

The Dalles Chronicle.

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EVACUATION IS WELL NIGH COMPLETED

The Stars and Stripes are Soon to Wave Over the Entire Area of the Island of Porto Rico.

RAPID WORK FROM THE START

Spanish and American Commissioners Worked in Perfect Harmony—No Attempt to Delay the Carrying Out of the Terms of the Protocol.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Sept. 26.—The American commissioners to arrange for the evacuation of Porto Rico have been eminently successful in their dealings with the Spanish commissioners, and it is believed that within three weeks at the farthest the last of the Spanish troops will have sailed for home and the stars and stripes will be unfurled over San Juan.

Transports are due in a week, and the indications are that in three weeks at the most, General Macias will relinquish control of the last foot of Porto Rican territory.

A fitting celebration is being arranged for the occasion of the flag raising at San Juan. Both the naval and military forces will participate. It case General Macias will accept, it is probable that a dinner or reception will be given in his honor by the American commissioners.

The mission of the commissioners has been accomplished without friction. More or less trouble was anticipated at the outset, but our commissioners have been agreeably surprised at the frankness and candor the Spanish commissioners have displayed.

The language of the protocol was plain, definite and specific. It provided for the immediate evacuation of the island. On its text our commissioners stood, and to their gratification they found the Spanish commissioners not only acquiescent, but seemingly anxious to retire from the island at the earliest possible moment. The Spanish authorities realized that the entire population had become suddenly hostile to them; that they had been dispossessed by the high court of war, and that they were there no longer by right but by sufferance. Accordingly, they made every effort to co-operate with the American to expedite the evacuation, with the result that the last Spanish troops will soon have sailed for Spain.

LAWLESSNESS HELD IN CHECK

American and Spanish Commissioners Now Have Matters Well in Hand—Reign of Terror Ended.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, Sept.—Both the American and Spanish evacuation commissioners have been flooded with appeals for protection. The former were beseeched by the Spanish residents living between the lines and within the American lines to guard their lives and property from the rapacity of the native inhabitants who were threatening them with all sorts of prosecutions, and the latter were the subjects of the importunities of the rich Porto Ricans within the Spanish lines, who feared that the Spanish soldiers, as a last act of cruelty, would despoil them of their property and perhaps murder them. Some of the appeals were both frantic and hysterical.

Steps were taken to prevent disorder as far as possible. It was natural that in the transition from the control of the Spanish government to a condition of liberty those who had suffered for generations at the hands of the governing class, should seek vengeance, or that private individuals should seize the opportunity to obtain redress for private wrongs.

It was finally arranged that wherever the Spaniards in the concentrating movement evacuated a town or position,

the lines should overlap, that is, that our troops should enter the town shortly before the Spanish retired. There was no hiatus and no opportunity given to the lawless element.

When ever our troops entered a Spanish town or position, by the arrangements of the commissioners, the commander of the Spanish force delivered an inventory of all the Spanish military and government property to the commanding American officer and took the latter's receipt. This plan obviates the necessity for sending a commission over the island to inventory government property.

NEW HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT

Form to Be Territorial, With One Representative in Congress.

HONOLULU, via San Francisco, Oct. 4.—The Hawaiian Star has published an outline of the form of government decided upon for Hawaii by the congressional commission. The Star says it is to be called the territory of Hawaii, and be allowed one representative in congress as though Hawaii was a state. The governor to be appointed by the president will receive a salary of five or six thousand dollars a year.

Hawaii will have a legislature, and will make her own laws, subject to the approval of congress. There will be no change in the present form of the legislature. To vote for senator in the territory of Hawaii an elector must have an annual income of \$800. In everything else the franchise is free and unrestricted by any qualification. The judiciary system will remain undisturbed.

IT COST ONE HUNDRED LIVES

Reports Now Coming in Show the Devastation Wrought to Have Been More Extensive Than Reported.

SAVANNAH, Oct. 5.—News from the storm-stricken districts is coming in gradually, and it is probable that one hundred lives have been lost. News by way of the boats which arrived today is that fifty persons were drowned at Fernandina.

Campbell islands was inhabited by about forty colored people. It is reported that all but three were drowned during the storm.

