

Death of Diaz Is Only Good Explanation

AWAIT ANSWER TO CONUNDRUM

Official Washington Still Insists That Army and Navy Is Merely on a Southern Outing.

DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS

Soldiers, Field Guns, Horses and Batteries Are Being Rushed to the Mexican Border.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Rumors that President Diaz has been dead for 48 hours are circulating in official Washington and generally believed as it is the only adequate explanation of the mobilizing of 20,000 troops along the border.

Another Similar Report. EL PASO, March 9.—There are rumors here among mining men that President Diaz is dead. The only man who could control Mexico from anarchy is Gen. Reyes, the idol of the army, who is now in Paris.

Important Conference. NEW YORK, March 9.—An important conference was held at the Plaza hotel today between Senor Jose Limantour and J. P. Morgan, Jr., but no statement was given out. The stock market opened steady today. Mexican securities showed no decline.

State Guards Prepare. DENVER, Colo., March 9.—The Colorado national guards are preparing to join the regulars along the border.

Three Cruisers Ready. NEW YORK, March 9.—The cruisers Tennessee, Carolina and Montana took on 5,000 rifles and 40,000 rounds of ammunition today and now only await the officers and men on furlough before sailing for the Mexican coast.

Another Rumor. NEW ORLEANS, La., March 9.—It was reported in New Orleans late last night that President Diaz of Mexico died shortly after 6 o'clock.

It has been impossible to secure any affirmation or denial of the report. It is officially known here that at 6:30 o'clock last night the Mexican government put an absolute embargo on all news from Mexico. At that hour the Mexican government suddenly stopped the wire running from Laredo, Texas, to the City of Mexico, and notified the agent that nothing more could be handled that night.

The cable to the City of Mexico went out of business at the same hour, and all attempts to secure news from the Mexican capital have failed.

Move Toward Border.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—From all directions trains are carrying soldiers, horses, field guns and ammunition toward the places of rendezvous on the Mexican frontier. Official Washington still insists, for publication, that the sole purpose of this sudden military demonstration is field maneuvers under service conditions. In private little attempt is made to conceal the relation of the "maneuvers" to conditions actual and potential over the Mexican border line.

The conundrum is the real attitude of the Mexican government toward this unprecedented display of war resources at its doors. It is the general belief that the Diaz government was not in the least taken by surprise in the matter. Cordiality of the relations between the Taft and the Diaz administrations has not been diminished so far as is known here and it is taken for granted that the mobilization of troops within a few steps of the Mexican soil never would have been effected without suitable interchange between the two governments to preclude the possibility of misunderstanding.

Is There an Understanding?

Those who hold this view think it sufficient to ask what would happen if one great power in Europe should suddenly mass a quarter of its entire military force within striking distance of another, unless a perfect understanding existed in advance as to the movement. "There would be war—war night," these people say. Upon

this is built the belief that the presence of the great military and naval force is welcome to the Diaz government. The conditions at the war and navy departments are different from the turmoil and excitement which characterized the early days of the Spanish-American war. Thirty-six hours after the determination was reached to mobilize a whole army division in Texas, the officials were sitting tranquilly at their desks, quietly watching the workings of the machinery.

General Aleshire with his deputies was moving a body of soldiers across the country more numerous than the entire force which was gathered at Tampa, Fla., to form the American army of occupation in 1898, yet there was no evidence to the casual observer that there was in progress anything more than routine business of the quartermaster's department. The troop movements were proceeding with absolute accuracy.

Details Worked Out Long Ago. The records of the quartermaster's department show that every detail of the movement had been worked out long in advance. Every particle of information needed by the department was included.

Particular credit attaches to that part of the quartermaster general's department which deals with the water transportation. Last Tuesday four of the big army transports, the Kilpatrick, Sumner, McClellan and the Meade were lying out of commission at Newport News, with only one small crew of caretakers. Crews for the ships were rushed to Newport News, the vessels were docked, cleaned and painted, the supplies were now going aboard and they will be ready to embark two full regiments of coast artillery and to sail for Galveston Friday morning.

War is Predicted. EL PASO, Texas, March 9.—Antonio V. Lomell, Mexican consul at El Paso, declared that American intervention, "would mean war and nothing else." Mr. Lomell, after exhibiting a telegram from Enrique Creel, foreign minister of finance, in which the latter said that Mexico would not ask for intervention, said: "Intervention by the United States would be hypocrisy, for your government has announced that it is merely sending its troops out on maneuvers. We rely on the American government's assurances that the mobilization is only for the purpose of practice. Intervention would mean war. We have the means to resist and we cannot accept such a thing."

