

COMPLICATIONS IN VENEZUELAN ROW

Rebels Report Victory Over Castro's troops and Scheme of Powers is Now Laid Bare

FRANCE IS BLAMED FOR THE PRESENT SITUATION

Her Interposition at this Time is Looked Upon By Powers As An Astute Move

Washington, Feb. 2.—Further possible complications in the Venezuelan imbroglio are indicated by a dispatch this morning which says that the revolutionists won a decided victory near Cua, some sixty miles south of Caracas.

As the dispatch bears the date of the Williamstown headquarters of General Matos the revolutionists leader not much credence is given the item, but it is recognized however that this is one of the ever present dangers of the situation.

Both Germany and Great Britain have schemed from the first to foster the desires of the rebels and one reason of the prolonged blockade is that it will give Matos and his people more chance to effect a coup over Castoro.

France is Blamed.

London, Feb. 2.—The hitch in the Venezuelan negotiations caused by France's demand for equality of treatment in the settlement of claims has caused great disappointment here, where the Venezuela enterprise is regarded as a dangerous incubus which was needlessly assumed by the British Government.

The French interposition at this stage is held in diplomatic circles to be an exceedingly astute move by Foreign Minister Delcasse, as it is calculated to keep the question open, to the detriment of the relations between Germany and England, and also to the relations of both with the United States.

Minister Delcasse remained inactive until Germany and England were about to be extricated from the middle into which they had plunged, and the point he has now raised is thought to be more difficult of arrangement than any heretofore in dispute.

Bowen Offers Compromise.

Washington, Feb. 2.—A compromise has been offered by Minister Bowen to Germany, Great Britain, Italy and others, that they may maintain their prestige, which they've alleged would be lost if they permitted the non-blockade creditors to settle with Venezuela on the same basis as themselves.

Minister Bowen offers them preferential treatment for a period of one month, during that time these countries to have exclusively to themselves thirty per cent of the custom's receipts of Puerto Cabello and La Guayra. After the expiration of one month all the national creditors are to share alike in the thirty per cent reservation.

Minister Bowen makes this concession in the interests of peace, without abrogating the principles for which he has been contending.

TROUBLES OF ITS OWN, HAS LABOR

Strikers in Belgium Win-- Wires Report Two New Strikes of Minor Importance Today

Waterbury, Feb. 2.—Cars started as usual this morning on all lines of the local company and no difficulty has been reported. Some militia men were detailed this morning to do special police duty in civilian dress and the attitude of the small crowds who congregated here was distinctly hostile to the militiamen who were frequently greeted with hisses, which marked their greeting in the city last night.

Strikers Win the Game.

The Hague, Feb. 2.—The strike of railway employees has been settled by the company's acceding to the demands of the men. A meeting of employees was held this morning and five thousand strikers attended. While the meeting was in progress a letter was received from the company stating that the demands were granted.

Carpenters Want Increase.

Wilkesbarre, Feb. 2.—Six hundred carpenters and joiners in the Wyoming Valley went on strike today because building contractors refuse to grant an increase in wages from \$2.50 to \$3 per day.

STOCK TRAINS COLLIDE.

Three Men Are Killed and Four Fatally Injured.

Cloverdale, Feb. 2.—Three men were killed, four fatally injured and ten seriously hurt by a rear-end collision of two stock trains on the Illinois Central railway, a mile west of here, this morning.

Several carloads of live stock were also destroyed. The dead are: Wilson, fireman of the second train, and two unidentified men. The accident was due to a fog here.

Operators Close Their Case.

Philadelphia, Feb. 2.—The first witness before the strike commission today was W. W. Ruly, of this city, statistician and publisher in charge of the bureau maintained by the Reading company, who stated that for 13 years he has compiled statistics and maps especially dealing with the anthracite coal regions. Many of those maps, as well as the accompanying statistics, were placed in evidence. The coal operators will close their case before the commission today.

Every Man to His Trade.

Boston, Feb. 2.—Because of the objection to the employment of machinists upon boiler work, 55 boiler makers and iron ship builders, employed in the yards of the Georgia Lawley and Sons, Corporation, yacht and ship builders, in South Boston, struck today.

COMMISSIONERS CONFIRM THE SALE

No Site Has Yet Been Chosen For County Home But Several Are Under Consideration

The board of county commissioners met this morning at 10 o'clock. There was a full attendance.

Mrs. L. J. Teeter was relieved from paying the taxes of the late Jas. Teeter who recently died in Crab Orchard township with smallpox.

