

THE SEED OF DISCONTENT

Being Planted in Cuba by Agitators.

DIRECTED AGAINST AMERICANS

Insurgent Officers Preaching a Holy War Against the New-Comers—Garcia Also Denounced.

Havana, via Key West, Fla., Oct. 25.—Pazy Libertad, one of the daily papers of Cienfuegos, published with the sanction of the government, prints a manifesto with over 300 signatures, a great many of which are Spaniards, openly proclaiming Cuban independence.

About 50 Cuban patriotic clubs have been organized in Havana under the management, in a large number of cases, of physicians, lawyers and professional men. Many members of some of the clubs attended the first meeting wearing the Cuban and American flags crossed. The presiding officers of several of the clubs, noticing the insignia in the buttonholes of the coats of the members, ordered that in future only the Cuban flag should be worn. In many instances this order was complied with.

The Cuban general, Rego, has arrived at Havana from Puerto Principe, and is preaching in the Havana cafes and the insurgents' camps near the city a holy war against the Americans. He has interviewed many of the leaders of the Cubans and has urged the carrying on of war against Americans if independence is not at once granted to Cuba.

The Cuban colonel, Torriet, has also arrived from Havana at the east, and is carrying on a strong campaign against the Americans and Calixto Garcia, whom he professes to look upon as a traitor to the Cubans who has been bribed by American gold. The colonel, in an interview with one of the leading newspapers in Havana, made all sorts of charges against Garcia and the Americans, but the censor would not allow an account of the interview to be published, fearing that it might give rise to disturbances.

A secret circular has been sent to the presidents of all the Cuban patriotic committees, denouncing a large number of Cubans, who are looked upon as traitors to the cause of Cuban independence, and are charged with being attached to the Americans. The circular recommends a vigorous contest against not only Spanish residents, but against the Americans as well, "who are endeavoring to steal the Cubans' victory."

The Spanish colonel, Cervera, military governor of Mariano, pays daily visits to the insurgent camps in his district, advising the Cubans not to surrender their arms and to make resistance until the independence of the island is declared. Colonel Cervera is an intimate friend of General Parrado, president of the evacuation commission.

During the last two weeks, several hundred Remington carbines and large quantities of ammunition have been sent from Havana, it is presumed, by some of the Spanish chiefs. The Spanish residents, manufacturers, merchants and planters are somewhat alarmed and criticize in very severe terms the behavior of some of the Spanish chiefs, who, it is alleged, are acting suspiciously in many places, and are working in favor of Cuban independence, advising the Cubans to persist in their revolutionary attitude. For this reason, many of the Spanish residents here have written long letters to friends in Madrid in order that the home government may be acquainted with what is happening in the island, and have requested that on behalf of Spain's interests and the part of the Spanish residents, the evacuation may be completed as soon as possible, so as to avoid prolonging the existing dangerous condition of affairs.

Owing to the fact that Spanish officers are selling commissary stores at any price obtainable, the army supplies are now a drug on the market in the interior, making legitimate trade impossible.

It is asserted as the Spanish rule in Cuba draws to a close, corruption and robbery daily become more open and wholesale. The committee on transportation, charged with furnishing passage tickets to Spanish officers returning to Spain, are charging an arbitrary rate of \$4 each for a berth. If the victim refuses to give up, he is made to wait several steamers, the commission claiming there is no room. Generally the officer is glad to pay the tax in order to get away. This abuse is openly spoken of, but the present situation is a free-for-all, grab-as-grab-can game, and every one appears eager to make money while the Spanish sun shines.

The official report of the burials in the city of Havana since the first of the present year shows that there have been 16,821 interments. The average death rate keeps on steadily at 47 per day.

Great discontent prevails among the Spanish troops because of nonpayments, in some cases for six months, in others for seven months, and in still others for eight months.

MAY BE TROUBLE THERE.

Attitude of Philippine Insurgents Is Menacing—Dewey and Otis Prepared.

