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CASTRO AGREES TO ARBITRATION BUT GERMANY MAY BLOCK THE WAY

CARACAS, Dec. 25.—President Castro has telegraphed from La Victoria his acceptance of the proposal of submittal pending differences to the arbitration of The Hague tribunal, subject to certain conditions, which include cessation of the blockade and the return to Venezuela of the fleet seized by the allied powers. President Castro's acceptance has been transmitted to the Washington Government, from which the proposal emanated.

SILVERTOWN IS NEARING DESTINATION

Ship Will Probably Reach Honolulu To-Day.

Work of Paying Out Cable Is Going On Rapidly.

English Company May Purchase Fanning Island for Cable Use.

NEARING ISLANDS

ON board the Silvertown, latitude 22 degrees 22 minutes north, longitude 155 degrees 23 minutes west: Total amount of cable laid, 2109 knots; weather, moderate; wind, northeast. Expect to make buoy Friday morning. Amount of cable laid during last 24 hours, 215 knots. **BENEST.**

THE cable-ship Silvertown did not reach Honolulu last night, as was expected, but she will probably arrive at her destination this morning. Then the island end of the cable will be spliced with the vast stretch of wire in the Pacific, and the Hawaiian Islands will be in communication with the rest of the world and the project of the late John W. Mackay will be well on the way to completion.

It was expected that Engineer Benest, who is in charge of the cable laying, would send another message some time during the night, but the officials of the Postal Company abandoned all hope of hearing anything further from the cable-ship at a late hour. The next message from the Silvertown will probably be to the effect that she has finally reached her destination.

When Honolulu comes in sight the cable-ship will anchor about thirty-five miles from shore and then the cable will be buoyed. After this has been done the ends will be spliced.

The instruments and all the other equipments to be used in connection with sending messages across the Pacific are on board the Silvertown. It will take some time to get them all in perfect working order and for this reason the cable will not be in active operation at once. However, the officials of the Postal Telegraph Company say that the cable will be in working order with the office in this city to-morrow, if nothing happens in the meantime to delay the work in any way.

Henry Bicknell, a resident of Honolulu who owns one-half of Fanning Island, is at the California Hotel. He is in the city in reference to selling his portion of the island to the British cable company which recently laid a cable between Vancouver, B. C., and Australia. This cable also taps Fanning Island, the Fiji and New Zealand.

The first link in the cable is that to Fanning Island and it is the longest link in a submarine wire in the world, being 2300 knots distant from Vancouver. The cable company has already made Bicknell an offer for his share of the island, which he does not think is enough. He will attempt to negotiate the sale with the officials from this city by wire, without making the trip to London.

Fanning Island is 1550 miles south of Honolulu and is thirty miles in circumference. It is in outline the shape of an egg. The half of the island not owned by Bicknell is the property of George B. Gregg, who lives on this bare spot.

Bicknell does not know whether the cable company is anxious to secure the entire island, but has made Gregg an offer for his half of the property.

HONOLULU, Dec. 25.—The cable steamer Silvertown is expected here by Christmas day and everything will then be ready for the immediate working of the line at this end. It is already laid to a point within 500 feet of the station at Waikiki. Some delay has been experienced through the heavy rains, but the men now work with tents erected over the manholes.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL CONGRATULATES MARCONI
GLACE BAY, Dec. 25.—The following message by wireless telegraph has been received from the King of Italy by Marconi in reply to the latter's trans-Atlantic telegram:
"I learn with the greatest pleasure of the great results you have achieved. They constitute a fresh triumph for you to the greater glory of Italian science."
"VICTOR EMMANUEL"

SUSPECTED HALF-BREED IS KILLED

Son of "Wild Goose Bill" Slain at Keller.

May Have Been Guilty of Aged Couple's Murder.

Particulars Not Known, but It Is Thought He Was Resisting Arrest.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

SPOKANE, Dec. 25.—Another link in the startling chain of events beginning with the terrible double tragedy of Almirra last week was added by the killing at Keller, Wash., today of the young half-breed Edward Condin, who was supposed to have been implicated in the murder of the venerable Judge Lewis and his wife. Particulars have not been learned, but it is understood that he was resisting arrest and was shot by officers.

