

ALTERED POLICY TOWARD MEXICO

Pressure Will Be Brought to Bear to Protect Americans And Their Property.

MADERO GOVERNMENT APPEARS INDIFFERENT

Change in the Construction of Neutrality Laws Contemplated—Lane Goes Over Situation.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—The determination of the administration to adopt a stiffer policy toward Mexico as disclosed in the announcement last night of the purpose to make fresh representations to that government regarding the continuation of the rebellion, is directly attributable to the recent return to Washington of several persons thoroughly cognizant of alleged evil conditions existing south of the border.

First was Henry Lane Wilson, American ambassador to Mexico, who has been in close touch with every one of the American consular officers in the disturbed districts and who is also personally aware of the attitude of the Mexican government toward the large number of American claims presented as a result of the depredations committed by rebels.

Then there have come forward the three members of the self-constituted committee of Americans, representing the large plantations and mining interests in northern Mexico, who from personal knowledge were able to inform the state department of the various practices employed by the rebel leaders to extort money from the American managers and foremen and of the comparative indifference of the Mexican government officials to the numerous appeals of the American interests for protection from the raiders.

Lastly, there have come the members of the senate sub-committee on foreign relations, fresh from an investigation at first hand of border conditions from California to Texas.

The combination of all these representations has made a profound impression upon the administration. It is indicative of the purpose of the administration that stronger representations than have heretofore been made must be directed to the Mexican government if the conditions are to be improved. In the ordinary course these will be communicated through Ambassador Wilson, who is leaving Washington today for New York, whence he will sail next Thursday for his post by way of Vera Cruz. The fact that the ambassador is returning in a leisurely fashion may be indicative of the purpose of the administration to avoid undue haste or excitement in developing this stronger policy towards Mexico.

It has been represented to the state department that the strict enforcement of the neutrality laws is in fact resulting in the maintenance of an attitude anything but neutral on the part of the United States, and that the Madero government is benefiting unduly by the exclusion of arms from the rebels who are still receiving quantities of military supplies, and that the United States government is now contemplating some amendment of the practice in that respect so as to make its attitude more impartial as between the combatants.

Strike Situation Reports. Reports to the state department today from the border country refer to the strike of 950 Mexican miners employed in American mines at Cananea, Sonora, and of the strong anti-American feeling among the strikers. The local officials express confidence in their ability to control the situation, but was thought that Americans in the neighborhood would be in danger in case of a riot.

The reports indicate that arms and ammunition, allowed to cross the border from the United States by direct orders from Washington for the purpose of protecting American interests and placed in the hands of the American forces, actually are being turned upon the American mine managers and foremen.

James C. Colbath, manager of the mines company of America at Los Angeles, Chihuahua, who was captured by the rebels December 17 and held for ransom, was released December 18, according to a consular report to the state department. Nothing has been heard of the American, J. Morris, postmaster on the Mexican North-western railway, who was carried off by bandits December 17, when he tried to extinguish a fire they had kindled on a bridge.

Rugby and American the Ideal Combination.

Montreal, Dec. 20.—By combining Rugby and American football the ideal game could be produced, says Coach Shaughnessy of McGill University in his annual report. The principal change he suggests in the American game is to abolish the line of scrimmage, allowing men to be offside with certain limits. The passing or kicking of the ball while a run is in progress is another suggestion that he believes would result in a more exciting game.

LEADERS OF LABOR CALL ON WILSON

Gompers and Morrison Confer With Him as to Laws They Desire

By Associated Press. Trenton, N. J., Dec. 20.—With arms full of papers and documents, Samuel Gompers and Frank Morrison, president and secretary, respectively, of the American Federation of Labor, called on President-elect Wilson today.

Messrs. Gompers and Morrison were with the president-elect for nearly an hour. When they came from his office, Mr. Gompers talked freely of the conference.

"We discussed," he said, "constructive legislation which shall accord to the working people the opportunity for uplift and betterment and the rights of association accorded to all other voluntary associations of the country, particularly to associations organized not for profit. We talked of legislation to secure the limitation and regulation of the issuance of injunctions and to provide trial in indirect contempt cases."

