

All Diplomatic Relations Are Now Virtually Severed

Every Tie Broken That Bound the South American Republic to Its Powerful European Enemies

Washington, Dec. 12.—The state department today from Minister Bowen at Caracas or any other American official in Venezuela and the two European powers, which are attempting to coerce the government into paying indemnities for injuries inflicted on, and debts due to English and German subjects.

The information came from Alvin Smith, the United States consul at Port of Spain, in the British island of Trinidad, which is no, far from the Venezuelan coast. In his telegram Mr. Smith said that the Venezuelan consul at Port of Spain had closed his office and withdrawn. The action of the Venezuelan consul representative is extremely important, indicating a severance of all relations between Venezuela and the two European powers, thus creating a condition which exists only, except in rare instances, during the prevalence of war. While special suits does not say so in his dispatch, no doubt is felt at the state department that the Venezuelan representative at Port of Spain acted under the instructions of his government. The dispatches to the state department from Minister Bowen have indicated that President Castro considers that a state of actual war exists, and the advice from Consul Smith bear out this understanding.

The withdrawal from Caracas of the English minister and the German charge d'affaires, did not, in itself, constitute a declaration that the two European governments regarded themselves as engaged in war with Venezuela. It constitutes a virtual severance of diplomatic relations, which is usually preliminary to the beginning of hostilities, but not a severance of all relations, which must follow a declaration of war. The withdrawal, however, of Venezuelan consular officials from the post in the possessions of Great Britain and Germany means a breaking of every tie that binds the South American Republic to its powerful European enemies.

Mr. Michael Herbert, the British ambassador in Berlin, and Herr von Holleben, the German ambassador, have formally expressed to the state department the appreciation of their government of the good services rendered by Minister Bowen in behalf of the English and German subjects who were arrested in Caracas by President Castro's order and subsequently released after Mr. Bowen had convinced Castro that their detention was contrary to practice of civilized nations engaged in war. All the telegrams received at the state department from Mr. Bowen have been sent to embassies at Washington and transmitted by the ambassadors to London and Berlin respectively. This was done because Mr. Bowen as the representative of British and German interests in Venezuela, is the only source of information which these governments have in regard to the situation.

No response has been received by the state department from England or Germany to the offer of President Castro, transmitted through Mr. Bowen and the department to submit the differences of Venezuela and her enemies to arbitration protocol. This is regarded as a measure necessary to safeguard the interests of the United States, as the agreement to submit the differences of the two European countries and the South American republic to arbitration, might contain provisions permitting the tribunal to render judgment that would be in conflict with the Monroe doctrine. As an example of what might occur, it was suggested today that the terms of the protocol might be of such a character that the tribunal of arbitration could award Germany and England the privilege of acquiring sites for coaling stations in Venezuela. It was declared by an official of the government who has a thorough knowledge of what President Roosevelt thinks on the subject, that the United States would not consent to the acquisition of any Venezuelan territory by either of the European powers.

Castro Declines to Yield

Berlin, Dec. 12.—President Castro's reply to the German ultimatum is a refusal to yield on any point. The foreign office has not yet received the text of President Castro's reply but only a bulletin from the German charge d'affaires, Herr von Pilgrim-Baltazzi, dated December 10, announcing that the president's answer, which had been placed in his hands that day, and that the Venezuelan executive refused to yield to the German demands on any point.

This message, with the text of the reply, was filed at Port of Spain, Island of Trinidad.

With this exception, the foreign office has received no news since yesterday to indicate that the situation has become worse.

Continued Unrest

London, Dec. 12.—The British press continues to express uneasiness as to the outcome of the trouble in Venezuela.

The Spectator wishes the United States to assume the direct protectorate over all the South American states, the same as it does over Cuba. The Saturday Review, on the other hand, says the reason the United States has not applied the Monroe doctrine in the present instance was that they are powerless to do so. The statement that they would only interfere to prevent the loss of territory is an idle boast, and must remain so, as long as the American navy is not equal to the combined navies of the European powers.

