

CRUISER ON HER WAY TO WAR GETS STUCK IN THE MUD

Prairie With Admiral Kimball And Seven Hundred Marines Grounded

GOES EQUIPPED FOR AN ACTIVE CAMPAIGN

Officers Will Not Disclose Orders But Admit They go to Nicaragua

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—Carrying a rear-admiral of the United States navy, two battalions of marines, and sufficient implements of war to conduct a vigorous campaign against the turbulent Central American republic of Nicaragua, if necessary, the auxiliary cruiser Prairie ran aground on the soft mud of the Delaware river about thirty miles below here tonight a few hours after weighing anchor at the Philadelphia navy yard for the Caribbean.

Information that the Prairie had run aground came in a wireless message from Admiral Kimball to the Red Star line, asking that two powerful tugs be sent to the assistance of the stranded craft.

The tugs were at once dispatched to the aid of the vessel. It is expected that the Prairie will be released from the mud at high tide, about four o'clock tomorrow morning.

The cruiser is aground between New Castle and Delaware City.

Seven Hundred Marines.

It is not believed that the vessel sustained any injury, but if necessary the cargo can be transferred to the cruiser Dixie which lies in readiness at the Philadelphia navy yard.

The reports that stern measures would be adopted against Nicaragua were given added weight today when Rear-Admiral William W. Kimball reached here from Washington and boarded the Prairie as a passenger bound for the turbulent zone.

In addition to the battalion of four hundred marines under the command of Major Smedley D. Butler, which had already been slated to go to Panama, a second battalion commanded by

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EXPLODING TANK WRECKS BUILDING AND STARTS FIRE

Several Persons Injured In Disaster Which Shook Camden S. C.

OCCUPANTS CAUGHT IN FALLING BUILDINGS

Half Block of Business Building Burned at Loss of Over \$100,000

CAMDEN, S. C., Dec. 2.—With a shock which made the whole town tremble a presto-carbon tank in the Southern Express office here exploded about 7:30 tonight, wrecking the office building and causing a fire which swept half a block of Camden's finest business section with a loss of over \$100,000.

One negro man is reported to have been killed, two prominent citizens injured and five others are more or less hurt.

Slightly injured are Andrew Whitaker and Arthur Watkins.

Willie Salmond, Willie Watkins and Charlie Watkins, W. R. DeLoach and Tom Goodale.

The exact nature of the injuries of Arthur Watkins and Whitaker have not been determined.

Walls Fell on Them.

The explosion threw down the wall of the express office and precipitated it upon the next building, the store of Watkins brothers. This building caved under the pressure, and the walls fell in on the five occupants, Whitaker and Arthur Watkins were buried under the debris and sustained serious injuries.

The other occupants of the building though slightly injured rescued the wounded men barely saving them in time, as the fire instantly began to sweep along Main street and was checked only after every building in its path was swept away.

Fire Sweeps Street.

Beginning in the express office and overwhelming the store of Watkins brothers, the fire spread rapidly to the adjoining buildings.

The burned buildings are: J. N. Trepp's grocery store, Baruch-Nettel's general furnishing store, Southern

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MORGAN BUYS ALL RYAN'S INTEREST IN EQUITABLE LIFE

Deal Carries Half Billion Dollars of Assets Shown by Last Statement

PRICE PAID FOR STOCK IS NOT MADE PUBLIC

Stock Still Subject to Voting Trust Created After Big Scandal

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Control of the Equitable Life Assurance society which was secured by Thomas F. Ryan soon after the insurance scandals of some years ago, has passed to J. Pierpont Morgan with the \$472,000,000 of assets which the company declared in its last statement.

The transfer, apart from its magnitude as a chapter in the history of finance marks a complete reversal of the order under which the insurance companies controlled the destinies of the banks and trust companies.

News of the transfer was contained in the following brief statement issued from the offices of Morgan and company:

Mr. Morgan has bought the majority of the stock of the Equitable Life Assurance society, formerly owned by Thomas F. Ryan. This purchase is subject to the trust under which Grover Cleveland, Morgan J. O'Brien and George Westinghouse were made voting trustees for the benefit of policyholders, and it covers all Mr. Ryan's interest, including all the stock purchased by him from James H. Hyde.

Price Paid Not Known.

The exact amount of the stock bought by Mr. Morgan and his partners and the price they paid remain for subsequent announcement. Nor would they name any other interests allied with them, although it is commonly understood in Wall street that at least one large trust company may take a hand in the deal, if the consent of the Equitable is obtained.

Under the terms of the trust agreement referred to in Mr. Morgan's announcement the Ryan stock could not be sold without the consent of the surviving trustees, whose terms of power hold until June fifteen next, and who might continue the agree-

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AMERICAN WARSHIPS CLOSING IN ON NICARAGUA FROM BOTH OCEANS

Gunboats Hurried Forward to Protect American Interests in Present Tense Situation. Admiral Kimball Will Take Command of All Forces. Army of Marines May Land.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Naval forces of the United States are being moved forward tonight to both coasts of Central America for the purpose of protecting American life and property in Nicaragua by force of arms, if the necessity arises.

