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MR. TAFT'S MESSAGE

President Not Satisfied With Affairs in Porto Rico.

INCAPABLE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT

Situation of Unusual Gravity in Porto Rico—The Island Without Support After June 30 Next—Time Has Passed That the United States Has Gone Too Fast in Extension of Political Power in Islands.

President Taft Monday sent to Congress a special message recommending legislation at the present extra session, amending the Foraker act under which Porto Rico is governed. The President directs the attention of Congress to affairs on the island laying particular stress on what he terms "a situation of unusual gravity" developed through the failure of the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico to pass the usual appropriation bills, leaving the island without support after June 30 next.

Porto Ricans have forgotten the generosity of the United States, the President says, in the desire of certain of the island's political leaders for power, and he adds that the present situation indicates that the United States has gone too fast in the extension of political power to the Porto Ricans. He concludes that the absolute power of appropriation should be taken away from "those who have shown themselves too irresponsible to enjoy it."

The President suggests to Congress the wisdom of submitting to the appropriation committee the question of qualifying some of the provisions of the fundamental act as to the respective jurisdictions of the executive council and the Legislative Assembly. But no action of this kind, the President says, should be begun until the Foraker act be amended so that when the Legislative Assembly shall adjourn without making the appropriation necessary to carry on the government, sums equal to the appropriations made in his previous year for the respective purposes shall be available for the current revenues, and shall be drawn by the warrant of the auditor on the Treasurer and countersigned by the Governor. Such a provision applies to the Legislatures of the Philippines and Hawaii and "it has prevented in those countries any misuse of the power of appropriation."

The President reviews the establishment of the present government for Porto Rico by the Foraker act. He says the statute directing how expenses of the government are to be provided leaves some doubt whether this function is not committed solely to the executive council but in practice the Legislative Assembly has appropriated for all the expenses other than for salaries, fixed by Congress, and the President adds, "it is too late to reverse that construction."

The President says that ever since the institution of the present Assembly the House of Delegates has uniformly held up the appropriation bills until the last minute of the regular session and has sought to use the power to do so as a means of compelling the concurrence of the Executive Council in legislation which the House desired. In the last regular Legislative Assembly the attitude of the Executive Council in refusing to pass bills led the House of Delegates to refuse to pass the necessary appropriation bills.

Mr. Taft discusses the acts of the Legislature and of the council in detail and says the facts recited demonstrate the willingness of the Representatives of the people in the House of Delegates to subvert the government in order to secure the passage of certain legislation.

The question whether the proposed legislation should be enacted into law was left by the fundamental act to the joint action of the Executive Council and the House of Delegates as the Legislative Assembly. The House of Delegates, says the President, proposes itself to secure this legislation without respect to the opposition of the Executive Council, "or else pull down the government."

The President points out that if the Porto Ricans desire a change in the form of the Foraker act this is a matter of congressional consideration, dependent on the effect of such a change on the real political progress on the island.

Such a change, he says, should be sought, in an orderly way and not brought to the attention of Congress by "paralyzing the arm of the existing government." The fact of the Porto Ricans forgetting the generosity of this government "should not be an occasion for surprise, nor in dealing with a whole people can it be made the basis of a charge of ingratitude."

"When we assumed guardianship over them and the guidance of their destinies we must have been conscious that a people that had enjoyed so little opportunity for education could not be expected safely for themselves to exercise the full power of self-government and the present development is only an indication that we have gone somewhat too fast in the extension of political power to them for their own good.

Changes in Turkish Cabinet.

Constantinople, By Cable.—Hilmi Pasha and Mollas Sahib were Wednesday installed respectively as Grand Visier of the empire and Sheikh-ul-Islam, or head of the faith. The former succeeds Tewfik Pasha, and the latter Zia Eddin Effendi. The changes in office were made with the usual ceremony. In the imperial hall ordering the changes the Sultan expressed his firm desire for the restoration and maintenance of peace.

Newbern Paper Mill in Full Blast.

