

PROGRESS OF WAR INQUIRY

Testimony As to Camp Conditions at Jacksonville.

GOOD REPORTS HEARD

Col. Louis M. Maus, Chief Surgeon, Criticizes the Volunteer Medical Officers—Reports of Sickness Exaggerated—No Difficulty in Obtaining Supplies—Latterly the Men Had More Rations Than They Could Eat—The Introduction of Typhoid.

Jacksonville, Fla., Oct. 18.—The war investigating commission began the examination of witnesses at Jacksonville today, using the office room of General Dodge's private car for that purpose.

Colonel Louis M. Maus, chief surgeon of the Seventh army corps, was the first witness called. He is a regular army surgeon, and has occupied his present position practically from the time the camp was established here.

There was no suffering among the sick, but they did not have the luxuries at the beginning of the war that were given to them later.

Disregard of Expenses. Replying to a question the doctor asserted that after the first few days there had been no difficulty about supplies and that all requisitions had been filled with exceptional promptitude.

Dr. Maus also found it difficult to prevail on surgeons in the volunteer regiments to learn the administrative duties of their positions. As a matter of fact these duties were extremely onerous and for that reason the volunteer physicians were not so efficient as they should have been.

SICK SOLDIERS RETURN. Eight Members of the 16th Pennsylvania Come on the Minnewaska.

New York, Oct. 18.—Eight sick soldiers belonging to the Sixteenth Pennsylvania, who were taken off the transport Minnewaska, when she arrived here last night, were taken to St. Francis hospital, Jersey City.

NOMINATIONS INVALID. Embody and Lauer Are Rejected by Judge McPherson.

Harrisburg, Oct. 18.—Judge McPherson today handed down an opinion declaring invalid the certificates of nomination of Edwin R. Embody, of Carbon, Democratic candidate for associate judge, and John E. Lauer, of Carbon, who claimed the Democratic nomination for congress in the Eleventh district.

Smithville Tragedy. Wilkes-Barre, Oct. 18.—Stephen Wolsey, a Slav, aged 26, died at the Pittston hospital today of wounds received Sunday evening in a fight at Smithville. No arrests have yet been made.

THE SOCIETIES OF DEMOCRACY

MEETING OF THE FAITHFUL AT WILKES-BARRE.

Chairman Garman and Candidates Jenks and DeLacey Are Welcomed.

Wilkes-Barre, Oct. 18.—The Democratic societies of Pennsylvania met in convention here today. In the absence of President Black, Secretary Norman presided. The roll call showed a fair attendance. After the appointment of various committees adjournment was taken until this afternoon.

Mr. Garman Attacks General Palmer and Makes an Explanation—Officers Elected.

Chairman Garman and Candidates Jenks and DeLacey are welcomed. Mr. Garman attacks General Palmer and makes an explanation. Officers are elected.

Secretary of War Alger, the condition of affairs in the Philippines is considered by the convention.

Michigan Arrives. The Transport Brings Bodies of Officers Killed.

New York, Oct. 18.—The transport Michigan arrived and anchored outside the bar tonight, as the high wind had disarranged the electric light connections with channel buoys and the lights were not burning.

TOADSTOOL VICTIMS. The Goldback Family's Fatal Fondness for the Slimy Fungus.

Trenton, N. J., Oct. 18.—Mrs. Harriet Goldback and one of her children, aged 10, were poisoned last night by eating toadstools for mushrooms.

WANTED IN JAPAN. James Flood, of Flood & Co., Arrested in San Francisco.

San Francisco, Oct. 18.—James Flood, senior partner of the firm of Flood & Co., dealers in grain, was arrested here today.

FOOD EXPERTS MEET. Convention of Dairy Commissioners at Harrisburg.

Harrisburg, Oct. 18.—The second annual convention of the association of State Dairy and Food Commissioners opened in the supreme court chamber this afternoon with representatives from all parts of the country in attendance.

THE EMEROR OF CHINA. A Physician of the French Legation in Peking Visits Him.

Peking, Oct. 18.—The physician attached to the French legation here visited the emperor of China today for the purpose of making a medical examination of his majesty.

Unknown Bodies. Ogdensburg, N. Y., Oct. 18.—Coroner Brown has the bodies of two men apparently 30 and 45 years old, at McGill's morgue awaiting identification.

Five Regulars Shot. A Riot in a Saloon at Newport News.

Newport News, Va., Oct. 18.—A riot occurred at a saloon in Phoebus late tonight. Five regulars from Fort Monrue were shot, one being killed and another badly wounded.

