

Onondaga Independent

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SANTO DOMINGO

In view of the somewhat disturbed condition of Santo Domingo as a result of the assassination of President Heurieux, there has been not a little speculation and conjecture as to the future welfare of the republic. The suggestion made in some quarters to annex the island to the United States recalls an incident in history of which comparatively little has been written. It relates to a movement to make Santo Domingo a part of the United States, which came very near being consummated. In 1807 Senor Buena-ventura Baez, then president of the Dominican republic, sent a communication to General Grant, then president of the United States, making a proposition for the annexation of the island to this country under reasonable conditions. President Grant was delighted with the proposition and at once made such arrangements as were within the province of the chief executive to accept the proffered sovereignty. The legislative branch of the Dominican government heartily approved the action of President Baez, but when it came to securing the sanction of the United States senate there was a hitch. After a hard battle the annexation scheme was defeated on a close vote. Grant was deeply disappointed and when urged later to make another effort to secure senatorial approval of the measure said: "I have done my duty. I am entirely willing to let the judgment of posterity determine between the senate and me as to the wisdom of adding such a splendid possession to our national domain and of securing such a superb strategic position for our protection at home and naval prestige in the islands of the West Indies."

PROFIT SHARING

The Columbus (O.) Traction company has just completed the first quarter's operations under a profit sharing arrangement with its employees, and the results appear to be very satisfactory. The usual quarterly dividend was paid to the shareholders of the company; they receiving 1 per cent on the par value of their stock, while the employees or those who had served a year or more get 1 per cent on their yearly earnings. As these earnings average \$650 the average dividend paid to labor was \$6.50. This is the equivalent of an average increase in the wages of 7 cents a day—not a large increase, it is true, but not infrequently the refusal of employers to grant an increase, not much, if any, larger than that has resulted in disagreeable complications, sometimes in strikes. The street railway company in Columbus is not a large or rich concern as compared to many traction corporations throughout the country; but, like most street car lines, it pays, and its employees may reasonably expect a continuance of their quarterly dividends. If other traction companies which are richer than this Columbus concern were to imitate its example, they would have less trouble with their men. But, with hardly an exception, street railroad companies are opposed to sharing their profits, no matter how large they may be, with either their employees or the municipality or with their patrons by giving them lower rates of fare.

CABLE NEEDED

Five years ago the British colonial conference, held in Ottawa, launched the project for the construction of an all British Pacific cable, and two years later, at a similar conference held at Sydney, the proposition was enthusiastically indorsed. A Pacific cable committee, consisting of representatives from the mother country, Canada and Australia, was appointed to report on the geographical, scientific and financial aspects of the scheme, and the recent publication of the committee's report has once more brought the matter into prominence. While it is wholly a British enterprise, it is of moment to this country, in view of our interests in the Pacific. The proposed cable, the construction of which is strongly urged by the committee, would cost, it is estimated, \$7,500,000, and the suggested route is from Vancouver by the way of Fanning Island or Palmyra Island and Fiji to Norfolk Island, thence by means of branches to New Zealand and Australia. The committee believe that it would be a paying, commercial venture almost from the start, to say nothing of its necessity in case of a general war and its desirability as an effective method of linking together the widely separated possessions of the British empire. The knowledge of the activity of England and her colonies in this direction may wisely serve as an incentive in stirring up our own people to the necessity of constructing a cable from San Francisco, via Hawaii and the Ladrone, to the Philippines. If these islands are to remain in our possession.

FORMING AN ALLIANCE

Recent advices from Buenos Ayres, via London, contained the more or less startling announcement that all the republics of South America, alarmed by the highhandedness of the United States, were forming an alliance to resist the aggressions of this country. The promptness with which the diplomatic representatives of these republics at Washington disavowed the slightest hostile feeling toward the United States was scarcely needed to show the absurdity of the canard, though such assurance was gratifying to the state department. The South American states during the last year or two have been gradually getting closer together in their commercial relations and ridding themselves of many of the jealousies which have stood in the way of their international trade and comity. They may be assured that any union among themselves which will promote their prosperity and advance in civilization will be heartily welcomed by their older and greater sister republic of North America, who is their natural and willing protector against possible encroachments from the old world. The pacific attitude of the United States toward the republics of Central and South America is amply demonstrated by our good offices in the Venezuela controversy.

PRESIDENT ANNOYED

According to the news columns of various papers President McKinley has been greatly annoyed while on his outing at La e Châmpain by kodak fiends, who persisted in getting snap shots of him on every possible occasion. Some have suggested that the offenders should be punished for disorderly conduct, leze majesty or some other dreadful thing. Why should the president be annoyed? It is more than probable that he has never given the matter a moment's thought. With the tens of thousand pictures of the chief executive, authorized and unauthorized, copyrighted or otherwise, ranging all the way from the atrocities on campaign banners to the oil paintings by distinguished artists, why should he care if a few more hundred likenesses are made of him. It doesn't do the president any harm and is a source of great gratification to the amateur photographers to take a picture which they can point out to their friends as that of the president of the United States, though in 99 cases out of 100 it would be necessary to have an affidavit accompany the production for purposes of identification.

