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ALGER AND ROOSEVELT.

Secretary Alger shows a persistent determination to convict himself of littleness and incapacity. His most recent exhibition of vindictiveness is in connection with the courageous and manly course taken by Theodore Roosevelt to save the army at Santiago from annihilation by disease.

The conditions in camp at Santiago are frightful. Our soldiers are enfeebled and fever-stricken. Official reports show that not to exceed 10 per cent of the forces under General Shafter are capable of active service. The yellow fever season is approaching, and the surgeons on the ground report that unless immediate relief is afforded, our gallant troops will perish like sheep.

These facts have been set forth repeatedly in official reports, but the usual course in such matters was powerless to impress Secretary Alger. Conditions were daily growing more intolerable, and the secretary of war failed grievously to meet the situation.

In this crisis, Colonel Roosevelt displayed superb moral courage. He had the nerve to speak out sharply, to take the initiative, and dare the vindictive nature of Secretary Alger. "After Colonel Roosevelt had taken the initiative," says the Associated Press report from Santiago, "all the American general officers united in an address to General Shafter, expressing the opinion that the army should be taken at once to some point on the northern seacoast of the United States."

The sharp, bold words of the daring Roosevelt have accomplished their purpose. They have been heard by dull ears at Washington, and tardy steps are now taken to save our shattered army at Santiago. The soldiers will be brought back to the reviving air of their beloved country.

But from this hour forward Roosevelt is a marked man in the army. Alger will never forgive him for convicting the war department of gross incapacity and lack of feeling. Already he has struck a blow in return by publishing through the Associated Press, a confidential letter he had received from Roosevelt, asking that his Rough Riders be given active service in Puerto Rico. It is true in this letter Colonel Roosevelt made some indiscreet statements, but the indiscretions were prompted by patriotic zeal, and he would not have written in so frank a tone if he had suspected that his confidential communication would be published broadcast by Secretary Alger.

Alger's course in this matter has been contemptible. Roosevelt is a distinguished hero of the war, and the American people will not countenance Alger's petty warfare against him. Others have been as courageous upon the field of battle, but none has shown such magnificent moral courage.—Spokane Review.

THREE IDEAL COMMISSIONERS

A member of President McKinley's cabinet says that Senators Davis, Foraker, and Lodge are likely to be the American commissioners in the negotiations for a final treaty of peace with Spain. Three names more satisfactory to the American people could hardly be mentioned. Every one of the three senators is a thoroughbred American; every one of them is devoted to the welfare of this republic; every one would enter the peace conference with the firm purpose of obtaining for this country all advantages consistent with honor. If Senators Davis, Foraker and Lodge are to be the American commissioners the people need have no fear that any fruits of our glorious victory over Spain will be sacrificed to such day dreams as have been presented to us recently under the specious titles of "generosity" and "humanity." A treaty drawn with the consent of Davis, Foraker and

Lodge would surely meet the approval of the senate and the people. As chairman of the committee on foreign relations Cushman K. Davis drew up the report on the Maine disaster—a state paper second to none that has emanated from the senate since the foundation of the government. Joseph B. Foraker was the author of the Cuban resolutions adopted by congress, and is a man who has never flinched before the name of jingo and has never blushed to be known as an aggressive American. Henry Cabot Lodge is a patriot of the same school, a deep student of history, and a clear interpreter of the spirit which guided the fathers in enlarging and strengthening the republic.

If the president appoints these three senators, his action will receive the approval of the American people, with the bare exception of those persons who never have resented the destruction of the Maine, who have not approved of the conduct of the war, and who are not willing to see this country reap benefits from a policy adopted without their endorsement. In other words, he will please everybody who is worth pleasing.—Inter Ocean.

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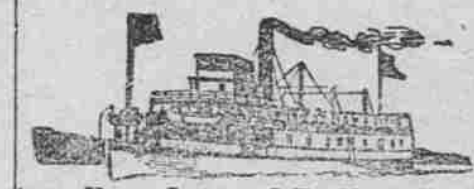
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