

# The Dalles Chronicle

Weekly

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## CONDITIONS NOT SO BAD AS PAINTED

### General Wheeler on the Situation of the Army.

## BLAMES THE NEWSPAPERS

### He Says the Soldiers at Camp Wikoff Are Perfectly Contented and Well Treated.

CAMP WIKOFF, Montank Point, N. Y., Sept. 2.—Major-General Joseph Wheeler gave the following to the Associated Press today.

"Headquarters United States Forces, Camp Wikoff, Long Island, Sept. 1.—The following is a sample of the letters which are constantly received regarding the soldiers in camp:

"In regard to my stepson, we feel very uneasy about him on account of the newspaper reports of the privation and suffering inflicted upon the privates. Although he has never entered a complaint since he has been in the army, we hear from other sources of the cruel and horrible treatment inflicted upon our soldiers under the pretense of humanity for our neighbors, and the whole country is in a state of terrible excitement. I should not be surprised if the feeling should lead to a revolution of some kind, for I assure you I hear on all sides the most violent and bitter denunciations of the war department and the administration. It is, indeed, a great pity that the glory of our triumphs should be dimmed by such a shameful thing as the ill treatment and starvation of our brave soldiers, while the Spanish prisoners have the best treatment that the country affords."

"It will be seen that this letter says that not a word of complaint has been received from the soldiers, and so far as my investigation goes, no complaint has been made by any of the brave soldiers who have added glory to our arms in the Cuban campaign."

"A great many anxious fathers, mothers, brothers or sisters, arrive here from all parts of the United States to look after their relatives, whom they say the papers tell them are suffering, and many of them have heard that their relatives are in a condition of starvation. Most of these people are little able to spend the money for such a journey, and they are surprised when they come here to find their relatives surrounded with everything to eat which can be produced by money, and, if sick in the hospital, they are gratified and surprised to find that they are given every care that is possible."

"In reply to a direct request that I give the exact facts, as I see them, I will state:

"Every officer and soldier who went to Cuba regarded it that he was given a great and special privilege in being permitted to engage in that campaign. They knew they were to encounter yellow fever and other diseases, as well as the torrid heat of the country, and they were proud and glad to do so. They knew that it was impossible for them to have the advantage of wagon transportation, which usually accompanies an army, and yet officers and men were glad to go, to carry their blankets and their rations on their backs and to be subjected, without any shelter, to the sun and rains by day and the heavy haze by night. They certainly knew that the Spanish had spent years in erecting defenses, and it was their pleasure to assault and their duty to capture the Spanish works."

"They were more than glad to incur these hardships and these dangers. They went there and did their duty, each man seeming to feel that American honor and prestige was to be measured by his conduct. The brave men who won the victories did not complain of the neglect of the government, but, on the contrary, they seemed grateful to the president and the secretary of war for giving them the opportunity to incur these dangers and hardships. They realized that in the hurried organization of an expedition by a government which had no one with any experience in such matters it was impossible to have everything arranged to perfection; and they will testify that under the circumstances, the conditions were much more perfect than any one

would have reason to expect, and that the president and secretary of war and others who planned and dispatched these expeditions deserve high commendation.

"One reason why our army was lacking in some respects in equipment was that a telegram was received from Admiral Sampson stating if the army reached there immediately, they could take the city at once, but if there should be delay, the fortifications of the Spaniards would be perfected, so that there might be great difficulty in taking it. On receiving this dispatch from Admiral Sampson, the war department directed the army to move at once, and as all connected with the army will recall, the orders were received after dark, and the army was in motion, had traveled nine miles and was on the ships at daylight."

"When the expedition sailed for Cuba it went there escorted by a large fleet of warships. At that time, it was regarded as impossible for a merchant ship to sail on the ocean safely from any American port to Santiago, but as soon as the fleet was destroyed, so that it was possible for unarmed ships to sail safely to Santiago, the generous people of the United States subscribed money without limit and dispatched ship after ship loaded with luxuries and delicacies for the Santiago army, and everything that could be accomplished for their comfort was done by the president and secretary of war."

