

TAFT GOES ON SHOPPING TOUR

VISITS MANY STORES AFOOT, BUT GUARDED

BUYS JEWELRY FOR HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER

Chief Executive Invests in Numerous Articles for Friends and Family, Four Drunken Men Greet Him

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—President Taft went shopping afoot this afternoon, wandering from shop to shop, taking hearty interest in the store windows and good naturedly returning the jostling of the crowds.

After a walk of nearly an hour and a half the presidential party returned to the White House. The president left the executive office at 4 o'clock and walked down Pennsylvania to a jeweler's shop, where he remained some time selecting a present for Mrs. Taft and his daughter, Miss Helen.

He next walked over to a leather establishment on F street, where Capt. Butt halted Mr. Taft before the broad display window.

"That's just the thing," he exclaimed, pointing with his walking stick to an elaborate traveling bag of Russian leather that was spread to the gaze of the envious.

"You're right," exclaimed the president, showing the officer ahead of him good nature.

"Let's get a closer view," said the president.

There was a commotion in the crowded store when the president and his party entered. They remained nearly a quarter of an hour, going from there to a book dealer's establishment, where Mr. Taft purchased a number of volumes. The party then returned to the jeweler's place.

Meets Drunk Men As the president passed a hotel in Fifteenth street the pin wheel door to the bar spun merrily. Four bibulous holiday celebrants emerged. They gained the sidewalk, laughing effusively, wishing each other the compliments of the season, when one spied the president.

"Merry Christmas, Misher President," he cried. "Merry Christmas."

All four managed to raise their hats. The president looked them over, and then with a broad grin lifted his own headgear.

"Thank you, gentlemen, let me wish you the same."

There will be no special observance of the day at the White House. The Taft family will dine together and with the children at home the celebration will not be different from that in a million homes throughout this country.

The employees of the White House will receive a turkey and the clerks of the executive office will get \$5 apiece. Mr. Taft's presents to the personal force in the White House, it is understood, will cost him \$500.

Seven members of the president's official family will spend their Christmas here. They are Secretaries Knox, Wilson, MacVeagh, Nagel, Meyer, Haltinger and Postmaster General Hitchcock.

Secretary Dickinson is on his way to Porto Rico and Attorney General Wickersham will spend the day in New York with Mrs. Wickersham.

DERELICT LUMBER VESSEL DRIFTS OFF RACE STRAITS

Wrecked Schooner Bound for San Pedro Probably Will Be Towed Into Port

SEATTLE, Dec. 24.—The derelict lumber schooner Susie M. Plummer is drifting north, and yesterday was off the mouth of the Straits of Fuca. She probably will be towed by a tug or some passing steamer and towed into port or destroyed.

It may be that there is on board the Plummer a crew to the fate of the crew of the four men. There is no doubt that they were taken on board some passing vessel. If their rescuer was a sailing vessel bound for a foreign port, a message may not be heard from for months.

The Plummer, Captain Hansen, sailed from Everett, Wash., December 5 for San Pedro with a full cargo of lumber. The cargo was consigned to the Southern California Lumber company and the Higbee & Clark company.

The derelict was first sighted last Tuesday, fifty miles south of Cape Factory. The appearance of the Plummer indicates all the crew got away. The names of the sailors are not obtainable.

KING ALFONSO'S HEALTH CAUSES GREAT ANXIETY

Exact Nature of Monarch's Ailment Is Not Made Public, but Ear Is Affected

PARIS, Dec. 24.—The Gil Blas today prints a private communication from Madrid stating the condition of King Alfonso has created the gravest anxiety in court circles. Another operation is imperative.

For some time disturbing rumors regarding the health of the king of Spain have been circulated.

The exact nature of his ailment has been concealed from the public. It is understood, however, the post nasal parts and the inner ear are affected. One of the symptoms has been a slight deafness.

Last June and July King Alfonso is said to have been operated on at Biarritz for the removal of a growth in the nose.