The governor was urged, said Mr. Gompers, to render whatever assistance he could in pushing through the present congress the bill for the creation of a department of labor.

Mr. Wilson assured them that he would take all the subjects mentioned to him under consideration.

Mr. Gompers said he did not take up in detail with Mr. Wilson the question of illegalizing the right of union labor to organize as promised in the democratic platform, but he hoped to confer again with the president-elect on this subject.

NOVEMBER THE BANNER MONTH FOR BUSINESS

Both Exports and Imports Greater Than at Any Other Similar Period.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—The United States did more business with the world, both in exports and imports, in the month of November than in any previous month in the country's history according to a statement today by the bureau of foreign history and domestic commerce. The value of imports last month was \$153,134,995 and of exports \$277,898,681. This marked a great increase over November, 1911.

For the 11 months ending with November the total imports were \$1,654,509,549 as against \$1,291,684,958 in the corresponding period last year; for the same period the exports this year were \$2,145,563,324 as against \$1,867,619,610 in the same period in 1911. Cotton and wheat exports showed heavy increases this year while the country supplied the world with a less quantity of food animals and meat products.

Despite the abrogation of the treaty with Russia the trade with that country in 1912 will aggregate \$50,000,000 as against less than one-half that amount a decade ago, says the bureau. The bulk of trade lies with Russia, about \$1,000,000 more goods being taken by the United States than it sold to the nation of the czar.

FITZGERALD ACQUITTED OF \$173,000 THEFT CHARGE

By Associated Press. Chicago, Dec. 20.—George W. Fitzgerald, former assistant treasurer in the United States sub-treasury at Chicago, charged with the theft of \$173,000 from the government in February, 1907, was found not guilty today.

To Make Attack Still Stronger.

By Associated Press. Princeton, N. J., Dec. 20.—Bill Hozer, former Princeton head coach and chief adviser to the present coach will recommend next month that the football rules be changed to make the attack still stronger.

The on-side kick, however, he believes, should be restored and the forward pass should be unrestricted, with the exception that it be from behind the line of scrimmage. His recommendations will be submitted to the inter-collegiate rules committee at its first meeting next year.

Congress Candidate's Expenses Two Cents.

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—The socialist candidate for congress from the first south Dakota district, Ed. M. Jacobs, son of H. H. Cullis, spent two cents for his campaign, according to a report to the house yesterday. This was the price of the stamp that bears the name of the candidate.

WHITELAW RED MEMORIAL HELD

Westminster Service in Honor of Dead Ambassador Unsurpassed in Beauty and Solemnity.

NOTABLES INCLUDED IN GREAT GATHERING

Representatives of Royalty, Statesmen and Men Famed in Artistic and Literary World Attend.

By Associated Press. London, Dec. 20.—Memorial services for the late Ambassador Whitelaw Reid were celebrated in Westminster abbey today and was an impressive ceremony. The honor of such a service in Great Britain's most historic cathedral has on only few occasions been accorded to any but British subjects of great distinction.

In the congregation of 2500 which assembled this morning nearly half were American residents in England, including the staff of the American embassy and consulate-general. Royalty, the government, and every class of public life, together with the artistic and literary worlds, were represented.

The day was a gray and gloomy one, typical of London winter. All the congregation were dressed in the deepest black. The robes of the clergy and the choir and the flames from the clusters of candles before the altar were the only spots of color against the dark stone wall lined with tablets and busts of hundreds of the noted dead.

Many Notable Personages.

Funeral marches were played while the great congregation assembled. Prince Arthur of Connaught attended as representative of King George and Queen Mary, Lord Howe representing Queen Mother Alexandra. The representatives of royal personages, the Duke of Argyll, the Prince of Battenberg, Grand Duke Michael of Russia, the chancellors of Oxford and Cambridge universities, Premier Asquith and Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey, Home Secretary Reginald McKenna, Colonial Secretary Lewis Harcourt, Viscount Morley, the Marquis of Crewe and Sydney Buxton were seated in the front pew of the chancel. Others present included Attorney General Sir Rufus Isaacs, the Duke and Duchess of Roxburgh, the Duchess of Marlborough, the Duchess of Wellington, Princess Hatzfeldt, Lady Pauncefoot, Lady Strathcona and Mount Royal, the American Cavalry commission, headed by Brigadier General Edward J. McClernand, and Craig W. Wadsworth, American secretary of the legation at تهران.

Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Mills Reid, the son- and daughter-in-law of the late ambassador, arrived at Plymouth dock late to permit their reaching London for the service.

The Funeral Service.

Shortly after noon a procession was played on the great organ and the Archbishop of Canterbury and York, in their robes of scarlet and white, with the right Rev. Herbert Edward Ryle, dean of Westminster abbey, in black and gold, went to their places while the choir softly chanted the opening sentences of the burial service.

The nineteenth Psalm was sung to Purcell's music. The lesson was from the fifteenth chapter of the first book of the Corinthians. Afterwards Wesley's anthem, "He Will Swallow Up Death in Victory," was sung; and then Dean Ryle read part of the burial service.

The music was sung by the abbey choir reinforced by the choir of the Chapel Royal, and the great organ was played by Sir Frederick Bridge, who had a band of drums and trumpets to assist. The sonorous roll of the drums and the burst of the trumpets in the Dead March in Saul and in Chopin's "Marche Funbre," and their accompaniment of the many boys' voices in Wesley's hymn, "Let Saints on Earth in Concert Sing," were unsurpassable in solemnity and beauty.

Wreaths from President Taft and Secretary of State Knox were displayed in the abbey. The mourners were John Hubert Ward, son-in-law of the late ambassador, the Earl and Countess of Granard, Miss Breckinridge of San Francisco, and the staff of the United States embassy and consulate general.

Many of the members of the diplomatic corps with their families attended the service.

BRYAN EN ROUTE EAST TO CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—William J. Bryan reached Washington today on his way to New York. He said he would talk with President-elect Wilson before he "went back south," but that the date or place of the Wilson-Bryan conference must be announced "at the other end."

Prisoner Concealed in Prison?

By Associated Press. Osmington, N. Y., Dec. 20.—No trace has been found of Chester Yates who escaped from Sing Sing Wednesday. It is not even settled yet whether or not Yates got outside the prison walls and whether he will be made a fugitive.

SWEEPING RATE CHANGES ASKED

State Commission Brings Suit Against Southern and Other Lines Before Interstate Body

ONE ACTION INVOLVES TOLLS FROM CHICAGO

Reductions Asked to All Points West of Greensboro—Another Action Attacks Eastern Rates.

Special to The Gazette-News.

Raleigh, Dec. 20.—Attacking rates as unreasonable, unjust and discriminatory and especially in violation of the long and short haul clause of the fourth section of the act to regulate commerce, the North Carolina corporation commission today entered three separate suits before the interstate commerce commission. The first suit is against Southern, Norfolk & Western and other roads and attacks local rates from Lynchburg to Greensboro. The second is against the Southern, Seaboard and other roads and is for a reduction in rates from eastern and northern points to interior cities and towns in the state. The third is against the Southern railway company and affiliated lines and involves rates from Chicago to all points in the state west of and including Greensboro.

Clerk Maxwell, discussing this situation, said: "This involves a rate situation that is apparently the most indefensible in the state. Towns and cities on this line road pay much higher rates than any other towns and cities."

The attack is on rates from Paint Rock to Greensboro.

HARSH LANGUAGE IN THE COMMONS

Bitter Exchange Between Beresford and Churchill Over Bridgeman Retirement.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 20.—Much harsh language was resorted to and venomous feelings aroused in the house of commons this afternoon over the retirement of Vice Admiral Sir Francis C. Bridgeman from the position of first sea lord of the British admiralty.

Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, a member of the house, and Winston Spencer Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, reviled each other to the utmost limit allowed in the British parliament.

"Back-stairs methods," "bribes and threats," "gross insinuations" and "skulking" were some of the phrases exchanged.

Briefly Lord Charles Beresford charged Mr. Churchill with pursuing a policy of bribes and threats. If, he said, the sea lords disagreed with Mr. Churchill's autocratic assumption of the executive, as well as the administrative authority, they were dismissed in insolent letters.

