

ZELAYA NEAR END

IS ABOUT TO RESIGN.

Brother of Revolutionary Leader Selected for President.

A cable dispatch received in this city from Managua yesterday confirming the report that President Zelaya was ready to send his resignation to the Nicaraguan Congress, which will immediately choose his successor.

It was also learned that Zelaya has about given up the idea of designating Julian H. Wood as his secretary general, as President in his place. The reason for this change of plan is the protest that has been raised by Zelaya's own supporters. The latter place much of the responsibility for the disaster that has befallen the President of Nicaragua and his government on the men who have surrounded him in office and have advised him badly.

Not that these followers of Zelaya try to mitigate thereby his offenses, but realizing the futility of Zelaya trying to impose on the republic one of his close advisers, they seek to save their country. To this end they have advised that Dolores Estrada, brother of General Juan J. Estrada, the revolutionary leader, be chosen as President. He is now a Congressman and has not taken part in the insurrection. He was formerly Minister of War, and the men here and in other parts of the country are trying to have Dolores Estrada designated Zelaya's successor, hoping that he will prove a compromise acceptable to both the Zelaya element and to General Estrada and that it will be a means for restoring peace.

It is planned to have Dolores Estrada act as chief executive only until another man can be found upon whom all the political forces can agree. It is generally recognized, cannot reconcile the enemies of the Zelaya government, and even a majority of Zelaya's friends would oppose him as President. Zelaya, who was once Minister of Finance, is blamed for the mistakes committed by Zelaya and is unpopular throughout the country.

HONDURAS RESTLESS.

Martial Law Declared as a Result of Nicaragua Trouble.

Porto Cortes, Honduras, Dec. 8.—Martial law in Honduras was proclaimed yesterday. A state of expectancy exists.

The proclamation of martial law in Honduras is the result of the suspicion that the capital, General Manuel Bonilla will take advantage of the situation in Nicaragua to invade Honduras with a rebel band and regain the Presidency from which he was deposed by President Davila, with the aid of President Zelaya of Nicaragua.

Driven from the Presidency of Honduras Bonilla took refuge on the American frontier at Chicago on April 12, 1907. Since then he has spent much time in Mexico, the United States and British Honduras. On November 23 last he sailed from New Orleans for Colon. He is suspected of intriguing with Guatemala and Salvador, with the purpose of bringing about a revolution in Honduras and then forming a union of Honduras, Guatemala and Salvador for an attack on President Zelaya's government in Nicaragua. Against the suspicions are the recent statement by General Bonilla at New Orleans that he was out of politics and would not make war on Honduras and official assertions that Guatemala and Salvador have no intention of lending themselves to such a movement.

On her part Honduras has been charged with maintaining an alliance with President Zelaya of Nicaragua. The fact that Davila owes his office as President to the aid of a critical time of President Zelaya's government and this suspicion. President Davila, however, denies that such an alliance exists, and the present attitude of Honduras has been declared officially to be one of strict neutrality as a central state, with its neutrality practically guaranteed by the United States and Mexico under the Washington agreement.

ZELAYA'S HEAVY LOSS

Of 150 Men in Battle of Rama Only Four Escaped.

Panama, Dec. 8.—Passengers arriving here from Nicaragua said that the people in that republic are kept in ignorance of what is happening throughout the country. So far as the censorship maintained by President Zelaya that residents of the western part of Nicaragua have not learned of the breaking off of diplomatic relations between the United States and Nicaragua. The President of Honduras, reported to be an ally of Zelaya, has wired the Nicaraguan Minister at Salvador, inquiring about events in Nicaragua, after having waited ten days for a reply to numerous messages sent by him to Managua.

General Toledo is besieged at Greytown, which is surrounded on land and sea by the insurrection. General Toledo, commander of the government forces at the last battle near Rama, was court-martialed because of the defeat suffered by the government troops. This battle is said to have been a desperate one. A government column which entered the fight with 150 soldiers left all except four of them on the field.

One of the arrivals here, who is not a native of Nicaragua, states that the government officials of Nicaragua publicly assert that Mexico will support Nicaragua in an controversy in which it may become involved with the United States. No foreign newspapers are allowed to enter Nicaragua at points in control of the government.

