

A CALL TO ARMS

The President Asks the Country to Furnish Volunteers.

FIRST TIME IN THIRTY YEARS

The Call is for 125,000 Men to Fight the Spaniards—Apportionment of the Volunteers by States—National Guard Will Have Preference.

Washington, April 26.—The president today called upon the people of the United States, for the first time in 80 years, to manifest their martial strength, the call this time being to a united people to go forth to battle with a foreign country. The call is for 125,000 volunteers. The secretary of war created a new army corps. The two, taken together, with regular army soon will move on Cuba, and that meanwhile the volunteers will be equipped and drilled.

The president's proclamation, while actually issued, was not certified to the governors of the states and territories, and will not be until Wednesday. The reason is twofold. In the first place, the war department wishes to avoid destroying the present organization of the National Guard, which is to be called into service first. The Guard regiments are composed of 12 companies, and being officered more numerously than the regular army, would have to be changed to correspond to the army organization in order to comply with the order as it exists. The pending bill, however, provides for meeting just such an emergency, and permits the use of the National Guard, as organized. This is more important than would appear at first, inasmuch as many of the National Guard have volunteered only on condition that they may serve as now organized.

The second consideration which influenced the department in postponing the certification of the call until Wednesday is a desire to make sure that adequate arrangements can be completed by quartermasters and the commissary departments for feeding and transporting the number of men called for. This is no light task, as the volunteers must be taken by the government at a certain point in each state where they are to be collected by the governors.

The Proclamation.

The president's proclamation follows:

"By the President of the United States—A Proclamation:

"Whereas, By act of congress, entitled an act to provide for the increasing of the military establishment of the United States in time of war, and for other purposes, approved April 22, 1898, the president was authorized, in order to raise a volunteer army, to issue his proclamation calling for volunteers to serve in the army of the United States.

"Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, president of the United States, by virtue of the power vested in me by the constitution and by-laws, and deeming sufficient occasion to exist, have thought fit to call, and hereby do call, for volunteers to the aggregate number of 125,000 to carry into effect the purpose of said resolution, the same to be apportioned as far as practicable among the several states and territories and the District of Columbia, according to population, and to serve for two years, unless sooner discharged. The details of this order will be immediately communicated to the proper authorities through the war department.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at Washington, this 23d day of April, 1898, and of the independence of the United States the 123d.

"WILLIAM M'KINLEY.

"By the President,
"JOHN SHERMAN,
"Secretary of State."

Telegrams have been coming from every section to Secretary Alger from governors and militia officers conveying information as to the length of time, surprisingly short, in many cases, that would be required by them to gather their forces ready for muster.

Points of Mobilization.

The men, as fast as mustered in by regular army officers in the various states, will be brought to one of three great depots, viz., Washington, Richmond or Atlanta, where they will be organized to meet the requirements of ordinary army tactics.

The fact that Richmond is named as one of these points is taken in some quarters as an evidence that General Fitzhugh Lee is to receive a volunteer commission, either as one of the four major-generals or as one of the nine brigadier-generals provided for. It is believed to have been largely at his instance that Richmond was selected as one of the points of concentration.

In anticipation of the president's call, vast numbers of letters and telegrams have begun to flow in on Secretary Alger, offering service as volunteers in the army. So numerous are these communications that the secretary has asked the press to notify the people that such communications should be directed to the governors of states and territories.

FIRED ON THE FLEET.

Morro Castle Opened on the North Atlantic Squadron.

On Board the Flagship New York, off Havana, April 26.—During the early morning, the Morro castle batteries again opened fire on the fleet, but without the slightest effect. There have been no casualties among our forces up to this hour, and not a single shot has been fired against the batteries.

At 3 o'clock this morning the Detroit made a rich haul, capturing the Spanish merchant steamer Catalina, bound for Cadiz. She carried a large quantity of provisions, which she intended to land in Havana.

Ensign Christy, from the Detroit, and four marines and six bluejackets were put on board of her and she steamed off for Key West.

