

PANAMANS ANGRY WITH ROOSEVELT

Orders Marines From Vessels to Protect Sailors on Shore Leave.

Native Enthusiasm Quickly Cools and Reception to Pacific Fleet May be Called Off—Baby Republic Was All Ready to Extend Hearty Welcome to American Sailors.

Panama, Dec. 12.—A report received here today that the President had ordered the policing of Panama by American marines under United States officers when the American sailors land here during the visit of the Pacific fleet next week caused much surprise.

Last Wednesday prominent citizens of Panama and the canal zone had a meeting, at which arrangements were made adequately to celebrate the fleet's visit and at which plans for protecting the sailors were made by a special committee. On this committee were appointed Governor Diaz, Major Arosma, Chief of Police Pretelt and many other prominent Panamanians who were educated in the United States.

President Obaldia had made it known that it was his desire that Panama should avail itself of this opportunity to demonstrate that its friendship for the United States was sincere, but the alleged orders of President Roosevelt have dampened all the enthusiasm and the chances are that, if they are true, instead of warm hospitality cold courtesy will be tendered the men of the fleet.

It is said that exaggerated reports have been published in American newspapers regarding the death of an American sailor, who during the last days of President Amador's administration was wounded in a free fight in a resort and died of his wounds. President Obaldia ordered a complete investigation of the affair, and four men are now in prison awaiting trial.

ASK FOR WATERWAY BONDS.

Rivers and Harbors Congress Votes for Federal Action on Projects.

Washington, Dec. 12.—With great enthusiasm the National Rivers and Harbors congress at its concluding session here yesterday placed itself on record in favor of the issuance of government bonds for the improvement of the great waterways projects.

The congress declared for an authorized issue by congress at its present session of \$500,000,000 worth of bonds, the proceeds to be used in the payment exclusively for such river and harbor work as may be authorized by congress, provision for the issue to be similar to that for the Panama canal bonds.

A committee presented to Vice-President Fairbanks and Speaker Cannon the bond resolution. Mr. Fairbanks expressed a favorable opinion of the proposition, but Mr. Cannon merely assured the committee that the resolution would be "referred for consideration."

Vice-president of the various states were announced, among them being: California—C. E. Grunsky, of San Francisco; Idaho—W. B. Heyburn, of Wallace; Montana—Judge F. E. Stranahan, of Fort Benton; Nevada—Francis G. Newlands; Oregon—Joseph W. Bennett, of Marshfield; Washington—W. O. Fowler, of Seattle; Hawaii—J. K. Kalaniana'ole, of Honolulu.

DENIES PANAMA CUT RUMOR.

Colonel Goethals Gives Reasons for Refusing to Widen Culebra.

Panama, Dec. 12.—It was rumored in this city yesterday that Colonel Goethals, chairman of the Panama Canal commission, had given orders that the Culebra cut be widened, but the Colonel today denied this report. The reason assigned was that at the present angle the canal could never be brought down to the 49-foot level above the sea necessary for a width of 85 feet. To widen the cut would mean the excavation of 14,000,000 more cubic yards. It was also declared that deep crevasses had made their appearance on Gold Hill.

Colonel Goethals, when questioned on the subject, said the statement was entirely without foundation. "If the Culebra cut is widened," the Colonel said, "it will be to facilitate passage of vessels through the narrow part of the cut, and for no other reason."

As soon as the dry season sets in it is proposed to push the work of re-locating the present Trans-Isthmian railroad. Over 2,000 men will be employed in this undertaking.

Chinese Want Damages.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 12.—The Chinese residents and storekeepers whose houses were burned a few months ago when the grand jury ordered the old tendorlin district destroyed are contemplating wholesale suits against the city as a result of the successful outcome of a suit for damages which was won by one of their countrymen yesterday. The demand for damages was made at the instigation of the Chinese consul at San Francisco.

Medical Men Give Approval.

Washington, Dec. 12.—President Roosevelt's recommendation in his message to congress that there be a redistribution of certain government department bureaus for the purpose of unifying the national health administration has been approved by the American Medical association, through its committee on legislation now in session here. The committee declared in its resolution that peremptory enactment into law is demanded by the interests of the people, nearly a quarter of a million of whom are perishing yearly from diseases.

