

WILL BRING CUBAN WAR TO A CLOSE

President McKinley's Policy Fully Outlined—Will Be Accomplished by Intervention if Necessary. It Is Stated Upon High Authority That There Has Been No Abatement of the President's Intention to See That the War Is Closed Upon Terms That Will Render the Cubans Practically a Free People.

Washington, March 27.—The developments of the day in the Cuban situation indicate steady progress in the negotiations between the government of this country and that of Spain looking to the maintenance of peace, for the present at least. There is good authority for saying that Spain's point is to secure a cessation of hostilities in Cuba rather than to engage in a war with the United States and that it is more than probable that the negotiations between the government of the United States and the Sagasta ministry will take that turn in the immediate future.

To what extent the United States may go in assisting Spain in her present design of securing an armistice is not yet determined, but the conservative element in the administration considers the manifestation of this desire on the part of Spain for even a temporary peace a direct result of President McKinley's diplomacy and they are naturally disposed to be content that the president should be left free, at the present at least, to pursue a policy which promises much in the way of preventing war between this country and Spain and also of bringing to a close the hostilities in Cuba. Hence there will be an effort on the part of the administration to prevent inflammatory utterances until this promising diplomatic may be exploited.

On the part of the administration it is stated that the development of the situation will not require a great length of time and hence that there will be no extended delay. A policy has been fully determined upon by the president. It is to bring the Cuban war to a close. This will be accomplished by pointed intervention if necessary, but it is considered far preferable that the end should come as the result of peaceful negotiation than that it should be accomplished by hostile demonstrations on the part of the United States.

FREEDOM FOR CUBA?

Spain intimates to the Government of the United States a New Plan of Autonomy.

London, March 28.—The Washington correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says: "Spain has intimated to the government of the United States that it has a new plan of autonomy to propose and trusts that the United States will induce the Cubans to accept it. The details of the scheme are as yet undivulged, but it is believed the project would give the Cubans virtual independence."

ITALIAN WARSHIPS. No Bargain Has Yet Been Concluded. Negotiations Are Pending.

Rome, March 27.—After a long debate in the chamber of deputies today a vote was taken of the government's declarations relative to the sale of warships.

Admiral Brin, minister of marine, reaffirmed that no bargain yet existed, that he had only authorized the opening of negotiations. Before consenting to the sale of any vessels Admiral Brin will consult with the Marquis Visconti Venosta, minister of foreign affairs, on the international situation.

What Will Make War Unavoidable. Berlin, March 27.—The Madrid correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt says: "Spain will not only refuse to allow American interference in assisting the suffering Cubans, but will decline to pay indemnity unless it is shown that the Spanish authorities were responsible for the Maine explosion. If President McKinley demands these two things war is unavoidable."

Mrs. Parnell Dies. London, March 27.—Mrs. Della Tudor Parnell, daughter of the celebrated American naval officer, Rear Admiral Charles Stewart Parnell, died tonight at Avondale, Rathfrim, County Wicklow, Ireland, as the result of the burns received yesterday from the igniting of her clothing while she was sitting before a fire.

SPAIN'S REPORT.

Castilian Version of the Maine Disaster to Be Hurried to Washington. London, March 27.—The Madrid correspondent of the Times notes that Spain at present is playing a relatively passive part in the development of the situation, and contrasting the "war-like activity in the United States," with the "subdued and apparently inactive anxiety prevailing at Madrid."

Madrid says: "The ministry, however, is eager to draw President McKinley's attention at the earliest moment to the report of the Spanish commission as to the Maine disaster, and it is understood that a messenger is going post haste from Havana with the document, and will reach Washington probably on Tuesday. The government believes that the simultaneous presentation of the two reports to congress would avert or, at any rate, mitigate any tempestuous display of feeling. Should, however, the Spanish report arrive at Washington too late or otherwise be withheld from the immediate perusal of congress, it is suggested that Senor Polo y Bernabe be directed to print it at the cost of the Spanish legation in Washington and thus secure for it the ear of the American people. "Although it is not fully understood, why, under such delicate circumstances, President McKinley should be in such haste to submit the American report, and presumably, other Cuban matters to congress, it is, broadly speaking, the collective American legislation which Spain mistrusts and not the presidential unit."

COURT OF INQUIRY REPORT.

Abstract of the Official Document Concerning Maine Disaster to Be Submitted Today.

[The Associated Press Abstract of the Court of Inquiry Report. Copyright, 1898, by the Associated Press.]

Washington, March 27.—The Associated Press presents herewith a complete abstract of the report of the court of inquiry, which investigated the wrecking of the battleship Maine. This abstract is made from the report itself, access to which was obtained today despite secrecy, unparalleled in the handling of official papers.

