

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.

Major-General Merritt is on his way to San Francisco to take control of the coming Philippine campaign.

The tide of Alaska traffic has turned. The steamer City of Seattle on her last trip brought down 263 passengers.

People are anxious to leave Cuba. The alarm is general among all classes at Havana, and business is at a standstill. The weight of the blockade is making itself felt.

A heavy loss of life has resulted from the terrific gales that created havoc at points throughout the Middle West. Eleven dead at Rockford, Ill.; ten at Elmhurst, and five at Seiger, Wis., is the number so far recorded. Several towns were wiped out and an immense stretch of country devastated.

The American-Spanish war was discussed in the house of commons at Ottawa, Canada. Representative Cleary declared that many Canadians would like to see America beaten by Spain. Premier Laurier, Sir Charles Tupper, and several members, however, made haste to disavow such sentiments.

As the result of recent exchanges between the state department and the French embassy, an agreeable understanding has been reached which gives assurance of the continuance of the traditional friendship between the United States and France, and that neutrality in the present conflict will be adhered to.

It is reported from Key West that Commodore Watson has started for Havana with United States squadron No. 3 to work in harmony with the squadrons under Rear Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley. Commodore Watson took his fleet from Key West singly. His fleet consists of the powerful monitors Puritan and Miantonomah, the cruisers Cincinnati and Helena, the auxiliary cruiser St. Paul, the torpedo-boats Ericsson, Dupont, Foote and Cushing, and the gunboats Bancroft, Dolphin, Morrill, Eagle, Wasp and Hawk.

It appears from information brought to Vancouver, B. C., by the Empress of India that the Spanish did a little bombarding on their own account in the Philippines about a fortnight before Admiral Dewey silenced their fleet. About the middle of April, says a Manila report, Spanish warships went down to Cebu, where they bombarded the city. The troops met no opposition in landing, the rebels having absconded before a shot was fired, taking with them, it is said, \$200,000 in cash. About 30 Chinese were killed in the bombardment, but no European casualties are reported. A massacre of rebels by Spaniards also preceded Admiral Dewey's victory.

The flying squadron has arrived at Key West.

Japan has sent four warships to the Philippines to protect Japanese interests there.

Sagasta has succeeded in organizing a new cabinet. Senor Leon Castillo will be minister of foreign affairs, and Lieutenant-General Correa minister of war.

Extensive jewelry manufacturing plants went up in smoke at Attleboro, Mass. Thousands of workmen are thrown out of employment. The loss will amount to over a million dollars.

The navy department has officially announced that the battleship Oregon is safe, but refuses to divulge her whereabouts. It is almost certain, however, that she has joined Sampson's fleet.

On the departure of the Charleston for Manila, salutes were fired at Mare Island navy-yard, and employees of the yard and citizens of Vallejo who assembled along the shore vigorously cheered the departing vessel.

The first detailed account of the bombardment by Sampson's ships has reached Key West. It says San Juan's forts were badly damaged, and that the Spaniards had considered them more formidable than Havana's fortifications.

The complete isolation of Blanco from the outside world is now looked upon by the leading military and naval authorities as an essential move, and steps, it is said, will be taken immediately to cut the cables which leave Cuba at Santiago. The right to cut these cables within the three-mile limit constituting Spain's jurisdiction is not doubted by the authorities at Washington.

The battleship Alabama has been successfully launched at Cramp's shipyards, Philadelphia. The Alabama is one of three powerful battleships for the construction of which provision was made by the act of June 10, 1896. The Alabama and her sister ships, the Illinois and Wisconsin, now in progress of construction, are combinations of the best features of the Iowa and Kearsarge types.

LATER NEWS.

The blockading fleets of Havana and Cienfuegos are to be strengthened by the addition of more warships.

The bombardment of Havana in the near future is not contemplated by the United States, says a Washington dispatch.

Congress will soon be called upon to decide the question of building a canal connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Rumor of a prospective alliance between France and Spain was circulated in the London stock exchange. Spanish 4's rose accordingly.

The first regiment California volunteers have sailed from San Francisco in the City of Peking for Manila. It comprises 1,086 officers and men.

A Madrid dispatch says: From a discussion in the Spanish senate it appears that Spain seriously contemplates having recourse to privateering in the near future.

Mustering figures received at the war department show that up to Tuesday 106,000 volunteers have taken the oath of allegiance to support the United States government.

Sir Henry Irving, the great English actor, in replying to a toast at a banquet in London, expressed his gratitude for the favors shown him in this country and declared the two nations are already as one.

The firing upon the English ship Roth by the Spanish cruiser Isabella promises to lead to serious complications. The Spanish say it was a mistake, but the British and Americans think not.

