

VENEZUELA HAS PERFECT PEACE

President Castro Interviewed on Affairs of the Country.

VENEZUELAN PRESS BOUGHT

Large Sums of Money Spent to Favor a Certain Company in the Asphalt Controversy—Future Revolutions Improbable.

NEW YORK, May 29.—A dispatch to the Herald from Caracas says:

The correspondent of the Herald has just obtained an interview with President Castro under unusual circumstances. The interview was obtained in the presence of minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Blanco, surrounded by interpreters. In order that General Castro's message to the United States might reflect accurately his views it was first revised by him in English, translated into Spanish and revised again, rewritten in Spanish as to certain expressions and translated into English again.

"Our republic," said General Castro, "enjoys perfect peace. There is no disturbance anywhere, nor do we expect any. We are devoting all our time to arranging our internal affairs and promoting the prosperity of Venezuelans. We do not see any cloud on the horizon. With regard to any supposed wrong misunderstanding with our sister republic of the United States we have nothing to fear because the matter that it refers to is the asphalt controversy which is at present in the tribunals where it will be decided. What is to be regretted in this question is that a person invested with an official character seems to have taken part in the affair. I refer to Mr. Loomis."

"Do you know of any bribery in the asphalt controversy or whether any attempt was made to bribe the officials or the tribunals of Venezuela?" was asked.

"I ignore completely whether any person tried to bribe the parties you indicate and I am sure that none of them is capable of being bribed. What I know is that large sums of money have been spent to get part of the Venezuelan press to favor the interests of a certain company. This is public and notorious, also the fact that while the dispute was at its height large amounts of money were received by an individual, and it is indicated that the last sums received by him were between \$20,000 to \$25,000."

"It is said in the United States that American life and capital are not safe in Venezuela and that American capital is not desired here."

"The first assertion is so false and absurd," said General Castro, with a shrug of the shoulders, "that I leave it to be contradicted by any person who may visit Venezuela from abroad. With regard to the second question I can only say that lately I tried to negotiate a loan in the United States of America which I suspect has fallen through owing to the influences and work of Mr. Loomis. It is well to mention that Mr. Loomis was the first person to indicate to me that it was possible to obtain the loan in America. Through his mediation Mr. Meyers, who was to have carried out the operation, came to Caracas and Mr. Loomis was present at all the conferences with the said financial agent."

President Castro was asked what should take place if the United States government decided to send Mr. Loomis back to Caracas.

"I don't think that the United States government will send Mr. Loomis back to Caracas," he replied, "because I consider that government inspired with the best wishes to maintain cordial relations with Venezuela as we desire that the same be daily more and more sincere and cordial. I never presumed

that the United States government could have any part in the attitude assumed by Mr. Loomis."

"Is it true that the state department has sustained Mr. Loomis in all he said and all he did?" was asked.

"Mr. Loomis, in an official note said that he acted in conformity with instructions from Washington which could only be true in a determined sense."

President Castro was next asked what would be done in the affair of Messrs. Gage and Bartlett, two American citizens who were arrested by the police in La Guayra.

"To my knowledge there is nothing pending in the matter. Mr. Gage is here at present and has been presented to me. He is a gentleman of culture, a friend of Venezuela and says that he has no fault to find with the country."

"What are the probabilities with regard to the future prosperity and tranquility of Venezuela?"

"We have had to overthrow three revolutions; we have passed through an earthquake; we are experiencing low prices in coffee and the drought now existing is ruining the crops. I do not despair, however. With peace the country will soon be again prosperous."

"Do you think it probable that there will be any revolution?"

"As the republic ardently desires peace it is not to be expected that there will be any revolution. My government has the sympathy of all persons of influence of any importance. I will add that my government is strong and is prepared accordingly. I am prepared. I have a good army and I have materials of warfare in abundance which probably I shall never have occasion to use."

President Castro was then asked about his intended trip throughout the interior of the republic and in answer, he said:

"I intend to carry out the trip. I will go first to the State of Los Andes and on my return here I will proceed to the State of Bolivar and to the other states to the east of the republic. I consider this trip of great importance as it will put me in close contact with the population and thus allow me to get a knowledge of the wants of the inhabitants."

Before closing the interview, President Castro manifested his earnest desire to maintain with the United States and with all foreign nations the most cordial relations of friendship.

