

CASTRO READY TO FIGHT.

The President of Venezuela Prepares for Hostilities Against Germany and Great Britain.

HAS VIRTUALLY DECLARED FOR WAR.

Warships of the Allies Capture Venezuelan Fleet and Sink It—Minister Bowen Acts Promptly—The United States May Be Drawn Into the Difficulty.

London, Dec. 11.—President Castro, of Venezuela, has issued an appeal to arms and has virtually declared war upon Great Britain and Germany.

Fleet Captured and Sunk.—Ten German and four British cutters captured the Venezuelan fleet Tuesday. They went alongside the Ven-

THE YEAR IN PORTO RICO.

Gov. Hunt Reports Healthy Progress and Steady Advancement Throughout Island.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The report of Gov. Hunt, of Porto Rico, dated July 10, 1902, just made public, is the second one presented since the inauguration of civil government.

Sugar is regarded as the principal crop of the island, and it is stated in the report that the crop of 1902 is the largest but one ever produced.

The value of imports from the United States for the last fiscal year aggregated \$10,719,944.

WORK DONE IN CONGRESS.

Second Session of the Fifty-Seventh National Assembly Keeps Busy in Washington.

SUMMARY OF THE DAILY PROCEEDINGS.

Senate Adopts Several Amendments to the Immigration Bill—House Passes the Pension Appropriation Bill and Receives New Measures for Public Buildings.

Washington, Dec. 9.—In the senate yesterday an amendment to the immigration bill was adopted fixing a \$3 head tax on each immigrant coming into the United States.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The senate yesterday devoted most of the day to the immigration bill and adopted a number of amendments, as follows: Providing for the careful inspection of families of aliens who already have been admitted and have filed their preliminary declarations for citizenship.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Almost the entire session of the senate yesterday was devoted to discussion of the omnibus statehood bill, but no action was taken.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The anthracite strike commission bill, fixing the commissioners' salary at \$4,000 per annum, was passed in the senate yesterday.

Washington, Dec. 8.—In the house on Saturday the pension appropriation bill, carrying \$139,000,000, was passed. Resolutions were adopted calling upon the secretary of war for all reports received by the war department upon the operations of the anticantonean law.

Washington, Dec. 9.—In the house today resolutions in memory of former Speaker Reed were read, and the house adjourned as an additional mark of respect.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The London dock bill was killed in the house yesterday. The Indian appropriation bill was reported.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Galusha A. Grow, of Pennsylvania, made a speech in the house yesterday on the relations of labor and capital, which is regarded as his valedictory, as he retires at the close of the present session, having been in the service 50 years.

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THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

For the Week Ending Dec. 12. The London press blames Germans for sinking Venezuelan warships.

The December wheat crop estimate assumes an almost perfect condition. Dr. Adolf Deucher has been chosen president of the Swiss confederacy.

Andrew Carnegie, wife and daughter reached New York from Europe. The weekly trade review reports a brisk business throughout the country.

Six men were reported killed in a Northern Pacific wreck at Fridley, Minn.

Mrs. Elizabeth Strickler, who lived near Decatur, Ind., died at the age of 103 years.

A rumor has reached Aden, Arabia, of the assassination of the Mad Mullah in Somaliland.

Harry Pulliam, of Pittsburg, has been elected to the presidency of the National Baseball league.

An attempt to lay the shore end of the Pacific cable at San Francisco failed because of high tide.

The new Wooster university buildings, costing over \$400,000, at Wooster, O., have been dedicated.

John D. Rockefeller will give possibly \$100,000,000 to establish a national educational institution at Washington.

For the first time in history American capitalists have bought large holdings in the stock of a Canadian bank.

The total value of crops in Iowa the past year is placed at \$215,722,339, or \$60,000,000 less than the value of crops of 1901.

The National Civil Service Reform league convention in Philadelphia elected Daniel C. Gilman, of Baltimore, president.

Bogota is to be informed that the United States will not tolerate any further delay in negotiating isthmian canal treaties.

Former President Cleveland presided at a meeting in Philadelphia in aid of the Berean Manual Training School for Negroes.

A dispatch from Dublin says the Irish people are united for self-government, but do not seek separation from Great Britain.

A committee of the Federation of Women's Clubs found distressing conditions in factories in Chicago where children are employed.

Diplomatists in Washington deplore the attitude of Britain and Germany toward Venezuela, which has no money to pay their claims.

A reciprocity treaty between Cuba and the United States has been signed in Havana by Gen. Bliss and Secretaries Zaldo and Montes.