MAID DISAPPEARS AND DIAMONDS ARE MISSING

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Diamonds valued at almost \$4000, some in settings and more of them unset, were stolen yesterday from a jewel casket in a dresser drawer in Mrs. William Austin's bedroom at her home. A maid who went to work in the Austin home yesterday morning had disappeared. The police were looking for her last night. Mrs. Austin was downtown shopping when the theft occurred.

Governor Whose Illness Is Causing Friends to Worry



GOV. CHARLES N. HASKELL

MUCH alarm is felt by the friends of Governor Charles N. Haskell of Oklahoma over his continued illness. He has suffered for some time from stomach trouble and specialists have been unable to give him relief. He is now confined to his bed. Mr. Haskell is 49 years old. He is a native of Ohio, began life on a farm

ZELAYA LEAVES CAPITAL UNDER STRONG GUARD

(Continued from Page One)

and barbed wire proved unexpectedly strong.

However, the provisionals, who believed they faced the oppressive rule of Madrid, or, as the only alternative, the intervention by the United States, bore themselves with a show of valor that should have relieved them from the village of Recreo is situated.

The hundred dead and the 150 wounded gave the surviving insurgents something to think about.

Widows and Orphans Today widows and orphans have been wandering about here and there. Yet no expression of regret is heard. The provisionals admit their heavy losses and estimate those of the enemy at about an equal number.

General Chamorro, General Diaz and General Maturín faced the enemy. The Provisional Pioneer and Blanca, upon which were mounted Hotchkiss guns, half buried in sand, steamed up a creek tributary to the Alco river, upon which the village of Recreo is situated.

For hours they shelled the village, the gunners maintaining great accuracy. Zelaya's troops frequently left the trenches, and advancing through the jungle, met the insurgents in hand-to-hand conflict.

These clashes were followed in each instance by a retreat to the trenches and a forward movement by the provisionals, who cut the wire entanglements with their machetes. In these brushes many were killed or wounded.

General Chamorro, who looks like a tired man, directed the fire of the Provisional Pioneer, General Diaz disdained, as did General Chamorro, to take to cover. Diaz walked erect amid a hail of bullets, however, he insisted should keep under cover whenever possible.

When one soldier, enthused by the example of his commander, fought on the front, Diaz turned his pistol upon the man and commanded him to get behind a stump.

Idolized by Men Chamorro, who has been fighting for twenty years, is idolized by his men. He swore cheerfully when his troops exposed themselves and good-naturedly pushed them behind the cover of stumps and tangled underbrush.

Chamorro was in active command of the battle. Estrada having merely laid out the general plan.

The evening approached and the enemy still resisted after repeated assaults, the insurgents wavered from physical exhaustion, but their courage never failed.

But for the timely arrival of General Mena, it is quite possible that the outcome of the battle would have been wholly different. Indeed, at one time the position of the insurgents was desperate.

Chamorro and Diaz had moved on the main fortifications at Recreo and Tatumbla hill, and Mena was under orders to cover the lines of retreat from Recreo. Mena had moved up the Rama river, but his men were weak from their march and failed to effect the expected junction with the other armies of the insurgents when the assault began.

They encountered roads knee deep with red clay and overgrown with tropical plants, through which they cut a way with their machetes, but their progress was slow.

"Chamorro became uneasy and dispatched a messenger with the urgent request: 'Come quickly or the day goes against us.'"

The day was going against the provisionals.

Enemy Close Behind The enemy followed on every side, but Chamorro discerned at best he was holding his line. After dispatching the messenger to Mena he adopted the plan of repulsing the enemy when they left their trenches, but without attempting a further advance.

Mena realized the situation, and instead of satisfying himself by cutting off possible retreat of the government troops, pushed forward for an assault. How he and his 600 men got through the intervening two miles of brush the general has been unable to explain. They seem to have rushed so desperately that they failed to realize the obstacles before them.

