



TAFT AND BACON WILL GO TO CUBA

President Acts to End Island's Woes.

EARNEST APPEAL TO NATION

Sink Differences and Preserve Independence.

MUST CEASE HOSTILITIES

American Statesmen Will Aid Distracted People to Restore Permanent Peace—Intervention as Sole Alternative.

OYSTER BAY, Sept. 14.—After a protracted conference with Secretary of War Taft, Acting Secretary of State Bacon and Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte, President Roosevelt tonight addressed an important communication to Cuba and arranged to send Mr. Taft and Mr. Bacon to that island on Saturday to make a thorough investigation of conditions there and lend their influence to restore peace.

The communication is addressed to the Cuban Minister to the United States, Senor Quesada. It is an impassioned plea to Cuba to realize her responsibilities as a self-governing Republic and to restore peace in the island. Attention is called in no uncertain language to the responsibility which the United States bears to the island and the certainty that that responsibility will necessarily be exercised, should peace not be preserved. The President says he has certain information that the peace of the island is menaced and American property has been destroyed.

Taft and Bacon Leave Sunday.

Mr. Taft and Mr. Bacon will leave for Cuba Sunday. They will go by rail to Key West, Florida, and from there the journey to Havana will be completed on a naval vessel, probably the cruiser Des Moines.

The conference which resulted in the Cuban decision began at Sagamore Hill shortly after 3 o'clock this afternoon and continued until 10 o'clock tonight. At its conclusion Mr. Taft, Secretary Bonaparte and Mr. Bacon left for New York and will go to Washington tomorrow.

Mr. Taft said as he left Oyster Bay that he had no idea as to the length of his visit to Cuba. He indicated that there would be no haste in the investigation, which would be thorough. Aside from this information, no discussion will be divulged by those attending the conference. The statement being made that the letter of the President was intended to cover the whole Cuban situation, as far as it was desirable to do so in public print.

Senator Albert Beveridge, of Indiana, a member of the Senate committee on Cuban relations, also participated in the conference.

Following is President Roosevelt's letter:

Writes as Friend of Cuba.

In this crisis in the affairs of the Republic of Cuba I write you not merely because you are the Minister of Cuba accredited to this Government, but because you were intimately drawn together at the time when the United States intervened in the affairs of Cuba with the result of making her an independent nation. You know how sincere my affection and admiration and regard for Cuba are; you know that I never have done and never shall do anything in reference to Cuba save with such sincere regard for her welfare as you also know the pride I felt because it came to me as President to withdraw the American troops from the island of Cuba and officially to proclaim her independence and to wish her God speed in her career as a free republic.

Solemn Warning to People.

I desire now through you to say a word of solemn warning to your people, whose warmest well-wisher I am. For seven years Cuba has been in a condition of profound peace and of steadily growing prosperity. For four years this peace and prosperity have obtained under her own independent government. Her peace, prosperity and independence are now menaced, for all possible evils that can befall Cuba the worst is the evil of anarchy into which civil war and revolutionary disturbances will assuredly throw her. Whoever is responsible for armed revolution and outrage, whoever is responsible in any way for the condition of affairs that now obtains, is an enemy of Cuba, and doubly heavy is the responsibility of the man, affecting to be the especial champion of Cuban independence, who takes any step which will jeopardize that independence. For there is just one way in which Cuban independence can be secured and that is for the Cuban people to show their ability to continue in the path of peace and order and progress. This Nation asks nothing of Cuba save that it shall continue to develop as it has developed during the past seven years, that it shall grow and practice the orderly liberty which will assuredly bring an ever-increasing mass of peace and prosperity to the beautiful Queen of the West Indies.

When Intervention Will Come.

Our intervention in Cuban affairs will only come if Cuba herself shows that she has fallen into the insurrectionary habit; that she has failed the self-restraint necessary to peaceful self-government, and that her contending factions have plunged the country into anarchy. I solemnly adjure all Cuban patriots to band together to sink all differences and personal animosities and to remember that the only way that they can preserve the independence of the republic is to prevent the necessity of outside interference by rescuing it from the anarchy of civil war. I earnestly hope that this word of adjuration of mine, given in the name of the American people, the staunch friends and well-wishers of Cuba that there are in all the world, will be taken as it is meant, will be seriously considered and will

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Palma Supported With Men and Money by Extra Session.

Must Cease Hostilities.

