

THREATEN TO BOMBARD THE PORT OF CABELLO

Fearful of Intentions of British and German Warships all Foreign Residents Have Taken Refuge on Them--German Commander Had Orders Not to Sink the Venezuelan Craft--They Are Breathing More Easily Over in London Since it Now Looks as Though Castro Would Back Down--But Both the Kaiser and Edward are Doing the Alphonse-Gaston Act to Us.

Willemstadt, Dec. 13.—Foreign residents of Porto Cabello are taking refuge on the German cruiser Vineta and the British cruiser Adriane, and these vessels are threatening to bombard the port.

WERE NOT ORDERED TO SEARCH THE VESSELS

Berlin, Dec. 13.—As a result of fresh inquiries made regarding the reported sinking of Venezuelan vessels off La Guayra, the correspondent of the Associated Press is informed that the orders given to the German and British commanders were to capture the vessels before beginning the blockade. No orders were given to sink them. If, however, any vessel has been sunk it was a military measure necessary in carrying out the foregoing orders. No report has yet been received from Commodore Schroeder, the German commander. A report was received from Herr Pilgrim-Baltazzi, as follows:

"Four Venezuelan vessels captured. One of them disabled. Two German vessels, the Vineta and Panther, and one English ship, the Resolution (probably the Retribution) participated in the seizure. The foreign office refuses to believe the vessels were sunk and will not credit the report until confirmatory news is received officially from the German representatives on the spot. At any rate, it is added, if the vessels were sunk it is the joint result of the joint action of both squadrons, and in consequence of the resistance.

Nothing is known at the foreign office here about the reported seizure of the French steamer Ossun. As reported, a British collier was seized by the Venezuelans at Porto Cabello. The Falke may land marines and retake her. The naval orders published today report the German school ship Stosch as sailing from Caracas yesterday for La Guayra.

The newspapers, which have been absorbed for weeks over the political broils in the reichstag, comment at length editorially on the Venezuelan situation. Generally speaking they treat General Castro's proceedings lightly and ridicule the disproportion of officers in the Venezuelan army to the men. The papers which treat the subject more seriously say that no matter how unpleasant the Venezuelan business is growing it must be seen through, otherwise it would be impossible for Germans to protect their concerns in that country. It is added that without Great Britain's participation the game would not have been worth the risk of incurring the ill-will of the United States.

All the newspapers having government liens have carefully brought out the fact that thanks are due the United States for its resolute protection, through Minister Bowen, of German and British subjects at Caracas.

Throughout the official press there appears inspired reaffirmation of the statement that Germany does not intend the slightest infringement of the Monroe doctrine, as defined by the state department at Washington.

London, Dec. 13.—The Venezuelan crisis is regarded less seriously here this morning. Lord Lansdowne's speech is held to show that the situation is in no way alarming, and the opinion is expressed that while President Castro's request for arbitration has come too late, this step on his part is welcomed as a proof of his anxiety to withdraw from his position.

The morning newspapers express various opinions as to the arbitration proposals, but there is a general agreement that if, by a guarantee made by the United States or other means, Venezuela could be bound to carry out an award, no reason exists why Great Britain should refuse arbitration.

It is believed neither Great Britain or Germany will be likely to accept the arbitration proposal.

Statements attributed to the consuls and other representatives of Venezuela in other European cities all betray a stronger feeling against Germany than against Great Britain, as well as reliance upon the United States to prevent any Anglo-German invasion of Venezuela.

ARMED INTERVENTION BY US MAY COME

The Venezuelan consul at Genoa is credited with the assertion that the armed intervention of the United States would be certain to follow such invasion. A dispatch from Berlin to the Morning Post says the British commander in Venezuelan waters will, as senior officer, in the future direct all joint action by the Anglo-German fleet, after having consulted with Commodore Scheder, the German commander.

Germany has no intention of sending a force to the interior of Venezuela. All German action, according to the correspondent, will be confined to the coast.