Newbern, N. C., Special.—Saturday's issue of the morning paper, The Newbern Journal, is printed on paper manufactured at the plant of the Carolina Paper & Pulp Mills, located at Newbern. The paper is about the usual grade of newspaper and shows up very well for the new plant. The capacity of the plant when in full operation will be from 75 to 100 tons per day.

Nine Pennsylvanians Drown.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Special.—Six men, a woman and two children were drowned Sunday afternoon in the Susquehanna river near this city by the capsizing of a rowboat in which they had started for an outing. As the boat drifted into the swift current it began to dip water. The occupants became panic stricken and called frantically for assistance. Boys at play on the bank heard the screams but before a boat could be secured the rowboat in mid-stream had filled and sank.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

Owing to the enterprise of three Americans the roller skating craze has struck Berlin.

Robert P. Vandevelde arrived from Europe to make a business of introducing rich Americans into European society.

Striking bakers on the east side, New York City, beat men who had taken their places. Arrests were followed by small fines.

A show of pictures and plans to impress on New Yorkers the value of a city beautiful was opened in the Twenty-second Regiment Armory.

The bravest, calmest persons in Adana during the massacre were the pupils and teachers of the girls' school conducted by American missionaries.

The body of Kuang-Hsu, the Emperor of China, who died in Peking in November, began amid impressive ceremonies, its eighty-mile journey to the Western tombs.

Henry L. Stimson, special assistant United States Attorney, who is in charge of the Government sugar cases, admitted that criminal prosecutions would be instituted.

One part of Brooklyn, N. Y., canvassed shows the percentage of non-churchgoers to be 35.5. Of Jews, 74 per cent. are non-churchgoers; of Catholics, only 11.6 per cent.

Field Marshal Ghasht Mookhtar confirmed the reports of a plot to kill all foreigners in Constantinople, the massacre being frustrated by the timely arrival of the Salonican army.

Exceptional cordiality in England greeted the birth of a Princess of Orange on account of a feeling that the birth of an heir to the Dutch throne had given German aspirations a setback.

SPRAYING SUCCESSFUL.

All of the fruit trees on the station grounds were sprayed with scalecide, one part to fifteen parts of water, in the fall of 1906. When examined on March 29 very few living scales could be found. Mr. Ives also sprayed nearly all of his orchard of several hundred trees with scalecide. The results were satisfactory. At Mr. Plant's orchard about seven hundred trees besides those recorded in the stables were sprayed with scalecide by the owners, and the scale was kept well in check by the treatment.—Prof. W. E. Britton, American Cultivator.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

Items of Interest Gathered By Wire and Cable

GLEANINGS FROM DAY TO DAY

Live Items Covering Events of More or Less Interest at Home and Abroad.

Simon Bilstein celebrated his 100th anniversary in St. Louis, Mo., Sunday. He worries about nothing, drinks a gallon of whiskey a week, with never a drunk and smokes and chews tobacco.

In the storm along the upper waters of Long Island Sound and along the Connecticut shore Monday night, four men were drowned, four barges went to the bottom and three barges were piled up ashore.

At Birmingham, Ala., early Sunday morning Mrs. W. E. Leodford was instantly killed and her daughter fatally hurt by a runaway team, which veered and threw them just in front of an approaching car.

Twenty-five men narrowly escaped and 25 mules were burned to death in a coal mine at Smithdale, Pa., last Sunday.

The principal feature of the Confederate veteran reunion in Memphis will be the unveiling of the statue of Gen. Stephen D. Lee.

Criminal proceedings are to be instituted against the Sugar Trust.

It is estimated that 250 people were killed in last week's storm with double that number injured. The property loss can hardly be even approximated.

Mrs. Eugenia Greenbaldt, of Detroit, is suing for a divorce on the ground of desertion. She says her husband continually cried for his mother till he finally returned to the mother and stayed.

Former Governor J. C. Beckham has become editor of the Kentucky State Journal, published at Frankfort.

Foreign Affairs.

Castro now seeks to get damages from the French Government, not for expelling him from Martinique (for it has a right to do that), but for taking him to France without consulting his wishes as to where he would go.

Dr. Manuel Amador, first president of the Republic of Panama, died last Sunday at the age of 75.

