

DIAZ REPORTED TO SEEK PEACE

Gomez Claims Overtures Are Received From Government

Insurrectos Will Demand Retirement of Diaz as Inducement to Lay Down Arms.

Mexico City, Feb. 27.—Enrique C. Creel, the Mexican minister of foreign relations, denied tonight that any peace overtures had been made by President Diaz to the revolutionists, as alleged by Gomez in his announcement tonight in Washington.

"So far as I am aware, no such overtures have been made," said Mr. Creel, "and as for the appointment of peace envoys, I can say positively the assertion is untrue."

Mr. Creel is a member of the president's official family, upon whose counsel the chief executive has seemingly placed great reliance in recent political difficulties of the nation.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Dr. V. Gomez, head of the confidential agency here of the Mexican revolutionists tonight announced that he indirectly had received overtures for peace from the Federal government.

Dr. Gomez said the confidential agency here had been advised by its junta in El Paso Tex. of the desire of Governor Ahumada of Chihuahua to confer in Chihuahua with Francisco I. Madero leader of the revolution and also had been informed through the junta in San Antonio, Tex., that three delegates of the Diaz government wished to meet Dr. Gomez on the border and arrange for the termination of hostilities.

Dr. Gomez, who was formerly the family physician of President Diaz and who was, in the last election, candidate for the vice presidency of Mexico on the same ticket as Francisco I. Madero, the candidate for president, said the provisional government would not "undertake any negotiations of peace, except under the condition that the delegates shall be legally and fully authorized with written powers."

AMERICANS HAVE TRIAL.

Mexican Authorities Say Americans Will Be Well Treated.

El Paso, Tex.—The preliminary examination of Lawrence Converse and Edwin Blatt, the two young Americans captured by General Navarro last week, opened in Juarez Saturday.

The young men are charged with sedition against the Mexican government. The hearing failed to develop anything of importance and the case was continued.

Mrs. Converse, mother of one of the prisoners, who is here from Los Angeles, is prostrated at one of the hotels. She has not yet seen her son.

American Consul Edwards said he believed there was a chance for their acquittal, but, if it failed, they would be sent to the city of Chihuahua for final trial. Capital punishment cannot be inflicted.

Washington, D. C.—The Mexican government has no intention of making martyrs of the roving Americans who have crossed the line to cast their fortunes with the insurgents. According to the Mexican embassy here these men will be put in jail and tried in the ordinary course and in due time, not by "drumhead court-martial," but by the established tribunals.

Dell Given Hearing at Ensenada.

San Diego, Cal.—Friends of Harry C. Dell, the American accused of being a rebel spy, learned that he had arrived safely at Ensenada, and had been given an immediate hearing before the Federal grand jury there. What was the result is not known here, but it was learned that Dell is still in the quartet pending final disposition of his case.

Days of Coal Numbered.

New York.—At an electrical dinner at the Montauk club, Brooklyn, Charles W. Price, editor of the Electrical Review, one of the speakers, said: "I make the prediction, based on knowledge of the important experiments, that the day is not far distant when the coal pile in the cellar will be replaced by the electrical reservoir of box-like shape and moderate size, to furnish heat throughout the entire building and for cooking. And this will be done economically, compared with coal."

Elgin Ice Eight Inches Thick.

Elgin, Or.—Elgin ice men have again concluded they are poor weather prophets, as they have nearly filled their houses with ice shipped in from North Powder, the cakes being about 12 inches thick. Now they have commenced cutting six-inch ice here, to complete filling their houses, and the ice is reported eight inches thick, and a car is being loaded here to ship to Palmers Junction, to the Graham packing plant.

Cats Stolen to Vivisect.

Natick, Mass.—Following complaints from a number of residents that household cats were being stolen, John Squires, a Wellesley college janitor, was arrested on a warrant charging him with stealing household pets for use in the dissecting rooms of the college. Squires, the police allege, has admitted that he stole cats to supply the college laboratory.

