

COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT IS PROGRESSIVE MOVE

In Speech at Birmingham Roosevelt Heartily Endorses Proposed Plan

BIRMINGHAM IS ABOUT TO ADOPT THIS SYSTEM

The Colonel Says Country Will Watch Experiment in This Large City

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 10.—Strong approval of the commission form of government in municipal affairs, but coupled with a warning that any form of government to be successful must have good citizenship to support it, characterized Colonel Roosevelt's address today to the citizens of Birmingham.

Birmingham is about to experiment with the commission system. This fact was laid before the colonel today and in the course of his address to the city park open air meeting he said:

"You are the first city of the size that has introduced the commission system in your municipal affairs. Now, I believe in the commission system and I am glad you are going to try the experiment; but I would like to say one word of warning to you, based upon 30 years of mighty active experience in practical politics. Don't you ever imagine that you can invent any patent system of government which will work by itself if you don't act the part of good citizens. You need good laws, for if the laws are bad the best men cannot produce very good results out of them. You need good laws and you need to try every good governmental expedient; but after they have been adopted don't forget that the root of the matter lies in the character of the individual citizen."

To illustrate his meaning and point the warning Colonel Roosevelt called attention to South American republics which with governmental systems similar to that of the United States had failed to establish successful government. He continued:

"And now you are going to try an experiment which I think is fraught with infinite promise for good. For I believe in the short ballot and I believe in efficiency, in responsibility, and we have a right to look to you, the people of Birmingham to see that you do your duty under it and make the form of government work well."

Colonel Roosevelt will spend the forenoon tomorrow at Jackson, Miss., leaving for New Orleans shortly after noon.

UNCONCERNED AND COOL MRS. HAYES TELLS STORY OF KILLING YOUNG FLOYD

Stepped Over Victim's Body for Another Pistol and Kept Shooting

JURY GETS CASE

WHITEVILLE, N. C., March 10.—The taking of testimony in the trial of Mrs. Rosa Hayes, charged with the murder of the medical student, Robert Floyd, at Mount Tabor, was completed today and argument was begun. It is expected that the case will go to the jury tomorrow. To the surprise of the court, the defense, though counsel had summoned forty witnesses, rested today with the testimony of Mrs. Hayes. The examination of the defendant was resumed this morning. She was the coolest and most unconcerned person in the court room and made a good impression. After several witnesses had testified to her good character, the state introduced witnesses in rebuttal to show that after emptying the automatic pistol into Floyd, the woman stepped over his prostrate body, secured another pistol from her room and shot him twice as he lay gasping for breath. Mrs. Hayes' testimony was riddled in many essential points by the state witnesses. Several witnesses swore to a conversation which took place immediately after the shooting between the husband and wife, in which Hayes is alleged to have told his wife to swear, if they "took her up" that Floyd was trying to assault her. By several other witnesses who arrived first on the scene, the state attempted to show that the bed was not in the least disarranged, as Mrs. Hayes' story of attempted assault stated, and that the first shots at Floyd were fired in just the opposite direction to that alleged by the woman.

EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO.

MEXICO CITY, March 10.—Two slight earthquake shocks were registered here at 8.49 o'clock this morning. They lasted thirty seconds.

MEXICO TO RESENT INVASION BY THE AMERICAN TROOPS

Germany Also Rises to Remark That She Will Protect Her Interests in That Country.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Mexico will resent intervention by the United States or any other country for the purpose of protecting the lives and property of their citizens resident in Mexico.

In a statement today Senor De La Barra, Mexican ambassador to the United States, declared that Mexico believes herself fully competent to protect all interests in the country not only her own but those of foreigners. The statement made by Ambassador De La Barra was in part as follows: "The conditions in Mexico are normal with the exception of a small portion of the state of Chihuahua, where a little body of seditious men are carrying on a guerrilla warfare that I hope to be finished in the near future."

"The Mexican government is fully strong enough to protect property and lives of its own countrymen and those from foreign countries and to maintain peace."

The constitution of Mexico forbids the government officials, whoever they may be, to permit foreign troops entering Mexican territory without the consent of the senate.

