



RELATIONS WITH MEXICO STRAINED

Knox' "Shotgun Diplomacy" Is Cause.

ARRESTED AMERICAN PRETEXT

Labor Unions Demand Release of J. A. Cook From Jail.

KNOX SENDS BRUSQUE NOTE

Central Americans Declare Secretary Is Plagued at Being Outwitted and Is Getting Even With Mexico. Loss of Prestige Is Feared.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Diplomatic relations between the United States and Mexico are now somewhat strained.

Smuggling under the charge of being employed at the diplomatic game by President Diaz and Senator Cook, Secretary of State Knox has sent to the Mexican government a note which amasses the foreign contingent in Washington as another example of current "shotgun diplomacy."

Imprisoned American Pretext.

The imprisonment of James A. Cook, an American citizen, at Guadalajara, is the pretext for Secretary Knox's brusqueness toward Mexico.

Meanwhile all Latin-America, as represented here, is boiling with indignation at the United States and such statements as the following, made by a serious and responsible student of South and Central American affairs, are common:

"The United States has lost more prestige during these last 15 days than it had gained in the previous 15 years."

It is further declared to be the intention of President Diaz to receive the late President Zelaya as the guest of Mexico City and shower honors and courtesies on him as a mark of Mexican contempt for the State Department at Washington.

Worse still, there is trustworthy information to the effect that nearly all the South and Central American governments have lost faith in the United States, both as to fairness and justice of procedure, and as to the firmness with which it was expected to pursue its policies.

Diplomacy "Big Flat Bluff."

They have come to the conclusion that the present diplomacy of the United States is a "big flat bluff," and say that while Uncle Sam may bluster and browbeat, he is not to be feared, because he is sure to back down in the end. They instance the humiliating retreat of Secretary Knox in the affair of the Alsop claim against Chile, wherein he issued an insulting ultimatum, was "called" by the Chileans and then had to appeal secretly to the Brazilian Secretary of Foreign Affairs to help him save his face.

They cite also Secretary Knox's somewhat ridiculous blustering attitude about arresting and punishing Zelaya, which in the end he was meekly forced to abandon and permit Diaz to carry the tyrant off in triumph.

Bluffs To Be Called.

"In future," say the Latin-American diplomats, "we shall call Mr. Knox's bluffs as often as he makes them. The United States has lost its influence with us and Mexico has come to the front."

"The Department deplores the sensational stories based on this act," said an official of the Department today.

"The United States has taken steps to safeguard the rights of an American because the friends of that citizen believe these rights are not being recognized."

"Personally I know nothing about the case, but I do know that the man in the case has not been imprisoned much longer, if as long, as many suspected persons under the same charge have been incarcerated in this country awaiting trial. It is entirely natural that friends of Cook should be anxious about him and should likewise exert every effort to have him brought to a speedy trial."

Such Cases Always Appeal.

"The idea of an American pictured as helpless and subjected to persecution, languishing in a foreign jail, always will appeal to the tender-hearted. It is altogether likely, however, that the Mexican law is taking its course."

At present the exchanges between the United States and Mexico are purely friendly and informal. They are being conducted through the regular diplomatic channels, and on the part of the department with a complete recognition of the peculiar laws governing the operation of railroads in Mexico. Not the slightest friction, officials of the department insist, has arisen as a result of the interchange, and a satisfactory solution of the problem is a matter of a few hours, or days at the most.

The delay in the matter of giving Cook a hearing is well known here.

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HUSBAND OBEYS SPIRIT AFFINITY

WIFE, BELIEVING IN OCCULT, HAS WARRANT ISSUED.

Note Left Saying Ghostly Voice Called—Woman With Him Swears Fair One Deserted.

Mrs. P. L. Young, an acknowledged believer in the occult, received an earthy message from her husband Christmas eve, saying that he had fled to Salt Lake in response to continual calling of a spirit within him.

"I want you to pray for me," the letter ran. "I will work out my own salvation. You will never understand, perhaps, but there is something in me calling. I am going to Salt Lake City, and if there is any final message you wish to give me I will get it there."