TAFT HAS NEW JAP TREATY.

Removes All Restrictions on Immigration—Opposition Certain.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The text of a new treaty with Japan, designed to replace that of 1894, and drawn with the special design of eliminating the restrictions upon immigration contained in that treaty, was laid before the senate by President Taft.

The essential difference between the proposed treaty and the existing convention is said to be that it omits all reference to all such restrictions and leaves to the national honor of Japan the enforcement at her own ports of the limitations upon immigration from Japan now expressly placed upon immigration into the United States.

The document is said to provide that either country may denounce the treaty at the end of six months if it fails to operate as expected.

Because it embodies this radical departure from the existing treaty and touches the question of the deepest importance and interest to the Pacific Coast, the injection of this convention into the closing hours of the 61st congress caused a sensation today.

That the new treaty will encounter opposition seems certain, for, even if it should be speedily reported to the senate from committee without serious controversy within the committee room, the Western senators are expected to insist upon opportunity for debate, which will develop the full extent of their opposition to the treaty.

Unlike matters of ordinary legislation, failure of the senate to act upon the treaty during the remainder of this session of congress would not of itself extinguish its vitality.

PORK IS FAVORITE MEAT.

More Hogs Used Than All Other Animals Combined.

Washington—"Pork eaters" is a term which may rightfully be applied to the people of the United States, if the figures just made public by the census bureau for the year 1909 may be taken as a basis.

The figures show that during that year, 4,483,000 more hogs were killed in this country for food purposes than all other animals combined, including beefs, calves, sheep and lambs, goats, kids, etc. During the year 1909, 36,443,000 hogs were killed for food purposes; 31,960,000 of all other animals.

The total number of animals slaughtered in the slaughter houses and meat packing establishments during 1909 are given as 68,403,000. These figures, however, do not represent the entire number of animals killed for food purposes during the period which the report covers, and the grand total can be obtained, it is declared, only upon the completion of the statistics of agriculture.

DIRECT PRIMARY VETOED.

Iowa Governor Censures Oregon System of Electing Senators.

Des Moines, Ia.—Governor Carroll vetoed the Oregon primary plan bill, which had passed both houses of the Iowa legislature. The governor, in his veto message, read to the joint assembly, characterized the measure as an "attempt to indirectly accomplish something that cannot be done directly," and declared that it was a violation of the constitution of the United States.

He said that the measure abrogated that section of the constitution providing that legislatures shall elect United States senators. The governor holds that the message has no bearing on a proposed amendment to permit the election of senators by the direct vote of the people, since one is a contravention of the constitution, while the other is a change in the constitution itself.

Chinese Are Not Alarmed.

Pekin.—The foreign office has informed the Associated Press that it does not believe the Russian government had aggressive designs in sending a military force to Ili province. It was thought Russia was only seeking to achieve valuable pointers prior to the forthcoming conference. The St. Petersburg government was acting with the knowledge that China in recent months had been sending commissioners to Mongolia and Ili province to study conditions there preparatory to the conference.

Relief Fund Insufficient.

Washington.—The constitutionality of the law of Iowa passed in 1898, enabling an employee of the operating department of a railroad to sue a road for injuries, notwithstanding the fact that he had received benefits from a relief department supported partially by the road, was upheld. The law was attacked when Charles I. McGuire sued the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad for \$2,000 damages for injuries. McGuire had been given \$88.

Arabian Tribesmen Kill 50.

Jeddah, Arabia.—Tribesmen who are allies of Seyd Idrise, the leader of the outbreak of Yemen against the Turkish authority, recently captured at Zupra a convoy of 80 camels with provisions and ammunition destined for the garrison at Elhujeh. The deputy governor of Loheia attempted to recapture the supplies, but was defeated. The casualties numbered 50 killed.

One Man Captures Five.

