

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1911.

Relieving the Mexican Situation.

The assurances of the Mexican government that it will adopt a definite restrictive policy along the border relieves a situation which was rapidly growing tense. It is hardly necessary to assert that the United States has not now and never has had any desire to interfere with the internal dissensions in Mexico.

Mere Men.

In the sincerely cordial greetings that are extended to the D. A. R. whenever it comes to Washington, one important element of this patriotic body has too often been slighted. It is a silent factor in the organization, the part assigned to it in the programme being most obscure.

Washington Conditions.

We welcome the activities of Representative Berger. If there are conditions in Washington which should be remedied, and if he can be instrumental in this regard, he will render this community incalculable service. It is at least pleasing to know that he is seriously accepting the responsibilities of his position on the District committee and that he hopes to accomplish good.

A New Use for Mistletoe.

In the average mind mistletoe is associated with the merry Christmas time and as an excuse for osculatory diversion. The practical character of the age, however, was never more fully demonstrated than by the announcement that the mistletoe is not merely a Yuletide ornament. Clinical and laboratory experiments have shown it to be possessed of medical properties in high degree.

Government Ownership of Railroads.

The Railway Age Gazette takes too gloomy a view of the consequences of the decisions of the Interstate Commerce Commission on the question of an advance in rates, saying it is a long step toward government ownership, and that the question whether the public management of public utilities, while these continue to be private property, is constitutionally must be litigated for final settlement.

Regular Wo-Maneuvers.

The Daughters of the American Revolution have opened hostilities in Washington, and no one can palm them off as "mere maneuvers." Mr. Taft admits that he shaves himself every morning, and if he wants to make himself the most beloved of Presidents let him tell us how to keep razors sharp.

To Suppress Jack London.

Possibly the mobilization of troops on the Mexican border is meant for the suppression of Jack London. Saul Among the Prophets? Probably Hon. Curtis Guild will be the only doctor of sacred theology in the diplomatic service.

ble and sanitary houses for the poor as a matter of pure generosity and without regard to pecuniary profit. If Mr. Berger or any one else can propose a plan whereby the condition of the people in the alleys can be improved without increasing their cost of living and without compelling the property-owner to be a philanthropist, he will render Washington a signal service. It may be that in some instances the property-owner is realizing an inordinate profit. Whether a law can be framed which will reach these cases is a question for the legislators to decide.

No apology is needed for discussing this problem at some length. It is a vital one to this community. It concerns the health and happiness of human beings. Washington has been pilloried before the nation as a city where all is beautiful as to its exterior and where, under the very shadow of the Capitol, execrable conditions are allowed to exist. The Washington people themselves are most anxious that all foundations for this criticism shall be removed. They are jealous of the fair name of the Capital and they know that nowhere is there a more earnest desire to secure ideal civic conditions.

Congress can be of material assistance in the solution of the problem of the slums, and any step which it may take in this direction will meet the hearty and sincere co-operation of the Washington people. Uncle Sam may be slow, but nevertheless all will do well. The Capitol has been provided with a fire alarm at last.

AS OTHERS SEE IT.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Boxes at the grand opera in London in corporation week will sell for \$25 and upward. But John Hays Hammond can afford it.

From the Birmingham Age-Herald. More savings banks are to be opened, thus putting more stockings and mattresses and unused stoves out of the banking business.

From the New Bedford Standard. One of the disturbing things about this Mexican fuss is the prospect of a new crop of Rough Riders.

From the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times. The egg, says a university extension professor, was the symbol for eternity among the Druids. Modern cold storage enterprise is doing its best to approximate that ideal.

From the Boston Herald. Wisconsin has passed resolutions condemning one of its Senators for voting for Lorimer and commending the other for voting against him. Massachusetts wouldn't do such a thing as that!

From the Albany Journal. In Minnesota the other day the mercury took a drop of 70 degrees in five hours, which was obviously a drop too much.

From the Detroit News. Now that Harmon and Bryan are agreed that Bryan and Harmon are impossible, the situation clears up considerably.

From the Boston Transcript. When Carrie Nation reads the French (champagne riot) dispatches she must feel that, after all, her fame is local.

From the Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph. Prof. Sargent, of Harvard, claims that flowers reform bad boys. This accounts for the practice of laying big bouquets on the desks of Congressmen.