Constantly Wagner is making every effort to arrest Young and his companion, although no warrant has been issued for the woman's arrest. Positive evidence that Young left here with another woman is said to have been obtained yesterday.

COWPUNCHER LASSOS LYNX

Big Cat, Tied, Is Then Rattled, Captor Netting \$18.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—While riding his old cow pony, Topay, to Molson, Wash., to attend the Christmas dance last night "Doc" Nelson, a well-known stockman in this district, was appointed by a large lynx jumping across the trail. The cat, with tufted ears, glared at Nelson from the bushes, showed fight and while "Doc" loosened his lariat jumped about eager for a scratching bee.

The cow pony stood pat, then dashed by the lynx. The cowpuncher struck the cat a stinging blow with his quirt and when it attempted to slink away he roped it fairly about the shoulders and forelegs.

The cat was tied securely, wrapped in Nelson's coat, strapped to the saddle and brought to the Molson Hotel, where Nelson rattled it, the proceeds bringing him \$18. The winner boxed his prize, still alive, and carted the cat home.

LEGACY HEIR FOUND DEAD

Old Seattle Janitor Refused \$30,000. Least He Waste It.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 27.—Patrick M. Smith, aged 57, janitor of an apartment house, who was found dead in his room last night, received a letter from friends in Ireland, saying that he had fallen heir to \$30,000. He refused to return to claim his legacy, although an offer to send \$100 for his expenses was made.

The old man had become despondent over age, apoplexy or drink, and felt that the money would do him no good. Smith, who was an educated man, had told friends that he had been a teacher in an Omaha college; that he had spoken at the opening of the Midwinter Fair in San Francisco, and that a play staged by him had netted \$500 for the fund that built the San Francisco City Hall.

STOCK GAMBLING IS NEXT

President Taft to Hold Conference on Dealings in Futures.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—President Taft proposes, if possible, to arrive at a means of preventing unnecessary stock-market trading in future deliveries of wheat, corn, cotton and other products. The president has invited a number of officials to confer with him on the subject, among them Secretary Knox, Attorney-General Wickham, Representative Scott and Lovering of Massachusetts and the Commissioner of Corporations, Herbert Knox Smith.

GORDON MADE SENATOR

McLaurin's Seat Filled by Appointment by Mississippi Governor.

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 27.—Governor Noel today announced the appointment of Colonel James Gordon, of Okolona, as United States Senator from Mississippi, to succeed the late Senator McLaurin. The appointment is temporary until the Legislature can elect a Senator for the unexpired term, and is made with the understanding that Senator Gordon will not be a candidate for this term.

ANTS TO HEAR CUMMINS

Senator Asks Dilliver and Beveridge's Aid in Iowa Campaign.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 27.—Senator Albert B. Cummins has consented to address a banquet of so-called progressive Republicans here Saturday night. Senator Cummins today sent telegrams to Senator Beveridge, of Indiana, and Senator Dilliver, of Iowa, asking them to attend and speak.

ATTEMPT AT COUP MISSES ITS MARK

Rock Island Stock Goes Up and Down Quickly.

MYSTERY IN STREET RESULTS

Exchange Orders Inquiry Into Suspected Scheme.

FLURRY WEAKENS PRICES

Officers and Owners of Road Say They Did Not Do It—Matched Order Device Falls Because Somebody Made Blunder.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The New York Stock Exchange has an investigation on its hands. Common stock of the Rock Island Company rose $\frac{3}{4}$ points almost immediately after the opening today and then, even more suddenly, dropped to $\frac{5}{8}$. Thereby hangs a mystery or a flasco, or something that the governors of the Stock Exchange will try to sift to the bottom.

At the close of today's session the governors quickly held a conference and it was announced a special investigation had been instituted. Francis J. Eames, J. L. Atterbury and Ernest Groesbeck were appointed to conduct the inquiry. Conservative members are much exercised over the episode and summary punishment of the offenders is demanded.