Manila, Oct. 25.—The attitude of the insurgent troops has become very menacing. Their supplies are growing scarce, and they are becoming desperate. Their leader assured the troops, who have had no pay for months, that they will soon capture Manila.

The Filipino newspapers insist upon absolute independence, and denounce annexation to the United States or any protectorate with equal energy.

The American authorities, naval and military, are taking precautionary measures, although no immediate trouble is anticipated.

The commission of Spaniards sent here recently by General Rios, Spain's chief representative in the Philippines and governor-general of the southern portions of the archipelago, arranged a temporary commercial convention. Accordingly inter-island traffic was resumed, but it is now again interrupted, this time by orders from General Rios.

The steamer San Nicholas, which left Manila yesterday flying the American flag, was compelled to return by a Spanish gunboat, whose commander offered as a plea for his action that the crew consisted of Filipinos, who might smuggle contraband articles. The San Nicholas, after reporting her experience, sailed again, followed by the United States gunboat McCulloch.

The insurgent steamer Muirola entered the harbor flying the insurgent flag, which was promptly hauled down by the Americans.

Yesterday the British consul at Manila convened a meeting of merchants to discuss the commercial deadlock. British capital to the amount of \$200,000,000 has been lying idle here for six months. In the existing conditions, business relations with the provinces have been in many cases directly suspended. The meeting resolved to make an urgent appeal to the British government to endeavor to hasten a settlement of pending issues.

BRINK OF WAR.

France Preparing for It; England Ready—Only Diplomacy Can Avert It.

London, Oct. 25.—Never since Great Britain and France began to dispute over Egypt, nor during the most acute stage of the Niger differences between those countries, has the situation looked so ominous as today. In spite of the hope expressed in the journals of both countries that the matter would be amicably arranged, it is a fact that the French naval and military authorities are making feverish preparations for war, and, though calm reigns at the British dockyards at Portsmouth, Chatham and Devonport, it is only the calm of preparedness.

Significant orders have been arriving there from the admiralty, indicating that Great Britain and France are on the brink of war. The admiralty has ordered every seagoing warship to have its crew made up to the full complement, as ordered in case of mobilization. The order practically means the complete filling prospectively of every ship's company in detail. Four torpedo-boat destroyers which were about to be fitted with new water-tube boilers have had their orders countermanded, and will be instructed to redraw their stores. Officers on leaves of absence and unemployed have been notified to hold themselves in readiness to commission reserves if required.

The French statesmen, however, still cling to the hope that the Marquis of Salisbury will offer some exchange.

NINE BLACKS KILLED.

One White Man Lost His Life and Three Were Wounded.

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 25.—A special to the Commercial-Appeal from Forest, Miss., says: As the result of an attempt to arrest a negro near Happersville, Scott county, in the eastern part of the state, one white deputy was killed, three wounded, and, according to the latest report, nine negroes were killed by the citizens of the Happersville neighborhood and the sheriff's posse combined.

The pursuit of about 50 negroes, who had joined the original offender, with the avowed determination to prevent his arrest and capture, and who ambushed the party attempting the arrest, continues, and by morning the number of fatalities will undoubtedly have assumed large proportions. The whole country is terribly aroused, and the sheriff's posse has been reinforced with men from all the neighboring towns. Governor McLaurin has gone to the scene, which is about 10 miles north of Forest, the nearest railroad point.

DIED ON THE VOYAGE.

Death of Seven Sick Soldiers Returning From Manila.

