

SPECIAL MESSAGE

Transmitted to the Senate by
President Roosevelt.

FACTS IN PANAMA AFFAIR

Concise Answer in Compliance With
Hoar Resolution Calling for In-
formation—United States Not a
Party to Fomenting a Revolu-
tion—Only Question is
Whether or Not We
Shall Build Canal.

The principal features of the president's message, sent to the senate in compliance with Senator Hoar's resolution asking for a full statement of the Panama matter, are as follows:

I lay before the congress for its information a statement of my action up to this time in executing the act entitled "An act to provide for the construction of a canal connecting the waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans," approved June 28, 1902.

By the said act the president was authorized to secure for the United States the property of the Panama Canal Company and the perpetual control of a strip six miles wide across the Isthmus of Panama. It was further provided that "should the president be unable to obtain for the United States a satisfactory title to the property of the republic of Colombia within a reasonable time and upon reasonable terms, then the president should endeavor to provide for a canal by the Nicaragua route."

This act marked the climax of the effort on the part of the United States to secure, so far as legislation was concerned, an interoceanic canal across the isthmus.

When this government submitted to Colombia the Hay-Herran treaty three things were, therefore, already settled. One was that the canal should be built. The United States had assumed in connection with the canal certain responsibilities not only to its own people, but to the civilized world, which imperatively demanded that there should no longer be delay in beginning the work.

Second. While it was settled that the canal should be built without unnecessary or improper delay, it was no less clearly shown to be our purpose to deal not merely in a spirit of justice, but in a spirit of generosity with the people through whose land we might build it. The Hay-Herran treaty, if it erred at all, erred in the direction of an over-generosity toward the Colombian government. In our anxiety to be fair we had gone to the very verge in yielding to a weak nation's demands what that nation was helplessly unable to enforce from us against our will. It is plain that no nation could construct and guarantee the neutrality of the canal with a less degree of control than was stipulated for in the Hay-Herran treaty. A refusal to grant such degree of control was necessarily a refusal to make any practicable treaty at all. Such refusal therefore squarely raised the question whether Colombia was entitled to bar the transit of the world's traffic across the isthmus.

That the canal itself was eagerly demanded by the people of the locality through which it was to pass, and that the people of this locality no less eagerly longed for construction under American control, are shown by the unanimity of action in the new Panama republic. Furthermore, Colombia, after having rejected the treaty, in spite of our protests and warnings when it was in her power to accept it, has since shown the utmost eagerness to accept the same treaty, if only the status quo could be restored.

Third. Finally the congress definitely settled where the canal was to be built. It was provided that a treaty should be made for building the canal across the Isthmus of Panama; and if, after reasonable time, it proved impossible to secure such treaty, that then we should go to Nicaragua. The treaty has been made; for it needs no argument to show that the intent of the congress was to insure a canal across Panama, and that whether the republic granting the title was called New Granada, Colombia, or Panama, mattered not one whit. As events turned out, the question of "reasonable time" did not enter into the matter at all.

The president's quotes from The Washington Post, The New York Herald and other papers, showing that feeling of secession was abroad and strong in Panama during the latter part of August and early in September.

On November 3 Commander Hubbard cabled that 400 Colombian troops from Cartagena had landed at Colon; that there had been no revolution on the isthmus, but that the situation was most critical if the revolutionary leaders should act. On this same date the Associated Press in Washington received a bulletin stating that a revolutionary outbreak had occurred. When this was brought to the attention of the assistant secretary of state, Mr. Loomis, he prepared the following telegram to the consul general at Panama and the consul at Colon:

"Uprising on isthmus reported. Keep department promptly and fully informed."

The Colombian gunboat Bogota began to shell the city of Panama, with the result of killing one Chinaman. The consul general was directed to notify her to stop firing. Meanwhile, on November 4, Commander Hubbard notified the department that he had landed a force to protect the lives and property of American citizens against the threats of the Colombian soldiery.

Before any step whatever had been taken by the United States troops to restore order, the commander of the newly landed Colombian troops had indulged in wanton and violent threats against American citizens, which created serious apprehension. As Commander Hubbard reported in his letter of November 5, this officer and his troops practically began war against the United States, and only the forbearance and coolness of our officers prevented bloodshed.

In his letter of November 8 Commander Hubbard sets forth the facts more in detail.