THE KAISER'S GAME

Relief That It Is Deeper Than British Authorities Are Aware

London, Dec. 12.—It cannot be said that either the British or German public takes a deep interest in the Venezuelan situation. One hears in the London clubs popular inquiries as to the latest news from the front, but serious concern is confined to a certain apprehension or suspicion in regard to the possible effects of British co-operation with Germany. This goes so far in some quarters that the belief is openly expressed that the Kaiser is playing a deeper game than the British authorities are aware of.

It is argued that Germany has great, far-reaching ambitions in South America and that these are bound to clash sooner or later with the Monroe doctrine. The Kaiser sees in the present situation a good opportunity to get the utmost concessions possible, under the operation of that doctrine. Association with Great Britain which has officially recognized the Monroe doctrine, will conduce to greater compliance on the part of the United States government than could be expected under any other circumstances.

The occupation of Venezuelan territory without American interference would constitute an important precedent. Temporary is a diplomatic phraseology application, as witness England in Egypt. The time will come when the emperor will seek the temporary occupation of Brazilian territory with the present Venezuelan incident for a precedent. If he once obtains a foothold how is the United States going to evict him? Some of those who credit the Kaiser with this purpose argue the British government is innocently helping him to play the game. Others hint that Downing Street is quite willing that the clever emperor should make the desired point which it can easily prove would be equally valuable to Great Britain in certain eventualities. The bulk of public opinion in this country, however, refuses to believe that there is any ulterior object in view by either of the powers which have found it necessary to discipline a trivalent, if weak state. English sentiment, as much as American, deprecates the sinking of the captured Venezuelan ships as a piece of wanton offense.

The Statement Confirmed

Berlin, Dec. 12.—The statement that President Castro has rejected all points of the ultimatum presented to him by Germany is confirmed. It is learned from official sources that the German government has not yet been notified of Castro's proposal that the United States Minister Bowen should act as arbitrator or intermediary in the present dispute. For this reason the officials are unable to say what their attitude would be on such a proposition. It is also said that more German war ships may be sent to Venezuela, but it is considered that the fleet at present on the spot is sufficient for the purposes of establishing a blockade which the government seems to be fully resolved to carry into effect at once.

Commenting on President Castro's proposal through Mr. Bowen, the American minister, that the differences between Germany and Venezuela and Great Britain be referred to arbitration, the Vossische Zeitung says it might have been possible to entertain such a proposition before the German and English war ships sailed for Venezuela, but it was now impracticable.

Looking to Uncle Sam

Paris, Dec. 12.—The Temps, speaking semi-officially, says if President Castro's appeal for arbitration is true it will necessarily lessen the danger of complications. Nothing decisive can be accomplishing in the western hemisphere without the approval of the Washington government. The appeal of Castro gives President Roosevelt a chance of settling the difficulty with due regard to the Monroe doctrine.

Great Britain's Condition

London, Dec. 12.—It is stated in credible sources that Great Britain is ready to arbitrate its claims against Venezuela on certain conditions. The first is that Venezuela shall pay \$20,000 as a guarantee of good faith and the second

is that the arbitrator shall have control of the custom's receipts while the arbitration is proceeding.

Manned by British

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 12.—The captured Venezuelan war ships are manned by British sailors. The British cruiser Ariadne is here. The other vessels of the British fleet are patrolling the coast, waiting for developments in the matter of settling the claims. In case no settlement is made it is probable that there will be a resort to harsher measures. Meantime the river has been opened to navigation.

Italy to Take a Hand

Cologne, Dec. 12.—A dispatch from Rome to the Cologne Gazette says that Italy is pressing her own claims against Venezuela. She will take part in the operations against ... at country with two war ships.

The British Ultimatum

Caracas, Venezuela, Dec. 12.—Authentic copies of the demands presented by the German and British ministers on Monday, December 8, before embarking at La Guayra have been obtained. The British ultimatum, it is as follows:

Recognizing to your excellency's note of the fourth instant, I have the honor to inform you that I have received instructions from His Majesty's government to point out to the Venezuelan government, in writing, that regarding the steamer Ban Right, the British government has given full explanation, and has shown that there exists no legitimate ground for complaint. Nor does His Majesty's government think that there is any reason to attribute blame to the authorities of Trinidad who only acted conformably with instructions.