"After the surrender had been completed and arrangements perfected for transporting the Spanish army to Spain, the president and secretary of war sent shipping to Santiago and transported our army to one of the most healthful locations in the United States. The point selected by the secretary of war was so situated that thorough protection was given to the people of the United States from the danger of yellow fever contagion. The soldiers, upon their arrival at this place, received every care and bounty which could be procured by money. The president and secretary of war directed that their health and comfort should be cared for without reference to expense, and in addition, the people within a circle of 100 miles vied with each other in shipping to their carloads and steamboat loads of luxuries of all kinds."

"I have just finished my daily inspection of the hospitals. With rare exceptions the sick are cheerful. I have nurses and doctors to care for them, and in all my tours I have not found a single patient who made the slightest complaint. It is true there has been great suffering. The climate of Cuba was very severe upon all our soldiers, but instead of complaining, the hearts of those brave men are filled with gratitude to the people for the bounteous generosity which has been extended to them."

"There is no doubt that there have been individual cases of suffering and possible neglect among the soldiers, not only in Cuba, but since their arrival at this place. Nearly 20,000 men were brought from a yellow fever district to the United States. It would have been criminal to have landed them and allowed them to go promiscuously among the people. It has been stated by the physicians that if it had been done, yellow fever would have spread through many of our states."

"To avoid such a catastrophe a point which is more thoroughly isolated from the people than any other locality which could be found was selected. By these wise means the country has been saved from a scourge of this fearful disease. Every one will realize that to land 18,000 men and put them on bare fields, without any building whatever, could not be done without some hardships. Over 5,000 very sick men have been received in the general hospital, and as many more sick have been cared for in the camps, and yet only about 60 deaths have occurred in these hospitals."

**Ordered Mustered Out.**  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The following troops have been ordered mustered out: First, Second, Third and Eighteenth Pennsylvania; Fourth Wisconsin; Seventy-first New York; First New Jersey; Thirty-second Michigan; First, Eighth and Third Ohio; One Hundred and Fifty-eight Indiana; Second North Carolina; First and Second Alabama; Third California; Second Massachusetts; First South Carolina; and two squadrons of the First Ohio Cavalry.

**Rebels are Active.**  
MANILA, Sept. 2.—Several shiploads of insurgents have invaded the Southern islands with a view of seizing everything possible prior to the settlement of peace conditions. General Rios, the Spanish commander, with a flotilla of gunboats, is acting energetically, but the insurgents have captured the outlying islands of Roableon and Palawan, where they found treasures to the amount of \$42,000.

## TRAIN STRIKES A NEW YORK TROLLEY CAR

### Appalling Disaster at Cohoes, New York.

## THE DEATHS WERE MANY

### Eighteen Passengers Killed and More of Them Will Die—Happy Picknickers Suddenly Hurled Into Eternity.

COHOES, N. Y., Sept. 5.—An appalling disaster occurred in this city tonight. Shortly before 8 o'clock a trolley-car of the Troy City Railway Company was struck by the night-boat special of the Delaware & Hudson at a crossing at the west end of the Hudson river bridge, which connects the city with Lansingburg, and its load of human freight was hurled into the air. Eighteen of the thirty-five passengers are dead, and at least ten more will die.

The cars entering the city from Lansingburg were crowded with passengers from a picnic at Rensselaer's Park, a pleasure resort near Troy. It was car No. 192 of the Troy City railway that met with disaster. It came over the bridge about 7:30 o'clock laden with a merry party of people, fresh from the enjoyment of the day.

The motor car was struck directly in the center by the engine of the train, which was going at a high rate of speed. The accident came without the slightest warning. The car was upon the track before the train loomed in sight, and no power on earth could have saved it. The motorman evidently saw the train approaching as he reached the track, and opened his controller, but in vain. With a crash that was heard for blocks the engine struck the light car. The effect was horrible. The motor car parted in two, both ends being thrown into the air in splinters.

The mass of humanity, for the car was crowded to overflowing, was torn and mangled. Those in the front of the car met with the worst fate. The force of the collision was there felt the worst, and every human being in that section was killed.

The scene was horrible. Bodies had been hurled into the air, and their headless and limbless trunks were found in some cases as far as fifty feet from the crossing.

The pilot of the engine was smashed, and amid the wreckage were the maimed corpses of two women. The passengers experienced no injury, except the shock. The majority of the passengers on the trolley-car were young people, most of them being women.