Seven Mussulmans Hanged. Candia, Island of Crete, Oct. 18.—Seven Mussulmans, who were tried and convicted of the murder of British soldiers during the recent outbreak here, were hanged today.

Knights of Malta. Washington, Oct. 18.—The fifteenth convocation of the supreme grand commandery of the Knights of Malta, was opened in this city today by Supreme Grand Commander E. W. Samuel, of St. Carmel, Pa.

Steamship Arrivals. New York, Oct. 18.—New York-Cleared: Westernland, Antwerp; Germanic, Liverpool; St. Paul, Southampton. Sailed: Urave, Bremen via Southampton. Arrived: Kensington, Antwerp.

NO DOUBT ABOUT THE CUBAN DEBT

ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES IS ASSURED.

American Commissioners Have Declined to Assume Any Part of the Cuban Debt—The Action Taken Is Evidence That the United States Does Not Care to Assume Permanent Control Over the Island.

Paris, Oct. 18.—Spain can no longer have any doubt regarding the ultimate attitude of the United States toward the so-called Cuban debt. The American commissioners have declined to assume it or any part of it, by express treaty or by contract.

They also declined to accept a cession of sovereignty to the United States, for in that case Spain would claim that such a cession by its own force would impose the obligations for that debt.

It is constantly believed that in refusing to accept a cession of sovereignty the American commissioners are acting also upon their announcement to the world in the intervention resolutions disclaiming any intention to exercise jurisdiction or authority over Cuba, except for pacification and then to leave the island to the control of its people and its people to the assumption of its obligations.

This position of the commissioners couples itself with the declaration in the resolution that the people of Cuba are by right and ought to be free and independent and good faith requires the performance of this declaration, it being plain that, if Cuba were annexed to the United States, while she might be free, she would not be independent.

FRENCH SYMPATHY. La Liberté, referring to the Cuban debt as "now dividing the two countries," says:

"The Spanish regard the refusal of the United States to assume the Cuban debt as an exaggerated pretension."

In one sentence La Liberté declares that "Spanish finances were ruined in trying to suppress the Cuban insurrection," and in the next it says that the debt "was contracted for the benefit of Cuba." Then it points to Spain as pleading for arbitration where the commission do not agree, and says:

"The Washington cabinet will not listen to anything. We have already pointed out the abnormal conditions attending the appointment of the American delegates and their imperious instructions. Mr. Day and his colleagues are not properly negotiators, but only mandataries, whose work is to carry out precise orders. They have no right to discuss or to make concessions, but simply may announce to the Spanish government the exactions of the United States."

The American commissioners have formal orders not to lend themselves to any modification of the conditions of peace and to repel all arbitration, giving notice finally, if the Spaniards do not agree to their terms, of a naval demonstration in Spanish waters.

President McKinley is detested by public opinion, which will some day report its loss of head.

"Madrid knows now that the effort to induce the United States to assume any part of the Cuban debt or to renounce the Philippines, wholly or in part, was doomed in advance to failure. Spain has nothing to do but to give way nobly to the hard laws of war, as a fresh humiliation would be certain to follow Senator Sagasta's non-success against the grasping disposition of the United States."

"The Journal des Debats thinks the United States should compel the Cuban government to assume the debt and believes that the Spanish would submit to arbitration, which it understands the United States declines to accept."

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THE SITUATION CRITICAL

Secretary Alger's Explanation of the Retention of Volunteers.

Binghamton, N. Y., Oct. 18.—According to a letter received by the Rev. J. H. Laroch, of this city, from Secretary of War Alger, the condition of affairs in the Philippines is considered by the convention.

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Weather Indications Today: Showers; Followed by Fair.

1 General—Old Glory at Porto Rico. Progress of War Inquiry. The Societies of Democrats. No Doubt About Cuban Debt.

2 General—Whitney's Weekly News. Financial and Commercial.

3 Local—Questions for Grammar A Teachers. Kenny Was Given Much Provocation.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

OLD GLORY AT PORTO RICO

Stars and Stripes Are Raised Over San Juan.

Promptly at Noon the Flag Is Raised on the Public Buildings and While the Bands Play the "Star Spangled Banner"—Admiral Schley, Generals Gordon, Brooke and Others Take Part in the Ceremonies—The Banner Cheered by the Crowds—The Proceeding Unmarked by Disorder or Accident.

WANAMAKER AT JOHNSTOWN

Johnstown, Pa., Oct. 18.—The annual convention of the State Sabbath School Association began here this evening with a grand mass meeting in the Franklin Street Methodist Episcopal church. A parade of the school children in the city, set for this afternoon, was postponed until tomorrow on account of rain.

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