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BRITISH-GERMAN FLEET SEIZES CASTRO'S SHIPS

LONDON, Dec. 10.—A dispatch from Caracas, Venezuela, dated December 9th, says: "The combined British and German fleet to-day (Tuesday) seized the Venezuelan fleet, composed of four warships, in the harbor of La Guaira. It is reported also that an ultimatum will be delivered to-morrow (Wednesday) asking for an answer and a compliance with the demand of the British and German Ministers."

Venezuelan President Answers Ultimatum by Arresting Subjects of King and Kaiser in Caracas.

Preparing to Offer Further Defiance to Powers by Expelling All British and German Residents.

CARACAS, Dec. 9.—President Castro is ready for war with both Great Britain and Germany. As a defiance to those powers and an answer to their demands, he to-day caused the arrest of all of the British and German subjects in Caracas. It is the belief that Castro is preparing to expel all Germans and Britons from the country. The representatives of those countries have gone aboard warships of their respective nations. In the event of the crisis which now seems inevitable, the American legation will offer refuge to British and German residents. Minister Bowen already has been asked to take charge of the affairs of the British Minister and the German Charge during their absence from the Venezuelan capital. In view of the attitude of Castro and the events of to-day, the London and Berlin Governments must either carry out their threats to bring Venezuela to terms or retire from the field.

CASTRO DECLARES CLAIMS HAVE NOT BEEN PRESENTED

President Castro received a press correspondent at Miraflores Palace to-day. In reply to questions the President of Venezuela said:

"The Venezuelan Government has not received any ultimatum, properly speaking, but rather simultaneous requests from Great Britain and Germany. The claims Great Britain asks this Government to settle are small, and up to the present time we have not been aware of them. They never having been presented, Venezuela consequently never has refused to settle them. Great Britain's action, therefore, is without justification.

"Venezuela cannot decide on foreign claims before the revolution has been entirely crushed. At present the only aim of the Government is the re-establishment of public order, and other questions must necessarily be subservient to this object. Nevertheless, to prove Venezuela's desire to settle all pending claims in a conformable manner, the Government issued a decree during the last session of Congress, dated November 28, creating a committee to which all pending claims should be referred. No claims have been presented to this committee and no claims have been rejected. There has been no denial of justice; why, then, should foreign chancelleries intervene, thereby ignoring our laws and endeavoring to violate our national sovereignty? We cannot understand this action."

SAYS THAT VENEZUELA WILL ENFORCE HER RIGHTS

"What do you intend to do in view of the present attitude of the powers?" was asked. "Enforce our rights," replied President Castro, "and explain to the world that Venezuela has laws, and prove that we have never denied our engagements."

The President was asked what reply the Venezuelan Government would make to the requests handed it by Germany and Great Britain.

He replied, after reflecting: "The Venezuelan Government is astonished that, after the notes which were transmitted to it by the diplomatic representatives of Germany and Great Britain, these envoys should leave Caracas without awaiting the reply of the Venezuelan Government."

Questioned as to what course he intended to pursue should the powers declare a blockade, the President excused himself from answering.

No ultimatum has been delivered to the Venezuelan Government up to 2 o'clock this afternoon. Should Venezuela refuse or fail to reply to the notes of Great Britain and Germany, it is believed an ultimatum will then be delivered. This ultimatum would be transmitted by Admiral Glass, commanding the combined British and German fleets, or by the captain of the British cruiser Retribution.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The arrests of the German subjects in Caracas to-day are believed to be in the nature of a retaliation on the part of President Castro for the ultimatum which has been sent to Venezuela for a settlement of the long standing claims of Germany and England against her. Incidentally such action by Venezuela will, it is believed, involve this Government, as the German and British representatives in Venezuela before leaving Caracas requested United States Minister Bowen to take charge of the interests of their countries in Venezuela. It was said at the State Department to-day that this request would be granted, and the probability is that Minister Bowen already has taken steps toward that end.

Considerable surprise is expressed here over the arrests, as the result will be to add to the serious complications already existing. Owing to the late hour at which the Caracas bulletin was received it was impossible to ascertain whether any information had been received by the State Department from Mr. Bowen regarding the arrests. Senator Pulido, the Venezuelan Charge d'Affaires, also was inaccessible.

MAY ACT AS MEDIATOR.
Minister Bowen May Proffer Services to Belligerents.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Minister Bowen at Caracas has cabled the State Department confirming the news that the British Minister and the German Charge d'Affaires withdrew from Caracas yesterday, after presenting an ultimatum.

