

ZELAYA IS BEATEN

Machine Guns Work Havoc Among Government Forces.

MARCH ON CAPITAL EXPECTED

Estrada Wins a Complete Victory—U. S. Regular Captain in Command On Firing Line.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Dec. 23.—The revolutionists under General Estrada have completely routed the Zelayan forces near Rama. Estrada has captured Recreo, Vasquez' strongest position, and has been victorious all along the line, which stretches for eight miles.

Yesterday the forward movement began, detachments being sent out under Generals Uis Mensa, Fornos Diaz, Alfredo Diaz, Chamorro and Matuty.

It was General Mensa' task to outflank Gonzales, who directed the defense of the great body of the government troops. These were in large numbers and well entrenched, but Estrada's followers were armed with the latest equipment and machine guns were brought into play to clear the trenches. Casualties on the government side were high, the greatest execution being done at Recreo, which the revolutionists finally took by assault.

Among those in the revolutionary army were Captain Godfrey Fowler, formerly of the Thirty-third infantry, U. S. A., who was in command on the firing line.

Tatumbia was captured this afternoon by General Mensa after a bloody fight. Tatumbia was one of the strongest positions of the government forces, but the revolutionists were in greater numbers and had effective artillery.

General Zaldedo arrived this morning from Monkey Point with 300 men and one Hotchkiss. He left this afternoon for Rama. The steamer Ustein arrived this afternoon with four Maxims and 1,000 rifles.

The fighting still continues at the upper end of the Zelayan trenches, but it is only a matter of time before the revolutionists will take the remaining strongholds. Several hundred prisoners are said to have been captured by General Estrada.

Word has reached here that Zelaya has determined to retain the position of commander-in-chief of the army.

CHRISTMAS GIFT COST \$750,000.

George D. Widener Presents Wife With Pearl Collection.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 23.—Probably the most splendid and costly Christmas gift that any woman in the world will receive this year will be a rope of magnificent pearls, costing \$750,000, which George D. Widener will present to his wife, who was Miss Eleanor Elkins, daughter of the late William Elkins, traction magnate.

It is said to be the most costly string of pearls in the world, and at a recent sale in New York brought the highest price received for pearl necklaces.

It is said Widener intended the rope of gems, some of which are nearly as large as pigeon eggs, and sufficient for a king's ransom, as a surprise for his wife, but the news of his intended gift has leaked out.

It is probable that society will soon have an opportunity to admire at first hand what is said to be the finest collection of pearls, gem for gem, that any woman has been privileged to wear.

Lad Kidnaped, Is Believed.

Pasadena, Cal., Dec. 23.—E. J. Card, of this city, told a story to the police today which it is believed throws light upon the disappearance of Carlos Wright, 16 years old, from his home here a week ago, under circumstances indicating kidnaping. Card says that on the night of Wright's disappearance a wagon containing three men drove rapidly past his house. There was a fourth figure in the vehicle, lying prostrate and struggling. Several times this person was struck by the men. This was near a cemetery in which Wright's clothing was found.

Rich Women Help Girls.

New York, Dec. 23.—Exclusive Fifth avenue received a demonstration of woman's determination this afternoon when 15 automobiles furnished by prominent society women, but containing two score poorly-dressed working women, passed up the thoroughfare in the double interest of the striking shirtwaist operators and woman suffrage. The cars were furnished by Miss Anne Morgan, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mrs. Samuel Untermyer and other prominent women who have identified themselves with the strikers.

Munitions Sent to Nicaragua.

New Orleans, Dec. 23.—For use by the revolutionists in Nicaragua 300,000 rounds of ammunition were shipped from New Orleans late today on the steamer John Wilson. Indicating no effort at concealment, the shipment was shown in the manifest of the vessel's cargo. The Wilson cleared direct for Bluefields. Consul-General Suesman, representing the Estrada government at New Orleans, declared tonight that the shipment of the ammunition was an evidence of Estrada's good faith.

AIRSHIP APPEARS AT NIGHT.