He said that Mexico did not wish to slaughter the insurgents and had not sent as many troops to the front as it could command.

If Diaz Dies. WASHINGTON, March 9.—The army mobilizing at San Antonio was today declared by the highest military authorities to be either an army of conquest or invasion. Carefully prepared maps of the roads in Mexico have been made for General Carter. The signal corps has been ordered out to a man. The United States stands ready at a moment's notice to take charge of Mexico. If the news of the death of Diaz flashes over the wires today, the army would have orders in a moment to invade Mexico.

Formal denial that Diaz is dead has been sent out to all Mexican consuls and officials in America and Europe, but it is a significant fact that a call was issued to all loyal Mexicans to return home. The Mexican embassy does not attempt to explain the cutting off of all dispatches from Mexico last night.

If Diaz is dead the United States will be compelled either to form a protectorate or take active charge of Mexico.

More Troop Trains. LEAVENWORTH, March 9.—The last of the 1,200 troops from here for Texas, got under way today.

KANSAS CITY, March 9.—Three train loads of soldiers from Fort Snelling, Minn., headed for Mexico, passed through here today.

Indians to Be Used.

DENVER, March 9.—That the activities of the Mexican revolutionists in the northern part of the country is only a blind to cover the real movements is stated here today. The sympathizers here state that the plan is to gather together a great band of Indians and move toward Mexico City.

Ports Are Abandoned. NEW YORK, March 9.—Millions of dollars worth of big guns in the forts along the coast have been abandoned by the coast artillery which, acting as infantry, is on its way to the Mexican border.

This is the first time in the history of the country that the forts have been abandoned, showing the gravity of the situation.

(Continued on page 3.)

SECRETS OF NIGHT RIDERS

Witness Oliver on the Stand, Tells of the Midnight Raids and the Burning of Tobacco Warehouses.

DR. AMOS WAS THE CHIEF

One Squad of Men Captured the Police While the Other Squad Set Fire to the Buildings.

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky., March 9.—Before a crowded courtroom Milton Oliver, confessed night rider, revealed the secrets of the band and told of the attack on Hopkinsville when two tobacco warehouses were burned. Oliver's story, the first from the inside of the marauding organization, created a sensation. He declared that Dr. David A. Amos, who is on trial was a leader of the band. The exposures will be continued.

Since Oliver agreed to turn state's evidence and testify against his confederates his life has been attempted several times and during the last few months he has been guarded constantly by state militia.

When Oliver took the stand he said he joined the band in 1906 and that he had known Dr. Amos, four or five years previously. Dr. Amos, he declared, was the prime mover of the band and gave the instructions the night of the raid.

Oliver said his lodge was known as the Nabbs' Schoolhouse Lodge and the night of the Hopkinsville raid the members met at Wallonia, where they were mobilized with the Wallonia Lodge. No other lodges gathered at Wallonia, but on the way to Hopkinsville they were joined by several other neighborhood lodges.

The Nabbs' Schoolhouse Lodge was designated Squad No. 2 the night of the raid and was ordered to capture the police and hold them while the other bands burned the warehouses. The Wallonia Lodge was designated Squad No. 1, and it was this band that was to lead the firebugs, he said. However, on the road to Hopkinsville, Oliver said he became lost from his band and fell in with Squad No. 2 and was with them when the buildings were burned.

Arriving at a point three miles from town, the raiders left their horses and vehicles and marched into the outskirts over the Illinois Central bridge. Just outside of town, he testified, Dr. Amos lined them up and gave them final instructions after which Squad No. 2 went after the police and the others went to the factories and set them on fire.

At the first warehouse they broke into the office and piled chairs and boxes on the floor, and after saturating the pile with oil, applied the torch. After the fire had gained good headway they went to the second factory, and it, too, was soon ablaze. At a signal they returned to the center of the town and soon departed, the bands breaking up into parties of two and three.

Others indicted on night riding charges, but who are not on trial, with Dr. Amos, were mentioned by Oliver as being members of the raiding party. He said Guy Dunning and B. Malone were the captains of the two squads. He testified that E. J. Roddo from Wallonia with Irving Glass, and also that Newton Nichols and John Robinson were in the party. All of these men have been indicted and their trials will follow that of Dr. Amos.

Returning to the center of the town after the warehouses were fired, Oliver said, he understood Dr. Amos had been wounded in the shooting following the capture of the police. He testified that he did not see the doctor after the orders to burn the buildings had been given, but understood he had been carried home by friends.

