

THE DUTCH CAPTURE VENEZUELAN VESSEL

Cruiser Gelderland Seizes Coast Guard Ship Alix Off Puerto Cabello.

OTHER SEIZURES TO FOLLOW

Not an Act of War, Says One Dutch Official, but Merely a Reprisal.

Willemstad, island of Curacao.—The Dutch cruiser Gelderland came into this port Sunday morning, towing the Venezuelan coast guard ship Alix, with the Dutch crew on board. The Gelderland captured the Alix off Puerto Cabello on Saturday. At that time the Alix was lying close in shore and notwithstanding the threat which the Venezuelan government had made to fire upon any of the Dutch warships, committing a hostile act, the Gelderland steamed at speed towards the guardship and sent an officer and guard in a launch to seize her. This they did without resistance, and no shots were fired from the forts on land.

The crew of the Alix was put ashore and the Dutch officer and marines remained on board, the Gelderland finally taking the Alix in tow and steaming away with her prize. The seizure of the Alix was in accordance with the plans of the Holland government, when instructions were issued to the three Dutch warships now in these waters to make a demonstration off the Venezuelan and to capture any Venezuelan ships of war or guard vessels that they might find. The arrival of the Gelderland was greeted with unbounded enthusiasm.

Governor Explains Act.

The Governor of Curacao, in explaining the incident, had to say: "The capture by our warships of coastguards and war vessels is not to be considered an unfriendly act against the Venezuelans. It is merely a reprisal against Castro's government, which refuses to give satisfaction for his unfriendly acts toward Holland. The seizure of these vessels will make it impossible for the Venezuelan government to carry troops or ammunition to and from the various ports. "A communication to this effect has been forwarded by the Dutch government to the German minister at Curacao."

It is learned from the officers of the Gelderland that the battleship Jacob Van Heemskerck and the cruiser Priesland are now off La Guaira and that further captures may be expected at any time.

PAT CROWE, EVANGELIST

Former Kidnaper and Outlaw Goes in for Prison Reform.

Chicago.—Pat Crowe, whose former lawless career came to a climax in the kidnaping of Eddie Cudahy, made his debut as an evangelist in Evanston, under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. Prison Reform League. Crowe grew eloquent in his appeals to citizens to aid in prison reform and stop the manufacture of criminals in reform schools and penitentiaries. As he spoke a baby's voice in the rear frequently interrupted him. "That's my baby making that noise," Crowe exclaimed. "I hope I can live to give it a good education and make it a good citizen."

Secretary Metcalf's Report.

Secretary Metcalf of the Navy Department in his annual report discusses, as the most notable naval event of the past year, the voyage of the battleship fleet, which "has proven an epoch-making cruise." The secretary recommends that congress authorize at its approaching session the construction of four battleships, four scout cruisers, 10 destroyers, four submarines, three colliers, one repair ship, one ammunition ship, two mine-laying ships—these two ships to be converted from cruisers now in the navy list.

Japan as a War Teacher.

Paris.—General Plesquart, the French minister of war, has announced his intention to send several officers of the French army to Japan every year to study the organization of the Japanese army on native ground. Much of the progress of the Island Empire, the Minister asserts, is due to the Japanese assimilation of Western methods. He believes, therefore, that French soldiers may in turn learn from the East. So he will assist each year a few French officers who know English well and send them to Japan for two years.

Railroad Orders.

Orders for 1,500 steel freight cars have been placed with the Pittsburgh car-building companies by the Virginia Railway, the Harriman lines have contracted with the American Car and Foundry Company for 1,800 box cars with steel underframes and the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad contracted with the American Locomotive Works for five passenger engines. The total cost of the new equipment will be about \$2,500,000.

Contracts for Submarines.

Washington.—The contracts for the submarine boats authorized at the last session of Congress were awarded by Secretary Newberry. Four of these go to the Electric Boat Company, to be delivered at the Mare Island navy yard; one to the American Locomotive Company, which will be built at the William Cramp & Sons establishment, and one to the Lake Torpedo Boat Company, to be built by the Newport News Shipbuilding Company. Two will be built by the Government.