Mysterious Craft, Carrying Powerful Searchlight, Is Seen.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 24.—Flying at 30 to 40 miles an hour, a mysterious airship tonight appeared over Worcester, hovered over the city a few minutes, disappeared for about two hours, and then returned to cut four circles about the city, using a searchlight of tremendous power. Thousands of persons thronged the streets to watch the mysterious visitor.

The airship remained over the city for 15 minutes, all the time at a height that most observers set at about 2000 feet, too great to enable even its precise shape to be seen. The glaring rays of its great searchlight, however, were sharply defined. The dark mass of the ship could be seen dimly.

At the time of the airship visit, Wallace E. Tillinghast, a Worcester man, who recently asserted he had invented a marvelous aeroplane, in which he said he had journeyed to New York and returned by way of Boston, was absent from his home and could not be found.

The visitor from the clouds was first sighted over Marlborough at 5:20 o'clock. The 16 miles between this city and Marlborough were covered in 30 minutes.

Two hours later an eager shout from the waiting crowds announced its return. Slowly its light swept the heavens. It circled four times above the city and then disappeared, finally heading first to the south and then to the east.

Marlboro Sights Airship.

Marlboro, Mass., Dec. 24.—An airship was sighted over Marlboro early tonight, going northwest at 60 or more miles an hour. Persons in all sections of the city reported having seen it. Its general course, they say, was in the direction of Clinton.

SIGHTS ABANDONED WRECK.

Japanese Steamer Reports Disaster Off Cape Flattery.

Seattle, Dec. 24.—Another probable marine disaster off the coast of Washington was recorded today, when the Japanese steamer Kaga Maru reported to the wireless station at Cape Bond that the American schooner Susie M. Plummer was in distress and had been abandoned 100 miles west and south of Cape Flattery.

No news regarding the extent of the schooner's trouble or the fate of the crew was contained in the brief message from the Japanese vessel, which is on her way to the Orient.

The United States lifesaving tug Saohomish left her station at Neah Bay at 4 o'clock this afternoon to go to the aid of the schooner's crew.

The Susie M. Plummer, a vessel of 920 tons, gross, sailed from Everett, Wash., December 5, with a cargo of lumber for San Pedro, Cal. She is owned by W. G. Tibbitts, of San Francisco, and was built in 1890 at Thomas, Me. She was commanded by Captain Hansen and carried a small crew.

EXPORTS DROP ONE MILLION.

French Tariff Seriously Affects American Oil Products.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Alarmed by a drop from \$1,000,000 to \$28,263 in mineral oil exports to France in a month, American oil exporters have begun a movement to induce congress to renew with the French government the reciprocity treaty that expired on October 31. Exporters also hope for the renewal of the treaty with Spain, a large importer of American oil, which will expire on August 31, 1919.

Exports to Canada under the operation of the new tariff law have not been compiled by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor, but indications are that they will show relatively as great a falling off in oil exports as those to France.

Notwithstanding the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty with France, reports to the bureau for November, the first month under the new order of things, show larger totals in both imports and exports than in the corresponding month of last year. Raw cotton, which is imported into France free of duty, and hence is not affected by the tariff changes, is largely responsible for the increase in exports, while art wools 20 years old and over, admitted free under the new law, and diamonds and hides were responsible for the increased imports.

The falling off in imports of champagne from France, due to the increased tariff, was most marked, declining from \$584,674 in November, 1908, to \$58,002 in November, 1909.

Miners Drive Out Switchmen.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 24.—A committee representing the Butte miners' union today drove switchmen who had returned to work in Butte yards of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads from their work and told them that if they returned 2600 miners would wait upon them tomorrow and see that they stopped work while their brother switchmen were on strike. Every switchman on the two roads quit, and tonight switching operations in Butte are completely tied up. All the Boston & Montana mines and the Colusa mine closed today.

Zelaya's Loss Is Immense.

Panama, Dec. 24.—A wireless dispatch from Bluefields, addressed to General Chamorro's father here, reports 603 men killed and 1800 prisoners and 1,000,000 cartridges captured by the provisional government forces at Rama.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

OREGON RICH IN GOOD OIL.

