

CASTRO, YIELDING TO STRESS OF FOREIGN COERCION AND CIVIL INSURRECTION, RELINQUISHES THE PRESIDENCY OF VENEZUELA

BEEF TRUST CONSPIRACY IN MISSOURI

Commissioner Files Report Against Barons.

Names Six Companies That Are Liable to Prosecution.

Are Parties to a Combination to Fix and Maintain Prices.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 3.—Special Commissioner I. H. Kinley of Kansas City, appointed to take testimony in the Easter proceedings of Attorney General Crow on the charge of the existence of a beef trust, filed his report in the Supreme Court to-night. It finds that the Armour Packing Company, Nelson, Morris & Co., Swift & Co., the Hammond Packing Company, the Cudahy Packing Company and the Schwarzschild & Sulzberger Company are guilty of entering into an agreement to fix and maintain prices for the sale of dressed beef and pork in Missouri, not all of the companies, however, operating in St. Joseph, Kansas City and St. Louis. It is set forth that prices were fixed through agents, managers and solicitors, and many times by managers of coolers in these cities.

The Henry Krug Packing Company of St. Joseph was found to not have been in the combination and consequently the report will release it from legal proceedings. Regarding findings as to meat sold in St. Louis the report says: "I find that the Armour, Swift, Cudahy and Hammond Packing companies, between August 21, 1899, and May 9, 1902, at St. Joseph, are guilty of having been parties to a combination and agreement and confederation and conspiracy to fix and regulate and control and maintain the fixed or list price on dressed beef and fresh pork sold through their respective coolers in St. Louis to butchers and the consuming public at that place and that they did so ask, sell and receive the price so fixed from said butchers for such dressed beef and fresh pork sold to them. They cannot plead that the managers of the coolers and city solicitors who carry on the business for them did it without their knowledge and consent. The local agents of the dressed beef companies did it and all knew it and their knowledge is the knowledge of their companies and their acts are the acts of their companies."

"It appears from the evidence, and I find that the corporations who are the defendants at St. Joseph, St. Louis and Kansas City sell and offer to trade at each point from 15 to 50 per cent of the dressed beef handled and from 50 to 90 per cent of the dressed pork."

SICK MOTHER IN HOVEL WITH DEAD AND DYING

Two St. Louis Policemen Find by Accident a Case of Appalling Destitution.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3.—Sick and tossing on a miserable couch in a poverty-stricken abode and surrounded by her five young children, the police to-day found Mrs. Nannie McKane slowly dying from hunger. The dead bodies of her husband and sixteen months old grandson lay in the same room. There was no fire and no food. One of the children lay on the couch with the suffering mother flushed from fever. The husband had died from consumption yesterday and the infant grandson had succumbed to insufficient nourishment.

The case was so appalling in its destitution that the two officers who had accidentally discovered it provided food and then took the opportunity to make a request for speedy charity.

A North St. Louis undertaker took charge of the bodies and will give them a decent burial and the authorities have taken charge of the living.

ASSERTS THAT HUMBERTS TRIED TO SAVE DREYFUS

Gaston Pollonais Repeats Statement That Deposition Has Been Made to That Effect.

PARIS, Jan. 4.—Gaston Pollonais, the well-known polemicist, has another article in the Gaulois this morning on the alleged role played by the Humbert family in the Dreyfus affair. He repeats his assertion that Colonel De Paty du Clam recently made a deposition before the magistrate investigating the Humbert case to the effect that the archives of the general staff contain documents showing that the Humberts were active in trying to save Dreyfus. M. Pollonais denies the truth of the semi-official statement published in the Temps that a Judge named Poncet was not present when the deposition of Colonel De Paty du Clam was taken and he points out that this was the only point in his assertions that the officials investigating the Humbert affair have brought into question.

BISHOPRIC HONOR TO BE ACCORDED REV. P. C. CUMMINS

Pastor of St. Patrick's Church in This City Will Succeed the Right Rev. George Montgomery in the Southern Diocese



PASTOR OF ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH IN SAN FRANCISCO, WHO WILL BE APPOINTED AS SUCCESSOR TO BISHOP MONTGOMERY IN THE DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3.—Although no official announcement has yet been made, information has been authoritatively received that the Rev. Father P. C. Cummins, pastor of St. Patrick's Church of San Francisco, will succeed the Right Rev. George Montgomery as Bishop of the diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles.