A new counterfeit \$20 gold certificate, set July 12, 1882, check letter C, Lyons register, Roberts treasurer, portrait of Garfield, has been discovered.

The senate committee on education and labor concluded the taking of testimony on the eight-hour bill and intends to act on the measure at an early date.

An iron and wooden toy trust, with \$10,000,000 capital, will be organized January 1 to eliminate wholesalers. Prices have already advanced five to ten per cent.

The house committee on judiciary shelved three joint resolutions proposing an amendment to the constitution disqualifying polygamists from holding office.

Three thousand Chicago union cigar makers have decided to postpone their increased wage demand one year to help manufacturers fight the tobacco trust.

James J. Hill thinks the era of prosperity has reached its height and that a downward tendency will soon be apparent, with diminished industrial activity and tighter money.

President Baer, of the Reading railroad, in a speech in New York, declared that "hinking politicians" who try to override the federal constitution will be checked by the supreme court.

The coroner's investigation of the Lincoln hotel fire, in Chicago, where 14 persons were killed, disclosed that six rooms had no outside windows, and that rooms leading to the fire escape were filled with guests and the doors locked.

Secretary Wilson Wants Money. Washington, Dec. 11.—Secretary of Agriculture Wilson appeared before the house committee on agriculture Wednesday to explain the urgent necessity of an emergency appropriation to enable his department to stamp out the foot and mouth disease now prevalent in some of the New England states.

Great Dam Dedicated. Cairo, Dec. 11.—The great Assouan dam—boon for Egypt and one of the most wonderful achievements of man—was dedicated Wednesday. The duke of Connaught laid the last stone of the immense reservoir in the presence of a party of Englishmen and Egyptians.

Miss Barton Re-elected. Washington, Dec. 10.—At the annual meeting of the American National Red Cross, attended by members from various parts of the United States, Miss Clara Barton was elected president for life and Mrs. John A. Logan, vice president.

High License for Vermont. Montpelier, Vt., Dec. 10.—The Vermont legislature passed a high license after nine weeks' debate. The governor is expected to sign it. Saloons can be located within 200 feet of church or school.

Two Drowned. Eau Claire, Wis., Dec. 12.—A party driving across Lake Chetek broke through the ice, and William Flynn and Joseph Hucksley, of Chetek, were drowned.

THE MARKETS. New York, Dec. 12.

Table of market prices for various commodities including Live Stock, Flour, Wheat, Corn, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Potatoes, and various oils and beans.

THOMAS NAST IS DEAD.

Well-Known Artist and Cartoonist Succumbs to Yellow Fever at Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Guayaquil, Ecuador, Dec. 8.—Consul General Thomas Nast died Sunday at noon after three days' illness from yellow fever. He was interred at five o'clock Sunday afternoon. The funeral was attended by the governor, the consular corps, the American colony and by many friends. The coffin was wrapped in the stars and stripes. The British consul recited a prayer in the cemetery. The death of Mr.



THOMAS NAST.

Nast is deeply lamented by the natives, who held him in high esteem. Thomas Nast was appointed consul general at Guayaquil this year, leaving New York for his post July 1. He was born in Landau, Bavaria, September 27, 1840, and came with his parents to the United States six years later. As a caricaturist and cartoonist he became famous.

Thomas Nast may be said to have been the original newspaper cartoonist, and it was his talent that cartoons in the daily press owe their earliest development. Among the well known caricatures and types used in political cartoons Mr. Nast created many. The Tweed money bag, the republican party elephant, and the democratic jacks originated with him. The line of work since developed and improved by some was entirely of his own creation.

MINERS TELL STORIES. Coal Commission Hears the Employees' Side of the Strike Controversy at Scranton.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 9.—The coal strike commission yesterday heard the charges of miners in the Hazleton district against G. B. Markle & Co., revealing a war on unionism.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 10.—Tales of eviction from houses owned by G. B. Markle & Co., of the death of a wife as a result of an enforced removal from her home and of how a mother whose husband was killed in the Markle mines struggled with her two boys for years to pay the Markles the back rent and coal bill she owed them were the principal features of yesterday's sessions of the coal strike commission. The testimony was pathetic and surprising to the commissioners.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 11.—An attempt to break the miners' strike by bribery was told on the witness stand yesterday by John Early, a check weighman, employed at the Gypsy Grove colliery of the Erie company. The Delaware & Hudson company presented figures showing the average earnings of the miner in 1901 to have been \$623.00 and his laborer \$449.47. When Mr. Mitchell on the stand he said that \$600 should be the minimum of American living wages.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 12.—The miners called several witnesses yesterday who told of conditions at the collieries of the A. Pardee company. One of the witnesses was a boy who lost a leg in the mines, received nothing for its loss, but instead when he returned to work the company took off his wages his father's debt.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 13.—The greater part of yesterday's session of the anthracite coal strike commission was taken up in presenting cumulative testimony on matters that have already been heard by the commission.

