

## THE MESSAGE ON THE PANAMA SITUATION

### The President Deals at Length With the Isthmian Imbrolio, Asserts Positively That the Government Had Nothing To do With the Revolution, Directly or Indirectly, The Governments Course the Only One Possible.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The President's Panama message delivered to congress today reviewing the canal action required 28 printed pages, embodying reports, telegrams and canal letters. Almost all of these letters have been published from time to time. It opened by reviewing the treaties covering the southern countries. Referring to Colombia it said: "At the time negotiations were offered with Colombia, the administration was criticised as being too liberal. Colombia's objection, which was based on the ground of having to relinquish sovereignty over the canal strip was an after-thought. No nation could construct and guarantee the neutrality of the canal with a less degree of control than that stipulated in the treaty. The refusal to grant such a degree of control was necessarily a refusal to make any practicable treaty at all. The refusal therefore raised the question whether Colombia was entitled to bar transit across the isthmus. The people of Panama wanted America to build the canal. Furthermore, Colombia, after having rejected the treaty, despite our warnings and protests, has since shown the utmost eagerness to accept the same treaty, if only the status quo could be restored." Letters from high Colombian officials offered to carry the treaty through if America would land troops and compel the recognition of Colombian sovereignty. It says: "I won't for one moment discuss the possibility of committing an act of such baseness as to abandon the new republic of Panama." Regarding the Nicaraguan route question a reasonable time after the rejection of

the treaty by Colombia did not occur, as within three days after the Colombian congress adjourned in October, the Panama revolution broke out. Panama actually became an independent state, and control of the canal strip then became obtainable. Colombia had been treated with all fairness. Secretary Hay had repeatedly warned her of the feeling on the isthmus, and yet Colombia paid no heed. That Panama contemplated a revolution was a matter of common notoriety, even in the month of August. The President here quotes numerous press dispatches, showing the condition of the isthmian feeling. He also quotes the report gained by General Young, who went to great pains to learn the Panama situation, showing enormous quantities of arms were in the possession of the revolutionists. Over the entire isthmus a great organization was effected, and that revolution would undoubtedly follow any refusal of Colombia to ratify the canal treaty. This report was made to Young by Capt. Humphrey and Lieut. Murphy, who visited Panama in September. Young advised Roosevelt to interview the officers personally, which he did. The officers believed a revolution might break out even before Colombia had time to ratify or reject the treaty. They said it was certain there would be a revolution if the treaty was rejected by Colombia. The message later reviews the Bogota's firing on Panama, and the landing of marines to maintain the free and uninterrupted transit of the isthmus. He quotes from a letter of Commander Hubbard, on board the cruiser Nashville, dated at Colon, November 5th, a letter that shows that before the United States made any attempt to restore order General Torres practically declared war on American citizens, saying that unless two Colombian officers seized by the revolutionists the night before were not immediately returned to the Colombian lines, he would kill every citizen of the United States on the isthmus. Hubbard then landed the marines. The message says Hubbard's prompt action saved great loss of life and property, as well as gave protection to our citizens. It says all insinuations that the United States had any complicity in the revolution are as destitute of foundation as of propriety. No one connected with this government had any part in pre-

paring, inciting or encouraging the revolution, or had the government any knowledge that the revolution was imminent, except such as was accessible to any person of ordinary intelligence who reads the newspapers. Later it says: "I haven't denied, nor do I wish to deny, either the validity or propriety of the general rule that new states shouldn't be recognized as independent until they had shown their ability to maintain their independence. But the rule has exceptions, and there were, in my opinion, clear and imperative reasons why the departure from this rule was justified, and even required. In the present instance these reasons are: First, our treaty rights; second, our national interests and safety, third, the interests of collective civilization. After reviewing these reasons the President says it was under the circumstances the United States, instead of using its forces to destroy those who sought to make the engagements of the treaty a reality, recognized them as the proper custodians of the sovereignty of them. In closing he says the main question before this government is, not that of the recognition of Panama as an independent state, as that was already an accomplished fact, but the main question is whether or not we shall build the isthmian canal.

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## IOWA CAPITOL BURNED

### A Three Million Dollar Structure of Marble

#### The Library Was Partially Saved—Loss Estimated at Nearly a Million Dollars

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 4.—The state capitol building which cost \$3,000,000, is burning, and it is feared the damage will be great. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the crossing of electric wires.

The Iowa state house, at 2 o'clock this afternoon, is doomed. The south wing is now ablaze. The legislative halls have collapsed. The governor will probably call a special session Saturday. The library contained 750,000 volumes, which are being removed. The damage is already estimated at \$1,000,000.

#### Will Tear Down Theatre.

Berlin, Jan. 4.—As a result of the Chicago fire the kaiser today personally inspected the Royal Opera house, accompanied by experts, who came to the conclusion that it was unsafe, and ordered it closed. The building will be torn down as a result. The kaiser will personally revise the plans and bear the cost of rebuilding, and, in addition will pay the salaries of the staff during its close. It will cost him a half million dollars.

#### Porto Ricans Not Aliens.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The supreme court opinion handed down by Chief Justice Fuller today declares the citizens of Porto Rico are not aliens. The question arose in the case of Isabella Gonzalez against Immigration Commissioner Williams, of New York, who denied her landing, fearing she would become a public charge. The court directs that she be permitted to enter the United States.

