

PRESIDENT MUTE AS TO GOMPERS

WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT EXPLAINS SILENCE

ACTION IN CASE IMPOSSIBLE PENDING APPEAL

Chief Executive Unable to Express Opinion Regarding Justice of Sentence Till It is Finally Settled

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—In an official statement issued at the White House today in regard to presidential interference in the case of President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor, now under sentence for contempt of court, attention is called to the fact that the cases are still before the courts, and that no matter what the president's opinion may be as to the justice of the sentences imposed, he cannot take any action looking to pardon or express any opinion as to the merits of the case.

The text of the statement follows: "Various appeals have been made to the president to interfere by pardons in the case of Mr. Gompers and his associates. "Those making the appeals are not aware of the fact that the matter is still before the courts. It is a civil suit between private parties and there has been no way by which the government could have intervened even if it had desired to do so.

"Whether the president does or does not think the sentence of Mr. Gompers and his associates excessive is not at present of consequence because he cannot take any action or express any opinion while the case is pending before the courts.

Action Now Impossible

"When the decision is made then the president can promptly consider whether the terms of imprisonment are excessive or improper.

"But it is, of course, impossible for the president to act while an appeal is pending, for he has nothing whatever to act about. The court must first finish with the case first and the defendants are at the present moment at liberty on bail.

"If the defendants see fit to abandon their appeal the matter will then, of course, be brought before the executive, in which case it will receive immediate and most careful consideration.

"But the defendants have a perfect right to prosecute their appeal, and if unsuccessful in the final court, then ask for a pardon or commutation.

"But as long as they are prosecuting an appeal the president has nothing to do with the matter.

"The president has already instructed the department of justice to keep him fully informed as to the progress of the case, so that in the event of its becoming proper for him to act he may have at his disposal all of the facts which will enable him to decide whether there was justification for such punishment; the sentence is or is not altogether too severe.

To Probe Exchanges

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The New York produce and cotton exchange will be the first ones investigated by the commission appointed by Governor Hughes to inquire into the conduct of the New York exchanges. This was decided today at a meeting of the commission.

SUPPOSEDLY MAD DOG KILLED BY OFFICER

Collie Chases His Daughter, Who Takes Refuge in House Just as Animal Seizes Her

A collie dog, believed to have been mad, was shot and killed at the home of Patrolman Frank Needham, 315 Patten street, by that officer yesterday afternoon, after the animal had chased Mary Needham, the officer's 9-year-old daughter, several hundred feet, snapping and biting at her as she ran. The child was playing on the sidewalk near her home when the dog came running down the street, biting at everything in the way. The little one became frightened and started to run, with the dog after her. The child succeeded in reaching the back door of her home and getting inside just as the dog grabbed her dress. Ben Needham closed the door before the dog could get in, and then William Bowen, who rooms at the house, attacked the dog and strangled it with a rope for several minutes. Meantime Officer Needham had been called and he ran down into the yard and killed the animal with a shot from his pistol.

Congressman Dies

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—Congressman Robert C. Davey of Louisiana died here today after an illness of several days. He was the fifty-third congressman from the state, and was born in New Orleans in 1853 and was first elected to the fifty-third congress as a Democrat. Death was due to a complication of diseases.

To Christen Battleship

WILMINGTON, Del., Dec. 26.—Governor Lea today selected Miss Anna S. Cahall of Bridgeville to christen the battleship Delaware, which will be launched about February 6 at Newport News, Va. Miss Cahall is a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence M. Cahall and niece of Governor-elect Simeon S. Pennewill and of Judge James Pennewill of Delaware.

Suicidal Wound Fatal

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Peter Cimenillo, an Italian laborer, aged 27, died today from the effects of a wound inflicted by himself during an attack of delirium. Cimenillo was suffering from a fever and was attended by his sister. During her absence he procured his pocket knife and stabbed himself near the heart, death resulting immediately.

Secretaries Promoted

PARIS, Dec. 26.—Viscount Charles de Chambrun and Viscount de Martel, secretaries of the French embassy at Washington, have been promoted from the third to the second class in the rank of secretaries.

Admiral Forsyth Stricken

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Dec. 26.—Rear Admiral James McQueen Forsyth, U. S. N., retired, was stricken with paralysis at his home here tonight, and grave fears are entertained for his recovery. His entire left side is affected.

KEY TO ANCIENT WRITING FOUND

PROFESSOR AT STANFORD TO SOLVE MYSTERIES

SAYS HE CAN DECIPHER ETRUSCAN HIEROGLYPHICS

Achieved Reputation Some Time Ago by Explaining Inscriptions on German Ruins—Has Read Fifty Tablets

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, Dec. 26.—A discovery which will have important results in the world of science was made public today by Professor Geo. Hempl of Stanford in the course of a lecture before the Stanford Philological association.

The key to the ancient inscriptions on Etruscan tombs and columns, so long a mystery to science, has been discovered by Stanford's professor of philology, according to the statement made by him today.