Condin and a full-blood Indian named Towit Lewis were seen in the vicinity of the Almirra murder about the time that it was committed. They were on their way to visit a half-breed family who lived four miles south of the Lewis farm. The impression prevails at Almirra that the aged couple were killed by Condin and the full-blood, Lewis. Last Sunday Condin left for the reservation, and Lewis is still visiting at the Soursbury farm.

Condin is about 24 years old and is a son of the famous "Wild Goose Bill," William Condin, who was killed on the Columbia River near Wilbur five or six years ago. The shooting affray at the time attracted widespread interest. It occurred at the Wild Goose Hill ferry, at the Columbia River, on the road from Wilbur to the Okanagan country. The fight started over a woman. Condin shot the woman in the arm, and Burt Woodin, a white man, who had been mixed up in the quarrel, started to run and Condin shot the heel from his shoe. At this juncture a man by the name of Park shot "Wild Goose" through the heart. The nery man, however, walked several paces and shot Park dead, when he himself fell back dead. Condin had four sons, three of whom are dead. One was carrying a shotgun on a mowing machine when the gun fell and the discharge killed him instantly. One son died in a Spokane hospital, and the one who was killed at Keller is the third one to die.

Edward Condin was a would-be bad man, although he was never suspected of any grave crime until the Almirra murders. He always carried a large navy six-shooter on a belt. His father often told him that he would not die in bed. It is expected to find upon the body of young Condin some evidence of his guilt if he were implicated in the Almirra tragedy, and it is hoped the mystery will be cleared up.

TEN BODIES RECOVERED AND OTHERS MISSING
Development Shows Great Loss of Life in Colorado Train Wreck.

TRINIDAD, Colo., Dec. 25.—Developments indicate that the wreck on the Colorado and Southern Railroad just outside of this city last night, which was caused by a collision between a merchandise freight train and a heavily loaded coal train, was the most disastrous in the history of the road. It is known to-night that at least ten men were killed, and rumor has it that several more bodies will be unearthed before the wreckage is cleared away. The list of dead as it stands to-night is as follows:

Elmer Pierce, engineer, unmarried, Pueblo.
J. Fox, fireman.
McDermott, brakeman, recently arrived from Boston.
J. Goldtrap, engineer, Trinidad.
Devcreaux, fireman, Pueblo.
Phil Landis, who boarded the train at Ludlow. Is supposed to have been a contractor.
L. F. Richards, brakeman.
King, a machinist, riding as a passenger.

Two unidentified bodies are exposed to view, but have not yet been removed from the wreckage.

It is believed that several miners who were supposed to be riding on the coal train and were on their way to Trinidad to spend Christmas are under the debris.

Wrecking crews have worked diligently all day clearing the tracks, and have succeeded in removing the wreckage of the engine. The freight cars are piled up in a great heap on the right of way, and it will require all day to-morrow to get things in shape for running trains over the road at this point.

United States Will Not Guarantee the Claims.

Italian Government Will Demand Due Recognition.



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT



BARON DESTOURNELLES DE CONSTANT.

CARACAS, Dec. 25.—Officials here declare that the coast blockade is absolutely ineffective. Certain ports, such as La Guaira, Puerto Cabello and Maracaibo are closed subject to new rules and regulations devised by the fleet commanders.

Other ports, including Core, are open, as no warships of the allies are permanently outside of the harbor. Several vessels have arrived at those ports.