I have the honor to further express that His Majesty's government regrets the situation which has arisen, but cannot accept your note as sufficient reply to my communication nor as indicative of the intention of the Venezuelan government to satisfy the claims which His Majesty's government has brought forward, and it must be understood that they include all well-founded claims which have arisen in consequence of the last civil war and the previous ones, and the ill treatment and imprisonment of British subjects and also include an arrangement for the foreign debt.

I have asked the Venezuelan government to make a declaration that they recognize in principle the justice of these claims, that they will immediately make compensation in the navigation cases and the cases above mentioned and in those in which British subjects have been unjustly imprisoned or ill treated, and that respecting other claims they will accept the decision of a mixed commission as to the amount and guaranty which should be given for payment. I have also expressed the hope that the Venezuelan government will defer to these demands and not oblige His Majesty's government to take steps to obtain satisfaction.

I have added that His Majesty's government has been informed of the claims of the German government against Venezuela and that the two governments have agreed to operate jointly for the purpose of obtaining an arrangement of all their claims, and that His Majesty's government will require the immediate payment of a sum equal to that which in the first case should be paid to the German government. Any balance after the payment of urgent claims should be held on account for the liquidation of claims which might go before the commission.

I have, however, instructions from His Majesty's government to state clearly that this communication must be taken as an ultimatum.

(Signed) H. GAGGARD, British Minister.

The German demand is much the same, only lengthier. It accuses Venezuela of attempting a diplomatic defense.

Was an Accident

Paris, Dec. 12.—The magistrate who has charge of the investigation of the death of Mrs. Ellen Gore has announced that there is no longer any doubt that the affair was an accident.

NO NEW EVIDENCE

Report of Additional Witnesses in Wilcox Case

Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 12.—Special.—A report has gained circulation to the effect that Mr. Cropsy will produce new witnesses and additional evidence at the new trial of James Wilcox.

Mr. Cropsy, when interviewed, said there was no truth in the matter. Said he: "I cannot account for the origin of such a report. I remember being approached by a reporter in Norfolk who asked me why Cale Parker's wife was not put on the stand at the last trial. I told him she was confined at the time. Probably the reporter knew the conclusion that she would be put on at the next trial and gave publication to his suppositions." When asked if Parker's wife could give additional evidence, Mr. Cropsy said no.

KILLED HIS BROTHER

Fourteen Year Old Boy Didn't Know Gun Was Loaded

Rutherfordton, N. C., Dec. 12.—Special.—Sad news to the effect that Wirtz, the nineteen year old son of Mr. A. D. K. Wallace, formerly chief clerk in the secretary of state's office at Raleigh, was shot in the right breast and instantly killed by his fourteen year old brother Alfred, in a room at their home three miles from here at nine o'clock this morning. Their older brother had just stepped out of the room when the shot was fired. Young Wallace came running out of the room screaming, saying he had killed his brother, and that he did not know the gun was loaded. He is crazed with grief over the sad affair.

GRANT'S WIDOW IS EXTREMELY ILL

Acute Bronchitis Produces Alarming Condition

Washington, Dec. 12.—Mrs. Julia Dent Grant, widow of General U. S. Grant, is in a critical condition tonight, caused by a severe cold which has aggravated the heart trouble from which she has been suffering for some time past. Until a few days ago Mrs. Grant's condition was very promising and Dr. P. A. Gardner, the physician, had hoped that she would soon be greatly improved. The cold, however, rapidly developed into acute bronchitis, which brought on a recurrence of the trouble with the heart. She had a sinking spell today, but rallied this afternoon and tonight the physicians report that she is resting more comfortably though by no means out of danger. The trouble with the heart is more feared than the bronchitis and the complication is the cause of her present alarming condition.

HOUSE SESSION

Devoted to Consideration of Appropriation Bill

Washington, Dec. 12.—At the opening of the session of the House today a resolution was adopted which provided for a session Sunday February 8, for paying tribute to the memory of Senator Sewell of New Jersey.