The Wilmington and Porter, when dawn broke, were both seen towing prizes in the shape of small schooners. The Wilmington's capture was laden with charcoal, and the Porter's, the Sophia, had rum and sugar aboard. They were both towed to Key West.

The torpedo-boat Porter, commanded by Lieutenant Fremont, is doing great work, and if she keeps on at this rate, her crew will have no end of prize money to divide.

About 9 o'clock this morning, the New York proceeded several miles closer inshore. Not a breath of wind stirred; the sea and the heat was terrible.

An Effective Blockade.

On Board the Flagship New York, off Havana, April 25.—Morro castle opened fire on the fighting squadron of the United States, at 11 o'clock last night. About 10 shots were sent in the direction of our ships. Not one of them took effect, and no shots were fired in return.

The Spaniards evidently had seen the lights of the New York while the latter was signaling to a ship of the squadron. The fire was reported by the officer of the deck, Ensign J. R. Edito, to Captain Chadwick, who was asleep at the time. The young officer asked the captain in command whether the New York had not better discontinue signaling.

"No," muttered Captain Chadwick, with the utmost coolness. "There is no necessity for stopping the signals. Go ahead."

A little later, Captain Chadwick was on the forward bridge, whence he watched the tongues of flame shoot out from Morro castle. He glanced in the direction of the Spanish fortifications for a few seconds, and then turned his back on them in silent contempt, and went back to his bed, perfectly certain the Spaniards could do no damage at five miles, which was then the approximate distance of the flagship from Morro castle.

Another officer said: "The Spaniards probably became nervous and decided they could not sleep without some fireworks. They can't hit anything anyway."

There was no excitement on board the flagship during Morro castle's futile attempt at gunnery. The discipline was really splendid. In fact, at this hour many people on board the flagship do not know that Spain's first guns of war have been fired, and that the New York was their target.

Morro castle light, which was burning brightly all the evening, was put out at midnight. The Spaniards evidently realized, though rather late, that the sole use of Morro lights at that time had been to serve as a guide for the fleet of the United States.

No Fears for the Oregon.

Washington, April 26.—The most important development today in regard to the movements of the various ships of the navy was an official statement issued by Secretary Long to the effect that the department is fully aware of the whereabouts of the battle-ship Oregon and the gunboat Marietta, but for prudent reasons positively declines to say where the vessels are, whether or not they have been ordered to return to San Francisco, or, in fact, to make any statement respecting them, further than that it has no apprehension for their safety.

It is known that the department has taken steps to have the commander of the Oregon met by friends and warned of the outbreak of hostilities and of the presence of a Spanish torpedo gunboat at Buenos Ayres in the path of the warship on her way to the North Atlantic squadron.

Three More Prizes.

New York, April 26.—A dispatch to the Press from Key West says: The gunboat Wilmington captured the Spanish schooner Candiga, with a deck-load of charcoal for Havana, where it is extremely valuable for fuel. At this writing, the Cushing is bearing down on a schooner to the southeast. The breeze is slow and while she has on all sail, the Cushing will overhaul her shortly. She has the start, but the Cushing has the steam. The torpedo boat Porter today captured the Spanish schooner Antonio, laden with sugar for Havana. The Antonio was sent to Key West with a prize crew of four men, under Cadet Dubers.

Key West, April 26.—The government has taken control and all press matter will be handled subject to the decision of the censor. Telegraphic communication with Havana has been abandoned.

They Call It Piracy.

Madrid April 26.—The capture of the Spanish steamer Buena Ventura by a United States gunboat off Key West has aroused great indignation, the Spaniards claiming that hostilities are not yet supposed to have begun. The citizens of the city characterize the seizure as an act of piracy, being in defiance of international law, and "characteristic of the Yankees."

THE DECLARATION

Congress Passes a Resolution Proclaiming War.

THE PRESIDENT REQUESTED IT

The Measure Went Through Without a Dissenting Vote—Naval Appropriation Bill Passed—Secretary Sherman Resigned—Judge Day Appointed.