J. W. Meacham was given the privilege to locate goods without license.

Mr. A. M. Brown was relieved of pole tax on account of the loss of an arm.

W. E. Pressley was given privilege to peddle goods without license.

The lamps under the court house were ordered to be painted.

S. T. Stowe was ordered to make a survey and locate rock yards on the Newell road.

The board confirmed the sale of the County Home property made through the chairman, Mr. J. H. Weddington to the Highland Park Company and authorized the chairman and county attorneys to make such deeds and conveyances as necessary.

S. T. Stowe was unanimously approved by the board.

An Act to authorize the board of commissioners of Mecklenburg county to change the site of the County Home.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section I. That the Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County be, and it is hereby authorized, to change the site of the County Home, and to re-locate the same at such place in said county, as in the discretion of the said board may seem advisable, and, to that end, said board shall have full power and authority to sell and convey the lands upon which the County Home is now located, and to purchase other lands upon which to locate said home, at such place as to the board may seem proper.

Section II. That all laws, and clauses of laws, in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Section III. That this act shall take effect from and after its ratification.

Mr. Sam Kirkpatrick tendered his resignation as janitor of the court house which was accepted. His successor had not been named when the News went to press.

Jurors for March Court.

The following jurors were drawn for the March term of Mecklenburg Superior Court that convenes Monday, March 9th:

First week: J. W. Dewese, Geo. H. Newcomb, H. C. Eccles, Thos. M. Barnhardt, W. F. Hinkle, R. E. Young, J. E. Hough, R. L. Auten, Jno. Randolph, E. W. Alexander, Thos. O. Graham, C. P. Beatty, W. E. Alexander, J. N. Lee, J. F. M. Beard, W. M. Connell, H. H. Orr, D. C. Miller, Walter P. Cochran, S. M. Hoover, C. A. Barnhardt, G. L. Hipp, J. W. Biggers, B. G. Shannonhouse.

Second week: T. J. Davis, R. L. Alexander, J. E. Snell, Joe M. Sloan, J. A. Marks, J. L. Rea, Jr., A. H. Alexander, S. Y. McCall, E. A. Christenbury, J. M. Herron, J. E. Elliott, C. W. McCoy, J. M. Allen, Jno. L. Brown, W. R. Tallaferro, D. R. Jenkins, W. L. Hood, D. F. Davis, J. A. Erwin, B. Noah Griffith, J. T. Thrower, W. A. Alexander, L. M. McAllister, S. S. McIninch.

THE GROUND HOG SAYS "SPRING"

Woodchuck Comes Out, Fails to See His Shadow and Remains.

Did the groundhog see his shadow today? It is barely possible that he did, but the preponderance of indications is that he did not. All the forenoon was cloudy, with some rain, except an interval now and then of momentary partial sunshine. He saw it and went back in his hole where he has to have six weeks more of winter. If he didn't which is probably the case, then it means that we have entered upon spring.

Today, Feb. 2, is "ground hog day," which has been brought down by tradition from time immemorial. Every human being is credited with being more or less superstitious and the weather is of all subjects the most prolific of superstition. So ground hog day is naturally a red letter one in the annals of superstition. The emergence of this little animal from its subterranean hibernation is looked forward to by some of the weatherwise as the event of the greatest meteorological significance in the calendar. His advent is ominous for the control of the weather for six weeks following it. If the sun is shining upon his appearance from underground so that he sees shadow upon the ground he beats a hasty retreat into his winter quarters and there remains for six weeks, during which time bad weather prevails. Should the day be overcast and he fail to see his shadow the oracle makes his home above ground and notice is served that the backbone of the winter is broken. Vernal breezes blow, the frozen earth thaws out, the sap goes up and bud and blossom herald the coming of the spring.

TO BUY CHILEAN SHIPS.

Such a Proposition Said to be Under Consideration.

New York, Feb. 2.—A special dispatch to the New York Herald from Washington says:

"Purchase by the United States of the two battleships now being built by Chile in England, and which she will have no need of on account of her disarmament agreement with Argentina, is now being officially considered. The advisability of adding to the United States fleet by the purchase of these ships will soon be passed on by the Secretary of the Navy, who will call the members of the General Board of the navy, of which Admiral Dewey is the head, and upon the members of the Board of Construction for their professional opinions. In Congress the idea of purchasing these ships will receive strong support from certain advocates of rapid naval increase.