The same paper adds that the excellence of the administration supplied and its suitability to local conditions are true title deeds of empire.

VENEZUELA AND FRANCE

Efforts Being Made to Have Diplomatic Relations Again Restored.

NEW YORK, May 29.—A dispatch to the Herald from Caracas says:

President Castro hopes France can be induced to modify the terms of the protocol which the Venezuelan cabinet has practically rejected, and he has requested Commandant Delort, a distinguished Frenchman, long resident in this country, to make representations in his behalf to the French foreign office. M. Delort is now en route to France. He told the Venezuelan president that he could not undertake to act as his emissary but would make an informal explanation. He sees no chance for a renewal of diplomatic relations unless Venezuela changes her attitude completely.

The protocol which was brought from France by President Castro's brother a month ago, cited three conditions under which France would be willing to renew diplomatic relations. The first, which Venezuela should sign first and France afterward, second, that all matters which were pending previous to the breaking of diplomatic relations should be disposed of before the entente cordate should be restored. The third was a question of claims; if there were any disputes, should be submitted to European arbitration, but that France should not have a member upon the tribunal.

The Venezuelan government pleaded ignorance of the matter which had been pending between the two countries prior to breaking of relations and said it was impossible to get the papers. France offered to furnish attested copies of all documents. Venezuela made no reply. In the matter of claims, which amount

Pears' Soap

Soap in stick form; convenience and economy in shaving. It is the best and cheapest shaving soap in all the world.

All sorts of people use Pears' soap, all sorts of stores sell it, especially druggists.

to about four million dollars, Venezuela insisted that their validity should be submitted to a tribunal composed exclusively of Venezuelans. This has been taken by France, it is understood, to mean that Venezuela is not willing to pay, therefore her negotiations fell through.

Venezuela is now seeking to open new negotiations with France through the secretary of young Mr. Castro, who remains in Paris. The recent history of these negotiations is the history of negotiations between all foreign governments and Venezuela during the last six months.

President Castro appointed a court to which all claims, foreign and domestic, growing out of the revolutions, should be submitted. All the foreign governments united in refusing to recognize this court, declaring the debts should be settled diplomatically. Recently, when German, Italian and English claims have been submitted, the government has in effect, said:

"We want to hear nothing about these claims. It is too late. They should have gone before the court we designated. We will not pay."

Naturally, the situation is somewhat strained, but Venezuela is feeling secure from foreign pressure, realizing that the European powers are now too much occupied with continental politics and Oriental questions to interfere. It is generally understood that Germany is much exasperated and is preparing the way for appropriation under which her claims can be settled on some other than a monetary basis.

PLATT AMENDMENT

Appendix Formulated at Havana Making the Document Clearer.

NEW YORK, May 29.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Havana says:

The exact terms of acceptance have not been fully understood in the United States, especially since the revised and modified report was the basis of the convention's latest action. As it stands the constitutional convention has adopted an appendix to the constitution which it formally adopted in February last. This appendix gives the terms of the Platt amendment and a summary in concise form of interviews with Secretary Root and his interpretation of the legislation of congress. It also quoted the letter from Military Governor Wood transmitting the letter from the secretary of war on the same subject as having the value of an official document and then states in very clear terms article by article the convention's interpretation. All these matters have been discussed and much stress was laid on the presence with which the Cuban interpretation is formulated.

The final article in the appendix is a pledge that the republic of Cuba will propose a reciprocal treaty. Commercial interests are highly gratified that this pledge is incorporated into the acceptance of the Platt amendment.

TWO MEN BLOWN TO PIECES

Frightful Explosion on Missouri River Freight Boat.

CHICAGO, May 29.—A special to the Tribune from Booneville, Mo., says:

Two men blown to pieces, a small steamer torn to bits, three houses demolished, scores of residences and business buildings damaged, a ferry boat badly wrecked and many thousands of dollars worth of property destroyed are the results of an explosion at this place.

The accident was on the Laurine, a 14-ton Missouri River freight boat just off this city. The boat carried 200 pounds of dynamite, many kegs of powder, 1000 detonating caps and eight cases of fuses. Gasoline powder was used on the vessel and when a match was applied to the generator an explosion followed. The boat took fire and the crew except two men, fled. These were still aboard when the fire reached the supply tanks of gasoline and the explosives. Damage was done to buildings a mile away.