Naval experts believe Admiral Cervera's squadron is rapidly exhausting its coal supply, and that as many ports are now closed against it, it will not be able to long elude our fleets unless it gets coal at sea from colliers.

A Key West special says: Three hundred Cubans engaged a squad of Spanish cavalry on Thursday 10 miles west of Matanzas. The battle was fiercely waged in sight of the ships of the blockading squadron. The fighting continued after dark, and Friday morning the Spanish cavalry, which had been reinforced during the night by a battalion of infantry, was seen retreating toward Havana. The Cubans approached rapidly to the coast to join with our landing troops.

A British steamer just arrived at St. Thomas reports that the Spanish cruiser Isabella II fired on the British steamer Roth, which arrived at San Juan after the bombardment. It is alleged that the Spanish ship fired on the Roth, which was loaded with coal, with the intention of crippling her, and thereby preventing her departure. The officers of the cruiser claim the firing was accidental. The Aldeborough also reports that an American cruiser captured a Spanish bark north of San Juan Saturday morning last. The prize was towed north.

Another uprising is reported from Samoa.

Thirteen trainloads of troops were reported Saturday between Ogden and San Francisco on their way west.

Australia is friendly to the United States. The newspapers at Sydney are strongly advocating an Anglo-American alliance.

Two regiments of infantry from the regular army, now at New Orleans, will be transferred immediately to San Francisco.

Australian advices state that a hurricane which swept the shores of Australia has wrecked many small craft in the coast trade.

Late Oriental papers state that there are many indications of rebellion in the Yang-tse-Kiang valley, owing to unsettled industrial conditions.

President Dole, of Hawaii, has confirmed a report that he has signed a bill providing for placing the islands under American sovereignty in case of war.

Spain is preparing to take the aggressive. Eight thousand troops have embarked at Barcelona for the Philippines, and Admiral Camara has received final instructions before sailing with his fleet.

A Madrid dispatch says: It is evident the new Spanish cabinet intends to push the campaign vigorously. It is said the ministry will negotiate actively with foreign diplomats to protect Spain against a combination of her enemies.

The British fleet in the Pacific is to be strengthened to a considerable extent during the next few months. Small cruisers are being replaced with larger ones. The changes, it is said, may mean an important move in the Pacific by England in the near future.

Spanish ships carrying coal may now be well on their way across the Atlantic, says the Montreal Star. Indeed, according to information received from a Star correspondent at North Sydney, C. B., it is possible that at the present time Spanish coal ships are in the waters about Newfoundland.

General Gomez, at the head of an army of 15,000 insurgents, is closing in on Havana. His advance guard, led by Quintin Balderat, had a skirmish with and put to flight 800 Spanish troops. Santiago de Cuba, according to the same report, is menaced by 5,000 insurgents under Garcia.

THE MONTEREY TO SAIL

Ordered to Join Dewey at Manila.

SEAGOING QUALITIES GOOD

Monitor Will Greatly Strengthen the Asiatic Squadron—Small Bunker Room May Make It Necessary for a Collier to Accompany Her.

Washington, May 24.—The news event of the day at the navy department was the order to the Monterey to proceed to Manila to reinforce Admiral Dewey's squadron. The Monterey is a tower of strength in herself, and her addition to Admiral Dewey's force, together with the dispatch of thousands of troops to Manila, is ample evidence that the administration has assumed no half-hearted attitude toward the Philippine question, and is determined to take no chance of dispossession until such time as the United States itself has arranged for the disposition of the islands.

The Monterey is probably the most formidable monitor in the world, yet she combines with the enormous offensive and defensive qualities of a monitor a seaworthiness that is almost phenomenal. The Monterey is described technically as a barbettes-turret, low-freeboard monitor of 4,000 tons' displacement. She is 256 feet long by 59 feet beam, and 14 feet 6 inches deep. She carries in two turrets, surrounded by barbettes, two 12-inch and two 10-inch guns, while in her superstructure between the turrets are mounted six 6-pounders, four 1-pounders and two 60-calibers. The turrets are 7½ and 8 inches thick, and the surrounding barbettes are 14 inches and 11½ inches thick, and against the armor all the batteries in Manila might thunder away without effecting an entrance.

The Monterey's personnel is 10 officers and 172 men, and once she is in the entrance of Manila harbor, nothing in the shape of a navy would be likely to budge her from her position. Her dispatch may have an important bearing upon the intention of the Spanish government, so openly published, of sending reinforcements to Manila.