"Information in the possession of the Navy Department shows that the Chilean battleships, which were ordered about a year ago and were to be completed in 18 months, are of 12,000 tons displacement each. They are to cost about \$4,800,000 each. Their dimensions are: Length 435 feet, beam 70 feet, indicated horse-power 25,000, speed 21 knots. Each ship will carry 4 10-inch guns, 14 7.5-inch guns and many smaller rapid-fire guns.

"The disarmament agreement between Chile and Argentina found both countries rapidly increasing their sea power. It was not known precisely here that Argentina desired to sell the two armored cruisers which are now building for her at the Ansaldo works, at Genoa, Italy. They are to be of the same type as the Italian armored cruiser Garibaldi, 8,500 tons displacement, 17,000 indicated horse-power and 21 knots speed. The estimated cost of each of these ships is \$3,400,000. They are to be known as the General Mitre and the General Roca and were laid down March 14 and March 29, 1902, respectively.

Seaboard Bank for Washington.

Washington, Feb. 2.—After trying to buy some of the national banks here and finding the price too high John Skelton Williams, representing the syndicate in control of the Seaboard Air Line, has decided to start a bank it will be known as the American National.

Marriage Proposal From Hawaii.

Topeka, Feb. 2.—Lieut.-Gov. Hanna today received a proposal of marriage from a native of the Hawaiian Islands, who says she is young, handsome, well educated and worth \$100,000. She says she will send her photograph to Hanna looks with favor on her suit. Mr. Hanna says he is inclined to investigate the proposition.

British Cabinet Demoralized.

London, Feb. 2.—The illness of another minister is announced this morning, thus adding to the already unhealed demoralized condition of the cabinet. Eary Selbourne, first lord of the admiralty, is sick with acute rheumatism and cancelled his engagements. Balfour and Lansdowne are still sick while Secretary of War Broderick is abroad.

Venezuelans Amazed.

News of Latest Hitch Caused a Dejected Sensation.

Paris, Feb. 2.—A Matin special from Caracas says: "The food supply is rapidly dwindling. News received relative to the hitch in the negotiations between the allies and Minister Bowen caused a great sensation throughout the country. The populace is anxiously awaiting the raising of the blockade."

Fatal Result of Spree.

Albany, Feb. 2.—Martin Velasora was drowned in the Champlain canal at Cohoes last night. John Cozler is under arrest, charged with having pushed Velasora into the water. Both men, it is said, were intoxicated.

Mr. Long Improves.

Boston, Feb. 2.—The condition of Ex-Secretary Long continues to improve. It is said he passed a very comfortable night and is more rational in mind.

King Edward is ill; Has a feverish cold.

London, Feb. 2.—King Edward III, the King's physician, has been seeking the cause of his illness and has found His Highness had a touch of influenza.

Sultan Wins Victory.

Tangier, Feb. 2.—The report that Sultan has gained a complete victory over the forces of the pretender is confirmed.

King Has Influenza.

Windsor, Feb. 2.—King Edward is ill with a feverish cold and has postponed his visit to the Duke of Devonshire's palace at Chatsworth. The King's illness is not serious. He suffered from a slight chill while out planting commemorative trees with the Prince of Wales and little Prince Edward this morning. The weather is exceedingly cold and this is probably responsible for His Majesty's illness.

Countess Gets Divorce.

London, Feb. 2.—In the divorce court today a decree of nisi obtained by the Countess Della Warr against husband was made absolute.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS AND VIEWS

Powerful Tribes in Turkish Domain Have Arisen Against Sultan and Declared Independence

KING EDWARD IS ILL; HAS A FEVERISH COLD

Pope Receives Schwab—Well Known Miser Dead—Twenty-Four Seamen Go Down in the Deep

Rome, Feb. 2.—It is probable the Marquis Dirudeni will succeed Minister of Foreign Affairs Prinetti, who is suffering with a stroke of apoplexy.

Uprising Against Turkey.

Constantinople, Feb. 2.—Dispatches from the Province of Yemen, Arabia, state that several powerful tribes there have risen against Turkey and declared their independence. The garrison in the Province are but ill equipped to control the uprising and serious trouble is feared. The Sultan has sent orders to the Italian government to undertake the chastisement of the coast tribes.

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Twenty-Four Drowned.

Copenhagen, Feb. 2.—It is now believed that 24 of the crew of the Norwegian steamship Avona, New Orleans for Aarhus, which went ashore at Lemvig, Denmark, were drowned.

Bouquets for Schwab.

Rome, Feb. 2.—The Pope, in receiving the family of Charles M. Schwab, president of the steel trust, yesterday commented on Schwab's charity, especially his placing the steamer Happy Hour at the disposal of New York's poor.

