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## GERMANS KEEP BUSY

**PANTHER, VINETA AND FALKE AGAIN ATTEMPT TO REDUCE FORT SAN CARLOS.**

Venezuelan Guns Able to Reply to the Third Effort of the Kaiser's Warships to Silence Them—Defenders Lose Twelve Men Killed and Fifteen Wounded in the Previous Day's Fight—Many Villagers Also Killed.

Maracaibo, Jan. 23.—The bombardment of Fort San Carlos by the German cruisers Vineta, Panther and Falke was continued Wednesday afternoon until 6 o'clock. It was resumed Thursday morning at daybreak. The first shells were hurled at the fort at 4 o'clock at long range. At 6 o'clock the Panther, being of light draught, closed in and again became actively engaged. The fort replied. At 8 o'clock the engagement was proceeding as fiercely as Wednesday.

Twelve dead and fifteen seriously wounded Venezuelan soldiers were counted in the fort at 7 o'clock Wednesday night by the correspondent of the Associated Press.

**NUMEROUS SHELLS FELL SHORT.**  
San Carlos Village Suffered and Many People Killed.

Maracaibo, Jan. 23.—At 7 o'clock Wednesday afternoon the Associated Press correspondent landed on the island and entered the fort. The walls of the fort are terribly battered and there were many evidences of the fierce engagement. Twelve dead Venezuelan soldiers were counted behind the ramparts and fifteen other men, seriously wounded, were lying on a low platform.

The fort is literally covered with pieces of broken shells. It was seen that a great many of the German shells had not exploded. The magazine had a very narrow escape, two shells having come within an ace of penetrating it. The walls of the fort that face towards the entrance of the lake suffered particularly and were greatly damaged. It is estimated by the commandant, General Bello, that the German ships fired more than 1,600 shells at Fort San Carlos.

Although the damage inflicted upon the fort by the sustained fire of the German cruisers is very great, it is not all that could be expected from such a continuous fire from modern high power guns.

The village of Fort San Carlos suffered severely. A great portion of the fire of the war vessels fell short, 60 per cent of their shells exploding in the village before reaching the fort.

A fisherman from the village of San Carlos has arrived here in a canoe with his family. Two of this man's children were killed by shells from the German cruisers. He reports that more than twenty-five Indian fishermen have been killed or wounded at San Carlos. The fishermen there are helpless.

## NEARING A SOLUTION.

Venezuelan Problem Rapidly Drawing to a Close.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Up to the close of the day formal notice of the acceptance of the proposition had not come to Mr. Bowen from the representatives of the allies here. However, such unofficial information as reached Mr. Bowen confirmed him in the belief that the pending controversy would be settled "soon and satisfactorily." It is learned that the Italian government all along has favored an honorable compromise and has let its allies know the favor with which it regarded the Bowen proposition, while professing a willingness to defer to their views in the matter. It developed during the day that the proportion of the customs dues collected at La Guayra and Puerto Cabello to be paid to the allies is 30 per cent. These two ports collect a large part of the total customs receipts of the country. Under this arrangement probably a cash payment can be dispensed with, as the customs receipts would quickly defray the pressing individual claims of the allies.

The lifting of the blockade would not mean the complete withdrawal from American waters of the allied fleet and it is understood that not only will the British-American fleet remain in its accustomed winter quarters in the Caribbean, but that the German government will depart from its ancient policy, which has been to get along without station fleets, and will continue the present squadron in American waters as a permanent fleet.

**GERMAN OFFICIAL REPORT.**  
Commander Scheder Says Venezuelans Began the Firing.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—Commander Scheder, commander of the German fleet in Venezuelan waters, officially reports the bombardment of Fort San Carlos from Maracaibo under date of Jan. 21, as follows:  
"On the 17th inst., while the Panther was passing the Maracaibo bar, she was unexpectedly attacked by Fort San Carlos, which opened a heavy fire on her. To this the Panther replied and a cannonade was exchanged for half an hour. Owing to the difficulties of navigation, the Panther then desisted. "In order to exact an immediate punishment for this attack, the more so as the Venezuelan government had proclaimed it a victory, I bombarded the fort with the Vineta on the 21st inst. and destroyed it."

**WILL BE RAISED WEDNESDAY.**  
British Naval Officer Discusses Venezuelan Blockade.

Caracas, Jan. 27.—The Associated Press correspondent has just received a communication from the British naval officer at La Guayra informing him that the blockade will be raised on Wednesday.

