

VENEZUELA QUESTION

It is Fast Approaching the Crucial Test.

PROSPECTS OF HOSTILITIES.

Governor of Guiana Advised to Get Without Delay a Couple of Maxim Guns. Chamberlain Evidently Going to Hold Up to the Schomburg Line—The News in Washington.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The St. James Gazette makes some highly important and sensational statements regarding Venezuela, which seem to show that the dispute between that republic and Great Britain has assumed a very grave aspect. It says that since the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain assumed the office as secretary of state for the colonies, he has paid close personal attention to the question of the relations between Great Britain and Venezuela, and that he has taken the initiative in directing in part the administration of the affairs of the British colony of Guiana, adjoining Venezuela.

Mr. Chamberlain's hand, it appears, has been felt in the local executive council, and the St. James Gazette adds: "We are now enabled to give the tenor of a remarkable dispatch, in which is outlined the imperial policy toward the colonies. The document is of much importance, inasmuch as it was followed by cabled instructions from Mr. Chamberlain to the governor of British Guiana, Sir Charles Cameron Lees, K. C. M. G., to obtain without delay a vote for the provision of two Maxim guns, one of which is to be stationed at Uman or elsewhere along the frontier where Venezuelans may attempt to cross. The mere fact that Mr. Chamberlain cabled instructions for the defense of the frontier in this manner is positive proof that the imperial government will not tolerate a repetition of the Uman incident, and that it intends to hold the frontier within the Schomburg line by force if necessary."

"In this dispatch Mr. Chamberlain advocates especially fostering gold mining, and urges the cutting of a road from the Upper Barina river to Cuyuni, pointing out its importance from a military point of view, as it would enable the government to keep more closely in touch with the frontier and repel attempts at Venezuelan aggression, adding that in view of the possibly early and rapid expansion of gold mining it will be necessary to provide adequately for the protection of the northwest district, and recommending an increase in the number of military and police, as well as the erection of barracks on the frontier."

VIEW IN WASHINGTON.

Great Interest Manifested in Chamberlain's Actions.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—At the British embassy there was much interest evinced in the action of Minister Chamberlain on the Venezuelan boundary question, as announced by the St. James Gazette. The embassy was without official advice, however, and it was thought that any steps on this and other South and Central American questions would be taken in London, executed at the point effected, and not communicated to the British diplomatic representatives in the United States. It has been evident to diplomats here for some time that the British foreign office views all these questions as issues between Great Britain and the parties immediately involved, and does not recognize the United States as a factor in the questions.

In diplomatic circles the personality of Mr. Chamberlain is being discussed in connection with his order. When he was in Washington as a member of the fisheries commission all his utterances were extremely cordial to the United States, and he coined the expression, "Blood is thicker than water," as applying to the blood relation between Englishmen and Americans. At that time he met Miss Endicott, the daughter of the secretary of war in Mr. Cleveland's first cabinet, and married her. Thus in word and action he was regarded as typifying the broadest English sentiment toward the United States. For this reason there is surprise that he should be the first to urge Maxim guns for the Venezuela boundary. Those who are intimately acquainted with Mr. Chamberlain say that his letter to Sir Charles Lees is indicative of the determined attitude he will adopt in all questions of colonial policy. He is regarded as a radical in action as to politics.

The Uman incident, as mentioned in the cable, has been pending for months. The chief of police of British Guiana and several of his officers were arrested by Venezuelan soldiers while on the disputed border tract. The British officials were few in number, and could make no resistance to being taken to a Venezuelan town and held as prisoners. They were quickly released, however, on the filing of protests. But the British chief of police claimed that he had been improperly treated while under arrest, and he proceeded in person to London to lay the matter before the colonial office. Since then no action has been taken and it is probable the action of the colonial minister is made with a view to preventing a repetition of the border arrests.

VENEZUELA ARMING.

Improved Maxim Guns Already Ordered From a British Firm.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—That the Venezuelan question is approaching an acute stage with possibilities of resist-

ance by the South American government to British aggression, was signified by disclosures just made in New York on the best authority. The government of Venezuela is providing itself with modern armament and among other supplies has ordered 10 improved Maxim guns from the British firm which manufactures them. The order was placed through a New York firm, the English house, it is supposed, does not know the destination of the goods.