The information at hand shows that social bonds throughout the island have been so relaxed that life, property and individual liberty are no longer safe. I have received authentic information in relation to and destruction of American property. It is, in my judgment, imperative for the sake of Cuba that there shall be an immediate cessation of hostilities and some arrangement which will secure the permanent pacification of the island.

I am sending to Havana the Secretary of War, Mr. Taft, and the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Bacon, as the special representatives of the Government, who will render such aid as is possible toward these ends. I had hoped that Mr. Root, the Secretary of State, could have stopped in Havana on his



Faustino Guerra, One of the Leaders of the Cuban Revolutionists.

return from South America, but the seeming imminence of the crisis forbids further delay. Through you I desire in this way to communicate with the Cuban government and with the Cuban people, and accordingly I am sending you a copy of this letter to be read to the President of the Republic and have also directed its immediate publication.

WHO REPRESENTS MAJORITY?

Taft and Bacon to Decide—Hostilities Will Be Suspended.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—With the principals at Oyster Bay and only agents in Washington, it was difficult tonight to secure any explanation of the sudden decision of the President to dispatch Secretary Taft and Acting Secretary of State Bacon to Cuba, as announced from Oyster Bay. Predicated entirely on the course of the administration's treatment of the Cuban question in its earlier phases and having in mind especially the policy inaugurated by Secretary Root toward Santo Domingo, after he assumed office, it is the common belief here that his purpose is to secure from absolutely dependable sources information that will establish clearly the fact that President Palma either does or does not in his administration represent a majority of the Cuban people.

Who Represents Majority.

From the San Domingo precedent, when President Morales was forced to sustain himself or sink, the administration is believed to be determined to allow the majority of the Cuban people to prevail in the government of the island. The Teller amendment, declaring for the independence of Cuba, as read in connection with the Platt amendment, is understood in official circles here to warrant this construction of the proper attitude of the United States Government in the present Cuban crisis. It will be for Mr. Taft and Mr. Bacon to determine for themselves whether in their opinion the best interests of the island are represented by the revolutionary forces or whether, in the interests of order and public well and the future welfare of Cuba, the Palma government should be sustained. Of course their report to the President will be merely advisory and he shall with him to determine whether he shall accept their conclusions.

Will Suspend Hostilities.

But it is assumed that pending their decision and report the moral forces of the United States will endeavor to maintain the status quo and there is reason to believe from the report that the insurgent leaders, Zayas and Castillo have offered to surrender to Commander Colwell of the American cruiser Denver, that they are prepared to accept this arbitration.

Therefore a cessation of hostilities is expected, as soon as the leaders of the various insurgent bands have been informed of the President's action today, though, of course it is possible that, owing to the difficulty of communicating with them from Havana, some clashes may occur before the news reaches them.

EIGHT VESSELS FOR CUBA

Large American Naval and Marine Force Soon Off Coast.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Having done everything in the way of preparation for eventualities in Cuba which prudence and experience could suggest, the officials in Washington who are temporarily acting as heads of the military branches of the Government today did nothing more than await developments and watch the execution of the plans they had already formed. It was, of course, possible as the result of the Cabinet council at Oyster Bay that other orders might come from the President, but such was not the case, and it was said that there was nothing to be done but to await developments in Cuba.

There was no cessation on this account of the activities of the subordinate offi-

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IMPROVE MOUTH OF COLUMBIA FIRST

Colonel Roessler Advises That Efforts Be Centered on the Bar.

THEN DEEPEN THE RIVER

Address of Government Engineer at Chamber of Commerce Meeting. Speech by Congressman Ransdell.

FINISH JETTY FIRST, SAYS COLONEL ROESSLER.

That further extension of the Columbia bar jetty should not begin until the entire sum for finishing the breakwater shall be available—\$2,500,000—is the opinion of Lieutenant-Colonel Roessler, expressed by him last night at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, attended by Congressman Ransdell of Louisiana, member of the rivers and harbors committee. Colonel Roessler advised also that the jetty be finished "before asking large sums for work further up the river," and that any sum which Congress may appropriate for the Columbia be not divided in such way as to prevent early construction of the jetty.

This means that the Cello canal and the river projects below Portland should wait, or rather that work on them should proceed slowly. Provided the Government continues its present policy of small appropriations, Colonel Roessler said that an appropriation large enough to build the canal all at once is unlikely and "the most that I anticipate, unless Congress adopts the policy of making more liberal appropriations for rivers and harbors than heretofore, is a biennial appropriation large enough to make a contract and to keep up work of construction."