Mr. Churchill's reply was crisp and stinging. Lord Charles Beresford, he said, had made a number of insinuations of a very gross character. "He has skulked in the background, awaiting for an opportunity to make charges unsupported by facts," Mr. Churchill declared. "He has levelled scurrilous allegations of espionage, favoritism, blackmail and inefficiency against me; but I have never taken him too seriously. He does not mean to be as offensive as he really is. I am sorry he was not made an admiral of the fleet, as I know how sore he is about it, but since I have been at the admiralty I have discovered that it would be very difficult to get a board of naval men to approve such an appointment."

Mr. Churchill stuck to his guns in saying that he had written to Admiral Bridgeman insisting on his resignation solely on account of the admiral's health rendering him incapable of adequately fulfilling his duties.

WHY MR. TAFT ESCAPES.

Shriners to Deal Gently With President in Confering Upon Him Their Highest Honors.

By Associated Press. Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 20.—President Taft will be made an "Alligator" at eight tonight by the Morocco temple of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, at Morocco temple here. The honor is the highest that can be conferred on a shriner in Florida.

The degree is one of much mystery and the initiates usually have a vivid green and violent purple memory of the initiation ceremony. These initiations will be spared the president, who will not be compelled to enter the interior of the giant surian kept at the temple. The illustrations potentiated found that he would stick in his throat.

DANIELS GETS CABINET PLACE

Senator Makes Prediction After Return from Conference With Wilson on the Matter.

INDORSEMENT FROM STATE PRESENTED

President-Elect Made no Positive Promise, but the Senator Is Satisfied, He Says.

GAZETTE-NEWS BUREAU, WYATT BUILDING.

Washington, Dec. 20.—North Carolina will have a representative in President Wilson's cabinet and Josephus Daniels of Raleigh will be the lucky man is the prediction of Senator Lee S. Overman, who returned from Trenton this morning, where yesterday he presented the president-elect with indorsements from a number of North Carolina people, including the state electors, state central committee, press association and the delegates to the Baltimore convention.

Senator Overman said Mr. Wilson made no positive promise to appoint Mr. Daniels, but he is positive the democratic national committee will be selected.

"I had a very pleasant and most satisfactory interview with Governor Wilson," said Senator Overman. "Mr. Wilson did not promise to appoint Mr. Daniels a member of his official family but you can say for me that I predict the selection of Mr. Daniels."

Senator Overman will leave Washington tonight for Salisbury, where he will spend the holidays with his family.

"Wilson a Poor Talker."

By Associated Press. Washington, Dec. 20.—"I found Governor Wilson a good listener and a poor talker," said Senator Lee Overman of North Carolina, who returned today from Trenton with the expressed hope that Josephus Daniels of North Carolina would be given the postmaster generalship in the new cabinet.

Senator Overman said he received no promises from Governor Wilson, but that he believed Mr. Daniels would be brought into the cabinet.

Many senators and members of the house are expected to visit Wilson during the holidays. Most of them are keeping their plans secret, however, and will stop over to New Jersey with as little publicity as possible. Senators Hoke Smith of Georgia and Gore of Oklahoma are two democrats who will visit the president-elect within a few days.

Cabinet discussion has brought a number of members of both houses within the range of possible secretarships since the return of Governor Wilson. These include Representatives Underwood, Hurst and Henry; Senators O'Gorman, Hoke Smith, Gore and others. All these men and many other leaders will probably discuss the incoming administration's affairs with the president-elect before New Year's day.

PILGRIMS TO DANCE DESPITE BLISTERS

Alcohol Rubs and Salve Make the Gallant Few "Feel Fine" — Eighty Miles to Do.

By Associated Press.

Fishkill, N. Y., Dec. 20.—Exhausted by yesterday's 22-mile tramp, the four suffragette pedestrians en route to Albany slept late this morning. With a walk of only eight miles to Wappingers Falls ahead of them for today they decided not to start until noon.

Miss Rosalie G. Jones, leader of the pilgrimage, announced on behalf of her followers that alcohol rubs for stiffened joints and salve for blistered feet "had done wonders" and that "today's hike will be nothing but a little jaunt."