From the New York American. Messenger Boy Teles to Deliver Dispatch at City Hall. Shortly after Mayor Gaynor left city hall last night, a Western Union messenger boy arrived with a telegram addressed as follows:

Res. Edward D. White, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court of the Borough of Manhattan.

Not knowing where the office of the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court was located in city hall, the messenger was directed to deliver the dispatch in Room No. 2, headquarters of the reporters. The boy finally was advised to have the message sent to Washington.

The "Touch of Nature." Mr. Taft admits that he shaves himself every morning, and if he wants to make himself the most beloved of Presidents let him tell us how to keep razors sharp.

Thunder and Lightning. "Muvver dear," asked a Lakewood child the other day, "is it the lightning that strikes or the thunder?" "The lightning, dear," answered the mother.

What's the thunder, then, mamma? asked the innocent babe. "The walking delegate!"

public management. The latter would invite abuses and disasters far greater than any to be apprehended from corporate control. We must avail ourselves of all the benefit of private enterprise, energy, and skill, stimulated by the prospect of a fair return upon invested capital, and yet at the same time guard the rights and interests of the public against possible excesses or abuses of corporate power. Government ownership of public utilities in the form of railroad systems appears to be the last of all things to be desired, but regulation of their use is an absolute necessity.

Pension Bureau Red Tape.

If Pension Commissioner Davenport is allowed to have his way he will succeed in stopping a good deal of costly pension red tape which is not of the slightest benefit to the veterans who are the recipients of the government's bounty. Every one of the 900,000 beneficiaries on the United States pension list has to pay at least 25 cents in notarial fees to qualify his voucher for recognition every three months. Added to this \$900,000 which is assessed annually on the pensioners, there is the cost of clerical service at the Pension Office here and in pension agencies throughout the country, which is estimated to be an equal amount, all of which accomplishes nothing more than to certify properly the receipt of the pension.

Several attempts have been made to abolish this waste, but such proposed legislation has invariably failed. It is Mr. Davenport's idea to do away with the pension voucher as unnecessary, accepting as adequate receipt the returned check, indorsed by the pensioner with two witnesses. In this manner he will not only put an end to the unnecessary fees now assessed on the pensioners, but, by cutting off a principal source of income for the great majority of pension agents, will take away the incentive for the opposition which has blocked every effort to simplify and economize in the administration of the Pension Bureau.

Another argument against woman suffrage is that a woman is apt to ask to have her ballot returned in order to add a postscript.

Wellington and Napoleon are the names of two towns in the same county in Kansas. And now, midway between them, the new town of Waterloo has been started.

Considering the number of inflammatory speeches that have been made in the Capitol all these years, it is remarkable that so far it has escaped destruction by fire.

A Little Nonsense.

TOO ERRATIC. We all are glad when spring Comes trailing back. We love the birds that sing. The ducks that quack. We love the babbling rill, The violet, The sprightly daffodil, Et cetera, et cetera.

TOO UNCERTAIN. "Women patronize the drama extensively, but they must be assured of a happy ending." "I guess that's why they don't care much for baseball."

A MANN MAN. "Did Mrs. Wombat vote your way?" Inquired the husband of the prominent D. A. R. member. "No; she proved herself a traitress." "How about Mrs. Weebles?" "Her mother's traitress. We propose to expel her from our chapter."

Sound Reasoning. "Why do you object to my place?" "Because it is the resort of all the bad characters in this neighborhood." "Well, ain't it better to have 'em bunched than scattered?"

A Near-Homerick. You've heard of Oshkosh, Wis. Few names can discount this. And yet, you know, There's Kokomo! And also Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Got an Opening. "Lay a little by," advised the editor. "I'd like to," declared the poet. "Buy a little lay?"

Predestined. I went into Wall street. "And they swallowed you whole, eh?" "No; they shredded me first."

Thunder and Lightning. "Muvver dear," asked a Lakewood child the other day, "is it the lightning that strikes or the thunder?" "The lightning, dear," answered the mother.

What's the thunder, then, mamma? asked the innocent babe. "The walking delegate!"

AMBITIONS OF CONGRESSMAN KONIG

He Wanted to Rule Washington and Almost Secured the Job.

From the Baltimore News. Congressman George Konig called on his friends in the city hall yesterday long enough to tell of his experiences in Congress, and, incidentally, of his failure to use city council methods in the Capital City. He concedes that the joke is on him, but insists that he "made a strong play before some of the Congressmen got wise."