This plain official account of the occurrences of November 4 shows that, instead of there having been too much provision by the American government for the maintenance of order and property on the isthmus, the order for the movement of the American warships had been too long delayed; so long, in fact, that there were but forty-two marines and sailors available to land and protect the lives of American men and women. It was only the coolness and gallantry with which this little band of men wearing the American uniform faced ten times their number of armed foes, bent on carrying out the atrocious threat of the Colombian commander, that prevented a murderous catastrophe. At Panama, when the revolution broke out, there was no American man-of-war and no American troops or sailors. At Colon, Commander Hubbard acted with entire impartiality toward both sides, preventing any movement, whether by the Colombians or the Panamanians, which would tend to produce bloodshed. On November 9 he prevented a body of the revolutionists from landing at Colon. Throughout he behaved in the most creditable manner. In The New York Evening Post, under date of Panama, December 8, there is an article from a special correspondent which sets forth in detail the unbearable oppression of the Colombian government in Panama.

I call especial attention to the concluding portion of this interview which states the willingness of the Panama people to fight the Colombian troops and the refusal of Commander Hubbard to permit them to use the railroad and therefore to get into a position where the fight could take place. It thus clearly appears that the fact that there was no bloodshed on the isthmus was directly due—and only due—to the prompt and firm enforcement by the United States of its traditional policy. During the past forty years revolutions and attempts at revolution have succeeded one another with monotonous regularity on the isthmus, and again and again United States sailors and marines have been landed as they were landed in this instance and under similar instructions to protect the transit. One of these revolutions resulted in three years of warfare; and the aggregate of bloodshed and misery caused by them has been incalculable.

The fact that in this last revolution not a life was lost, save that of the man killed by the shells of the Colombian gunboat, and no property destroyed, was due to the action which I have described. We, in effect, policed the isthmus in the interest of its inhabitants and of our own national needs, and for the good of the entire civilized world. Failure to act as the administration acted would have meant great waste of life, great suffering, great destruction of property, all of which was avoided by the firmness and prudence with which Commander Hubbard carried out his orders and prevented either party from attacking the other. Our action was for the peace both of Colombia and of Panama. It is earnestly to be hoped that there will be no unwise conduct on our part which may encourage Colombia to embark on a war which cannot result in her regaining control of the isthmus, but which may cause much bloodshed and suffering.

Injurious Insinuations. I hesitate to refer to the injurious insinuations which have been made of complicity by this government in the revolutionary movement in Panama. They are as destitute of foundation as of propriety. The only excuse for my mentioning them is the fear lest unthinking persons might mistake for acquiescence the silence of mere self-respect. I think proper to say, therefore, that no one connected with this government had any previous knowledge of the revolution except such as was accessible to any person of ordinary intelligence who read the newspapers and kept up a current acquaintance with public affairs.

By the unanimous action of its people, without the firing of a shot—and with unanimity hardly before recorded in any similar case—the people of Panama declared themselves an independent republic. Their recognition by this government was based upon a state of facts in no way dependent for its justification upon our action in ordinary cases. I have not denied, nor do I wish to deny, either the validity or the propriety of the general rule that a new state should not be recognized as independent till it has shown its ability to maintain its in-

dependence. This rule is derived from the principle of non-intervention, and as a corollary of that principle has generally been observed by the United States. But, like the principle from which it is deduced, the rule is subject to exceptions; and there are, in my opinion, clear and imperative reasons why a departure from it was justified and even required in the present instance. These reasons embrace, first, our treaty rights; second, our national interests and safety; and, third, the interests of collective civilization.

Recognition Fully Justified.

I confidently maintain that the recognition of the republic of Panama was an act justified by the interests of collective civilization. If ever a government could be said to have received a mandate from civilization to effect an object the accomplishment of which was demanded in the interest of mankind, the United States holds that position with regard to the interoceanic canal. Since our purpose to build the canal was definitely announced, there have come from all quarters assurances of approval and encouragement, in which even Colombia herself at one time participated; and to general assurances were added specific acts and declarations. In order that no obstacle might stand in our way, Great Britain renounced important rights under the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and agreed to its abrogation, receiving in return nothing but our honorable pledge to build the canal and protect it as an open highway.

Other Nations Indorse It.

That our position as the mandatory of civilization has been by no means misconceived is shown by the promptitude with which the powers have, one after another, followed our lead in recognizing Panama as an independent state. Our action in recognizing the new republic has been followed by like recognition on the part of France, Germany, Denmark, Russia, Sweden and Norway, Nicaragua, Peru, China, Cuba, Great Britain, Italy, Costa Rica, Japan and Austria-Hungary.

The people of the isthmus, and as I firmly believe, of the adjacent parts of Central and South America, will be greatly benefited by the building of the canal and the guarantee of peace and order along its line; and hand in hand with the benefit to them will go the benefit to us and to mankind. By our prompt and decisive action, not only have our interests and those of the world at large been conserved, but we have forestalled complications which were likely to be fruitful in loss to ourselves and in bloodshed and suffering to the people of the isthmus.