"They are going to give a ball in our honor at Wappingers Falls tonight," she added, "and we're all going to dance."

The four women survivors of a company of 24 that started from New York last Monday had accomplished when they reached here, 60 miles of their 140-mile journey to the state capital. The weather today was clear but cold.

The "De Luxe" Swindle.

By Associated Press. Boston, Dec. 20.—The \$5,000,000 edition "de luxe" book swindle which is charged was conducted by James J. Farmer and others under the name of the "Anglo-American Authors' Association" is beginning to assume an international aspect.

According to postoffice inspectors who are working up evidence in the case, agents of the Anglo-American Authors' association found their way to the Antipodes and took \$50,000 from a Chinaman.

Deputy Clerk of Court Ill.

Special to The Gazette-News. Waynesville, Dec. 20.—Ex-Sheriff W. L. Leatherwood, who is deputy clerk of Superior court, fainted in the office today and his removal to his home was necessary. The clerk, Jere Leatherwood, is in Asheville today, and there is no one in the office authorized to sign papers.

MAN WHO SLEW THOMPSON FREE

PLEA FOR ACCUSED IN DYNAMITE PLOT

Attorney for Defendants Declares M'Manigal's Story Unworthy of Belief.

By Associated Press.

Indianapolis, Dec. 20.—If you believe these men are guilty it is your duty to convict them, but if you undertake to piece the evidence together with suspicious and inferences, you should think of the lives you are about to wreck."

Henry H. Nowlan of Peoria, Ill., so appealed to the jury today on behalf of the 40 defendants in the "dynamite conspiracy" trial. Mr. Nowlan referred to Orrie E. McManigal as an "arch-field" and attacked his confession in implicating others in explosions as not having been sufficiently corroborated.

"Chiefly upon the word of this confessed criminal, you are asked to separate 40 men from their homes and deprive them of their liberty," said Mr. Nowlan. "Of course McManigal never expected to tell his story, in traveling about the country blowing up non-union jobs he had no future object in view when he saw as many people as possible and left behind him evidence of his visit. Of course he did not deliberately plan to implicate others. He was not twice brought from Los Angeles for that."

CHICAGO PLANS TO BUILD TRANSPORTATION LINES

Ordinance to Empower City to Take Over all Facilities Within Its Limits.

By Associated Press.

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Mayor Harrison outlined a plan last night in discussing the possible results of negotiations now pending for the merger of surface and elevated street railway lines whereby all local transportation facilities, including a subway yet to be built, may become the property of the city without the payment of any money from the treasury.

A new ordinance would be drafted, according to the plan, which would provide that the city have the right to take over the entire plant on a valuation and capital account to be decided upon in advance. The city would have as in the present plan a share in the net receipts and that share, instead of being placed in the city treasury and left there for the acceptance of the lines at some future time, would be turned over by year, as it is earned, to the companies for the reduction of the capital accounts.

The city would have its share of representatives on a board of directors during the terms of the agreement and it is expiration all of the property would become the property of the city without the payment of any money.

FAVOR "AUTONOMOUS ALBANIA" AND GIVE SERBIA A SEAPORT

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 20.—Six great European powers, England, France, Germany, Russia, Austria and Italy have accepted the principle of an autonomous Albania, with a provision guaranteeing to Serbia commercial access to the Adriatic sea. This is the first definite result of the ambassadors' "conversations," the third of which was held this afternoon.

Three Shot in Brawl.

By Associated Press. Chattahoochee, Ala., Dec. 20.—A special from Huntsville, Ala., says Will Randle and Wiley Hardin, while in a drunken state yesterday, went to the home of Will Smith at Cottinville and drove Smith's wife from home by shooting up things generally. Smith entered as the shooting was in progress and the men fired at him. Smith managed to corner the men, forcing them to leave.

In a short time the three men met at the postoffice at Cottinville and the fight was resumed. Randle and Smith were fatally shot. Hardin is slightly wounded.

Taft Pardons Convicted U. S. Attorney

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Taft has granted a full and absolute pardon to John H. Hall, former United States district attorney of Portland, Ore., convicted June 1, 1905, of conspiracy in connection with unlawful fencing of public lands in eastern Oregon.