At a recent meeting of the irremovable pastors held in this city three names were sent to the Vatican as nominees for this office. They were the Rev. Father Harnett of Los Angeles, the Rev. Father O'Connor of Stockton and the Rev. Father Cummins of San Francisco. It has been learned that his Grace Archbishop Riordan is very desirous that Father Cummins be appointed to the office.

The Rev. Father Cummins is not well known in this city, but it is supposed that Archbishop Riordan wishes to have him appointed Bishop of Los Angeles because of the great faith he entertains in the priest's executive ability. The diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles covers a territory of 80,000 square miles, and it requires an ecclesiastic of uncommon strength and activity to conduct the office successfully.

During the last few years the population of the diocese has increased with great rapidity. Thousands of Eastern people are arriving in Southern California with the intention of settling here permanently. Many are Catholics, and the newly appointed Bishop will find himself confronted with tremendous work. The Cathedral of St. Viviana, located on Main and Second streets, is even now inadequate for the congregation. The site is

IRISH LAND CONFERENCE A GREAT STEP FORWARD

Its Report Clears Way for Final Legislation to Settle Vexed Problem.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The Dublin correspondent of the Observer says the report of the Irish land conference does not call for compulsory purchases, but it clears the path for final legislation on the question. The report makes recommendations in favor of evicting tenants. The members of the conference, continues the correspondent, are pleased with the result of their meetings and there is a general feeling that a great step forward has been taken toward the settlement of the Irish question.

Motorman Thrown Forty Feet

SIoux CITY, Iowa, Jan. 3.—A collision between a Northwestern engine and a street car to-day at Dace street resulted in the serious injury of John McLeod, the motorman, who was thrown forty feet. The passengers in the street car had miraculous escapes, but none sustained serious injury.

BANDIT ROBS LAWYER AND COMPANIONS

Thomas C. Van Ness and His Wife in a Hold-Up.

Stage Going to Lakeport Halted by a Road Agent.

Officers Find the Treasure Box Broken Open and Coin Missing.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

NAPA, Jan. 3.—The Calistoga-Lakeport stage was robbed about four miles from Calistoga shortly after noon to-day by a lone highwayman, armed with an old rusty revolver. There were nine passengers on the stage, among them Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Van Ness of San Francisco. William Comer was the driver on the box.

The holdup occurred a short distance south of Dusty Bend, the place where the same stage was stopped a year ago last July. After the holdup the stage continued on its way to Lakeport. Among the passengers was an Italian, who, as soon as the stage stopped threw his purse out under a bush so the robber only got what loose change he had in his pocket, amounting to a dollar or two. The Italian came back on the next stage and got his purse.

Mr. Van Ness gave up about \$1 and a pistol. This is about all the plunder the robber got to pay him for his trouble. He took the express box, dragged it to a point about a hundred yards from the road and blew off the lock. There was nothing of value in the box and he did not disturb the papers. The mail bags were not taken from the stage.

The robber is described as a dark-complected, smooth-shaven man about 35 years of age, weighing about 175 pounds and nearly six feet tall. He wore a black hat, blue jumper and overalls and a blue handkerchief for a neckerchief.

As soon as the stage reached the Toll-house, Driver Comer telephoned the news to Calistoga and Constable Ben Grause and Policeman Ed Powers went to the scene of the holdup. They found the express box. Sheriff Dunlap was notified about half-past 2 o'clock and went to Calistoga to direct the search for the robber.

There are several theories as to the identity of the robber. It is thought by some at Calistoga that he is a man who lives in the town. A tramp answering the description of the robber passed through Napa yesterday and inquired about stage lines.

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN MEETS LORD MILNER

Impressive Greeting Witnessed by Crowd of Soldiers and Civilians in Natal.

CHARLESTOWN, Natal, Jan. 3.—Lord Milner, the British High Commissioner in South Africa, and Colonial Secretary Chamberlain had an impressive meeting here this afternoon in the presence of a great crowd of soldiers and civilians, many of whom came miles across the veldt to witness the reception of the Commissioner by his chief.

Lord Milner and his staff mounted the steps leading to Chamberlain's special train and there was a look of decided pleasure on the thin features of the Colonial Secretary as he grasped Lord Milner's hand. There were cheers and loud calls for a speech, but Chamberlain contented himself with briefly thanking Lord Milner for the welcome and the two officials entered the observation car of the train, which steamed off toward the Transvaal, followed by the cheers of the crowd.

PRETORIA, Jan. 3.—The special train bringing Mr. Chamberlain and his party arrived here at midnight. The Colonial Secretary met with an enthusiastic reception.