It now seems certain that the new turn of affairs in Constantinople was hastened to avert a plot to massacre all foreigners on Saturday, May 1st.

Ex-President Roosevelt killed three lions with one shot and his son Kermit killed one with three shots last Friday. He has killed several since and will probably be called the lion killer.

The Emperor of China died last November. On May 1st his body was started on the 80-mile journey to the western tombs. The body of the Dowager Empress will remain in Peking until fall.

The portrait of Christian 14 of Denmark was sold in London last week for \$330,000. It is understood that the purchase was made for an American. It was painted 372 years ago by Holbein. Under the Dingley tariff it would cost \$86,000 to come it into port. It will probably come in free.

Several dump cars loaded with earth fell from the Culebra track at Panama last Saturday and resulted in 9 deaths of laborers.

The Wright Brothers, Wilbur and Orville, have sailed from France where they have been displaying their aeroplanes to return to their home in America.

The Shah of Persia has announced the grant of a constitution for Persia and steps are being taken for elections of delegates for the formation of the instrument that he thinks will restore order in the empire.

The German government has gone to employing feminine sleuths. It is thought that woman's intuitive qualities will serve her well in the detective sphere.

Washington Affairs.

Miss Mary Thomas, 65 years old, who was for many years an employe in the department of Justice was dismissed from the service to take effect March 3rd. She died last Friday night, her friends say of a broken heart.

Unskilled laborers were called for last Saturday to supply about 250 places. There were about 4,000 applications for positions ranging from \$250 a year to \$650.

General staff officers and 160 soldiers left Monday to study the science of war from the battlefields of Virginia.

WASHINGTON NOTES

The most important happenings in the nation's capital Monday were as follows:

Urging Congress to take away from Porto Ricans the political power which has inspired them to "put personal ambition above patriotism," President Taft sent a special message to the national Legislature recommending the amendment of the Foraker act under which the island is governed.

The Senate upheld, by a vote of 44 to 35, the recommendation of its finance committee by declining to reduce by quarter of a cent a pound the duty on "pig lead," thereby indicating the majority's voting strength on important tariff schedules.

Export duties on certain articles are provided for revenue raising purposes in the Philippine tariff bill, which was reported to the House by the ways and means committee.

A commission of lunacy probably will be asked for by the defense, it was announced, to inquire into the sanity of J. C. Davis, the Washington lawyer, who with his brother, M. C. Davis, was arrested here on Saturday on charges of swindling, involving nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

President Taft continues to follow his avowed policy of selecting those he considers to be the best men to fill important Federal offices, irrespective of their political faith, in sending to the Senate the nomination of Henry Groves Connor, a Democrat, to be United States judge for the eastern district of North Carolina.

The most important happenings in the nation's capital Tuesday were as follows:

The important "commodities clause" case was decided by the Supreme Court of the United States, which while sustaining the government's contention that the Hepburn rate law was not unconstitutional, held that a carrier may own stock in a producing company and at the same time transport the product of that company.

Representative Hollingsworth, of Ohio, presented in the House Monday a resolution protesting against the placing of the picture of Jefferson Davis on the silver service to be presented to the battleship Mississippi by the people of her patronymic State.

The appointments of Oscar S. Straus, as ambassador to Turkey and W. W. Rockhill as ambassador to Russia were announced.

Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, Wednesday continued his tariff speech and again he secured the undivided attention of the Senate.

Recalling that Mr. Aldrich had said Tuesday that it would be showing to the Senate that no changes increasing the cotton rates had been made by the Senate committee on finance, Mr. Dolliver said that if that was a correct statement, he would expect all of the italics carrying Senate amendments to be stricken from the measure. The fact was, he said, that these cotton rates were increased. He then read from a New York newspaper, which he added had for "twenty years been watchful of the spiritual side of the Senator from Massachusetts" (Mr. Lodge), statement to the effect that Mr. Lodge had said, that as reported from the committee on finance, the cotton schedule, as amended by the Senate committee, was "of great value to Massachusetts." The same article, he said, also appeared in a Boston paper.