It is announced that John L. Sullivan has opened a saloon in New York. According to all accounts John L. was one of the first customers he had and will probably be one of the best.

General Mercier says that either he or Captain Dreyfus must be guilty. This is quite probable and it is also probable that the guilty one is not Dreyfus.

RED CROSS REPORT

The report of the American National Red Cross Relief committee for 1898, recently made public, is a valuable addition to the historical records of our war with Spain. The report comprises about 300 pages and covers the period from the hasty reorganization in May, 1898, to the disbanding of the committee in March, 1899. The statement of the treasurer shows that the amount of cash contributions was \$320,344, and that the expenditures were \$301,430, leaving a balance of \$18,914. The total amount of cash received from the auxiliary committees was \$125,967, of which \$114,723 was expended, leaving a balance of \$11,243. A large amount of supplies, particularly in the line of delicacies, were also contributed. There was expended for camp supplies \$369,595, Camp Thomas receiving the largest appropriation and Camp Cuba next. No report is given from the "field agent" in the Philippines, as the work there is not yet completed. While the report deals almost entirely with routine facts and figures, it is grandly expressive of the devotion and patriotism of American women.

There are commendable points in a resolution adopted by the Jobbing confectioners of Chicago urging the government to use aluminum instead of copper in making 1 cent pieces. The copper coin is the dirtiest piece of metal money we use. It quickly becomes tarnished, and poisonous compounds form upon its surface. Disease germs readily find lodgment on it and pass where they will do the most harm. Aluminum, on the other hand, is a bright, practically untarnishable metal, easily takes alloy, may be made very hard and is one of the lightest metals known. The cost of cents made from aluminum would not be much, if any, greater than the copper coins at present in use, and the weight of this lowest of the fractional currency would be greatly reduced. The suggestion is worth considering.

An ingenious Pennsylvanian has devised a novel and effective method of killing snakes. He discovered, by accident or otherwise, that snakes like the sweet and soothing taste of nitroglycerin and will eat as much of it as is put in their way. This pointed out the means for preparing the reptiles for destruction. The next thing was to explode them after they had been loaded. This problem was solved without difficulty. He made up innocent looking little pills of red pepper, and these, when swallowed by the snakes, caused such an emotion in their interior that they beat the ground with such force that the dynamite was exploded, blowing the reptiles into thousands of pieces.

It might be suggested that Sir Wilfrid Laurier refused to attend the corner stone ceremonies in Chicago, not because he thought he would be insulted there, but because he thought he would not be. The Canadian premier has always been credited with a shrewd appreciation of the value at home of a grievance against the United States, and it would hardly be of any political profit to him just now to get a cordial welcome and courteous treatment on this side of the line, such as the Chicagoans would unquestionably give him. There would be no political thunder in it which he could hurl against the United States.

Porto Ricans have protested against the execution of an American murderer on the ground that capital punishment is at variance with their customs and traditions. This is rather surprising, as Spanish rule, from which they so recently emerged, without a good deal of killing of one sort or another is hardly conceivable, and it is difficult to avoid the suspicion that this plea is made less with the view of stating exact facts than for the purpose of creating a favorable impression as to the state of civilization to which Porto Rico has already attained.

Cable dispatches from London recently contained rumors of the engagement of Lady Randolph Churchill to Lieutenant Cornwallis West, a young scion of British nobility, about a score of years her junior, and also that she was engaged to William Waldorf Astor. Can it be that Lady Randolph's press agent is working the engagement racket as an advertising scheme for her new magazine?

As an exponent of plain and variegated bucking the automobile is making for itself a record equal to that of the broncho.

Entirely New



Cretons
Percales
Wide Calico
Shirt Waists

All kinds of Thin White Goods
First Class Summer Corsets

See our new sample PORTRAITS FREE with \$10 cash purchases

Everingham & Carr Fayetteville

TIME is MONEY

Save Time and Money by Installing a Telephone

The Fayetteville Telephone Company will install a long distance telephone in your house, office or store, giving you the best of service at moderate cost

Order Your Supplies by Wire

The local exchange will embrace the depot, telegraph office, stores, hotels, residences and all the important public places. The instruments will be of the latest manufacture and the service equal to any telephone system in operation. Every station will be on a metallic circuit; there will be no party lines, each subscriber having direct connection with the central station, thus insuring

Strict Privacy

Throughout the Whole Exchange

Any information regarding installation of instruments, terms of rental, etc., will be cheerfully furnished upon application at the company's office in the Independent building, corner Mill and Elm streets, Fayetteville.

E F HOPKINS

Real Estate Agent

Has for sale some very desirable Dwellings also Mill property and Vacant Lots on the best streets. Any of this property can be bought at very reasonable figures on installments or cheap for cash

Clear Titles Guaranteed

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