The witty Congressman, who is a member of the Committee on the District, said he asked to be made chairman of the subcommittee on streets and avenues, with control of the police and fire departments. If this programme had gone through he would have had more to do with the government of Washington than any other man. "Just when the prize seemed to be in my grasp," he said, "some one turned over the dice and I was left out in the cold. I was not even made a member of any important committee, much less the chairmanship."

Views of Visitors to the City.

"The farmer has been bombarded with advice for so long it is little wonder that it slides off like water from a duck's back," said Bert Hall, the secretary of the committee of the American Council of Grain Exchanges, who is at the New Willard. "We are going about it in another way. We are showing him where he belongs in the great business equation, and are harmonizing all the activities in each county which are trying to obtain a larger yield of better grain in each locality. The balance of trade is going steadily against us. Every steamer takes away a million dollars in tourist money; we have a billion dollars worth of diamonds and imported luxuries to buy; our immigrants send other millions to their people abroad; we have millions to pay on our bonds and stocks held abroad; and money is always going out which is never coming back unless we put grain on a world basis where it belongs. Other vocations are with us in this work, the millers, paint manufacturers, the railroads, the commercial clubs, the public schools, the bankers, the manufacturers of cereals, and many other lines all backing up the teachings of the Agricultural Department and the experiment stations of the States, and carrying it direct to the farm. We are insisting that the time has come when every farmer must mix a little business with his farming or the business man will have to mix a little farming with his business. The farmer must produce scientifically or become merely a hired hand, a peasant."

Laws Concerning Coins.

Joseph P. Nichols, of Chicago, who is at the Raleigh, and is engaged in the jewelry manufacturing business, said that thousands of dollars are lost yearly by big firms through ignorance or carelessness in observing the Federal laws governing abuse of coins.

"Just lately in Chicago a piano company came to grief in this way," said Mr. Nichols. "Had they asked the proper authorities they would have been told that they were breaking the law. Much trouble and expense would have been saved the firm and the government had the law only been read. It all happened in this way: Some clever advertiser conceived the idea of an 'ad' of metal just the size of a dime, with the wording and printing placed in such a way that at first glance it would appear as a dime. The idea was cleverly executed. A fair imitation of a head of Liberty was on one side and the advertisement on the other. The number was placed where the date on a dime is, and the first glance certainly impressed one with the belief that it was a real coin. The other side had a sheaf of wheat, and in the center the words 'On time.'"

"The firm had no desire to defraud the public. But unscrupulous people who had access to the coin did. Several waiters at a summer park lost money by accepting the advertisement for real money, chewing-gum machines were filled with them, and at last the Secret Service learned how matters were and began an investigation. There were 150,000 of the metals confiscated. Some stray ones, however, were in circulation, and it took almost a year to 'hunt them down.'"

Curious Bits of History.

By A. W. MACY. GEORGE III CONFESSES DEFEAT. After the close of the Revolutionary war, King George III made a speech to his Parliament in which he endeavored to explain how and why he had ended the war and agreed to a separation of the American colonies from the mother country. He closed his speech with these words: "In thus admitting their separation from the Crown of these kingdoms, I have sacrificed every consideration of my own to the wishes and opinion of my people. I make it my humble and earnest prayer to Almighty God that Great Britain may not feel the evils which might result from so great a dismemberment of the empire, and those calamities which have formerly proved in the mother country how essential monarchy is to the enjoyment of constitutional liberty. Religion, language, interest, affections, may, and I hope will, prove a bond of permanent union between the two countries; to this end, neither attention nor disposition on my part shall be wanting." (Copyright, 1911, by Joseph B. Davies.)

Dying Man Runs an Auto.

A Connecticut Doctor Stricken With Apoplexy While Driving. From the New York Herald. South Norwalk, Conn., Monday—Stricken with apoplexy when alone in his automobile and six miles from home, Dr. Frederick B. Baker pluckily drove his car all the way home, put it in the garage and staggered into his home, dying in a short space of time. How he drove the car through crowded streets when in a dying condition is a mystery to the medical profession. About speechless when he entered the house he smiled at his wife as he not to cause her alarm. He mumbled something, and she asked him if he was talking a foreign language.

ACTRESS LOSES.

Paper Wins Case Over Criticism of Her Plays. Columbus, Ohio, April 18.—In the Supreme Court here to-day the Cleveland Leader won its case against Olga Nethersole, the actress, in which she charged certain criticisms of her plays "Sappho," "Camille," and "The Labyrinth," were libelous. She secured a judgment in the Cuyahoga County courts, but the Supreme Court reversed it.