At the same time the syndicate of United States capitalists which has secured concessions on the Venezuelan gold lands claimed by Great Britain, is preparing to send a large force of prospectors, miners and workmen into the field. William N. Safford, counsel for the Orinoco company—the American syndicate—made plain yesterday the position assumed by the Orinoco company.

"The company," said he, "proposes to work its concessions without delay. It will send prospectors along the line of the Imataca mountains, whose foothills are supposed to be rich with gold mines. That territory is, of course, in the company's concessions and has always been marked so on the map. But now, that there is a prospect of gold there, Great Britain claims it. Arrangements are being made to send our men there to develop the company's concessions—not with any intent to start a controversy, but to assert the company's rights. Besides the mines there are other properties in the concessions awaiting development."

"Great Britain refers to the Schomburg line, but the fact is she has gone beyond that. This line is purely imaginary. Sir Robert Schomburg visited Venezuela in 1840, and starting at Point Barima merely drew a line southward on the map. The Venezuelan government has conclusive evidence that he made no survey. In 1850 Great Britain asserted that it had no intention to occupy or usurp disputed territory. So matters went until 1885. In that year rich gold fields, now yielding \$4,000,000 a year, were discovered west of the Schomburg line, between the Guyana and Parana rivers. They are known as the Barima gold fields and are 50 to 60 miles west of the Schomburg line. Nevertheless Great Britain promptly stepped in and claimed that territory. And so she has gone on since, claiming land wherever gold has been discovered. The Orinoco company claims those gold fields as being in its concessions, and proposes to stand up for its perfectly clear title to them."

The Crisis Approaches.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Sir Charles Cameron R. Lees, governor of British Guiana, has been summoned to London to confer with Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, upon Venezuelan affairs.

A WOMAN PHYSICIAN SUICIDES.

An Accident Had Compelled Her to Use Crutches.

BUFFALO, Oct. 19.—Dr. Abbie J. Seymour, a distinguished woman physician, and an artist of repute, deliberately took her own life by throwing herself in front of a fast West Shore train near the waterworks station.

She had been compelled to use crutches since last spring, when she suffered an accident to the nerves of her hip while attending the Post Graduate medical college at Chicago. This affliction had preyed upon her mind until she succumbed to melancholia. She leaves a sister in Chicago, Mrs. Morris Gynne, and a stepmother and another sister in New York. She was born in Batavia, N. Y., 42 years ago.

FIREMEN INJURED.

Blown Down a Stairway by an Explosion of Hot Air.

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—Several firemen were blown down a stairway by an explosion of hot air yesterday evening on the third floor of the building at 7 and 9 Jefferson street. Three were injured, two being severely burned. They are: John Ashbaugh, pipeman, severely burned about hands and face; taken home.

Fire Marshal Campion, bruised but not seriously injured; taken to house of engine company No. 17; returned to post of duty in a short time.

Oscar Peters, pipeman, severely burned about hands and face; taken home.

FIGHTING ON FORMOSA.

The Japanese About to Begin Bombarding the Capital.

HONG-KONG, Oct. 19.—Dispatches received here from the island of Formosa announce that Takao, on the west coast of the island, was captured on Wednesday, Oct. 16, by the Japanese.

The dispatches also state that the Japanese are about to begin to bombard Tai-Wan-Fu, the Chinese capital of the island. That city is held by the Black Flag leader, who refused to surrender unconditionally, and heavy fighting is expected.

Conflagration at Creede.

DENVER, Oct. 19.—A dispatch from Creede says that all the frame buildings in the town burned last night. This is the third disastrous fire in that famous mining camp. A later dispatch states that the fire burned over the three blocks between First and Fourth streets. Thirty-four business houses are destroyed, including the postoffice and two newspaper offices, those of The Sentinel and The Candle. The loss is estimated at \$150,000.

Sawmill Burned.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 19.—The sawmill of the E. W. Backus Lumber company was burned last night. Loss, \$125,000; insurance, \$100,000. The origin of the fire is unknown. The mill was erected 12 years and had a daily capacity of 450,000 feet.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

R. G. Dun & Company's Weekly Business Report.

OUTLOOK VERY ENCOURAGING.