Presidio, Tex.—Five armed insurgents were captured on the American side of the Rio Grande by Sergeant Goodrich of Troop F, Third United States cavalry. They had rifles and revolvers. They were members of Antonio Garraca's band and were carrying provisions to their companions.

BRIEF REPORT OF THE DAILY WORK OF NATION'S LAWMAKERS

Washington, Feb. 28.—By a vote of 54 to 33 the resolution submitting to the people a constitutional amendment in favor of the direct election of United States senators failed to secure the required two-thirds majority in the senate today and was killed.

This is the first vote ever taken in the senate on the question of the submission of such an amendment, although resolutions of a similar nature have passed the house.

Two-thirds of the Western senators voted for the amendment resolution. These were Borah, Bourne, Carter, Clark of Wyoming, Chamberlain, Dixon, Jones, Newlands, Nixon, Piles, Perkins and Sutherland. Voting against, were Flint, Heyburn, Smoot and Warren, Republicans. Lorimer voted against the resolution.

Admitting that by a reciprocal arrangement the United States and Argentina have "exchanged naval information," Secretary of the Navy Meyer and Secretary of State Knox are preparing answers to the La Follette resolution of inquiry, in which full information of the fact is demanded by the senate.

Secretary Meyer proposes to show that American naval officers are permitted to visit the two Argentine dreadnaughts building in this country during their construction, are being given full information regarding their armament and devices, and that Argentine officers, on the other hand are permitted to visit the American warships under construction. Meyer points out that the advantages of this arrangement are plain, as the new Argentine battleships will embody more advanced ideas than those of the American boats building and that they will be larger and more powerful and also more heavily armed.

Washington, Feb. 27.—By the passing this afternoon in the senate of resolutions offered by Senator La Follette, the state and navy departments must report to that body whether naval secrets were revealed to the Argentine Republic as an inducement to place with American concerns contracts for the building of two battleships. The resolution affecting the state department was amended, and it will be asked to make a report, "unless incompatible with the public interests." There were no restrictions concerning the navy department, and the resolutions demand specific information whether battleship plans Nos. 34 and 35, secrets of fire control and book specifications, all marked confidential, were revealed to Argentina or the Bethlehem Steel company.

The senate also wants to know whether plans for submerged torpedo boats were given out.

Both Republican and Democratic leaders today told President Taft that an extra session of congress was inevitable if it was determined to get a vote on Canadian reciprocity.

Senator Bailey declared he would prevent a vote on any important matter until the Lorimer case was settled. The progressives plan to force a vote on a permanent tariff board and the regulars have offered to agree if the progressives, on their part, will permit a vote on reciprocity and the Lorimer case. As the Democrats intend to filibuster against the progressives' plan, a tie-up seems certain.

By a vote of 66 to 12 the senate this afternoon decided to continue consideration of the Lorimer case, and Senator Crawford commenced speaking. Senator Stone announced that he would address the senate Wednesday.

The house today accepted the conference report on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill. An amendment to the bill provides a salary of \$7,500 annually for the president's secretary. It is not denied at the white house that Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Hilles has accepted the position.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The house tonight made a record in passing the sundry civil appropriation bill, the greatest supply measure of the session, which had been up only two days. The bill carried more than \$140,000,000. Usually it has taken five to fifteen days.

Only three minor alterations in the bill were made on the floor. Without a dissenting voice \$45,560,000 was appropriated for continuing work on the Panama canal, an unprecedented proceeding.

The bill carried \$350,000 for raising the battleship Maine, \$400,000 for the continuation of the tariff board for two years and \$3,000,000 for fortifying the Panama canal.

For the first time in its history, the house passed a series of appropriations for public buildings without ever reading them. The sums totaled \$27,284,725 and were contained in the sundry civil bill.

After one of the most dramatic and spirited debates of the session the house tonight declared in favor of fortifying the Panama canal. Every effort to defeat the \$3,000,000 appropriation in the sundry civil bill for canal fortification was decisively beaten. The final vote on fortifications was 123 to 81. The lead in the fight

against the fortifications was taken by Tawney, Republican, of Minnesota, as the closing act of his long service in the house.