## NEW CANAL TREATY.

Amount of Annuity the Only Change in Document.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The Panama canal treaty, signed Thursday afternoon, is the same treaty that was drawn up by this government several months ago with the single exception of the item of annuity to be paid to Colombia for the use of the right of way for the canal. The amount of the annuity is a compromise between the \$100,000 offered by Secretary Hay and the \$650,000 demanded by Colombia. The latter's price was fixed upon what are asserted to be the present returns from the Panama Railroad company, port dues, etc., which she had no desire to see diminished. The amount fixed in the treaty by way of compromise, though not stated by the officials and persons who have had to do with the perfection of the treaty, is admitted to have been arrived at from a calculation of the exact receipts at present from traffic across the isthmus and therefore is regarded as only fair to Colombia. At the same time, though the amount is larger than was at first offered, it is thought by officials that the senate undoubtedly will accept the figure named when it is made clear that to offer less would be to deprive Colombia of income she now is actually receiving.

All other points than this one of money compensation remain as they stood in the original draft of the treaty, and are completely satisfactory to the United States government.

The United States will have control of the canal practically in perpetuity, as required by the Spooner act; this result having been attained by the adoption of a plan for a lease for 100 years, renewable at the pleasure of the United States, and Colombia having nothing to say about the extension. The matters of police and judicial control are settled by a scheme of joint action, although it especially is assured that no citizen of the United States will be tried by any other than his own courts. Control of the waters of the ports of Colon and Panama is vested in the United States just as far as may be necessary for the complete operation of the canal.

## LYNCH SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Found Guilty of Treason in Fighting With the Boers.

London, Jan. 24.—Colonel Arthur Lynch, member of parliament for Galway, on trial for treason because he fought on the Boer side in the South African war, has been found guilty and sentenced to death.

The jury, after having been out half an hour, returned a verdict of guilty. When asked if he had anything to say why he should not be sentenced to death Colonel Lynch replied:

"Thank you. I will say nothing." The sentence of death was passed on each of the four counts in the indictment.

The prisoner then bowed to the court and was removed in custody.

Lynch throughout bore himself with unflinching composure. He walked out steadily between the jailers and past the bench where his wife and other relatives were seated. Mrs. Lynch has been given permission to see her husband.

After the prisoner had been removed, Lynch and his counsel had a conference regarding the course to be adopted in the future, and later it was announced that no action would be taken at present. Counsel can proceed with applying for a writ of error, but it is thought that this may be rendered unnecessary by the commutation of the sentence to a short term of imprisonment, in which case it is probable that the prisoner will accept the situation.

Although formally sentenced to be hanged Lynch's sentence will no doubt be commuted.

## TROUBLE UNAVOIDABLE.

Relations Between Brazil and Bolivia Very Strained.

New York, Jan. 26.—The tension of relations between Brazil and Bolivia because of the Acre dispute is increasing daily, according to the Herald's Rio de Janeiro correspondent, and it is believed there that a break is unavoidable. News of the departure of the Acre expedition from La Paz has caused great excitement.

The government has resolved to send military and naval forces not only to the Amazon but also to the province of Matto Grosso, on the southern frontier of Bolivia. The cruisers Mariscal Deodoro and Tupi and several smaller vessels have received orders to go to Manaus, to which will also be sent a military division under the command of General Caesar Sampaia.

The government believes the United States will remain neutral in the Acre dispute.

## PEOPLE STILL IN NEED.

King Oscar Says Aid Will Be Gratefully Received.

Stockholm, Jan. 26.—Inquiries from philanthropic Americans, directed to King Oscar through the central relief committee which has been formed for the purpose of affording aid to the starving people in the north of Sweden, were answered by a message from the king through the usual channels. The message says:  
"The needs of the people continue and gifts of money will be gratefully received."

As previously announced in these dispatches the people in the north are without food, owing to bad seasons for crops, and measures for their relief are now urgent because of an extremely severe winter.

## ENGLISH COAL TRUST.

Owners of Anthracite Mines Organize a Combine.

London, Jan. 26.—After months of negotiations between the owners of anthracite coal mines a definite arrangement for the formation of a combine has been concluded. The St. James Gazette says it understands that matters have so far progressed that the promoters of the plan have decided to register a company under the name of "The Anthracite Trust," with a capital of \$15,000,000. Most of the collieries, it is added, are ready to accept the promoters' terms.

## CONGRESSIONAL DOINGS.

Tuesday, Jan. 20.

**Senate**—Legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill passed. When the statehood bill was taken up Mr. Quay demanded an immediate vote. Mr. Beveridge objected and then discussed the measure, opposing statehood for Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico.

**House**—District of Columbia appropriation bill passed and consideration of the Philippine currency bill begun. General debate on the District bill was largely devoted to discussion of the Alaskan boundary line dispute.

Wednesday, Jan. 21.