ABANDON FAMOUS HOTEL.

Directors Will Close Chicago Auditorium Soon.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Plans for abandoning the great Auditorium hotel have been decided upon by the board of directors of the Congress Hotel company, operating the Auditorium and the Annex. All the business of the two big hotels on Michigan boulevard is to be concentrated in the Annex, which recently was enlarged to double its former capacity.

President Southgate asserted that the Auditorium hotel had been losing money for years. He asserted that it did not pay 1 per cent on the money invested, and that it was poor property compared with the new Annex, which, he asserted, was paying its stockholders \$250,000 a year.

From the earnings account for the year shown at the Chicago Auditorium association stockholders' meeting, it is seen that the hotel paid last year in rentals \$153,701. The theater paid \$67,000 and office building \$64,780, while interest and dividends brought in \$9,015 more, making a total of \$295,077.57. The cost of the building amounted to \$262,103, leaving a net income for the year of \$32,974, from which was deducted \$17,168 as depreciation on equipment.

WORST ACCIDENT ON CANAL.

Thought Other Bodies May Still Be Buried Under Debris.

Colon, Dec. 15.—The explosion yesterday at Bas Obispo was the most serious accident in connection with the building of the Panama canal since the United States took control. A thorough investigation has been ordered, and already officials are taking evidence and endeavoring to ascertain the cause of the premature discharge.

Thirteen bodies have been recovered, but it is believed that a score or more are still under the masses of rock and earth that were thrown up. The death list would have been appalling had a train conveying 500 laborers passed a few minutes later. This train had just passed through the cut, and was barely out of view when the explosion occurred.

For a space of 800 feet in length and 400 feet in width the Bas Obispo cut presents a graphic picture of the terrible effects of the explosion. The whole hillside has been devastated, the dynamite rending the earth and tossing boulders in all directions.

A 90-ton steam shovel lies a wreck, crushed under the weight of falling rock. Every one of the crew was killed. All the tracks in this section were torn to pieces and are now covered with tons of debris.

A long time will be necessary to take away the great heaps of earth.

REOPEN SAND ISLAND CASE.

Washington Legislators Will Confer With Governor Mead.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 15.—State Senator Stewart, of Cowlitz county, and Senator McGowan, of Pacific county, and Representative Burke, of Wahkiakum county, passed through Tacoma today on their way to Olympia to interview Governor Mead and Attorney General Atkinson relative to reopening of the Washington-Oregon boundary line case recently decided by the United States supreme court.

It is contended that the decision takes away from the State of Washington Sand Island and Puget island, territory that always belonged to this state. Revenues to the state have been seriously reduced, it is maintained, and the fishing interests of the state have been greatly affected. It is believed by those interested that if Governor Mead and Attorney General Atkinson will intervene on behalf of the state the supreme court of the United States may be induced to give this state a rehearing upon new evidence that will be submitted.

Dead Men Tests Illegal.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Prison officials in this state will not lend themselves to any experiment seeking to revive a man executed in the electric chair, such as has been discussed in New Jersey. Superintendent C. V. Collins said today that he would consider such an experiment illegal, and permission would have to be secured from the legislature before he would consent to revive a man after he had been electrocuted in order to prove the theory that the electric current does not kill, and that it is the physician's autopsy knife that really causes death.

After Cattle Rustlers.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 14.—Captain W. L. Cox, superintendent of the naval state police, with a picked squad of men, working in harmony with Sheriff Emerson, of Lassen county, California, left yesterday for Pyramid lake on an expedition to drive out and arrest if possible the cattle rustlers who have been making depredations in that region recently. The rustlers have been stealing horses and cattle in Northern Nevada and California, and it is expected will make a fight to resist capture if overtaken.

Indian Editors Arrested.

Calcutta, Dec. 15.—Great excitement prevails here, owing to developments in the agitation against the government. The most prominent Bengali leader in Eastern Bengal, Dutta, was arrested Saturday and conveyed to an unknown destination. Another prominent nationalist leader, Mitra, editor of the Sanjibani, has been arrested at Calcutta, while the editor of another native paper has been sentenced to transportation on the charge of sedition.

