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INDEPENDENCE FOR CUBA

That Much Has Finally Been Decided Upon by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

It is Either This With Peace or Intervention With War.

The Flotilla Twenty-six Days Off From Porto Rico Island

Recognition of Cuban Independence not Necessarily a Casus Belli, but in This Event Diplomatic Relations Will Doubtless be Severed, in Which Case Woodford Will Have to Leave Madrid and Bernabe Will Leave Washington.

MAINE INCIDENT IS URGED AS THE PROPER BASIS OF WAR BY MANY PUBLIC MEN

Representative Marsh who Among Others Urged their Course upon the President said that the Destruction of the Maine and the Slaughter of American Sailors Constituted a Foul and Intentional Blow at the American People, the American Flag and American Honor. It Was Done by Spanish Authorities. It was this Foul Blow Which Aroused the American People. Many Senators, Including Members of the House To Day Received Telegrams from Business Men in Their States Counselling Pacification in Cuba. Some of the Members Commented quite Vigorously regarding them and the Fact that They Seemed to Come Simultaneously from Different Sections.

ALL CONSULS ORDERED TO HAVANA.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 2.—THE POST-TOMORROW WILL SAY: "DIRECTIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE CONSULS IN CUBA TO REPAIR TO HAVANA IN ORDER THAT THEY MAY BE ABLE TO LEAVE THE ISLAND WITHOUT DANGER, IN CASE OF WAR. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR GENERAL LEE'S SAFE WITHDRAWAL, IF SUCH ACTION BECOMES NECESSARY. THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS IN HAVANA ARE ALSO TO BE GIVEN THE UTMOST PROTECTION, AND THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE WITH GENERAL LEE. "SENATOR PLATT, OF NEW YORK, WHO HAS TAKEN GREAT INTEREST IN THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CORRESPONDENTS, HAS HAD AN INTERVIEW WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAY UPON THE SUBJECT."

Washington, D. C., April 2.—The issue between the United States and Spain remains unchanged. No communications having any bearing upon the situation have passed between this government and Spain since last Thursday night, when Minister Woodford transmitted the reply of the Sagasta ministry to the President's propositions of two weeks ago. Both governments appear to accept this issue as made up, and are shaping their course accordingly. This being the case the view is universally entertained, even by representative men of the administration, that Congress upon receipt of the President's message early next week will take action which, it is almost universally expected, must result in a severance of the relations of the two countries. This was in part foreshadowed by the action of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations today in agreeing to a resolution favorable to the independence of Cuba, and for armed intervention if necessary to secure independence. With the crisis so near at hand it is believed that if any European intervention or mediation is to come it will be within the next few days. It was said, however, at the State Department late this afternoon that no offer of European mediation had yet been officially transmitted to this government. It was the general understanding that friendly overtures of this nature were looked for at almost any time from France or Austria, and it was reported during the day that the presence in Washington of Cardinal Gibbons and Arch Bishop Ireland was in connection with mediation from Rome, but it was stated on high authority at the State Department that no overtures of this character had taken official form, nor was the State Department advised that any such steps were in contemplation.

BERNABE WOULD WITHDRAW.

It is the understanding in official circles, based upon information, that the recognition of Cuban independence would not in itself be regarded by Spain as a casus belli. But at the same time there is little doubt that such recognition of Cuban independence would be followed by the withdrawal of the Spanish Minister, Senor Polo y Bernabe, and his entire suite, from Washington, and the termination of Spain's diplomatic representation at Washington. Such withdrawal is one of the last steps preceding actual recourse to war. It is probable, however, that the withdrawal of the Spanish Minister, following the recognition of independence, would not be so much an indication of war as it would be an emphatic protest by the Spanish government against the recognition of the independence of a colony over which she claims to exercise complete sovereignty. Although this recog-

ognition of independence is not considered a casus belli, by which Spain could declare war, yet it is viewed in diplomatic quarters as a step which would have consequences inevitably terminating in war. For that reason it is said that the recognition of the independence of Cuba is likely to be no less grave than intervention.

SPANISH MINISTER IS CALM.

The Spanish Minister continues to preserve his outward calm, although he feels that the relations are extremely strained and that his stay in Washington may not be long continued. To some of his diplomatic associates who called today, he said that his conscience was perfectly clear as he thought that Spain's cause was a just one, and for that reason he felt no agitation. His position is a trying one, however, as the Spanish legation has been subjected to a number of petty indignities within recent days. These are of such a petty character that they have not been called to the attention of government officials, although police officers were detailed to see that no acts of vandalism or personal indignity were committed.