Meanwhile the only question now before us is that of the ratification of the treaty. For it is to be remembered that the failure to ratify the treaty will undo what has been done, will not restore Panama to Colombia, and will not alter our obligation to keep the transit open across the isthmus and to prevent any outside power from menacing this transit.

In conclusion let me repeat that the question actually before this government is not that of the recognition of Panama as an independent republic. That is already an accomplished fact. The question, and the only question is whether or not we shall build an isthmian canal.

I transmit herewith copies of the latest notes from the minister of the republic of Panama to this government, and of certain notes which have passed between the special envoy of the republic of Colombia and this government.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
White House, January 4, 1904.

Business Blocks Reduced to Ashes.
Two business blocks in the center of Ansonia, Conn., were destroyed by fire Friday afternoon, involving a loss of \$75,000.

WORLD'S FAIR TOPICS.

Typical '49 mining camp in "Mining Gulch."

Main picture comprises ten great palaces, arranged fan shape.

Denmark has officially accepted the invitation to participate in the World's Fair.

An imperial trade issued approves the participation of Turkey in the St. Louis Exposition.

The dairy section of the World's Fair will occupy 30,000 square feet in the Palace of Agriculture.

A locomotive testing laboratory will be a feature of the transportation building at the World's Fair.

Owing to insufficient time to complete preparations Spain will not participate in the St. Louis Exposition.

The department of State has been advised that Bolivia has finally decided to participate in the St. Louis Exposition.

A feature of Wyoming's State exhibit at the World's Fair will be a large collection of colored photographs of Wyoming scenes.

Cheikh Bey, the Turkish Minister at Washington, has been appointed Commissioner for Turkey at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

California day at the St. Louis Exposition will be September 9, the fifty-fourth anniversary of the admission of California to the Union.

Poultry, pigeons and pet stock are placed in Division E in the World's Fair classification, and have been allotted over \$10,000 for cash prizes.

A feature of Washington's State horticultural exhibit at the World's Fair will be a display of celery four feet high and rhubarb the same height and five inches thick.

New Mexico day at the World's Fair will be August 18, 1904. This is the anniversary of the day on which the United States took formal possession of the then Mexican territory.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE NEWS ITEMS.

Aged Watchman Drowned.
Ben Lindsay, aged 50 years, employed as night watchman at the Cherokee mills in Charleston, was drowned in the mill race. While walking across the race on a board he lost his footing and the strong current carried him to the bottom. His lifeless body was fished out the next morning.

Boy Kills Baby Sister.
A recent news item from Laurens stated that while a little son of Mr. C. A. Chapman, a prominent farmer of Cross Hill, was loading a parlor rifle, the weapon was accidentally discharged, instantly killing his little three-months-old sister.

The child had just been laid in bed by its mother a few minutes before the deplorable tragedy occurred.

Constables Remember the Governor.
The Columbia division of the dispensary constabulary, headed by ex-Attorney General G. Duncan Bellinger, their spokesman, visited the office of Governor Heyward a few days ago and presented him with a solid silver tea service, each piece being engraved with the letters "D. C. H." The gift represented contributions from members of the entire state constabulary—about three hundred in number.

Negro Child Burned to Death.
At Spartanburg, a few days ago, the one-year-old child of Henry Ballenger, colored, was burned to death. The child was left in the house. The mother had been washing in the room and left a fire in the hearth, and several washtubs were scattered round. The child was in bed near the fireplace. During the absence of the parents the bed clothing caught fire and the child was literally roasted alive. Carpenters at work near by saved the cottage from being destroyed.

Over Two Hundred Homicides.
The annual report of Attorney General Gunter shows that there were 222 cases of manslaughter reported to his office during the year 1903. The record is appalling, and it is possible that there are some homicides which were not reported by the clerks of court.

Mr. Gunter has been examining the records of other states and finds that South Carolina shows up badly. Only ninety-one homicides were reported in North Carolina last year, and that number was thought to be a fearful record for the adjoining state.

Charleston Stores Burned.
The furniture stores of A. Brookbanks and Thomas Reedy, at Charleston, were almost completely wiped out by fire a few days ago. The loss is about \$10,000 and is partially covered by insurance.

The fire originated in the third story of the Brookbanks building on King street and the flames soon spread to the adjoining building, occupied by Thomas Reedy, an installment furniture dealer. Brookbanks' loss is about \$9,000, while the loss sustained by Reedy is only about \$1,000. The latter carried no insurance. The origin of the fire is not known, but it is supposed to have been set on fire.