"My government, patriotic and strong, has never and never will entertain such an idea or thought with respect to the United States because the relations between the two countries are very sincere and frank and the policies of the two governments friendship and of respect of justice."

GERMANY IS ALERT. COLOGNE, March 11.—The Cologne Gazette today prints an inspired despatch from Berlin declaring with the American government's concentration of troops along the Mexican frontier and warships in the gulf of Mexico and the Pacific ocean.

"No news has reached Berlin," the despatch says, "indicating that the persons or property of Germany citizens are endangered in Mexico; hence the German government has had no occasion to discuss what measures for their protection are necessary."

"If trouble breaks out in the Mexican ports and it is seen that Mexican authorities are unable to protect German citizens, Germany would exercise a clear right which has ever been unreservedly recognized by the United States to send warships thither. But this would be far different from mixing in the internal affairs of Mexico."

"Even if the present troubles in Mexico lead to a complete revolution and even if the United States is invited to annex that country, or under its annexation without the consent of Mexican authorities, Germany certainly would not be Don Quixote and whip out the rapier."

President Taft's Telegram Sets at Rest All Uneasiness in Mexico

DIAZ HEALTH GOOD

MEXICO CITY, March 10.—Mexicans, officials and private citizens, appear to have accepted the view that the mobilization of troops along the border passages no invasion of their country. President Taft's official assurance that there was no menace in the government's step, together with the disclosure last night of its real object, the stopping of filibustering, has apparently been accepted without reserve and with a feeling of satisfaction. Officials declined to enter into a discussion of the latest phase of the situation. Confidence was expressed anew, however, in the ability of the government to suppress the rebellion in due time with American aid to the rebels cut off. It was pointed out that with the army that is already in the field and the force that is in reserve, there is little likelihood of affairs taking a turn which would give excuse for interference from outside. The health of President Diaz, which appears to have been made a factor in the situation in some quarters seemingly has not been impaired in the slightest degree by the business of the last few months.

CANT SHIP DYNAMITE. MEXICO CITY, March 10.—Rescinding its order that no more dynamite should be shipped to mines the Mexican government has told the agents at Teroron of a French dynamite company that they may send the explosive in whatever quantity they choose and over whatever railroad they selected.

This order of the government has given much satisfaction to the mining interests of the republic and doubtless will prevent the closing of May 1 of the American Smelting and Refining company's plant at Velardena and of all its plants in Mexico on June 1.

"How the American states agree or disagree in their own affair. No danger threatens the Monroe Doctrine from our quarter. It makes no difference to us whether it sleeps in the archives or is taken out and dusted."

The above despatch to the Cologne Gazette was called forth as an answer to insinuations of the English press that Germany was wanting for an opportunity to interfere in Mexico.

TROOPS IN CAMP. GALVESTON, Texas, March 10.—One third of the brigade of troops to be concentrated here on the ground and the remaining two thirds en route on the army transports from Newport News, the army's invasion of Galveston in the "war game" may be said to be well under way.

Brigadier General A. L. Mills, who will command the brigade arrived today from Atlanta, accompanied by his two aids and took up temporary headquarters in the building at Fort Crockett. He announced however, that he intended to go into camp with the soldiers as soon as his tents arrived. Colonel George T. Bartlett of Atlanta has been designated as chief of staff to General Mills and Captain C. O. Sherill of Mobile has been appointed chief engineer.

Eleven companies of coast artillery arrived during the day completing the first provisional regiment, which is to be commanded by Colonel C. J. Bailey, assistant to the chief of artillery at Washington. Colonel Bailey reached Galveston this morning.

The companies arrived are 75th, 99th and 107th, from Fort Morgan, Ala. 72nd, 74th and 127 from Fort Screven, Ga. 15th, and 25th from Fort Barrancas, Fla. 78th, 144th and 145 from Charleston, S. C.

The two other regiments of coast artillery to be mobilized here as infantry, have been recruited from northern ports.

The 24 companies should reach Galveston within five days.

The scout cruiser Salem, which arrived at Galveston last night after a fast run from Pensacola remained at anchor outside the harbor all day.

A report became current in Galveston this afternoon that the Salem was to go to Tampico, Mexico, to do blockade duty in furtherance of President Taft's plan to stop filibustering. There was no confirmation of this report, however.