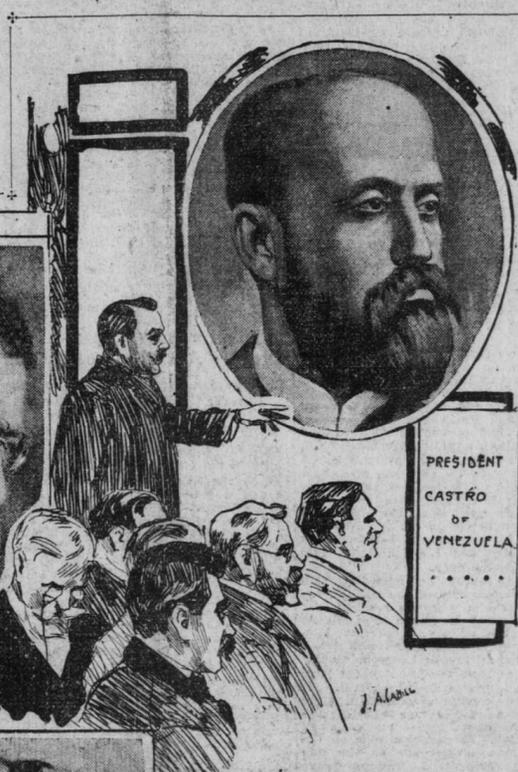
It is very quiet here. Residents are wondering what will be the result, but they are confident of prompt settlement, as President Castro is about to send word that he is not only willing but anxious to have President Roosevelt act as arbitrator. A note to Roosevelt requesting that he be the arbitrator may be sent to-morrow. All of the Venezuelan high officials are eager to end the present unsatisfactory condition.

Notwithstanding the establishment of the blockade, there has been no order that it should apply to the Venezuelan island of Margarita. German warships continue to cruise along the coast and to take soundings.

WASHINGTON OFFICIALS ARE EXTREMELY RETICENT
No Confirmation Is Obtainable of the Report of Castro's Willingness to Arbitrate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—No confirmation could be obtained in Washington to-night of the report coming from Caracas that the proposition had been made that President Castro that all pending differences between Venezuela and the European Governments having claims against her be submitted to the arbitration of The Hague tribunal. The officials here have refused absolutely to say anything on the subject since the receipt of the proposal of the allies, or even to give out anything bearing on the terms of the proposal. The impression here to-night is that an early determination of the matter will be reached.

No matter by whom the matter is arbitrated, either by the President or by The Hague tribunal, the feeling here is strong that the United States Government, if the occasion should arise, will insist that the blockade be called off while the arbitration is in progress. The present blockading fleet along the Venezuelan coast is a menace to peaceful conditions and difficulties of various kinds may arise at any time through arbitrary action of some of the commanders of the ships of the allied fleet or to the intrepidity of some of the skippers who may attempt to run the



CENTRAL FIGURES IN PROPOSED ARBITRATION AND FRENCH CITIZEN WHO SUPPORTS CONTENTION OF UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Germany's attitude toward the arbitration of the Venezuelan difficulty, persisting as she does in seeking arbitration by the President with impossible conditions attached and at the same time refusing to accept The Hague tribunal, has caused a distinct feeling of uneasiness and criticism in Washington.

In view of Germany's attitude it is now very doubtful if a settlement of the case with President Roosevelt as arbitrator is possible. Correspondence between the State Department and Great Britain and Germany and Italy is continually passing on the subject. There is much doubt in high official circles over the outcome, and a peaceable settlement seems as far away as it was a week ago.

President Castro is willing to accept The Hague tribunal plan, but would also impose conditions which the allies are likely to refuse—a discontinuance of the blockade and a return of the fleet which they captured.

GERMANY IS INSISTENT.
President Roosevelt has not yet accepted the post of arbitrator, and it is understood is still striving with all his energy and with praiseworthy motives to have Great Britain and Germany adopt the only course that now seems possible when a peaceful and fair settlement of the case is in view. Although there has been no official statement, it is regarded here altogether probable that the Berlin report is true that that Government is insisting on part payment of its claims in cash before yielding to the arbitration of either the President or The Hague tribunal. It is furthermore believed that Germany will attach an important condition of indirect guarantee by the United States in case of a settlement by the President.

This would make it impossible for the President to accept, and unless this condition were withdrawn by Germany there could be no arbitration by the highest officer of this Government.