General Chamorro had been fought to

and taught school in his youth. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in Ottawa, O., in 1881. Later he took up railroad building and after his removal to Oklahoma built several railway lines. He was a member of the Oklahoma constitutional convention and was elected the first governor of the state in 1907. He is a Democrat.

a standstill, and his men were well nigh exhausted. Over the field telephone Commander-in-Chief Estrada was informed the situation was desperate, and that while his army was not defeated, victory was not in sight.

When the hour was darkest for the insurgents cheers were heard, and presently General Mena and his scratched and bleeding men emerged from the jungle into the half cleared plantation where the battle was being waged.

Without stopping for orders and yelling at the top of their voices, the reinforcing troops swept across the clearing to the rear of the enemy and charged the hill at a point where no machine guns had been placed.

Signal for Advance The movement of Mena served as a signal for a general advance by the three armies of the insurgents. At a critical moment the insurgents swept up the hill in the face of a furious fire.

Mena was the first to reach the summit. At his heels were his determined soldiers.

The defenders, depending on their rifles only, were unable to repulse the attack. Suddenly abandoning their trenches, the government troops fell back before Mena's men and charged the advancing army, pushing his attack on Gonzales' rear.

In ten minutes it was all over, but in that ten minutes heavy fighting was done. Scores were killed outright, and the wounded covered the summit of the hills. Hundreds of the enemy threw down their arms and begged for quarter.

General Gonzales, to save a needless slaughter, signaled that he surrendered. Nineteen hundred prisoners were taken.

Immense Sacrifice The magnitude of the personal sacrifice involved in the overthrow of Zelaya from actual power is shown in the statement that he derived from various monopolies and financial ventures a revenue of \$400,000 silver (\$40,000 United States money) a month.

In the building in the Champ de Mars, that houses the ministry of war, Zelaya conducts the monopolies of alcohol, tobacco, cattle, petroleum, hides, gambling, soap, candles, ice and drugs and lumber for railroads, fuel and ties.

From these quarters he also has controlled local monopolies existing along the Atlantic coast and covering traffic in aguardiente, leaf and manufactured tobacco, cocoon groves, abattoirs and turtle fisheries.

In addition to these he controls the dock privileges at the piers of Corinto, Managua, San Jorge, Monkey Point, San Miguelito and El Bluff, and the lease of the National railway and of the national steamship lines.

Through some peculiar framing of the customs laws he also benefits from premiums on the exportation of coffee, lumber and rubber, and from duties of from 10 to 50 per cent on importations of all sorts of manufactured articles.

His Other Interests Among his other known interests are the street cleaning of Managua, done by contract; the sugar refinery of San Antonio, the planing mills and the sale of property to or by the government.

He also exacts a share in all concessions granted by the government in this manner, is a large stockholder in concessions granted to the Bluefields company—James Dietrick Gulchora, Salazar, Emery—and in a number of mining concessions. The system is so perfected that no land owner can devote his property to raising sugar cane or tobacco without the authorization of trusts created and controlled by Zelaya.

On the Atlantic side Zelaya has operated through the business house of Lopez & Martinez. Lopez is a cousin of Zelaya and is now jailed by the revolutionists.

Through this house alone Zelaya has just received profits of \$5000 or \$6000 American money.

Railways and steamers of the country are managed for him by his partner, Julio West, a Swiss.

Proposed Railway A contract for the construction of the railway from San Miguel to Monkey Point, which he controls through West, is to cost the government \$20,000 United States money per month. The country already has disbursed \$500,000 in the last three years on this line, and only four miles have been built.

National finances have also been used for his enrichment. The system has been for Zelaya to underwrite government bonds at a large discount and then to dispose of them to bankers at 50 per cent.

It is conservatively estimated that he appropriates 55 per cent of all customs dues by the simple process of compelling payment of all duties through compulsory purchases of gov-

NEW YORK HAS MERRY EVENING

SPIRIT OF YULETIDE MUCH MANIFEST

THOUSANDS OF HAPPY PERSONS ON STREETS

"Great White Way" Scene of Impressive Crowds and Unusual Demonstrations in Celebration of Christmas

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—From Broadway to the Bowery and "all around the town" the Christmas spirit was in the air tonight.