San Francisco, Oct. 25.—The United States transport steamer Rio de Janeiro arrived here today from Manila, via Hong Kong and Nagasaki. She has on board 140 sick soldiers, and 24 discharged men. Seven men died on the voyage. They were:

Private Elliot W. Ordway, company H, Second Oregon; Private Henry H. Stube, company F, First California; Sergeant John A. Glover, company A, First Nebraska; Private Frank W. Tucker, company C, Twenty-third infantry; Private Lewis D. Passmore, company I, First Nebraska; Private Henry P. Shuter, Astor battery; Private J. Fiske, First California.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

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

The wheat trader's success last week depended upon the direction in which he happened to be faced. If he looked toward the west he made no money out of the market. The influence of the largest primary receipts on record kept him off the buying side. He was lucky if he resisted the temptation to put out a short line. The operator who kept his eye on the seaboard was the lucky one. He saw there the largest export engagements ever known, about a million wheat a day. If he did not have some money to the good at the close Saturday night it was because he has no aptitude for the opportunities.

Chicago was inclined to be skeptical of the export figures. It was not doing much itself, but the man who was closest to the shipping position knew that Duluth was, quality and freights considered, cheaper than this market, and that the seaboard also had grain of its own bought on cheap freights that could be sold ahead of Chicago offerings. The best export authorities agreed as to enormous sales abroad. Consequently there is no room for denial or for pretense that it is largely a matter of exaggeration. Lohrke, whose word is to be accepted in this matter, in an interview yesterday, said the business accomplished during the past fortnight was on a scale probably never exceeded. This authority, when asked as to the probable permanency of the foreign demand, in an interesting explanation showed how the foreigners themselves were so uncertain of the situation they were not venturing to speculate any on the bull side.

The wheat price this year is to be a matter of mood—the mood of the farmer the world over. If it were to be decided by the facts as to supplies, the bull, to have any success, would need to make his purchases on the very weak days. Every authority is agreed that the world's harvest last season was the fullest ever known, and with that alone in mind the speculator might make comparisons with the low prices of the other years of great crops.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 63c; Valley and Bluestem, 65c@67c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$3.45; graham, \$3; superfine, \$2.25 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 39c@40c; choice gray, 37c@38c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$21@22; brewing, \$23 per ton.

Milletstuffs—Bran, \$15.50 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$16; chop, \$15.50 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$9@10; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 50c@55c; seconds, 40c@45c; dairy, 40c@45c store, 25c@35c.

Cheese—Oregon full cream, 11c@12c; Young America, 12c@13c; new cheese, 10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50@3 per dozen; hens, \$3.00@3.50; springs, \$1.25@3; geese, \$5.00@6.00 for old, \$4.50@5 for young; ducks, \$4.00@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12c@12c per pound.

Potatoes—50c@60c per sack; sweets, 2c@2c per pound.

Vegetables—Beets, 90c; turnips, 75c per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, \$1@1.25 per 100 pounds; cauliflower, 75c per dozen; parsnips, 75c per sack; beans, 3c per pound; celery, 70c@75c per dozen; cucumbers, 50c per box; peas, 3c@3c per pound.

Onions—Oregon, 75c@81c per sack.

Hops—11c@16c; 1897 crop, 6c@7c.

Wool—Valley, 10c@12c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 8c@12c; mohair, 25c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 3c@5c; dressed mutton, 7c; spring lambs, 7c@8c per lb.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.75; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$5.50@6.50 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, 3.50@3.75; cows, \$2.50@3.00; dressed beef, 5c@6c per pound.

Veal—Large, 5c@6c; small, 6c@7c per pound.

Seattle Markets.

Tomatoes, 20c@50c per box.

Cucumbers, 10c@15c per doz.

Onions, 85c@90c per 100 pounds.

Potatoes, \$10@12.

Beets, per sack, \$1.

Turnips, per sack, 50c@65c.

Carrots, per sack, 65c.

Parsnips, per sack, \$1.

Beans, green, 2c@3c.

Green corn, \$1@1.25 per sack.

Cauliflower, 75c per doz.

Celery, 40c@50c.

Cabbage, native and California \$1.25@1.50 per 100 pounds.

Apples, 50c@65c per box.

Pears, 75c@81c per box.

Prunes, 50c per box.

Peaches, 75c.

Plums, 50c.

Butter—Creamery, 27c per pound; dairy and ranch, 18c@20c per pound.

Eggs, 30c.

