

Lincoln County Leader

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TOLEDO.....OREGON

EPITOME OF THE DISPATCHES

Interesting Collection of Items From Many Places Culled From the Press Reports of the Current Week.

Lead and sugar are advancing rapidly in London owing to the war.

Secretary Alger has submitted estimates of \$34,000,000 to cover additional army expenses to July 1. This will be included in the general deficiency bill.

The committee on military affairs has favorably reported the administration bill suspending important laws governing the quartermaster's department in the army.

The emergency war measure was passed in the house on the 25th by unanimous consent. It repeals the limitations upon the purchase of quartermaster's supplies during the existing war with Spain.

Minister Clayton communicated to the foreign department of the government at Mexico the resolution of the American congress declaring war with Spain. Minister Mariscal, of the foreign department, replied, assuring the American minister on the authority of President Diaz, that Mexico will maintain the strictest neutrality.

Oriental advices received by steamer in Vancouver, B. C., tell of a shocking massacre which occurred near Taipei, China, at the house of one Yang Kinshang. A party of over 20 robbers entered the house and murdered Yang, his wife, his mother and children and servants, 15 persons in all, who resisted them in their attempt to loot the house and attack the daughters. When the raiders had butchered all the inmates they set the house on fire.

The large packing-houses of the Atlantic Powder Company, near Dover, N. J., containing high explosives for the United States government were blown up and two men are known to have been killed. Several are missing and a number were injured. The explosion is believed to have been the work of Spanish spies. Suspicious characters had been seen around the buildings for several days.

The large Spanish steamer Guido, bound from Corunna for Havana with a large cargo of provisions and money for the Spanish troops, was captured by the United States monitor Terror. The capture took place 10 miles off Cardenas, after a desperate chase, during which the monitor Terror and the gunboat Machias fired several shots, almost blowing the Spaniard's pilot house into the water. One man in the pilot house was seriously injured. It is estimated that with her cargo she is worth nearly \$500,000.

Eleven people were killed by an explosion at the Santa Cruz, Cal., powder works.

The treasury department has ordered the Saturna, a Spanish vessel seized in Biloxi harbor, released.

In a storm off the Atlantic coast an unknown vessel was wrecked. Another vessel was reported signalling for help.

The monitor Terror captured the Spanish coasting steamer Ambrosio Bolivar with \$60,000 in silver on board, off the Cuban coast.

Troops are soon to be landed in Cuba. The plan is to establish a base of operations, open communication with Gomez and feed the reconcentrados.

Dispatches from Matanzas say an American torpedo-boat destroyer has twice entered the port of Matanzas. The second time six shots were fired at her and she retired.

The harbor of San Juan is being placed in a state of defense by the Spaniards. A new battery is set up at the east of San Cristobal castle and submarine explosives have been thickly planted at the harbor entrance.

Secretary Long has announced his intention of purchasing the Holland submarine torpedo-boat, on Assistant Secretary Roosevelt's recommendation. His proposition is to utilize the boat in blowing up Morro castle.

Secretary Long declares Havana will not be bombarded until serious danger from attack by the Spanish fleet is eliminated. He says the United States cannot afford to risk the loss of a warship until the armadas are destroyed or are no longer a menace to be greatly feared.

The three days' debate on the war revenue bill began in the house Wednesday. Dingley opened the debate and was followed by Bailey, who opposed the measure and proposed to substitute for it taxes on incomes and bank deposits and coinage of silver seigniorage.

General Miles and the Cuban representatives held an important conference in Washington, D. C., and went over the plans of operation. It is understood that the insurgents will be fully equipped by the United States, and will move on Havana, co-operating with our fleet.

LATER NEWS.

The Spanish admiral of the Philippines acknowledges that his fleet has been completely demolished.

It is claimed at Madrid that no Spanish warships surrendered, and that a majority of them perished. The Spanish loss is estimated at 400 men killed.

A Hong Kong dispatch says the bombardment of Manila has begun. The inhabitants are fleeing to the country. The operators in the cable station in the midst of the forts have fled to save their lives. Cable communication is interrupted.

A special to the Chicago Daily News from Washington says: The president and cabinet have received information that the Spanish governor-general of the Philippines has sent a flag of truce to Commodore Dewey. This act is interpreted to mean the capitulation of the Spanish forces.

A terrible storm passed over South Dakota and Iowa. South Dakota reports a death list of 18, and a property loss of \$100,000. In Northwest Iowa, the towns of Pringhar, Hartley and Carlew were badly wrecked, Hartley being almost completely destroyed. Several people in that section are reported killed. The town of Macdonald, near Council Bluffs, is badly wrecked, but no loss of life is reported there.

