

PRESIDENT ORDERS COUNTRY'S DEFENSE

State of War Practically Exists between Holland and Venezuela.

SURRENDER IS DEMANDED

NEWS OF SIEZING OF VENEZUELAN VESSEL CAUSES WILDEST EXCITEMENT—DEMONSTRATION AGAINST PAPER.

The Hague, Dec. 15.—The Dutch warships today seized another Venezuelan ship at Contraband and put the crew ashore and took the prize to Willemstad.

Caracas, Venezuela, via Port of Spain, Dec. 15.—When the news of the capture of the Venezuelan coast guardship *Alexis* by the Dutch cruiser *Gelderland* Saturday became known in Caracas a big crowd at once in the Plaza Bolívar, and demonstrated in support of the government.

A decree issued by acting President Gomez places the Republic in a state of defense.

A crowd of citizens, including a large number of students, went to the office of El *Constitucional*, the organ of President Castro, and indulged in a demonstration. The feelings of this crowd were plainly hostile to Castro and to the steps taken by Gomez. A pitched battle ensued between the employees of the paper and the crowd on the streets. Many shots were exchanged and the fighting lasted five minutes. Several men were wounded, and one has since died. The police were summoned, and when they appeared on the scene armed with rifles the crowd dispersed.

The captain of the *Alexis*, who came ashore at Puerto Cabello, has sent up to Caracas the communication handed him by the Dutch officer, who came on board from the *Gelderland*.

Dutch Demand Surrender.

This note is as follows:

"On board the cruiser *Gelderland*, December 12, 1908.

"Her Majesty, the Queen of Holland, has given orders for her warships temporarily to sequester and embargo all Venezuelan government vessels. This is a retaliatory measure. We demand that you lower your flag and surrender your ship and your persons to the commander of the *Gelderland*. All resistance will be useless. If you resist the result will be the loss of your vessel and death to many of you.

"Second Lieutenant Boiman."

Acting President Gomez issued a decree today in which he relates the capture of the *Alexis*, after which he declares:

"I consider these acts a true invasion of Venezuelan territory, and an aggression against the Venezuelan government. They constitute a grave offense. The national sovereignty is threatened, and the territorial integrity, honor and dignity of the fatherland is in danger.

"I decree the nation in a state of defense, and consequently the executive assumes and will exercise the extraordinary faculties conferred upon him by Section 8 of Article XX, of the Venezuelan constitution."

The news that the republic had been placed in a state of national defense against Holland, ran through the city like wildfire and in a few moments there was an enormous crowd in front of the Yellow House, the executive mansion, to greet Acting President Gomez.

The populace aroused.

The threatened danger from without had a double effect on the people. They demanded measures of protection, but at the same time they insisted upon the termination of one of the most unpopular courses of the Castro administration—the maintenance of government monopolies in the necessities of life.

RAPIDLY RECOVERS.

Dr. J. M. Wampler, the well known physician, who has been confined to his home from an operation on his leg, is improving very rapidly and it is now thought that he will be able to care for his practice by January 1.

BEE HIVE GROCERY

Fancy Holly
Fancy Holly Wreaths,
Fancy Evergreen
Wreaths,
Fancy Evergreen
Decorations.

English Walnuts, Soft Shell Almonds, Pecans, Filberts, Brazil Nuts, Fine Table Raisins, Fancy Figs and Dates, Candied Cherries, Candied Pine Apples, Shelled English Walnuts, Shelled Pecans, Shelled Almonds, Shelled Black Walnuts, Good Shell-bark Hickory Nuts.

We have the finest line of Fancy Shopping Baskets in the city (Just in).

4X Sugar for Candies.

Give us your order now for your Christmas Turkey. Will have a fine lot of birds.

UNION IS ORGANIZED

Theatrical Employees in Richmond Organize a New Association.

OFFICERS ARE ELECTED.

The Richmond lodge, Theatrical Mechanical Association was incorporated today at Indianapolis with no capital stock. The incorporators are Roy Wenger, George Huey, Charles Bennett, John H. Broomhall, Erman Smith, Walter Muey, Frank Buckingham and Earl Mendenhall.

The members of this organization, which is a union for stage employees and men employed as mechanics in theaters, moving picture shows, etc., expects soon to have every theater employee in the city in the organization. Roy Wenger has been elected president. Charles Bennett, secretary and John H. Broomhall, treasurer.