Negro Laborers in Cave-In.
While digging a trench at the water works pumping station, at Goose creek, near Charleston, nine negro laborers were buried alive by the caving in of an embankment. One, Geo. Moultrie, was killed outright, while the others were extricated from the mass of earth. Several of the negroes are seriously injured.

The accident occurred late in the day just before the gang stopped work. They had been doing trench work all day long, preparatory to building a sluice, when suddenly the embankment above them gave way and nine of the men were caught under the falling earth. A force of hands were put to work and all were taken out alive except George Moultrie.

Boy Killed While Hunting.
The 14-year-old son of G. W. Folk, of Bamberg, was accidentally shot and killed one day the past week while out hunting with two youthful companions. The accident occurred on the plantation of Mr. W. M. Brabham, a few miles from Bamberg. Young Folk was on a visit to the two sons of Mr. T. J. Crider, and they were out hunting together. The boy Folk was behind and playfully grabbed the coat of his comrade, who had started to run. The gun was discharged, the contents entering the boy's thigh. The wounded boy was at once carried to the house, but died soon after reaching there. Realizing that he was fatally wounded, the lad exonerated his companions from all blame for the affair.

Will be Launched January 30.
The cruiser Charleston, now building at Newport News by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock

Company, will be launched January 30. Mayor Rhett and a number of city officials and prominent citizens of Charleston will attend the launching. The sponsor has not as yet been selected, but it is thought that the mayor will be asked by the navy department to request his daughter, Miss Rhett, to christen the new cruiser.

The Charleston is twice as large as the old cruiser Charleston, which was sunk in the Pacific about a year and a half ago. She has a displacement of nine thousand six hundred tons and her main battery consists of fourteen guns. After the vessel is put into commission she will be ordered to Charleston to receive a handsome silver service that will be presented by the city.

The Olympia Mills Case.
In the case of Pauline and Eugene A. Dearing against the Olympia mills and the Granby mills an agreement looking to an amicable adjustment of claims of plaintiffs was arrived at by counsel on both sides, and they submitted an order which the court held under advisement and signed later. The last paragraph orders that the committee and directors of the Olympia mills set apart and sold \$150,000 of the new first mortgage Olympia bonds as security for the claim of the Granby cotton mills, and \$75,000 of the new first mortgage Olympia bonds for the claim of the Richland mills.

The closing paragraph referred to is as follows: "It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed, that a temporary injunction as prayed for in the bill do issue, unless the defendant, the Olympia cotton mills, do, within fifteen days from the entry of this order, enter into bond, approved by a judge of this court, to stand to, abide by, and perform such decree as may be entered in favor of the complainants, and each of them, as the result of a full hearing of this cause. "The matter of appointment of a receiver is reserved" (Signed.)

"CHARLES H. SIMONTON,
"Circuit Judge."
"Wm. H. Brawley, U. S. Dist. Judge."

LOYAL BRYAN SUPPORTERS
Issue Invitation to "Dollar Dinner" at Lincoln, Nebraska.

In an invitation issued at Lincoln, Nebraska, Bryan democrats ask all the faithful to a banquet January 18. After telling of the honors conferred on Mr. Bryan abroad, the call declares: "Loyal democrats, therefore, deem it only fit and proper that this splendid American citizen and great democrat be honored by his fellow democrats upon his return home and, to that end, are arranging a 'dollar dinner' to be held at the Lindell hotel, Lincoln, on January 18, 1904."

THEATRE MANAGERS ARRESTED.
Davis and Powers Placed Under Heavy Bonds at Chicago.

Formally charged with manslaughter, Theatre Managers Will J. Davis and Harry J. Powers, of the Iroquois theatre, with City Building Commissioner Williams, were held under bonds of \$10,000 each at a hearing in Chicago Saturday.

Col. William Pinkerton and Charles Platendon furnished bonds for Davis and Powers, and Andrew J. Graham, banker, furnished bond for Commissioner Williams.

PRESIDENT WIRES SYMPATHY
To People of Chicago in Terrible Calamity Which Befell Them.

The following message was received in Chicago Thursday morning: "To Hon. Carter H. Harrison, Mayor Chicago: "In common with all our people throughout this land, I extend through you, to the people of Chicago my deepest sympathy in the terrible catastrophe which has befallen them. (Signed.)

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."
"LITTLE MACK" INSTALLED.

Democratic Mayor of New York Takes
Reins of City Government.

George B. McClellan became mayor of New York city Friday. He arrived at the city hall and walked through lines of democrats under an arch of plants and flowers, to the mayor's public reception room, where he was greeted by the retiring mayor and took the oath of office. The ceremonies were not elaborate, and speeches were brief.