MRS. DE CASTRO DEAD

Was the Granddaughter of Poet William Cullen Bryant.

NEW YORK, May 29.—Mrs. Annie Galwin De Castro, according to a cable message, died in Venice, May 27. She was the daughter of Perke Godwin and a granddaughter of Poet William Cullen Bryant. She married Alfred De Castro, one of two brothers who were connected with Mr. Mackay's cables about 15 years ago and she had one daughter by that marriage.

Mrs. De Castro wrote a great many clever little skits and was generally regarded as a literary woman. She also played a great deal in amateur theatricals. Her last appearance was at an entertainment given by Mr. and Mrs. Abram S. Hewitt about six weeks ago.

SILVER MARKET.

NEW YORK, May 29.—Silver, 59 1/2.

OBJECT TO ARBITRATION

Meeting of National Trades Association at Chicago.

CHICAGO, May 29.—The administration council of the National Metal Trades Association, at a meeting in the Great Northern Hotel, adopted a resolution abrogating the New York agreement with the International Association of Machinists.

The council decided that it would have no national arbitration of the wage question. A committee will be appointed to confer with the local officers of the machinists' union to arbitrate wages in Chicago, provided President O'Connell appoints a committee from the union for that purpose. A telegram was sent to O'Connell asking him to appoint a committee.

The strictest secrecy was maintained by the business transaction, and to all inquiries as to the future policy of the association only one reply was made—that there was nothing to be made public. One of the members of the administrative council who is not in sympathy with the policy of secrecy, when seen after the meeting, gave the details of the two sessions held and of the adoption of the resolutions nullifying the New York agreement.

When the resolution abrogating the New York agreement was presented it was thoroughly discussed and agreed that it had been totally disregarded by the president of the machinists' union when he ordered a strike and that it was useless to adhere to it.

The resolution was laid on the table at the adjournment of the session but was taken up when the council met again and adopted unanimously.

A committee was appointed to draft a letter to all the manufacturers outside of the National Metal Trades Association apprising them of the situation and asking their cooperation. Committees on declaration of principles and on by-laws were appointed and a motion was adopted that a committee be named to arbitrate with the men locally. It was the most largely attended meeting of manufacturers in conference since the formation of the National Metal Trades Association. President Edwin Reynolds of Milwaukee, was in the chair and Secretary H. J. Dwyers of New York, was there representing the eastern interests of the organization.

GIVEN A ROYAL DINNER

Lord Milner Entertained by the King—Attitude of Radicals.

NEW YORK, May 29.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:

The king has emphasized a unique distinction in his welcome to Lord Milner by giving to him a "dine and sleep" invitation at Windsor. Lord Milner, after being included in the royal dinner party has been put in a position for gracefully declining invitations to dinners which are offered to him from every part of the United Kingdom.

The king and Mr. Chamberlain between them have silenced any outcry which might have been raised on the continent against public neglect of distinguished public servants.

In the political clubs various stories are current to account for the fact that Sir Henry Fowler alone of the Liberal leaders was present at Mr. Chamberlain's luncheon to Lord Milner. It appears that several of the most prominent imperialist radicals who owed their success at the general election to their support of the war in South Africa were soiled as to whether they would accept invitations to the luncheon. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, on hearing what was going on, for once in a way acted with decision. He declared that he would resign the opposition leadership if these invitations were accepted, his ground of objection being that the presence of the radical leaders at the proceedings would commit the Liberals to approval of the government's policy.

TO SUCCEED CALLOWAY

W. H. Newman Appointed President of Lake Shore & Michigan Railway.

NEW YORK, May 29.—The Tribune says:

The presidency of the N. Y. Central to succeed Samuel R. Calloway, who resigns to become head of the American Locomotive Company, has been offered to W. H. Newman, president of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway. Mr. Newman is in the city and in consultation with W. K. Vanderbilt.

bit and other directors of the New York Central. It is understood that he will accept the offer. Mr. Calloway will continue to perform the duties of his present position, however, until July 1. Mr. Newman's successor as president of the Lake Shore has not yet been decided.

W. H. Newman, then vice-president of the Great Northern, was elected president of the Lake Shore in April, 1898, to succeed Mr. Calloway, who left that office to become head of the New York Central. He began his railroad career in July, 1868, with Thomas A. Scott, on the Texas Pacific railroad in Texas. When Jay Gould obtained control of the Texas Pacific and made it a part of his southwestern system, he appointed Mr. Newman traffic manager. From that place Mr. Newman went to the Chicago & Northwestern as third vice-president in charge of the traffic department. After seven years' service with that road he became second vice-president of the Great Northern.