## RETRIBUTION NOT QUITE COMPLETE

### Cuban Commissioners Will Make an Attempt While in Havana to Ferret Out the Persons Who Destroyed the Maine.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Avenge but not forgotten is the Maine. At present the full attention of the administration is occupied with matters more immediately pressing, but the determination is general in official circles that when the proper time arrives, the manner of the destruction of the Maine must be positively learned if the thing be possible, and that the persons responsible therefor shall be brought to justice.

Members of the American commission to superintend the evacuation of Cuba were fully informed regarding the purpose of the government in this matter at the time instructions regarding the work to be done in Cuba were given them.

It was decided that the American commissioners will discuss nothing with the Spaniards that is foreign to the manner and time of evacuating Cuba, but while the commission is sitting at Havana it will investigate on its own account the blowing up of the Maine. When General Fitzhugh Lee was in Washington recently he went over the

evidence he had collected in Havana, and expresses the opinion that after the evacuation of the Spanish army many people in Havana would open their mouths and give testimony that would show the crime to have been committed by officers connected with the Spanish army.

The refusal of Captain-General Blanco to serve on the military commission and his apparent desire to hurry away from Havana is taken to indicate that he fears there will finally be an expose, and he does not want to be around at the time it is made.

The names of a dozen men have been obtained by the United States government, and the American military commissioners will interview the witnesses, who will doubtless hasten to confess all they know as soon as the dreaded Spanish soldiers are out of the city.

## HIS SKULL CRUSHED.

### Horses He Was Driving Ran Away—His Companions Escaped Practically Unhurt.

ASTORIA, Ore., Sept. 3.—A special to the Astorian from Ilwaco, says:

A runaway accident, which will probably result in the death of Orrin Belknap, of this place, occurred today. Miss Anna Belknap and Mrs. Ross had been in the country, visiting Mrs. Belknap. Today Orrin Belknap started for town with the women. When about four miles from town the horses became frightened, and the efforts of the driver to control them were unavailing. They dashed along the road at great speed, overturning the carriage and throwing the occupants to the ground. Belknap lit on his head. His skull was crushed and his shoulder broken, and he suffered other injuries. Mrs. Ross received a deep gash over the right eye, but was not otherwise hurt. Miss Belknap escaped without injury. Belknap was brought to his home here for treatment. His injuries are very serious, and it is thought by the attending physician that he cannot recover. His skull is frightfully crushed, and he is suffering from concussion of the brain. The fall rendered him unconscious, in which condition he still lies. The injured man is well-known here. Miss Belknap and Mrs. Ross are teachers in the public schools.

## ARMY SENSATION AT CHICKAMAUGA.

### Prominent Citizen of Chatanooga Demanded That He Be Court-Martialed for Causing the Death of an Injured Sergeant.

CHICKAMAUGA, Sept. 2.—General Frank, commander of the Third army corps, accompanied by his staff, left this morning for Anniston, Ala. Tomorrow the headquarters of the Third and Second brigades and Fourteenth New York will go.

Six prominent Chattanoogaans, four of them leading physicians, have preferred charges against Major Hubbard, surgeon-general of the Ninth New York. They charge him with being responsible for the death of Sergeant Frank, who was struck by a train a few days ago, and with conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman. It is claimed Hubbard caused the removal of Frank when his life might have been saved by keeping him quiet, and say that when the other physicians expostulated with him he used language unbecoming a gentleman and an officer. A court-martial is demanded.

**To Gather Up Sick Soldiers.**

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 2.—The Ohio hospital train left this morning for the South to gather up and return the sick Ohio soldiers. The train goes direct to Fernandina, Fla., returning via Huntsville, Ala., Chickamauga, and Knoxville, Tenn. The trip is expected to occupy six days.

**Home For Muster Out.**

CAMP MEADE, Middleton, Sept. 2.—The movement of the troops which have been ordered to be mustered out will begin Sunday. The troops will be given 30 days' furlough before being mustered out. Two hundred sick soldiers were transferred to the hospital at Philadelphia today.

## THE DAYS OF ITS USEFULNESS ARE NUMBERED

### Wikoff to Be Abandoned in Twenty Days.

## DISPOSING OF THE SOLDIERS

### State Troops Are Now Being Sent to Their Homes From the Several Large Camps.

CAMP WIKOFF, Sept. 3.—The great camp will dissolve during the three coming weeks, and by October 1st it will have shrunk to slender proportions. The well men, according to the war department's designs, will leave the camp as fast as transportation can be conveniently obtained, probably at the rate of three to four thousand a week. The convalescent from hospitals, instead of again being sent into camp, will go at once to their homes.