THOSE UNDER ARREST.
Germans Far Outnumber British Subjects in Caracas.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—There are comparatively few white British subjects in Caracas—probably less than fifty. The Caracas-La Guaira Railroad is a British concern and its general manager and other high officials are Englishmen. There are some English engineers on the line. Other Englishmen in Caracas are em-

ployed in commercial and industrial pursuits and Englishmen are found among the clerical forces of commercial houses. The Germans in Caracas are much more numerous. They are found at the head of important commercial houses and banking institutions. The German custom of bringing out clerks from the Fatherland accounts for the presence of many young Germans in the Venezuelan capital. The railroad from Caracas to Valencia is a German concern. It is probably officered by Germans and Germans are employed by the railroad company in many capacities. There are also a number of German merchants and German clerks at La Guaira and German subjects are found in almost every important town of the republic engaged in commercial pursuits. The census of 1894 places the number of Germans in Venezuela at 962.

DEFIANT AND INDIFFERENT. Castro Is Prepared to Expel German and British Subjects.

KINGSTON, St. Vincent, Dec. 9.—The British cruiser Indefatigable, which has arrived here from Venezuela, brings reports that President Castro of that country is defiant and indifferent to the threatened blockade. It is asserted that President Castro is prepared even to expel the German and British residents of La Guaira and to close that port.

The Indefatigable left the British cruiser Retribution and the German cruisers Vinga and Gazelle at La Guaira. There are at present five British men-of-war at Port of Spain, Trinidad, ready to leave there on short notice.

LUDINGTON IS SUPPLIED WITH DATA

Perkins Presents the Transport Question.

Gives Figures Supporting San Francisco's Claims.

California Senator Confident Present System Will Be Continued.

SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS CASE TO PRESIDENT

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9, 1902.—Hon. George C. Perkins, United States Senator, Washington, D. C.; kindly present this to the President: We respectfully request that the present limited transport service be retained here for the following reasons: Comfort, health and safety of the soldiers, convenience to Government in maintaining its present deposits of supplies and routes of transportation and as a matter of economy to prevent heavy loss through inability to dispose of present fleet and consequent rapid deterioration.

CALL BUREAU, 1406 G STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Senator Perkins had an interview with Quartermaster General Ludington to-day regarding the question of the transportation of troops and supplies to the Philippines, presenting figures prepared by San Francisco commercial organizations tending to show that the operation of the Government transport service was more economical and advantageous for the War Department than would be the transfer of the business to a private concern at Seattle, which has submitted a bid. Senator Perkins and General Ludington went over the subject thoroughly, but beyond the presentation of this phase of the question nothing new was developed.

COMMERCIALLY BODIES ACT. Place Before President Fact Pertaining to Transport Service.

Senator Perkins continues hopeful that when the entire subject is placed before Secretary Root he will see the wisdom of continuing the present transport system, at least for some time to come.

OFFICER ALEXANDER ARRESTED ON CHARGE OF TAKING A BRIBE

Patrolman Snowball Resigns on Account of Present Police Scandals, While Lulu Wilson, Star Witness, Is Spirited Away



THE arrest of Policeman Ernest Alexander for accepting a bribe, the disappearance of Lulu Wilson, the star witness against him, and the resignation of Patrolman Snowball, who, with five other policemen, was removed from the tenderloin district for certain irregularities, were the important developments in the police scandal yesterday. Alexander was arrested at his home, as it was believed he intended to leave the city, and was locked up in the City Prison. The Wilson woman, evidently becoming alarmed, left her lodgings and cannot be found. Captain Martin's men are of the opinion that she is still in the city, being cared for by Alexander's friends.



ELECTRICIAN EMPLOYED BY THE CITY WHO WAS INFORMED BY LULU WILSON THAT POLICEMAN ALEXANDER COMPELLED HER TO BUY IMMUNITY FROM ARREST.

Despite the strenuous efforts made by the heads of the Police Department to keep the story of how Alexander was trapped a secret, it leaked out last night. R. P. Luce, a young electrician who is employed by the city, was the first person to inform Chief Wittman of the grafting propensities of Alexander. It happened this way: About three weeks ago Luce was in the Olympia at Eddy and Mason streets when a well dressed young woman, who afterward proved to be Lulu Wilson, addressed him and asked him to buy a bottle of beer. After a brief conversation the woman told Luce that she was afraid to go home. When asked for an explanation she replied that she had been threatened with arrest by a policeman whom she knew as "Jimmy the cricket."

LUCE ACTS AS ESCORT.
Learning that the officer to whom the woman referred was "Jim" Cullinane,

He explained that he could give her better "protection" if she changed her lodgings. The woman took his advice and changed her abode on the following day. Perhaps Alexander would have continued extorting money from the woman had not Luce, who was deeply impressed with her story, informed a trusted friend of what he had been told. The friend, about a week ago, after satisfying himself that the woman was telling the

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