For Sale by FOARD & STOKES CO., Astoria, Oregon.

AN INCOME FOR LIFE

GREATEST OF GOLD PROPERTIES

3650 ACRES—9 MILES IN LENGTH—250 MILLION TONS. Highest gold-bearing quartz ground by nature's hand into gold-laden gravel, from 50 to 600 feet in depth over the entire property. In addition the company owns 14 miles in length of river bed, each mile of which contains many millions of gold situated on the Rio Grande, in Taos county, New Mexico.

OVER 100 MILLION DOLLARS

For Dividends

READ THE PROOFS

United States Official Report

MADE TO COMMISSIONER OF THE UNITED STATES, GENERAL LAND OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

by a geologist and mining expert of worldwide reputation, Professor Benjamin Silliman, who spent several months there, then being connected with the United States surveying corps, and in his official report says: "Here are contained millions of tons of rich goldiferous gravel, the great forces of nature to a condition ready for the application of the hydraulic process, while the entire bed of the Rio Grande for over forty miles is a sluice, on the bars of which the gold derived from the wearing away of the gravel banks has been accumulating for countless ages, and now lies ready for extraction by the most approved methods of river mining. The thickness of the Rio Grande gold gravel exceeds in many places 600 feet, or nearly three times that of the like beds in California, while the average value per cubic yard is believed to be greater in the New Mexico beds than in any other such accumulations yet discovered."

"I have made a reconnaissance of the whole of this gravel along the Rio Grande, and have examined with all the care possible in the time at my command the character of the gravel and its contents of gold. Nothing I am persuaded, since the discovery of California and Australia is comparable for its immeasurable resources of gold available by the hydraulic process to the deep placers of the Rio Grande."

Other reports from eminent mining experts of national reputation pronounce the richest and most extensive known.

Capital Stock \$2,000,000

FULLY PAID AND NON-ASSESSABLE, PAR VALUE \$1. EACH SHARE.....

One-half the entire capital stock has been placed in the treasury of the company as a working capital. To complete necessary ditches and place on the river bed several gold steam dredges, the company now offers a limited number of its shares at

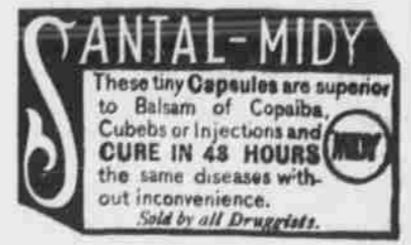
50c PER SHARE

AFTER SALE OF WHICH PRICE WILL BE ADVANCED TO \$1.00 PER SHARE

Applications should be sent promptly. Write for prospectus. Make checks, money orders payable to

Rio Grande Placer Gold Mining Co

7 EXCHANGE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS



THE PLACE TO BUY CANNERY SUPPLIES FISHING BOAT SUPPLIES BUILDING MATERIAL SEWING MACHINES AND FARM IMPLEMENTS IS AT FISHER BROTHERS, Astoria, Ore.

KOPP'S BEST A Delicious and Palatable Drink Absolutely Pure

The North Pacific Brewery, of which Bottled beer for family use or keg Mr. John Kopp is proprietor, makebeer supplied at any time. Delivery beer for domestic and export trade. In the city free.

North Pacific Brewery

Pacific Navigation Company

Steamers—"Sue H. Elmore," "W. H. Harrison" Only line—Astoria to Tillamook, Garibaldi, Bay City, Hobsonville. Connecting at Astoria with the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co. and also the Astoria & Columbia River R. R. for San Francisco, Portland and all points east. For freight and passenger rates apply to Samuel Elmore & Co. General Agents, ASTORIA, ORE.

(O. R. & N. R. R. Co., Portland Agents—A. & C. R. Co., Portland B. C. LAMB, Tillamook, Ore)

FOUNDED A. D. 1710 SUN INSURANCE OFFICE

OF LONDON THE OLDEST PURELY FIRE OFFICE IN THE WORLD.