SPANISH INQUIRY REPORT.

The State Department to-day received the full report of the Spanish commission which investigated the destruction of the battleship Maine. This document has been expected for some days, but it was not until to-day that it reached Washington by a special messenger from Havana. It proved to be a most bulky and voluminous document, of far greater length than the report of the American court of inquiry. The text as delivered to the State Department is in Spanish, and it will take some time for the elaborate document to be translated. It covers at least 150 closely written pages of official paper, double the size of foolscap. The Associated Press early in the week gave a complete and official synopsis of this Spanish report, the essential features of which were that the explosion of the Maine occurred inside of the ship and that no evidence existed of any exterior explosion.

Admiral Irwin to-day was among the witnesses before the Senate committee on foreign relations which is making a thorough inquiry into the Maine disaster. His testimony was regarded as important in meeting the position of the Spanish commission that a mine did not explode under the Maine, as no dead fish were found in the harbor. Admiral Irwin is an expert on torpedoes and submarine explosions, and he told the committee that he never knew fish to be killed by such explosions.

CALLERS ON PRESIDENT.

The White House was as usual a central point in the great activity of the

day, and the President saw many public men. Some of them urged upon the President that the Maine incident be put forward as a casus belli, the general Cuban subject being subordinated to it. Among these was Representative Marsh, of Illinois, who said, after talking with the President: "I went to see the President to tell him that the basis of our declaration of war should be the destruction of the Maine, and the slaughter of American sailors. That was a foul and intentional blow at the American people, the American flag and American honor. It was done by the Spanish authorities. It was this foul blow which aroused the American people. The general condition of affairs is a blow at humanity; the other was a blow at us." Many Senators, including members of the Foreign Relations Committee and members of the House, to-day received telegrams from conservative business men in their States, counselling pacification in Cuba. Some of the members commented quite vigorously regarding them, and the fact that they seemed to come simultaneously from different sections.

TWO SPANISH WARSHIPS.

Late this afternoon the Navy Department was informed of the sailing of the Spanish ships Pelayo and the Carlos V., from Havre and Toulon, France, for Cartagena, Spain. The officials suppose that these vessels have been at the French ports for some necessary repairs and are returning to Cartagena for such additional work on them as may be necessary preliminary to any active service they may be called upon to perform. The Pelayo has twin screws, is 330 feet long and sixty feet beam. She is of 9,900 tons displacement, has a speed of 16.7 knots and, besides a formidable armament, carries seven torpedo tubes.

Secretary Alger to-day authorized an allotment of \$1,000,000 from the emergency fund for the office of the chief of engineers. The entire amount will be spent in purchasing material for the torpedo defenses connected with the sea-coast fortifications. General Wilson, Chief of Engineers, acted promptly as soon as he received the allotment, and authorized the commanding officer at Willets Point, N. Y., to proceed immediately to contract for the material required. It will be shipped at once to the places needing torpedo defenses and work on them will be pressed with all possible speed.

At 11:30 to-night General Grosvenor announced positively, after an extended conference with the President, that the message would not be sent to Congress before next Tuesday.

The participants in the conference were Senator Hanna, General Grosvenor and Judge A. C. Thompson, president of the criminal law codification committee. Attorney General Griggs was present a short time.

General Grosvenor said there was nothing new in the Spanish situation to-night.

"Not the slightest change is perceptible," said he. "The President is carefully considering his message, and it will be a memorable State document."

"No," he replied to an inquiry, "it will not be sent to Congress on Monday. It will not go before Tuesday. It is no child's play to prepare such a paper as the President will give to Congress and to the country. It will thoroughly review all of this government's diplomatic negotiations with Spain relating to Cuba, and will contain such recommendations as will appeal to the sense of right and justice of the American people—just such recommendations as every friend of President McKinley has reason to expect from one so patriotic and devoted to his country as he is."

"Do you expect any action by Congress on Monday, in advance of the President's message?" General Grosvenor was asked.

"Oh, no," he replied. "Congress will be entirely willing to await the action of the President. Everybody thoroughly realizes that the chief executive of this country cannot be taken by the throat in a matter of this kind. He must have time to formulate his message in his own way. President McKinley for many weeks has been under a terrific strain, and is beginning to show the effects of it. He will communicate to Congress and to the country as soon as possible and there is no doubt

that Congress will respect his desires in the matter."

