

## CABLEGRAMS MADE PUBLIC

Relates to United States Shipbuilding Placed in the French Capitol.

COVERS PAGE IN THE WORLD

Prejudice Crated by Critic Bing Lifted by Efforts of Cashier—Effect of Bad Reports Counteracted By Officials.

London, Dec. 23.—Specials from cablegrams which are alleged to have passed between New York and Paris in connection with the United States Shipbuilding underwriting placed in the French capitol are published today by the World. Reference to the communications was made recently in the shipbuilding hearings before United States Examiner Oliphant, while Charles B. Alexander, of the firm of Alexander & Green, attorneys, was undergoing examination. The letters, which were kept secret by agreement of counsel, were said to show what methods had been pursued in order to compel the French investors to meet the calls for money on their underwriting after they had been given to understand through a cablegram sent by the Trust Company of the republic to its agent, John W. Young, that the underwriting was a "success." This dispatch gave them the idea that they only need stand ready to receive their profits as members of the underwriting syndicates dictate.

Charles B. Alexander happened to be in Paris at the time and to him fell the duty of removing the false impression and holding the signers of the subscription list to their agreement. His firm is counsel for the trust company here which has charge of the underwriting, and the communications, that fill seven columns of the World, are alleged to have passed between Mr. Alexander and his firm in this city. The alleged correspondence began July 15, and in the early stages revolves largely around the investigation set on foot as to the responsibility of those whose signatures had been secured in Paris to the underwriting agreement, which was then in the care of the Bank de Roma. Baron Calvet Rogial and M. Scherer, a banker, were the heaviest subscribers. While both were very much disappointed over the misunderstanding as to the success of the underwriting here, they were stated to stand ready to pay their shares. Finally the situation had apparently been explained to the satisfaction of everyone concerned and preparations were made for the first call upon the underwriters July 23 for 25 per cent of the subscription, to be followed by the second, payable August 1, for the same amount.

Then came the exciting portion of the correspondence. The banking house of Morgan, Harjes & Co. had been selected to receive payments to be cabled at once to the Mercantile Trust Company, of New York; but the subscribers had not come forward on July 8, to which day the payments had been postponed, and on July 25 a letter stated that Mr. Alexander had changed his tone with regard to the situation. The writer is quoted:

"While it may be true that those underwriters were not treated properly by Young in leaving them under the impression for so long a time that all the bonds had been sold, yet that has been atoned for by the patience and care with which we have in the last week given explanation after explanation to all parties. They are now all in default from the 25th and I have told Oppenheim to notify them that their individual liabilities in case that money is not in New York in time to make payment will not be limited to the amount of their securities, but that there will be consequential damages to every party connected with the affair."

The latter criticised severely in a postscript the impressions said to have been thrown out by the younger Harjes, who was reported to be very much prejudiced against the whole affair, and that it was said by the cashier that he saw Harjes at once and threatened to turn the account over to the Credit Lyonnais, and thereupon Harjes agreed to tell everything good he could about the personnel of the company and the affair. Efforts through other sources were also made, according to letters and cablegrams quoted, to counteract the effect of various reports circulated as to the impending collapse of the underwriting scheme in New York.

## WILL NOT BE REFERRED TO THE HAGUE TRIBUNAL

Colombian-American Contention. A Closed Incident So Far as New Republic is Concerned.

Washington, Dec. 23.—"Refusal by the United States to consent to the proposition of Colombia for reference of the Panama question to The Hague tribunal is expected, and will be fully approved by the European powers."

This statement was made to a representative of the Associated Press last night by an European ambassador of high rank.

The ambassador quoted, in explaining the attitude of the powers, said: "Panama is a closed chapter in the history of nations, and The Hague court is not placed for settled questions."

"When Russia, Germany and France recognized the independence of Panama they set their seal of approval on the action of the United States government in pledging itself to guarantee and maintain an independent republic."

"There is, however, a question between Colombia and Panama which, with all propriety, might be referred to The Hague and to which the United States would scarcely object."

"It is a question of assumption by Panama of a part of the Colombian debt. The difficulty of Colombia's initiating this would be that she thereby would recognize the independence of the new republic, but this must come sooner or later."

At the naval department a statement is made that the instructions to naval commanders in isthmian waters to "prevent the landing of forces with hostile intent," have not been modified.

## WILL RESORT TO INJUNCTION.

Chicago Liverymen to Commence Operations With Nonunion Men Today.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The Liverymen's Association at a meeting yesterday afternoon, decided that unless a peaceable settlement of the drivers' strike was reached today, they would open for business with nonunion employes and would appeal to the courts for an injunction to prevent the strikers from interfering in any manner with the driving of carriages or hearses.

The word of an injunction proposal reached the strikers just as a vote had been completed on a motion to the submission of the issues in the controversy to arbitration, the action was bitterly criticised by the men. No announcement of the result of the vote of the strikers was made, but the general impression was that the arbitration proposal had been accepted.

## CHEERFUL AS TO HIS FATE.

Convicted Murderer. Wishes Merry Christmas to Members of the Jury.

New York, Dec. 23.—Frank H. Burness, who shot and killed Captain G. B. Townsend, of the schooner Buckley, because Townsend would not pay him \$6.30, was convicted yesterday of murder in the first degree.

The murderer, who admits having killed three men besides Townsend, insisted he did the deed with premeditation. Burness asked the judge if he would be permitted to say something. On being given privilege, he said:

"There may be an idea in the minds of some of the jurors that I have a grudge against them for having found me guilty. I wish to say that I do not feel that way in the slightest, and I wish them a merry Christmas."

## Walker to Make Report.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Full and detailed reports of the condition of affairs on the isthmus will be made by Admiral Walker, chairman of the isthmian canal commission, who returned to Washington from Colon last night. The admiral's stay on the isthmus covered a period of about four weeks, during which time he went over the ground very carefully, particularly with reference to the condition of the canal proposal.

## Turkish Governor Apologizes.

Alexandretta, Syria, Dec. 23.—Atatari, the naturalized American, whose arrest by the Turkish authorities caused United States Consul Davis to leave Alexandretta, has been liberated. The governor of Alexandretta made an official call upon Consul Davis and formally apologized for the indignities suffered by the consul.

## Strikers Decline to Arbitrate.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The striking drivers last night declined to arbitrate, and the association of livery owners and undertakers announced that they would resume business today. They will ask for police protection, particularly in the management of funerals.

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