Cash Assets \$11,500,000 Cash Assets in United States 2,515,935

J. B. F. DAVIS & SON, GENERAL AGENTS. WINFIELD S. DAVIS BURT L. DAVIS CARL A. HENRY

215 Sansome Street, San Francisco, Cal.

SAMUEL ELMORE & CO., AGENTS.

NEW ZEALAND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

Of New Zealand W. P. THOMAS, Mgr., San Francisco.

UNLIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS

Subscribed Capital, \$5,000,000 Paid-up Capital, 1,000,000 Assets, 2,545,114 Assets in United States, 300,000 Surplus to Policy Holders, 1,718,792

Has been Underwriting on the Pacific Coast over twenty-two years.

SAMUEL ELMORE & CO. Resident Agents, Astoria, Or.

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL MONMOUTH, OREGON

DEMAND FOR GRADUATES—The demand for the graduates of the Normal Schools during the past year has been much beyond the supply. Positions with from \$40 to \$75 per month. STATE CERTIFICATES AND DIPLOMAS—Students are prepared for the state examinations, and readily take state papers on graduation. Strong academic and Professional Courses. Well equipped Training Department. Expenses ranging from \$120 to \$175 per year. Fall term opens September 17. For catalogue containing full announcements, address P. L. CAMPBELL, Or, J. B. V. BUTLER, President, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING BRIEFS AND TRANSCRIPTS ASTORIAN PUBLISHING CO.

PRINTING

ALL WORK DELIVERED AT TIME IT IS PROMISED

Cor. Tenth and Commercial Streets Telephone 661.

HOTEL PORTLAND PORTLAND, OR. The Only First-Class Hotel in Portland

Slow Healing SORES

With rich, pure, strong blood one is never troubled with sores or ulcers. A cut or any injury to the flesh heals in a few days, nature supplying the healing balm in the form of healthy, new blood; but when the circulation is tainted with poisonous germs, humors or any effete matter, a slight scratch or abrasion of the skin becomes a festering sore, tiny pimples grow to be boils, swollen joints and inflamed glands often break out into offensive, slow healing sores. A polluted blood is always a menace to health; not only does it keep the skin in a chronic state of inflammation, but every organ and fibre of the body suffers from an impure and sluggish circulation. You never feel well, you are not and never can be well until the system is relieved of its terrible load of impurities. With the blood so contaminated, so deeply poisoned, ulcers, boils and sores of every kind are apt to become chronic and often develop into Cancer. Sores and ulcers are most often caused by poverty of the blood and a weak and slow circulation, brought on by long continued sickness, malarial poisoning, torpid liver, the use of mercury, or whatever is calculated to destroy the vitality of the blood and break down the constitution. These old chronic sores last sometimes for years, eating into the flesh, muscles, tissues, and even down into the bones, and are such a tax upon the system that it is hard for the patient to recuperate, and a simple malady often proves fatal. Nothing so quickly or surely restores lost strength and vitality to the blood as S. S. S. It is an antidote for the severest forms of Blood Poison, as well as the irritating humors that cause the eruptions and sores that sap your very life and so greatly disfigure you. S. S. S. is the only guaranteed purely vegetable blood purifier. It contains no mercury, potash, arsenic or other hurtful drug. It cleanses the blood and purifies the circulation, thus ridding the system of the impurities that keep the sores feverish and painful. At the same time your general health improves under the tonic effects of S. S. S., and the skin becomes soft, smooth and healthy. If you are troubled with boils, carbuncles, sores or eruptions of any sort, write our physicians all about your case; don't risk your own judgment when you can get medical advice from experienced doctors free. Book on Blood and Skin Diseases to all who desire it. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC COMPANY, ATLANTA, GA.

Kodol Dyspepsia Cure Digests what you eat.

This preparation contains all of the digestants and digests all kinds of food. It gives instant relief and never fails to cure. It allows you to eat all the food you want. The most sensitive stomachs can take it. By its use many thousands of dyspeptics have been cured after everything else failed. It is unequalled for all stomach troubles. It can't help but do you good

Prepared only by E. C. DEWEY & Co., Chicago The 41c bottle contains 2 1/2 times the 50c. size. CHAS. ROGERS, Druggist.

THE LOUVRE

The headlines of the program at the Louvre this week, are the clever and amusing Irish comedians, McSorley and Whitney, who come to Astoria well recommended, after successful engagements in the larger cities on the coast.

SILVER MARKET.

NEW YORK, May 29.—Silver, 59 1/2.