President Taft today set aside April 4 as the date of the extra session of congress, in case he is obliged to carry out his threat.

Washington, Feb. 24.—In less than an hour the senate late today voted the Sutherland amendment into the resolution providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people; fixed next Tuesday as the time for voting on the resolution itself; made the case involving Senator Lorimer's seat the unfinished business and received the Canadian reciprocity bill from the committee on finance.

In addition there was much discussion of the order of business. Several speeches were arranged, and Senator Penrose gave notice that on Monday he would ask the senate to consider the postoffice appropriation bill, which includes the provision increasing the postage on the advertising portion of magazines.

After refusing to adopt a rule of closure and pass the big sundry civil appropriation bill under a suspension of the rules, the house settled down to a speedy consideration of the \$140,000,000 measure today, and had disposed of a considerable part of its provisions when adjournment was taken at 10:30 tonight.

The president's \$400,000 tariff board appropriation was acted on early. Shortly afterward the house struck out the appropriation of \$75,000 asked by the president for the further work of his economy board.

If the senate does not pass the bill ratifying the Canadian reciprocity agreement before March 4, it will pass it in a special session, which will be called by President Taft about the middle of March.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The way was opened for a schedule by schedule revision of the tariff today when a resolution introduced by Senator Cummins asking the president for information the tariff board had collected on articles and commodities named in the Canadian reciprocity agreement was adopted. The fact that Senator Hale supported the Cummins resolution is believed to indicate organized opposition to the adoption of the reciprocity agreement at this session.

Speaking in support of the resolution to oust William Lorimer, senator from Illinois, on the ground that he was corruptly elected, Senator Beveridge of Indiana, took the floor this afternoon at 1:15 o'clock.

Previous to the opening of the debate Senator Burrows, chairman of the committee that investigated Lorimer, sought unanimous consent for a vote today, tomorrow or on Saturday. He was unsuccessful. Senator Lodge objected to a vote today and Senator Stone opposed the setting of any particular day for a vote.

The sundry civil appropriation bill, carrying \$140,540,000, was reported to the house today. This is \$25,431,000 in excess of the bill last year, but is \$14,486,000 under the estimates.

The largest single item is \$45,560,000 for the Panama canal, an increase of \$7,500,000 over the estimates. For public buildings \$21,311,245 is appropriated, an increase of \$16,000,000. Canal fortifications receive an appropriation of \$3,000,000.

The measure will probably be passed by the house under suspension of the rules.

Despairing of forcing the senate to pass his tariff commission bill, President Taft is centering his efforts to secure \$400,000 to continue the present board by an appropriation in the sundry bill. If the provision passes the next house will have no opportunity to interfere with the tariff board.

Washington, Feb. 22.—As a result of disclosures by the United Press that the state department had given Argentina the plans of the navy department to be used in constructing its dreadnaughts, in exchange for the contracts for those vessels given two American builders, Senator La Follette today introduced in the senate a resolution demanding full information about the deal.

The resolution directs the secretary of the navy to report to the senate what plans concerning battleships or armament have been loaned or transmitted to Argentina or any of the shipbuilders' representatives, whether the navy officials have aided the American builders to get Argentina contracts and by whose authority such work was undertaken.

Another resolution directs the secretary of state to transmit to the senate any communications, written or verbal, with Argentina pertaining to the construction of the battleships for which contracts were given to the Fore River Shipbuilding company and the Bethlehem Steel company.

Carrying a provision which prevents the purchase of armor or armament of any sort from the steel trust, the naval appropriation bill today passed the house.

House Passes Naval Bill.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The naval appropriation bill passed by the house today, while showing the effort to hold down expense, deals proportionately in a fairly liberal way with the Pacific. Provision for the naval establishment at Pearl harbor is made to the extent of \$2,262,000, itemized in part as follows: Dredging, \$540,000; drydock to continue, \$800,000; administrative building, \$500,000; power plant, \$250,000.