Reported Big Strike Has Been Made in Malheur County.

Vale—Every day's boring in the Vale oil fields increases the certainty that Oregon is destined to become one of the greatest oil producing states in the country, say prospector and oil experts who have witnessed the results of the well-sinking now in progress by half a dozen different companies in Northern Malheur county.

The Malheur Oil & Gas company, after sinking a well 1,700 feet and getting well into a chocolate formation, which is regarded as a sure forerunner of oil, capped the well and refuse absolutely to allow visitors to approach it. This action is believed by others operating in the district to have been prompted by the fact that oil was actually struck in the Malheur well and that the company prosecuting the development work has some reason for not allowing it to become known that oil has actually been found in commercial quantities. The Baker-Malheur company is down 900 feet and has let a contract for sinking its well 1,100 feet deeper, having taken this action after oil experts from Pennsylvania and California had expressed the belief that oil would be struck at a depth of 1800 to 2000 feet.

The Columbia Oil & Gas company, which is largely owned in Spokane, is down 1200 feet with a 12 inch drill and is passing through the same formation that was found in the celebrated Kern river district in Southern California. It was from this well that the sample of oil was procured by the special government representative of the geological survey whose report on the discovery resulted in a recommendation being made by Secretary of the Interior Ballinger that the whole district be withdrawn from entry and reserved as a source of fuel supply for the future use of the United States navy.

The well being sunk by the Eastern Oregon Oil company is down 800 feet and has passed through two strata of oil sand. The drill in this well recently encountered hot salt water, which is regarded as a sure indication of oil in commercial quantities.

The Mammoth Oil & Gas company is another of the companies sinking a well in the district. This company is owned by men who have operated in other oil fields, and they express the greatest confidence in the district. One of the best drilling rigs in the district has just been set up by the Vale Oil & Gas company, which is prepared to expend \$25,000 in developing its claim. D. M. Hunt, who has had 25 years' experience in the oil fields of West Virginia, Ohio and California, and who is now superintending the development work of one of the largest concerns operating in the Vale oil fields, says:

"The Vale district is the most promising that I have ever seen, and I shall be greatly surprised if it does not turn out to be one of the greatest oil producing sections of the United States."

Buy Apple Land.

Pleasant Ridge—Dr. J. A. Pettit, S. C. Pier and Stanhope Pier have recently purchased a 400 acre tract of apple land at Pleasant Ridge, Wasco county, 12 miles south of The Dalles. The land is to be planted in the best varieties of apples and sold in 10 acre tracts. An abundance of water may be had for irrigation purposes, which it is proposed to bring to the tract. The country around Pleasant Ridge is very similar to the Hood River district, the soil and climate being much the same, and it is believed by scientific apple growers that the famous Hood River apple will grow to perfection there.

Best Peach Land in Oregon.

Portland—W. H. Lang Co., have sold the Cliff farm, located on the Willamette river 18 miles above Portland and two miles from Canby. It has one half mile of river front, boat landing on the place and is one of the best located farms on the Willamette River, is nearly all improved, has fairly good buildings and is well stocked. The consideration was \$18,750. It contains 150 acres, part of which is the best peach land in Oregon. The peaches off 450 trees adjoining this land this season sold for \$1,500.

Local Men Invest in Apple Land.

Winston—Dr. Byron E. Miller and Henry Fox, a retired capitalist from Duluth, Minn., have closed a deal with T. R. Sheridan, president of the First National bank of Roseburg, for the purchase of a portion of the Sheridan and Agee holdings of apple lands, located near Winston. This is one of the choicest tracts of fruit lands in Southern Oregon. The purchasers intend planting about 250 acres of the tract to commercial apples during the coming year.