The report is made up of eight parts as follows:

First—The court finds that at the time of the explosion the battleship Maine was lying in five and one-half to six fathoms of water.

Second—The discipline aboard the ship was excellent; everything stowed according to orders—ammunition, guns, stores, etc. The temperature of the magazines at 8 p. m. was normal, except in the after ten-inch magazine, and that did not explode.

Third—The explosion occurred at 9.40 o'clock on the evening of Feb. 15. There were two explosions, with a very short interval between them; the ship lifted on the first explosion.

Fourth—The court can form no definite opinion of the condition of the wreck from the divers' evidence.

Fifth—Technical details of wreckage from which court deduces that A MINE WAS EXPLODED UNDER THE SHIP ON THE PORT SIDE.

Sixth—The explosion was due to NO FAULT OF THOSE ON BOARD.

Seventh—Opinion of the court stating THAT THE EXPLOSION OF THE MINE CAUSED THE EXPLOSION OF THE TWO MAGAZINES.

Eighth—The court declares that it CANNOT FIND EVIDENCE TO FIX RESPONSIBILITY.

The report is unanimous and is signed by all the members of the court. It does not refer to the existence or non-existence of mines in the harbor of Havana, except in the specific finding that a mine was exploded under the ship, and the opinion that the explosion of the two magazines was caused by the explosion of a mine.

SPANISH PAPERS FULL OF FIGHT.

The People Will Go to War to Protect Alleged Rights.

THEY PREFER DEFEAT TO DISHONOR

It is Intimated That the Viscaya and Almirante Can Clean Out the Seven American Ironclads at Key West. In Any Event the Hot Blooded Spaniards Will Fight Rather Than Back Down.

Madrid, March 27.—El Liberal referring to the dispatches from Washington, attributing to President McKinley a decision to propose that Spain should free Cuba for an indemnity, says: "The government may answer what it pleases, but the Spanish people as a whole will not deign to discuss this proposal. Spain will go to war in fulfilling her duty, but not for ephemeral glories or the desire of conquest. We may emerge vanquished, which is somewhat doubtful, but we will never come out dishonored."

El Imparcial says: "It is indispensable to get ready all the elements we possess for a naval fight and it is urgent that the fleet should go to Cuba. The United States will maintain the advantage if they can place seven iron clads in front of the Viscaya and the Almirante Oquendo, but when our two ships actually have to fight, this disadvantage will disappear before the skill and courage of our sailors."

The semi-official El Globo says: "At a time when the duration of the war in China is being brought to a close by force of arms and when peace is being restored by means of autonomy, the United States throws down the mask which hid their ambition. In whose name are they going to establish intervention, and the cause of what have that of revolutionary bandits? If the United States will put light to the powder they have been heaping up so long, this is an inopportune time to do so."

VARAQUA IS SARCASTIC.

Duke Characterizes Mr. McKinley as An "Ignorant Suttler."

Madrid, March 27.—The latest intelligence from the United States has occasioned a great patriotic movement throughout Spain. A large number of persons have announced their intention to give up a day's pay for services in order to raise a fund to purchase a warship. A committee, over which the Bishop of Madrid will preside, has been organized to receive subscriptions. Special theatrical performances are announced, the receipts of which are to be devoted to this purpose.

The duke of Veragua, who knows President McKinley personally, is reported as saying: "President McKinley does not inspire me with confidence. He thinks himself the first statesman in the world. He is proud and vain, and his great vanity makes him believe himself a Napoleon, when in reality he is an ignorant suttler."

It is reported that the Conservatives intend to propose that the troops in the interior of Cuba should withdraw to the coast until the Autonomists and Separatists arrive at an agreement, but it is not expected that the cortes will entertain such a proposal.

The situation in Cuba is declared today to be "much improved."

Santa Buena Not for Sale. Rome, March 27.—The Panfala says the Italian government has declined to sell the United States the warship Santa Buena, for which 3,000,000 lire were offered, being 5,000,000 over her cost price.

VICTORY FOR SAGASTA.

Government of the Prime Minister Supported at the Elections.

Madrid, March 27.—The elections for the popular branch of the cortes have passed off, on the whole, quietly. The indications are that the government of Senor Sagasta will have an enormous majority, estimated at 300 of the 432 seats in the congress.

Disorders are apprehended at Bilbao, where the polling caused great excitement. The military judge of Bilbao issued a warrant for the arrest of three Socialist municipal councilors. One of them was taken into custody, but the other two escaped.

GARIBALDI'S OFFER.

Will Send 40,000 Italian Veterans to Fight Spain if Desired.

Berlin, March 27.—The Rome correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt telegraphs: "The Marquis Visconti Venosta, the Italian foreign minister, says the Cuban situation has grown worse, but that outside of Austria, which morally supports Spain for dynastic reasons, no European power is inclined to show practical sympathy for Spain. Riccotti Garibaldi says that if the United States will defray their expenses, he will engage to send forty thousand Garibaldians to Cuba."