With the departure late today from Philadelphia of the troopship Prairie, with seven hundred marines aboard, for the Isthmus of Panama, and if it be so decreed, for Nicaragua, and with the sailing from Magdalena bay of the protected cruiser Albany and the gunboat Vicksburg for Corinto, on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua, the warlike activity of the navy department was becoming manifest on both the oceans that wash the Nicaraguan shores.

An Array of Marines.

The cruisers Des Moines and Tacoma and the gunboat Marietta are lying off Port Limon ready for any call upon them and the guns of the little gunboat Vicksburg are pointed toward the custom house and town of Corinto. The gunboat Princeton is endeavoring to make her way from the Bremerton navy yard, Washington, to Corinto, also.

In addition, the transport Buffalo, according to what was said to be the

plans of the officials responsible, will sail from Panama for Corinto, with probably as many as 1,100 marines aboard, soon after the Prairie, which left Philadelphia this afternoon with about seven hundred marines, arrives at Colon.

On the Albany are about 280 blue-jackets and on the Vicksburg, Yorktown, and Princeton about 150 each. These together with the marines, would make an army equal to any organization reported to be serving under Zelaya.

At the same time, the United States will have its formidable force within striking distance of the Atlantic coast in case of danger to American lives or property in that section of Nicaragua. At Port Limon, Costa Rica, are anchored the cruisers Des Moines and Tacoma, each with 280 men aboard and the gunboat Marietta with 180 men.

Admiral Kimball Commands.

With the probability of many delicate questions arising in Nicaragua and of their demanding immediate response, the navy department decided to send a flag officer to Nicaragua to take command of the American naval forces. Rear Admiral William

W. Kimball was chosen for that duty. He sailed for Colon, Panama today on the Prairie. He will make his way from there to Corinto, doubtless, as rapidly as possible.

Admiral Kimball has been a member of the naval boards of examination and retirements, and of construction for more than a year.

There were no developments today regarding Nicaraguan affairs. Although Secretary Knox in his note last night to the Nicaraguan charge d'affaires, Mr. Rodriguez, intimated that he would be willing to see that gentleman unofficially the permission has not yet been taken advantage of.

Having promptly informed in a lengthy cablegram, the Nicaraguan government that the American secretary of state had last night presented him with his passport, Senator Rodriguez, was tonight patiently awaiting instructions from President Zelaya as to what course he is to follow now that diplomatic relations between the United States and Nicaragua have been severed. Mr. Rodriguez would make no statement today and had received no further information, he said regarding the progress of affairs in Nicaragua.

MARRIED WIFE TO KEEP FROM WORK AND INSISTS SHE LIVE UP TO CONTRACT

Russian Peasant Girl With Thousands Wants Husband Give Her Money.

HAS SEVERAL "PASTS"

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—If you had been a famous beauty, the toast of the army and navy and the revenue cutter service, and known on two continents, wouldn't it make you angry if your husband wouldn't work to give you all the money you wanted?

Apparently it has Mrs. Harry Feitelberg, who, wearing a French broadcloth suit, large black velvet hat and plumes, costly furs and jewels, appeared in the Harlem court yesterday against Harry Feitelberg, better known as Harold Buckley, an employee of Wallack's theatre.

She told the court she had been married to Feitelberg more than eight months and he had given her only \$9 in all that time.

"She don't need it," Feitelberg replied; "she's rich. My wife is the famous little 'Widow' Steinberg, better known as 'Fannie Fols', the daughter of the Regiment. You've read about her often. Why, judge, she had a moving picture theatre in Bridgeport when I married, and she sold out at a big profit and we were married on condition that I wouldn't have to work. She has a furnished room house from which she makes a lot of money, she has \$4,000 in a safe deposit vault on Fifth avenue, \$5,000 worth of diamonds in another vault and a bank account of \$1,800."

Fannie admitted that all this was true and the court dismissed the case.

Soon after the hearing the famous beauty of other days talked freely of her experiences.

"You see," said she, "I need lots of money to keep me in the way that I have been accustomed to live ever since at sixteen I came to America from my peasant home in Russia. It is true that I have some money, but I

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HARRIMAN'S ESTATE IS VALUED AT \$149,000,000 IN THE APPRAISEMENT

This is Exclusive of Large Fortunes He Gave His Children Before Death

STATE GETS SHARE

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Edward H. Harriman when he died, was worth \$149,000,000.

This became known yesterday when the appraisers appointed by the surrogate's court completed their estimate of his holdings.