Other speakers were Congressman W. L. Jones and Joseph E. Ransdell, Governor Chamberlain and W. D. Wheelwright.

Congressmen Ransdell and Jones visited Portland yesterday as guests of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. They will go to the bar jetty today.

Conditions are such that the National appropriations for the improvement of the Columbia River should be concentrated and directed upon the work at the mouth of the river, and that the other projects, having for their purpose the opening up of this great waterway, should wait or proceed slowly until the biggest and most vital undertaking of them all is completed. This is the opinion of Lieutenant-Colonel Roessler, of the United States Engineers, voiced by him at the meeting of the river and harbor improvement enthusiasts held last night at the Chamber of Commerce.

One hundred or more of the most prominent and earnest citizens of Portland

gathered at the Chamber to be enlightened as to the most effective methods to pursue in securing the ultimate improvement of the Columbia River as it should be improved. Congressman Ransdell, chairman of the Rivers and Harbors Congress and member of the House committee on rivers and harbors; Congressman Jones, of Washington, and others addressed the meeting, but the remarks of the prominent engineer created the greatest interest because of his advocating the "mouth of the Columbia River first; then the other projects."

Coming as they did from a man possessed of the expert knowledge as is Colonel Roessler, and one so thoroughly familiar with every phase and detail of the various works of improvement, his address last night carried great weight and made a deep and lasting impression upon the representative assemblage.

"Let me impress upon you the one thought which has been uppermost in my mind in making these remarks, namely, that it is good from an engineer's standpoint, from a commercial standpoint and from all points of view to finish the great

work at the mouth of the river before asking large sums for works farther up the river," said he, "and that in my judgment it would be contrary to the best interests of all the improvements, taken as a connected whole, to advocate the policy of dividing up any sum that Congress may decide to appropriate for the Columbia River Valley in such a way as to prevent the early fulfillment of the commercial aspirations which are centered in a deep channel at the mouth of the river."

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NO DEALINGS WITH REBELS

Though Lacking Quorum, Both Houses Vote Bill Increasing Army and Granting Money. Advance Against Rebels.

HAVANA, Sept. 14.—The extra session of Congress called by President Palma completed at one sitting the business for which it was summoned; namely the granting to President Palma the fullest powers not already constitutionally granted the executive for carrying on the war, including the right to appropriate any public funds for war purposes, revoking appropriations voted at the preceding session of Congress in order to permit the diversion of the money involved to prosecution of the war and authorizing increase of the rural guards to 10,000 and the artillery to 2000. This triples the former force of rural guards and doubles the artillery. These measures, which were combined in one blanket bill, were passed by party votes, the Liberals and Independents refraining from voting and the Liberal Nationalists voting with the Moderates.

Palma Asks Means to Fight.

President Palma submitted a brief message, principally devoted to deploring the conduct of the opposition, whom he charged with the responsibility of causing the rebellion. The message contained no recommendations beyond suggesting that Congress approve all recent executive decrees and take such steps as may be deemed advisable for ending the war. The President regretted that the first extra session of Congress should have been necessitated by a disturbance of public order and said nobody would have expected that four years after the inauguration of the republic it would have been in the midst of a rebellion threatening the stability of the government, causing the sincerity of Cuban professions to be distrusted by the world and endangering the independence and sovereignty which has been purchased so dearly with the blood of thousands of Cubans after long years of cruel sacrifices.

Proceed Without Quorum.

When the Senate assembled it was one short of a necessary two-thirds for a quorum. After the message and blanket bill had been read Senator Rocio, Liberal and Senator Sangulilly, Independent, called attention to this, disclaiming any intention of obstructing Congress during a grave situation, but insisting that the discrepancy be made a matter of record.

Senator Bravo Corroaso asserted that in an extraordinary session a quorum was not necessary, and this view was affirmed by a party vote.

In the House of Representatives only 40 were present, two less than the legal opening quorum. The Senate bill passed the House by a party vote, and by a party vote also a resolution of confidence in the President was adopted.

A motion for the appointment of a peace commission of five members to negotiate with the insurgents was rejected.

Ready to Quit With Intervention.

The events of today indicated that the insurgents in Havana Province held the view that the landing of bluejackets from the Denver signified intervention, as they signified their readiness on that occasion to quit the field.

The railroads are completely tied up.

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