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Henry M. Pindell Declines Proffer Of Ambassadorship

His Nomination For Ambassadorship To Russia Was Recently Unanimously Confirmed By The Senate, But, Because Of Controversy, Mr. Pindell Declines.

Fearful That Matter Would Not Be Fully Understood Abroad—Correspondence Between President and Pindell Made Public.

By Associated Press. Washington, Jan. 2.—Henry M. Pindell, of Florida, Ill., who was recently nominated and confirmed as ambassador to Russia, has declined the appointment, according to a letter to the president made public at the white house today.

Mr. Pindell wrote President Wilson that while the senate had investigated his qualifications in connection with an appointment, he felt, nevertheless, that a controversy of any kind should be avoided, and the appointment of any ambassador to Russia was liable to be misunderstood abroad.

The president, in a letter of regret, advised Mr. Pindell's resignation.

The correspondence made public at the white house follows:

Florida, Ill., Jan. 28.

Dear Mr. President: I deeply appreciate the honor you have done in nominating me ambassador to Russia and the very great compliment you have done in confirming the nomination by unanimous vote. I had hoped and confidently expected when you asked me to accept that I could do so at once.

It is true that these have been difficult days and the nomination of me to Russia in this light by the senate is a great honor and a great responsibility.

I feel that it would be more delicate for me to decline the appointment than to accept it.

No controversy of this kind should surround the appointment of an ambassador to a country which can not be expected to be familiar with the circumstances that are known to me. There should be nothing personal to talk about or explain there, as far as the ambassador himself is concerned.

I beg, therefore, that trusting me to be guided by my own instinct in this matter, you will accept my expressions of deep gratitude for the honor you have done to me and permit me to resign with regret, but with no reservation of judgment, to decline the appointment. With sentiments of distinguished consideration, believe me to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

HENRY M. PINDELL.

President's Letter.

Dear Mr. Pindell:

Your letter does credit to your delicacy and propriety and serves to increase my confidence in your ability to discharge the mission which I have assigned to you.

I have no objection to your declining the nomination, but I feel that it would be more delicate for me to decline the appointment than to accept it.

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BUSINESS MEN SLOW TO RESPOND

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 2.—President Wilson is surprised at the lack of response from business men to the invitation for suggestions on pending trust legislation.

HUNDREDS OF MOORS WERE KILLED IN FIGHT

By Associated Press. Tetuan, Morocco, Feb. 2.—Hundreds of Moorish tribesmen fell in a stubbornly contested battle with a column of Spanish troops on Friday at Beni-Salem, south of here. The Spanish forces reported their own losses as four officers and 115 men wounded.

NEW EXPRESS RATES GO IN EFFECT TODAY

By Associated Press. New York, Feb. 2.—The new system of interstate express rates on a scale 15 per cent lower than those formerly prevailing became effective today under orders issued by the interstate commerce commission.

The new interstate rates are based upon a block system, the country being divided into 826 blocks formed by intersections of the meridians of longitude and parallels of latitude.

The first and second class charges are based upon rates per 100 pounds. Third class rates are 1 cent for each two ounces, not to exceed first class rates.

FORESTER OPPOSES INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 2.—Opposing a 10 per cent increase in freight rates to be levied by eastern railroads, J. C. Forester, representing the Just Freight Rate Association of North Carolina, told examiners of the interstate commerce commission today that to grant the advance would be to burden the public for roundabout and illogical routes of shipment and to rouse the support of "improperly financed and inefficiently managed properties."

Judge Ventress Burned to Death. Gadsden, Ala., Feb. 2.—Judge Thomas Ventress, prominent in Alabama politics, was burned to death in a fire which destroys two buildings at Atlanta, Ala., early today.

DIVERS SEARCH FOR BODIES LOST IN MONROE WRECK

By Associated Press. Norfolk, Va., Feb. 2.—Divers on the Norfolk wrecking steamer I. J. Merritt went down in a choppy sea today to search for bodies of those who perished when the ill-fated Old Dominion liner Monroe sank off this coast early Friday morning following collision in a dense fog with the Merchants and Miners' Transportation Company's steamer Nantucket.

The Old Dominion Steamship Company has repeated its instructions to those working aboard of the Merritt to spare no effort in their search for the bodies of the missing. The company officials have hope that search by divers will result in the finding of a number of the bodies.