FAST TOBACCO POOL FORMED

Assets of \$30,000,000 Represented in New Society.

Louisville, Ky.—The Union Tobacco society, representing tobacco-growing interests in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and Wisconsin, with estimated assets of \$30,000,000, was organized here. The purpose of the organization was said to be to protect the tobacco growers from a minimum price and the consumer from a maximum scale. The interests of the growers in the States named will be pooled and the tobacco sold through a board of directors. The following associations joined the new society: The Burley Tobacco society, Henderson, Ky.; Stenning District association, Bowling Green, Ky.; District association, Green River Tobacco association. These officers were elected: President, M. O. Hughes, Bowling Green, Ky.; secretary, J. F. Doss, Greenville, Ky.

WORLD POWDER TRUST

Every Company in America and Europe Alleged to Be in It.

Cleveland.—Evidence of a world-wide agreement of all the powder companies in this country and Europe was presented at the Federal hearing. The agreement provided for a \$60,000 fine for any breach of the terms. This document was identified by President Almon Lent of the Austin Powder Company.

The agreement was signed in 1897 for ten years or until revived. The document sets forth that the Du Pont Company, the Austin Powder Company and nearly 100 other concerns in this country had signed it, and also all the powder concerns in Europe. The 100 in this country include every powder company in the United States, the attorneys state. The world was parcelled out into districts.

NEW YORK OWES \$672,000,000

City's Debt Said to Be 10 Per Cent of Its Taxable Real Estate.

New York.—Placing the city's debt limit at \$672,000,000, which is 10 per cent of the taxable real estate, Comptroller Herman W. Metz in a statement to the legislative committee now investigating this city's finances, declared that the margin remaining for further borrowing is only \$38,000,000. Edgar J. Levey, a former deputy comptroller, who was called as an expert, said he believed New York's gross indebtedness was \$800,000,000. He added that contract liabilities would bring it up to a billion dollars.

FOR LOCKS AND DAMS

Representative Acheson Introduces Bill for Ohio River Improvement.

Washington.—The first formal proposal at this session of Congress to issue bonds for the construction of great waterway improvements was made by Representative Acheson of Pennsylvania, in introducing a bill for the construction of 54 locks and dams in the Ohio river so as to establish 4-foot navigation from Pittsburg to Cairo. He proposed that \$63,000,000 worth of bonds be issued for the purpose.

Offer Reward for Bandits.

Spokane, Wash.—A reward of \$6,000 in which the Great Northern company and the United States Government share equal responsibility is offered for the arrest and conviction of the three bandits who held up Great Northern passenger train No. 4 near Hillyard. The men have been traced back to Spokane by the sheriff's officers and a dragnet has been laid all over this city and surrounding country. The bandits robbed only the registered mail sacks from Seattle. It is said that \$16,600 was secured, but the postoffice authorities will not verify the report.

Placed on Retired List.

Washington.—Announcement was made of the retirement of Rear Admiral J. E. Pillsbury, chief of the bureau of navigation, and of Rear Admiral W. H. Emory, who recently relinquished command of the second division of the Atlantic fleet. Admiral Pillsbury, at the President's request, will continue in charge of the bureau of navigation until the end of the administration.

Two Arrested on Charge of Gambling.

New Castle.—Timothy Mitchell and Fred Clarke were arrested here on court processes, both men having been indicted by the grand jury on charges of keeping gambling houses. Mitchell was committed to jail and Clarke gave bail. This will make four men to be tried next week on charges of keeping gambling houses. The authorities here are determined to break up the gambling houses which have been established here for years.

To Welcome Fleet February '22.

President Roosevelt will welcome the return of the battleship fleet at Hampton Roads from its cruise around the world about noon on February 22, details for which occasion are now being worked out at the Navy Department.

Winter Wheat Shortage.

The Agricultural Department's report on the condition of fall-sown crops puts the condition of winter wheat at \$5.3 or about 7 per cent less than the average for ten years past, while the area sown is 5.6 per cent less.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations acted favorably on arbitration treaties with China and Peru and on naturalization treaties with Brazil, Uruguay and Honduras.

THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT FEAR REBUKE

Intimates He Can Say Why Secret Service Watched Congressmen.

HE WILL NOT RETRACT

Senate Meanwhile Plans to Follow House Lead and Aact on Offending Remarks.

Washington.—Congress, in contemplating a rebuke to President Roosevelt for the language used in his annual message concerning the operation of the secret service, is holding a firebrand over a powder magazine. If congress carries to execution its present intention, it will start an explosion that may blow into smithereens the official existence of many members of both house and senate.

President Roosevelt declared with characteristic emphasis that if an attempt is made to put him in a false light before the country he will send a special message to congress detailing specific instances of improper connection of certain members with "venal influences."

The President is content at present to restrict his official utterances relative to bad judgment of congress in cutting down the appropriation for the secret service and legislating to limit its operations, but if his attitude is brought into question he proposes to show the country that what he said was fully justified.

The action to be taken by the senate in asserting its displeasure because of Mr. Roosevelt's message in regard to the secret service has not been outlined with any definiteness. It has been understood that a resolution would be offered by some Democratic senator providing for an investigation by the committee on appropriations of the President's language. It is evident that the house does not intend to take any hasty action in rebuking the President.

DIGNITY OF CONGRESS.

House Resents Charges Made in President's Message.

The House unanimously and without debate adopted a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of five to consider the reference to the Secret Service in the President's message and to suggest what action, if any, should be taken in the matter. The resolution was introduced by Representative Perkins of New York.

Mr. Perkins said that the statements by the President could not be lightly disregarded, as they might impair the usefulness of the Congress; that undue obtuseness might argue a lack of proper self-respect. Messrs. Perkins, New York; Denby, Michigan; Weeks, Massachusetts; Williams, Mississippi and Lloyd, Missouri, were appointed the special committee.

NEW COUNTERFEIT \$5 BILL.

Printed on Genuine Paper, Obtained by Bleaching a Note of Smaller Denomination.

Washington, D. C.—A new counterfeit \$5 silver certificate, Indian head, has been discovered by the secret service officials, who declare that it is a dangerous and deceptive counterfeit. It is said to be particularly deceptive by reason of the fact that it is printed on genuine paper, which was obtained by bleaching a note of smaller denomination, probably a \$1 bill.

In bleaching the note the color has been taken out of some of the distributed silk fiber laying close to the surface, but the deeply embedded fiber is visible in the paper, though the blue has been changed to a purple and the red has been lightened. The back of the note is deceptive, but is a blue-green and darker than the genuine.

License in England and Wales.

Charles Roberts, M. P., in his book on "The Time Limit and Local Option" brings out the fact, revealed by the Home Office returns, that of the 12,935 civil parishes in rural districts in England and Wales there are 3,909 (more than 30 per cent) in which there is no license. In the county of Lincolnshire 45 per cent are no license parishes.

Ruef Found Guilty.

San Francisco.—Abraham Ruef, former political boss of San Francisco, was convicted of bribery, the jury having deliberated for 24 hours. The trial, which has been in progress for 106 days, ended abruptly.

Big Building Destroyed.

New York.—A seven-story building at 154 Franklin street, used by the Western Union Telegraph Company as a storehouse, was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$150,000. The building was filled with telegraph supplies.

The National Sugar Refining Company has declared the regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent on its preferred stock, payable January 2.

Troops in Cuba Until Spring.

A change has been made in the program of the Administration for the withdrawal of the American troops from Cuba. Instead of the movement terminating January 28, when the new President is to be inaugurated, as heretofore announced by Secretary Wright the withdrawal will be more gradual and run into April, so American troops will be available for service during the transition from the provisional to the regular government and for a reasonable time subsequent thereto.

DEMANDS LARGER ARMY

War Secretary's Requirements \$52,000,000 in Excess of Last Year's.

