

SPANISH SITUATION GROWS PUZZLING

No One Can Divine What a Day May Bring Forth. That the President's Message Will Be Submitted to Congress Today Seems Assured—General Lee Apparently Not Apprehensive—The Foreign Diplomats Pass a Busy Day.

Washington, April 5.—That the president's message will go to congress tomorrow is the best information obtainable in Washington. This evening through the kaleidoscope of internal events appears to be moving so rapidly at Madrid as to make possible some new and possibly remarkable change in the aspect of affairs that will prevent this statement holding good. The message is ready, makes about 7,000 words and has been approved by the cabinet. It recommends armed intervention, but so far as is known without stating that this should be immediate by the United States, to prevent hostilities and succor the starving people. It makes an argument against recognition of independence at this time and leaves it clear that in the opinion of the administration it is the duty of this government to supervise the affairs of the island until, in the light of fuller and later knowledge, a stable government can be established. The attitude of congress on this policy cannot be foretold in advance of its official promulgation in the president's message.

The day has been prolific of reports of mediation on the part of the European powers, but a summary of all the news on this point is that the powers of Europe cannot agree, and that their interference would be unacceptable to the government of the United States.

GENERAL LEE NOT NERVOUS. The safety of General Lee, our consul and other Americans in Cuba is a matter of concern to the state department, but advice from General Lee indicate that the transportation of all Americans would take some time, and apparently showed that he did not share fully in the apprehension felt here. Throughout the day unusual activity was manifest at the foreign embassies and legations representing the great powers of Europe.

OUR GOODS DELIVERED. Military Purchases Made by Lieut. Commander Niblack Shipped. Berlin, April 5.—All of the purchases made by Lieutenant Commander Niblack, the United States naval attaché here, in Germany and Austria, have been safely shipped. The war material consists mainly of Schartzkopf torpedoes, which are to be fired from vessels. They are proved to be the most efficient in the German navy. Commander Niblack has received many offers of vessels and materials, including North German Lloyd steamers, but the ships offered will not be finished for months, so the negotiations were dropped.

RECORD AGAIN LOWERED. New York, April 5.—The steamship Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse has again lowered the record from Southampton. She arrived today, having made the passage in five days and twenty hours, which is two hours and thirty-five minutes less time than her best previous record from Southampton.

Big Fire at Johnstown. Johnstown, Pa., April 5.—A very severe fire broke out at the Cambria Iron company in Franklin borough and did damage which will amount to between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Wizard Won Easily. St. Louis, April 5.—Jacob Schaefer, the "Napoleon" Frank Ives began a six hundred-point 1-inch ball game of billiards at the Grand Billiard parlour tonight. The wizard won easily by a score of 20 to 15 for Ives. Neither played up to his usual form.

MENACE TO CHINA.

Mr. Bailour Believes That Russia Has Pursued an Unwise Course. London, April 5.—In the house of commons today Mr. Bailour, acting secretary of state for foreign affairs, said the government thought Russia had pursued an unfortunate course in taking Port Arthur, which, as Russia herself said in 1895, when Japan proposed to occupy it, would, in the hands of any foreign power, constitute a menace to the control of China.

NAVY DEPARTMENTS.

Work of Nearly All the Bureaus Now Thoroughly Under Way—No News of the Torpedo Fleet. Washington, April 5.—The work of nearly all the bureaus of the war and navy departments incident to war preparations is now thoroughly under way in the matter of carrying out directions and policies already agreed upon. Consequently there is a lack of the features which have made these departments the source of so much news from day to day.

RESCUE VESSELS. The Bache and Blake Arrive at Havana Harbor—Americans Anxious to Quit the Cuban Soil. Havana, April 5.—The Bache and the Blake arrived this morning from Key West to take American citizens to the United States, who desire to leave the island. It now appears that the yellow fever prohibitions are modified in Florida only so far as the Americans are concerned.

HOUSE SESSIONS. The session of the house today was devoted to the consideration of private bills. After disposing of some minor bills and pension bills coming from the executive department, the house resumed consideration of the bill to pay \$320,000 to the heirs of John Busch on account of his ship contracts with the government.

TWO ELEMENTS IN SENATE.

One for Independence with Intervention, Other for Intervention Alone. Washington, April 5.—A debate which occurred in the executive session of the senate late this afternoon would indicate that no matter what there are two elements in the senate, one for independence with intervention and another for intervention alone, and these two factions will fight vigorously for their ideas.

FLOOD VICTIMS.

Twenty-three Known to be Dead, Fifteen Hundred in Need. Shawneetown, Ill., April 5.—Twenty-three known dead, a possibility that the list may reach thirty, fifteen hundred people in actual need of the necessities of life, 700 people homeless and damage to the amount of \$200,000 is the net result of the flood which swept through Shawneetown late Sunday afternoon.