The weather at sea today was clear but a stiff breeze resulting in a choppy sea made the work of the divers quite difficult.

The exact location of the wreck of the Monroe is 24 miles southwest, one quarter south of Winter Quarter lightship. A portion of the Monroe's mast is projecting above water. Two divers from the wrecking steamer Merritt are making search in the wreck of the Monroe for the missing.

If bodies are found they will be brought to the surface at once and early last Friday morning. A special steamer will be sent out to bring these in while the divers continue their work from the Merritt.

The testimony taken by the United States local inspectors of steam vessels at the investigation conducted by them of the sinking of the steamer Monroe by the steamer Nantucket early last Friday morning, is now in the hands of the supervising inspector general at Washington. The local inspectors announce they will have nothing to give out on the subject and that decision will be made public at Washington Saturday night by R. E. Tapley, local inspector, who returned today.

The contentions by the respective ships following the Nantucket-Monroe collision are almost identical with those growing out of the sinking of the American steamer Julia Luckenbach by the British steamship Indrakuala in Chesapeake Bay in January, 1913, when 17 lives were lost, including those of the captain of the Luckenbach and his wife, who was aboard at the time.

It was contended by the master of the Indrakuala, which rammed and sank the Luckenbach in a fog, that the Luckenbach was seeking to cross the bow of the Indrakuala when the collision occurred. It is now contended by Captain Berry of the Nantucket that the Monroe was seeking to cross the bow of the Nantucket, which resulted in the collision.

Libel claims totalling \$550,000 and growing out of the Indrakuala-Luckenbach collision were heard before Federal Judge Edmund Waddill here a week ago. The court reserved decision. The government steamboat investigation of the Indrakuala-Luckenbach collision completely exonerated the Indrakuala.

Capt. Johnson Talks. New York, Feb. 2.—Capt. L. E. E. Johnson of the Old Dominion liner Monroe, arrived here today and was shown dispatches quoting the story of the Nantucket saying the Monroe at the time of the collision was attempting to pass the Nantucket starboard to starboard, contrary to maritime regulations.

SHARP BATTLE MARKS HAITIAN REVOLUTION

By Associated Press. Port au Prince, Haiti, Feb. 2.—Sharp fighting has occurred at Gonaves between the followers of the two rival revolutionary leaders, Senators Davilmar Theodore and Gen. Oreste Zamor, formerly government delegate at Cape Haitien.

Only the most meagre details were obtainable today about the battle. These came from the crews of the Haitian naval vessels which were lying at anchor in the roadstead of Gonaves but which left hurriedly as the fighting started. The war craft arrived here today and their officers assert that they saw flames rising over a vast area, giving reason for the belief that the city of Gonaves had been set on fire.

The German cruiser Vineta left immediately for Gonaves to investigate.

Senator Theodore, who announced several days ago that he would take supreme command of the rebels was understood to be marching with his followers on the capital. His rival, General Zamor, was reported to have left Gonaves for the same destination at the head of a body of revolutionaries.

DEMAND WITHDRAWAL OF BLUEJACKETS

By Associated Press. Port au Prince, Haiti, Feb. 2.—A demand for the withdrawal from the Haitian capital of the German and American bluejackets and marines was presented today to the members of the foreign diplomatic corps by the citizens' committee of public safety.

The committee, which was formed immediately after the flight of the president of the republic, points out that perfect tranquility has prevailed for some time in the capital and that therefore there is no necessity for the further presence of foreign troops.

DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH'S WATER POWER

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 2.—Remarkable development in the South's water power resources is related today in a statement by the federal geological survey.

At any reasonable valuation per horsepower, it is stated, the undeveloped power of important streams in the Southern states is an important industrial asset. In Georgia and the Carolinas more than 100,000 horsepower have been developed and it is being used by the cotton mills alone and public service corporations in these three states today developing 300,000 to 400,000 additional horsepower to run the hundreds of mills and light the many towns and cities in the region.

PRESIDENT GIVES LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT TO SUFFRAGE

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 2.—President Wilson gave no encouragement today to a delegation of 200 working women who marched on the white house with a brass band to ask his support for a constitutional amendment enfranchising women.