COWNIE WANTS TO BE INVESTIGATED

Asks State Legislature to Look into the Charges Made Against Him.

DES MOINES, March 9.—John Cownie, the deposed chairman of the state board of control, who had Gov. Carroll indicted for slander, today demanded a legislative investigation of the charges made against him.

Bank Statement Wanted.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9.—The comptroller of the currency today issued a call for the condition of all national banks at the close of business March 7.

HAVE SCARE ON SMALLPOX

Little Illinois Town is Considerably Worked up Because Minister Has Developed a Slight Attack.

SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED

No Epidemic and Only the One Case Has Made its Appearance in the Town So Far.

GLADSTONE, Ill., March 9.—Gladstone has a smallpox scare, Rev. R. A. Esdon, the young United Presbyterian minister, who has been preaching here for the past few weeks, is the victim of the dread disease. The schools have been closed for the present week, and other precautionary measures have been taken to prevent its spread.

Physicians today stated that the case is mild, although well developed. Last week the young minister felt bad and consulted a doctor, who advised him to stay at home for a day or two until the symptoms of his malady became more pronounced. On Saturday he went to a barber shop to get shaved, but the tonsorial artist refused to perform the work, declaring that he had smallpox. Rev. Esdon then had another examination, and the physicians in consultation declared that he had the smallpox and directed that the home of Mrs. Ellis where he had been staying, be quarantined. Mrs. Esdon has been notified and she is nursing her husband back to health. The schools were closed for the week, but it is believed that no epidemic will result.

WESTERN STORM PASSING AWAY

March Lion Frisked and Roared Along the Coast for Four Days.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 9.—After playing havoc throughout central and northern California by causing washouts, floods and damage to growing crops, the storm of the last four days, according to the weather bureau, has begun to break up and move eastward. The storm has been unprecedented in the velocity of the wind and the heavy rainfall in a very brief period of time. From all parts of the state come reports of rains, of the cloudburst type. In several cities, notably San Jose and Walsenburg, boats have taken the place of the usual vehicles in the streets.

Thousands of acres of grain and orchard lands were submerged, resulting in great loss. Railroad traffic has been interrupted on every line and branch in the northern and central parts of the state.

At sea the storm has raged with fury all along the coast from San Diego to Oregon. Forty families were rendered homeless at Watsonville, and the business portion of the town was under six feet of water yesterday.

BOY'S BODY HAS BEEN FOUND

Little One Was Missing Several Days and Murder Theory Has Been Advanced.

JOLIET, Ill., March 9.—Searchers found the body of the missing four-year-old son of Jacob Labo, a florist here, in a cesspool near his father's home. The boy had been missing several days causing suspicion that he had been kidnaped. Bloodhounds failed to trace him. Suspicion of murder was reached by the fact that a heavy iron cover was in place over the top of the pool in which the body was found. No marks were found on the body by physicians.

CANNON CAN BE THE LEADER

Regular Republicans Are Willing to Have Him as Their Guiding Spirit.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—If Speaker Cannon should decide that he wants the position of minority leader in the new house, neither James R. Mann of Chicago nor any other representative whose name has been mentioned in connection with the place would consent to enter the race against him. So far as the regular republicans are concerned—and they outnumber the insurgents and near-insurgents about 2 to 1—Mr. Cannon can have the minority leadership for the asking.

Mr. Cannon will not discuss the question. Mann, Dalzell of Pennsylvania, Payne of New York and Olmstead are warm friends of Cannon. Mr. Mann favored the Canadian reciprocity agreement, and was one of the republicans who voted against the Payne-Aldrich bill after it came back from the senate. Nevertheless, Mr. Cannon is known to admire his Chicago colleague for many traits, among them being the fact that he has a mind of his own.

HEARING HIM UP.

Benham—"I'm broke again." Mrs. Benham—"Well, we must save the pieces."

IS FED BY AN ANGEL

In Hospital Says She is Given Nourishment Each Morning by Visitor From Heaven.

SHE REFUSES TO EAT

For Nearly a Month Annie Geshella Has Not Been Seen to Take Either Food or Water.

NEW YORK, March 9.—Physicians at the General hospital of Passaic, N. J., have given up all attempts to explain the case of Annie Geshella, a patient at the hospital, who, for nearly a month, has refused to partake of food or drink, and yet appears to be in as good health as when she entered the institution.