Hall was fined \$1000 and sentenced to 60 days in jail, but has served none of the sentence.

To Extradite Mexican Army Officer.

By Associated Press. Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 20.—Accused of larceny and murder Prospero Salas, formerly an officer in the Mexican federal army will be taken to Mexico under an order of a United States commissioner, who today granted Mexico's request for extradition.

W. F. Blair Acquitted of Murder Charge by Verdict Returned at Greensboro This Morning.

PRISONER SWOONS AT THE VERDICT

Demonstration Confined to Family Group, Great Crowd of Spectators Standing Silent.

Special to The Gazette-News.

Greensboro, Dec. 20.—William Finley Blair, formerly chief clerk in the office of George G. Thompson, division freight agent of the Southern railway, was acquitted of the charge of murder of his former chief, Thompson, on October 19 by a jury here this morning. The verdict was returned at 10:55 o'clock.

With the words "not guilty," an unusual and dramatic scene was enacted. Blair, his face drawn and haggard, stood erect, his hand upheld with effort. The aged mother sobbed piteously, while sisters and brothers leaned forward. The wife remained in another part of the building, unable to stand the strain of the long wait. An immense crowd standing shoulder to shoulder in aisles and corridors stood almost breathless.

Hardly had the words which gave him freedom been spoken before Blair swooned, but was borne up quickly in the arms of the aged and grey-haired mother. A dozen people shouted, but in the main the verdict was received in absolute silence.

Judge Whedbee ordered the defendant discharged and the scene which followed was indescribable. Out in the lobby the jury gathered and the prisoner, his mother and sisters, weeping, wrung the hand of each, the mother throwing her arms about the shoulders of the men whom she declared "had freed her son." "God is just! Oh! He is just!" she would cry. While this scene was in progress the little wife, wreathed in smiles, rushed up the steps crying "My boy! my boy!" Quickly wife and husband were locked in each other's arms. The little family circles moved from the court room into the street, where a waiting line of automobiles stood. Fully a thousand people had gathered. There was no cheer or evidence of gratification from the great throng, who in the main stood with bowed heads.

Blair will leave Greensboro tomorrow with his wife, mother and relatives for Wilkesboro, his old home, and from which place hundreds of people came to stand with him during the trial.

When Judge Whedbee at 10:30 o'clock ordered the jury locked up for the night he also ordered an adjournment until 9:30 this morning. In the meantime a verdict is reached he told the jurors to hold it until the hour for opening court, making their report at that time. Speculation last night was rife and interest locally has perhaps never been greater in a criminal case. Opinions were divided as to what the verdict would be, there being predictions of first degree, second degree, manslaughter and acquittal verdicts. The more general opinion, however, was that the jury would decide upon second degree murder or acquittal. Lawyers especially expressed this opinion.

The defendant yesterday did not once change his expression as Solicitor Gattis and former Solicitor Brooks urged the jurors to bring in a verdict which would cost him his life. The aged mother, sitting just behind, dropped her head to her arms and sobbed frequently at the severe arraignments of her son. Mrs. Blair, who has so bravely stood by her young husband, left the courtroom when the two prosecutors arose to address the jury.

An additional tinge of sadness was given the case yesterday by a telegram from Atlanta announcing the birth and death of a posthumous child of the slain Thompson, and the critical illness of the young wife and widow. The death of the child was the sixth in the immediate Thompson family during the past nine months, among the deceased members being George G. Thompson and John S. Harbour Thompson.

Supreme Court Opinions.

Special to The Gazette-News. Raleigh, Dec. 20.—The Supreme court handed down the last of the opinions of the fall term today and will adjourn sine die tomorrow. In the case of the Roberta Manufacturing company against the Royal Assurance company, from Charlotte, the court held that this company wrote policies to the amount of \$6000 on mill property which was destroyed by fire. The Charlotte agency of the company endeavored to show that the policy had lapsed and had been renewed in another company, with agents at Concord.

The court ruled that H. L. Beck, who sued J. L. Armfield, an officer of the Bank of Thompsonville, for slander and defamation of character, may present evidence before a jury. Beck found for \$1000 but the lower court found against him.