The only doubt as to the feasibility of sending the Monterey is her small coal capacity. She has bunker room for only 200 tons of coal, and, though more might be stored on her decks, it is doubtful whether she could, at the most, carry more than enough coal to take her to Honolulu, one-third of the way to the Philippines. It is probable that the Monterey will go in convoy, and after exhausting the coal that she will take on in Honolulu, she must either be towed about 2,000 miles of her trip, or perform the difficult operation of coaling at sea.

ONE TRANSPORT GONE.

The Steamer Florida Carries Volunteers to Cuba.

Chicago, May 24.—A special from Macon, Ga., says: Unless some accident has befallen the United States transport Florida, there are now many volunteer troops on the island of Cuba, or they will be there within a few hours. From accurate information obtained here, today, it can be stated as a fact that the first expedition toward Cuban soil has started, and the outlook is for a successful trip.

Wednesday the United States transport Florida left Port Tampa, with several hundred volunteer troops on board. The passengers belonged to the regiment of Cuban volunteers organized in the lower extremity of Florida some weeks ago. It was thought best to send these men, as they speak Spanish and are more acquainted with the topography of the country which it is proposed to invade. It cannot be learned what United States officers accompanied the regiment of volunteers. If this expedition is a success, other troops will be rushed into the island as soon as possible.

England and Japan.

London, May 24.—The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says: Confirmation is given in well-informed quarters to the rumor that the friendly advances made by England to Japan have already attained a tangible result. It is believed that an Anglo-Japanese understanding has been reached, which not only comprehends all eventualities which can occur in the East, but also contemplates all the consequences that might result in the course of the Hispano-American war. The understanding establishes a sort of Asiatic balance of power.

Five Killed in Arkansas.

Springdale, Ark., May 24.—A tornado passed west of here last night. John W. Killingstone and wife were killed by falling timbers from their house, and two Italians were killed, and a third one fatally injured. About 80 houses were blown down.

ORDERED TO LEAVE

Senor Polo Takes His Departure From Montreal.

New York, May 24.—A special to the Herald from Montreal says: It has not been possible for Spain to postpone the departure of Senor Polo y Bernabe any longer. Today he sails with all his staff by the steamer Dominion for Liverpool. Senor Polo went on board the steamer last night, and will go from Liverpool to Madrid. He says that though he was detained here for some time on business, he respected the declaration of neutrality and left this country voluntarily.

He leaves behind, however, the Spanish consul to try to continue gathering information for the Spanish relative to the United States military movements. The authorities are closely watching the consul, and he will be promptly placed under arrest if the slightest deviation from the neutrality laws is detected.

Senor Polo y Bernabe has been loud in his declarations that no official protest has been lodged against his proceedings here, but he now practically admits that he was requested to return to Madrid, for it was learned last night from an unimpeachable source that the Canadian government advised his departure.

Owing to the diplomatic fiction that such questions are not dealt with by the Canadian cabinet, it was possible for our secretary of state to say that the government did not interfere. The action was taken by the governor-general, who is the queen's direct representative here, and who as such is supposed to, but never does, act without the sanction of the cabinet.

Captain Garranza, who left the city immediately after Downing's arrest, is, according to statements of some members of Senor Polo's staff, to be sent to the Philippines with a relief expedition. Other Spaniards, however, say Garranza went to Madrid with very important papers, and will endeavor to join Cervera's fleet or the fleet which expects to call at Miquelon.

A NEW SPANISH DEVICE.

Dynamite Laden Hulks Placed in the Path of Our Warships.

New York, May 24.—A dispatch to the Herald from Key West says that the fertile Spanish brain, which has been adopting all sorts of schemes to entice the blockading squadron within range of the Havana batteries, has adopted a new expedient to destroy warships. The latest device is the sending adrift of hulks made to resemble torpedo-boats after first loading them with dynamite in the hope that American ships would ram them in the darkness. Several of these hulks have been sent out.

One of these deadly machines was sighted off Cardenas by the Hudson. It was lying motionless and appeared to be a torpedo-boat. It had two funnels and a gun over each bow. Signaling the tug Leyden "That looks like one," the Hudson steamed down and the Leyden went along. The tugs opened fire at 1,000 yards, and one of the shots knocked off a smokestack which proved to be a wooden structure, for it flew into splinters. Satisfied that the boat was a derelict, the tugs ceased firing.

A similar hulk was sighted by the Wilmington the next day. This also was rigged up so that it would appear at even a short distance to be a torpedo-boat. The Wilmington blazed away and sunk the hulk. As it was sinking the forward part of the craft was blown out and cans containing explosives were picked up after the wreck sunk. These facts were reported to Commodore Watson.

EDWARD BELLAMY DEAD.

Author of "Looking Backward" and Founder of The New Nation.

