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ULTIMATUM TO PORTUGAL.

Must Make Spanish Fleet Leave Cape de Verde, or Be Considered Spain's Ally. Roosevelt to Lead the Cowboy Volunteers. War Message Sent to Congress.

SCOUT SHIPS SENT TO SEA.

Liners New York and St. Louis Will Go and Return as Soon as Spanish Ships Are Sighted. Guns of Morro Castle Still Firing on American Fleet This Morning. England Proclaims Neutrality and Notifies our Torpedo Boat to Leave by This Evening.

ULTIMATUM TO PORTUGAL.

Must Make Spanish Fleet Leave Today or Be Considered Spain's Ally. Roosevelt Resigns and Will Lead the Cowboys. Spanish Fleet Enroute for Atlantic Coast. War Message Sent to Congress.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—It is reported that Secretaries Alger and Long will tender their resignations today.

SPANISH FLEET ENROUTE FOR ATLANTIC COAST.

The navy department has received information that the Spanish fleet is enroute for the Atlantic coast.

ROOSEVELT RESIGNED.

Roosevelt has resigned as assistant secretary of the navy and will be commissioned brigadier general of volunteers. He is a cowboy and will be placed in command of the Texas cowboys, who volunteer. Rear Admiral Walker will be appointed as his successor.

ULTIMATUM TO PORTUGAL—SPANISH FLEET MUST LEAVE CAPE VERDE.

Portugal must reply to the United States note today or assume the attitude of an ally of Spain. If Portugal continues to allow the Spanish fleet to remain at Cape de Verde islands she will have to take the position of an ally of Spain and an enemy of the United States.

The note sent to Portugal says that the Spanish fleet must leave today. It is in the nature of an ultimatum, and a reply is demanded today.

CABINET IN SESSION CONSIDERING WAR PROCLAMATION.

The cabinet is in session considering the war proclamation.

CONSIDERING ARMY REORGANIZATION BILL.

The committee on military affairs met early this morning for the consideration of the army reorganization bill.

WAR MESSAGE SENT IN.

The war message has been sent to congress by the president. It recommends the adoption of a resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States and Spain.

SCOUT SHIPS SENT TO SEA.

The Liners New York and St. Louis Will Go and Return as Soon as Spanish Ships are Sighted.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

New York, April 25.—The liners New York and St. Louis are ordered to sea as scouts, unarmed. They will return with full speed when Spain's ships are sighted.

Regulations For Entering New York Harbor.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

New York, April 25.—The department has issued regulations regarding the entrance of vessels into this harbor. No vessels will be allowed to pass Sandy Hook between sunset and sunrise. These rules are established for the guidance of vessels for the purpose of avoiding submarine mines.

VOLUNTEER'S CALL NOT YET RECEIVED.

State Guard Not to Be Mobilized Tomorrow. Active Recruiting. North Carolina Not to Have a Brigadier General. Three Companies Volunteered. About State Volunteers.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Raleigh, N. C., April 25.—The call of the president for volunteers has not been received yet.

The State guard will not be mobilized tomorrow.

Recruiting is going on actively in various portions of the State.

It is now stated that North Carolina will not have a brigadier general. Maj. Hayes had been mentioned for appointment as brigadier. However, he says he could not have accepted such an appointment.

The companies at Raleigh, Charlotte and Durham have volunteered solidly, the governor's guard leading in this movement.

Adjutant General Cowles has telegraphed to the captains of companies that will volunteer instructing them to recruit to the number of 84. The captains are responding.

The State volunteers will be organized to consist of two regiments of infantry and one battalion of heavy artillery, the latter probably for the coast defense of the State.

TO FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

Substance of War Message Sent This Committee to Facilitate Action. Day Has Probably Accepted Sherman's Place.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—The substance of President McKinley's war message has been sent to the foreign relations committee to facilitate action.

It is semi-officially announced that Day has accepted the appointment to succeed Sherman as secretary of state.

Spanish Merchant Vessel Captured.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Key West, April 25.—The merchant vessel Catalina was captured this morning twelve miles northwest of Havana by our cruiser Detroit, which fired a blank shot. The Catalina reversed and hove to.

New York Volunteers Not to Be Called Today.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Albany, April 25.—Tillinghast says the call for volunteers will not be issued today or until the Hull bill passes congress and is signed by the president.

Spanish Vessel Fired on Schooner.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Palm Beach, Fla., April 25.—A Spanish ship fired on the schooner "C. E. Barkoff," off Palm Beach.

ENGLAND PROCLAIMS NEUTRALITY.

The Somers Must Leave Today. The Somers Already Has a Good Crew.

Cable to Free Press.

London, April 25.—A proclamation announcing the neutrality of England will be posted at the Mansion House immediately.

It is asserted that the admiralty has instructed the authorities at Davenport dock yard that the United States torpedo boat Somers, now lying at Falmouth, must leave forthwith. The time for her departure expires this afternoon.

The report that the Somers had difficulty in getting a crew is not true. The fact is that she already has a good crew.

