

NOT A DEAL

Abner McKinley Not Mixed in the Danish Purchase.

CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION

Lawyer Hansen Explains His Dealings With Christmas-Richard P. Evans' Connection With the Case.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The investigation of charges in connection with the Danish West Indian negotiations was continued today by the House special committee. Among those present when the hearing began were Abner McKinley, Colonel W. C. Brown, Carl Fisher Hansen and Representative Gardner, of New Jersey. Mr. McKinley was the first witness.

Asked whether he knew Captain Christmas, the witness said he had met him once in the most casual way in the lobby of the Manhattan Hotel, New York. He never had any conference with him of any character.

"Was there any talk of the Danish West India?" asked Mr. Dainell.

"None whatever, either remotely or otherwise," answered the witness. Mr. McKinley went on to say that he had never mentioned the matter to the President. He had no meeting with Christmas beyond this casual one, and there was nothing except an exchange of the courtesies of the day. Representative Richardson asked the witness if he knew Mr. Hansen. The witness replied he had known Hansen some time and prior to the casual meeting with Christmas. Hansen had desired to retain him in this matter. In reply, the witness said, he told Mr. Hansen he could have nothing to do with it. Subsequently, when he met Christmas, he passed the day and that was the end of it.

Mr. Richardson asked if Mr. McKinley ever had any talks with the Seligman on the subject. Mr. McKinley said he never had any conversation with them on this transaction, or with anyone except Hansen as he stated.

Representative Gardner followed with a statement disclaiming all knowledge of Christmas, except the most casual character. Some one, he said, had asked permission to present a lady and a gentleman at his (Gardner's) room. There was a brief meeting and a talk of a walk, the name of Christmas. That was the extent of his acquaintance with Christmas. Mr. Gardner said he had taken some interest in the acquisition of the Danish West India, and had introduced a bill on the subject. But this was before Christmas had made the casual call. Mr. Gardner also disclaimed going over the subject with Mr. Owens, who had been mentioned in the matter, and he disclaimed any conversation when inquiries were made as to the prospects of a sale of the Danish Islands.

Mr. Richardson asked if Mr. Gardner knew of the International Press Association. Mr. Gardner said he did. He had been a stockholder in the concern, which at one time represented several New Jersey newspapers.

Colonel W. C. Brown testified that he met Christmas once at the Manhattan Hotel in New York. He had no conversation at that meeting, except the usual exchange of courtesies. He knew the business relations and had no contact with Christmas or Hansen or anyone in connection with the Danish matter.

Lawyer Hansen's Testimony. Mr. Hansen, the next witness, gave his business as an attorney at New York. He said Christmas told in 1899 of the movement to sell the Danish Islands to the United States and Denmark's willingness to pay \$100,000 for each of the islands. Christmas desired Hansen to act as counsel. The witness called on Abner McKinley and asked him if he would become associate counsel. Mr. McKinley replied that he (Hansen) ought to know that he (McKinley) would not be retained in any negotiations in which the Government was concerned. Mr. McKinley told him also of showing a manuscript of his office, and Hansen sought to bring up a question of Government appointment in connection with legal business. Mr. Hansen said he had urged that the acquisition of the islands was in line with the Government's policy, but Mr. McKinley would have nothing to do with the matter.

Later, Hansen said he talked with Colonel Brown and received from him the intention of buying the Danish Islands. Colonel Brown made the inquiry, the witness said, and was referred by the President to Secretary Bryan. When Colonel Brown returned to New York he told Mr. Hansen that the United States did not intend to buy the islands.

Hansen then accepted Christmas' proposition, telling him, however, he desired no compensation except to be appointed attorney for Denmark later if the negotiations were successful. Mr. Hansen received what Christmas had told him of coming to Washington and meeting President McKinley, Secretary Hay and Admiral Bradford, and later of going to Copenhagen with Mr. White, the United States Secretary of Embassy at London. Mr. Hansen also related a street meeting with one of the Seligmans, who had said Christmas was progressing well with his negotiations. The witness said that Christmas had met one of the Seligmans on an ocean steamer, and then had said that if anything came of the negotiations they would be out of the business. Mr. Hansen said, he refused to stand sponsor for Christmas, and the witness learned from Colonel Brown that the President desired no further dealings with Christmas.

Mr. Hansen yielded temporarily to allow Senator Lodge to make a statement. The Senator said Christmas had spoken to him about the islands. He told Christmas always had taken an interest in the acquisition of the islands. He told Christmas, however, that there was no use starting here, that the Danish Minister would attend to the negotiations. The Senator specifically denied language said to have been used by him, according to the Christmas report.