Cheese—Native, 12c@12c.

Poultry—Old hens, 10c per pound; spring chickens, 10c; turkeys, 16c.

Fresh meats—Choice dressed beef steers, prime, 6c@7c; cows, prime, 5c@6c; mutton, 7c@8c; pork, 7c@8c; veal, 5c@6c.

Wheat—Feed wheat, \$19@20.

Oats—Choice, per ton, \$22@23.

Hay—Puget Sound mixed, \$9.50@10; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$18.

CULTURE OF SUGAR-BEETS

As Sugar Is Made in Fields, and Not in Factories, Good Seed Is an Important Requirement—German Consul's Report.

Henry W. Diederich, United States consul at Magdeburg, Germany, sends the following report to the state department. The report will prove of interest and value to the farmers of the Northwest, who are just taking up the industry. Mr. Diederich says:

The results of the war with Spain are bound to effect changes in various directions that no one could have foreseen at the beginning of this year. Not the least important is the bearing they will undoubtedly have on the sugar industry in Germany and in the United States. An enormous increase in the production of sugar in the islands of Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Philippines and Hawaii is probable in the near future. With coolie and Chinese labor in the Orient and in the Pacific, with the stimulus of American energy and capital in the West Indies, and with the more or less intricate bounties of Europe, the sugar question has become a very complicated one.

Though the outlook of the young beet-sugar industry in the United States is not so promising as it was a year ago, it is much too early to become discouraged. While it may be advisable for those planning to start new plants to make haste slowly, yet the good work already begun should continue. Especially should the work of locating the areas in the United States suitable for the culture of the sugar-beet be continued, as this can be done without risk or loss of money, the sugar beets being capable of utilization as feed. In reading the reports of our experiment stations in various states, both as to yield of sugar-beets and also as to their saccharine qualities, one cannot but admire the wonderful progress made in this new industry within a few years, and to congratulate our people engaged in it upon their success.

Sugar is made, not in the sugar factories, but out in the fields. Therefore it is impossible to pay too much attention to the cultivation of beets containing the highest proportions of sugar, and, at the same time, with the largest tonnage per acre. In order to produce such, the selection of suitable soil, the climate, the rainfall, and length of season, the fertilizing, planting, cultivating and harvesting—all these are very important factors. But the most important of all is to start out with the best seed obtainable; for good seed, after all, is the foundation of successful sugar industry. If I may express an opinion, based on my personal observation, it is that some of our beet growers should insist more than they have upon getting none but the best of seed, no matter what the price may be.

I will not enter upon the history of the origin and development of the beet seed. Nor will I dwell upon the different varieties and their merits. I have had occasion to visit several of the celebrated German stock farms, where they produce seed that is sold to all sugar-producing countries of the world. With the accumulated knowledge and experience of a century of investigation, with an investment of enormous capital, and with a vast amount of science and skill, energy, and labor, their methods of producing a pure and high-grade seed are as perfect and successful as are those employed in the raising of fine breeds of horses and cattle.

The high-grade seed grown in this country is now in the lead everywhere. Even France is beginning to import German beet seed, thereby conceding its superiority. I know that one German firm alone shipped 30,000 sacks of seed to France. I feel safe in saying that altogether not less than 100,000 sacks of German beet seed were bought by Frenchmen last season, in spite of the 30-francs (\$5.97) customs duty which they had to pay on every 100 kilograms (220 pounds). I am informed that most of these orders have been duplicated for next season, and the amounts in many cases doubled and

trebled; all of which shows clearly that even France now prefers German beet seed, and I am not at all surprised to learn that there is a movement on foot in that country to increase the tariff on imported seed.

The first-class sugar factories of Europe buy none but the very best seed, grown from high-grade individual "mother" beets, to distribute among the best growers; thus not only maintaining the standard of their sugar beets as to quality and quantity, but also putting themselves in a position to compete in all the markets of the world. This first-class seed is sold and delivered by the growers on board cars in the Prussian province of Saxony, at from 8 to 10 cents per pound, which is a moderate price, considering the fact that it takes at least four years to get it into the market.