ARMY ORDERS.

Capt. BERTRAM C. GILBERT, Coast Artillery Corps, will report to Brig. Gen. ERNEST A. GARLINGTON, Head Inspector general, president of an army retiring board, at Washington, for examination by the board.

Capt. CHARLES P. SUMMERALL, Second Field Artillery, now at Fort Myer, Va., was ordered to San Antonio, Tex., and report to the commanding general, the maneuver division, for assignment to duty with the Second Battalion, Third Field Artillery.

Second Lieut. JAMES L. DUNSWORTH, Coast Artillery Corps, will proceed to the Walter Reed General Hospital for observation and treatment at the General Hospital, District of Columbia. He will report to Maj. FREDERICK P. RETNOLDS, Medical Commanding Officer of the examining board at Fort Monroe, Va., for examination to determine his fitness for promotion.

Capt. THOMAS Q. ASHBURN, Coast Artillery Corps, is detailed as a member of the examining board at the Presidio during the temporary absence of Lieut. Col. JOHN C. W. BROADBENT, Coast Artillery, commanding the board.

HERMAN J. KOEHLER, U. S. A., is extended in absence to terminate May 31, 1911, in granted to Second Lieut. HERMAN A. CAPRON, Fifth Field Artillery.

NAVAL ORDERS.

Rear Admiral C. E. VREELAND, detached duty command Second division, United States Atlantic Fleet, to home and sea orders.

Commander W. B. FLETCHER, detached duty command Birmingham, to home and sea orders.

Commander H. P. JONES, detached duty command Birmingham, D. C., to duty command Birmingham.

Ensign W. BRADLEY, Jr., detached duty Hancock, to duty South Carolina.

Ensign A. M. COHEN, detached duty Kansas, to duty Louisiana.

Ensign G. L. CASKEY, detached duty North Dakota, to duty as aid on staff, commander, Second division, United States Atlantic Fleet, on board Louisiana.

Ensign M. A. LEAHY, detached duty Connecticut, to duty Marietta.

Midshipman C. C. GATE, detached duty Nebraska, to duty and will continue treatment at Naval Hospital, New York, N. Y.

Midshipman F. SLINGLUFF, Jr., detached duty Nebraska, and will continue treatment at Naval Hospital, Boston, Mass.

Midshipman D. H. STUART, detached duty Nebraska, to temporary duty Franklin.

HUNTINGTON WILSON MAY SUCCEED HILL IN BERLIN

President Taft Has Several Names Under Advisement for Ambassador to Germany.

President Taft has several names under consideration for the post of Ambassador to Germany, which will become vacant on July 1 next through the resignation of Dr. David J. Hill, the incumbent. Among them are Huntington Wilson, Assistant Secretary of State; Thomas J. O'Brien, who is now Ambassador at Tokyo, and Charles H. Sherrill, who is now Minister to the Argentine Republic. It is not likely, however, that the President will reach a decision for several weeks.

Friends of Assistant Secretary Wilson say that he personally would prefer to be transferred from his present post to Berlin. Secretary of State Knox, however, it is understood, would like to retain Mr. Wilson in the department, but is not desirous of interfering with Mr. Wilson's personal wishes if he is inclined to insist upon a transfer. It is believed that President Taft will hold the matter open until an agreement is reached between Mr. Wilson and Secretary Knox on the question. Ambassador O'Brien has been anxious to leave Tokyo for some time, because of the fact that the climate there does not agree with his wife's health. It is understood that Mr. O'Brien explained the situation to President Taft several months ago when he was in this country on leave of absence. Mr. O'Brien would welcome a transfer to a European post, and it is understood that his name has been suggested to President Taft for transfer to Berlin. Mr. O'Brien's service at Tokyo has been especially satisfactory.

Mr. Sherrill, who has been Minister to Argentina since April 1, 1908, will not return there. It is understood that he has powerful political friends who are urging his appointment as Ambassador to Germany, to succeed Dr. Hill. Mr. Sherrill is now in this country on leave of absence. If Mr. Wilson goes to Berlin, Mr. Sherrill may become Assistant Secretary of State.

It is probable that there will also be other changes in the diplomatic service shortly. So far, however, it is said President Taft has had little time, because of other more important business, to frame up the diplomatic appointments.

