

PRAIRIE STARTS; GROUND IN MUD

Rear-Admiral Kimball and Marines Stick Fast in Delaware River.

TUGS RUSHING TO RESCUE

Expectation is Prairie Will Be Floated at High Tide, but If Not Her Forces and Cargo Will Be Transferred to Dixie.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—Carrying a Rear-Admiral of the United States Navy, two battalions of marines, and enough implements of war to conduct a vigorous campaign against the turbulent Central American Republic of Nicaragua, the auxiliary cruiser *Prairie* ran aground on the soft mud of the Delaware River tonight, 35 miles below this city a few hours after weighing anchor at the Philadelphia Navy-yard bound for the Caribbean Sea.

ZELAYA PLANNING COUP

RETIREMENT IN FAVOR OF HENCHMAN PROBABLE.

Protest by State Department Unlikely—Nicaraguan Contingent Fearful of Outcome.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Driven to desperation by the unexpected attitude of the United States, President Zelaya is now reported to have developed a plan whereby he can resign and still retain power. This consists in putting in the office of President of Nicaragua, Jose Madriz, well-known in Central American diplomatic circles as Zelaya's henchman and declared to be at Zelaya's beck and call.

The State Department, it is declared, is entirely cognizant of the conspiracy under way and will act vigorously and promptly if occasion demands.

When the alleged plot for the continuation of the Zelayan power by proxy became known it threw the Central American contingent here into a frenzy.

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Officials of the Navy Department had no advice tonight of the running around of the troopship *Prairie* and her marines in the Delaware River and the Princeton off of Wilmington, Delaware.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The detachment of Captain Lieut. Young as captain of the *Navy* today created comment at the Navy Department because of the recent examination into affairs at that yard.

TUGS MAY FLOAT "PRAIRIE"

Hawners Being Attached Now to Stranded Cruiser.

DELAWARE CITY, Del., Dec. 2.—Three powerful tugs, two from the Red Star Line and the Government tug *Modoc*, are lying alongside the *Prairie*.

NAVAL CIRCLES COMMENT

Removal of Captain Young at Mare Island Not Explained.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The detachment of Captain Lieut. Young as captain of the *Navy* today created comment at the Navy Department because of the recent examination into affairs at that yard.

SHORT CROP COSTS WORK

Mexican Distilleries Close and 500 Employees Lose Positions.

CHELAYA, Aguas Calientes, Mex., Dec. 2.—Two distilleries have been forced to close owing to a shortage of corn, throwing 500 employees out of work.

CAR SERVICE IS ASSAILED

East Side Patrons in Meeting Make Complaint.

By resolutions adopted last night, the Seventh Ward Improvement League, which met in the hall on Milwaukee street, declared that the streetcar service on the Brooklyn, Wellwood, Waverly, Richmond, Woodstock and Mount Scott lines was wholly inadequate, intermittent

and does not meet the requirements of that district.

U.S. HURRIES SHIPS TO FLANK ZELAYA

Forces of Marines Posted on Both Coasts, Ready to Act on Short Notice.

LANDINGS NOT YET MADE

Appreciating Delicacy of Questions Likely to Be Involved, Navy Department Sends Flag Officer to Command.

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with a length of 144 feet, and is owned in Mexico.

A number of civilian and Navy-Yard workmen aboard the *Buffalo* have been detached from the ship by orders from Mare Island.

Commander G. W. Brown, of the *Buffalo*, has received no instructions as to his destination or the size of the expeditionary force.

MEXICO WILL REMAIN NEUTRAL

Minister Mariscal Makes Official Declaration of Position.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 2.—That Mexico does not expect to be drawn in the Nicaraguan controversy, but will maintain a neutral attitude, was the statement made by Senator Mariscal, Minister of Foreign Relations, tonight.

Substance of Offer Withheld.

"We made the suggestion spontaneously because we had not been, as on several previous occasions, approached by the United States on the subject of intervention in Central America. In view of such advances in the past we did not consider it dishonorable to offer these suggestions in the interest of humanity. What these suggestions were I am still at liberty to state."

The news of the breach between Nicaragua and the United States came as a surprise and created a great sensation here today.