During the conference the Associated Press news that the Spanish torpedo boat flotilla had not yet arrived at Porto Rico and that the probabilities were that it was now at Cape Verde Islands, was communicated to the President. It was received with much satisfaction, the President reading aloud to the others present the note conveying the information.

Commenting upon the information, General Grosvenor said: "That materially relieves the strain upon the situation and modifies it considerably."

WORKING FOR MEDIATION.

EMBASSADORS OF LEADING POWERS HOLD A CONFERENCE.

MADRID, APRIL 3.—2 A. M.—THE MINISTERIAL ORGAN, EL GLOBO IN A LEADING ARTICLE INFERENTIALLY CONFIRMS THE STATEMENT OF THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THAT THE FOREIGN POWERS ARE USING EVERY EFFORT TO MEDIATE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SPAIN, AND THAT PEACE IS LIKELY TO RESULT.

CONFERENCE WAS HELD LAST NIGHT WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY THE AMBASSADORS OF THE LEADING POWERS, SEVERAL OF WHOM HAD SEEN UNITED STATES MINISTER WOODFORD DURING THE DAY.

EL GLOBO SAYS THAT SPAIN, SEEING THAT THE SYMPATHY OF THE POWERS IS OPENLY WITH HER, WILL SOON COME FORWARD NOT ONLY IN DEFENSE OF HER OWN RIGHTS, BUT AS THE CHAMPION OF EUROPE AGAINST AGGRESSIVE ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES.

CORREO ESPAÑOLA SAYS THAT THE MAIL STEAMER ALFONSO XIII. ARRIVED AT CORUNNA ON FRIDAY, HAVING ON BOARD TWO PRISONERS, CHARGED WITH AN ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP THE SPANISH CRUISER ALMIRANTE OQUENDO IN HAVANA HARBOR. IT IS ALSO MENTIONED THAT JULIO ANIBAL ENRIQUETA AND A CORRESPONDENT OF A NEW YORK NEWSPAPER WERE IMPLICATED IN THE ATTEMPTED OUTRAGE.

PREPARING FOR FLIGHT.

Royal Household at Madrid Alarmed at Situation.

Berlin, April 2.—The German Ambassador at Madrid, Herr Von Radowitz, reports to the Foreign office here that the Spanish Royal family fears an outbreak unless the differences between the United States and Spain are soon settled.

The Carlist movement is assuming a more active form and the Royal family fears, especially a pronunciamento from General Weyler and the military party.

Everything is prepared in the royal castles for flight. The boy king, Alfonso, will be taken to San Luca de Barameda, an Andalusian port, where a yacht is kept ready for sailing.

The replies to the Queen's letter asking for the intervention of the European powers have been wholly unsatisfactory.

WILL SEND MESSAGE TUESDAY.

The President is Hard at Work On It—Will Be Calm and Thoughtful.

Washington, D. C., April 2.—The quietude of the White House to-night was in striking contrast with the intense activity, and repressed excitement of the past few days. For several hours the President was alone in his private library busily engaged in the preparation of his forthcoming message to Congress. No callers were received except by appointment and with the two or three whom the President did see he conversed very briefly.

About 9 o'clock Mr. Charles F. Barry Smith, editor of the Philadelphia Press, and one of the President's confidential friends, joined Mr. McKinley in the library and remained in conference with him for half an hour. As he left the executive mansion Mr. Smith said that he was, of course, not at liberty to disclose the nature of his visit to the President. He added, however, in response to inquiries that he could see no change in the situation. War was, he believed imminent, but it might yet be averted. He was quite satisfied that it would not be precipitated on Monday, and gave the impression by his remarks that the forthcoming message would not be sent to Congress before Tuesday. Now, that the country realized that we were on the verge of serious trouble, he said, there was a mediative spirit abroad. The people were thinking and preparing themselves for right action as soon as the time for action should arrive.

In the message, upon which so much now hinges, Mr. Smith felt assured that the President would deal fully and frankly with Congress and with the country. The entire question in hand

would be presented calmly and thoughtfully, and with a full sense of the responsibility of the Executive. The President would, however, indicate his own plans and wishes thereby accepting his share of whatever might be the result, as was becoming in a brave, patriotic, American President.