SANTA BARBARA FUGITIVE IS ARRESTED IN TEXAS

David Ellsworth Captured at El Paso With Counterfeiting Tools in His Possession.

EL PASO, Texas, Jan. 3.—David Ellsworth, a fugitive from Santa Barbara, Cal., was arrested here by United States marshals to-night on the charge of counterfeiting. Tools for making spurious coins were found in his possession and several counterfeit dollars were found on his person.

Ellsworth, under the name of Latten, was pardoned in June, 1902, from the penitentiary at Walla Walla, Wash., where he was serving twenty years for murder. He was arrested at Santa Barbara for counterfeiting, but escaped by leaping from a fast going train, and came to El Paso. The fact that this locality has been flooded with bad coins led to his arrest.

Censored Cipher Cablegram Conveys the Vague Announcement of Southern Dictator's Abdication.



REVOLUTIONARY LEADER WHO MAY BECOME THE PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELA.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—

A message received direct from Venezuela to-night indicates that President Castro has either abdicated or is about to abdicate his post as executive head of the Venezuelan government. The dispatch is not so entirely clear as to make its full purport absolutely conclusive. The Herald publishes this information with due reserve.

It is manifestly impossible for The Call and Herald correspondents in Venezuela to give full details by wire, owing to the rigid censorship, but the dispatches received seem to fully warrant this conclusion. Detailed reports which come from the Call-Herald special correspondent in Caracas, by way of Curacao, and which, therefore, left Caracas about twenty-four hours earlier than the cipher message, prove conclusively that at that time President Castro's position was already most desperate and that the friends of the government saw no more hopeful issue of his plight than abdication or disaster.

General Manuel Antonio Matos, leader of the Venezuelan revolution and who may succeed Castro as President, is the wealthiest and one of the most prominent men in that country. He is estimated to have been worth \$5,000,000 at the outbreak of the war and to have expended at least \$2,000,000 for the revolutionary cause, paying his soldiers, who at one time numbered 10,000, out of his own pocket. He has twice been called into the cabinet to meet financial crises, once under President Crespo and again under President Andrade. He has always been opposed to the Castro administration, declaring it to be corrupt.

Matos is related by marriage to the Guzman Blanco family and is the superior of President Castro by birth. Although essentially a civic leader he had some experience in the army under President Blanco. At that time he was said to have made large sums out of contracts. He conducted a large commission house in Caracas and had branches in New York and in various European cities. He also owned stock in the Bank of Venezuela and the Bank of Caracas. Much of his wealth is invested in cocoa and coffee plantations.

The revolutionary movement which he has headed was the result of the avowed

belief of a group of prominent Venezuelans that President Castro's administration was corrupt, involving the country in dangerous difficulties and leading to destruction.

CASTRO IN HIS LAST DITCH.

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CARACAS, via Willemstad, Curacao, Jan. 3.—President Castro's position is daily becoming more critical. Beset by foreign enemies afloat and by foes ashore, the cordon is rapidly tightening around him. His treasury bankrupt, the Venezuelan Government is now absolutely without money, and the outlook is ominous. When the end comes, which now appears inevitable, General Castro must probably yield to his enemies.

The National Bank of Venezuela has now in its coffers only \$200 in cash, and other Government resources are about exhausted.

It has become impossible to serve adequate rations to the troops under arms, and for the first time since 1892 soldiers in the field can neither be paid for their services nor properly fed.

When the facts become generally known nothing can prevent a panic. Traders will make a concerted rush upon the empty vaults of the banks and there struggle to exchange their bills for specie which does not exist. A forced loan, it is feared, will soon be the last resource left to the distracted Government.

If the financial outlook is bad, the military situation is worse. On Wednesday the Government troops under Modesta, President Castro's best general, were disastrously defeated near Guatire by revolutionary troops under General Antonio Fernandez, the insurgent commander. President Castro on Friday sent to the front 1500 Andine troops with two field guns, the entire force under command of General Campbell Acosta, who will try to check the further advance of the revolutionists toward the capital along that line.

There is no doubt that since the expiration of the armistice the revolutionary forces have been thoroughly reorganized and materially strengthened. Their armies are now marching upon Caracas from three different directions. The Government, in this imminent crisis, is short of ammunition as well as of money, the blockade of the allied powers having cut off all possibility of restocking its arsenals. Desperate efforts are being made to get cartridges through from Porto Rico.