Officials deny they're involved. Officers of the Rock Island disclaim any responsibility for the movement. At the office of Daniel G. Held, who, with W. H. Moore, is the acknowledged leader of the Rock Island coup, it was said that Mr. Held was indisposed today. Another representative said that he was entertaining a house party at his country home near here. Judge Moore arrived from Chicago in the afternoon and affirmed what had been said earlier in the day, that personally he knew nothing of the excitement until told about it on his arrival in New York.

So much mystery and confusion surrounds the movement that anything like a clear explanation seems impossible at this time. In the brief session of the governors this afternoon, several members who figured in the buying and selling were called, but no details were made public. Those brokers credited with executing the orders declined to throw any light on the subject. They will be called to testify later.

Manipulators Fail in Scheme.

Stories purporting to explain the situation are numerous. One theory was that an attempt at manipulating the stock had miscarried. According to this story, heavy buying orders were placed, but, through some oversight, the corresponding selling order did not appear. The result was, following out this theory, that there was comparatively little stock for sale, and brokers who had charge of the buying orders had to bid the market up to execute them. If such were the case, the orders were destined to be "match orders," the principal subject of the recent investigation of the Stock Exchange instituted by Governor Hughes.

In the flurry today the rest of the list (Concluded on Page 2.)

SHIP, GALE TOSSED 97 DAYS, NOW SAFE

THREE MONTHS CONSUMED IN TRIP FROM CHINA.

Schooner Minnie A. Caine Towed Into Hougham Much Worse for Wear—Crew Famed.

SHOQUAM, Wash., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—With but a few pounds of flour and beans remaining in the hold, with her crew on short rations and Captain Olsen on what is thought to be his deathbed, the schooner Minnie A. Caine, 97 days out from Hypong, China, was towed into this port today.

The Caine was en route to Bellingham but was picked up off Gray's Harbor, where the crew asked to be brought into port.

The Caine left Hypong September 20 and encountered a typhoon when well off the Chinese coast.

The terrible tossing about continued for 24 hours and a large quantity of provisions was damaged. The crew was then put on short rations and the trip was one of privation and hardship from that time.

Captain Olsen is suffering from heart trouble and it was not thought advisable to move him to a hospital tonight. Tom Enderesen, son of a well-known spar-maker of this city, was a cabin-boy on the vessel and says the trip was one of the worst in his several years' experience at sea. The Caine's sails and rigging were badly damaged in the typhoon, which made the trip more difficult.

AUNT LOVES, NIECE WEDS

Tacoma Woman Sues Mining Engineer for \$15,000.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 27.—Dora Gline Lee, plaintiff in a \$15,000 breach-of-promise suit, against John T. Davis, a retired mining engineer, testified in the Superior Court today that following a short acquaintance with Davis she divorced her husband and entered a contract marriage with the engineer.

She said they traveled in California last June that she was recognized everywhere as Davis' wife.

In San Diego Mrs. Lee became ill and while she was in the hospital Davis sent to Tacoma for her niece.

Upon her return from the hospital Mrs. Lee was sent to her relatives and Davis legally married the niece.

Aunt and niece were in court, but gave each other no glance of recognition.

SWINDLER FORFEITS \$1000

"Dr." Astro, Coos Bay Boat-Owner's Nemesis, Can't Be Found.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—Police Judge Shortall of this city today declared forfeited the bail of Claude Conlin, of Attawanna, Mich., who, under the name of Dr. C. Alexander Astro, is accused of swindling James O'Kelly, a boatowner of Coos Bay, Ore., out of \$1000. The accused, Della Martel, of a medium, materialized O'Kelly's lost \$1000, to whom the boatman gave \$500 before he discovered he had been made a dupe.

The case against Astro was called a week ago, and when he failed to appear a bench-warrant was issued for his arrest, but he has not been apprehended. Della Martel, who posed as the lost girl, is seriously ill in a hospital here.

LANDSLIDE CATCHES 28

Storms in Navarre Take Heavy Toll in Village of Vienna.

MADRID, Dec. 27.—Dispatches received here say that 28 persons perished in a landslide caused by the floods in a village near Vienna, Navarre.