"Camp Crockett" today began to take on the appearance of a real army camp, with brown tents springing up

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NEW YORK, March 10.—In connection with a quiet search which the attaches of the Mexican consulate have been making for Mexican revolutionists in this city, the arrest was caused today of an alleged Mexican murderer, Alphonse Delhart. The suspect was arrested as Herberta Trauta, who is alleged to have fatally stabbed a rival suitor for a senator's hand in Guadalajara two years ago.

The tragedy occurred just as the wedding of the girl was to be solemnized. The identification by L. Rosas, secretary of the Mexican consulate, was sufficient for United States Commissioner Shields to hold the man to await further identification.

APPLICATION FOR STRIPLING PARDON

ATLANTA, Ga., March 10.—Mormal application for a pardon for Edgar Stripling, recently arrested as an escaped murderer at Danville, Va., where he was serving as chief of police under the name of Morris, was filed with the prison commission today by Attorney T. T. Miller of Columbus, Ga. The application will be argued within the next 30 days. Sentiment is general throughout the state for the release of Stripling, who was captured at Danville fourteen years after he had escaped from the county jail at Columbus.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP. BALTIMORE, March 10.—"I am not an advocate of government ownership and I should advise and vote against it, but if the people of the United States ever seriously consider the question I believe it will be adopted," said Charles A. Prouty of the Interstate commerce commission at a banquet here tonight.

PRESIDENT TAFT TALKS OF SOUTH AT SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONGRESS



PRESIDENT TAFT TALKS OF SOUTH AT SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONGRESS

President of Nation Reviews Our Rapid Progress and Expresses Pleasure at Elimination of Sectionalism.—Mentions Some National Issues in Which South is Vically Interested.—Thousands Are Present.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 10.—President Taft in a notable speech before the closing session of the Southern Commercial congress tonight made a plea for the young men of the new South to take up the political issues of the day from a broad and liberal standpoint and to eliminate from their consideration all narrow partisanship and sectionalism.

"Come fully into our national communion," said the president, "with the patriotic purpose of stimulating the progress of our civilization in every right direction, maintaining our country's prosperity and accumulating its wealth, but always in subordination to higher ethical standards and to the promotion of righteousness and justice."

The president reviewed briefly the accomplishments of the sixty-first congress, declaring that in its three sessions just closed, it had enacted more helpful legislation than any congress since the Civil war. Mr. Taft asserted that the greatest accomplishment of the short session ended March 4 was the ratification of the Japanese treaty. The greatest disappointment he said, was the failure of congress to ratify the reciprocity agreement with Canada. In this connection he referred to his action in calling an extra session of congress to convene on April 4.

In the hope, perhaps, that tariff legislation may be avoided at the extra session he today pledged himself to furnish to the democratic house at the regular meeting in December next a report from the tariff commission on schedule K of the Payne-Aldrich act, the wool and woollens schedule.

Other speakers of national prominence at the closing session of the congress tonight were Gov. Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, and Secretary of War J. M. Dickinson.

The president arrived in Atlanta shortly after 11 a. m. today and left again at midnight for Augusta, where he is to have a nine days' vacation. From the moment of his arrival until his departure the president was busy. He was escorted from the terminal station through streets crowded with people to the auditorium, where the congress is in session. From there he went to the Capital City club for luncheon. During the afternoon there was a reception at the governor's mansion, a visit to the University club, dinner at the Piedmont Driving club and the address tonight at the closing session of the congress. During the afternoon the president addressed an audience of negroes at the Central Avenue M. E. church, where Col. Roosevelt spoke yesterday.

The president said in part: "Gentlemen of the Southern Commercial Congress

"I was very much honored by receiving an invitation signed by the governors of all of the Southern states to be present and take part in your deliberations. The commercial and industrial development of this country of the last twenty years has been so great that the statistics startle us. An examination shows that proportionately the commercial and business growth of the South is greater than that of any other part of the country. A cotton crop that sells for a billion dollars insures prosperity, and when in addition to that you raise a corn crop worth half a billion dollars, and include the tobacco you raise, your cotton manufacturing and your truck gardening as well as the naval stores of the Carolinas and Georgia and the sugar and rice of Louisiana and Texas, the fruits and the lumber of all the Southern states, one begins to get a conception of the marvelous progress of the South."