Hopes Held That the Future Demand Will Be More Nearly Proportioned to Actual Consumption—Corner in Cotton. No Advance in Wheat—Lull in Iron. Failures of the Week.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—R. G. Dun & Company's weekly review of trade says: The events of the week are promising in nature, though to speculative markets not entirely encouraging. The great advance in cotton had arrested exports and so deranged exchanges that shipments of gold was for a time apprehended, but the break in the market indicates that the natural movement of the product may soon be restored. The halting of demand and moderate yielding of prices in the great industrial markets show that a season of reasonable attention to natural conditions has arrived, and gives hope that the future demand will be more nearly proportioned to actual consumption.

The cotton market has been partly cornered for early delivery by a New Orleans operator, and his followers, as it has been twice in not distant years by Liverpool speculators, who ended in a failure. The estimate of Mr. Neill, who has been conspicuously correct in judging recent crops, indicate a yield of 6,800,000 bales, where most speculators had expected much less, and led many to realize the meaning of 3,000,000 bales brought over from last year. The actual receipts thus far, only 17 per cent less than last year from a crop of 9,900,000 bales, fail to support low estimates, and spinners here and abroad with much unanimity refrain from buying largely at current quotations. Until the price recedes far enough to bring out a liberal supply of cotton bills there will be a possibility of gold exports, for other merchandise exports are small from New York, for two weeks 10 per cent less than last year, with imports in the two weeks of October 20 per cent larger than last year. In September dutiable imports were 64.2, and for nine months 53.8 per cent larger than last year.

Wheat does not go out freely and the attempt to advance prices on Monday was followed by an immediate decline. The Atlantic exports, flour included, have been in the past three weeks, 4,558,455 bushels, against 7,248,111 last year, and the big shipments from Russia and of late from Argentina show that the world is not yet obliged to pay Atlantic prices for American wheat. Western receipts for the week were remarkably large, 7,733,000 bushels, and for three weeks 21,638,977, against 14,017,261 last year. The rush of wheat to market and the largest output of flour ever known at Minneapolis are not evidences of a great shortage in yield, but the price has changed only an eighth for the week.

Corn is stronger without clear reason, for while exports in three weeks are 3,326,284 bushels, against 236,703 last year, they can at best dispose of only an insignificant fraction of the great yield.

The iron industry is still fully engaged on old orders, but new business is so scanty that many of the works are seeking it at some concessions in price, and only large contracts have been made at \$1.75 to \$1.80 for bridge plates quoted at 1.9 to 2 cents. Quotations are not lower, though a good order commands some discount. Billets sell at \$21 and rod at \$28 at Pittsburgh, want of business in wire and wire nail continuing. Mills have to compete in pig iron and other products with speculators who took large quantities on advancing prices, and actual consumption will not be fairly measured until the effects of the speculation are out of the way.

Textile manufacturers have strong markets for materials to support them. But scarcely any advance is seen this week in cotton goods, though the rise for the month has averaged 4.1 per cent, and there seems such a halt as appeared a month ago in iron products. The price of some worsteds has been advanced, because advanced abroad, but it is as questionable as ever how far the market can be held by domestic makers, and woolen manufacturers have to face not only foreign competition but an especial tendency of popular demand toward worsted fabrics. Sales of wool, 21,209,700 pounds, at the three chief markets, against 13,703,800 in 1893, greatly exceed actual consumption. Failures for the week have been 263 in the United States, against 253 last year, and 46 in Canada, against 49 last year.

PAY CAR WRECKED.

Three Men Killed and Several Others Fatally Hurt.

DECATUR, Ind., Oct. 19.—Word has just reached here from Ceylon, 17 miles south, that the pay car on the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad was wrecked and three men killed and several badly injured. The dead are: John Malott, James Gibson and William Brown.

A gang of bridge workers had pushed their car on a switch to let the pay car pass, but neglected to close the switch, and the train, running 50 miles an hour, dashed into them. The pay car and engine were wrecked. Physicians from this city and a wrecking train are on the scene. All trains are delayed. News from the wreck is very meagre, but several men are known to be fatally hurt. The dead men reside here and have families.