Early today Minister Mariscal, his secretary, Frederic Gambon, and Governor Enrique C. Cuello, of the State of Chihuahua, ex-Ambassador to the United States, went to Chapultepec Castle, where they had long private audience with President Diaz.

"The mouth of every man who went to see him, however, was sealed until tonight," Minister Mariscal gave the statement to the Associated Press.

Friend Defends Zelaya.

Francisco Castro, Nicaraguan Minister to Mexico and a close friend of Zelaya, in speaking of the action of the United States, said:

"I believe it is unjust because the main cause apparently in the execution of the two Americans and this action of my government was perfectly in accordance with the law of the country and was executed by command of a military jury and not by direct order from the President of the Republic, as it seems the purpose of the press to establish. President Zelaya has disappeared from the Central American scene, it is probable that President Cabrera of Guatemala may have strong power or control in politics of that region."

Estrada Cabrera, dictator of Central America—that is what Minister Castro sees in the latest step of the American Government in severing diplomatic relations with Nicaragua.

Up to tonight no comments on the situation have been made by the Mexico City press, but it is reported that in forthcoming editorials most of the papers will take the view that the United States was too hasty.

The Record holds no brief for the President of Nicaragua and if Zelaya is guilty of the things charged against him he should resign. According to the dispatches this afternoon, it is easy to understand the exasperation of the Washington Government. The retirement, however, of Zelaya will not materially lessen the load which the United States evidently has undertaken to carry in Central America so long as Estrada Cabrera is permitted to remain at the head of affairs in Guatemala.

ZELAYA EXPRESSES SURPRISE

Consul's Reports to Washington Favored Rebels, He Declares.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Dec. 2.—The action of Secretary Knox in dismissing Senator Felipe Rodriguez, Nicaraguan Charge d'Affaires at Washington, has greatly surprised President Zelaya, who reiterates today his belief that the Nicaraguan government was justified in executing the American, Groce and Cannon.

Zelaya will take no action until he has received further information on the subject and learns definitely the exact attitude of the United States.

FINE MILLINERY

All on sale at greatly reduced prices; must move. Le Palais Royal.

The Home Furnished Complete. TULL & GIBBS, Inc. Housefurnishing Goods Sold on Easy Payments. "Karpen" Leather Furniture, "Macey" Sectional Book Cases, and "McDougall" Kitchen Cabinets. Portland Agents for "Modart Corsets," "Lily of France" Corsets, "Madeleine" Corsets.

DINING-ROOM FURNITURE. Particularly in Favor for Christmas Giving. The Buffet, the Dining Table, the China Cabinet, the Serving Table and Dining Chairs—each is equally popular with those who sensibly choose furniture for Christmas gifts.

These Timely Bedding Bargains WILL BE Appreciated RIGHT NOW. Comforters at \$1.35 Each—Regularly \$2.25, covered in silkoline. Comforters at \$3.00 Each—Covered in saten, an extra fine quality even at the regular value, \$4.75.

MERRICK IN FAVOR. His Appointment as Land Office Register Probable. BOURNE IS HIS SPONSOR. Receiver's Job Likely to Be Given to J. Frank Sinnott—Other Plums to Be Distributed Among Senator Bourne's Friends.

THE PACKARD SHOE FOR MEN. Turn your back on any shoe which is not as wearable as it is stylish. THE PACKARD is made right—that's why it's popular. The newest patterns await your inspection.

Holiday Waist Sale. There are exceptional values and pleasing variety of new and smart effects in this collection of waists which go on special sale today and tomorrow.

"Toyland" is brilliant with the many, many things that delight the little ones on Christmas morn. The Dolls—big and little, the Vehicles, the Touring Cars, Velocipedes, Tricycles, etc., the many mechanical novelties—the Trains of Cars, the Steam Engines, the Sewing Machines, the Printing Presses, etc.

MANUFACTURER'S SALE SUITS AND COATS HALF-PRICE! Today Acheson, the manufacturer of Ladies' Suits and Coats, offers his entire remaining line of splendid merchant tailor cloth Suits and Coats at HALF PRICE.