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All Red Varieties.

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**202 Main Street**  
PHONE 224

**WAR EXISTS.**

**TIRING OF "FICTION"**

Unless War Is Declared American  
Ships Must Not Be Excluded.

THEY MUST EXCLUDE ALL

Europe Warned That Further Attacks  
Will Delay Peace

SPAIN IS PEACEFULLY INCLINED

Belgium Is Neutral, Because She Has  
No Navy.

DEWEY IS WAITING FOR ORDERS

His Great Fleet Will Be Distributed "So  
That the Men Can Enjoy Christ-  
mas Week."

Washington, December 17.—The officials here have come to the conclusion that the projected "peaceful blockade" of Venezuelan ports can not be recognized as against United States shipping at least. If the allies seek to exclude Venezuelan shipping from entry to Venezuelan ports that might be permitted, but they can not exclude United States in a general business unless a genuine state of war is recognized. Regardless of the merits of the present controversy the state department feels that the vast interests of American trade demand that these rules be adopted and adhered to. The American trade might be crippled at the will of any naval power that sought to resort to the anomalous "peaceful blockade." If Great Britain and Germany wish to exclude American merchantmen from Venezuelan ports, THEY MUST EXCLUDE ALL SHIPPING, INCLUDING THE TOWNSHIP OWNED—a condition which can only be met by recognizing the existence of a state of war and the dismissal of the present fiction. Señor Ojeda, the Spanish minister, and Baron Moncheur, the Belgian minister, have not received official advice relative to the joint note their governments have addressed to President Castro, asking that, in the event of a settlement of the status of the allied powers, Spain and Belgium be given similar treatment. The Spanish minister desires that there be the slightest probability of further action on the part of Spain unless events in Caracas make it necessary for the Spanish representative to withdraw. Minister Ojeda does not anticipate this in view of the strong ties of friendship between his government and South America. Baron Moncheur regards his country as thus far neutral. Belgium having no navy it will not be possible for that country to join in the naval demonstration of the allied fleet.

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Lumber, Timbers, Tie, Shingles,  
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LOVEJOY & MALEVINSKY.**

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and State Courts.**  
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We have just received a large shipment of Elgin Creamery Butter, purchased before the recent advance. Write us for prices.

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FIRE BRICK.**

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J. Lane, Jno. W. Parker

**Brown, Lane, Garwood  
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**20 BEN WILBUSH**  
BACK DRUGS  
FROM PAH. 100.

**VENEZUELA MAY YIELD**

Citizens of Caracas Have Sent a  
Note to President Castro.

Caracas, December 17.—Indications here are that Venezuela will yield to the allies' demands. The leading merchants and agriculturists of Caracas addressed a joint note to President Castro at 1 o'clock this afternoon, asking him to give full powers to Minister Bowen to effect a termination of the present difficulty. The note reflects thoroughly the consensus of current opinion among the business element of the city. The men who signed the note will meet again tonight to discuss ways and means for obtaining money with which Venezuela can meet her obligations, as well as the guarantees which it will be possible to offer to her creditors. The note is as follows:  
"To the President of the United States of Venezuela.  
"Caracas, December 17, 1902.—Sir: The undersigned, having met with the purpose of offering their aid to the government of Venezuela in the present conflicting situation, which has been created by the aggressive attitude of Germany and Great Britain, and on your request to give our opinions in writing, we address you in the following terms:  
"In view of the acts of violence already committed and of the absolute impotence of Venezuela to meet force with force in response to the allied action of Germany and Great Britain; in view of the fact that Venezuela has exhausted all the means required by civilization and diplomacy to put an end to the present situation, the government and the people of Venezuela, having complied honorably and worthily to the demands of National honor, we consider, with all due respect, that the moment to yield to force has arrived.  
"We, therefore, respectfully recommend that full powers be given to the minister of the United States of North America, authorizing him to carry out cooperative measures to terminate the present conflict in the manner least prejudicial to the interests of Venezuela.  
"We subscribe ourselves, your obedient servants,  
"J. F. Linares,  
"H. L. Boulton,  
"Carlos Santana,  
"Nicomedeas Zuloaga,  
"Carlos Zuloaga,  
"F. D. Nales,  
"Perec Montabens,  
"M. Caspiana,  
"Juan A. A. Travlosa."

In addition to the names given the note is signed by about 200 other prominent citizens of Caracas.  
(Special to The Post.)  
Caracas, December 17.—Venezuela has consented to accept the conditions of the ultimatums of Great Britain and Germany and has named Minister Bowen as her arbitrator. Ponte.  
NOTE.—Senor Manuel Marie Ponte, assistant secretary of foreign affairs, has been acting as the New York World's special correspondent in Caracas during the present emergency.)

**A Bitter Blow to Venezuela.**

Caracas, December 17.—It has been decided that the Venezuela difficulty shall be arbitrated, and the discussion of terms of settlement is now going on, United States Minister Bowen undoubtedly will be one of the arbitrators.  
The government fears that coercive measures will follow the establishment of the blockade.  
The awakening of the Venezuela people to the present situation of their country is accompanied by feelings of bitterness and sorrow. Their fleet has been destroyed and their pride has been deeply wounded, but they are resigned to accept the affront which they consider has been offered them by the allies.  
During the last ten days President Castro has acted with extraordinary energy. He has transferred the entire country into a vast camp, having raised more than 40,000 men, whom he has well armed, equipped and transported from every direction to La Guayra and Puerto Cabello, in the expectation that the allies would attempt to land at one or both of these ports.  
But there has been a change of footing, and the prominent men of Venezuela who were at one time ready to aid the people in defense of their country, now consider that justification to take men of the republic away from their families and their work does not exist. They have resolved to discover a means to bring about arbitration, at least, with the allies. The means sought is thought to be through the United States minister.  
A member of the ministry said to the Associated Press correspondent:  
"The United States have not prevented the allies from assaulting us, but it has obliged them to accept our terms."