A cool, crisp Christmas eve, with clear skies, brought thousands of merry-makers out on the streets.

More than a thousand bluejackets from the battleships of the North Atlantic fleet, in port for the holidays, enlivened the scene along the Great White Way and in resorts uptown and down.

"Standing room only" signs were displayed in nearly all theaters. Tomorrow will be a big day for everybody from the underworld to the four hundred, but it will loom largest, perhaps, to the thousands of merry-makers who will be in the city for the holidays.

Several hundred detained immigrants on Ellis Island enjoyed a Christmas celebration today. There were music and addresses in German, Polish and Italian, and a distribution of gifts.

While there was a gay and merry Christmas frolic today on the consolidated stock exchange, brokers on the New York stock exchange quietly locked the doors and stole away.

The one-armed Christmas decoration on the floor of the big exchange has almost died out.

ARMENIAN GIRL SEEKS ALMS AT ROCKEFELLER'S

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A 12-year-old Armenian girl rang the doorbell and sought alms from John D. Rockefeller town house tonight. She was detained by the butler and turned over to the Children's society, where she will be held pending arraignment on Monday.

The little mendicant said she was Lillian Bayagian of Worcester, Mass., daughter of a street sweeper, who had approved her plan to beg for alms from Mr. Rockefeller to buy presents for the family. A five-dollar gold piece and a quarter were found in her pockets.

She will spend Christmas day in detention.

JURY GIVES BOY \$25,000 AS CHRISTMAS PRESENT

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—A 4-year-old received a Christmas present of \$25,000 from a jury of his superior court.

One year ago tonight Harry Denman, Jr., was mangled under a street car and it was found necessary to amputate a leg. The jury decided the accident was due to the carelessness of the motorman and awarded the damages.

William Rockefeller Gives TARRYTOWN, N. Y., Dec. 24.—William Rockefeller distributed gifts to the children of the poor at his home here as the rate of \$5 for each year of service. "Three men received \$100 each. The total reached \$2500.

Snow in Seattle

SEATTLE, Dec. 24.—Seattle will experience the novelty of a white Christmas. Snow began falling early this evening and continued late into the night.

General Gonzales, to save a needless slaughter, signaled that he surrendered. Nineteen hundred prisoners were taken.

KANSAS BANK GUARANTY LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Court Holds State Institutions Do Not Have to Participate in Regulations of Act

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 24.—The Kansas bank guaranty law received a knockout blow from Judge Pollock of the federal court here today.

Two injunctions were granted by Judge Pollock. One of the cases decided was that of Frank S. Larrabee, a stockholder in the Exchange State bank of Hutchinson, against the officers and directors of the bank and J. D. Doley, state bank commissioner.

His contention was that a stockholder in a state bank could object and prevent the participation of his bank in the guaranty law.

Judge Pollock holds that this contention was good, and granted an injunction.

The other case was that of the Abilene National bank against the bank commissioner and state treasurer, on the ground that the state guaranty law is unconstitutional.

Judge Pollock granted a temporary injunction in this case, holding the law was inoperative, and fixed a bond of \$50,000 to be given by the bank pending the final disposition of the case.

SHIP SUBSIDY BILL MAY MEET APPROVAL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—A ship subsidy bill that can pass congress and meet the approval of the president seems to be in sight. Congressman Humphreys of Washington and members of the merchant marine committee of the house visited President Taft today and laid before him a bill introduced at the last session with amendments that have since been made. The amended bill met the approval of the president, it is said.

Mr. Humphreys and John Hays Hammon, a member of the committee, agreed that the bill would not be made public until it is introduced in congress on January 4.

Further than to say that the amended bill is neither a straight ship subsidy measure proposing to subsidize by tonnage and voyage, nor a mail subsidy bill, no member of the committee would tell of its provisions.