Christmas Repudiates Evans. Resuming his testimony, Mr. Hansen told of learning later that Christmas had been clothed with authority by Denmark. Christmas wanted him to guarantee a contract of \$50,000 to a Mr. Evans, this amount to come out of Christmas' expected compensation. Hansen informed the contract, the expectation being that Evans would act as counsel at Washington, explaining any details that might arise. Later, Mr. Hansen said, Christmas wrote Evans the following letter, repudiating all connection with him:

New York, March 25.—Richard P. Evans.—Dear Sir: Although it is hardly necessary for me to add anything to what I already have said to you in my conversation last Saturday in the presence of my attorney, Fischer Hansen, nevertheless, in view of the fact that I am dealing with a bunch of scamps and swindlers, of which you seem to be the ring-leader, I feel it is a duty to again emphasize that under no condition will I have anything whatsoever to do with you or your gang, and I hereby expressly repudiate and cancel any and all agreements that I may ever have entered into with you. I shall not dwell upon all the many details of the gigantic scheme to which I have subjected, suffice it for me to mention that I am not a party to the scheme, and that I am not a party to the wide-spread scheme of my attorney, Fischer Hansen, would have led me to

overstating ruin and despair. Thus, for example, you were introduced to me as an ex-United States Congressman, and as such entitled to the title of "honorable," which I always took the pains to use.

"You stated to me that you were acting for the Administration, and that I was in compliance with the wishes of President McKinley and Secretary Hay and for the benefit of my plans that a certain bill was introduced in Congress by Congressman Gardner, looking to the purchase of the West Indian Islands. You told me further that you were one of the leaders of the movement in the Associated Press, and that as the country demanded the islands, you would permit your bureau to express that sentiment. On the basis of all this you succeeded in obtaining from me a contract, not to speak of money that your co-conspirators have gotten away from me at various times. Of course, my plain duty would be not only to repudiate my contract with you, but to proceed against you criminally. I do the first now, or rather affirm my repudiation to you, or rather Saturday; the latter I am prevented from doing by reason of the fact that I leave for Europe in the course of a few days."

Mr. Hansen said the copy of this letter, which he placed in evidence, was in Captain Christmas' handwriting. In reply to Mr. Hitt, Hansen said he had never received anything from Christmas and had lent him \$500 when he was hard up, which had not been repaid.

"There was much laughter, and the inquiry took a rather ludicrous aspect as Mr. Hansen told of Christmas' promise to various persons. On one occasion, Mr. Hansen said, Christmas met C. W. Knox in a dining-room and told him he had some islands to sell. Mr. Knox said he knew a man who knew Senator Hanna. As a result, Christmas was to pay Knox \$50,000. In semi-humorous vein, Mr. Hansen told of \$5 being paid on this promise. On another occasion, Mr. Hansen related, Christmas met a person one Nelson Y. Walberg, and told him he had "some islands for sale." Hansen said Walberg replied that "was just in line with the plan," and Hansen said that Walberg had small sums, \$5, \$25 and \$15. Mr. Hansen said he did not know Walberg, and knew nothing of his connections with an international press association.

Representative Hitt asked if this was supposed to be the basis for charges affecting the American press. Mr. Hansen said it was, that Christmas' only connection with the press was with this Walberg.

Mr. Hansen also told of a contract with a Mr. Reinert by which the latter was to receive \$100,000 for services as counsel. Hansen said that Christmas had written from Christmas, dated March 2, stating that he had offered to make a public declaration that no one in Congress could have any interest in the subject. Mr. Richardson's cross-questions sought to develop that services were to be performed by Christmas, and that the general repudiating the allegations on which the inquiry is based.

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THE BALKAN SITUATION

FOURTEEN REVOLUTIONARY BANDS INVADE MACEDONIA.

Organized Rebellion Among the Serbian Inhabitants of Northern Turkey—Other Foreign News.

LONDON, April 3.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, from Sofia says:

It is reported that 14 revolutionary bands crossed the frontier into Macedonia during the past few days. They were well armed and provisioned.

A party of Turks recently ambushed 200 Bulgarian outlaws in the mountains of Bulgaria, killing 100 of the band and capturing the remainder.

The Macedonians are accused of horrible atrocities, of which it is hard to obtain confirmation. It is reported that they skinned one Turkish ally, stuffed the skin and carried it about as a trophy.

Servians Again Up in Arms. VIENNA, April 3.—The Neu Fre Presse reports a serious and organized rebellion among the Serbian inhabitants of the northern villages of Turkey. The insurgents are known as old Serbian rebels. They are well armed and well supplied with ammunition. A sanguinary fight had occurred between them and the Albanians at Kolashin. Encounters have been reported from other places, concludes the paper, in which several men were killed or wounded.

IN AN AWKWARD POSITION. German Government in Trouble Over Its Meat Regulations.

BERLIN, April 3.—The government has been placed in a most awkward position on the prohibition of the importation of meats treated with boric acid by a declaration today for the prohibition of the importation of the interests of the German Chemical Industry that the government did not consult the Imperial Health Council.

This body, composed of eminent specialists from all parts of Germany, is advisory to the Imperial Health Office. The government's statement in the North German Gazette Saturday affirmed that the council was not consulted.