HAVANA DISPATCHES.

Affairs on the Island According to Spanish Reports.

HAVANA, Oct. 19.—Colonel Hernandez, at the head of a column of troops, has attacked and captured the insurgent camp at Carboneras, in the Sagua district. The arms, ammunition, hospital stores and provisions of the enemy fell into the hands of the troops. Four insurgents were killed during the attack and Captain Sanchez, commanding a detachment of troops, sent in pursuit of the enemy, killed two more insurgents.

A squad of troopers belonging to the Sagua squadron have captured, near Santa Clara, a priest, Pio Hernandez, who is understood to have been an agent of the insurgents.

A dispatch from Santa Clara received here says that the insurgents have hanged a volunteer whom they captured in that vicinity.

Police Inspector Trujillo has been released from custody, all the charges brought against him having been proved to be utterly without foundation.

Captain General Martinez de Campos, who is enjoying his usual fine health and spirits, arrived here from Santiago de Cuba yesterday.

A small detachment of civil guards at the farm of Quesada Colon, near Jucaro, has had a skirmish with the insurgents, which resulted in four of the latter, one of whom was wounded, being made prisoners.

Spain Will Send More Troops.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The Standard's Madrid correspondent says that the government is preparing to send a strong fleet to Cuba directly any American government recognizes the Cubans as belligerents. "It is believed, however," the correspondent continues, "that the attitude of the United States and of the principal Spanish American republics will entirely depend upon the duration and progress of the struggle. The government will make the greatest efforts to strike a decisive blow before the next rainy season."

"Senor Castelar, in an eloquent article in El Liberal, reminds the United States how bitterly American statesmen resented European sympathy and interference in the war of secession."

ARMENIAN REFORMS.

British Troops Ready to Land if Reforms Are Not Executed.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The Constantinople correspondent of The Standard says:

"The Armenian reforms are not, properly speaking, the granting of fresh privileges so much as recapitulating and providing for the regular administration of already existing codes, affecting the well being of Moslems as well as Christians. The Armenians consider that the concessions are illusory and Turkish officials admit that they were wrung from the porte under violent pressure."

"The Turks are mostly furious and many competent observers do not hesitate to predict a crisis leading to revolt and bloodshed, compared with which the Armenian troubles would be insignificant. I am convinced, however, that the sultan would employ his troops to repress any Moslem movement with the utmost severity."

To Disgrace Armenian People.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 19.—Sir Philip Currie, the British ambassador, has received from an Armenian source a warning that the young Turkey party will probably induce some Armenian miscreant to attempt his life in order to disgrace the Armenian people.

English Troops Ready to Land.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The Rome correspondent of The Chronicle says that he has been assured in official circles that England intends to land troops in some part of the Turkish territory if the Armenian reforms are not honorably executed.

AFFAIRS IN COREA.

More Disturbances Have Occurred Near the Royal Palace.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—A special to The Herald from Seoul, Corea, says: The king will be provided with a new queue at once.

The Japanese minister has asked the Korean minister of war to sign a paper assuming all responsibility for the recent murder at the palace. This the minister of war has refused to do.

The Korean minister to Japan has resigned and Kiowa Chin, chief of those concerned in the conspiracy, who wants to leave the country, has been appointed in his place.

There have been disturbances within the last few hours in the neighborhood of the palace.

Japanese Minister Recalled.

YOKOHAMA, Oct. 19.—The Japanese minister, Miura, and the other members of the legation and Japanese military officers at Seoul have been recalled.

RESULT OF A RUNAWAY.

Five Persons Dangerously Injured, One Possibly Fatally.

OTTAWA, Kan., Oct. 19.—In a runaway yesterday five persons were dangerously injured, one possibly fatally. A team frightened by a handcar ran half a mile, colliding with a tree and throwing the occupants of the wagon out.

Mrs. D. S. Clapper and a small baby were severely out.

Mrs. Rosa Kalbraungh of Gardner was badly injured in the loins and back.

Mrs. C. Ross of Douglas county was hurt in loins and shin. She also received severe internal injuries and her recovery is doubtful. Mrs. Ross received severe bruises on the head.

STRIKE AND LOCKOUT

Nearly Five Thousand Men Idle in Toledo.