WHAT THE VENEZUELAN CONSUL TO LONDON SAYS

Senor Shetburgh, Venezuelan consul here, last night made the following important statement to the representative of the Associated Press:

"There being no longer any necessity of secrecy with regard to the methods adopted by Venezuela to effect a settlement of all the foreign claims against that country, the following facts can be published:

"About six months ago President Castro

sent special envoys to European cities entrusted with a confidential mission, having for its object to ascertain the state of feeling of the foreign creditors of the Venezuelan republic and to arrive at a basis of agreement for the consolidation and unification of all of Venezuela's foreign debt, including the diplomatic corps. The envoy who came to England was instructed to associate himself with me. The other envoys were engaged in connection with other claims against Venezuela, especially those of Spain, France and Italy. After considerable negotiation in London and on the continent a suggested plan of settlement was arrived at.

PLAN THEY HAD TO PAY THEIR DEBTS

"In brief, the plan provided for the consolidation of all debts and claims into a unified loan exceeding \$6,000,000, to be known as the 'Venezuela unified 4 per cent loan of 1902,' and was to be guaranteed by the customs. If at any time the customs receipts proved insufficient to meet the interest, the government undertook to make good any deficiency out of other revenues.

"It was considered essential to learn the attitude of the United States. While final steps were being taken the crisis became acute.

"This plan by no means has been given up, but because of Germany and Great Britain's action all steps to this end are at present at a standstill. Unless matters go to further extremities in Venezuela, settlement upon such a basis as the foregoing is still possible. The British and German creditors of Venezuela must eventually rely upon some financial arrangement as the only method of getting their money."

SOUTH AMERICAN LIBERTY THREATENED

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 13.—All the newspapers here see in the way a danger for all South American countries as it tends to establish a precedent endangering their sovereignty. The general opinion is that the investment of foreign capital, though desirable for the development of the countries, cannot give foreigners special rights. Some papers compare actual intervention with recent events in China. The Prensa says:

"The Anglo-German military action has violated the rights and disregards the sovereignty of South American republics." It adds that the German claims as a public debt are without precedent in the history of South America.

The Prensa attributes the whole affair to European imperialists who are inspired

with hostile intentions against the increasing influence of the United States and urges South American diplomats to watch developments. A dispatch to the Herald from Valparaiso says the press there does not generally comment on the situation. The Mercurio, however, editorially supports the Anglo-German intervention and praises the United States' attitude.

SAY THEY OUGHT TO MEET OBLIGATIONS

It laments the failure of some South American republics to meet foreign obligations. The people are indignant regarding the Venezuelan situation.

The Haraldd's Lima, Peru, correspondent says the authorities there are astonished at the sinking of the Venezuelan fleet by the allies, and think the Washington government will finally be obliged to settle the question.

The government organ at Rio Janeiro declares, according to a Herald dispatch, that Anglo-German action tends to modify the relations between Europe and America and that a firm and noble attitude by President Castro cannot be but admired by all Americans.

In Panama, says the Herald's correspondent, the forcible seizure and useless sinking of the Venezuelan gunboats has caused great excitement and indignation and made an unpleasant impression upon Colombians in general and Isthmians in particular, who are opposed to the coercive methods of European governments.

BRITISH AND GERMANS COMMAND THE HARBOR

La Guayra, Venezuela, Dec. 13.—The British cruiser Charybdis, flying Commodore Montgomery's flag; the German cruiser Vineta, and the German training ship Stosch, arrived here this morning and have taken positions commanding the town and fortress.

Several merchantmen, the Dutch steamer, Prinz Wilhelm IV, a British steamer of the Harrison line and a royal mail steamer arrived off the port today, but were prevented from entering the harbor by the captain of the British cruiser Indefatigable, who said he would not be responsible for what might happen if the vessels were allowed to enter. The steamers applied for lighters to enable them to discharge their cargoes, but the request was refused by the customs house authorities, who declared the vessels might enter the port as usual, there being no reason for their remaining outside.

All ammunition is being removed from the fortresses and barracks here and taken to Caracas, and it is apparently the intention of the government to abandon the town.

AMERICAN CONSUL ON VENEZUELAN SITUATION

Elkhart, Ind., Dec. 13.—When Luther T. Ellsworth, United States consul at Porto Cabello, Venezuela, who is visiting here, was shown the dispatch showing that he as consul at Porto Cabello had been ignored in his efforts to prevent disorders at that port, he explained that the mistake evidently grew out of the efforts

of his vice consul, W. H. Dolkmar, formerly of Baltimore, but a resident of Porto Cabello for the last 15 years, where he is owner of an electric light plant.