SETTLEMENT SHEET IS NOW FINISHED

Wayne County Pays State Treasury Over \$54,000 of Collections in 1908.

POLL TAX WAS DODGED.

COUNTY AUDITOR HAS PREPARED SHEET FOR STATE OFFICIALS WHO MAKE COLLECTION FROM TREASURER.

The statement of Indiana's share of the taxes paid in Wayne county in the year just closing is \$54,362.81. A part of this amount has been paid into the state treasury by the county treasurer in advance upon the request of the state treasurer. The December settlement sheet has been completed by the county auditor and his deputies. Auditor Coe and Deputy Newlin will go to Indianapolis tomorrow or Thursday and make settlement with the state officers.

The total poll tax paid into the county treasury during the entire year of 1907 was but \$5,266.50. It is evident that there was a great deal of evasion of this tax. The total amount of tax paid into the county treasury and distributed among the various funds, amounted to \$289,772.47. Of this amount the largest portion was paid in corporation tax, the total being over \$70,000.

The total poll tax paid was divided as follows: On account of state revenue, \$937.50; on account of state school revenue, \$937.50; on account of county revenue, \$1,875.00; for other purposes, \$1,516.50.

The amount of money paid to the state treasurer was divided as follows: On account of state tax, \$18,493.03; on account of benevolent institutional fund tax, \$7,117.91; on account of state school tax, \$20,878.74; on account of educational institutional fund tax, \$3,914.84; on account of school fund interest, \$3,557.37; on account of permanent endowment fund interest, \$311.91; on account of docket fees, \$89.

On his six per cent fee for the collection of delinquent tax, which amounted to \$20,487.53, the county treasurer was paid \$1,228.25.

The following shows the division of the total tax paid:

State tax	\$ 18,493.03
Benevolent institutions	7,117.91
State school tax	20,878.74
Educational Inst. fund	3,914.84
County tax	43,455.20
Bond sinking fund	12,762.61
Bond interest	4,295.56
Free turnpike repair fund	4,246.02
Township assor tax	2,997.83
Road tax	534.34
Library tax	2,342.87
Township tax	7,035.02
Township poor tax	4,154.53
Special school tax	40,577.15
Tuition tax	36,065.64
Corporation tax	70,379.91
School house bond	6,724.39
Bridge sinking fund	2,806.79
Total	\$289,772.47

FIVE NEW MEMBERS
IN HOME CIRCLE

Degree Team of Several Members Organized.

At the regular meeting of the Richmond Protected Home circle last evening five new members were taken into the organization. The degree team that has been organized is composed of the following: Alex Henson, Carrie Bennett, May Noss, Bertha Tinnapple, Clement Drew, Lora Swisher, Charles Wolf, Addie Brenizer, Pearl Karch, Homer Noss, Ella Hodapp, William Bennett, Dora Drury, Dr. Ed Mendenhall and Karch.

After the regular meeting the pie social was held. It was decided that the meeting should be held each Thursday evening in the Owls' club rooms on Main street, instead of the Odd Fellows hall where all meetings have been held.

DEMURRERS OVERRULED.

Demurrers to the complaint in the case of Frederick Lyman against the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern traction company were overruled in the Wayne circuit court yesterday morning. Lyman brings suit for damages alleging he was ejected from a car of the defendant company by one of its employees.

MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Charles Carpenter left this morning for Indianapolis, where he will attend the annual meeting of the Indiana Millers' association.

WOULD PROBE CITY FINANCES

Secretary Harris of Y. M. C. Favors Committee Investigation.

COMPARISONS ARE LIKELY.

INVESTIGATION TO BE RECOMMENDED THAT PROPER REMEDIES FOR PRESENT CONDITIONS MAY BE ADMINISTERED.

Secretary E. H. Harris, at the meeting of the Young Men's Business club this evening, will present a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee of three club members to investigate the financial condition of the city, with the end in view of seeing what method should be pursued in reducing the expenses of the municipality. The resolution will further provide that the financial conditions of neighboring towns and cities be investigated so that comparison can be made with the financial condition of Richmond.

Mr. Harris will point out in advocating the adoption of this resolution that it is eminently proper such an investigation be made by the club as it is a non-partisan organization and has the promotion of local business interests as its object.

