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BLOCKADE OF THE PORTS IS DECLARED

Submit This Question to The Hague Tribunal.

NO, DECIDE IT YOURSELF

Roosevelt's Proposition to the Allied Powers and Their Reply are Summed Up in the Two Preceding Sentences.

Roosevelt May Serve Yet.

(By the Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 20.—The official declaration of the blockade of Venezuelan ports was gazetted this morning and becomes effective today.

The text of the proclamation is as follows:

"Foreign Office, December 20, 1902.

"It is hereby notified that as the United States of Venezuela have failed to comply with the demands of his Majesty's government a blockade by his Majesty's naval forces of the ports of La Guaira, Carenero, Guanta, Cumana and Carupano, and the mouths of the Orinoco is declared, and such blockade will be effectively maintained from and after the twentieth of December, subject to the allowance of the following days of grace:

"For vessels sailing before the date of this notification from West Indian ports and ports on the east coast of the continent of America—ten days for steamers and twenty days for sailing vessels.

"From all other ports—twenty days for steamers and forty days for sailing vessels.

"For vessels lying in the ports now declared to be blockaded—fifteen days.

"Vessels which attempt to violate the blockade will render themselves liable to all measures authorized by the law of nations and by the respective treaties between His Majesty and the different neutral powers."

The Foreign Office says the blockade of the Venezuelan coast will not be relaxed until the powers enforcing their claims agree on a method for the arbitration of their respective cases and Venezuela shows a disposition to act sincerely. Stress is laid on the difficulty, in view of the diversity of the claims in deciding on a method of presentation, and on the prolixity of the negotiations which will be involved before a settlement is in sight. It is not definitely decided whether separate cases can be embodied in one document, should the projected arbitration take definite shape.

The German Decree.

(By the Associated Press.)

Berlin, Dec. 20.—The German government today published a decree embodying the terms of the blockade of Germany's portion of the Venezuelan coast. It was as follows:

"The government of Venezuela having rejected the demand which the Imperial Government communicated to it, the ports of Porto Cabello and Maracaibo are hereby declared under blockade, beginning December 20. Ships under other than the Venezuelan flag, which sail from the West Indies or other eastern American ports before the publication of this decree will receive a period of twenty days for sailing vessels and ten days for steamers to reach their destination.

"Sailing vessels from all other ports are allowed forty and steamers twenty days.

"Ships under other than the Venezuelan flag lying in blockaded ports upon the publication of this decree are allowed fifteen days to sail.

"Ships which attempt to break the blockade will be subject to the provisions which apply to neutrals under international law and in accordance with treaties.

(Signed.) "VON BUELOW."

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt has proposed to the allied powers that the Venezuelan dispute be submitted to the arbitration of The Hague Tribunal. The powers have replied with a counter proposal that President Roosevelt himself arbitrate the issues.

These were the developments overnight in the Venezuelan matter and they seem to justify the prediction made in these dispatches that the critical point had been passed. President Roosevelt does not wish to act as arbitrator in this dispute, for as such it is felt here he would be at once, judge, jury and constable and would be under the moral obligation to execute his own judgment. The President feels that a reference to The Hague Tribunal would vastly strengthen the cause of arbitration.

Still rather than see the present dispute proceed to extremes, it is probable the President will reluctantly assume the duties of arbitrator. It is fully realized that any decision rendered by him in that capacity would be sure to bring him the enmity of one or the other of the parties to the controversy and this fact was pointed out to the President early in the week by leading Senators who had been called into consultation. Nevertheless, to prevent bloodshed and the destruction of property and interference with great commercial interests that would result in loss, it is believed that the President would assume the charge, providing his own view cannot prevail.

An important fact developed today is

that the punitive measures about to be instituted, and, in fact, now in force in some degree, will not be suspended by the allies until a definite agreement is reached as to arbitration.

Venezuela also has been told through Minister Bowen that the President would welcome a reference of the dispute to The Hague Tribunal. While no direct reply has been received it is not doubted that the reply would be favorable if the other parties consented to such an agreement.