BICYCLE FACTORIES SHUT DOWN.

A Ten Per Cent Advance in Wages Demanded Which Was Not Accorded To. Doings of the State Board of Pardons. Excise Law Declared Constitutional. Other Ohio State News.

TOLEDO, Oct. 19.—The strike yesterday turned into a lockout. Thursday the toolmakers in all the bicycle factories except in the Viking and in the machine shops of the city struck for a 10 per cent advance in wages.

The Manufacturers' association declined to accede to the demand and yesterday morning posted notices on the doors of their establishments announcing that they are closed. This makes nearly 5,000 men who are idle today. Not a bicycle factory is at work in any department except the Viking. The foundries are at work, but otherwise everything in iron and steel manufacturing is at a standstill.

BOARD OF PARDONS.

Two Applications Recommended and Two Rejected.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 19.—At its session yesterday the state board of pardons recommended pardons for John C. Hussey, ex-clerk of Shelby county, who is serving a sentence for presenting false fee claims, and Matthias Nicholas of Lorain county, serving a two-year sentence for manslaughter.

They rejected the applications of Henry Smith of Hamilton county, serving a year's sentence for bigamy, and Robert Lawrence of Columbiana county, serving a year's sentence for burglary and larceny. The board also had under consideration the case of "Elephant" Billy Wilson.

Dun on a Postal Card.

STUEBENVILLE, O., Oct. 19.—Deputy United States Marshal W. E. Mason of the southern district of Ohio, arrived in this city, having under arrest Dr. J. Morgan of Cadiz, charged with a violation of the United States postal laws in sending a dun by mail on a postal card.

Shot by Burglars.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 19.—A telegram from Chicago states that Charles M. Collins of this city was shot by burglars, whom he surprised while at work in the house in which he was stopping. The wounds are said to be dangerous.

Lodged in Jail.

WAVERLY, O., Oct. 19.—Sheriff Hunt arrested Sam Johnson and lodged him in jail here pending the investigation of the coroner into the cause of the death of Johnson's son.

Only One Dollar Damage.

WINCHESTER, O., Oct. 19.—The famous case of Jacob Cochran against Clifton Dryden, for \$3,000 damages, ended by the jury returning a verdict of \$1 for the plaintiff.

Mistaken Medicine.

TIFFIN, O., Oct. 19.—Andy Kieffer took a drug which he supposed was headache powder, and was taken very seriously sick. The drug affected the spinal cord.

Excise Law Constitutional.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 19.—The circuit court yesterday upheld the constitutionality of the excise law, which was brought into question by the express companies.

Freight Train Derailed.

DELAWARE, O., Oct. 19.—An engine and three cars of an eastbound freight were derailed at the Big Four depot here.

VAST LOSS OF LIFE

By the Explosion on Board the Chinese Steamship Kun-Pai.

SHANGHAI, Oct. 19.—Additional advice received here from Kin-Chow, near which place on Wednesday last the steamship Kun-Pai was destroyed by an explosion which sank her in shallow water, confirms the exclusive dispatch to the Associated Press which stated that the loss of life was believed to be very great.

It is now announced that the explosion occurred in the forepart of the Kun-Pai, which vessel was loaded with troops. The explosion, the cause of which is unknown, completely wrecked the forward portion of the steamship and only 24 persons of those on board of her were saved.

A Weak Section of Pipe.

WABASH, Ind., Oct. 19.—When natural gas from the wells was turned into the field line of the Wabash Fuel company, just built to the city limits, it encountered a weak section of pipe. The enormous pressure burst the pipe from end to end, tearing and twisting the metal into fantastic shapes. On account of the break the gas had to be turned off until a new section could be substituted.

Remains of a Mastodon.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind., Oct. 19.—More mastodon remains have been found in Coal Creek, long famous for relics of this character. Frank Beadle, while fishing, found the jawbone of a mastodon, which bone was four feet long and weighed 98 pounds. One tooth weighs over five pounds and is seven inches long.

Cyclone Off Cuba Coast.

HAVANA, Oct. 19.—A cyclonic disturbance is reported along the western part of Cuba, with a tendency to reach Havana and the coast of Florida.