ACT OF WAR IS REPORTED.
Rumors in Colon that Colombian Gun Boat is Sunk by Americans.

There were persistent rumors in Colon Thursday and Friday that the Colombian gunboat General Pinzon had been sunk by the American warships. Assistant Secretary Darling, of the navy department, said Friday night that he had received no news whatever with reference to the rumor, and it is believed the report is without foundation.

Trouble in Republic of Uruguay.
A dispatch from Monte Video says that a revolution has broken out in the department of Maldonado, Uruguay and that a state of siege has been proclaimed throughout the entire republic.

Cream of News.

Brief Summary of Most
Important Events
of Each Day.

—Tobe Thornton, the negro who assaulted Miss Dismukes, a young woman of Webster county, Ga., was captured near Americus late Saturday night and carried back to Webster.

—President Williams of the Georgia, Florida and Alabama railway, and a party of officials have been on a visit to Cuthbert investigating, it is supposed, the proposed extension to Columbus.

—Fort Valley, Ga., suered a fire loss of \$12,000 Sunday morning.

—Judge Emory Speer, of the federal court, is to repeat his famous address on Robert E. Lee for the benefit of the Macon city hospital.

—The Knoxville division of the Southern has received the first two of a large number of 100-ton locomotives which were immediately put into service.

—Nearly one hundred girls had a narrow escape from being cremated near Springfield, Ky., when St. Catherine academy burned to the ground.

—Advices received at Washington lead the state department authorities to anticipate an appeal from the substantial elements of Santo Domingo for either annexation to the United States or a protectorate.

—Sunday was a day of funerals in Chicago and for the first time in the history of the city all of the people who desired to bury their dead were unable to do so.

—Rear Admiral Walker, who has just returned from Panama, declares that the people of the isthmus are a unit in support of the new government.

—The eastern states are deep in snow. High winds prevail on the Atlantic coast and steamers report rough voyages.

—Prince Frederick, of Schoenberg-Waldenberg, accompanied his petition to the pope for annulment of his marriage with Princess Alice, daughter of Don Carlos, with a gold watch.

—Dr. William Bauer, the German ethnologist, has found an Indian tribe in Mexico which claims to be descended from the Teutons of Europe.

—Revolution has broken out in Uruguay and the entire republic has been declared in a state of siege.

—Fred D. Beall, postmaster at Concor, Ga., who was so severely stabbed by Wiley Martin, of Dublin, his brother-in-law, died Friday.

—Contractor A. F. Pickett, was arrested at Hawkinsville, Ga., Friday, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses.

—Felix Von Breisen, a young sculptor married a young lady of Asheville, N. C. Work being scarce, he went west. His wife not hearing from him for more than a year, got a divorce. A few weeks ago she received a letter from him. He was left a fortune. He returned home and they were remarried.

—Farmers of North Carolina are reported to be in better financial condition than ever before, the advance in cotton prices being the cause. An advance in prices of tobacco is predicted.

—The fight of the Chattahoochee Central Labor Council against the Standard Manufacturing Company has ended, the company organizing a branch of the Garment Workers' Union.

—Mayor Carter H. Harrison, of Chicago, ordered an inspection of all city theatres to ascertain if they were protected by an asbestos curtain. On their report he ordered nineteen theatres closed.

—Nearly five hundred democrats of Nebraska Friday night celebrated at Omaha the ninety-ninth anniversary of Andrew Jackson's victory over the British at New Orleans and the thirtieth annual banquet of the Jacksonian Club of Nebraska.

—President and Mrs. Roosevelt inaugurated on New Year's day, the official season in the nation's capital with a brilliant reception.

—At Pineapple, Ala., on organization of court to try five men charged with lynching, the judges left the bench, one of them being disqualified, and court dissolved.

—Tom Stancey, a convict in the Louisiana penitentiary, killed Charles Arant, captain of the watch, by shooting him with pistol.

—Alabama convict bureau officials say that the state netted \$200,000 from the hire of convicts for the year 1903.

—North Carolina had only one lynching in 1903. The year previous there were eight lynchings in the state.

—Captain Fred Pabst, head of the Pabst Brewing Company, died at Milwaukee Friday.

—It is expected at Washington that the emperor of China will soon sign the recently negotiated commercial treaty with the United States.

—The Hotel Louvre, at Chicago, was destroyed by fire Friday night. Three persons were killed and four others injured.

—There are persistent rumors at Colon that the Colombian gunboat General Pinzon has been sunk by the Americans.