SURVEYORS FINISH WORK

Now Ready to Establish a Permanent Survey to Klamath Falls

Klamath Falls—Southern Pacific surveyors who have been establishing the permanent survey between Klamath Falls and Natron have completed the work and have departed for Redding, Cal., where they are to take up the permanent survey of the road from Redding to Alturas and thence to this city. Large forces are employed on the road to the north of Klamath Falls. Winter quarters have been established. About three miles north of Klamath Falls a small temporary city has been established. In this vicinity it is necessary to make several deep cuts and large fills. It will require several months to complete these difficult undertakings. Construction camps are strung out for a distance of more than 20 miles.

New Partner in Weston Mill.

Weston—E. S. Isaac, of Walla Walla, one of the northwest's most successful flouring mill men, has purchased an interest in the Weston flouring mill. The mill has been running with power from a large gas engine, but under the new management it is planned that the long contemplated plan of using the waters of Pine creek during a portion of the year for power will be put into execution.

Several thousand bushels of wheat still remain in the hands of farmers in this section, who are holding out for the expected \$1 a bushel. Nevertheless, close to 8,000 bushels were bought by Frank Price the past week, the agent here for the Kerr-Gifford company, paying 95 cents per bushel.

A-Y-P Prize Certificates Received

Salem—Certificates for grand prizes awarded to the state of Oregon for its general educational display, for its hops, wool and complete display of woods at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, have been received by Governor Benson. A certificate of honorable mention for the fax display from this state was also received.

Hood River Will Pave Streets.

Hood River—It has been decided that Hood River will have paved streets before another winter. It is estimated that it will cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000 to do the projected street work.

Oil Near Dufur

Dufur—J. E. Porter, who has been drilling a well at Three Mile, struck a small flow of oil at a depth of 167 feet. Operation has been stopped and a company is being formed to raise money to sink a deep well.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Bluestem, \$121@122; club, \$110; red Russian, \$108; Valley, \$105.

Barley—Feed and brewing, \$30@31 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 per Millstuffs—Bran, \$26 per ton; middlings, \$33; shorts, \$28.50@29.50; rolled barley, \$31.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$32.50@33.50; Hay—Timothy, Willamette Valley, \$18@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18@21.50; alfalfa, \$16@16.50; clover, \$15@16; chest, \$15@16; grain hay, \$15@16.

Butter—City creamery extras, 39c; fancy outside creamery, 38c@35c per lb.; store, 22 3/4@24c. Butter fat prices average 1 1/2c per lb. under regular butter prices.

Poultry—Hens, 14@14 1/2c; Springs, 14@14 1/2c; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, 18@19c; geese, 14c; turkeys, live, 22 1/2c; dressed, 26@28c.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 42 1/2c per dozen; Eastern, 30@35c per dozen.

Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$18 box; pears, \$1@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$9 per barrel.

Potatoes—Carload buying prices: Oregon, 60@80c per sack; sweet potatoes, 1 1/2@2c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c per dozen; cabbage, 1 1/2c per pound; celery, \$2.75@3.25 per crate; garlic, 10c per pound; horseradish, \$1.50 per box; pumpkins, 1 1/2@1 3/4c; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/4c; tomatoes, 75c @81.

Sack Vegetables—Turnips, \$1 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.50; parsnips \$1.50.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Cattle—Good steers, \$4.50@4.75; fair to best, \$4@4.25; medium and feeders, \$3.50@3.75; common to medium, \$2.50@3.75; bulls \$2@2.50; stags \$2.50@3.50; calves, light, \$5.25 @5.50; heavy, \$4@4.75.

Hogs—Best, \$8.50@8.75; medium, \$7.50@8; stockers, \$6.50@6.75.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$5.00@5.75; fair to good, \$4.25@4.75; best ewes, \$4.50@5.00.

Hops—1909 crop, 18@22 1/2c; 1908 crop, normal; 1907 crop, 12c; 1906 crop, 8c.

Hides—Dry hides, 18@19c per pound; dry kip, 17@18c per pound; dry calfskin, 19@21c per pound; salted hides, 10 1/2@11c; salted calfskin, 15@16c per pound; green, 1c less.

COPENHAGEN TURNS DOWN COOK

Investigating Committee Can Find No Proof of His Claims.