Japan Starts New Line.

Tokyo, Dec. 15.—At a dinner given today to the new Japanese minister to Chile, it was announced that the Toy Ysin Steamship company will start a new line of steamers between Japan and South America, commencing January 1, with three steamers on a regular schedule.

HAPPENINGS GATHERED IN AND AROUND WASHINGTON, D. C.

Friday, December 11.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The senate yesterday received the report of the comptroller of the currency. Senator Lodge announced that he would discuss the Brownsville case next Wednesday. An adjournment was taken until Monday, when the postal savings bank bill will be discussed.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The first action taken by the house of representatives today was the adoption of the resolution introduced by Representative Perkins of New York providing for the appointment of a committee of five to consider what action should be taken by the house with reference to that part of the president's message which intimates that members of congress may need watching by the secret service.

The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which usually excites considerable discussion, lasting for several days, was passed with little debate and practically in the shape of a bill from the committee. An unusual feature was that no member asked for time to indulge in general talk. The facility with which the bill of 165 pages was put through was the subject of much comment, and the members of the appropriations committee congratulated themselves. The bill carries an appropriation of \$31,323,350.

Representative Hawley of Oregon today introduced a bill extending the operation of the pension laws in favor of the soldiers and sailors of the Banook Indian war in Oregon and Washington in 1878 and 1879.

Thursday, December 10.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Congress, which feels that it has been insulted and outraged by President Roosevelt, is preparing to vindicate its honor by censuring the president or saying in his annual message that the members voted to prevent the usual detail of secret service men because they dreaded anything like investigation of themselves. Both branches of congress are up in arms, and the leaders are having difficulty in restraining the angry headhunts from making some petulant break.

Senators propose that by resolution the objectionable statement of the president shall be expunged from the record. This would be an extraordinary proceeding, but senators think it is justified by the character of the imputation carried by the president's words. There may be some discussion of the resolution, and in that case it is expected the president will come in for a sound rhetorical castigation.

In the house it is proposed to have a special committee appointed by the speaker to consider the alleged affront offered by the president and to prepare a suitable resolution covering the case. Of this committee it is understood that Chairman Tawney of the appropriations committee, will be the chairman, and this is fitting, because it was Mr. Tawney who put through the offensive provision last session which restricted the president's freedom of control of secret service officers and brought forth the so-called insult to congress.

Wednesday, December 9.

Washington, Dec. 9.—For nearly five hours the house today considered the bill providing for the taking of the 13th and subsequent decennial censuses and passed it without material change. From the very outset it became evident that progress toward passage would be impeded by numerous amendments and arguments.

Prolonged and heated discussion was precipitated by an amendment by Gillett, of Massachusetts, who sought to have the temporary census force authorized by the bill, with the exception of a few minor positions, appointed upon the basis of competitive examination.

Representative Englebright of California has introduced in the house a bill appropriating \$1,037,400 for the improvement of the entrance to Humboldt harbor at Eureka, Cal.

Representative Smith of California has introduced a bill to appropriate \$250,250 for the improvement of the harbor of San Diego.

A bill providing for the establishment of a tariff commission of seven members to fix the rate of duty on all imports was introduced in the house today by Representative Fowler of New Jersey.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Senator Carter today introduced a bill to create the office of mine inspector for Alaska. He says reports are that the slaughter of miners has become so heavy as to need federal regulation.

Senator Cullom has introduced a bill providing for compulsory military service by all able-bodied American citizens. The bill was prepared by the general staff of the army and strongly urged in a special message by the president. Under the proposed law, the president said, it would be as easy to raise an army of 2,000,000 men as it would be now to get 50,000 into the field.

The president today sent the following nominations to the senate:

Vice governor of the Philippines, W. Cameron Forbes of Massachusetts.

Members of the Philippine commission, Newton Gilbert of Indiana and Rafael Palma of the Philippines.