Without preliminary business the House went into committee of the whole and entered upon the consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. General debate was limited to ten minutes. This was largely consumed by Mr. Bingham of Pennsylvania in charge of the measure, in a general explanation of its provisions. Mr. Maddox of Georgia, and Mr. Clark of Missouri, called attention to the increase in the bill and made a general protest against what they alleged was the practice of reporting an appropriation bill one day and calling it up the next day before members had an opportunity to study and examine it.

Mr. Crumpacker of Indiana, moved to increase the annual allowance to members for stationery and postage from \$125 to \$300. He said that \$50 was less than the average amount paid by members for these objects and for printing, and Mr. Crumpacker was of the opinion that the expense ought not to be borne by the members. The amendment was ruled out on a point of order.

Without substantial amendment the committee passed over 47 of the 141 pages of the bill and then rose.

At 4:05 the house adjourned until Monday

Judge Purnell Demands Removal of Oscar Spears

Sequel to Sensational Incident Last Week--Hon Richmond Pearson Appointed Minister to Persia--The South Dakota Case

Washington, D. C., December 12.—Special.—The removal of Oscar J. Spears, assistant district attorney of the eastern North Carolina district has been requested by Judge Thomas R. Purnell. This action, which is unusual, but at the same time clearly within the province and duty of a federal judge, if he sees fit, is the sequel to a sensational incident that occurred in the federal court at Raleigh last week. With Judge Purnell's demand for the removal of the assistant attorney before the department of justice, there is small chance of Mr. Spears' continuing in office and the probability is that Senator Pritchard will soon be requested to name his successor.

The action of the judge is the result of a rupture with the assistant attorney that occurred in open court. The information received here is that during the trial of a case Mr. Spears was examining a witness in an aggressive manner when the judge interrupted him and forbade him continuing the examination along the lines he had undertaken. The assistant attorney, so it is said, was rebuked for employing what was termed bad doing methods. The judge's action incensed Mr. Spears, whereupon he suggested that his honor finish the examination of the witness. This is said to have angered Judge Purnell, who further rebuked Mr. Spears, informing him that such conduct on the part of a subordinate officer of the court was contemptuous.

Efforts were made to bring about a reconciliation and the avenue opened to Mr. Spears for squaring himself with the court, was an apology in open session. This suggestion he failed to take advantage of and Judge Purnell has brought the situation to a climax by recommending the removal of the assistant attorney. Already a number of names are being mentioned for Mr. Spears' place, the belief prevailing that he will sooner or later receive walking papers. Those mentioned as probable candidates for appointment are: J. A. Giles of Chatham, Judge E. W. Timberlake and George Butler, a brother of ex-Senator Butler.

Richmond Pearson of Buncombe, at present consul general to Genoa, Italy, has been selected for appointment as minister to Persia. Mr. Pearson succeeds Lloyd C. Griscom, at present minister to Persia, who has been named as successor to the late Minister Buck for the Japanese mission. The selection of Mr. Pearson is a decided promotion and it was announced at the state department that the appointment is in line with the policy of the administration for promoting those in the consular service.

It will be recalled that Senator Pritchard and Chas. McNamee called on the president a few days ago and urged him to do something in Mr. Pearson's behalf.

This fact is giving Senator Pritchard's friends much gratification today, for they interpret it as evidence that Mr. Pritchard is still in favor at the White House. As consul at Genoa, Mr. Pearson drew a salary of \$2,000 and received fees amounting to \$125. As minister to Persia he will receive a salary of \$5,000 and the state department has recently recommended that it be increased to \$7,500. The privileges and prerogatives that attach to a ministerial rank make the place more desirable from many standpoints, even though the post be one so small as the Persian mission. Mr. Pearson has been in the consular service before. He graduated at Princeton College in the class of 1872, and after a few months of law practice was appointed United States consul at Verviers and Lieges, Belgium. He resigned this office in 1877, after holding it three years. He was elected to the 50th congress as an independent protectionist, and to the 56th congress as a Republican. He was again a candidate for the 56th congress, but the certificate of election was given to a Democrat. Mr. Pearson contested and was sent by the house on May 10, 1890. He was appointed consul to Genoa in December, 1891. He is an uncle of Naval Constructor Richard Pearson Hobson of Merrimack fame.