At Brunswick four people lost their lives. At Jessup, one hundred miles from the coast, one man was killed in a building which was blown down by the storm.

At Sterling station Charles Wright, a merchant, reports disasters from the flood great to life and property in the rice fields and portions of Glynn and McIntosh.

At Darien the water is reported higher and the town is badly damaged. The damage by wind and rain extends inland one hundred miles in some cases. There are a great many reports of loss of life in the vicinity.

The damage to shipping is enormous. At Darien the schooner Blanche Hopkins collided with a small schooner, the Minnie, and sunk her. The Minnie had on board six thousand pounds of dynamite.

On St. Simon island along the beach, lined with summer cottages, the tide wrought devastation. Reports are that all the cottages were wrecked.

Refuse to Evacuate at Once.

HAVANA, Oct. 5.—At the joint session this morning of the United States and Spanish military commissioners, the Spaniards, according to a report, declared it was impossible to evacuate the island at once, while the Americans insisted that their instructions called for an immediate evacuation. After a two hours' conference the joint commissioners were unable to reach any definite agreement.

Wreck in the Mountains.

ASHLAND, Oct. 4.—The through freight train on the Southern Pacific, which left Ashland for the south at 10:20 last night, was wrecked one mile south of Zuleka, near Hornbrook, just over the California line, at 1:20 this morning.

Furnished rooms to rent, also suites of rooms suitable for housekeeping. Apply to 19 and 20, Chapman block. tf

LEGISLATIVE CLERKSHIP BEING ABUSED

House Not Maintaining Its Reform Position.

MADE MANY APPOINTMENTS

No Protests Entered Against Authorizations—A Very Quiet Day in Both Houses of the Legislature.

SALEM, Or., Oct. 4.—Outside of the vote for United States senator, the legislature had a quiet day.

No new business at all came up in the senate. A good deal was accomplished, however, in the way of second readings. One of the more important measures disposed of provides for a joint committee to sit after the adjournment of the special session for the purpose of revising and codifying the school laws of Oregon, and present its report at the regular session. Daly of Benton and Mulkey of Polk were appointed on the part of the senate. The purpose of the committee has the sanction of the retiring and incoming superintendents. The committee is forbidden to incur any expense.

In the house half a dozen new bills were introduced. Among these was one by Curtis of Clatsop, which was made a special order for Thursday morning, taking from the sheriff the power of designating in what paper notice of sheriff sales under execution shall be published and placing the choice with the judgment creditor.

At the beginning of the session the house set its face sternly against the committee-clerkship abuse. So uncompromising was the demand for reform in this matter that the power of appointing clerks was taken from the committees and it was required that all appointments should have the sanction of the house or be inoperative.

Yesterday a dozen committee clerks were authorized, and today a score, and not a voice was raised in protest. In fact, the drift is so unmistakable toward allowing all the clerks applied for, and as many as has been customary, that one chairman created a ripple of merriment by serving notice that he didn't want any clerk for his committee. The house yesterday restricted the insane asylum committee to a single clerk, but today it authorized the committee to employ expert assistance necessary for the work in hand.

In the house the bill to incorporate Condon, Gilliam county, was passed.

Freeland of Morrow introduced a resolution asking the appointment of a joint committee to investigate the best means of improving the Columbia river at Celilo. The committee is to report at the next session.

Both houses adjourned early in the day till 10 a. m. tomorrow.

CONFERENCE AT WASHINGTON

Washington Officials Admit That the Philippine Question Must Be Settled Before Consideration of Other Terms is Entered Upon.

New York, Oct. 5.—A special to the Herald from Washington says:

As a result of a consultation at the White House between the president and Secretaries Hay and Long, fresh instructions regarding the Philippines have been addressed to the American commissioners in Paris. They do not materially alter those given to the delegates before their departure for France, but are on a new point brought up since the consultation of Major-General Merritt with the American representatives.

A cipher dispatch was received by Secretary Hay regarding the matter, and he considered the question so important that he at once went to the White House and laid it before the president. Mr. McKinley sent for Secretary

Long, and shortly afterward Second Assistant Secretary of State Adee was called to the executive mansion. These officials were closeted together for more than an hour.