Twenty-five of the marchers were received by the president and five reiterated their argument. The president reiterated that as leader of the democratic party he was limited only to recommending proposals on which the party had decided.

"We don't want you to break with your party but we would like you to influence them," said Mrs. Glendower Evans, of Boston.

"It isn't a question of breaking with the party," resumed the president. "It is a question of speaking for it."

"Well, why not speak for it?" rejoined Mrs. Evans, as the women laughed. "That's what we want. You have such tremendous power and can work miracles with it."

The president then expressed a wish to meet the women who were waiting outside.

"But they told us we couldn't all come in," remarked Mrs. Evans.

"It must be a misunderstanding," said the president, and he sent word out that he would like to meet the delegation. They entered single file, passing in one door and out another. Some of the women declined to shake hands with the president, marching indifferently past him.

At their exit, Dr. Mary Walker, in male attire, argued with the women that suffrage was a state issue. She was not permitted to enter with the delegation.

The pleas of the speakers were phrased eloquently and with a touch of pathos as they described the hardships of women workers in mills and mines.

"We suffer side by side with the men," she said, "and in constant fear of losing our jobs." As she told of many cases of suffering the president's face showed his sympathetic interest.

"It is not a democracy when only half have something to say," contended Miss Melinda Scott. "We will be glad if you will mention our cause in your next message."

Rebels Concentrate Forces For Fierce Attack On Torreon

General Villa is Assembling His Force About Torreon Where Decisive Battle is Expected—Rebel Force Will Number Sixteen Thousand.

By Associated Press. Jimenez, Mexico, Feb. 2.—Ten thousand rebel soldiers were mobilized here and at points on the railway to the south today awaiting the order of General Villa to hurl themselves against the federal strongholds at Torreon. Other constitutionalist forces were drawing in on Torreon from other directions and the rebel generals said they would attack the city with a total strength of 16,000 men.

The rebel army is divided into the commands of five brigadier generals, with General Villa commanding the division and while their main body is still more than 100 miles north of Torreon they advance southward to within a few miles of the city. About 40 field pieces and great quantities of ammunition have been shipped southward in readiness for the attack.

Against the rebels the federal marines under General Refugio Velasco will put forth as formidable a defense as their means will permit. The federal strength is estimated by the rebels at from 6,000 soldiers upward. It is expected that the rebels will outnumber the federals at least two to one. General Velasco's soldiers, however, have the advantage of position and are said to be supplied with superior artillery. Torreon, with 25,000 population, is an important railroad center and the industrial seat of the Laguna cotton district. It is flanked on the west by a series of hills and canyons. On these hills, which have a sweeping command of the city over a river to the north and over the flat Laguna district eastward the federals have planted their cannon. One hill in particular, known as La Cruz, has been converted into a veritable fort, bristling with long range guns.

It will be for possession of these hills that the preliminary battle will be fought, for in the opinion of the rebels neither side without the hills could hold the town.

In case of defeat the federals ordinarily would follow the railroad southward to Zacatecas, or eastward to Saltillo but the rebels operating in those districts have been ordered to cut off railroad communication in both directions and completely bottle Torreon before the attack begins. Because of these preliminaries it is likely that the attack on the city will be deferred for some time.

Generals Villa, Herrerra and Ortega have had previous experience in attacks on Torreon.

The city has changed hands several times. In the Madero revolution attention was attracted to Torreon because of the massacre there of several hundred Chinese.

Juarez, Mexico, Feb. 2.—General Francisco Villa will leave here tonight for Chihuahua to prepare for his campaign south. He probably will remain in Chihuahua for a week before he starts for Torreon to take personal command of his troops.

THE LEGAL MAZES AHEAD OF TRUST LAWS

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 2.—Glimpses of business and legal mazes it must tread in framing trust laws were laid before the house judiciary committee today by R. L. Batts and F. C. Proctor of Beaumont, Tex., representing an independent oil company. They opposed the prohibition of holding companies unless some other means can be provided to accomplish the legitimate work of such companies.

History of the five separate corporations comprising what he said was generally known as the Gulf oil enterprise was related by Mr. Proctor. In its business of producing and transporting oil the company enters Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. Restrictions imposed upon foreign corporations by the various states made it impossible, he asserted, for a single corporation to undertake all the branches of the business and the only way out of the difficulty was a holding company.