Doctor Leifeld and Doctor D. Zuckerman, house physicians, are confident that she has had nothing but three glasses of milk and a small orange since February 7, and so that her stomach has thrown off, and for twenty-six days she has had no nourishment.

She has even refused to drink water for a period twice as long as that in which an ordinary, normal person would die of thirst.

To a reporter the young woman yesterday repeated her story of an angel visitor who appears in the room each morning, bearing a morsel of bread and a taste of wine. This food, she says, is sent from heaven and is the only nourishment, which does not "make her ill."

She described her visitor, who, she says, appears every morning just at 4 o'clock, as a man all in shining white, bearing a tiny glass of wine, and a bit of "holy bread" in either hand.

He says nothing, but hands her the food, which, according to her description, corresponds closely to the sacrament of Christian churches, and disappears.

TWO MILLIONS FOR WATER POWER

Spokane to Get Power From Seventy Miles Away at Low Price.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 9.—Two million dollars will be expended by the Panhandle Electric Railway & Power company, headed by Victor M. Smith of New York, in the construction of a plant on Priest river, in northern Idaho, capable of developing 30,000 horse power according to A. J. Smith, manager of the company. He announced also that a transmission line will be built from Priest river to Spokane, a distance of 70 miles. Mr. Smith will ask the city commissioners of Spokane, to be elected on March 7, for a franchise. He offers to furnish street lights to the city at a rate of \$48 a year, or \$12 less than the present cost, also to supply power for the city's upriver pumping station at \$28 a horse power a year, or \$20 under the price paid to the operating company. Power for domestic use is offered at proportionate prices. He declares that the city council of Hilliard a suburb of Spokane, will grant a 50-year franchise at its meeting on March 7. This will give the company entrance to Spokane with its high tension power transmission lines.

HUSBAND DEAD; WIFE IS DYING

Couple Found in Their Home at Noon Today With Bullet Wounds.

CINCINNATI, O., March 9.—Bernard Ausderbeide, aged 50, was found shot to death and his wife probably fatally injured, in their home at noon. The police say the man shot the woman and then himself.

Lucky Baldwin's Money.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 9.—The jury in the case of Beatrice Anita Baldwin Turnbull, the 17-year-old Boston girl seeking a one-sixth share of the \$11,000,000 estate of "Lucky" Baldwin, under instructions from the court, reached a verdict adverse to the claimant.

ANNEXATION OF PANHANDLE

Oklahoma Suggests That it Be Given the Little Slice of Texas Land For its Own.

SHAMROCK'S SCHEME

Panhandle Comes Back With Proposition to Annex Oklahoma and Create a New State.

KANSAS CITY, March 9.—The Texas panhandle, bristling with indignation, has hurled defiance back at Oklahoma's proposal of annexation. Also hurled a proposal, according to the latest dispatches, which puts it one lap in front of Oklahoma in the annexation business. The Texans propose to make a new state out of the Panhandle plus Oklahoma. "Panhandle-ohma"—with capital at Shamrock; that is the Texas challenge, the Texas legislature will make as its counter proposal.

Annex the Panhandle? Wow! Also Br-r-r.

Indignation meetings were held throughout northern Texas to act on the proposal embodied in a resolution in the Oklahoma legislature, introduced by Representative Patchall, of Gravin county. His resolution proposed that by concurrent action of the legislatures of Oklahoma and Texas and the congress of the United States, Oklahoma should be permitted to acquire certain counties to the number of 38 comprising the famous Texas "Panhandle" lying between Oklahoma and New Mexico. Certain events of early history caused the Oklahoma proposal to be viewed in the Panhandle itself, with the same equanimity that a Hereford bull contemplates a flaring red undershirt on a blazing hot day when flies annoy.

Things began to happen, according to dispatches from various towns and cities, with great rapidity and frequency. Shamrock beat them all to it, however, by a town meeting at which a committee was appointed to instruct the members of the Texas legislature representing a number of counties each about as large as a New England state, on a retaliatory measure.

They proposed a new state made out of Oklahoma and the Panhandle—to be "Panhandle-ohma." The counties in question included all of those which the Oklahoma legislature was asked to go after and in recent years have changed from cattle range to populous farming regions. They were Liscomb, Ochiltree, Hansford, Sherman, Hartley, Moore, Hutchinson, Roberts, Hemphill, Wheeler, Gray, Potter, Oldham, Deaf Smith, Randall, Armstrong, Donley, Collingsworth, Childress, Hall, Briscoe, Swisher, Castro, Farmer, Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Hardeman, Foard, Wilbarger and Wichita.