Washington, April 27.—A formal declaration that war exists between the United States and Spain passed both branches of congress today. The declaration was made in accordance with the recommendation of the president, engrafted in a message sent to congress this morning. The measure was first adopted by the house, and later agreed to by the senate.

The senate passed the naval appropriation bill, carrying large amounts of money for the improvement of our sea-fighting arm of the federal service. The hull army reorganization bill was passed by the senate, and now goes to conference; Secretary Sherman resigned, as chief of the state department, to be succeeded by Assistant Secretary Day, and the latter by John B. Moore, of New York, an acknowledged authority on international law, and the war department called on the several states for their quota to the volunteer army of the United States.

These make up the important events of the day.

It was not announced when Secretary Sherman's resignation would take effect, the secretary abandoned his original idea of leaving at once, and it is thought he will remain until Judge Day qualifies as his successor. The selection of Judge Moore, who is now professor of law at Columbia university, New York, to succeed the latter, was warmly welcomed by all of the state department employees.

A prize commissioner was appointed this afternoon in the person of Commander John A. Wynne, a retired naval officer. He will be stationed at Key West, where he now resides, and it will be his duty in conjunction with two other members, to be selected as a part of the commission, to make appraisements of the value of prizes and to assist the prize courts in their work.

A few telegrams came from Key West, announcing the arrival there of the prizes whose capture has been reported through the press. Nothing could be obtained as to the intentions of Commodore Schley in so hastily rushing away the flyers Columbia and Minneapolis from Hampton Roads, but it is believed that their purpose is to shelter the Paris or some of the liners from attack of some Spanish cruisers. There was talk of establishing a supply depot in the Philippines to meet the conditions in Asiatic waters. Our fleet there now has no home, and under neutrality laws, the stay of the ships at any port is limited to a few hours. This is unpleasant, besides involving the expenditure of a great deal of coal, so that it may become necessary for Commodore Dewey to seize a port in the Philippines and fortify it as a base of supplies.

The department today purchased two tugs, the Hortense, of New Orleans, and the Mary Willick, of Galveston. The feature of interest at the war department was the dispatch to the governors of the states and territories, of circulars, notifying them how many men they would be expected to furnish as volunteers, how they should be apportioned among the three arms of the service, and where they should rendezvous as a United States army. A good many details to be arranged in order to carry out the project for the mobilization of the volunteers, but these are rapidly being disposed of.

The rendezvous for the troops to be mustered in the service of the volunteer army in the Pacific states and territories has been designated by Secretary Alger as follows:

California—San Francisco.
Colorado—Denver.
Idaho—Boise.
Montana—Helena.
Oregon—Portland.
Utah—Ogden.
Wyoming—Cheyenne.

THE BLOCKADE PERFECT.

Vigorous Chasing of Every Moving Light That Appears.

On Board the Flagship New York, off Havana, April 27.—The early morning hours today were taken up by a vigorous chasing of moving lights. The only vessels spoken were the British schooner Iolanthe, of Windsor, N. S. She was allowed to proceed. She was just out of Matanzas. No shots have been fired since yesterday morning on either side. The Dolphin and the yacht Eagle arrived from Key West this morning. The Dolphin carried the officers and prize crews who had been placed on the steamer Pedro and the schooner Antonio. All were glad to get back, although they said they had had no trouble with their prizes. The torpedo-boat Porter made a daring trip into the shore under cover of darkness last night, and Lieutenant Fremont, her commander, landed with a small party and obtained valuable information. The blockade continues under beautiful weather conditions.

Washington, April 27.—Secretary Long this afternoon said Captain Sampson had been appointed acting rear-admiral.

THE WAR RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the Senate and Agreed to by the House.

Washington, April 27.—Following is the text of the report of the house foreign affairs committee, formally declaring that war exists between the United States and Spain, as adopted by the house and agreed to by the senate today:

"Be it enacted by the senate and the house of representatives of the United States, in congress assembled:

"First, That war be and the same is hereby declared to exist, and that war has existed since the 21st of April, including Sunday, between the United States of America and the kingdom of Spain.