PONIES GET ALIMONY DUE FORMER SPOUSE

Owner of Racing Stable Files Notice That Millions Have Flown and Dame Fortune Frowns.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, April 18.—Francis V. Alexander, a well-known clubman, and heir to \$2,000,000 from the estate of his father, to-day filed notice in the Supreme Court that he is "broke" and wants to be relieved from paying his wife \$150 a month alimony. Mrs. Sedonya Russell Alexander divorced him last November. Alexander married Miss Russell, who was a belle of Baltimore, secretly while he was a student in Harvard College, in December, 1888. For over a year the young couple kept their secret, and when the announcement was made it created quite a sensation in social circles. During this period Mrs. Alexander had been a prominent figure at many race tracks with her husband. He was then owner of a racing stable.

Young Alexander is a member of the New York Yacht Club, the New York Athletic Club, the Turf and Field Club, and the Harvard Club.

In his petition to the court, Mr. Alexander declared that he had neither income nor property and cannot pay the \$150 a month that he has been ordered to pay his ex-wife.

OFFICERS' BODIES FOUND IN SNOW

Long March on Trail Ends in Death of Four.

Ottawa, Ontario, April 18.—News of one of the worst tragedies in the annals of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police was received here to-day by Col. White, commandant, in a telegram from Dawson, sent by Inspector Dempster, saying that four members of the patrol who left Dawson last fall to make the usual march to MacPherson had fallen victims of the cold.

The members of the Fort MacPherson expedition were Inspector F. J. Fitzgerald and Constables Carter, Kinney, and Taylor.

When the men were forty days overdue a searching party was sent out from Dawson, with the result that the dead bodies of Kinney and Taylor were found thirty-five miles from Fort MacPherson, and the bodies of Fitzgerald and Carter twenty-five miles from the fort. The men had perished almost in sight of their goal.

KNIGHT DECISION NOT SATISFACTORY

Secretary Meyer Resubmits Case to Court-martial.

The finding of the court-martial of Capt. Austin M. Knight, U. S. N., president of the special board on ordnance, which has been pending before Secretary of the Navy Meyer, has been returned to the court for reconsideration. This action was directed by Mr. Meyer because of technical irregularities in the finding of the court.

Capt. Knight's court-martial on charges growing out of the recent sinking of the monitor Puritan in the Newport News Middle Ground following ordnance tests on the monitor. The action of Secretary Meyer is unusually significant, because of the prominence of the members of the court, which was composed of seven rear admirals. The resubmission of the case with instructions for its reconsideration is a practical rebuke to the members of the court.

The court was composed of Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, president; Edward C. Penland, John A. Rodgers, Albert G. Berry, Samuel P. Comly, Albert C. Dillingham, and Charles E. Fox. Lieut. Commander Ridley McLean acted as judge advocate.

It is believed in naval circles that Capt. Knight was acquitted. The department declined to make public the nature of the technical irregularities which made it necessary to resubmit the case to the court.

HORSEMEN WILL PARADE AT SHOW

To Take Part in Opening Day at Horse Show.

The Drivers and Riders' Association, at a meeting held at the St. James Hotel last evening, unanimously accepted Maj. Henry T. Allen's invitation to parade in a body on the opening day of the horse show. President L. D. Sale was instructed to invite Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, retired, former president of the Drivers and Riders' Association, to head the parade.

The Drivers and Riders' Association will parade in two divisions, as there are not enough speed wagons to go around. Owners of speed wagons will constitute the first division, those owning runabouts only will comprise the second division.

It was decided by the members of the association present to hold on the afternoon of May 3 an informal matinee over the new speedway, which Col. Spencer Cosby officially assures the association will be ready to race over early next week.

In view of his untiring and unselfish labors in behalf of the association, Mr. P. V. De Graw was, by a unanimous vote, placed on the list of honorary presidents.

A committee was appointed to remove the fencing, judges' stand, and starter's box from the old speedway to the finish of the new speedway, and the work of removal will begin in a few days. Col. Cosby officially announced to the meeting that the work of surveying the new speedway would begin at once.

PROVIDES NEW ATTACHES.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald. Berlin, April 18.—It is stated that the budget, shortly to be submitted to the Reichstag, contains provision for new diplomatic posts at Washington and London.

The new attaches will be men of technical knowledge in engineering and kindred matters, who will report progress in inventions and industrial development.

It is probable that technical advisers will be added to some of the German consulates.

The scheme provides successful in the America and Great Britain will be extended to other countries.