## COLD SNAP EAST

### Mercury Takes a Turn and Lands in the Cellar

### New England Visited by a First Class Blizzard, and Buried Under Snow Drifts

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 4.—It is unprecedented cold weather, the mercury showing 22 below. Railway traffic is delayed.

Gloverville, N. Y., Jan. 4.—The thermometer registers 26 below.

Zanesville, O., Jan. 4.—Thirty below and great damage is done. Fruit is killed, and stock suffering severely.

Boston, Jan. 4.—New England is experiencing the worst blizzard in five years. Railway traffic is completely off its schedule. The trolleys are tied up, and there are immense snow drifts and a 34-mile gale. It is four degrees below zero.

New York, Jan. 4.—North Carolina and Virginia are suffering the worst storm of the year.

## CHICAGO THEATERS CLOSED

### Mayor Harrison Refuses to Modify Closing Order

### None Can Re-Open Inside of Two Weeks and Many Will Have to Rebuild

Chicago, Jan. 4.—After an executive session, lasting some time, with the managers of the 35 theatres in Chicago, this morning, the mayor declined to make any modifications of Saturday's order, closing all places of amusement. The managers wanted permission to open the lower floors. Theatrical men believe it will be two weeks before any playhouse can comply with the law. Many can't resume at all, but must rebuild.

#### New South Wales Masacres.

Brisbane, N. S. W., Jan. 4.—The steamer arrived today reports that natives of German New Guinea had massacred the engineer, a trader, two Chinese and 10 friendly natives over a dispute in a land deal. A punitive expedition killed 25 natives.

## LOCK THE STABLE DOORS

### Chicago Passing All Kinds of Stringent Ordinances

### Schools Closed Today in Memory of the Thirty-Seven Teachers Burned to Death

Chicago, Jan. 4.—All the schools in the city are closed today out of respect for the 37 teachers who lost their lives in the Iroquois theater fire. Two more victims who were injured in the rush are dead. There is great activity in gaining evidence in the case. Many of those who lost relatives have employed detectives to assist in gathering evidence for the prosecution. The coroner's jury this morning visited the hospitals to view the bodies of victims who died from their injuries. Laws have been drafted for introduction in the council tonight, forbidding the aldermen to accept theater, railway or street car passes.

#### The Oratorio Society

Will meet tonight at the College of Music, in Mr. Seely's studio. It

# GREAT ANNUAL Clearance Sale AND WHITE FAIR

Will continue to be the great store attraction through January. The time of the year when every article of merchandise in this great stock is offered at a great reduction from the regular selling price. The foundation of good store keeping is to have the right thing at the right price, at the right time. The purchasing power of your dollar will be a happy surprise to you as you shop through the different departments, for giant values at dwarf prices are greatly in evidence.

### Laces and Embroideries

Prices on laces and embroideries lowered to the last notch. Valenciennes laces, Torchons, Point de Paris laces, Bands, Appliques, Gallons, Allovers, Nets, Chiffons, Real Laces, Novelties. The handsomest variety we have ever shown, and every yard at prices that will please you.

### EMBROIDERIES REDUCED.

Edging and Insertions, Nainsooks, Cambrics—all widths, Sets, allovers, founcing, etc., daintiest patterns, everything reduced.

### DRESS TRIMMINGS.

Our entire stock of handsome dress trimmings radically reduced for the Great Annual Clearance Sale. Buy dress trimmings here at a big saving.

### Gloves, Ribbons Neckwear

Everything in kid and fabric gloves, ribbons and ladies' neckwear marked at marvelously low prices. Unequaled stock of the best merchandise for you to select from. Real French kid gloves, in all grades, all new styles all sizes—every pair guaranteed — unusually low prices prevail.

### RIBBONS.

Silk ribbons, all kinds, Satin Taffetas, Taffetas, Fancies, Satins, all widths. Velvet ribbons, black and colors, every yard reduced.

The largest and best stock of ladies' neckwear at practically your own prices. Silk and cotton novelties, "Kaiser" Neckwear, Lace Collars, etc. Lowest prices ever known.

### Every Article in Our Store Is Reduced

Except Contract Goods Which Manufacturers Will Not Allow Reduced

### Ladies' Suits

Fall Prices Suffer. Although real wintry weather has only just begun, down go the prices of women's and misses suits. Some were selling much below cost, on others we simply make you a present of the profits, that should rightfully belong to us—but clearance sale fever has caught this department, and they all must go.

Reduced 1-2 and 1-3

### Wednesday Only

The first Wednesday special sale of this year marks the 167th consecutive Wednesday sale. On this day we give you an exceptional bargain in

### FLANNELETTES

Of standard grade, all colors, just what you need for house dresses, wrappers, etc.

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### Ladies' Skirts

The policy of the ready-to-wear department has always been to carry absolutely nothing over from one season to another. Prices have been reduced to effect this end. In pursuance of this method we begin a clearing today, with the finest lot of skirts ever offered at the price. Here are bargains in everything in the skirt line, from the plainest walking skirt to the finest silk dress skirts.

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