"Second, That the president of the United States is hereby directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and to call into actual service the United States militia of the several states to such extent as may be necessary to carry this act into effect.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Full Text of Document Recommending Passage of War Resolution.

Washington, April 27.—The president today sent to congress the following bill recommending the passage of a declaration of war against Spain:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America: I transmit to congress for its consideration and appropriate action copies of correspondence recently had with the representative of Spain in the United States, with the United States minister at Madrid, and through the latter with the government of Spain, showing the action taken under joint recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters and directing the president of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect.

Upon communicating to the Spanish minister in Washington the demand which it became the duty of the executive to address to the government of Spain in obedience to said resolution, said minister asked for his passports and withdrew. The United States minister at Madrid was in turn notified by the Spanish representative that the United States had terminated diplomatic relations between the two countries, and all official communications between their respective representatives ceased thereafter.

I recommend to your attention the note directed to the United States minister at Madrid by the Spanish minister of foreign affairs on the 21st inst., whereby the foregoing notification was communicated. It will be perceived that the Spanish government, having cognizance of the resolutions, and in view of the things which the president is hereby required and authorized to do, responds by treating the representative demands of this government as measures of hostility, following with that instant and complete severance of relations by its action.

The position of Spain being thus made known and the demands of the United States being denied with a complete rupture in the intercourse with Spain, I have been constrained in the exercise of the power and authority conferred upon me by the joint resolution aforesaid to proclaim under date of April 22, 1898, a blockade of certain ports on the north coast of Cuba, lying between Cardenas and Bahia Honda and the port of Cienfuegos on the south coast of Cuba, and further in the exercise of my constitutional powers and using the powers conferred on me by act of congress, approved April 22, 1898, to issue my proclamation dated April 23, 1898, calling for volunteers in order to carry into effect said resolution of April 20, 1898. Copies of this proclamation are hereunto appended.

In view of the measures so taken and with the view to the adoption of such war measures as may be necessary to enable me to carry out the expressed will of the congress to the United States in the premises, I now recommend to your honorable body the adoption of a joint resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States of America and the kingdom of Spain, and I urge speedy action thereon to the end that a definition of the international status of the United States as a belligerent power may be made known and the assertion of all its duties in the conduct of the public war be assured.

(Signed) WILLIAM M'KINLEY,
Executive Mansion, Washington.

WITHOUT A ROLL-CALL.

Impressive Manner in Which the House Passed the War Bill.

Washington, April 27.—The house today passed the bill declaring the existence of a state of war between the United States and the kingdom of Spain in a manner which cannot fail to impress the world. The representatives of 70,000,000 people voted for it without a word of debate, without a dissenting vote, and without a roll-call, but with a solemn appreciation of the gravity of their momentous action. It required but one minute and 41 seconds to accomplish this. The house was considering an election case, and simply paused to declare war. There was no excitement, no cavil, no word or question. It was only in the great cheer that went up from the floor and galleries when Speaker Reed announced its passage that the tremendous import of the act and the expression behind it was shown. After the president's message was read, the committee on foreign affairs framed the resolution, Acting Chairman Adams wrote the report, and it was passed and on its way to the senate in an hour and 6 minutes.

TO SUCCEED GARY.

Charles Emory Smith Named for Postmaster-General.

Washington, April 23.—The president sent this nomination to the senate today:

Charles Emory Smith, of Pennsylvania, to be post-master-general, vice James A. Gary, resigned.

It is stated at the White House that the resignation of Postmaster-General Gary had absolutely nothing to do with our foreign complications. It was owing entirely to the condition of Gary's health. He has been suffering from a general breaking down of the system. The new postmaster-general is editor of the Philadelphia Press.

Co-Operations of Cubans.

Washington, April 23.—Brigadier-General Nunez and Castillo, of the Cuban insurgent army, are now associated with the active work of the Cuban delegation here, and their recent conference with Major-General Miles, commander of the army, is looked upon as suggesting possible co-operation of the insurgent forces in the event of an attack by the United States troops on the Spanish forces in Cuba.