Ex-Governor D. L. Russell, who has not been in complete harmony with Senator Pritchard and the element in control of the Republican organization in North Carolina for several years called at the White House today and was presented to the president. Governor Russell went in distinguished company, being presented by Senator Frye of Maine, the president's friend of Maine. It is not known what the ex-governor had to say to Mr. Roosevelt. It is said to be in harmony with Sena-

tor Pritchard as to the Wilson post-office fight favoring the appointment of A. B. Boykin. A number of North Carolinians have called on the president during the past ten days, the object of their trip being to speak in praise of Senator Pritchard. It is not thought that ex-Governor Russell went to the White House with any such purpose in view.

The very interesting information was developed today during the taking of testimony in the South Dakota bond suit that ex-Senator Marion Butler of North Carolina and ex-Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota jointly originated the idea for bringing this suit against the State of North Carolina. The hearing was held today in the Senate annex before Special Commissioner A. D. Watts. Ex-Governor Russell appeared for South Dakota and ex-Chief Justice James L. Sutherland and George Reuntrae represented North Carolina. Only two witnesses were examined, ex-Senator Marion Butler and Congressman Chas. H. Burke of South Dakota.

This ends the taking of testimony. During the day, ex-Governor Russell representing the plaintiff, gave notice to counsel for the State that on Monday he would make a motion in the United States supreme court to have all the depositions opened and the case set for argument.

Ex-Senator Butler testified that he represented Schaffer & Brother, of New York, the owners of a majority of the bonds in question and when an effort was made to show why the ten bonds were transferred to South Dakota, the ex-senator declined to answer and threw himself on professional privilege, a right that he had. The state's contention is that they were given to South Dakota in order to bring suit and obtain standing in court. It was shown that Senator Butler visited South Dakota and while inspecting state institutions there Pettigrew told him that the state university was in need of donations. The ex-senator's response was that some persons he knew might be willing to make donations.

Congressman Burke's testimony was that he received the bonds from Colonel Stewart. Stewart got them from Schaffer & Brother. Burke knew Pettigrew in the transaction.

A number of North Carolinians and friends attended the funeral services today over the remains of the late Major John E. Hussy at Lee's undertaking establishment. There were several handsome floral designs for the services. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Brown. The body was afterwards consigned to the crematory, from which the ashes will be taken tomorrow. It was in accordance with Mr. Hussy's expressed desire that his body was cremated, Monday morning the ashes will be interred at Rock Creek cemetery.

A leading social event this week will be the marriage of Miss Louise Levaun Parker and Representative Edmond S. Blackburn at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Myron M. Parker next Thursday. The marriage will be followed by a reception from 1 to 3 o'clock, before the departure of the handsome couple for their wedding journey.

The bride's only attendant will be her small sister Ruth, and the officiating clergyman will be Rev. Mr. Pierce of All Souls church. Wednesday night the Tantalus club will give a farewell banquet at the Arlington in honor of Mr. Blackburn. The Tantalus club is composed of first term Republican members of congress. Uncle Joe Cannon and others prominent will be present.

Senator Pritchard, who has been in bad health for some weeks will undergo an operation at a hospital in this city next Monday. He has placed himself in the care of an eminent specialist, who advises that he submit to an operation. It is the belief of his physician that he will be in his usual good health after the operation, which is not dangerous and does not give the senator or his friends any cause for alarm, whatever. It is the senator's intention to call at the White House Monday before going to the hospital and discuss with the president several appointments, which he intends to dispose of during the day, one of these is the Elizabeth City post office and it is pretty certain that Isaac M. Meekins will get the plum. Another contest that will be disposed of is that of the New Bern collectorship. Mr. Hahn, the present collector, and Dan Patrick, are making the fight. It is more than probable that the president will have something to say about the Vick case, though Senator Pritchard said today that he is through with that matter and does not intend to make another move one way or another. As one of his close friends said he had washed his hands of the Vick affair.