RECOGNITION EXERCISES TO-NIGHT

First Baptist Church to Welcome Its New Pastor Dr. Tyree.

The recognition exercises at the First Baptist church will be held tonight at 7:30 o'clock. Dr. Thomas E. Skinner will preside. Greetings will be extended by Mr. T. H. Briggs in behalf of the First Baptist church, by Mr. N. B. Broughton in behalf of the other Baptist churches of the city, by Mr. Livingston Johnson in behalf of the Baptist State Convention and by Rev. Dr. T. N. Ivey in behalf of the city and its churches. The greetings will be responded to by Dr. Tyree. The special music which will be rendered is in charge of Mr. Sam Parrish. On account of the recognition exercises there will be no services at the Tabernacle church tonight. The public is cordially invited to attend the exercises.

MADAME ELRODA'S PLAN.

Will Retire From Her Profession and Establish an Orphanage.

(Special to News and Observer.) Goldsboro, N. C., Dec. 20.—Madame Elrado, the palmist, widely known in this State, will soon retire from her profession and establish an orphanage at her home in Durham, N. C. She says her object is to provide in a humble way a comfortable home for a limited number of poor parentless little ones. On her property she will undertake the cultivation of fruits and vegetables and from the receipts from these crops she hopes to be aided in her undertaking. The Madame is a widow and has one child, a boy in the teens, whom she has comfortably provided for and who is doing well in New York.

To Celebrate Lee's Birth Day

(Special to News and Observer.)

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 20.—Cape Fear Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, and Cape Fear Camp, United Confederate Veterans, at enthusiastic meetings yesterday and last night, set on foot a movement for an elaborate celebration of General Robert E. Lee's birthday.

The board of aldermen have granted licenses to 61 saloons to continue business after January 1st, when the present licenses expire. The number of licenses in Wilmington exceeds that of any city in the State.

Miss Nannie Watters, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. H. Watters, of this city, lost control of a bicycle, which she was riding in the residence section of the city one day this week, and was thrown so violently against a stone sidewalk that she was unconscious for more than 24 hours after the accident.

James Thomas, colored, was arrested here upon the arrival of the Carolina Central train yesterday, on a telegram from Clarkton, N. C., charging that he stole a large amount of money from a citizen of that town.

A system of reservoirs for protection against fire is being built at the army post at Fort Caswell by Shreve & Co., of Baltimore.

Captains S. B. Johnson, of Montgomery, Ala.; Jules Bacot, of Savannah, Ga.; and W. T. Hubbard, of Jacksonville, Fla., compose a delegation of Atlantic Coast Line conductors of the second division, who are here for the purpose of calling upon the officials of the A. C. L. company in regard to a matter of business which they will announce after the result of the conference is accomplished.

A Mysterious Shot.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Scotland Neck, Dec. 20.—Wednesday night as Mr. K. White was walking along one of the principal streets of the town, some one shot him, the ball entering the left side and coming out a few inches around toward the back. He could not tell who shot him and was not certain that he saw any one. His wound was not serious, but the shooting is still a mystery.

Weekly Bank Statement.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 20.—The statement of averages of the Clearing House banks of this city for the week, shows: Loans \$875,861,300, decrease \$3,510,200; deposits \$867,856,000, decrease \$5,875,200; circulation \$45,615,700, increase \$15,600; legal tenders \$68,07,000, increase \$118,600; specie \$156,78,600, decrease \$1,880,700; reserve \$225,057,600, decrease \$1,762,100; reserve required \$216,64,000, decrease \$1,468,800; surplus \$3,03,600, decrease \$293,300; Ex. United States Dep., \$18,142,100, decrease \$284,975.

A Vast Irrigation Scheme.

(By the Associated Press.)