The president, Secretary Alger and General Wheeler had a talk about it, and although General Wheeler thought the men would do well in camp until October 1st, it was determined to continue sending them away. The regulars taken from the posts east of the Mississippi will, according to the present directions, be sent where they were before the war. The war department has not transmitted the order to General Shafter yet, but it will no doubt be received by Tuesday.

The Eighth Ohio and First Illinois will break camp Tuesday. The rough riders will muster out toward the end of the week probably, and will not parade.

## QUESTION OF ANNEXATION

### Is Favored By All with the Exception of Aguinaldo.

NEW YORK, Sept. 3.—A dispatch from Manila says:

One of General Aguinaldo's confidential advisers says that the purpose of the leading Filipinos at present is to petition the United States, asking for annexation. The educated natives realize that they will never attain stability and prosperity under Tago rulers. Aguinaldo is not a party to the scheme; still he dreams of a republic under an American protectorate. Piapillar, the southern leader, and Poab, the chieftain in the Malabas district, show stronger intentions daily of breaking away from the central dictator.

## IT IS AGAIN UNDER GUARD

### Maine Wreck Again Guarded By Order of the Spanish Authorities at Havana—Consider the Matter Still Open.

NEW YORK, Sept. 3.—A Tribune special from Havana says:

Within the last few days the authorities have reinstated the system of patrol boats about the Maine wreck as maintained before the war, intending to show the commission their intention that American property shall be fully protected, and incidentally that they do not regard the cause of the disaster as determined and intend to give no opportunity for the manufacture of evidence.

**Yellow Fever in the South.**

KEY WEST, Fla., Sept. 4.—State Health Officer Porter issued a proclamation today stating that he believes no yellow fever exists in this city, nor has there been any here this summer. The present quarantine will be kept on for a few days as a means of extra precaution to avoid the possible error of last year on the Upper Gulf coast.

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## BEGINS SITTING THIS WEEK

### Fifth Member of the American Board Will be Appointed at Once and Organization Will Follow Promptly.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—A special to the Herald from Washington says:

It is stated by administration officials now in Washington that the fifth member of the American peace commission will be chosen the early part of the present week, and that the first session of the full body would be held in the state department in the latter part of the week, to study the important work before it and to receive instructions from the president.

President McKinley will be in Washington on Tuesday and the cabinet meeting to be held on that day will undoubtedly consider a draft of the instructions which the president and Secretary Day have been considering since they left Washington.

Acting Secretary Moore expects to have ready for commission to the committee all the data relating to the propositions which it is possible to obtain and a statement of the claims arising from personal injuries or property losses in Cuba which have been submitted by Americans.

It can be stated on excellent authority that Justice White has not officially accepted the appointment as a member of the peace commission. The question is still open, and this would seem to indicate that there is a chance of the justice accepting membership in the commission. It is known, however, that Mr. McKinley has several prominent men in view in case Justice White declines.

It is said that the French embassy has not yet informed the state department of the appointment of the Spanish commissioners. It is not expected that the Madrid government will transmit this information until the receipt of the names of American representatives, which will be sent on Tuesday. In delaying the announcement of the names of her representatives, Spain, it is said, desires to show that deference which should properly be paid to the victor by the vanquished.

## MORE TROOPS ARE ARRIVING

### More Santiago Heroes at Wikoff—The Hospitals are Now Filled to Their Full Capacity.

WIKOFF, Sept. 5.—The transport Roumania, which arrived yesterday with 600 troops from Santiago, was a means of an additional test on the capacity of the hospitals in the detention camp. Of the 600 men on the Roumania, about 200 were so sick that they had to be put in the hospital. Officials were obliged to put mattresses on the floor. Consequently it is possible some will have to lie on the floor several days. While the sick were being taken from the Roumania, two of them died. Private Dorga Broomer, Twenty-first regular infantry, and Private Albert Pickworth, Thirty-third Michigan volunteers.

**Short in His Accounts.**

ST. CLOUD, Minn., Sept. 2.—L. T. Troutman, Secretary of the St. Cloud Building and Loan Association, according to a report which has been presented to the directors of the association by an expert accountant, is more than \$30,000 short in his accounts. It is thought a settlement will be made.