Governor Lord, of Oregon, has designated the following as field officers of the regiment of volunteers raised in response to the presidential call for troops: Commander—Colonel O. Summers, of Portland; lieutenant-colonel—George O. Yoran, of Eugene; senior major—C. U. Gantenbein, of Portland; second major—P. G. Eastwick, of Portland; third major—Percy Willis, of Salem; chaplain—W. S. Gilbert, of Eugene.

The navy department has received official confirmation of the arrival of the battle-ship Oregon at Rio Janeiro. This was the subject of general satisfaction, for it means very material strength for Admiral Sampson's fleet within a fortnight. The Oregon has been making 13 knots, or about 230 miles a day, and it is calculated that she will cover the 3,000 miles between Rio and Cuba in 10 days. She must coal, however, before starting northward, and this will take several days. Once with the blockading fleet, Admiral Sampson's first line will be of four superb battle-ships of exactly the same strength and equipment.

Details of the battle of Manila have been received at the British colonial office. They came in two cable messages. The first dispatch announced that the American fleet entered Manila harbor at daybreak, stationing itself opposite the city. The forts opened fire on the American ships, whereupon they shifted their position to Cavite, Manila bay, engaging in a fierce fight against both the forts and the Spanish fleet. The engagement here lasted two hours, and resulted in the annihilation of the Spanish fleet. This dispatch adds that the American ships withdrew to their magazine vessel in the center of the roads for the purpose of coaling. One American vessel, name not mentioned, is said to have been disabled.

After the naval battle Commodore Dewey requested the British consul to convey a message to the Spanish governor-general, demanding the surrender of all torpedoes and guns at Manila, and the possession of the cable offices, saying that unless these terms were complied with, he would proceed to bombard the city. The first cable message ends with the statement that the Spanish officials were conferring with the British consul and telegraph companies, and that pending a decision being arrived at the cables were not permitted to handle messages. The second cable dispatch announced that the Spanish governor-general refused to surrender the torpedoes and guns and cable offices, and that he had prevented the agent of the telegraph company from conferring with Dewey.

The senate has adopted the conference report on the naval appropriation bill.

The harbor defense plans of San Francisco are said to be in the hands of the Spanish.

A New York Journal dispatch says the government is preparing to seize several small islands in the South Atlantic as a bases of supplies.

Blanco, in his report of the Matanzas bombardment says the French and English consuls have entered protests on the ground that no previous notice was given.

From Key West comes the report that the gunboat Newport captured the small Spanish sloop Engracia off Cabanas, and sent her capture into port in charge of a prize crew.

It was officially announced at Madrid that the fortifications of Matanzas have not suffered, in spite of 300 shells fired by the American fleet, and that not one man was killed or wounded thereby. The stories of the bombardment received from the United States are received with shouts of derision.

Spanish mail has been ordered confiscated by the postoffice department. In the first batch received at the dead letter office, the discovery of numerous contraband letters, some of which are of great importance to the naval and military authorities, has demonstrated that the order is not only justified, but a wise precaution.

A GREAT NAVAL BATTLE

Spanish Are Defeated at Manila.

AMERICAN LOSS WAS LIGHT

Three Spanish Cruisers Destroyed—Only News Comes Through Madrid and Is Colored—American Ships Succeeded in Landing Their Wounded.

Madrid, May 3.—Advices from Manila say that the American squadron, under Commodore Dewey, appeared off the bay of Manila at 5 o'clock this morning and opened a strong cannonade against the Spanish squadron and forts protecting the harbor. The Spanish second-class cruiser Don Juan de Austria, was severely damaged and her commander was killed. Another Spanish vessel was burned. The American squadron retired, having also sustained severe damage.

A second naval engagement followed, in which the American squadron again suffered considerable loss and the Spanish warships Mindanao and Ulloa were slightly damaged. During this engagement the Cavite forts maintained a steadier and stronger fire upon the American squadron than in the first engagement.

Admiral Bermejo, the minister of marine, has expressed himself as highly pleased with the heroism of the Spanish marines, and has telegraphed congratulations to Admiral Montejó and the valorous crews of the Spanish squadron under fire of superior warships.

The Official Report.

The following is the text of the official dispatch from the governor-general of the Philippines to the minister of war, General Correa, as to the engagement off Manila:

"Last night, the batteries at the entrance to the forts announced the arrival of the enemy, forcing a passage under the obscurity of the night. At daybreak the enemy took up positions, opening with a strong fire against Fort Cavite and Tardenal. Our fleet engaged the enemy in a brilliant combat, protected by the Cavite and Manila forts. They obliged the enemy, with heavy loss, to maneuver repeatedly.