Laredo, Mexico, Dec. 20.—A company, headed by Governor Casdenas, of the State of Coahuila, has concluded arrangements for the inauguration of one of the greatest irrigation schemes ever projected in Mexico. The company has purchased a semi-arid body of land comprising 34,000 acres, surrounding the mining town of Viecez and proposes to put the entire tract under cultivation. Water for this purpose will be secured from natural springs.

NEGROES IN A DUEL

Three Men Are Badly Wounded in a Hot Fight at Wilmington.

(Special to the News and Observer.)

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 20.—A pistol duel between Foster Williams and Baalam Johnson, colored, employes of the Angola Lumber Company, took place this evening on the yards of the mill in the northern section of the city. The negroes had been quarreling at their work all day and when the plant shut down at night they went out on the yards and began firing at one another.

Both emptied their revolvers. Johnson was shot in the stomach and may have a fatal wound. Williams' left arm was shattered by a bullet from his adversary's weapon and a third negro, who had no part in the difficulty, suffered a similar wound.

All parties concerned were arrested and taken to the hospital. The shooting took place inside the enclosure at the mill as over a hundred laborers were lined up to be paid off. The scene was one of great confusion.

THE DEVIL IN THE EGGS.

Ghostly Experience of Greensboro Waitress Shocked by Live Wire.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 20.—Yesterday at dinner Editor Joe Rees of the Record, was astonished by the colored waitress rushing in with a half peeled egg, on the shining white surface of which was imprinted the unmistakable photograph of a man. Around the picture was a dark green rim. While Mr. Rees was fumbling for his eyeglasses, the cook entered and declared it was a likeness of Green McAdoo, the runaway wife murderer. This scared the other servant to death, and before Mr. Rees could give it a critical examination, the egg dropped out of her excited trembling fingers and was broken on the floor. Mr. Rees says there was a picture, and it had a familiar look, but whether it was Green McAdoo or not he declines to say.

The manager of the University of North Carolina baseball team have completed the schedule of games for next spring. It embraces twenty games between the leading colleges and universities of the South. A series of three games will be played with the University's old rival, the University of Virginia. There will be played at Chapel Hill, April 17th, Greensboro, April 18, and at Charlotte one day of the following week. Geo. W. Graham is manager of the University of North Carolina for 1903. There will be several strong new players on the team, among them, Giles, Trinity's last year's captain; Curran, Yelverton and others of State wide baseball celebrity.

Sam Allred, of Winston, a young white man employed as a lineman by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, was badly shocked by catching hold of a live wire this morning.

The American Tobacco Company, which has a franchise, is to put in a local service in Greensboro.

J. R. White, of the firm of White & Dameron, nurserymen of Lege, N. C., was arrested today upon complaint of Mr. G. W. Patterson, of J. W. Scott & Co., charging him with raising a check from \$7.10 to \$70.10. White was liberated upon repayment of the amount.

Rev. S. L. Whitaker, the retiring president of the M. P. Conference, left with his family last night for a week's visit to relatives in Davie county. From there he will go to Enfield and will permanently reside there taking up his new charge of Roanoke circuit.

The officers of the Cone Export and Commission Company, the Proximity Manufacturing Company, and the mill of M. Clarence B. Cone, formerly the Muscumga Mill, are closed today as a tribute to the memory of Mrs. Harman Cone, mother of the Messrs. Cone of this city, whose sudden death in Baltimore Wednesday was announced.

On account of the death of Mrs. Cone, mother of Mr. Caesar Cone, president of the Central Carolina Fair Association, the stockholders who were called to meet last night at 7:30 o'clock at the Greensboro National Bank, adjourned immediately after assembling, this action being out of respect to Mr. Cone. The meeting will be held on the evening of December 20 at 7:30 o'clock at the Greensboro National Bank.

Rough on the Traveling Public.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Goldsboro, N. C., Dec. 20.—There were by a usual count 45 young ladies that came in on the Southern train this morning and missed connection with the early trains. The delay on the part of the Southern caused the young ladies to wait here for several hours, during which they had to buy breakfast and dinner at the hotel at a cost of \$1.50 each. These young ladies were going home from school to spend the vacation and had sat up all night in order to get home this morning, which they could have done had they not missed connection.