Mr. Ellsworth says that Mr. Dolkmar, who was appointed by Mr. Ellsworth, and is subject to removal by him, is an entirely capable man and will do the proper thing under the exigencies of the occa-

sion. Speaking of the report of the arrest of the English consul, R. Kolster and the German consul, P. Tiedo at Porto Cabello, Mr. Ellsworth says that this act of the Venezuelans is not so serious from an international standpoint as might appear on the surface. He says that both these men are really natives and citizens of Venezuela and not subjects of the

government which they represent, though their ancestors came from the respective countries. These men are simply commercial agents, and their arrest, Mr. Ellsworth thinks, was impelled by the fear that they might disclose state secrets to the government which they represent and which came to their knowledge through the fact that they are Venezuelans.

FITZHUGH LEE ON CONDITION OF CUBA TODAY

New York, Dec. 13.—General Fitzhugh Lee addressed the members of the Patria club last night on "The United States and Cuba." He said, in part:

"Cuba was never so well governed by Spain as she is today. Congress, wearied of the wars in Cuba, passed resolutions recognizing the right of belligerency of the insurgents, and then came the war. I want to say that I represented to President Cleveland the exact condition of affairs that existed there. I reported the rebellion, with all its brutalities and horrors and told him that it would continue for several generations if not brought to

a speedy end. Mr. Cleveland gave no attention to my reports, and it was not until that great man, now sleeping his last sleep in Canton, Ohio, took charge of affairs in Washington that these atrocious conditions were brought to an end.

"Cuba is well worthy the attention of the American people. It is the richest spot on God's green earth. It has been waiting for a half century for American energy and enterprise. If we had not sacrificed wisdom for sentiment we would own Cuba today.

"Prior to the war with Spain, when I was consul-general in Cuba, there were repeated attempts to assassinate me,

Wherever I went I had to sit with my back to the wall and my hand on my six-shooter.

"I received twenty and thirty letters a day in which I was threatened with all manner of death."

General Lee then recited the incident of the blowing up of the Maine and told of General Blanco's action after the catastrophe.

"I want to say here, and for all time," he continued, "that General Blanco and his officers had no more to do with the blowing up of the Maine than had the people of New York city. It is my belief that some of the young officers left in the

arsenal by General Weyler blew up the Maine. It was him, I am sure, who planted the mine which sent the Maine to its destruction."

FLYING TIMBERS ATHWART THE SKY

CYCLONE SWEEPS DOWN ON CARBON COUNTY, IN WYOMING, AND DOES SOME THINGS.

Encampment, Wyo., Dec. 13.—Southern Carbon county has been swept with a windstorm unequalled in years. Considerable damage was done to timber and buildings, but no loss of life is reported to have accompanied the storm.

velocity of 80 miles an hour. An idea as to the fierceness of the storm may be obtained from the fact that one of the immense towers of the aerial tramway located in a hollow between two others on higher elevations, was shaken loose from its moorings. In half an hour the massive timbers were rent apart and scattered in every direction. No other serious damage was done.

Elegant leather goods make substantial 'Xmas presents, at Calkins'.

Mrs. Roosevelt Receives.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Mrs. Roosevelt received Washington society yesterday at a tea at the White house. It was the first large social function of the winter season at the White house and was attended by several hundred members of resident and official society.

Meet me at the Pfister.

MARCONI HAS NEW THING UP SLEEVE

HE IS LOOKING VERY WISE AND KEEPING MUM ABOUT THE NATURE OF IT.

Halifax, N. F., Dec. 13.—The announcement is made in a semi-official way that Signor Marconi has another invention which, he expects, will startle the world. He will not informally announce it until the wireless experiment are completed, which, he says, will be before the end of the year.

There is much speculation as to what turn the inventor will next take, but Signor Marconi will make no statement whatever concerning his new invention. When seen by the Associated Press correspondent Signor Marconi said that nothing whatever will be given out concerning his new invention until after he has completed the wireless telegraphy experiments here.

News has been received from Glace Bay that a meeting was held in London Thursday by the backers of Marconi for the purpose of changing the charter of the English company with the view to expanding business, enlarging the scope of the field of operation and getting more power. No startling announcement of any extraordinary feat of the Marconi instrument was made.

The experiments, however, are still in progress.

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Boys, better come and get your suit and overcoat now. These good time prices will not last much longer. You ought to have one. All Boys' Suits Reduced.

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