**Senate**—Mr. Burnham of New Hampshire addressed the senate in opposition to omnibus statehood bill. Mr. Cullom explained the necessity for considering the Cuban reciprocity treaty and appealed to Mr. Quay to permit an executive session. The latter refused and the matter was put to a vote, with the result that the senate refused to go into executive session, 37 to 27.

**House**—Entire day devoted to debate on the Philippine coinage bill. The minority offered a substitute providing for the introduction of the American currency system into the islands.

Thursday, Jan. 22.

**House**—Philippine coinage bill reported by the insular affairs committee defeated and the substitute offered by the minority adopted by a vote of 146 to 128. The insular affairs committee includes in its membership the chairmen of some of the most powerful committees in the house.

**Senate**—Statehood bill occupied the entire day except for a few routine matters which came up during the morning hour. Brief executive session held.

Friday, Jan. 23.

**House**—Two hundred and thirty-five private pension bills passed. Bill providing for a delegate from Alaska also passed.

**Senate**—Statehood bill again occupied most of the day. During the debate several spirited colloquies occurred.

Saturday, Jan. 24.

**House**—Entire day spent on the agricultural appropriation bill, which was passed with only one amendment—an increase of the appropriation of free seeds from \$270,000 to \$300,000.

**Senate**—Statehood bill under discussion. Senator Spooner, by permission of Senator Burnham, diverted the trend of debate to the Indianola post-office affair and the power of the federal government to protect its agents without regard to local prejudices.

Monday, Jan. 26.

**Senate**—Mr. Quay, in charge of the omnibus statehood bill, insisted on its consideration to the exclusion of other business. A resolution offered by Mr. Morgan of Alabama, questioning the credentials of Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge d'affaires, who signed with Secretary Hay the canal treaty, caused the senate to go into a long executive session.

**House**—Military academy appropriation bill passed without a word of debate and the Indian appropriation bill taken up.

## TELLER RE-ELECTED SENATOR.

Colorado Republicans Dispute Legality of the Proceedings.

Denver, Jan. 26.—Democratic members of the house and senate of the general assembly during the day cast their fifty-two votes for Senator Teller for United States senator and he was declared elected by W. H. Adams, who presided.

The result was accomplished after a week of untiring effort on the part of the Democratic leaders, during which many rumors of treachery had been circulated and many delays had occurred by reason of absence from roll call of different members of the assembly.

## WITH SOME AMENDMENTS.

Senate Committee Decides to Recommend the Elkins Bill.

Washington, Jan. 27.—The senate committee on interstate commerce has unanimously agreed to report the Elkins anti-trust bill with some amendments that a sub-committee are perfecting.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

**Minneapolis Wheat.**  
Minneapolis, Jan. 26.—Wheat—May, 78½c; July, 78½c@78¾c. On Track—No. 1 hard, 79c; No. 1 Northern, 78c; No. 2 Northern, 76½c.

**Duluth Wheat and Flax.**  
Duluth, Jan. 26.—Wheat—Cash, No. 1 hard, 78½c; No. 1 Northern, 77½c; No. 2 Northern, 75½c; No. 3 spring, 72½c. To Arrive—No. 1 hard, 79½c; No. 1 Northern, 78½c; May, 79c; July, 79½c. Flax—Cash, \$1.19.

**St. Paul Union Stock Yards.**  
St. Paul, Jan. 26.—Cattle—Good to choice steers, \$4.50@5.50; good to choice cows and heifers, \$3.25@4.00; good to choice veals, \$2.50@4.00. Hogs—\$6.10@6.60. Sheep—Good to choice, \$3.90@4.65; lambs, \$4.00@5.50.

**Chicago Union Stock Yards.**  
Chicago, Jan. 26.—Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$4.50@5.85; poor to medium, \$3.25@4.50; stockers and feeders, \$2.25@4.50; cows and heifers, \$1.40@7.00. Texas steers, \$3.50@4.60. Hogs—Mix and butchers, \$6.35@6.85; good to choice haves, \$6.80@7.00; rough heavy, \$6.45@6.75; light, \$6.00@6.40; bulk of sales, \$6.45@6.70. Sheep—Good to choice, \$4.40@5.25; lambs, \$4.25@6.25.

**Chicago Grain and Provisions.**  
Chicago, Jan. 26.—Wheat—May, 81½c@81¾c; July, 75½c@75¾c. Corn—Jan., 46c; May, 45½c; July, 43½c; Sept., 43½c. Oats—Jan., 34½c; May, 36½c@38c; July, 32c. Pork—Jan., \$12.25; May, \$11.90; July, \$16.45. Flax—Cash, Northwestern, \$1.24; Southwestern, \$1.19; May, \$1.22. Butter—Creameries, 17@24½c; dairies, 17@23c. Eggs—23c. Poultry—Turkeys, 16@18c; chickens, 8@12c.

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