The telegram from the quick-trigger Shamrock to the Texas legislature said: "Noting a resolution offered in the lower house of the Oklahoma legislature, the sense of which is that the Panhandle of Texas be annexed to the state of Oklahoma, and believing that same is in the nature of a reflection on the grandeur of the great state of Texas, we respectfully request you as our representative, that you offer resolution in the Texas house of representatives 'that the entire state of Oklahoma be annexed to the Panhandle of Texas and that Shamrock, being centrally located in new state so formed, be made the capital of said state by legislative enactment.'"

The details of the proposal which brought on the uproar in Texas declares that Oklahoma legislature has given consent to the annexation and that counties of the resolution shall be forwarded to Washington and to the Texas legislature at Austin. It was part of the phraseology to which Texas took exception that the resolution specifies, regarding the annexation, that "terms shall be fair and just to the state of Texas and to the people residing in the counties."

Mr. Patchell declared in the Oklahoma proposition that the constitutional questions involved have been satisfied by the various ratifications. He referred to the congressional resolution by which Texas was annexed to the federal union in 1837 wherein it was declared that four states other than the state of Texas might be erected within the area acquired from the Texas republic.

Cheering Him Up.

Benham—"I'm broke again." Mrs. Benham—"Well, we must save the pieces."

QUINCY GIRL WEDDED LORD

Mrs. Clara Elizabeth Taylor Stirling Quits the Stage to Become Lady Cholmondeley of England.

HER SECOND VENTURE

Figured in Sensational Divorce Case When Four Reputations Were Rather Badly Battered.

LONDON, March 9.—Mrs. Clara Elizabeth Taylor Stirling, formerly an American musical comedy actress, and Lord George Cholmondeley, second son of the Marquis of Cholmondeley, were married in the West End registry office.

The bride is the daughter of Chas. Henry Taylor, of Washington, D. C., and as a girl resided in Quincy, Ill. Her first husband was John Alexander Stirling, Laird of Kippendavie, from whom she was divorced in the spring of 1909, five years after their marriage.

In the Stirling divorce suit Mrs. Stirling accused her husband of intimacy with the beautiful divorcee, Mrs. Mabel Atherton. The captain in a counter petition named Lord Northland. In the end the captain got the divorce and four reputations were pretty well shattered. The husband was awarded the custody of the child.

Since that time Mrs. Stirling has been playing at the Galety in "The Earl and the Girl," and other musical comedies.

The present marriage is the exclusive topic of conversation in clubs and over tea tables. Lord Rocksavage is advocate for his brother, but all others of any prominence seems to have decided to cut young Cholmondeley off their list. The aged Marquis, who is the King's Lord Chamberlain, is bitterly opposed to the match.

Lord Cholmondeley by his alliance loses a legacy of \$15,000 which the late Lady Meux left him on condition that he marry "a lady in society."

Slides of Snow.

RENO, Nev. March 9.—Slides of snow in the Sierras have kinked the snowsheds and obstructed the tracks near Crystal Lake, 100 miles west of Reno, for a distance of one mile.

THE WEATHER.

WEATHER

Until 7 p. m. Friday. For Keokuk and Vicinity—Generally fair tonight and Friday. Cooler Friday. For Illinois—Cloudy with probable rain tonight or Friday. Cooler Friday. For Iowa and Missouri—Generally fair tonight and Friday. Cooler tonight and in east portion Friday.

Weather Conditions.

The eastern field of high pressure covers the entire Atlantic Coast, where the weather is fair and moderately cool. The northwestern area of low pressure is passing eastward through Canada, causing higher temperature from the Rockies to the Central Valleys and there have been scattered light rains in portions of the Upper Mississippi Valley.

The field of high pressure from the Pacific, advancing to the Central Mountain Region, is attended by slightly cooler weather in the Mountain Region, is attended by slightly cooler weather in the Mountain and Plateau Regions, and there have been showers in Utah.

Conditions indicate generally fair weather for this section tonight and Friday, becoming cooler Friday.

Table with columns: Stage, Height, Change, Weather. Rows: St. Paul, La Crosse, Dubuque, Davenport, Keokuk, St. Louis.

River Forecast.

The river will remain nearly stationary for the next 24 hours.

Local Observations.

March 7 p. m. 29.98 51 SE PICldy 9 7 a. m. 29.55 40 SE Clear

Mean temperature March 8, 48.

Highest temperature, 58.

Lowest temperature, 37.

Lowest temperature last night, 40.

FRED Z. GOSEWISZ, Observer.