Soils Are to Be Tested.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Professor Milton Whitney, chief of the bureau of soils, reported yesterday that the farming lands of the United States aggregate 838,591,774 acres, and that the yield per acre of all cereal crops has increased. The bureau of soils intends to make an investigation of the soil of the semi-arid belt of the Northwest, with a view to ascertaining the nature of the soil, what it is adapted to, and how it can be best improved.

Tuesday, December 8.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Congress today heard the last annual message of President Roosevelt, but paid little attention to the reading, which most of them followed merely by reading the printed copies.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Bills have been introduced in the house of representatives providing separate statehood for the territories of New Mexico and Arizona.

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Roosevelt today sent to the senate the following nominations for confirmation: Luke Wright, secretary of war; Truman H. Newberry, secretary of the navy; Herbert L. Satterlee, assistant secretary of the navy; Daniel J. Keefe, commissioner general of immigration; Rufus H. Thayer, judge of the United States district court of China; Wade Ellis, assistant attorney general.

The president also sent to the senate several hundred nominations of postmasters and other officials who have been appointed during the congressional recess, and whose names have already been announced.

Among the postmasters named today are the following: John C. Young, Portland; L. B. Rutherford, Rainier; J. E. Logan, Burns; Ben Weathers, Enterprise; George F. Russell, Seattle.

GREAT JUNK SHOP.

Government Has 8,784 Packages in Dead Letter Office.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The dead letter office of the postoffice department is preparing for the annual sale of dead letter packages, which will be held at a local auction house beginning December 14 and lasting until the whole of the 8,784 packages advertised in the annual catalogue are disposed of.

There are a larger number of packages advertised for sale this year than ever before, and night sessions are to be held in order to dispose of the stuff before Christmas.

There are 7162 packages in the "miscellaneous" schedule of the catalogue, which was issued today. These packages represent articles from every walk of life. Every imaginable article from aprons, bicycle pumps, clothing, dresses, fans, girls' hats, hardware, knives and phonograph records, to saws, razors, hypodermic syringes, neckties, typewriters and watches, is contained in these packages.

One package contains shirt waists, scissors, a metal tray, a magic lantern and some collars.

Another contains some damaged barber shears, a cheap watch, some damaged razors, playing cards and dice.

One prize package contains 1000 stogie, and it is stated that Uncle Joe Cannon will be offered the first chance at this.

The automobilist is more in evidence this year than ever before. Several score packages are made up of spark plugs, automobile watches and patent tire inflators.

There are 492 articles of jewelry. Everything from silver snuff boxes and cigarette cases to gold rosaries is represented.

There are 1130 packages of books, and these represent about 15,000 volumes, written in every tongue of the earth. The Holy Bible and "Three Weeks" appear together, and books of "How to Make Money Easily" are grouped with Roosevelt's books and Elbert Hubbard's works. Some of president's books on animals are listed alongside of Jack London and Ernest Thompson Seton's stories, which were characterized by Roosevelt as "nature fakers."

Chinese, Choctaw, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Prussian, Slavonic, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish and Welsh are some of the foreign tongues represented in the book catalogue.

Last year's sale netted the postoffice department about \$100,000, and it is thought more will be realized this year. Everything sold is bunched together and wrapped up, and although all the articles are described in the catalogue, as many "lemons" as "prize packages" are drawn by the bidders who attend the sales. A "gentleman's watch" may mean an Elgin or a Waterbury.

Capps Reports on Navy.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Rear Admiral Capps in a report today to the construction bureau recommends that the naval station at Pearl harbor, Hawaii, be developed along the lines of a repair yard; that no attempt be made by the navy department to have it made into a shipbuilding yard. The admiral also complains in the report of the inadequate berthing spaces for ships undergoing repairs at the Puget sound and Mare island navy yards.

Willey Resigns Judgeship.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The resignation of Lachens R. Willey of Missouri, judge of the United States district court for China, has been accepted by President Roosevelt. The present has appointed Judge Rufus H. Thayer of this city as Willey's successor.

Buys Panama Transports.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Secretary of War Wright today concluded the purchase of the ships Shawmut and Tremont, belonging to the Boston Towboat & Transportation company. The vessels are now at Seattle, and will be used as transports in the Panama canal service.

Neill to Be Reappointed.