Copenhagen, Dec. 22.—The committee which has been investigating the data of Dr. Frederick A. Cook today officially reported to the consistory of the University of Copenhagen that Dr. Cook's records and observations were wholly insufficient to warrant a verdict that he discovered the North Pole.

The consistory of the university adopted the report of the committee, thereby flatly rejecting Dr. Cook's claims and throwing out his records and observations.

Cook's data, according to the report, is no more convincing than was the newspaper account.

Dr. Cook's private secretary, Lonsdale, who represented the explorer here, is bitterly disappointed at the verdict. He is making an effort to induce the consistory to withhold final judgment until the whole of Dr. Cook's data can be presented.

Lonsdale told the committee that missing data, which are part of Dr. Cook's original documents, were sent here from America by a route different from that by which the records already examined were brought. He said this additional data would arrive in a few days.

The consistory refuses to pay any attention to Lonsdale's appeal and the findings announced today are final so far as the consistory is concerned.

The discrediting of Dr. Cook was a severe blow to the Danish scientists, who had stood firmly by him and given him support under the charges made by Commander Peary. The great reception given Dr. Cook upon his arrival here and the honors that were paid him by high and low, including the king, are recalled with somewhat openly displayed chagrin.

It is known that the Danish experts were personally inclined to favor Dr. Cook, most of them already having come out in statements tending to substantiate his claims.

A member of the committee today said:

"It took the committee but a few minutes to see that Dr. Cook's observations and so-called records were worthless."

"We could have reported immediately, but it took several days to recover from the surprise."

"The so-called notebooks on which Dr. Cook relied in a great measure for vindication had only accounts of his observations, rather than the observations themselves. These notebooks were thrown aside without a moment's consideration."

"I cannot understand how a man of Cook's reputed scientific attainments could have attempted to bolster up his claims with such flimsy evidence."

ZELAYA'S RULE ENDS

Madriz Assumes Presidency of Nicaraguan Republic.

Managua, Nicaragua, Dec. 22.—Jose Madriz today assumed the presidency of Nicaragua, succeeding former President Zelaya, who resigned.

Madriz's recent threats to break with Zelaya, coupled with his subsequent announcement that his presidential candidacy was supported by the Mexican government, which had sent Senor Creel to Washington to intercede in his behalf, is construed by his supporters to mean that he will be president in fact as well as in name, and that he intends to give the country a new deal.

Americans here, however, are not inclined to accept this opinion. They believe the new president is pretending to want peace, in order to preclude the possibility of intervention on the part of the United States.

Madriz has promised the revolutionists immunity if they will surrender. He has intimated that he will place Provisional President Estrada in a high office.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Dec. 22.—Reports from Rama today say Estrada's army is advancing against General Vasquez, just outside Rama, and that a battle is expected immediately. This is the first decisive move on the part of the revolutionists against the election of Madriz as successor of Zelaya as president. The formal protest against the election of Madriz will be based upon the fact that the Atlantic coast departments were not represented in the congress that elected Madriz.

Under Estrada, in the impending battle, will be Generals Luis Diaz, Manafee, Matuty, Pacheco and Chamorro. It is reported today that the gunboat Blanca has sailed up the Mico river.

I. W. W. Leaders Deny Surrender.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 22.—As a final resort in an attempt to thoroughly stop the activities of the Industrial Workers of the World, its hall was closed by the police yesterday, who said it was a "disorderly place." About 100 members went outside of the city limits, where an indignation meeting was held. About a dozen of the Industrialists volunteered to go inside the city and speak on the streets, in violation of the ordinance. The I. W. W. workers repudiate the report circulated Saturday night that they had surrendered and given up the fight.

Tongs Battle in Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—Trouble between the warring tongs of Chinatown broke out anew yesterday, and as a result of a revolver battle in which 30 or more shots were fired, Sing Moy is at St. Luke's hospital with a bullet wound in his right leg, and 10 other Mongolians are in cells at the Harrison-street station.