Mr. Smith said, in conclusion that he knew nothing of the prospect of mediation to be offered by foreign powers, except what he had seen in the newspapers; but intimated that the question now would be settled on the one hand by Spain, and on the other by the Congress and the President of the United States.

SPAIN IS TO BLAME.

The Senate Committee Will so Report to the Senate.

Washington, D. C., April 2.—The full Senate Committee on Foreign Relations has practically agreed to accept the recommendation of the sub-committee for a resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba and recommending armed intervention if necessary to secure it.

This conclusion was reached after a session to-day that did not continue for more than an hour, and so far as can be learned there was no discussion of opinion expressed in the committee as to the propriety of this course. Senators Gray, Daniel and Turpie were absent, but the opinion is expressed that none of them will make any opposition to the reporting of the resolution.

The full committee to-day gave most of its attention to the text of the report, which will be made to accompany the resolution, and which has been prepared by Senator Davis.

The committee also had Admiral Irwin before them for some time to-day examining him as a torpedo expert on the Maine disaster, and also on the strength of the Spanish torpedo flotilla and the best course for this country to pursue in meeting it.

While the Foraker resolutions are made the basis and the principal additions to them and some unimportant changes in phraseology. The most important, and in fact, THE ONLY ESSENTIAL ADDITION IS A PARAGRAPH FIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY UPON SPAIN FOR THE MAINE DISASTER, AND CITING THIS AS A CAUSE FOR AMERICAN RESENTMENT, IF NOT FOR WAR.

The committee was in communication with the President during the day, and was informed that while the President would make an earnest effort to get his message to Congress on Monday, he might not be able on account of the great demands upon his time to get it in before Tuesday. He will at the same time supply copies of the consular correspondence.

There has been some doubt as to what recommendations THE PRESIDENT WOULD MAKE, IF ANY, IN HIS MESSAGE, BUT HE GAVE THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE WHO CALLED UPON HIM TO-DAY TO UNDERSTAND THAT HE WOULD RECOMMEND BOTH A RECOGNITION OF INDEPENDENCE AND A DECLARATION IN FAVOR OF INTERVENTION, THIS WOULD BE IN ACCORD WITH THE COMMITTEE'S ACTION.

WAR PANIC ON THE BOURSE.

Madrid, April 2.—2 p. m.—The minister of Marine, Admiral Bermejo, denies the report that the government has purchased the Italian cruiser Carlo Alberto.

On the Bourse to-day there was not merely a panic, but there were absolutely no transactions except in the smaller class of internal and external four per cents., with a heavy drop in each, and a still heavier fall in Cuban bonds. Such a state of the Bourse is considered tantamount to a war panic.

SITUATION AT HAVANA.

Consul Lee Has Been Assured That he Will Be Amply Protected.

Havana, April 2.—The newspapers here, from news from which they have received from the exterior and interior of the island, regard the situation as critical. The tone of all the papers is intensely patriotic.

Orders were received to-day for the closing of the contract with the wreckers now at work on the Maine, and directing that salvage operations should be suspended. The tug Merritt and the barges Chief and Sharp will proceed north as soon as practicable. The tattered flag at the poop of the Maine will probably be removed. Any further action that may be taken will be the subject of a conference.

The decision arrived at is doubtless based upon the report of Captain Chadwick, Lieutenant Commander Cowles and Lieutenant Commander Wainwright composing the board appointed to decide what was best to be done with the Maine wreck. In their report, it is believed, the board set forth that it was not possible to save the ten inch guns unless dynamite was used to blow the tops from the turrets.

La Lucha in an editorial, under the caption "Commerce in Philanthropy and Charity" to-day says that many business houses in Havana have ceased buying supplies outside the island, finding it possible to get their stocks much more cheaply in other parts in Cuba. This, the paper says, is due to enormous smuggling operations made possible by the admission of relief from the United States free of duty, and it demands that the government impose duties on such relief supplies, thus preventing the illegal entry of goods "which is seriously unfair to the government resources."

La Lucha claims that many persons who formerly never earned or had a dollar are becoming well-to-do through their connection with the relief work.

United States Consul General Lee has been assured that every effort will be made by the government to protect his person and those of other Americans from violence at the hands of irrespon-

sible persons who are to be found in all cities.

It is claimed by merchants in interior towns that the reconcentrados are selling pork to the grocers for eleven cents a pound in silver. This pork costs fourteen cents a pound in gold in Havana.