At the Cuban legation, no statement would be made as to the conference, but Senor Albertino, first secretary, said the Cubans would most gladly co-operate with the United States forces, if co-operation was desired. At present, he said, there were 35,000 Cubans in arms, and there would be a general uprising as soon as the forces began to attack Havana.

An Alliance Possible.

New York, April 23.—A Herald dispatch from Washington says: Henry White, secretary of the American embassy in London, is here on a diplomatic mission in connection with the relations of this government with that of Great Britain, and the particular relations growing out of the situation between this country and Spain. One official high in administration circles said that Mr. White is here in connection with the preparation of a new treaty between the United States and Great Britain, something on the line, he believed, of the arbitration treaty which failed last year. He only knew that some kind of negotiations were in progress, and that Mr. White is here in connection with them.

Cheers in Commons.

London, April 23.—Replying in the house of commons to Sir Arthur Bower Norwood, conservative, Mr. Balfour, the government leader and acting secretary of state for foreign affairs, said that in regard to neutral vessels, the government had received from the United States a notification that it would adhere to the principle of the treaty of Paris. The announcement was greeted with cheers. Mr. Balfour announced that no answer on the subject had yet been received from Spain.

Frenchmen Side With Spain.

London, April 23.—The Paris correspondent of the Times says: There is not a single French paper, nor even, I believe, a single Frenchman, who supports the United States. The news from Spain indicates that the national subscription will total £30,000,000. It is said that all able-bodied men are ready to take up arms. All the Spaniards that I meet are convinced that serious resistance is useless, yet they are all convinced that Spain will not yield, but will fight all the more admirably because the fighting is for honor.

Passed the Senate.

Washington, April 23.—Three important measures were passed by the senate this afternoon, each of which related largely to the national defense. The sundry civil bill, which has been pending for weeks, and which carries a large amount of money intended to be used in the strengthening of the country's defenses, was finally passed. The naval appropriation bill was immediately taken up and practically completed. A joint resolution was adopted, giving the president power to prevent the exportation of coal and other war material.

The Spanish Courts.

Madrid, April 23.—In the Spanish senate today, Marshal Martinez Campos asked the minister for foreign affairs, Gullon, to make a statement regarding the relations of Spain and the United States, whereupon the latter replied that the relations were broken off. The ex-captain-general of Cuba then made a patriotic speech, in which he declared that Cuba will never lose her Spanish sovereignty.

Charles Fiester Sentenced.

Grants Pass, Or., April 23.—Judge Hale this afternoon pronounced the death sentence upon Charles Fiester, the wife-murderer, fixing Friday, June 10, as the date of execution. Fiester broke completely down and wept like a child. Fiester drowned his wife in a pool of water in May, 1895.

Naval and Military Preparations.

Washington, April 23.—With the actual beginning of war, military and naval preparations were vastly stimulated today. The navy bought a ship and number of yachts. It secured some more material for guns and renewed orders for haste in the construction of guns. Orders were sent to the squadrons to guard their movements and the preliminaries of a blockade were executed.

Secretary Long has decided to assign Commodore Howell to command the newly organized patrol fleet, consisting of the Yosemite, Prairie, Yankee and Dixie. Secretary Long was very anxious to avail himself of the experience of Commodore Howell, but found some difficulty in doing so, in view of the fact that he outranks both Schley and Sampson, in command of the two fleets. Neither of these officers could in justice have been relieved to make room for the former commander of the European squadron.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Trade Conditions in the Leading Cities of the World.

[Reported by Downing, Hopkins & Co., Inc., Board of Trade Brokers, 711 to 714 Chamber of Commerce building, Portland, Oregon.]