Before the railroad wizard's death and shortly after it, all sorts of estimates were made about his fortune, ranging from \$50,000,000 to \$250,000,000. But there were no means of telling even approximately how much wealth the mysterious little man had accumulated.

The \$149,000,000 is rather more than most guessers at Mr. Harriman's riches though he had. The general estimate of his estate was \$100,000,000.

The state of New York, under the inheritance tax, will receive from Mr. Harriman's estate the comfortable sum of \$1,490,000, as it collects 1 per cent of the total where the estate is left to one person.

That was the case with Mr. Harriman's hundred and a half millions. He bequeathed everything of which he was possessed to his widow, Mary Averill Harriman, whom he married in Rochester when he was merely a small trader in Wall street.

Mr. Harriman's fortune may have been more than \$149,000,000, now discovered, however. It was said about the time of his death that he had distributed a large part of it—large in ordinary terms of money, though not large when compared with his total wealth—to his children.

This, though, was not confirmed, and it may be that the present estimate represents his total amusement during his wonderful career.

In his beautifully-worded will, leaving everything to Mrs. Harriman, the railroad builder seemingly left to her the future distribution of his millions as well as the present holding of them.

From that it was reasoned that he left to her, also the duty of giving to their children what she thought fitting.

MEXICO WILL REMAIN NEUTRAL IN IMBROGLIO WITH CENTRAL AMERICA

Awaits Reply From Our Government to its Suggestions for Peace

UNEXPECTED BREACH

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 2.—That Mexico does not want to be drawn into the Nicaraguan controversy but will maintain a neutral attitude, was the statement made by Senator Mariscal, minister of foreign affairs, today.

The action of the United States in severing relations with Nicaragua, is not resented by Mexico, he said, although it came most unexpectedly at a time when his government was awaiting a reply to its suggested plan for peace.

"We do not resent the action of the United States. Why should we? We have absolutely no interests in Central America except in Guatemala, where there are about forty thousand Mexicans. We are still waiting for a reply from the United States government to our suggestion for an amicable settlement of the trouble. We made this suggestion spontaneously because we had not been, on several previous occasions, approached by the United States on the subject of intervention in Central America.

In view of such advances in the past we did not consider it discourteous to offer these suggestions in the interest of humanity. What those suggestions were I still am not at liberty to state."

The news of the breach between Nicaragua and the United States created a profound sensation here today. The situation was the chief topic of conversation on the streets in the restaurants and at the clubs.

Francisco Castro, the Nicaraguan minister to Mexico and a close friend of Zelaya, in speaking of the action of the United States said:

"I believe it is unjust because the main cause, apparently, is the execution of the two Americans and the action of my government was perfectly in accordance with the laws of the country and was executed by command of a military jury and not by direct order from the president of the republic, as has seemed the pur-

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RAILROADS INDICTED WITH TOBACCO TRUST

Federal Court Charges both With Violating Law by Rebating

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 2.—The special grand jury which has been sitting in the federal court to investigate alleged violations of the interstate commerce law today returned indictments against the Louisville and Nashville and the Louisville, Henderson and St. Louis railroads and the American Tobacco company for rebating.

Twenty indictments aggregating forty-two counts were returned against the former road.

One indictment of twenty-five counts was returned against the American Tobacco company.

The indictments were returned jointly against the Louisville, Henderson and St. Louis and Lucien Irwin, now president of the road but at the time of the alleged offenses, the general freight agent and traffic manager.

THREE CHILDREN CREMATED.

ROANOKE, Va., Dec. 2.—A Martinsville, Va., special says news reached here today of the burning of the home of Morrison Cabiquon, of Axton, Va., and the cremating of three small children of Cabness.



WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Forecast for North Carolina: Friday local showers and colder.

ACQUITTAL FOR BATTLE WISE ONES FORECAST

Argument of Attorneys Concluded Yesterday and Case Goes to Jury Today

GREENSBORO, N. C., Dec. 2.—In the trial of Lee H. Battle in the Federal court, all of today was consumed in the two crucial arguments to the jury between District Attorney Holton and Charles M. Stedman, the latter closing for the defense at five o'clock.

Mr. Holton began speaking at ten o'clock and proffered his arguments for the first half hour by reading the law affecting the four specific charges contained in the forty-nine counts of the bill of indictment. Major Stedman in his closing argument for the defense spoke earnestly and eloquently for his client referring to certain portions of the testimony and giving his views on the subjects.

Judge Bond will deliver his charge to the jury tomorrow morning. The outcome is awaited with much interest, the universal opinion being that the verdict of the jury will exonerate the former cashier and prominent churchman of any intent to defraud or abstract funds of the wrecked City National bank.