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 20.—At the annual business session of the Immigration and Industrial Association, held in Renbow Assembly Hall last night, officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: C. G. Wright, president; J. W. Fry, first vice-president; J. S. Hunter, second vice-president; G. A. Grimsley, secretary-treasurer. Executive Committee, Caesar Cone, E. P. Wharton, Z. V. Taylor, C. E. Holton, J. Normal Wills, Nell Ellington, C. D. Melver, W. E. Bevell.

PATRICK IS NAMED

Collector of Customs District of Pamlico. Steele Appointed Postmaster.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The President, today, sent the following nominations to the Senate:

Treasury—Collector of Customs: Daniel W. Patrick, District of Pamlico, N. C. Postmasters—North Carolina: Walter B. Steele, High Point; Columbus F. Blacklock, Hickory.

TRINITY IN THE ASSOCIATION.

Admitted Into the Southern Inter-Collegiate Athletic Union. Officers Elected.

(By the Associated Press.)

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 20.—The annual meeting of the Southern Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association adjourned tonight after re-electing the present officers, as follows:

President—Dr. W. L. Dudley, Vanderbilt University. Vice-President—M. M. Riggs, Clemson College.

Secretary-Treasurer—A. L. Bondurant, University of Mississippi. Executive Committee: W. L. Dudley, M. M. Riggs, A. L. Bondurant, Andrew H. Patterson, and B. B. Ross.

Atlanta secured the big inter-collegiate track meet, which is to be held next May, and in which teams from all colleges in the South which are members of the Southern Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association, will participate. The meet will be held under the joint auspices of the Georgia School of Technology and the Atlanta Athletic Club.

The University of Texas, at Austin, Texas, was reinstated; while Tulane University, at New Orleans, La., was suspended for one year because of "repeated repudiations" of the eligibility clause in the association's constitution relative to players on various teams.

The applications of the following colleges for membership were favorably acted upon: Emory College, Oxford, Ga.; Wofford College, Spartanburg, S. C.; Trinity College, Durham, N. C.; and Trinity College, Waxahatchie, Texas.

The next convention of the association will be held at Baton Rouge, La., on the Friday and Saturday before Christmas, 1903.

CAPTURED AT LAST

The Runaway Girls Brought Back to Asheville.

Deny That Any One Instigated Them to Leave Home. An Investigation to be Held.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Asheville, N. C., Dec. 20.—An Asheville officer has returned from Pickens, S. C., with the runaway girls, Bonnie May Jones and Marie Kuykendall. The girls say that they left of their own accord, without instigation from any one and Hoyt, the theatrical advance agent, was discharged.

It is believed that some one persuaded the girls to leave and one "P. J. Hughes" will be sought. The girls say that they stopped and bought tickets at the Billmore station the 10th, and then walked to Azalea, five miles distant, where they took a freight to Salisbury and stopped at Mount Vernon Hotel. From there they went to Greensboro, at which place they stayed part of two days, going from there to Greenville, S. C., where they remained three or four days and then went to Pickens. They went to Pickens because the Kuykendall girl has a married sister living three miles in the country from there and they stopped with her.

She did not know they had run away and they watched for and destroyed a letter from Mrs. Kuykendall telling her married daughter of the girls' flight. An officer at Pickens arrested them Wednesday and gave them a room in his home. They retired about 11 o'clock, then dressed and slipped out. The officer got them, however, and then put them in jail. The Asheville police found them in court here today the girls were put under bond to appear January 7, when an investigation will be held.

Fireman Higgins, of the local freight train from Asheville to Spartanburg, is at the hospital here with a fracture of the skull, caused by his jumping from his engine near Saluda this morning. He thought the train was running away and jumped.