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THE SOUTH AMERICAN MUDDLE.



UNCLE SAM—All right, collect your money, but don't forget the Monroe Doctrine.

zuelan vessels and ordered them to surrender, and, without a shot being fired, the British and German forces seized the fleet in the name of the German emperor and the king of England. Two of the vessels which were undergoing repairs were broken up. The German cruiser Panther steamed into the harbor during these proceedings with her decks cleared for action. The Venezuelan steamers were taken outside the harbor, and at two o'clock this morning the General Crespo, Tutomo and Margarita were sunk.

Sufficient Ground for War. Washington, Dec. 11.—It was said at the British and German embassies Wednesday that the action of President Castro in ordering the arrest of all subjects of the British and German governments in Caracas was without precedent in the history of civilized countries supposedly at peace with each other and that such action would be regarded as sufficient ground for a declaration of war. Members of the diplomatic corps here indeed regard it as being such a declaration in itself.

Acted Promptly. Minister Bowen's prompt action in demanding of President Castro the release of the German and British subjects arrested in Caracas Tuesday is in accordance with the plan agreed on between the German and British ambassadors and Secretary Hay when the former called at the state department fully three weeks ago, and, in anticipation of the present ugly situation in Venezuela requested that the United States minister at Caracas be permitted to protect the lives and property of all British and German citizens in Venezuela.

Will Fight. Caracas, Dec. 12.—President Castro has called 250,000 men into the field to resist the demands of Great Britain and Germany. The Venezuelan authorities at Porto Cabello are fortifying that town. They have seized and imprisoned the British and German consuls there as well as other Britons and Germans and have taken possession of their property. The Venezuelan authorities also seized a British steamer which was discharging a cargo of coal at Puerto Cabello.

Seeks Arbitration. Caracas, Dec. 13.—The fleet of Great Britain and Germany entered the harbor of La Guayra yesterday and formed a line of battle. Preparations for defense on shore indicate that hostilities are near. President Castro, through United States Minister Bowen, made a move for arbitration.

Died on the Gallows. Thomasville, Ga., Dec. 13.—Goldey Tyus, convicted of murdering Jeff Godwin on October 23, was hanged here Friday. He was perfectly cool and prayed with the minister before the execution.

Was 104 Years Old. Clinton, Ia., Dec. 13.—Mrs. Catherine Collins, 104 years old, died here Friday.

amounted to \$8,297,420, and to foreign countries \$4,592,505.

In education, in 1897 the Spaniards had 538 schools, whereas in February, 1902, the United States had 939.

BANK IS ROBBED. Two Cowboys Hold Up Institution at Hillsboro, N. M., and Escape with \$40,000.

Albuquerque, N. M., Dec. 13.—At Hillsboro, Sierra county, two cowboys on Friday held up the officers of the Sierra County bank at the point of revolvers and carried away \$40,000 in gold and currency. The robbers were armed with Winchester and revolvers. They proceeded to the bank and demanded the money in the vault, backing their demands by presenting their guns. One of the robbers kept the bankers covered while the other dumped the booty into a sack. They immediately mounted their horses and, with a few parting shots, rode for the mountains.

FAVOR RECIPROCITY. Treaties with Other Nations Urged at the National Convention of the Reciprocity League.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 11.—Reciprocal treaties with other nations that will result in putting more profit into the hands of American workmen, in augmenting home industries and in generally increasing the commercial strength of the United States, were advocated by Gov. Cummins, of Iowa, in a speech before the National Reciprocity league. John Charlton, for over a score of years a member of the Canadian parliament, delivered a forceful oration in support of reciprocity between Canada and the United States.

Enemy the Victor. Mayaguez, Porto Rico, Dec. 10.—The first great victory of the war of the Caribbean sea was won by the white squadron, known as the "enemy," commanded by Admiral Sumner, and consisting of the Iowa, Illinois, Albany and Chicago, which captured Mayaguez this morning and immediately mined the harbor.