Wealthy Miser Dies.

Budapest, Feb. 2.—Johann Schoenberg, a well-known miser, died as the result of exposure at Herencseny, near Budapest. He lived in a garret, ate bread and water and always wore rags even in the coldest weather. After his death it was discovered that he possessed five million dollars. He left no will and no relatives have yet appeared to claim the wealth. He owned several thousand acres of land and thirty houses.

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TO CUT DOWN FEES.

Senator Hale Thinks Lawyers Are Fleecing Their Clients.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Hale (Maine), in the Senate today during routine business, urged the enactment of legislation limiting fees to attorneys in cases before the Spanish claims commission. He said 542 claims were pending, the aggregate amount claimed being over \$61,000,000. Of the 67 claims allowed, aggregating over ten million dollars, the records showed the attorneys' fees average 33.2 per cent.

The credentials of Senators-elect Henry M. Teller (Colorado), E. W. Pettus (Alabama), J. P. Clark (Arkansas) were received and placed on file. The bill will pass attaching Demitt county to the western judicial district of Texas.

Suspension Day in House.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Today was suspension day in the House and rules were suspended and various bills considered and passed.

MISS MARLOW IS SUED.

Publishers Say She Promised \$4,000 If She Failed to Give Play.

New York, Feb. 2.—Julia Marlowe, who is playing at the Criterion Theatre, and Charles Dillingham, her manager, have been sued in the United States Circuit Court by the Bowen-Merrill Company, a publishing house of Indianapolis, for \$4,000. They allege this sum due them by reason of the actress' failure to produce some time during last year a dramatization of "The Redemption of David Corson," a novel by Charles Frederick Goss.

According to the complaint the Bowen-Merrill Company is the publisher of the book in question and for a consideration sold Miss Marlowe the dramatic rights to the novel. She in turn, it is claimed, agreed to have a good dramatization made and to produce the play not later than November 1, 1902.

In case of the failure to produce the play by October 1, 1902, however, Miss Marlowe and Mr. Dillingham, it is said, agreed to pay the plaintiffs the sum of \$2,000 and a second \$2,000 January 1, 1902.

CALLS ACRE DEAL MONSTROUS.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Sees Notice of Attitude.

Rio Janeiro, Brazil, Feb. 2.—Baron do Rio Branco, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has sent a circular cablegram to the Brazilian legations in Europe stating among other things that the lease of the Acre territory to a foreign syndicate and the cession of rights of sovereignty are "monstrous" and that they are "possible only in Africa and not on the American continent."

He says that Peru claims a part of that territory. Brazil was disposed to give all facilities to Bolivian commerce through the Amazon river and placed the most liberal interpretation upon the treaty of 1867, but as Bolivia had ceded her rights Brazil decided to follow a strict interpretation of the treaty. Brazil claims that her frontier line extends from the confluence of the rivers Beni and Paru westward to the Peruvian frontier; therefore the territory situated west of the River Madeira to the source of the River Javary is disputed by Brazil, Peru and Bolivia.

The Foreign Minister declares that Bolivia cannot cede the territory to a foreign company. Brazil suggested other arrangements, he says, but Bolivia persisted in her purpose. The Brazilian Government, therefore, was compelled to send troops.

BATTLESHIPS AS GIFTS.

Man in Paris Has a Plan to Acquire Vessels.

Paris, Feb. 2.—A man writes to the Herald asking that a subscription be opened for buying and presenting to the United States Government the two battleships just built for Argentina and Chile, now for sale.

He cites the instance where the Matin raised a subscription for buying a sub-marine vessel for the French Government as an example.

"Only blow your trumpet announcing the opening of your columns for the subscriptions," he says, "and money will come in by the millions."

Thomas Pescud Dead.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 2.—Thomas Pescud, representing the Stanard Oil Co., in this city, died in Rex Hospital at noon today from an operation for appendicitis.

GANNON GETS OFF WITH LIGHT FINE

Recorder Goff is Merciful Because of Defendant's Good Record and of His Unusual Poverty

New York, Feb. 2.—Former Police Captain Gannon, who was convicted of neglect of duty, was this morning sentenced to a fine of \$250.

In passing sentence Recorder Goff said he took into consideration the thirty years of good police records, during which time Gannon had been mentioned five times for life-saving; furthermore, because he was penniless, which, the recorder said, was not a condition supposed to be normal with the average police captain.