Two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars will be expended on the Asheville division of the Southern Railway in the way of improvement. These improvements for the most part will be in grade reduction, track ballasting and the laying of new steel rails.

Mrs. P. A. Wiley Dead.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Durham, N. C., Dec. 20.—Mrs. P. A. Wiley, wife of Major P. A. Wiley, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. M. Hutchinson, on South street, at a late hour last night. She was 77 years of age and had been in declining health for some time, although her death was quite sudden. Acute bronchitis was the cause of her death. She left a husband, one son and two daughters. Her husband is now down sick in Winston and unable to reach her.

now down sick in Winston and unable to reach her.

A. T. Fowler was thrown from a bugby this morning and two bones in his left arm broken.

Two suits against the Durham Traction Company have been started in Orange county, John W. Sykes and John A. Sykes, father and son. The first named asks for \$1,000 and the latter \$500, on account of their wagon being struck by a street car some two months ago.

Lee Justice and Miss Rosa Castleberry were issued license to marry this morning. The groom comes from Wake county and the bride from Chatham.

This morning R. H. Tate, of Caswell county, was given judgment in the magistrates' court for \$23 on account of damages to a mule. He asked for \$50.

The preliminary debate, arranging for the first annual debate between Trinity and Emory Colleges, took place at Trinity last night. Three debaters to represent Trinity were chosen: L. P. Howard, J. P. Frizzelle and E. W. Cranford.

Two Christmas Stories.

In the second section of today's paper we publish the second installment of "Child of Christmas," by Joel Chandler Harris, the foremost writer of the South, and a story, "Lela's Bridal Morn—A Christmas Story," by Mr. Walter F. Jackson, of the News and Observer editorial staff. They furnish as good Christmas literature as will be found in the best magazines.

ROOSEVELT GOES TO RAPIDAN.

He and His Family Will Spend Sunday With Joseph Wilmer.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt, accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt and four of their children, Theodore, Jr., Kermet, Archie and Ethel, left Washington at 12:05 p. m., today for Rapidan, Va., to pass Sunday with Joseph Wilmer and family.

President Roosevelt was accompanied to the Pennsylvania station by Secretary Cretelyou, but the latter did not go to Rapidan. The President and his family were accompanied, however, by Assistant Secretary Loeb, who will keep in close telegraphic touch with the White House during the absence of the party. It is the intention of the President to return to Washington on Monday morning, his desire being to obtain absolute rest for a day or two.

Rapidan, Va., Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt and family arrived here at 2:25 p. m.

Moore-Moore.

The following invitation has been received:

Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas Moore request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Janie Morton,

on the afternoon of Wednesday the thirty first of December,

at three o'clock,

at fourteen hundred and five South Tenth Avenue,

Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. James T. Moore some years ago lived in Raleigh, where he engaged in the hardware business. Mr. E. S. Moore, Jr., also at one time lived in Raleigh and was connected with the State Chronical, and afterwards of the firm of Moore & Watson. He went from Raleigh to Birmingham, Ala., where he engaged in the insurance business, and is now a member of the firm of the Messrs. Moore Real Estate and Insurance Company, which does a large business in that city.

Report Was Incorrect.

We are requested by Judge Brown to state that the report sent out by our Washington, N. C., correspondent that he had been tendered a position as general counsel to the Atlantic Coast Line at a large salary and declined, is a mistake and without foundation in fact. The report was sent out without the knowledge of Judge Brown.

Former Governor of Georgia Dead.

(By the Associated Press.)

Griffin, Ga., Dec. 20.—Former Governor James S. Boynton is critically ill at his home here and is not expected to recover. Judge Boynton is 69 years of age. He was president of the State Senate when Governor Alexander H. Stephens died in 1853 and served as Governor during the remainder of the term.

The Albany at La Guaira.

(By the Associated Press.)

La Guaira, Venezuela, Dec. 20.—9 a. m.—The United States cruiser Albany, the French cruiser Troude, and the British cruiser Retribution have just arrived.