Publicity of all the facts gathered by the proposed interstate trade commission was pressed as a curfew of corporation evils by Waddill Catchings of New York, president of the Central Foundry Company, who appeared before the house commerce committee. Mr. Catchings said that seven years ago corporations were quietly paying commissions on contracts to employees on the other side of deals, that these transactions were not regarded then as bribery but that public discussion had developed a chance of sanction.

THE WEATHER.

Forecast for North Carolina: Fair tonight and Tuesday; light north winds.

OLIVER IMPRISONED BY MISTAKE

By Associated Press. Jackson, Miss., Feb. 2.—A. D. Oliver, a merchant of Thomasville, Ga., was on his way home today after having served two months in a Mississippi prison, the victim of mistaken identity.

He was arrested last November after the escape from a prison at Aberdeen of a man known as L. Charles Harding whom Oliver resembled. Several days ago Oliver obtained a writ of habeas corpus. He was taken before a chancellor and established an alibi and his release was ordered.

To Start Life Anew. Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 2.—A. D. Oliver, former president of the Climax Gas bank, and once a spectacular figure in this section, passed through here today on his way to Lee county Georgia, where he said he was going to "begin life anew."

He said he had been released from a Mississippi prison farm where he had been serving a sentence which should have been imposed upon another man said to be L. C. Harding.

Oliver claimed Harding was his brother and that he now was safe in Honduras. According to Oliver, it was his brother and not himself who perpetrated offenses which have been laid at the former Georgia banker's door.

GOVERNOR STUART INAUGURATED

By Associated Press. Richmond, Va., Feb. 2.—Brilliant weather graced the inauguration here today of Governor Henry Carter Stuart, which was accompanied with unusual ceremony.

Governor Mann, the retiring executive, drove from the mansion to Governor Stuart's temporary residence escorted by the famous Blues separate battalion, the Richmond battalion and several rural companies of the first Virginia infantry, the V. M. I. cadet corps, and the Richmond howitzers.

The Blues' band and the United States Artillery band from Fort Monroe furnished the military music.

Thousand lined the streets and packed Capitol Square to view the spectacle.

Governor Stuart took oath of office at one o'clock in the portico of the Capitol before Judge James Keith, president of the supreme court, and a crowded gathering of state officials, members of the legislature and prominent citizens.

He then read his inaugural address, recommending business-like governmental methods and progressive legislation.

HAMMER MAKES HURRY CALL TO WASHINGTON

Special to The News. Washington, Feb. 2.—It was learned today that William C. Hammer of Asheville, recommended for district attorney by Senators Overman and Simmons made a lightning gunshoe visit to Washington yesterday and held a secret conference with Senator Overman regarding the prospects of his appointment.

The delegation left the White House in animal conversation, some pleased, others disappointed and some even saying they were angry.

A caucus of House democrats on creating a standing committee on woman suffrage was called today for tomorrow night. The democrats of the rules committee recently refused to report in favor of such a committee.

"I want to say just this," returned the president, "I need not tell you that what you have said makes a profound impression upon me, but I have already explained my limitations. Until a party as such has taken a position on a question, I am not at liberty to speak for it. I am limited in expressing my opinions no matter what my individual thoughts may be. I have no doubt that your visit will make a profound impression."

There was a tiny child in line with her mother.

"Hello, little lady," said the president, "you wouldn't be old enough to vote anyway, would you?" and the baby smiled.

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SENATOR TILLMAN BACK ON THE JOB

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 2.—Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, returned to his seat in the senate today, fully recovered from the illness that had confined him to his residence for several weeks.

Royalist Outbreak Expected. Paris, Feb. 2.—A Royalist outbreak is expected in Portugal today, according to a Madrid despatch to the Temps. Intense anxiety prevails among the Portuguese exiles in Vigo.

Hazelhurst Bank Closes Doors. Hazelhurst, Ga., Feb. 2.—The Farmers State Bank of Hazelhurst, failed to open its doors for business today. The affairs of the institution are in the hands of the state bank examiner. The bank was organized three years ago with a capital stock of \$15,000.

117 "WANTS" PRINTED YESTERDAY 2651 IN JANUARY "Use The Want Ad Way"—Page Eight—One-Cent-A-Word. 'Nuf 'Ced