It is known, however, the amendments were worked out with the aid of the Merchant Marine League, which has its headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio, and the bill will have the support of the organization.

University of Minnesota Fire MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 24.—The Medical building at the state university was destroyed by fire tonight, causing a loss of \$75,000.



See Sunday Herald, Examiner or Times For Announcement of Our Semi-Annual Half Price Sale Starts 8:30 a.m. Monday, the 27th, and Continues the Entire Week.

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NOTED AUTHOR WHO IS BELIEVED DYING



OWEN KILDARE

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Owen Kildare, the author and playwright, is critically ill at a hospital here. His physicians say that his death may be expected at any moment. Mr. Kildare's mind became unbalanced about a year ago owing to failure of one of his eyes. He has been in a semi-comatose condition for several days.

MUST REMOVE FENCES ON GOVERNMENT LAND

FORT BIDWELL, Cal., Dec. 24.—The government has issued demands on many large land owners of this section to tear down the fences that they built around large tracts of government land and thereby have been holding against settlement.

Many thousands of acres have been held in this manner, depriving small stockmen, sheepmen and homesteaders of their rights.

Some are tearing down the fences, while others will fight the request.

CAPTAIN RECOVERING AFTER TWENTY-THIRD OPERATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Edward C. Brown, a retired sea captain, is a patient in a Brooklyn hospital, convalescing after his twenty-third surgical operation in five years.

"I have become so used to operations," he said, "that I don't mind them a bit. I guess they have become second nature to me."

The most serious operations which have been performed upon Captain Brown were for appendicitis, cataract of the eye and removal of a kidney.

FACES PRIVATIONS TO ESTABLISH CROSS

ENGLISH CLERGYMAN MEETS WITH HARDSHIPS

Together with Companion Is Forced to Eat Moccasins in Order to Ward Off Death by Starvation

DAWSON, Y. T., Dec. 24.—How the standard bearers of the church keep ever in the vanguard of civilization, braving wilderness and sea and Arctic nights in the fight to plant the cross on the outposts of the world, was given emphasis here today by the return of Bishop I. O. Stringer, Yukon diocese, Church of England, from Fort MacPherson, at the mouth of the Mackenzie river.

The bishop almost had been given up for lost by his friends. He and Charles F. Johnson, a missionary, left the fort September 1, hoping to cross to the head of the Porcupine river in time to reach the Yukon river last fall with a canoe. Their plans did not develop as they had anticipated, and as a result they encountered hardships as great as those told by Arctic explorers.

Each man lost fifty pounds in weight. Owing to frozen rivers they had to walk back to Fort MacPherson from the head of the Bell river. They had little food and were unprepared in other ways for the trip. For twenty-five days they walked in blinding fogs and storms and bitter cold.

Their supplies finally gave out altogether, and for many days the food was doled out at the rate of a handful a day, just enough to keep energy alive. Toward the last of the terrible journey they were compelled to take off their moccasins and "mucklocks" and eat them.

Each day they were able to walk less and when they stumbled into an Indian camp they had almost given up.

At the camp the friendly Indians supplied them with rations and they started out again. They reached Fort MacPherson in safety. Johnson remained here.

After the rivers were frozen solid the bishop, with two Indians, started out again for Dawson and came through without more than ordinary difficulty.

CHICAGO OFFICIAL ASKS FOR CUT IN HIS SALARY

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Dr. W. A. Evans, commissioner of health, has asked to have his salary lowered. He now draws \$8000 a year, and he wants this reduced to \$7200. Dr. Evans has found it impossible to get raises for his men in any other way. So he has decided to cut \$800 from his own salary in order to accomplish this result.

Merry Christmas To all our friends and patrons. May the good will of this Yuletide continue throughout the coming year. We take this occasion to thank the public for the liberal patronage which has made this one of the most successful seasons. Our three stores will be closed all day. BRAUER & KROHN "Tailors to Men Who Know" 128-30 S. Spring Cor. 5th and Spring 114 S. Main