"For years after the war the South was poor and was engaged in a long and bitter struggle to recover from the disastrous condition in which she was left by the civil war. She could not maintain a proper modern and adequate educational system because it was impossible to find taxable resources of sufficient extent to raise the requisite funds to establish a broad school system. In the gloom of the days that followed the war, in the

reconstruction period and in the time of the slow, growing business of the South, it was impossible for Southern people to avoid the resentment against the rest of the nation which the memories of the recent civil war engendered and which their hard lot emphasized. But with the coming prosperity; with the resumption of comfort in their lives, with a growing sympathy of the North in their working out of the serious problems confronting them, and with the sense of triumph in their success in overcoming their great difficulties, the Southern people have mellowed. The Northern people have met them half way and never before in the history of the country have the two sections been so friendly and so near, in such complete union as they are today.

Some of Our Questions. "You have the race question in the South; you have the question of efficient labor. Both are most serious problems, but I believe as strongly as I can believe any thing that the solution is to be found in a system of primary and industrial education offered to every youth, male and female, white and black.

"It is a great pleasure for me to come to the South again. When I was here in the early part of my administration I expressed the hope that I might be permitted to do something to bring the North and the South closer together and to convince our Southern brethren that they were part of the union and part of the government, and that we were all really Americans, with no Mason and Dixon line to divide us. My hope has been realized, for my appointments of Southern men to high office have been received throughout the North as well as the South as proof that birth in the civil war on the side of the confederacy was not the slightest bar to preferment to the most exalted positions of those plainly competent and fit.

"The growth of the South in wealth, in education, in civil orders and in reconstruction period and in the time of the slow, growing business of the South, it was impossible for Southern people to avoid the resentment against the rest of the nation which the memories of the recent civil war engendered and which their hard lot emphasized. But with the coming prosperity; with the resumption of comfort in their lives, with a growing sympathy of the North in their working out of the serious problems confronting them, and with the sense of triumph in their success in overcoming their great difficulties, the Southern people have mellowed. The Northern people have met them half way and never before in the history of the country have the two sections been so friendly and so near, in such complete union as they are today.

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ORGAN COMPANY PLANT BURNED AT HIGH POINT

Fire Threatens Furniture District but Only One Plant is Destroyed

HIGH POINT, N. C., March 10.—The entire plant of the Shipman Organ company, was destroyed by fire this morning entailing a loss of over \$50,000. The fire caught from a hot box in the engine room and spread so quickly that many of the employees had narrow escapes. A young girl, Stella Carmichael, her exit cut off by the flames jumped from the third story of the building into a tree, from which she was rescued by firemen. She was only slightly injured. The fire was in the heart of the furniture factory district and for an hour a serious conflagration was threatened. The insurance was \$28,000.

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Forecast for North Carolina fair Saturday, generally fair Sunday.

RUTHERFORDTON LOSS BY FIRE ESTIMATED AT \$40,000

Number of Firms Badly Damaged With Insurance Approximately of \$12,000

RUTHERFORDTON, N. C., March 10.—The Central hotel and the Carpenter building were destroyed by fire last night before the flames could be controlled. The Morrow building just across the alley was badly damaged by falling wall. The damage was estimated at \$40,000 with \$12,000 insurance. The Baptist church and the Carpenter residence were saved by heroic work. The Carpenter building was a modern two-story brick structure, the property of K. J. Carpenter, carrying \$2,500 insurance. Following is the name of the firms occupying the building and the amount of insurance carried: Carpenter Grocery company, wholesale grocers, \$2,000; J. A. Wilson & Co., dry goods, \$4,000; H. S. Toms Grocery company and furniture, \$2,000; J. H. Wood & Co., undertakers, stock saved; McBrayer & McBrayer, lawyers, and J. S. Southern Jeweler, no insurance. The Central hotel was an old three-story frame building occupied by Miss May Heister, who saved her household goods with \$1,700 insurance. Origin of the fire is unknown.