All of the officials who participated in the conference are reticent, but it was admitted that the consultation was held to discuss a dispatch from Chairman Day regarding the Philippines.

It was ascertained that the program which the commission is following requires the disposition of the question affecting the archipelago before any other questions are considered. The president has been informed of General Merritt's view in favor of the retention of all the islands, but the fresh instructions do not affect the demand for the island of Luzon and reversionary rights over the remainder of the group. They relate more to a matter of detail, and are intended to equip the American commissioners with material to answer the Spanish commissioners in case they should raise the point in the reply to the formal demand presented by Mr. Day.

NANIGOS MAY CAUSE TROUBLE

Pacificos Preparing to Join the Insurgents and Fight the Americans in Case It Is Found the United States Purposes to Retain Permanent Control.

HAVANA, via KEY WEST, Oct. 6.—There are ominous clouds on the horizon that indicate early trouble with the Cubans, who are now openly proclaiming their readiness to fight to the last drop of blood for absolute independence. Prominent chiefs in the insurgent army have indicated their intention, as soon as the forth-coming elections are over to come to Havana and work strenuously in behalf of independence. In this they are supported by the labor classes, or Pacificos, not identified with the last uprising, three-fifths of whom, it may be safely estimated, profess their intention of joining the insurgent ranks in the struggle for independence and to fight the Americans, if the latter in any way oppose absolute freedom for the island.

Distrust and uncertainty as to the precise policy of the United States government with regard to Cuba keeps the island in a precarious and unsettled condition.

Havana is deservedly alarmed over the release of 700 Nanigos, who have been serving sentences in Spain's colonies in Africa. These criminals are mostly murderers, belonging to the Nanigo societies, whose initiation rites demand that the neophyte should murder the first person he meets in the street, after the ceremony of drinking the hot blood of a cock. If the feathers in the cock's tail are black he must kill a negro; if white, the victim must be a white man, and if yellow or buff, then a mulatto or Chinaman. These Nanigos have long been a menace of this city, waging their battles in the streets and committing terrible crimes. During the past few years upward of 700 of them have been arrested and sent to Ceuta. The report of their release and probable return to Havana fills the population with dread.

Senor Francisco de Armas, civil governor of Matanzas, has been relieved of his office owing to his inability to cope with conditions there. During his administration nothing seemed to be done to relieve the distress and reduce the terrible mortality. Armas is a Cuban and autonomist governor, and the Spaniards see in his conduct something beyond incapability.

WHITE PASS LINE FINISHED

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 5.—John Stanley, mayor of Skagway, Alaska, who is now in this city purchasing apparatus for a fire department, says:

"The Pacific & Arctic railroad, now being built from Skagway to Selkirk, is well under way. Rails have been laid to White Pass, and up to that point the road is in full working order. Over thirty-five tons of freight are shipped over this spur daily.

"Seven hundred men are working on the road. Last month the payroll was \$129,000. From White Pass to Lake Bennett, a distance of thirty miles, freight is transferred by sledges. Laborers on the railroad receive thirty-five cents an hour."

THE COMMAND IS REPORTED ANNIHILATED

Disaster to the American Troops Was Much Greater Than Was at First Reported.

ANOTHER FAMOUS BATTLE RAGING

War Department Has Ordered Reinforcements to the Scene, and the Decisive Fight is Yet to Come—Troops Now in the Field are Not Supplied With Provisions.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 6.—Arthur I. Pegler, the staff correspondent of the Journal, wired at 8:30 this morning from Walker:

A force of men under General Bacon has been annihilated. I do not know whether Inspector Tinker has more information than I have, but he sent word to the war department last night that the Third infantry detachment had been wiped out.

I got in very late from the expedition on the Flora. We started out to carry rations and supplies to the troops. It was very dark off shore and we signaled for an hour. Corporal Nettlekoven used the code in use at Santiago. Either the troops have been driven inland or there is not a man of them left. No answer signal of any sort was received, although we lay off on the whole length of the headland.

To land was an impossibility in the dark, as the reinforcements from Brainard had not arrived, and there was only one old Winchester on board the boat. We had our rations and blankets for the bluecoats. If any of them survive they slept in the open. Heavy frosts prevailed there. There is not so much as a coffee bean to divide among the whole command this morning.