The friends of the park bill failed to accomplish any tangible results last week, but this was not their fault. Next week Representatives Moody and Klutz propose to take the warmth and keep the agitation hot in behalf of the bill. They will circulate petitions among those favorable to the bill urging the committee on rules to make the park project a special order at an early date. Mr. Klutz will work among the Democrats and Mr. Moody among the Republicans. R. B. Hayes, the president of the park association, who has been here all the week, says

every one whom he has met and talked with is favorable to the park. Representative Claude Kitchin has received a large number of letters from Wilson Democrats with reference to the Vick case. Without exception they write that neither Vick or Boykin is acceptable to the community. They do not request it, but they say if the matter were left to the citizens they could select a competent white man who would be acceptable to every interest. Only one man fails to endorse the action of Mr. Kitchin and the Democratic delegation so far as has been heard.

Claude M. Bernard is here. He says he has no hatchet under his little coat for any one and that he is here solely on professional business.

The bill introduced by Representative Bellamy to make Wilmington a port through which merchandise may be imported for transportation without appraisal was favorably reported today by the senate committee on commerce.

George B. Hiss and E. A. Smith of Charlotte are here.

With Pistol and Carbolin

Asheville, N. C., Dec. 12.—Special.—Andrew M. Bruce, a young business man, last night committed suicide here, Bruce took carbolin acid and shot himself through the heart. His motive was attributed to financial depression.

SPRUNG A SURPRISE

Pulliam's Wife Declares He is of Unsound Mind

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 12.—Special. The counsel for Lawrence Pulliam, ex-cashier of the defunct First National bank of Asheville, who is charged with embezzling seven thousand dollars of the bank's money, sprung a surprise today on the government when they introduced the wife of the defendant to prove that the latter was and is insane.

Mrs. Pulliam swore positively her husband was of unsound mind; that he had at times been violent and was always abstracted and nervous, imagining that he was straightening out the accounts of the bank and adding up columns of figures. She testified also that one of his hallucinations was that he was the king of clubs and that he was principal in a game of authors. He left her in 1893 and she said she had seen nothing of him until 1899. Asked if she thought her husband insane in 1893, Mrs. Pulliam declared that he was. Miss Amelia Pulliam, daughter of defendant, corroborated her mother's testimony.

MINERS' EVIDENCE PRACTICALLY ALL IN

Colloquy Between Mr. Torry and John Mitchell

Scranton, Dec. 12.—By keeping the strike commission in session up to nearly 5 o'clock this afternoon, Mr. Darrow succeeded in introducing practically all the evidence that miners have to offer in concluding their case. He might detain the commission for an hour or two on Monday, he said.

John Mitchell, recalled for cross examination today, was practically forced to admit he could have prevented the attacks by strikers upon non-union men during the strike.

The first witness this morning was A. S. Choetal of Hazleton, a miner for the Wentz Company, who testified that the company houses near him looked like barns. They were very cold in winter.

John Mitchell was called to the stand for cross examination by Mr. Torry. He admitted that when he said that bituminous mine workers received from 40 to 50 cents more for a day's work than anthracite men he meant the men who were paid by the day. He was not sure that the figures he possessed with regard to the soft coal workers were accurate.

Mr. Mitchell thought that shorter hours increased the efficiency of labor about twenty per cent. Here there followed a discussion between Mr. Torry and the witness relative to the figures showing the wages of the bituminous men that the representatives of the miners had prepared.

Mr. Torry intimated that the miners had juggled with the figures and that if they were accurate they would show that the anthracite miners received more than those in the soft coal fields. Mr. Mitchell practically admitted this last assertion but said the Delaware & Hudson figures were for 1901, which was an abnormal year. Mr. Torry pointed out that Mr. Mitchell in preparing a statement as to wages paid the men, prepared a statement of the earnings of the workmen paid by the day, for whom no increase was asked, but no statement of the earnings of the contract miners for whom an increase was requested.