AFFIDAVIT FOR THE DOCTOR.

A legal notice for the doctor, Peary, with a caricature of a man and a signature. Text includes: TO THE PUBLIC. WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, LEARNING THAT CERTAIN PERSONS, CLEARLY INSPIRED BY ENVY, QUESTION THE CLAIMS OF OUR FRIEND DR. COOK, DO HEREBY MOST SOLEMNLY AFFIRM THAT DR. COOK'S JOURNEYS, IN WHATEVER REGIONS THEY MAY LIE ARE ABSOLUTE AND SIMPLE FACTS. BARON MUNCHAUSEN X LEMUEL GULLIVER X ANANIAS. SWORN BEFORE SINDBAD THE SAILOR, NOTARY PUBLIC. PEARY.

ATLANTIC STORM COSTS \$5,000,000

Tidal Wave and Blizzard Carry Ruin in Path.

MANY LIVES BELIEVED LOST

Tales of Score Marine Disasters Now Feared.

THIRTY-TWO CITIES DARK

Electric Lighting Service Cut Off Along Coast—Boston's Loss by Tidal Wave Thought Will Be \$3,000,000 or More.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Three million dollars is the estimate today of the loss in and around Boston by the tidal wave and blizzard which swept over New England Sunday. Five million dollars is the estimate of the damage along the New England coast.

Fifteen lives were certainly lost, if the five-masted schooner, the Davis Palmer, went down, and it is believed that many more perished at sea.

Wreckage borne into Boston harbor today is believed to be the mute evidence of the loss of the schooner Davis Palmer, bound from Newport News for Boston, somewhere near the entrance to the harbor. The wreck itself has not been located.

Cape Cod is still out of the way. With the restoration of communication here, it is feared that a tale of marine disasters and storm damage unequalled in years will be related.

Thirty-two cities and towns were plunged in darkness owing to the electric lighting service being cut off and wires of the telegraph and telephone companies were laid low in every direction.

VESSELS ARE SWEEP ASHORE

Reports That Every Sea May Call in Marine Disasters.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—With the news of the probable loss of the five-masted schooner Davis Palmer, with her crew of 15 men, off Boston Harbor, and of the wrecking of nine other vessels along the Massachusetts coast, the opening chapter of the toll taken on the sea by the storm that swept New England Saturday night and Sunday was bared to the world today.

The three-masted schooner Nantaska was hurled ashore at Seaside and probably will be a total wreck. Volunteer lifesavers with the breeches-buoy rescued her crew of ten men. With a cargo of lumber she was bound for Boston from North Carolina.

The schooner Belle Holiday is ashore at Brant point, exposed to the fury of the sea. The fate of her crew is unknown, but it is believed they have been rescued. She is from Philadelphia, loaded with railroad iron.

On the rocky shores of Martha's Vineyard waterlogged schooners are being swept by every sea. They are the A. K. McLean, a British vessel, bound from Perth Amboy to Halifax, and the Stonington, Maine, schooner (Concluded on Page 5.)

\$50 HIS PROFIT TO EVERY DOLLAR LOST

PATTEN GAINS ON COTTON, BUT LOSES ON CORN.

Battle Spectacular Begins Between Market Manipulator and Bull Opponents.

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—(Special.)—Corn soared again today in the battle between James A. Patten and his bull opponents. In this particular war, the dealer who has sent wheat and cotton skyward is trying to pull down the price of corn. Bulls predict 90-cent corn.

"Patten is making \$50 in cotton for every dollar he is losing in corn," said an operator today. "so we may see a pretty fight if he continues to carry out his present programs."

December corn opened at 63 1/2 cents today over the close of 62 1/2 cents Friday. There was a climb to 64 1/2 cents and then a drop to 63 cents.

May corn opened at 67 cents, an advance of 1/2 cent over Friday's closing, and moved to 67 1/2 cents. The price then dropped to 67 1/2 cents. Patten, who is said to be nearly 5,000,000 bushels in May corn, continued to sell on his assertion that the present price was over the real value and that the drop would follow the opening of corn traffic.