COMPROMISE MAY RESULT IN POTASH CONTROVERSY

American Reply to Germany Now in the Hands of German Ambassador

WASHINGTON, March 10.—With the American reply to the German note on the potash controversy in the hands of the German ambassador here today that the dispute was capable of an amicable settlement. It was denied that there was any friction between the two governments in connection with the diplomatic interchange and state department officials said that the way was well open for an adjustment. Officials of the department declined, however, to discuss the nature of the American reply. The controversy, it is understood here, probably will be settled by a compromise between the private interests involved and such an adjustment is reported to be under consideration by the parties concerned. PROVISIONS FOR 10,000. SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 10.—Col. John L. Clem, commissary general of the department of Texas, received orders today from Washington to procure provisions for four months for 10,000. Twenty thousand troops are expected to mobilize on the border, but it is thought half that number will be detailed elsewhere than San Antonio.

EXPLOSION LEFT IN ITS WAKE RUIN AND DESTRUCTION

Waste of Dismantled Houses in Surrounding Country Desolate Scene

DEFECTIVE MACHINERY CAUSE OF CATASTROPHE

Mangled Portions of Body of Man Killed Found Over Half Mile Away

PLEASANT PRAIRIE, Wis., March 10.—With the country immediately surrounding the wrecked Dupon-De Nemours powder mill, which blew up last night, a waste of dismantled homes, the first action today of the residents was to seek the elimination of powder works from their county. Indignation meetings at which this decision was voiced, were held in Pleasant Prairie and at Kenosha. The effort to safeguard their homes is to be taken before the Wisconsin legislature, according to present plans. The destruction of the victims' homes in most instances is a calamity, although only one life was lost. No attempt was made to accomplish anything beyond temporary patching of shattered houses. Few women remained in town. Not one stove was in working order. Lack of food became a pressing problem during the day.

There have been nine explosions in ten years at the powder works but no disaster has compared with the present one in the extent of property damage, although more lives have been lost. In the explosion of 1904 nine men were killed. It was generally believed tonight after communication has been established with the farm houses in the danger zone and after physicians had made records of the cases treated that Engineer Flynn is the only person seriously injured. The financial loss to the company is roughly estimated at \$500,000 but the total loss due to the explosion is too widely distributed even to be attempted. Several persons, however, were sustaining the ruins to safeguard the community against further explosions.

Fragments of the body of E. B. Thompson, the only one killed in last night's explosion, were found today in a pond half a mile from the glass mill, where he met his death in the initial explosion. The head, one arm and both legs were missing. A jury was empaneled today by Coroner Stanton to fix the cause of the explosion. That the explosion started in the glass mill where Thompson was killed, and that the defective working of the machinery used in the delicate process of putting the last flash on giant powder were indicated today by the statement of Engineer Joseph Flynn, himself seriously injured, who was a witness of the first of the five explosions. A piece of one of the glazing cylinders, a steel fragment more than three feet in diameter and six feet long, was hurled two miles. It crashed through the roof of a two-story building occupied by H. A. King. The cylinder made an eight-foot hole in the roof and passing through the structure was buried in the cellar.

CONFESSON OF WOMAN WHO POISONED HER SON IS TOLD BY POLICEMAN

Child Asked for Drink of Water and She Gave Him Carbolic Acid

HEARS IT UNMOVED

ALBANY, N. Y., March 10.—While a crowded court room listened with breathless attention, Mrs. Edith Melber sat apparently unmoved as Chief of Police J. M. Quigley, of Rochester, told how the accused woman had confessed to killing her five-year-old child by pouring carbolic acid down his throat. After describing Mrs. Melber's statement of her vain attempt to place the boy in a home in Albany on the day of the alleged murder the chief gave this version of her confessed actions: "She left the institution and walked toward the center of the city. On the way she entered a drug store and purchased ten cents' worth of carbolic acid. Then she went to the place where the body was found. How she got there she did not know. The child asked for a drink of water and she gave him the acid. She laid the child down, kissed him, turned away and went back to Schenectady."

HORTICULTURIST SHOTS SELF. PASGOUCOULA, Miss., March 10.—Albert Grant Delmar, a well known horticulturist, fatally shot himself in his room at his residence here. He died at noon. It is not known whether the shooting was accidental or intentional.