Tar Heel Postmasters.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The Senate today confirmed the following nomination:

Postmasters—North Carolina: W. A. Mace, Beaufort; E. C. Shearing, Enfield.

The Wadesboro Messenger and Intelligencer says that the liquor sellers, who usually apply for license in December, have not made application this year, and it adds: "There has been a good deal of street talk and surmise about the matter. Among other things it is said that three of the town commissioners will vote against granting license to any of the liquor dealers whose licenses expire January 1st, and two of them will vote against granting license to any one."

THE LAWMAKERS GO HOME FOR YULETIDE

Morgan Gives Them Some Food for Thought.

HE PLEADS FOR A CANAL

Powerful Interests Are Arrayed Against it and If We Depend on the Panama Route We May Get None at All

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 20.—After a session of less than three hours, the Senate today adjourned until January 5th next. Today's session was largely given up to an address by Senator Morgan upon the question of the construction of an Isthmian canal. The Senator declared that it would be in the interest of the United States to resume negotiations with Nicaragua and Costa Rica with the view of utilizing the Nicaraguan route for the reason that, as he believed, if we should continue to depend upon the Panama route we should never have a canal.

A number of bills were passed and a conference report providing for the payment of the expenses of the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission was agreed to.

Mr. Morgan contended for the making good of contracts entered into by President McKinley with Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The negotiation of these contracts he characterized as a masterpiece of act and said they were about to be trodden under foot.

He then went on to express apprehension that if the United States did not avail itself of the opportunity to build a canal by the Nicaraguan route none would be built. Action at the present Congress he considered important, because any person familiar with Congressional procedure knew that a minority could prevent action in the one session only that must come after the present before the expiration of the canal appropriation. Attention also was called to the fact that under Colombian law only the Congress of that country can ratify a treaty. There had been no Congress there since 1899 and there was not likely to be any soon unless the Panama Canal Company should pay its expenses out of the \$3,000,000 on hand or the \$40,000,000 promised by the United States. He therefore expressed apprehension that any treaty that might be accepted by this government would fail of action in Colombia.

Speaking of the possible failure of ratification of a treaty with Colombia and its possible effect upon treaties that might afterward be sought with Nicaragua and Costa Rica, Mr. Morgan said: "I am not imputing any lack of patriotism or any disposition to defeat all canal enterprises to any one in these observations. I am only considering possibilities that are obviously in view and endanger the construction of a canal at either of the localities provided by the act of June 28, 1902."

"Yet, all the world knows that powerful interests are opposing the opening of any canal through the American isthmus and these combinations are relying upon a minority of the Senate to destroy all efforts to construct such a canal."

Brief Session in the House.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 20.—The last session of the House before the holiday recess was very brief. It lasted only long enough to permit final action upon the bill to defray the expenses of the Coal Strike Commission. No other business was transacted. The adjournment today was until Monday, January 5, 1903.

Stock for a New Bank

(Special to News and Observer.)

Reidsville, N. C., Dec. 20.—Stock is being subscribed quite liberally for the new bank to be opened at Stoneville, the first of the year. The next Legislature will be asked to charter it early in the session so that it may begin work as soon as possible.

Bob Carpenter was arrested near the Edna Cotton Mills for raising a disturbance. He was sent to Haw River, as it was learned that he was the party who shot Ingram Ward some time ago.

The Tammany Leadership.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 20.—John F. Carroll resigned the Tammany leadership of the Twenty-ninth Assembly district today. Private business was stated as his reason. Joseph F. Mulqueen was elected to succeed Mr. Carroll.

An Address by Shaw.

(By the Associated Press.)

Chicago, Dec. 20.—Two hundred of Chicago's prominent business men were at a banquet of the Chicago Bankers' Club tonight. The chief speaker of the evening was Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, who addressed the club on "Possible Financial Legislation."

Brand New British Princesses.

(By the Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 20.—The Princess of Wales gave birth to a son tonight. Both mother and child are doing well.