EIGHT DEAD IN MINE

Open Lamps Ignite Gas and Explosion Follows.

RESCUERS ARE FORCED BACK

Prompt Action of Management Aids Hundreds to Escape—Fire Prevents Recovery of Bodies.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 25.—Eight men were killed and the lives of 400 persons were imperiled by an explosion of gas in mine A of the Chicago & Carterville Coal company at Herrin, Ill., late Thursday. Open lamps carried by the mine engineer and his assistants caused the disaster, according to a long distance telephone message from the mine office to the Associated Press. There were three men and a boy in this party. All lost their lives.

Prompt action by the management resulted in the safe exit of the hundreds of men at work below ground. Within five minutes after the first part of the explosion, miners in the immediate vicinity of the accident were started toward the surface and on the return trips of the cages rescuers were lowered to entries No. 7 and No. 8 west, where the catastrophe took place. Among the dead were:

W. T. Pierce, mine engineer.

Eugene Barrett, assistant engineer.

Thomas Williams, assistant manager.

Thomas Guinness, superintendent of the mine, and Robert Huston, manager, headed the first relay of rescuers. Despite the black damp that flowed into the chambers adjoining those in which Pierce and his party were killed, these men plunged into the workings.

Three bodies blocked their path. Hasty examination showed that the men were alive, and they were rushed to the surface. One was A. J. Huston, brother of the manager. The other Charles Klein and Albert Shelton, and Huston were revived, and all are expected to recover from the effects of the gas.

The rescuers next found the bodies of Snyder, Green and Rouse, miners. None of these men had been hoisted, the condition of the corpses testifying to the force of the concussion. The body of Harbor, a miner, was badly burned, the features being scarcely almost beyond recognition.

Efforts of the rescuers to penetrate more deeply into the workings were repulsed by increasing afterdamp. The ventilating apparatus of the mine had not been damaged, but it could not successfully with the gases, and Guinness and Huston and their helpers were forced to retreat, leaving the bodies of Pierce and his companions. The gas also began to gain headway, and it is not expected the bodies can be recovered before tomorrow.

News of the explosion soon spread through Herrin, and women and children rushed at once to the shaft house. But as the cages emptied load after load of rescued miners sobs of anguish gave way to cries of joy. These in turn were soon hushed to murmurs of sympathy as the bodies of the dead were brought to the surface.

SKY LIGHTS SEEN AGAIN

Many Towns Report Searchlight Beams by Airship.

Boston, Dec. 23.—Following the report from Worcester Thursday night of the discovery above that city a strange moving light, apparently the searchlight of a dirigible aircraft, last night brought stories of the observance of similar lights from villages east of Worcester, and even from Boston Common. People in Marlboro, South Framlington, Natick, Ashland, Grafton, North Grafton, Epton, Hopkinton and Northboro turned out in throngs last night and saw a mysterious light in the sky.

Many declared that it had the appearance of a strong light and, while they could discover no framework behind it, such as an aeroplane would have, they were positive that the light could not be that of a balloon because it moved as if under control and apparently against the wind.

Wallace E. Tillinghast, a Worcester man who recently asserted that he had invented a machine in which he had gone from Worcester to New York and returned and who, it was thought, might have been the navigator of the supposed aircraft, remained noncommittal today.

Cheer in Liner's Cargo.

New York, Dec. 25.—Christmas cheer from Europe for thousands in America was brought by the liner Teutonic which arrived with 4,100 sacks of Christmas mail. Mrs. Russell Sage made her customary Christmas offering to Central Park employees. This year her gift amounted to \$1,965, consisting of 385 \$5 gold pieces, one for every man and woman in the park paid less than \$3 a day. Bluejackets from the ten battleships of the Atlantic fleet already in port for the Christmas holidays overflowed the city yesterday and last night.

Bowdoin to Rejoice for Peary.

Brunswick, Me., Dec. 25.—The achievement of her distinguished alumnus, Commander Peary, in reaching the North Pole, will be celebrated at Bowdoin College year. It was announced at chapel by President Hyde.