Unless the blockade be suspended immediately President Castro's fall from power, either by abdication or enforced deposition, seems inevitable. Lacking the necessary ammunition for protracted resistance he is likely to fall without the possibility of a serious battle and the alternative of flight is denied him by the revolutionists hemming in the land exits while the German, British and Italian men-of-war maintain their patrol of the seaboard.

While the Government finds itself in this almost helpless position the revolutionists on the other hand have thrived through the open or covert collusion of Germany and Great Britain.

which left here yesterday for Trinidad with a number of prizes in tow, was obliged to return to this port last night, owing to the lawless carrying away repeatedly on account of the heavy gale and strong contrary currents. The British cruiser Tribune went out to her assistance. The Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausan has left here for Curacao, where she will coal.

The Germans suddenly landed a force of marines at Puerto Cabello this morning and took possession of the customhouse and wharves before resistance could be offered. The excitement of the inhabitants was intense and they prepared to defend the rest of the town. Streets had already been barricaded when it was announced that the landing of the Germans was only a movement taken in order to clear the port of small craft and render the blockade more effective. This had a calming effect upon the people, who at first believed the allies intended to occupy all the custom-houses in the country. The revolutionists are active on the outskirts of Puerto Cabello.

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REMOVED FROM OFFICE

Kern County Board of Education Deposes Peckham and Names Another Man.

BAKERSFIELD, Jan. 3.—The County Board of Education to-day removed Principal L. B. Peckham of the High School and assigned him to the department of history in the institution. It is not possible to terminate his contract for employment without a month's notice, but there is no agreement that he should be at the head of the school. The position has been offered to the former principal, C. C. Childress, now of Hanford. It is not known whether Peckham will accept the inferior position to which he has been assigned.

In taking this action the board stated that it was not due to the recent troubles in the school directly. The action of the principal in suspending the rebellious sophomores was approved, and the latter are summoned before the board for reprimand. They will be required to make a public apology before reinstatement.

FATHER IS STRIKING WHEN PURSUING CHILD

Daughter Elopes With a Mexican and Parent Is Overcome by a Hemorrhage.

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 3.—The determination of Ramon Cota's daughter to elope with a Mexican brought trouble upon her father last night. Cota called at the police station to ask that his daughter be prevented from going away with the Mexican, but was told that nothing could be done by the police, because the girl was of age.

The old man had been following the couple and when he could not secure the help of the police he became excited and hurried out after the girl and her lover, who, according to his story, intended to take the steamer last night for Ensenada. Before he caught up with them, however, he was overcome by a severe hemorrhage and dropped in the street. His recovery is doubtful.

MEXICO TREATS WHEAT RING WITH SEVERITY

May Establish Municipal Bakeries to Furnish Bread to the Poor at Cost.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 3.—The recent advance in the price of wheat has caused bakers here to diminish the size of their loaves, while still charging the same price, and this has worked hardship on the poorer classes. The Government is determined that the wheat ring, which has been monopolizing the grain market, shall be treated with much severity. For this purpose the recent decree taking off the duties on wheat was issued and the railroads have reduced rates from the border.

The city government proposes to establish municipal bakeries and sell bread at cost to the poor. The policy of the Government is to break up all monopolies that raise the price of living to the masses.

HOAR'S BILL EMBODIES AUTHOR'S IDEAS ALONE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—It can be asserted on high authority that any statement that Senator Hoar's bill is an administration measure is a mistake. So far as can be ascertained it embodies simply his own views. The Attorney General had no hand in its preparation, and, in fact, had never seen it until its publication.

The Attorney General has been requested by Senator Hoar of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and also by the Judiciary Committee of the House, to prepare and present his views as to the nature of future legislation necessary in his judgment, and is not expected to make his communication to these bodies before Monday, when Congress will convene.

Railway Company Names Officers.

STOCKTON, Jan. 3.—The new stockholders of the Stockton Electric Railway Company held a meeting this afternoon and elected the following directors: James H. Budd, H. E. Huntington, W. F. Herrin, James A. Hooper and W. R. Clark. Budd was elected president for the present, as he expressed it. H. E. Huntington vice president and W. R. Clark manager. Mr. Budd explained that this board of directors would probably be permanent, but that Mr. Huntington would soon take up the duties of president of the company.

GERMAN MARINES LAND.

LA GUAIRA, Venezuela, Jan. 3.—The British gunboat Zumbador, formerly the Venezuelan war vessel of that name,