All passengers on landing there are searched and not allowed to bring in arms or anything which the officials believe might be used to help the insurgent cause. The situation in the interior is reported as desperate for every one, including Zelaya's soldiers.

LEGATION CLOSED UP.

Nicaragua's Home in Washington Deserted.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The Nicaraguan Legation here is no more. Big vans have carried off the furniture and the other possessions of the house in G street since President Zelaya's representatives once were deposed. A "For Rent" sign ornaments the front lawn, and drawn curtains and an air of desolation greet the caller. In addition, it is the gossip in Central

BURY MRS. SNEAD

LETTERS SHED LIGHT.

Prisoner Wrote Affectionately to Dead Woman's Husband.

Mrs. Cecy W. M. Snead, whose death in a bathtub in an East Orange N. J. cottage a week ago is being investigated by the Essex County authorities, was buried beside the grave of her father, Colonel Robert Martin, in Mount Hope Cemetery, yesterday. The only mourner was Mrs. Mary Snead, mother-in-law of the dead woman. Miss Virginia O. Wardlaw, her aunt, who is in the Newark, N. J., jail, charged with murder, was not allowed to attend the funeral, which was conducted at the home of Gustav Kunz, the East Orange German keeper.

The Rev. John D. Kern, of the Orange Valley German Presbyterian Church, read the service in the presence of a group of newspaper men and curious townspeople. Then the body was taken to West 23d street, New York, from where it was carried in an undertaker's wagon to the station of the New York Central Railroad.

After the burial of the young woman, Mrs. Snead hurried to the boarding house at No. 46 West 23d street, where she made preparations to join her mother, Mrs. Maria Eliza Wardlaw, who was taken from the house on Tuesday night to live with friends.

The death of Mrs. Snead has remained an unsolved mystery, despite the efforts of the East Orange and Newark police, who have been working on the case, which will be presented before Recorder Nott on Saturday. This report that a woman bearing resemblance to one of the dead woman's relatives had asked a Seventh avenue druggist for chloroform on November 26 or 27 has not been fully investigated, and the druggist did not appear at Newark yesterday to identify the prisoner held there.

DEATH TO AMERICANS

Nicaraguan Soldier Warned to Hide Nationality.

[By Telegram to the Tribune.] Milwaukee, Dec. 8.—Through a letter in which he volunteered his services to Estrada, the revolutionary commander in Nicaragua, Thomas H. W. Brown, of Appleton, formerly a major in the Honduras army, has found trace of his brother, a colonel in Estrada's army. In reply to the letter from the Appleton man Colonel Brown, writing from Nicaragua, says:

"I believe we are going to knock old Zelaya sky high, and God knows he deserves it. He is playing a fox game, but Estrada is a wise old duck, too. Come on down, if you get here in time I will get you a regiment, but let me give you a tip. Come as a German or an Englishman. Then if you get wounded you will have an even chance. As an American you are as good as lined up against the wall.

"If I'm English and can prove it, you know how safe that makes it."

MAGOON TO MEET CREEL

Will Act with Mexico's Representative to Bring About Peace.

New Orleans, Dec. 8.—A dispatch to "The Picayune" from Mexico City says that authoritative information has been obtained here that Mexico will exert her good offices looking toward an amicable settlement of the Central American imbroglio.

Charles E. Magoon, formerly Governor of Cuba, will be appointed a special envoy by the United States to meet Señor Enrique Creel, now on his way to Washington from Mexico City.

The United States will see to it that Nicaragua carries out the rules and regulations that may be decided on by the special envoys.

MESSAGE PRAISED.

Comments from Abroad on Mr. Taft's Policy.

Paris, Dec. 8.—The favorable impression of President Taft's message reflected on the Bourse is reflected in the press, which calls attention to the importance of his declarations as to foreign relations, and foresees that the United States is destined to play an increasingly powerful part in the world's affairs, especially from the point of view of commerce. The "Journal des Debats" says that if the United States has not succeeded in completely winning over the confidence and sympathies of the Latin republics, she certainly has a potent part in the Far East. In the exercise of a preponderant influence in China, thus opening up an immense field for American investment and by a tactical mixture of diplomacy and show of force she has induced Japan to link arms with her, so that they may stand together for the status quo in the Orient.