Washington.—The total estimates of the war department for the next fiscal year, as shown by the annual report of the secretary of war, amount to \$189,755,039, an increase of about \$2,000,000 over the appropriations for the present fiscal year. This increase is largely for river and harbor work and other public works of a civil character, for which purpose about \$34,000,000 is asked. Of the balance, about \$10,500,000 is an additional estimate for the support of the army, military academy and the militia. For military public works, such as fortifications, arsenals, military posts, etc., the estimates call for an increase of \$17,800,000.

Secretary Wright's official recommendations in addition of 612 officers to the army, to provide for whom there will be added an annual cost of between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000.

The report shows that the army is now only 9,231 enlisted men short of the authorized strength, due to great improvement in recruiting. During the past year there has been an increase in the actual strength of the army of 19,168, making the present strength 4,116 officers and 68,512 enlisted men, a total of 72,628. Of this number 53,102 are serving in the United States, 12,101 in the Philippines, 4,906 in Cuba, 1,102 in Alaska, 611 in Porto Rico, 256 in Hawaii, with 501 troops en route and officers at 507 other foreign stations.

The secretary recommends that the general scheme of National defense shall provide a force of organized militia of approximately 350,000 men, 200,000 of these in combination with the infantry, cavalry, and field artillery of the regular army to constitute a field army of 400,000.

Great Business Merger.

New York.—Announcement was made of the coming liquidation of the old firm of Phelps, Dodge & Co. and of the incorporation of a new company to be known as the Phelps, Dodge & Co., incorporated, with a capital of \$50,000,000. The new company will take over all of the old firm's mining properties, and also its metal selling business. In effect, the new company will be a merger of the Copper Queen Consolidated, the original Phelps-Dodge holding; the Montezuma Copper Company, Detroit Copper Mining Company and the Stag Canon Fuel Company, with all the other interests of the old firm.

Seven Shot; Three Killed.

Memphis.—After a brief argument with a crowd of negroes engaged in a game of billiards at a saloon on De Soto street, near Beale, shortly after midnight, William Latura, a white saloonkeeper of this city, shot and killed three of the negroes and wounded four others, one mortally and the others seriously. One of the wounded is a woman.

Davis Declared Not Guilty.

Omaha, Neb.—After 13 hours' deliberation the jury in the case of Charles E. Davis, charged with the murder on the morning of September 2 of Dr. Frederick T. Rustin, agreed upon a verdict of not guilty. Two hours later Judge Sears received the verdict and ordered the discharge of the prisoner.

General Worthington Stricken.

Washington.—General Henry G. Worthington, former member of Congress from Nevada, who was a pallbearer at the funeral of Abraham Lincoln, was stricken with apoplexy on the floor of the House shortly after noon. He is in a critical condition.

Many Injured in Collision.

Seattle.—Gus Olsen, motorman, was fatally injured and about 30 others more or less seriously injured, in a head-on collision between two heavily loaded trolley cars in a dense fog on University line. The front of both cars were smashed to splinters and the crews and passengers were piled up with debris.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

San Francisco.—According to figures obtained from the Southern Pacific Railroad fruit growers of California shipped 12,917 carloads of fruit out of the State during the season which has just closed, an increase of nearly 100 per cent over the shipments for the season of 1907.

Receivers Are Discharged.

New York.—Judge Cross of the United States circuit court, discharged three ancillary receivers of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company in New Jersey, the Pittsburgh receivers having been discharged a few days ago. Similar action was taken at Chicago by Judge Kohlsaat.

Want Mr. Bryan As Head.

Minneapolis, Minn.—The University Press club has started a campaign to offer W. J. Bryan the presidency of the University of Minnesota in the event that President Cyrus Northrop cannot be induced to withdraw his resignation. The resolution is signed by all members of the University Press club.

Claringda, Iowa.—George and Henry Dyke, twins, 70 years of age, were burned to death in a small shanty in the outskirts of Heppburn, a little town about eight miles north of this place.

OFFER FROM BULGARIA

Willing to Pay Turkey \$16,500,000 Damages for Independence.

Sofia.—Bulgaria has notified the Powers of her willingness to indemnify Turkey \$16,500,000 for damages sustained through the Bulgarian declaration of independence.