There is also a second-class seed offered for sale in this country, at from 5 to 6 cents per pound. This is commonly called the "Nachzachtsamen," being a seed produced not from the mother beets, but from the first first-class seed mentioned above. This inferior grade, however, is not used by first-class sugar men in Germany, France, Holland and Belgium, but most of it goes to Austria, Russia and the United States. And this is the reason why I deem it my duty to call attention to the importance of getting only the very best of seed obtainable. In my opinion, those American growers of sugar-beets who buy cheap grades of seed, make a great mistake. All kinds of seed have a natural tendency to degenerate. Even the first-class beet seed mentioned above will not bring forth beets that come up to the standard of the original or mother beet, but will show a loss of $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent of sugar content. Now, the second generation of seed will degenerate more than as much again, and lose from 1 per cent to 2 per cent. This is a small amount when considered by itself, yet it is sufficient not only to turn the profits of a sugar factory into a loss, but even to drive the concern to the wall.

To illustrate this: Factory A slices 50,000 tons (short) of beets, which would yield about an average of 15.5 per cent sugar in the extraction. After deducting the sugar left in the molasses and in other waste, this would leave about 13 per cent—6,500 tons of pure granulated, marketable sugar, which at \$50 a ton would net \$325,000.

Factory B slices the same amount of beets, grown from second-class seed, which, at a fair average, have about 1.3 per cent less of sugar in the extraction. After this material has also gone through the process of refining, there will be 11.7 per cent—5,850 tons of marketable sugar, which at \$50 a ton would net \$292,500.

It will be seen at a glance that while both factories use the same amount of material, and have the same expenses for labor, fuel, etc., there is a difference in the gross receipts for manufactured sugar amounting to \$32,500.

Factory A bought 55 tons of first-class seed, at \$180 per ton, \$9,900; factory B bought 55 tons of second-class seed, at \$120 per ton, \$6,600. It will be seen that factory B wanted to buy "cheap" and to make money fast. It did, indeed, save \$3,300 at the start; but factory A began by planting the very best seed obtainable, and came out at the end of the season with \$29,200 cash ahead of its competitor, and was in the position of declaring a handsome dividend.

Like so many other things in life, the cheapest beet seed are the dearest. It pays to get the very best, and only the very best is good enough. Let the good work of experimenting in the field of sugar-beet culture continue, in order to learn exactly what we can do in the face of fierce and growing competition, but let American growers determine not only to try different varieties of seed, but also to plant none but seed of high grade and pure pedigree.

NEWS OF THE PACIFIC COAST

The state of Oregon has attached the Loewenberg stove foundry at Salem to secure a claim of \$36,267.12.

One of the apple orchards of Southern Oregon has this season paid \$100 an acre clear, and this is only the second year of bearing of the trees.

The Commercial Club, of La Grande, Or., is sending out a little booklet, descriptive of the new beet-sugar factory at that place.

Good prices for sawlogs have had the effect of stimulating activity in this industry along the Lower Columbia, and a recurrence of last year's scarcity is improbable.

The governor has ordered a special election, in Multnomah county, Oregon, November 15, for the purpose of electing a state senator to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Joseph Simon.

The Chilkat river, in Alaska, is full of salmon; they are so thick they cannot all keep under the water. They are there by the tens of millions, and they make such a noise splashing that they sound like a storm. The river is full of the big fish from the mouth to the source and the silver-tip bears are having a rich feast while the run continues.

A new gold strike has been reported on the Dalton trail, less than 100 miles from Skagway, and the story that comes back is that five men who were wintering on the trail washed out in five days over \$400 in coarse gold from a bench claim, utilizing only pick, shovel and pan. The dirt from which this gold was washed had to be carried from the bench to the creek bottom, where there was water. The new gold find is in American territory, about 75 miles from Pyramid harbor.