Washington, Dec. 9.—President Roosevelt has informed Labor Commissioner Neill that he will reappoint him.

SHIPPERS TO FIGHT.

May Enjoin Railroads if New Rates Are Enforced.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—The Tribune yesterday printed the following news article on the transcontinental freight rate questions as regards the Pacific coast:

The advance in freight rates included in the new transcontinental tariffs, which were filed with the interstate commerce commission about two weeks ago, and which take effect under the required 30 days' notice on January 1, is likely to provoke a storm among the shippers. This may result in an attempt to prevent the roads from charging the new rates by injunction proceedings.

During the course of the agitation against the proposed increases of the eastern roads in official classification territory, little attention has been paid to the Pacific coast rates. Now that the eastern roads have agreed to make no general advances for two months, and many believe that they may have decided to back down, shippers are conferring to see what may be done with the transcontinental rate question.

The traffic committee of the Illinois Manufacturers' association, which took the lead in the fight on the eastern rates, has decided to send a circular letter to members asking them how much the increases will affect their business, and what is to be done about it.

It has been stated that the brunt of the fight against the new rates would probably be undertaken by the California shippers, who are affected by the increases both eastbound and westbound, because most of the jobbers receiving freight from Chicago have been in the habit of paying the freight themselves.

A formal protest to the interstate commerce commission is now in preparation by the California Traffic association, and this body may decide to ask for an injunction. In such event the shippers in the east may rest on the same case or file intervening petitions as they did in the Texas rate case.

CASTRO IS FURIOUS.

Venezuelan President's Dignity Hurt by French Treatment.

Paris, Dec. 14.—President Castro, of Venezuela, who arrived in this city last evening from Bordeaux, has made no advances to the French government. He is reported as furiously angry at the manner in which the government has received him in France. Since his arrival in Paris he has remained shut up in his apartments in the hotel as closely as though he were a prisoner, and barring a few members of the Venezuelan colony, he has seen nobody.

The officials of the foreign office have been given orders not to explain the position of the government towards Castro. Said one official yesterday:

"The conditions upon which the government is willing to open negotiations with Castro have been communicated to him.

"What these conditions are, beyond prohibiting President Castro from making any political declaration, are not known, but it is believed that they involve a formal apology."

A reporter called to see the President yesterday. The only member of Castro's entourage visible said that nothing had been decided, but the party possibly would leave for Germany tomorrow. A black maid in the service of Mme. Castro was sitting in a hall outside her mistress' door, trying to get her foot into a newly purchased pair of pointed shoes.

RUEF GETS ANOTHER WEEK.

Convicted Briber Will Be Sentenced Next Saturday.

San Francisco, Dec. 14.—Abraham Ruef, convicted last Thursday of offering a bribe, was Saturday granted a delay of one week before receiving sentence. The continuance of the case until next Saturday, December 19, was with the assent of the district attorney's office, represented by Assistant John O'Gara. Thomas B. Dozier, of the defense, based his motion for a week's respite on the ground that sufficient time had not been given the defense to prepare the motions and arguments in arrest of judgment and for a new trial. The inability of Henry Ach, Ruef's chief counsel, to appear in court was assigned as a further reason.

While it was generally known that judgment would not be pronounced Saturday, there was the usual crowd in attendance at the session, and there was no diminution of the police guard. Ruef was brought from the county jail in the prison van and was hurried to a seat between Attorney Dozier and A. Almann, his brother-in-law. Mr. Dozier made the motion for a continuance immediately after the proceedings were inaugurated, but Judge Lawlor declined to permit the entry to be recorded, and ordered Ruef to stand up for arraignment.

Aeroplane Did Not Fly.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 14.—The bending of a propeller, which proved to have been built too lightly for the strain of 790 revolutions a minute, prevented the success of the initial trial of Professor J. S. Zerbe's aeroplane at Bimini yesterday. The machine did not rise from the ground. Another attempt will be made Monday afternoon. The \$20,000 Michelin prize is the goal for which Professor Zerbe is striving. The ship is designed to carry three passengers.