ROBBERS NABBED AFTER HOT FIGHT

BIG ROBBERY OF MAIL.

Huge Pile of Opened Letters Found in Lumber Yard.

Toledo, Feb. 2.—A robbery of the United States mail came to light with the discovery of a huge pile of letters in the lumber yard of the William Peters Lumber Company. Every envelope has been slit and the contents examined, but Government money orders, which could not be safely cashed, were replaced. Some of the letters contained checks, one being for \$480 on a local bank. The letters when spread out on a table made a pile two feet high.

The place where they were found is not twenty rods from the house where the famous post-office robbers, under the leadership of "Topeka Joe" were arrested. No estimate of the amount of the plunder taken has been given out.

HERE'S A FIVE-FOOTED COW.

She's to be Sold at Auction and is Wanted as Museum "Freak."

Paris, Feb. 2.—"Sale at public auction, by virtue of a decree of the President of the Civil Tribunal of the Seine, of a phenomenal cow with five feet."

This is the announcement making Nanterre the centre of much curious interest. All the magazines of museums from near and far plotting to obtain the bovine to whom nature has been so singularly over-generous, and a sensation is expected when the sale comes off.

TRUSTEES FOR THE CRITTENTON HOME

Board Named This Morning --Site For Institution is Also Under Consideration

At the regular meeting of the Ministers Conference, held this morning in the parlors of the Y. M. C. A. there was a full attendance.

Evangelist Crittenton and Mrs. Barrett were present and addressed the meeting, their theme being the workings of the Florence Crittenton Rescue Home.

Both speakers were given the closest attention as they went over every detail of caring for fallen women. After the addresses it was decided to appoint a board of trustees for the Home, that is to be located here. The following were named as trustees: Dr. J. R. Howerton, Dr. John W. Stagg, Dr. R. C. Holland, Dr. J. Knox Montgomery, Dr. G. H. Detwiler, Dr. A. C. Barron, Rev. C. C. Leman, Messrs. P. M. Brown, J. A. Durham, S. S. McIninch, B. D. Heath, Heriot Clarkson, R. B. Alexander.

It was then decided that a canvassing committee be appointed to secure contributions for the Home. This committee is composed of Dr. John W. Stagg, Dr. G. H. Detwiler and Mr. Walter S. Alexander.

While no site has been definitely decided on an offer was made to the board of trustees this morning. It is understood that the residence of the late William Clarkson on Cedar street is the place now under consideration.

The board of trustees will hold a meeting at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon for the launching of arrangements for the launching of the Home. A local committee of 30 ladies from the different churches of the city will be selected. These are to form the different working committees and will have direct charge of the work.

The News man learns this afternoon that the aggregate sum so far subscribed amounts to about \$4,500. This amount will be largely increased when the canvassing committee gets to work in the city.

FORMALIN SAVES LIFE.

Wonderful Result of Treatment in a Massachusetts Case.

Springfield, Mass., Feb. 2.—Dr. J. H. Carmichael, of this city, this morning announced the new formalin treatment for blood poisoning on a patient operated upon five days ago and now pronounced out of danger.

Dr. Carmichael's patient was low with septic peritonitis and on Jan. 26 was near death. The pulse was 160 and the patient was comatose. A solution of formalin, 1 in 5,000, was used and instantly the pulse dropped to 120 in twelve hours the pulse was almost normal.

MADE MORBID BY GRIEF.

Parents Have Baby's Body Dug Up and Photographed.

Ithaca, Feb. 2.—After having been dead for two weeks, the body of the small child of Mr. and Mrs. Miles Armstrong, of Carter's Creek, was exhumed today for the purpose of having its photograph taken.

No picture of the infant had ever been taken in its lifetime, and the father and mother decided they could not live without some such memento.

Posse of Monroe Policemen Run Safe - Crackers Down Four Miles From That Town this Afternoon

OVER TWENTY SHOTS EXCHANGED AT DEPOT

Both Robbers and Officers Were Poor Shots and Former Fled, Only to Be Captured Later

MONROE, N. C., FEB. 2.

Two men, supposed to be safe-crackers, were arrested four miles north of here at 3 P. M.

One is about 45 years old, short and dark skinned, and the other tall and light. Both were shabbily dressed.

Several policemen attempted to arrest the men at the train at six o'clock this morning and were fired on, about twenty shots being exchanged at short range between the policemen and the safe-crackers, none taking effect.

The safe-crackers came in on a train from Waxhaw.

The posse of police gave chase to the men at once and the capture this afternoon