WILL GIVE NO GUARANTEE.
Both powers have been repeatedly informed that such guarantee, either direct or indirect, was impossible, and there is some criticism of Germany's insistence. It is believed that if that country wishes to get fair arbitration and a final settlement of the situation without further recourse to acts of war it should not place obstacles in the way in the shape of impossible conditions.

The attitude maintained by Germany has strengthened the feeling here that that country is still the irritant. The President did not go to his office to-day, and held only a brief conference with Secretary Hay at the White House. The only announcement made was that the President had not yet agreed to act as arbitrator and that the correspondence between this Government and the allies is still in progress.

GERMANY EXCLUDES ONE CLAIM FROM ARBITRATION
Inspired Article Says It Must Be Settled Before Other Matters Are Taken Up.

BERLIN, Dec. 25.—The Lokal Anzeiger publishes to-day the following statement, which was evidently inspired by the Foreign Office:

"The German Government has excluded from the scope of arbitration of the Venezuelan difficulty a claim of \$100,000, which must be paid immediately in cash before arbitration shall be begun."

The paper adds that it is understood here that President Roosevelt's undertak-

Vanderbilt Is Slowly Improving.
NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A bulletin issued to-night by the physicians in attendance upon Cornelius Vanderbilt reads: "Mr. Vanderbilt has had a good day, holding the improvement he has made."

SHE THROWS AWAY RIGHT TO A CROWN

Princess Will Not Return to Her Home.

Demands That Marriage Ties Be First Dissolved.

Pope Hopes for Reconciliation After She Has Retired To a Convent.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

GENEVA, Dec. 25.—The Crown Princess of Saxony, Professor Giron, Archduke Leopold and Mile. Adamovics, the actress of whom the Archduke is enamored, took a promenade this morning, the couples walking arm in arm. They were all in high spirits. They visited jewelers and other shops, and exchanged presents. The party dined together in the evening. They are receiving scores of letters and telegrams, and to-day visited the postoffice to read replies. A lawyer had a lengthy interview with the fugitives in the course of the day. A lawyer, representing the Crown Princess is expected here to-morrow. The Crown Princess and Mile. Adamovics refuse to employ maids, preferring to wait upon themselves.

The Crown Princess has issued a statement, declaring she does not intend to return to her husband. She will not go to Austria or Germany until a dissolution of her marriage is arranged, as she is persuaded she would be represented as insane and placed in an asylum. Archduke Leopold announces he will not leave Geneva until a settlement of his sister's difficulties is effected. He declares he accompanied her expressly to protect and help her.

ROME, Dec. 25.—It is stated as a result of negotiations with the court of Saxony the Pope has sent a prelate to Geneva to report on the action of the Crown Princess of Saxony, who recently fled from her husband. The Princess is a devout Catholic. His Holiness, it is said, recommends the sejour in a convent for a time, after which he thinks to effect a reconciliation as he did one previously.

ing to arbitrate involves an indirect guarantee for the payment of the sum to be awarded.

Confidence has grown in Government circles during the past twenty-four hours that President Roosevelt will accept the task of arbitration.

VENEZUELAN ARREST BRITISH SHIP'S CREW
Bombardment of Puerto Cabello Results From Proceeding.

(BY GEORGE P. DAVIDS, CAPTAIN OF BRITISH STEAMER TOPAZE.)
KINGSTON, Jamaica, Thursday, Dec. 25.—Just before I left La Guaira, on December 4, for Puerto Cabello the British cruiser Indefatigable and cruiser Gazelle and gunboat Panther of the German navy arrived, but as it is no unusual thing for foreign warships to put in there I did not think their presence had anything to do with the rumored trouble. In Puerto Cabello, which we reached on December 5, everything seemed quiet and business was going on as usual.

"I heard on December 8 that several British and German warships were expected at La Guaira. Of this we got no definite information, but on December 9 I was informed that the combined fleet had seized what vessels of the Venezuelan navy they could get hold of in La Guaira and that trouble had begun. In retaliation the Venezuelan Government gave orders that the national guards should be called out and that all British and German subjects in the country should be imprisoned and that their property should be seized.