Mr. Dolliver said Mr. Lodge was quoted as saying that "the ad valorem rate in cotton had been increased." Mr. Lodge said that that must be a misquotation. "It is stated," he said, "the ad valorem rates had not been increased."

Indicted For Conspiracy.

New York, Special.—Indictments for conspiracy were found by the Federal grand jury here Friday against Oliver Spitzer, who was superintendent of the docks of the American Sugar Refining Company in Brooklyn, and six other employes of the company alleged to have been implicated in the sugar underweighing frauds charged by the government in its recent suit against the sugar company.

Kidnapers on Trial.

Mercer, Pa., Special.—James H. Boyle, charged with the abduction of Willie Whittle, of Sharon, Pa., was placed on trial Wednesday afternoon. Court adjourned for the day one hour later after a jury had been selected temporarily. Little difficulty was experienced in securing a jury. Each man was closely questioned and only 27 were examined before the box was filled. It is believed the trial can be concluded before the end of the present week.

RELIEF WORK AT ADANA

Armenian Representatives Assured That the Authorities Will Prosecute With Vigor the Investigation Into the Armenian Massacres and That the Guilty Will Be Dealt With Summarily.

Constantinople, By Cable.—The government is taking hold of the relief work in Adana province with vigor. It was announced that \$150,000 had been sent there.

The Grand Vizier and Ferid Pasha, the Minister of the Interior, received a deputation of Armenian clergy and laity Saturday, headed by Arscharani, provisional representative of the patriarchate, who was assured the government would inquire thoroughly into the Adana massacres, and severely punish those guilty of inciting them.

A number of notable Armenians met here Sunday and submitted to the government the following requests:

First, that the murderers of Christians be punished; second, that stolen property be returned, and indemnities be paid for property destroyed; third, that the women and girls who were stolen be returned, and also that men and women who were compelled forcibly to adopt Mohammedanism be allowed to resume their original faith; fourth, that the investigation conducted under the chairmanship of the governor general be suspended and that a new investigation of the disorders from their commencement be made by a military commission; fifth, that Christians be permitted to participate in the local police establishment, and sixth, that Armenians be allowed to participate in defraying the cost of erecting a monument to those who have fallen in the army of liberty.

The agricultural bank has arranged to loan \$75,000 without interest to the farmers of Adana province, to aid them in planting new crops.

Practically all the refugees at Latakia, Syria, have returned to their homes or are ready to go. The weather in fine and warm and crops are ripe.

John C. Davis Arrested.

Washington, Special.—There were sensational developments Saturday in the case of John C. Davis, a member of the local bar, who was arrested Friday on the charge of having obtained money under false pretenses. The amount, which Davis is alleged to have misappropriated in transactions with his clients, mostly women, was thought at first to have been small, but Saturday notes, aggregating \$50,000, said to have been given by Davis, were exhibited to United States District Attorney Baker, and it is rumored that the amount finally may reach \$100,000. Martin C. Davis, a brother of John and secretary of a local building and loan association, was arrested Saturday on a charge of conspiracy.

A dispatch from Raleigh, N. C., says: Davis created a sensation in this State in the early nineties, resulting in his incarceration in the State insane asylum here from May 24, 1892, to November 30, 1897. He was a lawyer in Wilmington, and a prominent and a zealous member of the Methodist church. He furnished the money to build a Methodist church and placed in it costly chimes. He spent money freely. Then came complaints from clients involving money matters, said to aggregate about \$30,000. He was arrested and the case was a noted one in the judicial annals of the State. His counsel set up the plea of insanity. The jury found the accused insane. He was then sent to the insane asylum here. Upon his release some years later he went to Washington and in many ways since tried to make a reparation in some of those from whom he was charged with fraudulently obtaining money. During the past two years he has been sending occasional remittances to those with whom he had dealings in Wilmington. His defense will be insanity in the present trouble.

Kidnapers Sentenced—James Boyle For Life and His Wife 25 Years.

Pittsburg, Pa., Special.—James Boyle and his wife, Helen Boyle, were lodged in the Western penitentiary here Monday night, the former under a sentence of life imprisonment and the latter sentenced to serve a term of 25 years.