It is now appears, according to the chemical society, that the matter was never brought before the council. A prominent member of the council informed the Imperial Health Office, the Interior, Count von Posadowski-Wehner, prior to the publication of the statement in the North German Gazette, that he was surprised that so important a step had been taken without consulting the council, which was decidedly against the prohibition. The Freisinnige Zeitung tomorrow will say that it learns from the Council that in the highest degree astonished at this information, since he had been assured that the Health Council had pronounced unanimously for the prohibition.

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of the attempt to consolidate the English iron and steel interests, negotiations have been in progress since the meeting of the Tribune's London correspondent. The effect of the first year's operations of the United States Steel Corporation will be felt, rather than retard, the British amalgamation.

One of the chief difficulties has been the arrangement of a basis of valuation which will represent the working efficiency of an iron and steel plant here under the stress of well-organized foreign competition. The consolidation of British interests will involve the recognition of the plant that the equipment of the industry, which was once unrivaled, needs thorough renovation, and that the plant, in its existing state, must be heavily undervalued from its original cost.

Miss Loftus' Two Contracts. LONDON, April 3.—An agreement was reached today between Cecilia Loftus' manager and the Alhambra Theater. Miss Loftus will appear at the Lyceum Theater in "Faust," but should she ever return to the music-hall stage, the Alhambra will have the first right to her services.

Miss Loftus had two contracts to appear here at the same time. One was with Sir Henry Irving, to appear in "Faust," and by the other she bound herself to play at the Alhambra.

British Cable Station. CHICAGO, April 3.—Fanning Island, a little coral reef in the South Pacific, is to be the resting place for the English submarine cable, which will run from British Columbia to Australia, according to the Tribune's San Francisco special.

On this island, which is 1000 miles south of Hawaii, the cable company will establish its midocean station, extending about 115,000 there for buildings and equipment.

Before the usual buildings, there will be a large reservoir for catching rain water. The walls of these buildings will be made of coral covered with cement.

German Trust Conference. BERLIN, April 3.—The Central Association of German Manufacturers has called a conference of all trusts, syndicates engaged in trade, and associations of manufacturers, to be held in Berlin April 9, to discuss the economic advantages of combinations. Three hundred such combinations have been organized in Germany during the past few years.

Can Shut Out Marconi. BERLIN, April 3.—The Lokai Anzeiger says that under the existing statute the government can prevent the use of the Marconi wireless telegraphy system on German merchant ships, the erection of stations on the coasts of Germany, and the use of the system in German waters. The paper suggests that the government apply the law immediately.

Trouble in Afghanistan. ALLAHABAD, British India, April 2.—Hudda Mullah, the old fanatic who has in the past endeavored to embroil Great Britain and Afghanistan, has started for Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, with 5000 armed followers. It is feared that his arrival at Kabul will cause disturbances, as the widow of the late Ameer is opposed to him.

Miss Stone Will Not Lecture. NEW YORK, April 3.—Ellen M. Stone, the American missionary, according to the Tribune's London correspondent, has declined to accept the offer of a lecture tour in this country, as her voice will not stand the strain of public speaking just yet. She will sail from Liverpool for New York on Saturday. Her injured knee still gives her trouble.

Fashionable London Wedding. LONDON, April 3.—A large and fashionable congregation witnessed the marriage this afternoon at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, of the Earl of Lytton to Miss Pamela Plowden. The presents were numerous and included a diamond bird of paradise from King Edward and Queen Alexandra.

Australian Duty on Wines. MELBOURNE, Victoria, April 3.—The House of Representatives of the Federal Parliament has fixed the duty on wines exceeding 55 degrees of strength at 6d on every degree, up to and including 60 degrees. Thereafter the duty will be 1d shilling.

Students' Riot at Belgrade. BELGRADE, Serbia, April 3.—As a result of the government's determination to prevent the students from demanding for shorter hours of the university lectures, though the attendance in the lecture-rooms averaged only half a dozen students, the police, who were sent to see that the order of the day was maintained, have greatly lessened the prospect of agitation in the immediate future.

The agitators of the present movement have no programme beyond the May day workmen's celebrations, but strikes and lock-outs, it is anticipated, will occur in the Spring and Summer. The sending of 35 of the Moscow rioters to Belgrade, with many persons from other cities, has caused serious apprehensions. Clashes between rioters and police still occur, and one hour's massings of "next comes the revolver."

Prophets have been predicting a revival of the reign of terrorism as a result of the government's determination to prevent the students from demanding for shorter hours of the university lectures, though the attendance in the lecture-rooms averaged only half a dozen students, the police, who were sent to see that the order of the day was maintained, have greatly lessened the prospect of agitation in the immediate future.

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CECIL RHODES' FUNERAL

IMPRESSIVE SERVICES AT THE CAPE TOWN CATHEDRAL.

Body Taken to Rhodesia, Where Matabele are Gathering