To Construct Reservoir.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 14.—Word was received last night that the government had withdrawn from settlement a large amount of land covering the watershed of the Little Bitter Root mountains, for the purpose of constructing an immense reservoir to irrigate the Flathead Indian reservation to be thrown open next year.

CONGRESS MEETS IN SHORT SESSION

Hearty Greetings Extended Leaders of Both Parties.

Both Houses Soon Adjourn Out of Respect for Members Who Died During Recess—Hundreds of Visitors Crowd Galleries to Witness Opening Ceremonies.

Washington, Dec. 8.—After being in session an hour, half of the time being consumed by a roll call, the house of representatives, which met at noon yesterday for the second session of the 60th congress, adjourned out of respect to the memory of several of its own members and of Senator Allison, all of whom died during the recess. For an hour or more preceding the formal calling of the body to order, the galleries were packed to their fullest capacity. Many hundreds sat in the aisles, while long lines patiently waited outside the gallery doors, hoping to find an opportunity to get inside.

On the floor the members mingled with each other and extended hearty greetings. Speaker Cannon, Representative Sherman, of New York, the vice president-elect, and Champ Clark, of Missouri, the successor of John Sharp Williams, minority leader, received ovations.

The most important action of the house was the passage by unanimous consent of a resolution authorizing the committee on ways and means in its tariff hearings to subpoena witnesses and to call for books and papers. A number of bills of public interest were introduced.

Washington, Dec. 8.—There was a pall of sadness over the senate when it convened for the second session of the 60th congress, which was due to the absence of the late Senator William B. Allison, of Iowa, who died last August, after a service of more than 35 years in that body.

The assemblage was a brilliant one. Eighty-two of the members were present, and the galleries were filled with representatives of the official and social life of the capital. Besides the wives and daughters of senators, who formed a large company in the private gallery, James Bryce, the British ambassador to the United States; Tong Shoa Yi, special envoy of the Chinese empire; Prince Tsai Fu and others of his suite occupied seats in the reservation set aside for the diplomatic corps. The procedure in the opening of the new session was simple and dignified, following a long established precedent.

Senator Dolliver announced the death of the late Senator Allison, of Iowa, and resolutions expressing the profound sorrow of the senate over his bereavement were adopted. As a further mark of respect to his memory the senate, after a session lasting but 15 minutes, adjourned for the day.

PORTLAND BANK ROBBED.

Three Men Hold Up President and Secure \$17,000.

Portland, Dec. 8.—Three unmasked men held up and robbed the East Side bank, southeast corner of Grand avenue and East Washington street, at 5:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Seventeen thousand dollars in gold, silver and currency was the plunder claimed by the robbers. This they gathered in two big sacks and ran out of the bank, turning eastward and staggering under the weight of the loot. H. H. Newhall, president of the bank, and Roger Newhall, his son, fired six shots after them, but without effect. Up to a late hour the small army of detectives, deputy sheriffs and secret service agents at work on the case had no definite clue, although many theories were being worked out and many rumors run down.

Just two minutes were required to complete a robbery that has few precedents for desperation and daring. Entering the bank in the heart of the East Side business district, at an hour when hundreds of people pere on the streets, the leader and most determined of the three men, at pistol point forced Mr. Newhall and his son, who is the cashier, to retire, their hands up, into Mr. Newhall's private office. This done two men who were waiting outside jumped inside the swinging door, and while one stood with a cocked revolver watching the entrance, the other held sacks into which the leader dumped the money from the counter and cash tills. They left \$300 in silver half-dollars, and did not go into the vault, which was open, evidently realizing that they had all they could carry away.

Simon Would Be President.

Port Au Prince, Dec. 8.—The quick establishment of a peace pact between General Simon, leader of the Haytian revolutionary army, and General Fouchard, the latest presidential candidate, is taken to mean that Simon himself wants the position at the head of the Haytian affairs, and intends to see that nothing interferes with his ambition. General Fouchard arrived here yesterday. It is rumored that he is out of the race for the presidency.

Six Jurors Are Secured.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—Six jurors were secured yesterday in the trial of L. N. Chang, the Korean charged with the murder of Durham White Stevens, the American adviser to the Korean emperor, who was killed on March 23 last at the entrance to the Ferry building.