Patten is selling May corn and going further about on the declaration that the present condition is due to railroad and weather conditions.

SCHOONER WRECKS LIGHT

Frame Beacon-House on Atlantic Coast Lost by Peculiar Collision.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 27.—Having been rammed and almost cut in two by the four-masted schooner Malcolm Baxter, Jr., the Thimble shoal light, four miles east of Old Point Comfort, and near the trail of the "Fore-shoe" in Lower Chesapeake Bay, caught fire and was totally destroyed this morning. Keeper Hudjins and his assistants, J. B. Thomas and T. L. Faulcher, put off in a lifeboat and were picked up by a crew from the United States coast cruiser Birmingham.

The schooner was inbound bound from Hampton Roads in ballast, and was proceeding under sail. The strong west wind and the swift tide threw the vessel off her course and she crashed into the frame lighthouse. In the smashup the stove in the lighthouse was overturned and set the building on fire.

After the collision the Malcolm Baxter veered off and anchored, but later was towed to Norfolk for repairs. The vessel was damaged about the bow.

SAVAGE HOLIDAY IN NORTH

Stabbing, Accidents and Burglaries Mar Vancouver's Christmastide.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 27.—(Special.)—The holidays of Saturday and Sunday today, were marred in this city by several tragedies, as well as numerous accidents and burglaries. Raymond Miller was found by the police in a newly opened hotel stabbed three times in the back, probably fatally, and three men were arrested.

Clay Marks was severely injured when run down by a taxicab, and Brakeman Musselman, of the Seattle express, fell off an incoming train and received bad injuries about the head and back. One streetcar and a yard engine had a collision which narrowly missed causing at least one fatality.

Safe-crackers "blew" safes in two lumber offices, but were scared away before they secured any booty. Several cases of burglary were reported, but nothing of value was taken by the marauders.

TAFT WEDDING THURSDAY

Seattle Man Takes Out License to Wed President's Niece.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—George Hogg Snowden, of Seattle, obtained a license today to marry Miss Louise Witherbee Taft, daughter of Henry W. Taft, brother of the President. The wedding will take place at the Taft home here December 30.

President and Mrs. Taft are scheduled in New York early Wednesday to attend. Only members of the two families will be present on account of the recent death of the President's sister-in-law, Mrs. Horace Taft, in Connecticut.

WOMEN HAVE NEW PLEA

Stamps Used to Further Suffrage Campaign, Is Latest Scheme.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The National Woman's Suffrage Association has started an "indirect plea" campaign through the distribution of printed stamps in the mails.

The new "votes for women" stamps are half again as large as the Lincoln 2-cent stamp, and are printed in various shades of blue, with five pointed stars at each of the four corners, representing the four states where women are permitted to vote.

REGENT IS NOT STABBED

Report That Prince Chun Is Dead Declared False.

PEKIN, Dec. 27.—The report published abroad that Prince Chun, the Regent, was stabbed when about to enter the palace today, is without the slightest foundation.

STRIKERS APPEAL TO WASHINGTON

Switchmen in Deadlock With Railroads.

BREACH BECOMES WIDER

More General Strike Now Expected to Develop.

LEADERS OFF TO CAPITAL

General Walkout by All Allied Orders Belonging to Railway Branch of American Federation Possible.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 27.—Contrary to expectations, developments today in the controversy between the railroads of the Northwest and the striking switchmen, instead of resulting in an amicable settlement of the strike, resulted in a wider breach than has existed heretofore.

Not only have the switchmen declared off all negotiations with the railroads, but labor leaders say there is a strong possibility of a general strike by all allied orders belonging to the railway branch of the American Federation of Labor.

H. B. Perham, acting as chairman of the railway council in session here, left tonight for Washington to seek advice.

"There may be a more general strike," said Mr. Perham.

President Hawley of the Switchmen's Union asserted: "Several other members of the railway council besides Mr. Perham left for their headquarters tonight to make preparations for a strike of their respective orders."

Mr. Perham, in speaking of today's developments, said:

"Friday we were on the verge of a (Concluded on Page 2.)"

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