OHIO ON THE RISE.

Cincinnati, O., March 27.—At 10 o'clock tonight the Ohio river was 59 feet and four-tenths. Between 8 and 9 o'clock it had remained stationary. This fluctuation is the precursor of a fall. It will probably stop at 59 feet and nine inches and by tomorrow noon be falling.

THE HERALD'S WEATHER FORECAST.

New York, March 28.—In the middle states and New England today, cloudy to partly cloudy and slowly rising temperature with fresh southeasterly and southerly winds and rain, fog rising or high winds in the coast. On Tuesday, in both of these sections, partly cloudy, preceded by rain in the New England coast, with fresh and brisk southerly to westerly winds and nearly stationary temperature, followed by slowly falling temperature and clearing.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

- Weather indications today: Rain; Warmer; Southerly Winds. 1 General—President McKinley's Cuban Policy Outlined. Congress Anxious for the Maine Report. Spanish Papers Prefer Defeat to Dishonor. 2 The Tribune's Popular Want Columns, Financial and Commercial. 3 Local—West Side and Suburban. 4 Editorial. Comment of the Press. 5 Local—The National Guard and the President. 6 Local—Remains of William T. Smith Arrive in Scranton. Wild Man on the East Mountain. 7 Local—Sermon by Rev. C. C. Spieker. Arguments in the Ford Damage Suit. 8 Advertisement. 9 Lackawanna County News. 10 General—General Forsythe Says War is Inevitable.

COLUMBIA TO SAIL.

The Cruiser Will Leave for Hampton Roads Today—Other Boats Nearly Ready to Sail.

Philadelphia, March 27.—The cruiser Columbia will leave League Island navy yard tomorrow noon for Hampton Roads. She finished loading ammunition at 5 o'clock this afternoon, after which her pilots were taken aboard.

Notwithstanding rain fell for a greater part of today, there was no cessation in the activity at this naval station. Caulkers were busy putting the finishing touches to the decks of the Minneapolis, a few remaining stores were placed aboard, and the paint was scraped from the torpedo ports. The heads for the Whitehead torpedoes were greased and fitted in the tubes. On the old monitors, Nahant and Catskill, which were placed in dry dock yesterday, work was going on below. A portion of the bottoms of these veteran fighters has already been scraped preparatory to receiving a coat of paint. Today's work was confined to the machinery and inside painting. The Jason, Montauk and Lehigh are waiting outside the dry dock, while the Cannonicus, Michotaspac and Manhattan are still in the back channel.

The double turreted monitor Miantonomah has all her ammunition on board and as soon as her men can give her a coating of lead color paint she will be ready to sail. This was to be done today, but rain prevented. The Minneapolis and the ram Katahdin will receive ammunition tomorrow morning, and the former will also get about 200 tons of coal. All the vessels are short a number of men. The Columbia will sail with her complement lacking about 100 men. The Minneapolis is also short about that number, and the ram about twenty short. Fourteen men arrived today and were assigned to ships. Both the Minneapolis and the Miantonomah will be ready to depart by Wednesday at the latest. This afternoon Captain Casey and another naval officer visited all the ships and immediately after leaving increased activity was noticed aboard. This was taken as an indication that additional orders had been received from Washington to push the work and have the Minneapolis and Miantonomah ready for sailing at an early time.

NEW JERSEY GUARD.

Work of Getting It on War Footing Is Being Successful Pushed.

Trenton, N. J., March 27.—The work of putting the New Jersey National Guard on a war footing is being successfully pushed. Major General Plume, commanding the New Jersey division of the National Guard, Adjutant General Stryker and Quartermaster General Donnelly, held a conference here last night to compare notes. They expressed much satisfaction at the work that had been done. Captain Armstrong, of the quartermaster general's office, returned last night from Washington, where he had gone to hurry up the orders for ammunition and ordnance stores. These latter will be shipped to Trenton without delay. Yesterday a large number of army hats and leggings and about 2,000 rubber blankets were received at the state arsenal. Adjutant General Stryker said that no orders had yet been received from Washington for the calling out of the National Guard or the naval militia, but it was not denied that the preparations were being made in the belief that such a call might soon be made. There is also talk of a special session of the legislature to place a fund of \$500,000 at the disposal of the government for the better equipment of the National Guard in the event of war.

OPEN LETTER FROM THE PRINTERS.

Chicago, March 27.—The Chicago Typographical union, No. 16, today ordered an open letter to be telegraphed to Senator Mason and colleagues at Washington calling upon the Chicago congressmen and senators from Illinois to insist upon the United States demanding that the butchery, starvation and inhuman policy pursued by Spain in Cuba shall cease forthwith, and to enforce such demand immediately, peaceably if possible; by force of arms if necessary.

NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL ARRESTED.

Schenectady, N. Y., March 27.—Euck Davis, a notorious criminal, was arrested in Troy yesterday charged with committing a burglary in 1891. The real reason for his arrest is that he is suspected of complicity in the murder of George H. Bloodlet, patent attorney for the General Electric company, who was killed in this city on the night of December 1, 1897, by a burglar.

MORE TROOPS FOR SULLIVAN'S ISLAND.

Charleston, S. C., March 27.—Battery M, First artillery, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Rawls, arrived here yesterday from St. Augustine, Fla., for the Sullivan's island garrison. Seventy-five men were in the party. They will be put behind the big guns at once. One hundred and eighty soldiers are now stationed on the island.

Dauntless Offered to the Government. Washington, March 27.—The famous filibustering tug Dauntless has been offered for sale to the navy department. She will be inspected and will probably be purchased.

ANXIOUS FOR THE REPORT

Crowds Will Probably Pack the Halls of Congress Today.

DRAMATIC SCENES AHEAD

But a Furor of Oratory Will Not Be Allowed.

It is Not Thought That One-Tenth of the People Who Will Storm the Doors of the House Will Be Able to Gain Entrance—A Message Asking for Relief for the Starving Cubans Will Be Transmitted Tomorrow. Forecast of the Senate Proceedings.

Washington, March 27.—The largest crowd which has attended a session of congress in years is expected at the capitol tomorrow, when the official report of the board of inquiry on the Maine disaster will be given to the country. Extra instructions have been issued to the attendants and admission to the reserved galleries will be strictly by card. Not one-tenth of the people who storm the doors are expected to gain admission. The members of the house await the report with the same feverish anxiety the public manifests and there are not likely to be a dozen vacant seats on the floor. The scene when the report is read probably will be intensely dramatic, but those who go to the capitol tomorrow expecting to see its presentation followed by a wild furor of oratory will be sorely disappointed. The report and accompanying message will be brief and after being read will be referred to the committee on foreign affairs without debate.

Mr. Hitt, of Illinois, chairman of the foreign affairs committee, will be recognized by the speaker to make this motion. The motion is not debatable. It is the wish of the president, as expressed in his message, that both parties, that this course be followed and the programme has been acquiesced in by all irrespective of party. Should any single member attempt to interfere with it a demand for the previous question will take him off his feet. Once in committee the findings of the board will remain there until a report is made by the committee, which will certainly not be until Spain's explanation and position are made known to the administration.

Meantime the precipitation of the main issue between Spain and the United States is likely to throw the Maine disaster, which the administration intends to deal with as a separate and distinct incident, into the background as a subject for future settlement unless Spain should take a position, not now anticipated, which would compel immediate action.

TO RELIEVE STARVATION.

Wednesday the president probably will transmit a message asking for an appropriation to relieve the starvation in Cuba. The appropriation probably will be voted with almost as much unanimity as was the \$50,000,000 for the national defense, but the debate may bring out some criticism of the administration policy by those who believe radical and aggressive intervention should be taken at once. The administration is assured, however, of a strong majority for the policy it has so far mapped out to the Republican and Democratic leaders.

The members are so completely absorbed by the questions of the hour that during the remainder of the week they are likely to inject debate upon these questions into the proceedings at every opportunity. But the rules as at present enforced are rigorous and the outcropping of passion and patriotism is likely to be confined largely to the debate upon the naval appropriation bill. Every effort will be made to dispose of this bill as quickly as possible in order to remove the opportunity for inflammatory speeches. The Republican leaders believe they are justified in exercising restraint until the time for action arrives. After the Maine report is read tomorrow the death of Representative Simpson will be announced and the house immediately will adjourn as a mark of respect.

IN THE SENATE.

The important event of the week in the senate will be the receipt of the president's message transmitting the report on the Maine court of inquiry which is expected early in the day Monday. The present understanding is that the report will be referred to the committee on foreign relations, and sent to the printer without being read or more than incidentally referred to, and that after this nothing more will be said concerning it until the committee shall have had a reasonable opportunity to consider it or until some future communication may be received from the president on the Cuban question.

There has been a general appeal from the administration to the senate to avoid undue agitation of the Cuban subject until the president can have an opportunity to formulate a policy, and the senate appears quite disposed to comply with the request. Still there is no doubt that the senate would grow very restive under delay. Senator Money expects to make a speech tomorrow on the lines of those of Senators Proctor, Gallinger and Thurston, based upon his observations in Cuba.

What further discussion there may be during the week of the Cuban situation will depend so largely upon future developments that it is useless to predict.

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