It has been decided, so far as Mrs. Boyle is concerned at least, that no appeal will be asked for.

Demurrers Are Overruled.

Muskogee, Okla., Special.—Federal Judge Campbell Saturday overruled the demurrer of the defendants in the so-called Mott civil Creek Indian land suits, brought by the government against Governor Charles Haskell and other prominent Oklahomans. The decision involving as it does the legality of millions of dollars' worth of lots, created great consternation here. Not only is Governor Haskell and associates involved in the charge of fraud, but about 1,500 subsequent purchasers of lots are vitally interested.

MASSACRE AT HARNI

Every Man in the Place is Slain.

RESCUE OF WOMEN DANGEROUS

Women and Children Spared—Letter From Widow of Clergyman Tells Horrible Story of Conditions—Having Nothing to Eat, the Survivors Are Living on Grass Like Animals—Moslems Are Trying to Force the Women to Become Mohammedans.

Marash, By Cable.—A letter received by messenger from Harni, says that every man there has been killed. Only women, girls and boys under 10 years of age have been left alive. The churches and houses were plundered and most of them were burned.

The letter, which is from the widow of a clergyman, says:

"We have nothing to eat or wear. We are living on grass like animals. Worse than this, the moslems are trying to force the women and girls to become Mohammedans. Already some of the women have been carried away."

Lucius O. Lee, a missionary here, says:

"We are trying to send food to Harni, although it is dangerous, and to bring away the women as well."

Much excitement has been caused here by the attempt of the authorities to arrest some of those who have murdered Christians.

At Hadjim, notwithstanding the presence of the troops, the situation is desperate owing to the lack of food and medical supplies. The troops arrived just in time, as the besiegers had succeeded in setting fire to a house on the edge of the city. The fire spread, but as the breeze was blowing away from the town, only five buildings were destroyed. A heavy rifle fire was kept up against those who tried to extinguish the flames.

The Mohammedans outside the walls who seemingly numbered many thousands, pushed their attack energetically against the inhabitants, killing and wounding many. They were so eager to get inside the city and plunder the place that they did not observe the approach of Toufti Bey and his troops until they were close upon them, whereupon the Mohammedans fled precipitately, carrying off all the cattle outside the city.

A Beirut dispatch says: The situation at Saadia and Deirytul again is critical. Further anti-Christian outbreaks are feared. Five hundred Turkish troops have been dispatched to those two points. The British battleship Triumph, with the British consul on board, left here this morning for Deirytul.

Played Twenty-One Hours.

Charlotte, N. C., Special.—A feat which was really remarkable as a test of physical endurance alone and which attracted the attention of hundreds was that of Henry Williams who, after being hypnotized Monday night about 10:30 o'clock and being put to playing a piano in the window of the Stone & Barringer Company, continued to play it until near 8 o'clock Wednesday night, when he was stopped by force, being taken to the tent. For nearly twenty-two hours, for not a second did he let up his pounding of the keys on which he had played scores and perhaps hundreds of compositions. He struggled to get back to the stool and when on the street fought desperately with his four companions until the band started up. He then walked away peacefully to be awakened. He played with close-shut eyes.

Roosevelt Bags Two More Lions.

Nairobi, British East Africa, By Cable.—Theodore Roosevelt went lion hunting again Wednesday, and before the chase was over, two more big lions had fallen before his gun. These animals were encountered and killed in the tall grass. Mr. Roosevelt now holds the record for lion killing in the protectorate. Since Saturday of last week a total of five lions and one lioness have been bagged by him.

Killed Negro in Cell.

Albany, Ga., Special.—Ely Holmes, a desperate negro prisoner in the Lee county jail at Leesburg, was shot to death Wednesday afternoon in a hand to hand fight with Deputy Sheriff H. D. Logan, in a dark cell in the jail, a fight in which the loser could not leave the cell alive. Both men realized this, according to Deputy Logan and when his chance came he killed the negro. He had entered Holmes' cell and the negro attacked him, it was said with a stool, beating the officer unmercifully before the latter could draw his pistol.