ROLLINS COLLEGE VISITED BY FIRE

WINTER PARK, Fla., Dec. 2.—For the second time in three years Rollins College was at three o'clock this morning visited by a destructive fire which completely destroyed Knowles Hall. Professors and students worked side by side with lines of hose and managed to save Fine-hurst, situated within a few yards from the burning building, but before it had been badly scorched. Knowles hall was one of the first buildings erected on the campus, being a gift of the late F. S. Knowles of Worcester, Mass. It contained the chapel, reception room and scientific apparatus and collections.

LONELY OLD MAN FOUND MURDERED IN HIS HOME

Indications Point to Robbery. Hag Been Active Against Moonshiners.

DURHAM, Dec. 2.—Sheriff Harward and Coroner Jordan returned tonight from Lebanon township where Jim Kimball, an old bachelor, was found with head and face crushed with an axe and partly devoured by dogs and rats.

Kimball had been missing since Saturday and yesterday was seen on the floor, presumably drunk, but undoubtedly dead. Late in the night he was found but communication with Durham could not be established. The coroner thinks he has been dead several days.

Recently three raids resulted in four moonshiners being captured and eleven men arrested. Kimball is known to have reported some of them. Yesterday two girls were taken and six young white men captured in that section. Every raid recently was made there and the old anchorite declared a few days ago that moonshiners would murder him. The six men caught, however, were not released until after the body had been found.

An empty pocketbook on the floor, fire applied to his clothes and other appearances of murder for robbery tend to make officers believe that it was a case simply of robbery for money. The axe, bloody and placed under the bed, gave no doubt of weapon, but the house had not been broken open. The robber undoubtedly meant to fire the house and cover his tracks. There is no clue yet.

GEN ADAMS DEAD.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—While on a visit to this city from his home at Charleston, S. C., Brig. Gen. Henry M. Adams, U. S. A., retired, died yesterday morning. He was identified for a number of years with the engineer corps of the army. He was born in Massachusetts.

In one of her recent trips here from New York, Miss Frick negotiated with Miss O'Neil. "I will give you \$400 a month, your own horse, and provide you a maid. If you will be my companion and teach me to dance and sing like yourself," said the light-haired daughter of the man of millions. Miss O'Neil demurred, saying that Miss Frick was permitting her sympathies to run away with her judgment. "No, I am not," said little Miss Frick. "I have spoken to papa and told him I wanted you and I must have you."

And she got her.

MORE OFFICERS NEEDED FOR ARMY SAYS DICKINSON

Detail of Large Number From Line Encourages Lack of Discipline

ASKS AUTHORITY TO CALL RETIRED LIST

Recommends Change in Military Posts to Points Near Big Population Centers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Comprehensive and complete reorganization of the army establishment of the United States is the principal recommendation contained in the annual report of Secretary of War Dickinson for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, made public today. More officers, closer co-operation with the militia of the various states and a general readjustment of the locations of the various army posts are some of the crying reforms urged upon the attention of congress. The present distribution of the troops of the regular army, in the opinion of the secretary of war, is not only illogical but offers a serious menace.

At the time of the last reports from the military departments, which were received in October, it was found that the regular army numbered 71,340 men with 4,200 officers, making a total force of 75,540, a net increase during the year of 1,421. The figures do not include the 3,485 men of the hospital corps.

Not Enough Officers.

Of the active officers of the army, the report calls attention to the fact that 709 are detailed to special duty, nearly half of these, or 345, being distributed among the various schools of instruction of the regular establishment or acting as instructors in state educational institutions where a feature is made of military training. While there were no serious breaches of military discipline during the year, Secretary Dickinson declares "that there can be no doubt that the discipline and efficiency of troops were lowered by the continued absence of so many company officers and the resulting frequent changes of company commanders."

The remedy for this condition, the report declares, may be found in increasing the number of officers and in the passage of legislation empowering the secretary of war, whenever

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FROM STAGE TO FRICK'S MANSION AT \$400 PER

Singing and Dancing Captivated Pittsburg Millionaire's Wife.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 2.—Because she sang and danced so divinely in the society production of "The Pirates of Penzance" here last winter, Miss Anna O'Neil has just entered the Henry C. Frick mansion as companion to little Miss P. Helen Frick.

Miss O'Neil's salary is \$400 a month, more than that of a colonel in the army for the first fifteen years of his service. She has in addition saddle and driving horses and a maid.

Miss O'Neil is from the South. She has lived here for some time with her sister, wife of a banker, and was without fortune of her own. When the "Billion Dollar" chorus of daughters of multi-millionaires was formed in the summer of 1908, the banker's wife contributed her sister to the chorus. Miss O'Neil's ability and charms made her so popular with the society girls that when the leading lady, Miss Lucille Rossming, eloped during rehearsals with Paul Griffey, she was implored to take Miss Rossming's place.

In rehearsing for the role, Miss O'Neil carried the whole company by storm, and it is declared that she could have become famous had not Mrs. Griffey returned to fill her engagement, from which, she declared, not even a honeymoon trip could keep her.

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