Professor Hempl, who achieved a reputation some time ago by solving the inscriptions on German ruins, pointed out in his lecture that his find will have far reaching results upon ancient Italian history and upon the disputed facts of Latin grammar and etymology.

But fifty inscriptions out of a mass of 800, said he, had thus far been deciphered by him, but the translation of these has been enough that the history of Italy as written at present must be considerably modified when Dr. Hempl's work has been completed.

The popular theory that the Etruscans and Romans were entirely different peoples is entirely exploded by this discovery, declared Professor Hempl. As made clear by him, the languages of these neighboring nations were alike in all important respects, save its writing, and he has come to the conclusion that the two nations sprang from the same race.

Dr. Hempl showed that the Etruscans were the outgrowth of the Trojans after the fall of the great city, and thus, in indirect manner, the story of Virgil's Aeneid receives scientific corroboration.

In discussing the remarkable discovery made by Professor Hempl, Dr. Jordan said:

"Dr. Hempl has made a most important discovery. The deciphering of these Etruscan inscriptions overturns the popular idea that there is no connection between the Romans and the Etruscans.

"Dr. Hempl, with his key to the Etruscan inscriptions, will make enormous changes in our views of the ancient history of Rome and Greece."

Postoffice Again Looted

MENLO PARK, Cal., Dec. 26.—For the fourth time in two years the local postoffice was looted last night by thieves. The crime was discovered only when a Western Union messenger was in the road, where it had been transported on a baggage truck. With blankets stolen from a livery stable the safe was opened and blown open with nitro glycerine. It is estimated the thieves secured \$500 in cash, in addition to the contents of many registered letters.

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NEW YORK'S PICTURE THEATERS R-OPENED

Counsel for Police Department Declares Decision a Blanket Order, and Kinetoscope Shows Resume Accordingly

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Practically every moving picture show in greater New York that was closed by Mayor McClellan's Justice Clark today reopened its doors tonight under an injunction granted by Supreme Court Justice Gaynor to the William Fox Amusement company, suspending in its case the mayor's license revocation decree.

It was held by counsel for the police department that Justice Gaynor's order was equivalent to a blanket injunction, and the police were instructed to that effect.

Mayor McClellan and Police Commissioner Binham were given until Monday, under the terms of the order, to show cause why the temporary injunction should not be made permanent.

Under the Gaynor injunction, it is stated, the hundreds of moving picture places which lost their licenses by the mayor's order will be able to do business as legitimate.

SESSION TO REVISE TARIFF MAY FOLLOW INAUGURATION

Party Leaders in Congress Will Urge President-Elect to Convene Solons Quickly and Make Meeting Short

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—If leaders in congress of both political parties are able to bring sufficient influence upon President-elect Taft, the special session to revise the tariff will be called almost after inauguration.

The purpose will be to cut the special session as short as possible, and adjourn before the extremely hot weather sets in.

Several members of congress who have discussed the subject with Mr. Taft believe his views in regard to an early and short session coincide with the plan suggested.

It is expected the house ways and means committee will have a bill ready to report to the special session on the day that it assembles, and that no time will be lost by committee hearings.

As soon as the bill has been drafted it can be taken up by the senate committee on finance, and that committee can be ready to report, if it works assiduously, as soon as the bill has been passed by the house.

If this course is followed, it is believed the special tariff provision can be concluded inside of four days.

Boy Accidentally Shot

GOLDFIELD, Nev., Dec. 26.—John Hunter, a 13-year-old boy, was accidentally shot by his companion, Billy Cunningham, same age, while out hunting. He probably will die.



Barker Bros. Spring St. Store. Nos. 420-422-424. THE LEADING FURNITURE HOUSE OF WESTERN AMERICA. EVERYTHING IN FURNISHINGS FOR HOUSEHOLD OR OFFICE USE. LARGEST ASSORTMENTS FOURTEEN FLOORS. Connecting Bridges On All Upper Floors. MAIN ST. STORE Nos. 413-415-417. WIDEST RANGE OF PRICES. GREATEST VALUES ALWAYS.

The tremendous strength of this immense establishment gives it its supremacy. An enormous business gives greatest buying power—ability to control best of makes in all our different lines of goods, to buy for less—to sell for less.

Another Big Bargain! This Time a Dining Chair at \$2.40. Golden oak, cane seat chair; hand polished, full box seat construction; extra fine weave of cane; exactly like illustration; a chair that we have seen priced as high as \$4.75. Extra special this week at \$2.40—an unheard-of value. Arm chair to match, \$8 value, extra special \$4.80.

White or Green Enamel Finish or the Popular Vernis Martin (Resembling Brass). Regular \$11 to \$25 Values, All Specially Offered This Week at Tempting Prices. These new steel beds have attracted widespread attention. As usual, we show them in largest and best assortment. The special prices prevailing this week will offer a special inducement to inspect them. Their plain, simple lines—Colonial, if you please—will appeal to the discriminating taste.