"At 9 o'clock the Americans took refuge behind the foreign merchant shipping on the east side of the bay. Our fleet, considering the enemy's superiority, naturally suffered severe loss. The Reina Cristina is on fire, and another ship, believed to be the Don Juan de Austria, was blown up. There was considerable loss of life. Captain Cadareze, commanding the Reina Cristina, is among the killed. I cannot now give further details. The spirit of the army, navy and volunteers is excellent."

When the United States fleet arrived at Subic, at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Commodore Dewey sent scouting vessels to examine these waters for the enemy, and immediately sailed in the direction of Manila.

Notwithstanding the severe damage the Spanish ships suffered, naval officers here consider that the future operations by the American squadron will be conducted under great difficulty, owing to their having no base where they could repair or coal, or obtain fresh supplies of ammunition.

Another account says the Mindanao and Ulloa were severely damaged in the second engagement.

Mutterings in Madrid.

The town is greatly excited by the serious news from the Philippines, and there is an immense crowd gathering in the Salle de Savilla. The civil guards on horseback were called out to preserve order, and all precautions have been taken. There is much muttering, but up to the present, nothing more serious has occurred.

Late official telegrams say Admiral Montejó has transferred his flag to the cruiser Isle of Cuba, from the cruiser Reina Cristina, which is completely burned. According to official telegrams, the Spanish cruiser Castilla was also burned.

The other ships retired from the combat, some being sunk to avoid their falling into the enemy's hands.

The second engagement was apparently begun by the Americans after landing their wounded on the west side of the bay.

A cabinet minister speaks of "serious but honorable losses."

SPANIARDS' CRUSHING DEFEAT.

That is About All the Dispatches Make Clear.

London, May 3.—While it is quite clear that the Spanish squadron has suffered a crushing defeat, the dispatches do not leave clear the interesting question whether the American squadron has suffered damage.

MAY END THE WAR.

The Probable Effect of Dewey's Victory at Manila.

Washington, May 3.—Washington is rejoicing tonight. Not since the dark days of a third of a century ago have the people of this city been so profoundly moved by war news as they were this evening.

The first battle of the Hispano-American war has been fought and victory lies with Admiral Dewey's squadron under the Stars and Stripes. That was enough to set the people of Washington almost in a frenzy of enthusiastic rejoicing.

For days, they, in common with the people throughout the country, have been waiting news from the Philippines, as everything pointed to a battle at Manila that might be a decisive conflict of the war. When the news came, indicating a great victory for the American squadron, the enthusiasm of the people was let loose, and the streets of the city have rung with cheers throughout the night.

The first news of the battle received in Washington came in a brief cablegram to the press from Madrid about 8 o'clock this evening. As the night wore on, the cable continued to sing the news of victory for the squadron of Admiral Dewey, and the interest grew into tremendous excitement.

As bulletin after bulletin was posted in front of the newspaper offices, each successive one conveying information more gratifying than its predecessors, the crowds in the streets became uproarious. Good, as well as bad news, spread rapidly, and by 10 o'clock, the streets were crowded with people, all discussing the one exciting topic of the hour. Hundreds gathered in front of the bulletin boards, and every scintilla of news—and it was all glorious—was received with enthusiastic cheers.

While victory had been expected, the news of it, coming, as it did come, from Spanish sources, gave a vent to the patriotism of the people, which has been pent up for days. It was a spontaneous outburst of patriotic feeling that scarcely knew no bounds. Admiral Dewey's name was on every lip, and his praises were sung in the rejoicings of the people.

The absence of any statement of specific injury to the American vessels in the Madrid advices was construed as convincing indication that they had not suffered appreciable injury and this was especially pleasing to the students of the news.

Not only was the preservation of the American ships and men considered in itself a happy outcome, but was commented upon as indicating clearly that Admiral Dewey and his associate officers and the men under their command had discharged splendidly their several duties in directing and executing the fight.

In this connection it was pointed out as little less than marvelous that the American squadron escaped without severe injury, because, notwithstanding the disparity in the naval forces, the Spanish fleet, assisted by the shore batteries, should have been able to effect severe damage before it was destroyed. Its failure to do so was explicable only upon the hypothesis of perfect and swift work by the American squadron.

May End the War.

An opinion freely expressed tonight by naval officers is that the very decisive victory of Admiral Dewey's fleet will mean probably an early end of the war without further naval battles of importance. The American fleet, it is suggested, is now supreme in the waters of Spain's Pacific possession, and indications point strongly toward the wresting of the Philippines from their control. It is said that only by acceding to our demands in Cuba could this loss possibly be averted. Spain, it is argued, is confronted with a situation which promises naught save disaster in case he elects to force more fighting. The superiority of the American fleet has been demonstrated in the Pacific, and the same it is contended would be inevitable in the Atlantic in case the clash comes.