There was something horribly ominous about the silence in that stretch of brush where the fighting occurred. I don't fully endorse the belief that every man in the command is dead, because General Bacon is an old Indian-fighter, and however badly handicapped, I doubt very much whether he would permit twice the number of Chippewas to get away with him.

Reinforcements on the Way.

ST. PAUL, Oct. 6.—A Walker special to the Dispatch, which has just arrived from the scene of action, says:

The fighting is still in progress. A special train with 200 additional troops will arrive here at 2 p. m., and they will be transferred to the scene of action as soon as possible. Not more than four Indians have been killed and two were wounded. Captain Shehan says the Pillagers do not number more than 100, but they fight as only savages can.

They are holding out now with the hope that the Cass Lake Indians will come to their assistance. If they arrive before our troops are reinforced the soldiers will have a desperate time of it. After the reinforcements get here it will take two hours to embark them and two hours more for them to get to Sugar Point. Therefore the best that can be expected is that they will not be able to render much assistance before daylight Friday.

Fighting Still Continues.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 6.—A special to the Journal from Walker says:

Major Wilkinson, six privates and one Indian policeman are dead. Colonel Shehan is slightly wounded. Thirty Indians are dead. The Journal dispatch-boat has just returned from the battleground. There has been desperate fighting all the morning.

An Indian named Mah Ge Guh Bo, who came from Bear island in a canoe at 3 a. m., says the loss of the whites is ten killed and fifteen wounded. He denies that the troops have been wiped out but says the Indians have had the best of it. Their loss, he claims does not exceed five killed and wounded. Have other information that there are fifty dead In-

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dians within a mile of the landing. The third expedition for the point has just started. There are fifteen riflemen on board, picked. The boat carries provisions. Every man in town slept with a Winchester across his arm. There was desultory firing from the headlands about this town all night. What it is about I could not discover. I think the Indians were signaling in this manner. There were two hundred men under arms here. Mayor Kindle very wisely closed the saloons about 8 o'clock.

FIRED UPON FROM AMBUSH

Santiago Veterans Were There—Reinforcements are Being Hurried to the Scene of the Battle.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Oct. 6.—A special to the Journal from Walker, Minn., says:

A terrific battle was fought at 11 this morning, thirty miles from Walker, at Bog Ah Me Ge Ship's place, close to Bear island. The detachment of one hundred men under General Bacon was landed on the point shortly after 8 a. m. The landing was effected with considerable difficulty, owing to the high sea. After landing, a sortie in the bush was made in every direction. The soldiers went through the thick underbrush very carefully, and with every precaution taken against ambush. No Indians were seen until nearly eleven o'clock. The men were then ordered to line up in an open place near the shore of the lake, charges were drawn and preparations made for dinner.

The order to make coffee had been given, and the soldiers were standing in column formation when the first shot was fired. It came from Bog Ah Me Ge Seig's house. The ball struck Ed Harris, ex-marshal of Walker, a half breed. His arm was broken. That was the signal. Immediately the firing became general from all directions. It seemed that a shot came from every bush. Three of General Bacon's men dropped and were immediately carried to the rear.

On the very instant that the first shot was heard, every man in the command sprang for cover, without waiting for orders. Like a flash the blue column had disappeared and not a sign was to be seen of the eighty men who had stood erect but an instant before, except here and there a little patch where a gray hat might be made out. General Bacon's voice was heard above everything admonishing his men. The general stood straight up, and, supported by Major Wilkinson, looked right into the eyes of the devils.

"Steady, men," he called; "keep cool now, keep cool."

Again there came a volley from the Indians, and that was what the troops had been waiting for. The Krag-Jorgensen opened up with a frightful rattle, just as the pillagers made a terrific rush. Half a dozen of them dropped and the rest fell back, yelling like fiends incarnate. It is not known how many Indians there were, but there must have been between 135 and 200.

General Bacon will intrust himself tonight and await reinforcements. The wounded city marshal of Walker was brought home under a Red Cross flag aboard the Flora.

All families are being removed from the agency at this time. General Bacon is beyond telegraphic communication, and no boat can reach him within three hours.

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