The "Revue" sums up the message as speaking prosperity and confidence at home and expansion by force or persuasion abroad. It thinks that President Taft's remarks on the application of the maximum duties will do much to calm European inquietude with regard to the new American tariff law.

Brussels, Dec. 8.—The local press is pleased that President Taft recommended in his annual message that Congress make provision for representation by the United States at the world's fair to be held at Brussels next June, and also at the moderate and optimistic references which he made to the administration of Belgian Congo.

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YOUR OPPORTUNITY

May Be In The QUALITY ADS.

On Page 11, To-Day's NEW-YORK TRIBUNE

LAY CORNERSTONE

BIG GIMBEL STORE.

Great Good Feeling at Luncheon After Ceremony.

When the cornerstone of Gimbel Brothers' department store swung into place yesterday afternoon Mayor Reburn of Philadelphia turned to a reporter and laughingly said, "You see, we Philadelphia people come over here to New York to get your money." Even at that, New Yorkers seemed to be very well satisfied with the arrangement, for there was a large crowd of them gathered at Sixth avenue and 23d street. On the platform were the members of the firm, a number of distinguished guests and a contingent of newspaper men.

The rattle of the "air guns" and the crack of the holsters ceased for a time and Frank shirked "house builders" jeaned out of the ninth and tenth stories to hear Jacob Gimbel, senior member of the firm, read a short speech, in which he paid his compliments to New York City and expressed the wish that the store would be of benefit to her. At the same time the photographers thundered into action.

The stone, which is at the lower corner of the third story, was then lowered into place and Mr. Gimbel laid a trowel of mortar along its base. In the stone are newspapers, coins and the history of the firm.

Because of the unbecome blasts that chilled the Broadway crowds yesterday the programme was changed and the speeches were made at the luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria. About 125 covers were laid in the sun parlor and Dr. St. Clair McKelway presided.

Jacob Gimbel, speaking on "The Science with a Soul," which he defined as "modern merchandising," said:

MISS WARDLAW'S LETTERS.

Several interpretations were placed on letters which were given out by Mr. Fort last night. These were written by Miss Wardlaw to Fletcher Snead two months after the death of Cecy Snead's first wife. Mr. Fort said that they would show the character of his client, who he said, had been pictured as a black haired woman. Mrs. Snead had been married three months, and was in Christiansburg, Va., with Miss Wardlaw when the letters were written. At this time Fletcher Snead was living in the boarding house at No. 23 East 12th street.

The first letter, in which Miss Wardlaw addressed Fletcher Snead as "My Darling Fletty," was regarded by the lawyer as an example of the woman's devotion to the husband of the dead Mrs. Snead. It read as follows:

"My Darling Fletty: What a flood tide of loving sympathy flows to you this beautiful Sabbath afternoon. My heart is filled with sunshine and cheerful with songbirds, butterflies and blossoming trees. I feel that you are a dear friend and I want to be quiet and enjoy the restful stillness, the nerve-soothing beauty and calmness. Frequent dreams of my heart ache to comfort you and help you. I would love to hold your dear head on my lap and run my fingers through your hair and so charm away brain worry or heart ache or tired spirit. May the love and tenderness help you to understand that your mother's sister is your own loving Tante, true to you, dear heart, and longing to put some kind of sweetness into your life.

May fortune or fate—or, better still, the Providence being together and proving in a daily companionship the identity and loyalty of our hearts to each other. Keep and place in your love ever open and warm, and love me always. Faithfully, TANTE, April 12, 1908.

In a second letter, written on August 26, 1908, Miss Wardlaw sympathizes with her nephew and urges him to be faithful to his mother and grandmother. The letter is addressed to the dead Mrs. Snead as "Little O" and explained that the two women had been decorating graves of members of their family. She spoke of the grief that had come in his life and the suffering which it had caused Fletcher Snead's mother and grandmother. In this letter Snead was addressed as "my dear heart" and "my dear little O."

While Mr. Fort has insisted that family pride has kept Mrs. Caroline P. Martin, the mother of the dead woman, in seclusion, the Essex County authorities are anxious to have a statement from her. It was thought that she might be at the funeral, and detectives from New York Headquarters were sent to the cemetery, but no one resembling the woman joined the mourners.