Winter Months on the Farm

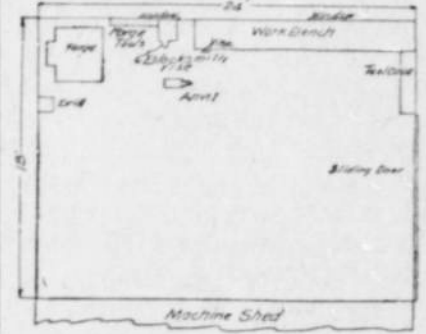
How to Improve Them **Work for Farm Mechanics**

Improving the Dull Days With Handy Jobs of Construction or Repairing
By PROF. C. A. COCK
Wisconsin College of Agriculture

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Every farm should be equipped with a farm shop in which the owner can repair broken parts of farm machines or make new ones and thereby save both time and money by making use of the winter days when other work is slack. The shop may be either a small building by itself or simply corner of the barn or implement shed fitted up as a shop. One rule however should be rigidly enforced; that the shop is a storehouse for the tools, and that every tool should be returned to its place in the shop after being used.

The Farm Workshop.
Among the essentials in the farm shop are a strong, durable work bench, an iron vise, an efficient forge, anvil, and a supply of carpenter's tools corresponding to the needs of the individual farmer. A good forge suitable for general farm work can be purchased for \$5 to \$12, or where an extra large one is desired it will cost



about \$30. In some cases one can build his own forge and the only expense will be for the bellows, which will cost about \$4, second-hand. The best plan is to get a forge of No. 5 size, which will cost about \$10, and is both practical and efficient.

The supply of carpenter's tools in the shop will vary with the individual, but a few of the necessary tools include a cross-cut saw, rip saw, compass or keyhole saw, hammers, draw-shave, hatchets, axes, saw set, saw file, 3 chisels (1/2, 1 and 2 inches), brace and set of bits, 3 planes, smoothing, finishing and block, a steel square, tri-square, bevel-square, and a spirit level. With such an equipment the average farmer can do the greater part of his repairing on the home farm.

Home Carpentry for Farmers.
Among the various tasks which should occupy the farm mechanic during the slack winter period are building or repairing chicken houses, hay racks, wagon boxes, hog racks, portable panel hurdles, farm gates and various other implements, which the amateur carpenter can successfully construct or remodel. The matter of farm gates seems simple, yet on numbers of farms the makeshift gates in use are a disgrace. A serviceable and attractive gate can be easily built with double cleats at each end and the middle, and a double brace running diagonally from the top of each end cleat to the bottom of the middle cleat for re-enforcement.

Repairing Tools.
The farm mechanic can use his forge to excellent advantage in repairing machinery parts, broken tools, horsehoes, and in numerous other odd jobs which are continually turning up around the farm. With a little practice he can soon acquire ability to weld together broken parts. He can also use his forge in repairing or tempering shovels, pickaxes, grubaxes, broken log chains, and other articles



of this nature. Practice is the only essential necessary to make the farmer proficient in both welding and tempering.

Concrete Work.
The farm shop, or a portion of one of the barns where it is warm enough to keep concrete from freezing, is an excellent place in which to make concrete feeding troughs, fence posts or other devices during the winter. The feeding troughs are made either V-shaped or half-round like a hollowed out tree trunk. The concrete posts may be either hollow or solid, and are re-enforced with steel or iron rods.

For the feeding troughs the forms are made of green lumber, in the form of two boxes, one about four inches larger than the other. Turn the smaller one upside down on a smooth floor and put the second, which has no bottom, around the first. Fill the space with concrete and cover the bottom of the smaller box four or six inches deep to form the bottom of the trough. After the concrete is thoroughly hardened these forms can be knocked off. In case of the V-shaped trough there are two triangular end boards, and the two side boards united at the bottom of the trough.