Rock Island Train Wrecked. Fort Worth, Tex., Dec. 13.—A Rock Island north-bound passenger train ran into a broken rail near Sarrill, I. T., early Friday morning and was badly wrecked. Engineer George Clark and Fireman George Wells, of Fort Worth, were killed. None of the passengers was seriously hurt.

Hanged. Harlan, Ky., Dec. 13.—Frank Lewis was hanged Friday in the presence of 5,000 people for the murder of Henry Dixon. The men had quarreled over the separation of Lewis and his wife, the latter being Dixon's daughter.

Appointed to Host's Place. Washington, Dec. 11.—George Sawyer, United States consul at Antigua, British West Indies, has been appointed to succeed the late Thomas Nast as consul general at Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Miss Emma Doney, of Powder Valley, Pa., recently found a remarkable clover stalk, having 44 stems, 27 of them having four leaves each, and 17 being five-leaved ones. During the summer she gathered 101 four-leaved clover stalks, 19 with five leaves, and one with the exceptional number of six leaves.

In Liverpool is a room—that of a dentist whose grandfather occupied the same premises—that contains many mirrors and pictures, the frames of which are made entirely of sharks' teeth. Near Birmingham a manufacturer has a study that is lined even to the roof, with nothing but chains of various thicknesses and padlocks of different sizes.

Basketry remains a most popular form of fancy work for young women. It is an art easy to acquire and fascinating in its development, for so soon as a few lessons have been taken the worker sees stimulating possibilities in giving rein to her own fancy in design. Many Christmas presents will take this form, as the range of service for the reed bowls and boxes is wide and useful.

The counter displaying Canton China is always attractive to wise shoppers, who know that the pieces of china, crudely pictured with the quaint scenes of Chinese life, make appreciated gifts. A charming cracker jar in this ware that stands on three small feet can be purchased as low as 75 cents, while odd plates, platters, teacups and saucers can be had at correspondingly low prices.

The government proposes to tax the "drink-money" received by street car conductors from passengers who are humane enough to try and keep them from starving. The conductors' protest says that the gratuities are absolutely necessary to keep them alive, as their salary is only \$21.25 per month. The Berlin street cars are among the greatest money-makers in Germany.

Experiments now in progress at Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory indicate that not only is it possible to prepare an artificial sea water in which certain marine Algae can develop, but it appears that many very sensitive marine animals can also be kept for longer or shorter periods of time, and often carry out considerable part of their development in artificial mixtures.

From all parts of Maine come reports to the effect that the law passed by the legislature of 1901, intended to protect the wild birds of the state other than game birds from slaughter, has resulted in saving a great many of the most desirable birds of Maine. It has been noticed that little birds have increased rapidly during the past two seasons, and the law is undoubtedly responsible for it.

Experiments in grafting vegetables made by M. L. Daniel, of the faculty of sciences of Rennes, France, show that it is possible to graft together almost any two varieties of the same species or two of widely different families. The graft is often profoundly modified, it being possible to obtain entirely new types by this process. Among his successful grafts were tomato and egg plant.

A London newspaper man, said to be capable, was suddenly called upon to write an obituary of Bret Hartle. With a mind full of something else—we are not told what—he wrote a column and a half and sent it to the printer. When it came back in proof he was horrified to find that he had written a lengthy article about Mark Twain. It was too late to rewrite the obituary and he was obliged to change the name and the title of the books and let the article go in.

It is announced that William H. Day, of New York city, will attempt to organize at Glen Eirie, a village on the Hudson river, an art-producing community similar in character to that founded in England under the auspices of William Morris. Mr. Day is an architect and painter, who, in his youth, studied under F. E. Church and Thomas Cole. His purpose is to establish studios and factories to be rented at nominal cost to artists and artistic workers.

A terrible case of Cavalleria Rusticana occurred in the nearby village of Barra, Italy, the combatants being two well-to-do young men, the prize, Lucia Gradotti. Stilettes were the arms chosen and both men perished, bleeding from numerous wounds. As one of the duellers received his death stroke, he seized the enemy around the neck, and, pulling him down, drove his knife into his stomach. The bodies became rigid in the embrace of death, could not be separated, and had to be buried in one casket.

Switzerland has just completed a new capitol building. It is a magnificent structure on the banks of the Aar, surrounded by some of the most beautiful views of this beautiful country. The building cost more than a million dollars. It covers several acres, rising from a massive stone platform or esplanade, looking out over the river and the mountains. The structure is pure Swiss in every respect. Swiss architects planned it, and Swiss workmen built it. Every bit of material in it came from Switzerland.