The batteries of twelve, ten and eight inch guns on the north coast have been engaged in target practice today. The fleet or wrecking vessels now here will leave on Monday. It is impossible for them to secure clearance papers sooner.

AT DEVERDE ISLANDS.

Will Be 26 Days Before Flotilla Reaches Porto Rico.

Madrid, April 2.—The statement called last night that the torpedo flotilla of Spain has arrived at Porto Rico was taken from a newspaper here. Investigation shows the announcement to be erroneous. The Spanish flotilla has arrived at the Cape Verde Islands, and it is said will proceed after coaling.

As it has taken the Spanish torpedo flotilla nine days to make the Cape Verde Islands, from the Canary Islands, which they left on March 24, it should, roughly speaking, going at about the same rate of speed, take the flotilla about 26 days from now to reach Porto Rico from the Cape Verde Islands, supposing the flotilla was able to coal and start again today, which is unlikely.

MONTGOMERY AT NORFOLK.

Norfolk, Va., April 2.—The gunboat Montgomery, painted dull lead color, decks stripped for action, came to the Navy Yard to-day for repairs.

PURCHASED A CRUISER.

London, April 2.—Lieutenant Commander Colwell, the United States Naval Attaché here, this afternoon purchased from the Thames Iron Works for his government a cruiser of 1,800 tons displacement, and capable of a speed of sixteen knots. The vessel carries six 4.7 inch guns and ten smaller ones. She is fitted with twin screws, and has a protected deck.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon Lieutenant Commander Colwell hoisted the stars and stripes on the cruiser, and had then obtained a crew. The vessel will go to sea within three days. Lieutenant Commander Colwell says the price paid was very reasonable.

BLANCO'S ORDER A FAILURE.

Great Excitement in Havana Over Rumor of Declaration of War.

Havana, via Key West, Fla., April 2.—The week just closing has not lacked in events. All realize that a big game is being played in a larger theatre at Madrid and Washington. The principal happenings here since last Wednesday have been: First, General Blanco's order abolishing reconcentration and directing the mayors, alcaldes and other officials to provide food for the destitute and employment for those able to work; second, the telegram to President McKinley from Senor Galvez, President of the Colonial Cabinet, begging for more time for a trial of autonomy; third, the departure of the cruisers Vizcaya and Almirante Oquendo; fourth, the war scare in Havana on Thursday night after Captain General Blanco had called the colonels of the volunteers to the palace for advice and a declaration of fealty; fifth, the awakening of all classes of the people to the knowledge that war, siege and suffering in Havana are at least possible, if not probable, with a bitter feeling toward America and Americans consequent upon that knowledge.

As to General Blanco's orders regarding reconcentration the papers praise it, though in a somewhat perfunctory fashion. So far as can be learned not a single reconcentrado has left the shelter of city or town for the country, nor is any likely to do so, so long as it is possible that they will fall an easy prey to Spanish guerrillas or Cuban insurgents. There are discussions in the Autonomist Cabinet, and rumors are rife that Senores Doz, Govin and Montero, respectively Ministers of Posts and Telegraphs, Minister of the Interior and Minister of Finance have resigned. These rumors, however, are not confirmed.

On Thursday night a story was heaped about, first quietly, then openly, that war had been declared. The result was that in all quarters of Havana great persuasion had to be used by men of good judgment to prevent a demonstration, the results of which it would be hard to foresee. Up to that night the correspondents had really nothing to complain of in the treatment they received at the hands of the Havana people. But on Thursday, there were black looks and open threats. Police precautions were at once doubled.

Threats of violence in the event of war being declared between the United States and Spain are still plentiful, but the better classes seem, since Thursday night, to have resumed their outward courteous manner at least.

The intelligent people here believe that the big cruisers Vizcaya and Almirante Oquendo are bound for Porto Rico, to meet, and if necessary protect and furnish supplies to the torpedo flotilla, now at the Cape Verde Islands.

United States Consul General Lee maintains a calm, cheerfulness throughout all the rumors and excitement. He is constantly watched in accordance with government orders, but goes his way as if he were in Richmond, declining to regard as serious the numerous and constantly recurring threats against his life. He is armed, of course, and some times says he has not forgotten the lessons of his youth in pistol practice.

The steamer Mascotte, from Key West, arrived here this morning without a single passenger, except Cubans or Spaniards. She left for the north with "immigrants" only. The Ward Line steamer Lampasas, which was due to sail for New York this afternoon, had sold every state room.

(Continued on Second Page.)