, Feb. 19.—Hiram Johnson, governor of California and heavy tofore an ardent supporter of La Follette, today issued a formal statement saying that in his opinion Theodore Roosevelt should be the next republican nominee for president. The statement was issued, he said, with Roosevelt's knowledge, but not necessary with his sanction.

NAMES WITHDRAWN.

Action Taken as to Carolina Offices by President, Presumably on Account of Politics.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The president today withdrew from the senate the nominations of two collectors of customs and eight postmasters, all in North Carolina. Political conditions in that state, it was intimated, is the reason.

No explanation was vouchsafed at the White House. It was understood the failure of former Congressman Morehead and Republican National Committeeman Duncan to agree on the nominees prompted the president to withdraw all names until a settlement is reached. The nominations with drawn are those of John Biddle, to be collector of customs, district of Pamlico; Christopher D. Jones, collector, district of Beaufort, and the following postmasters: John M. Burrows, Asheville; William A. Mace, Beaufort; Samuel E. Marshall, Mount Airy; John E. Boyce, Reidsville; William K. Saunders, Roanoke Rapids; Estelle Cameron, Rockingham; Henry J. White, Roxboro, and L. J. Pickel, West Durham.

PLOT AGAINST DYING HERMIT?

F. J. Gardner, of Racing Scandal Fame, Accused of Attempt to Defraud Heirs to Million.

POWER OF ATTORNEY FORGED, IT IS SAID

Attempts to Take Full Control of Valuable Estate and Its Aged Owner.

New York, Feb. 19.—The examination of former state Senator Frank J. Gardner today on charges of attempting to defraud the heirs of Samuel R. Haslett, an aged reclusive, out of an estate valued at one million dollars, is expected to develop new disclosures. Haslett is fast dying in the Brooklyn home where for years he lived as a hermit.

Gardner, of race track legislation fame, who was arrested and locked up late Saturday night charged with conspiracy to gain control of the estate of Haslett, through a power of attorney which Haslett is alleged to have repudiated, was released on \$2000 bail. Gardner, who a year ago was acquitted of a charge of attempting to bribe State Senator Otto G. Foelker, in connection with the anti-race track legislation in this state in 1903, pleaded not guilty at his arraignment and said he had no doubt of his ability to clear himself.

As Gardner left the court room with his wife, formerly May Verba, an actress, he said: "I am sure this will come out all right. I have absolutely nothing to fear. There will be plenty of sensational exposures made before this case is through and let me assure you that I will not be the victim."

George H. Decker, who in a remarkable story of the alleged plot told to magistrate involved Gardner in the case, and who was employed as nurse for Haslett when the elderly recluse was taken ill two weeks ago in his "house of mystery" in Brooklyn, is still in jail in default of bail. In his affidavit to the court John H. Lord, counsel for Haslett who was barred from his client's house by Decker because Haslett disclaimed him, recites that "Decker did call Frank J. Gardner to the Haslett residence," that "the said Gardner did prepare a power of attorney giving to the said Frank J. Gardner full power and authority over the person and property of said Samuel E. Haslett," and that "said Samuel E. Haslett stated to dependent in the presence of said George Decker and other persons that he did not sign said power of attorney."

Haslett's Strange Life. Samuel Haslett is an old Brooklynite, the son of Dr. John Haslett, who moved to Brooklyn years ago from South Carolina. Dr. Haslett was wealthy when he came to Brooklyn, and his money, invested in real estate, greatly increased, so that when he died he divided a large fortune among his two sons and his daughter. Samuel, one of the sons, did not go into business. He married early and lived a quiet life in the big house of his father at 138 Remson street. Thirty years ago his wife died. Her clothes caught on fire in a benzine explosion and she jumped out of a window, killing herself.

Since that day Mr. Haslett has not had the house open. The old furniture was kept in its place and he himself lived in a room on the third floor. Dust and dirt accumulated and he was classed as a hermit by his neighbors. Tales grew and spread that he was also a miser and that the floors of his house were covered with gold. This was found not to be true.

REX ARRIVES TODAY

King of the 1912 Mardi Gras Given Keys of Crescent City After Naval Parade.

New Orleans, Feb. 19.—Rex, king of 1912 Mardi Gras carnival, arrived at noon today aboard the royal yacht Stringer. After a naval parade, Rex landed at the foot of Canal street. A military escort was provided to accompany him to the city hall, where he received the "keys of the city" from Mayor Behrman. The Knights of Proteus parade tonight and the annual rex parade occurs at noon tomorrow.

MY CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT

If I could select the man I would name Name Address Cut this ticket out and mail it to The Gazette-News, or hand it in at this office. If you do not care to write your name on the ballot, you can write it in a registry book provided at the office. Results will be published from time to time and in no case will the name of the voter be given out unless so requested.