SPILLER FIGHTS EXPULSION.

Panama's Foreign Secretary Summoned Before Supreme Court.

Panama, Dec. 8.—The Supreme Court of Panama has summoned to appear before it the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, to answer charges made by W. G. Spiller of illegal expulsion from his isthmus. Spiller was engaged for a time in transporting canal laborers to other countries. These men were brought to the zone by the Isthmian Canal Commission at considerable expense and trouble, and later were induced by contractors to go to various parts of South America, Spiller acting as the principal go-between. Lieutenant Colonel Goethals, chief engineer of the canal, who foresaw that this would seriously affect the construction of the canal, requested the Panamanian government to deport Spiller, his request being based on the provisions of the canal treaty. President Obaldia issued an Executive decree, declaring that the enticing of canal laborers from the country was a misdemeanor, punishable by expulsion from the country.

The first transgressor to come under this order was Spiller. He, however, took the matter to the Supreme Court, which will now call upon the Secretary of Foreign Affairs to show the legality of the government's action.

HENEY SUES W. H. CROCKER.

Former Grant Prosecutor Asks \$250,000 for Alleged Libel.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—W. H. Crocker, according to a despatch from New York, has been made defendant in a \$250,000 libel suit yesterday in that city on behalf of Francis H. Heney, special prosecutor in the San Francisco graft cases. The action is said to be based on an alleged libellous letter commenting on the conduct of the graft trials which appeared in a New York evening paper over Crocker's signature.

William H. Crocker left here yesterday in a special car on his way to San Francisco with the body of his brother, George Crocker. He was the Republican candidate for Mayor in the recent San Francisco election, but was defeated.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

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LEOPOLD SINKING

Official Bulletin, However, Denies Alarming Reports.

Brussels, Dec. 8.—Through official reticence concerning the exact state of King Leopold's health, the order ousting John F. Ahearn from the office of President of Manhattan Borough. The judgment will be served on Mayor McCallan, who will be required to call a special meeting of the Board of Aldermen to elect Ahearn's successor.

Martin W. Littleton, counsel for Ahearn in his persistent fight to hold office under election by the Board of Aldermen, has already announced his intention to appeal from the decision of Justice McCall handed down on November 26, but, according to Mr. Stevens, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the case for the state, the appeal would not act as a stay of the ouster order.

The decision of Justice McCall on Ahearn's motion for permission to file an answer in the removal proceedings said that Ahearn could no longer justify his occupancy of the borough presidency.

Justice McCall says that the court has determined that Ahearn has "unlawfully usurped, intruded into and held the office of Borough President." The court adds that Ahearn now unlawfully performs the functions and exercises the franchises of the office and will continue to do so until January 1 next unless ousted therefrom by the judgment of the court. Justice McCall says that Ahearn has no just or legal title to hold the office of Borough President and orders that he be ousted and excluded from the office.

In his decision on November 26 Justice McCall said that the executive act which worked Ahearn's removal could not be offset and that the latter could have no possible defence. With the signing of the order of ouster it now seems certain that Ahearn will not serve out his term, as he expected, and for which he has fought through all the state courts.

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TO SETTLE MAINE BOUNDARY.

Canadian Minister Leaves Ottawa for Washington.

Ottawa, Dec. 8.—William Pugsley, Minister of Public Works, and Dr. W. F. King left here for Washington to-night to discuss with the United States authorities and Ambassador Bryce the difference between Canada and the United States over the international boundary in Eastern Canada. It is expected that the question will eventually have to be settled by arbitration.

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A great many women have waited for this season when we find ourselves with one or two dresses of a kind on our hands—and we clear our shelves. We have assembled all these dresses and marked them \$15 regardless of their former prices, which in every instance was twice as much, at least.

Besides, some equally beautiful one-piece dresses left over from special purchases which came to us at "concessions from makers, who wished to close their season several weeks ago. These will also be \$15.

Fine broadcloths, serges and catwa, rose, green, blue, black and a few grays in the collection. Every style is a representative of this season's chic models, and is either braided or braid-embroidered. Very often a tiny lace chemisette gives a dainty touch. Many of the dresses are lined below the waist with soft silk.

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