The Wreckers Arrive. Key West, April 5.—The Merritt & Chapman Wrecking company's tug L. J. Merritt, with the Derrick Chief and the schooner F. B. Sharp in tow, arrived today from Havana, having suspended work on the wreck of the Maine. They left in pursuance of instructions from the company, as matters were getting in too exorbitant a condition for them to be left there longer.

Silver Democrats Triumph. Allentown, Pa., April 5.—Election returns from half the precincts indicate that David B. Ross, silver democrat, will carry the city by about 6,000 majority.

WARLIKE TALK IN THE SENATE

Mr. Chandler, of New Hampshire, States His Position. VIGOROUS ACTION IS DEMANDED. Profound Attention is Attracted by Speeches Delivered on the Cuban Question—Executive Session Devoted to the Question of Considering Report of Foreign Relations Committee in Open Session—Proceedings of the House.

Washington, April 5.—"The United States ought immediately to declare war against Spain, and to maintain that war until the people of Cuba are made free from Spanish starvation and cruelty and the government of the island firmly established as an independent republic."

This utterance by Senator Chandler (N. H.) in a carefully prepared statement of his position on the Cuban crisis, was the climax of an extended discussion of the subject participated in by several members in the senate this afternoon. Speeches had been delivered by Mr. Turner (Wash.), Mr. Harris (Kas.) and Mr. Kenney (Del.), all of whom took strong ground for vigorous and instant action by the United States.

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SPAIN'S NERVE. Makes the Removal of the American Fleet at Key West the Condition of an Armistice. Washington, April 5.—The statement was made today by a public man in close touch with the administration that the effort to secure a settlement of the war between Spain and the insurgent Cubans through an armistice had come to a definite conclusion and failure, and that the failure was due to the refusal of the government of the United States to remove its fleet from Key West.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING

- Weather Indications Today: Fair; Northerly Winds. 1 Telegraph—President's Message is Ready for Congress. 2 The Tribune's Popular Want Columns. 3 Local—Second District Republican Convention. 4 Editorial. 5 How a Battleship Behaves in Action. 6 Local—Proceedings in Civil Court. 7 Local—No Verdict Reached in the Green Ridge Iron Works Case. 8 Local—West Side and Suburban. 9 Lackawanna County News. 10 Telegraph—New York Methodist Conference is for War.

BIRD BOOK AGAIN.

Governor Hastings is Informed of a Scheme to Publish an Expensive Edition of the Work. Harrisburg, April 5.—When Governor Hastings arrived home from the Pacific slope he found a curious tale awaiting him. The legislature of last year authorized the reprinting by the agricultural department of a pamphlet on the "Diseases and Enemies of Poultry," covering 125 pages and prepared by Dr. H. B. Warren, economic zoologist, and Dr. Leonard Pearson, state veterinarian. Dr. Warren's portion of the pamphlet covered 49 pages, and Dr. Pearson's 77 pages.

LOPER HELD TO BAIL. The Manager of Guarantors' Finance Company Under Heavy Bonds. Philadelphia, April 5.—Richard P. Loper, vice president and general manager of the Guarantors' Finance company, which recently made an assignment, was held in \$2,000 bail today to answer at court the charge of conspiracy to defraud the People's bank. The cashier of the latter institution, John D. Hopkins, committed suicide on the day of the assignment of the Guarantors' company, and the following day the People's bank suspended. Investigations since made led to the arrest of Loper.

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EFFECTS OF COLD WAVE

Philadelphia Covered with a Mantle of the Beautiful. Pittsburgh Very Chilly. Mercury Falls to Twenty-Four Degrees. All Records Since the Centennial Year are Passed at Johnstown. Cold Weather at Altoona, Williamsport and Other Pennsylvania Towns—The Storm Sweeps Along the Jersey Shores of the Atlantic Coast.

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PHILADELPHIA COVERED WITH A MANTLE OF THE BEAUTIFUL.

Philadelphia, April 5.—A snow storm of unusual severity prevailed in this city today. The snow began falling before daylight and continued until the middle of the afternoon. In addition to the snow, a northeast wind blowing at the rate of thirty miles an hour added to the general discomfort. When the snow stopped falling the sky remained overcast and it grew colder. Late tonight there is every indication of rain and freezing weather.

PITTSBURG VERY CHILLY.

Pittsburg, April 5.—A severe snow-storm raged this morning when two inches of snow fell and the mercury dropped to 24 degrees, the lowest on record for April in this section.

MERCURY FALLS TO TWENTY-FOUR DEGREES.

Johnstown, Pa., April 5.—A cold wave struck this place this morning. Snow fell most all day. Tonight a regular winter gale prevails up in the mountains. It beats the record since the centennial year.

ALTOONA, PA., APRIL 5.—A small fall of snow, accompanied by heavy winds struck this city early this morning. The mercury dropped several degrees, but the snow stopped falling about 10 a. m. Tonight it is clear and cold.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA., APRIL 5.—The mercury here dropped several degrees this morning, but the snow storm was of short duration.

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