Berlin.—The Turkish Government is negotiating for the purchase of \$1,875,000 worth of shrapnel and infantry ammunition with a German company.

STEEL CAR WORKS TAKEN INTO TRUST

Steel Corporation Gets Standard and Pressed Car Plants.

LARGEST CONCERN OF KIND

Move Preceded by Plans to Secure Large Output of Steel Wheels.

The United States Steel Corporation in New York City closed deals by which the Standard Steel Car Company, with plants at Butler and New Castle Pa., and Hammond, Ind., and the Pressed Steel Car Company, with plants at McKees Rocks and lower Northside, Pittsburg, were taken over. These are the largest concerns of their kind in the world.

Much of the raw material used by both concerns is made by the big corporation, and the deal is in line with its latest policy to control the manufacture of iron and steel, from mining ore and coal to turning out finished products of all kinds.

Purchase of car wheel plants and organization of a subsidiary concern to make rolled steel wheels from an invention of a man connected with the steel corporation were preliminary to the deal closed yesterday.

In recent years railroad companies gradually have been discarding the old wooden types of freight cars and have been substituting steel cars. Lately passenger cars and trolley cars have been made of steel also, first experiments having been with mail cars. They gave entire satisfaction.

Heretofore the only objection to steel cars has been that during wrecks they "buck" lines for considerably longer periods than do wooden cars, being harder to handle after a smash-up. That difficulty has been overcome by changes and improvements in wrecking apparatus.

Steel cars are used now considerably in coal mines, especially where mules have been superseded by electric power.

The Pressed Steel Car Company has plants on the Northside and at McKees Rocks employing thousands of men. The authorized capital stock of the concern was \$25,000,000. It was regarded as one of the most successful industries in the country.

GARY DENIES PURCHASE

Story of Absorption of Steel Car Plants Is Canard.

New York.—"The story of the purchase of the Standard and Pressed Steel Car companies' plants by the United States Steel Corporation is a canard without the slightest foundation," declared Elbert H. Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation, here.

William Bierman, secretary of the Standard Steel Car Company, said: "The statement is false and I do not know how the story originated." Officials of the Pressed Steel Car Company in Pittsburg also denied their plants had been absorbed by the United States Steel Corporation.

Nobel Prizes Given.

Stockholm.—King Gustave distributed the Nobel prizes, diplomas and gold medals in accordance with the official announcement made. The recipients, Prof. Rudolph Euchen, of Jena university; Prof. Gabriel Lippman, of the University of Paris; Prof. Ernest Rutherford, of Manchester, England; Dr. Paul Ehrlich, of Berlin, and Prof. Metchnikoff, of Paris, appeared before him in person. Each prize this year amounted to \$38,565.

Age Limit for Professors.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Sixty-five years was the age limit set for members of the University of Minnesota faculty at a meeting of the board of regents. All members of the faculty who are now 65 years old or older will be required to sever their active connections with the university at the end of the present college year. At least six university professors have attained the age of 65.

Feud Renewed in Breathitt County.

Lexington, Ky.—Feud troubles have been revived in Breathitt county. According to a dispatch received here five or six men rode to the home of ex-Sheriff Ed. Callahan, chief lieutenant of Judge James Hargis during the former feud troubles and began firing. Callahan returned the fire, badly wounding Rand Sebastian and killing a mule ridden by William Deaton.

Four More Marianna Dead.

Claim is Made That Explosion Victims Number 151.

Washington, Pa.—Four more bodies were taken from Agnes No. 2 shaft of the Pittsburgh-Butler Coal Company at Marianna Sunday. Seven more bodies are said to be at the bottom of the shaft awaiting extrication from debris. This increases the list to 151 who lost their lives in the explosion November 28.

Over Five Hundred Men Drowned.

Hull, N. S.—More than 500 seamen have lost their lives off the upper north Atlantic coast during the past few days as the result of a storm of unprecedented severity, and it is possible that the turbulent sea has demanded even a greater toll of lives.

Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway Company has declared a dividend of 1 per cent, payable January 1 to holders of record December 13. This is the same rate paid at this time last year.

LEAVES \$5,000 FOR PRAYERS

Albany Man Provides in Will for Mass Which Shall Continue While Church Stands.

Albany, N. Y.—While the world lasts and the Roman Catholic church is in existence a prayer will be said daily for the soul of the late Peter Cagger, of Albany.

Mr. Cagger left \$5,000 to Bishop T. M. A. Burke of the diocese of Albany, in consideration for which a prayer is to be said during mass at least once each day forever for the repose of Peter Cagger's soul. The prayer is to be called the Elizabethan, in memory of his mother.

This donation which, in a case of another bequest for masses, was recently declared valid by the court of appeals, became public in the surrogate court.

TO BUILD NEGRO COLLEGE

New School Similar to Tuskegee Will Be Erected Fourteen Miles from Louisville.

Louisville.—Options have been taken on tracts of land near Orell, Jefferson county, 14 miles from Louisville, for the establishing of a negro school similar to those at Tuskegee and Hampton. The new college will take the place of Berea college as a school for negro students. The decision of the supreme court, upholding the State law forbidding the co-education of white and blacks, made the contemplated college necessary.

The trustees of Berea, Andrew Carnegie and Mrs. Russell Sage, it is said, will contribute the necessary funds.

VACCINATE FOR TYPHOID

Army Special Medical Board Introduces New Preventive System.

Washington, D. C.—The special medical board called by the War Department to consider immunizing the regulars against typhoid fever, announced it was convinced of the usefulness and harmlessness of antityphoid vaccination.

The board has adopted a recommendation that the practice of voluntary vaccination be introduced in the army as a practical basis of diminishing typhoid fever.

UNCLE SAM'S FINANCES

Over \$58,000,000 More Disbursed Than Received in Year.

Washington.—The annual report of Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou shows a reversal of conditions for the fiscal year 1908, as compared with 1907. For the latter year the receipts were \$84,236,586 in excess of the disbursements. For 1908 the disbursements were \$58,070,201 in excess of the receipts, due to business depression and increased appropriations. Fortunately, the report says, the available cash balance at the beginning of the fiscal year was \$272,061,445.

Panama Records Open.

Senator Beveridge introduced to the President Harry Hensenberg, an Indianapolis business man who some time ago went to the Isthmus of Panama for the Commercial club of Indianapolis. Mr. Hensenberg told the President that he found all the books and papers relating to the canal at his command, and he said he felt certain that there was nothing to conceal as to the work on the canal nor to the history of its purchase.

Hobson Files Damage Suit.

Boston.—Action for alleged slander, in which \$20,000 damages are claimed, has been brought by Congressman Richmond P. Hobson, of Alabama, against Congressman John A. Keller of Massachusetts. The alleged remarks which caused the action to be brought were made during the campaign immediately following a visit to this city of Captain Hobson, who spoke in the interests of Joseph A. Conry for Congress.

Robb Bank of \$120,000.

San Francisco.—E. S. Rowland, cashier of the Bank of Healdsburg, Sonoma county, confessed he had taken \$120,000 from the bank and spent it in stock speculation. This little bank has paid-up capital of only \$100,000 and reserve of \$73,000. Rowland is a member of the town council and prominent churchman.

Fatal Riot.

Kansas City, Mo.—In the shadow of the city hall a riot in which religious fanatics and policemen were participants and during which 400 shots were fired resulted in the death of Policeman A. O. Dalbow, and Lola Pratt, aged 13, probably fatal injuries to three persons and slight injuries to two other persons.

Famous Sioux Chief Dead.

Pierre, S. D.—Chief Hump, the Sioux leader who was at the head of the band which caused the trouble ending in the battle of Wounded Knee, the last important Indian fight in the northwest, died at his camp at Cherry Creek.

Richmond, Va.—The case of Mrs. Florence Maybrick and her mother, Baroness von Roque, of New York, involving title to land said to be worth about \$2,500,000, was decided in that favor in the Chancery court here December 7.

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