The New All Steel Beds —the chill-less (smooth joint) kind an introductory sale this week at Special Prices. Choice of This Entire New Line of Steel Beds. Three Foot 3 Ft. 6 In. 4 Ft. and 4 Ft. 6 In. Sizes. Visit Our Great Display of Oriental and Modern Rugs, Carpet and Other Floor Coverings. We have the largest and choicest collection of rare Oriental Rugs in Western America. Sending our own expert to the Far East, we not only secure specimens of exceptional merit but are able to eliminate all middlemen's profits. We are in a position to absolutely guarantee the authenticity of every offering. You cannot afford to buy Oriental Rugs without visiting our display. In carpets and modern rugs, we carry the best makes, in largest variety, and, remember, we are never undersold.

And More Bargains! A \$2 Rocker At Just About Half Price \$1.20. Last week we offered the best bargain in a reed rocker ever featured in Los Angeles. This week we offer another equally attractive bargain in a small cost wood rocker. It is exactly like illustration, golden elm, plain spindles, ornamentation at top; solidly built; unquestionably the best bargain in a low-cost arm rocker offered anywhere. We have secured enough of these to fill all orders, but with a limit of two to a customer. For those who want something in weathered oak, we have several patterns, cob and wood seat arm rockers, which sell regularly at \$2.75, \$4, \$5 and \$6.75, which we will offer this week at special prices. A regular \$3.25 weathered oak, cob seat arm rocker, of attractive pattern, and plenty of them. Special at \$1.75.

See Our Spring St. Window This Week for Special Bargains in Mission Furniture. BARKER BROS. 413-5-7 S MAIN ST. 420-2-4 S SPRING ST. See the Beautiful Suite of Dining-Room Furniture of Circassian Walnut in Our Spring St. Window. Everything in Office Furniture—Headquarters Macey Sectional Bookcases, Shaw-Walker Filing Devices, Etc. Barker Bros. are unquestionably office furniture headquarters for Southern California. We devote nearly two entire floors to this department, occupying the main floor and balcony of our Main street store. Here will be found not only everything best in office desks, chairs, tables, etc., but the best values in these goods. We call particular attention to our agency for the famous Macey Sectional Bookcases. For home or office these splendid bookcases are superior to all other makes. You will agree when you've inspected them.

GRATEFUL FOR REMEMBRANCE AT CHRISTMAS. (Continued from Page One) talking about it. There was turkey galore, and all the good things man and his sister want in the holiday season. Chef Felix from Levy's was one of the men who earned the hearty gratitude of the guests by his skill. The vast quantities of lemonade consumed were served largely through the generosity of the Union Ice company people, who donated ice, and the Puritan people, who furnished double-distilled water. A letter signed L. G. Guthertz brought the good wishes of an eastern lady to The Herald. She wrote: "I herein enclose a check for \$2 to aid your Xmas fund for children. My home is in an eastern city, but my heart is full of sympathy and interest in these needy people of your city. May their Christmas be a happy one, thanks to your work on their behalf." "Respectfully, "L. G. GUTHERTZ. The Santa Claus editor has been requested to notify the writer that St. Louis friends wish to know her California address. Some of the kind sentiments of writers are shown in these recent letters: "Dear Herald: We are sending \$1 of our Christmas money to help the children have a Merry Christmas. "TWO LITTLE MONROVIA BOYS." "Dear Santa Claus: We wish to thank you for your kind remembrance. We received your package safely and we were all pleased with the presents it contained. God bless you is the prayer of my happy family. "MRS. T. M. "San Gabriel." A few belated packages reached the Santa Claus editor. "Blanche and Russell" of Anaheim forwarded by express two velocipedes and a few other toys for little children. W. W. Bliss of Duarte, who sent several boxes of oranges on behalf of growers there, writes that the freight was paid by the Southern Pacific agent at Duarte. By mail Mr. Bliss sent a small motor in response to the request of a boy asking for such a toy. This motor was donated by Mr. Bliss' 17-year-old son. To Present New Ambassador WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Count Von Bernstorff, the new German ambassador to the United States, will be presented to the president before New Year's day.

MANY PRESENTS FROM CONTRACTORS ARE SENT BACK BY COUNCILMEN. CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Contractors who have been in the habit of playing Santa Claus to councilmen and officials of the board of improvement of the local city government were invited to discontinue the practice today. While the rule does not go into effect until next Christmas, Colonel H. E. Dietrich, president of the board, and four members today returned a valuable array of presents received yesterday. The new rules owe their existence primarily to the fact that the board of improvements annually passes on some \$8,000,000 in contracts with the city.

NAVajo INDIANS FIGHT TO DEATH. DURANGO, Colo., Dec. 26.—On Christmas eve a battle between members of two families of Navajo Indians occurred at the camp located at the mouth of McElmo canyon, near Ameth, Utah, and thirty-five miles southwest of Cortez, Colo., according to advices from the latter place received last night. Two squaws, an Indian buck and one Indian boy were killed and another Indian buck was seriously injured. The trouble was purely domestic and no whites were concerned in the affray. Find a use for a want ad—a task for it. Needn't be a usual or an easy task.