From whatever point of view it is considered, the policy of more fighting on the part of Spain promises nothing but more Spanish misfortune. Navy officers think this view must prevail with the Spanish government, and believe an end of the war, on the basis of Cuban independence, is to follow soon, and that, too, without further notable opportunity for the American navy to prove its power and distinguish itself.

It is regarded by some as likely that the decisive victory gained by Admiral Dewey's squadron may open the eyes of Spain to the seriousness of the conflict upon which she has entered.

In official circles it is regarded as almost certain that results of a most serious nature will confront the Sagasta cabinet within Spain's own borders. It is said that the Spanish people have been led to believe that their navy was invincible, and the bitter disappointment over the first engagement of the war is likely to precipitate internal dissension, if not revolution.

Probable Result of the Victory.

Another result of Admiral Dewey's victory, it is thought, may be action on the part of the powers of Europe to induce Spain to abandon what is regarded as a hopeless contest.

TO ATTACK BY LAND

Army Preparing to Go to Cuba.

MAY LAND AT MATANZAS

Regular Troops Now on the Way to Tampa—Object Is to Strike a Decisive Blow Before the Rainy Season Sets In—Work in War Department.

Washington, April 30.—A rather striking signification of the invasion of Cuba was made today in the chartering of eight large steamers, of an average capacity of about 2,000 tons, and able to carry from 500 to 1,000 passengers each. These are to be used as transports for the conveyance of the first military expedition to Cuba. The names of the boats are the Olivette and the Florida; of the Plant line, now in the Gulf; the Southern Pacific Company's steamer Aranzas; the New York & Texas Company's vessels Comal, now at New York, and Alamo, now en route to the Gulf, and three fine ships of the Boston Merchants' & Mariners' line, in Baltimore, the Allegheny, Berkshire and the Decatur Miller. The price paid for those vessels is from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the 30 days for which they are chartered. They will be taken charge of by the quartermaster department at the earliest possible moment.

General Shafter, in command of the troops now concentrated at New Orleans, has been in consultation with the officials today as to the execution of plans of campaign, but the orders given him cannot be made public.

The president and cabinet will consider the large number of applications that have been made for the appointment to the posts of major-general and brigadier-general, and there is some expectation that he will be able to nominate a few of these officers soon.

General Fitzhugh Lee arrived here today, after a 10 days' visit to Virginia. With him came Miss Cisneros, the young Cuban girl rescued from Cabanas, who has been the guest of Miss Lee. The general shared the keen public interest in the report of the shelling of Matanzas. He has visited that city frequently, and was familiar with the lay of the land and defenses. He said the batteries were antiquated and were no longer able to offer any formidable resistance.

Every endeavor is being put forward by the war department to organize the volunteer army and increase the regular army to its full strength. Muster-rolls of the companies of the volunteer army have been prepared in the war department and sent to the officers who have been detailed to formally induct the state troops into the service of the government. With a few modifications they are the same as those used in the late war.

The question of arms and equipments for the volunteer army is now receiving the attention of the ordnance department and the quartermaster-general's department. As soon as information is received as to the exact number of arms needed for the volunteers, they will be shipped to their state rendezvous for distribution.

The three independent regiments of cavalry authorized by the volunteer army act, and which are to be composed exclusively of frontiersmen, are to be known as the First, Second and Third regiments of United States volunteer cavalry. They are to be composed of 12 troops each.

Off for the Front.

Chickamauga National Park, Ga., April 30.—The two companies of the Ninth (colored) cavalry, which arrived in Chattanooga late this afternoon, were stopped after having started to Chickamauga, and switched into the Western & Atlantic yards. Orders are said to have been received to have the troops proceed as rapidly as possible to Tampa, Fla., to which point the troops from Mobile have also been ordered, and they will leave before morning.

It is currently reported that the companies of the Ninth regiment now in camp here will be shipped at once to Tampa, as well as the Twenty-fourth infantry (colored). Officers of the Ninth have been making every preparation for departure.

Another Letter Held Up.

Washington, April 30.—The postoffice department has information of another letter being held up because it contained treasonable matter. The postmaster at Santa Cruz reported that a letter to Senor Sagasta, Spain, had been mailed there, and, under direction of Assistant Postmaster-General Tynan its contents were examined. It was mailed by a woman who gave an address where an answer would reach her, and contains information in regard to the fortifications of San Francisco, where guns are located, etc. The letter will be referred to the war department.