The prospect of arranging peaceably the differences between Spain and this country began to disappear about the opening of this month. Foreign buying of cash wheat began then in a liberal way and continued on a larger scale than the speculators would at the time believe. Between March 30, when Leiter reported 2,500,000 bushels sold abroad in one transaction, and the middle of last week, when in two days he reported 1,800,000 bushels, his sales of spot were almost 6,000,000 bushels. Within that same period he kept disposing of May on the hard spots, possibly in the two weeks to the extent of 2,000,000 bushels. Last Friday the enormous July sales effected through Cudahy, estimated by different people from 5,000,000 to 8,000,000 bushels. That drew attention to the enormous liquidation of May and cash that had been quietly effected during a fortnight. It did not require long retrospection to make plain that within less than three weeks the Leiter selling of cash, May and July had aggregated from 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 bushels. What has made this possible was demonstrated Saturday, when, in spite of the known enormous selling of the largest holder, the foreign markets came higher and foreign orders were received on a scale to rally prices two cents a bushel. At the close of last week traders were agreed that the one man influences, so all important for a year, had at last been supplanted by broader ones; that what Leiter did would not be nearly so influential for the future as what the foreigners did and that crop prospects and receipts and exports and the other circumstances, of which one operator might learn as well as another, would become the important factors again.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 80@90c; Valley and Bluestem, 93c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$4.65; Graham, \$4.00; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 40@41c; choice gray, 38@39c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$25; brewing, \$26 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$18 per ton; middlings, \$24; shorts, \$18. Hay—Timothy, \$13@14; clover, \$11@12; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton. Eggs—Oregon, 12c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 40@45c; fair to good, 35@40c; dairy, 30@35c per roll.

Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13½c; Young America, 13@14c. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$4.00 per dozen; hens, \$4.00@4.50; geese, \$6.50@7.00; ducks, \$6.00@6.50 per dozen; turkeys, live, 14@15c per pound.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 30@40c per sack; sweets, \$1.75@2 per cental. Onions—Oregon, \$2.25@2.50 per sack. Hops—5@12½c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4@6c.

Wool—Valley, 14@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 8@12c; mohair, 25c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 4c; dressed mutton, 6½c; spring lambs, 10c per lb. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.25; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$5.00@6.25 per 100 pounds. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50@4.00; cows, \$2.50@3.25; dressed beef, 6½@7c per pound. Veal—Large, 5@5½c; small, 6@6½c per pound.

Seattle Market.

Potatoes—Yakimas, \$12@13 per ton; natives, \$9@11; sweets, 2½c per pound; box of 60 pounds, \$1.75. Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 25c; ranch, 10@12c; dairy, 16c; Iowa fancy creamery, 23c. Cheese—Native Washington, 12@13c; Eastern cheese, 12½c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 15c; California ranch, 14c.

Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, 8c; cows, 7@7½c; mutton, 8½c; pork, 7c; veal, small, 8c. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 15@16c; dressed, 17c; turkeys, live, 14c; dressed, 17@18c. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 6@7c; steel heads, 7@8c; salmon trout, 9@10c; flounders and sole, 8@4c; tom cod, 4c; ling cod, 4@5c; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 3@5c; herring, 4c.

Olympia oysters, per sack, \$3@3.25. Corn—Whole, \$23; cracked, per ton, \$24; feed meal, \$24 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$26; whole, \$25. Flour—Patents, per barrel, \$4.25@4.50; straight, \$4.25; California brands, \$5.50; Dakota brands, \$5.00@5.75; buckwheat flour, \$6.50. Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$16; shorts, per ton, \$17@18. Feed—Chopped feed, \$21@22 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$18@19; oil cake meal, per ton, \$35.

Hay—Puget Sound, new, per ton, \$10@13; Eastern Washington timothy, \$17; alfalfa, \$11; straw, \$7. Oats—Choice, per ton, \$25@26. Wheat—Feed wheat, per ton, \$22@24.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Nevada, 11@13c; Oregon, 12@14c; Southern coast lambs, 7@8c. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$23@25.50; California bran, \$21.00@21.50 per ton. Onions—Silverskins, \$2.50@2.65 per cental. Butter—Fancy creamery, 90c; do seconds, 18½c; fancy dairy, 19c; good to choice, 17@18c per pound. Potatoes—Early Rose, 40@50c.