Springfield, Mass., May 24.—Edward Bellamy, author and humanitarian, died this morning at his home in Chicopee Falls, in the 49th year of his age. Mr. Bellamy has been in feeble health ever since he finished his "Equality," some eight months ago. Indeed, long before it was completed, he had the most significant warnings that his vital energies were being undermined, although it was not until August that his physicians definitely told him that one of his lungs was affected. At the earnest solicitations of his physicians and his family, he decided to try the effect of the Colorado climate, and in September last removed with his family to Denver, where he was welcomed by a host of friends. He received, however, little or no benefit from the change, and since January has been rapidly failing. When he recognized that recovery was impossible, he was anxious to get back to his old homestead at Chicopee Falls, where he was born and where he had lived his entire life. His brother went to Denver to help him realize this wish, and on April 29 brought him back, very weak, but very peaceful, to his old home. He was born in Chicopee Falls, March 28, 1850.

Died While Awheel.

Seattle, Wash., May 24.—Robert J. Dodds, councilman from the Fourth ward, dropped dead this afternoon while riding his bicycle on the Lake Union path. Mr. Dodds had been having considerable trouble with his heart, and to that is attributed his sudden death.

HAVANA IS ALARMED

Effects of the Blockade Are Being Felt.

FEVERISH DESIRE TO LEAVE

The Early Feeling of Serenity Has Given Way to Actual Panic—Five Thousand Booked to Leave on the French Steamer Lafayette.

Havana, May 23.—The weight of the blockade is beginning to be felt here. Business is almost at a standstill, and there is hardly any movement in the streets, which have a sort of holiday appearance. The parks are almost deserted, and very few people are to be seen on the Plaza de Armas at night, although the band plays there and everything possible is done to keep up the spirits of the people.

There is a feverish desire to leave the island, and over 5,000 people are booked at the office of the consignees of the French steamer Lafayette, which leaves here today for Vera Cruz, Mexico, with this letter, which will be posted at that port. In fact, an actual panic now prevails, while when the blockade commenced there was a feeling of serenity pervading all classes. But things have changed, and the grim earnestness of the Americans is steadily forcing itself upon the minds of even the most hot-headed Spanish officers, though the latter are working vigorously at the fortifications, which have been considerably strengthened since the war began. The Spanish, it must be admitted, are preparing to fight as desperately as possible under the circumstances.

There is considerable feeling against the men who are desirous of leaving the city, and posted on the corners of houses all over the town you can see notices as follows:

"Here are sold women's shirts for men who abandon the island of Cuba."

There has been no disorder in this city or in the provinces, so far as known, though it is true people are entirely ignorant of what is transpiring at Santiago, no mail having been received from there for some time past. The cable is in the hands of the government, and is almost exclusively devoted to furthering military operations, which are limited to evacuating the interior towns and concentrating the Spanish forces at or near the large cities.

It is reported here that Santa Cruz del Sur, on the south coast of Puerto Principe, has fallen into the hands of the insurgents. If this is the case, the latter now have a port, at which their friends can land arms, ammunition and supplies without interference. Other important events are said to have transpired at Santa Cruz del Sur.

The officers of the Spanish gunboat Cuba Espanola have reached Sancti Spiritus, province of Santa Clara, by land, and are on their way to Tunas, and from there by coasting steamer to Cienfuegos. One report has it that the commander of the Cuba Espanola burned or blew up his vessel to save it from falling into the hands of the insurgents. Another version of the affair says the gunboat may have been captured by the insurgents.

Confirmation has been received here that the Spanish troops have evacuated Jiquani and Bayamo, in the province of Santiago de Cuba, and that they have been occupied by the insurgents. The Spaniards say the troops destroyed these two towns before leaving them, but this is not believed. The troops from those places retreated upon Manzanillo, and some of them have reached other coast towns by this time.

Although the prices of provisions here are very high, it is calculated that there is food enough obtainable to last about five months, because it is claimed considerable stores were laid in before the blockade, and no provisions are allowed to be sent from here to interior towns. Eggs cost 10 cents each; a glass of milk costs from 20 to 25 cents, and the size of the loaf of bread has been reduced one-half. This, however, was done before the blockade began.

There are thousands of men from cigar, tobacco and other factories out of work, and the authorities are employing as many as possible on the fortifications. The number of men idle causes anxiety. Up to the present they have been provided with food in one way or another, mainly by their former employers being compelled to contribute to their maintenance, but the time must come when these men will feel the pangs of hunger, and then riots are sure to follow.

People here are looking forward with apprehension to the eventual triumph of the insurgents, as it is believed they will wreak terrible vengeance upon the Spaniards and upon those who have sympathized with the latter. The bulk of the Spaniards, however, are filled with warlike enthusiasm, and are looking forward with confidence to an eventual triumph over the American forces.