"I knew nothing about this order until December 9. At about 8 o'clock in the evening, while we were discharging coal at the wharf, we were surprised by the sudden appearance of an armed guard, which without parley rushed aboard and, in a very rough and excited manner, drove myself and my crew at the point of their swords and loaded Mausers from my vessel to the wharf.

HAVE NO CONSIDERATION.
The crew consisted of men of several nationalities, but this made no difference. All were treated alike in this matter. We were treated more like cattle than like human beings. We were not given time to lock up our rooms or put on more clothing.

"Venezuela, even at this time of year, is a very hot country. My crew had no much clothing on, and a few had no

SITUATION IN MOROCCO IS SERIOUS

The Government Is Too Weak to Attack Rebels.

The Pretender Gains Many Adherents to His Standard.

Many Tribes Awaiting Issue of First Battle to Choose Sides.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The correspondent of the Times at Fez, Morocco, describes the situation as having become very serious owing to a large increase in the number of the pretender's followers, whom the Government troops are too weak to attack. Reinforcements amounting to 12,000 men, he says, will leave here to-morrow and an additional force of regular cavalry has been called out.

Many tribes not already in rebellion are wavering and are ready to join the rebels in the event of a serious Government defeat. The pretender is fully supplied with everything necessary and has distributed his forces over a district where they can be either collected or disposed of very quickly. The Times correspondent adds that the pretender's position is a very strong one. He professes not to claim the throne for himself, but desires to overthrow the Sultan on account of his European tendencies. If successful the pretender proposes that the rebels shall nominate a new Sultan from the Sherifian family, who would promise to continue war against the Christians.

shoes. We were driven and pushed in a brutal manner on to the wharf, where we were guarded for a couple of hours and then we were ordered out.

"We formed single file and with a strong escort we were marched out to the police station. We presented a very unattractive appearance as we passed through the town. The residents had turned out in great numbers and they were not sparing in their jeers and laughter.

"This behavior on the part of the inhabitants in no way served to improve our temper. When we reached the police station we were about to be thrust into some dirty, damp and bad smelling cells.

"I vigorously objected to being put into such filthy places. This protest had its effect, as our captors took us on parade again. Eventually, at about midnight we were assigned to another prison. There my whole crew and myself, twenty-two persons in all, were crowded into a den about sixteen feet square. There were only two holes about three feet square close to the ceiling for ventilation.

FINALLY ARE RELEASED.
"At 10:30 o'clock we were allowed to go aboard our ship again. By means of code signals the commander of the Charlybis asked me to come aboard his vessel and report. After I had given him the details of our treatment in prison and told him of the insult to the British flag he sent an armed boat's crew on board of my vessel to afford us protection.

"After we were safely outside the harbor the British commander demanded an apology from the Governor for the insult to the British flag, giving him two hours in which to make this reparation. This time was, however, extended to three hours and a half. If the Governor failed to apologize the British commander declared that he would blow up the fort. Just as we were leaving our anchorage, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, both of the cruisers opened fire on the fort. Our feeling was that we were getting paid for the injury done to us."

GOVERNOR-ELECT BAILEY IS NOT SEEKING A WIFE
New Chief Executive of Kansas Is Overrun With Proposals of Marriage.

TOPEKA, Kans., Dec. 25.—Governor-elect Bailey's private secretary will to-morrow begin the task of replying to all the women of Canada and the United States who have proposed marriage to the new bachelor Governor. To all of them he will say he is directed by Bailey to decline their offer of marriage for the reason he is not seeking a wife. Fifty photographs sent to Bailey will be returned to the senders. He has declined positively to give the names of these women, for the reason, he says, that many of them are honestly seeking a husband, and they would no doubt make happy homes. Many are school teachers, stenographers, clerks and dressmakers. New York leads, with sixty-six applications, while Illinois is second, with forty-seven. No letters were written by Kansas women.