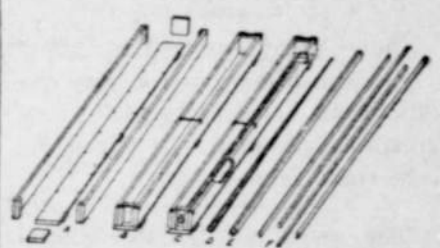
The mixture used in feeding troughs is a 1-3-5 combination; that is, 1 part cement, 3 parts sand and 5 parts clean broken stone or gravel. The stone or gravel should not be larger than one-half inch in diameter. The sand should be free from sticks, straw or dirt, and the cement a good grade of Portland. Place the cement in the center of the pile of sand at one corner of the mixing box and mix dry until the mixture has the same color throughout. In the opposite corner place the stone and wet thoroughly; after this mix stone, sand, and cement, adding water until the whole mass has a medium consistency. Use a mason's brick trowel to work out all air bubbles, leaving a smooth surface. When desired a finishing coat of 1 part cement and 2 parts sand can be used.

The re-enforcement can be either 3-16 inch steel or iron rods or double twisted barb wire. Place the re-enforcement the same distance from the surface as its own diameter. The re-enforcements should run lengthwise of the trough, with a strand at each end and one in the middle running crosswise.

Making Concrete Fence Posts.

In making solid concrete posts a mixture of one part cement, 2 1/2 parts sand, and 5 parts clean broken stone or gravel is used. The preparation of the concrete is the same as for the troughs. The post forms should be made of a fair grade of rather green lumber, should have the inner surface smooth, and all joints tight, to prevent the cement from leaking away with the water. The forms permit of the post being made 7 feet long and 4x4 inches square at the ends. The bottom board has holes to correspond to the dowel pin in the side boards, the iron clamps used preventing the side boards from spreading.

The same re-enforcement as for feed troughs can be used. When filling the form with concrete, place 1/4 to 1/2 inch in the bottom of the form, then lay in two rods one on each side; continue the filling until within 3/4 inch of the top, when the remaining two rods should be properly laid in. Each rod should have a hook at



Forms and cores for molding solid and hollow concrete posts. At A is shown the parts of a form for a solid post. At B those parts are assembled ready for making the solid post. At C is shown the same forms with the core in it for a hollow post. At D a tapering metal core, and at E a solid wooden core in four parts, which are separated at F to show details of construction.

each end about 1 inch long to prevent the steel from slipping in the concrete when a strain is put upon the post.

To provide for fastening the wire fence to the post use the longest galvanized iron staples that can be purchased, and while the cement is still soft set them the same as you would drive them into a wooden post.

Hollow Concrete Post.

For hollow concrete posts the operation is the same except that there is a hole left in one of the end gables of the form to receive the galvanized iron core. This core should taper from 2 1/2 inches in diameter at the bottom to 1 inch at the top. In using the core it should be covered with a coat of oil or grease and then it can be removed in from 3 to 6 hours after the post is molded.

The wood core is made in four pieces. The two sides are flat inside and curved outside. The two central pieces are 1 inch thick and taper from 1 1/2 inches to 1 inch in width. This core is 2 1/2 inches in diameter for its entire length. When using the wooden core it is more desirable to make the post square from top to bottom. To successfully use this core, wrap it with old newspaper or thin wrapping paper. This prevents the cement from coming in direct contact with the wood and permits of the removal of the core in 10 to 20 minutes after the post is finished.

Curing the Posts.

The side boards of the forms should be removed in 24 to 48 hours after pouring, but the posts should not be moved for at least one week and then very carefully. In the meantime they should be sprinkled with water several times daily and protected from sun and wind and from frost if it be freezing weather. Posts should cure at least 60 days before being set in the ground. During this period they should, if possible, be placed upon a bed of moist sand and thoroughly wetted each day. Prices of materials may vary in different localities, but the average price including labor will range from 25 to 30 cents per post.