He will point out that the committee, should it find the local tax rate too high and the expense of city government too great and the administration of the city government not on business principals, could make a comprehensive report on its findings and offer remedies for the conditions as exist. He will point out that a low tax rate and economical expenditures for maintaining the city would be to the great benefit of the business interests of the city, primarily because it would make Richmond an attractive point for manufacturing concerns to locate. He will suggest that the investigating committee submit its report at the January meeting of the club.

At the meeting this evening, Mr. Harris will submit the financial report on the fall festival, which report will undoubtedly be highly satisfactory.

JUSTIN LEROY HARRIS TO LEAVE RICHMOND

Accepts Position With Chicago Firm.

Justin Leroy Harris, the well known vocal teacher and choir director of the Reid Memorial church, has accepted the position of secretary of the Dunstan Collins Musical Agency, Chicago, and will leave this city to accept his new position the first of January. He will be located in the Auditorium building.

Mr. Harris will not give up his position of choir director of the Reid Memorial church, and will spend each Saturday and Sunday here. Mr. Harris has suffered with partial paralysis of the vocal chords and was forced to give his voice a rest of at least two years, under penalty of losing it entirely. He continued to give vocal lessons. In June he will travel in Europe with Mr. Collins.

Mr. Harris has accomplished much in stimulating interest in music in this city and he has a host of friends who will regret his leaving Richmond. He states he will always take an active interest in local musical affairs.

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NUSBAUM'S

8 Buying Days Until Xmas

The Tremendous Volume of Business

that must be crowded into the remaining brief period should induce early shopping, while Comfort, Convenience, complete and bountiful assortments, excellence and economy, are all assured.

A few pleasant hours in inspecting our magnificent stocks will suggest exactly what you want for gift giving, a little while in choosing and buying and the thing's done—then you can settle down to the calm enjoyment of the happy days preceding Christmas.

See Our Lines of the Following Practical Gift Things That Any One Would Highly Appreciate:

FURS—Neck Pieces, Muffs and Coats, for Ladies, Misses and Children.

UMBRELLAS—For Men, Women and Children.

SHIRT WAISTS—Fine Lace, Taffeta Silk and Lingerie Waists for the Ladies.

HANDKERCHIEFS—For Men, Women and Children, in Linen, Silk, Mercerized and Cotton.

LADIES' FUR COATS—Special, 10 Elegant Near Seal Coats (this season's coats) at absolute cost price from now until Xmas.

TAILORED SUITS—For Ladies and Misses; over 150 for selection.

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR—Bought Special for Holiday selling, in Ladies', Misses' and Children's Garments.

TABLE LINENS AND TOWELS—For the housewife; she will appreciate such as ours and you buy them at a saving.

FANCY DOYLIES, LUNCH CLOTHS AND SCARFS—In Cluny, Teneriffe, Mexican, Austrian and Japanese drawn work.

And a multitude of other gift things.

COME AND SEE

LEE B. NUSBAUM

They Are Here in All Their Xmas Glory



Christmas Shoe Hints For Men and Women

For Men

Hanan's Men's Shoes \$0.00
See our line of Shoes, all leathers and styles \$5.00

FELTMAN'S TRAMP

Walk all day long, feet never get tired. A guarantee of comfort. Not an experiment, an assured fact. All leathers \$4.00

FELTMAN'S SPECIAL

2,500 Pairs Sold Last Year. Hand Sewed Process. All leathers and styles. Is a \$3.50 shoe for wear. \$2.50

Xmas Slippers for Men and Women

MEN'S SLIPPERS

Men's Slippers \$.45
Men's Slippers 1.00
Men's Slippers 1.50
Romeos with rubbers 1.50

LADIES' PARTY, EVENING AND DRESS SLIPPERS

Calf Slippers, all colors \$.40
Kid Beaded Pumps 3.00
Vici Beaded Theo Ties 2.00

For Women

FELTMAN'S HONEST VALUE SHOES.

For Ladies \$2.00
Special Line \$2.50
Sanatorium Ladies' Shoes at \$3.50
Boots Shoes for comfort \$3 and \$3.50
Feltman's Stylish Shoes \$3.00

WARM GOODS.

Womens Warm Lined Shoes at \$1.50
Women's Warm Slippers \$1.00
Women's Warm Dress Shoes at \$2.00
Women's Warm Dress Shoes at \$2.50

Just received Four Hundred pairs of F