**Washington Opinion.**

Washington, December 17.—Officials here are not surprised at the feeling which has manifested itself in Caracas of a desire to seek a termination of the unfortunate situation that now confronts Venezuela. Our government is anxious that some settlement may be found very soon, as it is realized that the present conditions can not last long without a climax being reached quickly. With this end in view, the state department already has given permission to Minister Bowen to be the bearer of any message that Venezuela may wish to transmit to the allies on the subject of the present differences, such requests, however, to come from the Venezuelan government. He already has been instrumental in our capacity, viz. that of transmitting a desire by President Castro to settle the existing controversy by arbitration. Whether the minister will be permitted to perform the larger function of exercising full powers towards effecting a termination of the difficulty is not stated, indeed, it would be questionable whether such an arbitrator as the American minister would be acceptable to the allies, in view of the natural prejudices which he might have in favor of the American countries.  
So far as could be ascertained here tonight, no reply has come to the state department in answer to requests of President Castro that the pending claims be submitted to arbitration.

**ITALIANS ARE PLEASED.**

Welcome a Chance to Settle an Ancient  
Clerical Feud.  
Rome, December 17.—The announcement of the presentation yesterday afternoon of Italy's ultimatum to Venezuela was received here with general satisfaction. Apart from the desire to recover the claims of Italians, there has been long standing ill-feeling between the two countries consequent upon the persistent hostility shown by the ruling clerical element in Venezuela against Italy, because of the struggle between the Vatican and the quinzina.  
Premier Zanardelli and Foreign Minister Prinetti are discussing the measures to be adopted should the ultimatum not have the desired effect.  
CARACAS IS IMPREGNABLE.  
An Eminent Frenchman Tells of Castro's Resources.  
Paris, December 17.—M. Thiers, formerly minister of France to Venezuela, who negotiated the convention of 1885, and who lived many years in Venezuela, has been interviewed concerning the situation there. He said:  
"Venezuela can put 60,000 men in the field, and even foreigners there are liable for military service. The regular Venezuelan army numbers only 10,000 men. A

**WAR WAS DECLARED**

Premier Balfour Says That is the Meaning of the Blockade.

THE OBJECT IS REVENGE

For Assaults on Subjects and the Seizure of Vessels.

NOT TRYING TO RECOVER DEBTS.

Fleets Have Same Object but Will Act Separately.

AMERICAN SHIPS ARE NOT EXCEPTED

"Neutrals Are Not Consulted When You Are in a State of War With a Third Party."

London, December 17.—In the course of a long statement in the house of commons today Premier Balfour said there was NO SUCH THING AS A "PEACEFUL BLOCKADE" A STATE OF WAR ACTUALLY EXISTED WITH VENEZUELA, and an indication of the blockade would shortly be given to the powers.  
Mr. Balfour added that the blockade would be carried out with as little inconvenience to neutrals as possible. Nothing definite had occurred with reference to the arbitration proposals since his previous statement on the subject.  
The premier said the operations were reluctantly undertaken, NOT TO RECOVER DEBTS, BUT after a long and patient delay TO RECOVER COMPENSATION FOR ASSAULTS ON BRITISH SUBJECTS AND THE SEIZURE OF BRITISH VESSELS.  
Mr. Balfour concluded his statement by saying he could make no announcement as to whether the offer of arbitration from Venezuela would be accepted by Great Britain.  
The statement was in reply to the desire of the Liberal leader, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, for information. After reiterating Lord Lansdowne's brief statement in the house of commons yesterday, the premier continued: "The blockade will be carried out by Great Britain and Germany along different portions of the coast and, though the two fleets will have the same object, they will NOT ACT AS ONE FORCE. We never had any intention of landing troops in Venezuela or of occupying territory, even temporarily. We do not think it desirable on either military or other grounds. All the conditions governing such a blockade have been carefully considered and will be published in due time for the information of the neutrals. The government is most anxious that these operations, the necessity for which we deeply regret, should be as little inconvenient to neutrals as they can possibly be made. No difference will be made between the vessels of the various neutral powers. It is quite likely the United States will think there can not be such a thing as a "peaceful blockade." Evidently blockade involves a state of war."  
He believed the Germans also had claims besides the financial ones.  
Mr. Healy, Irish nationalist, asked if the United States assented to a blockade which would exclude United States vessels.  
Mr. Balfour replied: "Neutrals are not consulted when you are in a state of war with a third party."  
"Is war declared?" asked Mr. Healy.  
The premier replied: "Does the honorable member suppose that without a state of war you can take vessels and have a blockade?"  
Replying to further questions, Mr. Balfour said he had nothing to add regarding arbitration beyond what was contained in his previous statement on the subject. Papers were being prepared and would be presented to the house as soon as possible. He assumed they would include the communications that had passed on the blockade between the United States and Great Britain.

**I. & G. N.**  
HOLIDAY RATES TO INTERSTATE POINTS.  
December 17, 21, 22, 23 and 26.  
**EXTRA LOW.**  
See GEO. D. HUNTER,  
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