GUNS OF MORRO CASTLE.

Still Firing on the American Fleet This Morning.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Key West, April 25.—The guns of Morro Castle were still firing on the United States fleet this morning.

Sherman Resigned Today.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—Secretary Sherman tendered his resignation at a special cabinet meeting today, to take effect at the close of the meeting today. He will retire from public life after a service of over forty years.

Spanish Fleet Reported Shooting Towards Our Coast.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—Information is received that the Spanish fleet is shooting towards the Atlantic coast, but is discredited.

Portugal Will Order Spanish Warships Out When War is Declared.

By Cable to The Free Press.

Lisbon, April 25.—Portugal will order all Spanish warships out from Cape de Verde islands when war is declared.

Cruiser Columbia Comes In.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Newport, April 25.—The cruiser Columbia, of the flying squadron, passed Fort Adams at 11 o'clock today, bound in.

Grand Old Man Rapidly Sinking.

By Cable to The Free Press.

London, April 25.—Glandstone is rapidly sinking. His family has been summoned to Hawarden.

Hampton Roads Sown With Mines.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Hampton Roads, April 25.—The harbor here has been sown with submarine mines.

Spanish Torpedo Destroyer Left.

By Cable to The Free Press.

Queens town, April 25.—The Spanish torpedo boat destroyer Audax left this morning.

THE WAR MESSAGE

Sent in. President Recommends Speedy Declaration of War.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—The message of the president says: "I recommend the adoption of a joint resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States and Spain. I urge speedy action thereon, to the end that a definition of our international status as a belligerent nation may be made known, and that we may ascertain of all nations its rights and the maintenance of its duties."

The president's message says that Spain treats our reasonable demands as measures of hostility and follows this with complete severance of diplomatic relations.

"The demands of this government being denied," says the president, "I have been constrained by the exercise of power and authority given by congress, to proclaim a blockade of certain ports on the north coast of Cuba." In view of measures so taken he recommends a declaration of war.

The papers submitted with the president's message established first the fact that Spain has recognized the existence of a state of war.

SPANIARDS POOR MARKSMEN.

Fire on Our Torpedo Boats But Miss. No Bombardment of Havana Today.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Key West, April 25.—A dispatch boat brings news that all is quiet off Havana. There was no bombardment today. There was no attack on the fleet watching and capturing prizes.

The torpedo boat Rodgers was fired on by the Matanzas batteries, but was not hit. The torpedo boats Dupont and Winslow were also fired on and were missed.

FLYING SQUADRON.

Main Part Still in Hampton Roads. Transport Panther to Key West.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Fort Monroe, April 25.—The main part of the flying squadron is still here. The torpedo boat Rodgers arrived today.

The transport Panther, accompanied by the Montgomery, goes to Key West today.

Governors Notified How Many Troops They Are Expected to Furnish.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—The war department this afternoon will notify all state governors of the quota of troops they are expected to furnish and the points at which they are to assemble.

The Paris Escaped.

By Cable to The Free Press.

London, April 25.—The American liner Paris sailed around Scotland and escaped the Spanish warships.

Asiatic Fleet Has Sailed.

By Cable to The Free Press.

Hong Kong, April 25.—The Asiatic fleet has sailed.

HOUSE PASSED WAR RESOLUTION.

War Resolution Introduced In the Senate. Bomb Sent Speaker Reed. Retired Officers to Be Called Into Service.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—Senator Allen has introduced the war resolution.

A bomb was found in the senate grounds today addressed to Speaker Reed.

The senate committee on foreign relations adjourned to meet again after the president's message was read, without reaching an absolute agreement in the form of resolutions to be reported.

The committee met later and agreed to report the war bill as passed by the house.

The house passed the war declaration unanimously.

A bill was today offered in the senate to call into service retired army and navy officers.

THE WAR TARIFF BILL.

Democrats Objected to the Program to Exempt Them From Examining It. Bill Will Be Reported Tomorrow and Considered Wednesday.

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Washington, April 25.—The war revenue tariff bill will not be reported to congress today. Democrats objected against the program that will exempt them from examining the provisions of the bill thoroughly. It was finally agreed to let it go over, and Democrats will be allowed to offer amendments.

The bill will be reported to the house tomorrow and its consideration will begin Wednesday.

Where Is the Minneapolis?

By Telegraph to The Free Press.

Newport, April 25.—The officers of the cruiser Columbia know nothing about the whereabouts of the Minneapolis.

Insurgents Start Forest Fires in Cuba.

By Cable to The Free Press.

Havana, April 25.—The insurgents have started forest fires in Cuba.

Cotton Market.

April 25, 1898.

New York opened today 6.28 and closed 6.33 for August, a rise of 1 point from the closing price of Saturday. Spot cotton in Kinston today 5%.

Paris Green at J. E. Hood's. Try Henry Clay flour, as good as ever was milled, at Dan Quinerly's.

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of Linen Crash, Linen Batiste, Mohair and Other Material.
Cheaper than the cost of the goods. Second new lot in now.
OETTINGER BROS.