

STOCK BRANDS

Metzger Bros., Pullman Neb Cherry Co. Brand on left side and thigh...

Joseph W. Bowne, P. O. address Merriman, Nebr. Right ear cropped Hole in center of left ear...

William M. Dunbar, Lessee from Heine & Kroeger Cody, Neb. DU. Either side low on right...

Henry Pratt, Rosebud S. D. Left side Horses same on left shoulder...

William Shangren, Cody, Neb. Duput under side of neck. Range Lake, Corn and Bear creeks

Jack LePoint, Merriman, Neb. Cattle branded on left side. Some on left also...

Charles H. Faulhaber, Brownlee, Neb. Either right or left side on cattle. Horses same on left shoulder...

Marshall & Wolfenden, Kennedy, Neb. Some on the left hip. Horses on left shoulder...

Louis F. Richards, Merriman, Neb. Range Big White and 2nd Rivers

Charles Benard, Rosebud S. D. Range Big White and 2nd Rivers

W. R. Kissel, Brownlee, Neb. Also some below left hip. Also right hip...

Wheeler Bros., Cody, Neb. Range on the Snake River and Chamberlain flat

Charles C. Tackett, Rosebud, S. D. Range head of Antelope near St. Mary's mission. Horses branded on left thigh

William F. Schmidt, Rosebud, S. D. On left side. Horses branded same on left hip or shoulder...

WAR CLOUD DARKER

Feeling that a Conflict with Spain Is Soon to Come.

MILLIONS FOR DEFENSE.

Congress Makes Appropriation of \$50,000,000 for Emergency.

UNITED STATES IS READY.

Spirit of Patriotism Is Universal Among American People.

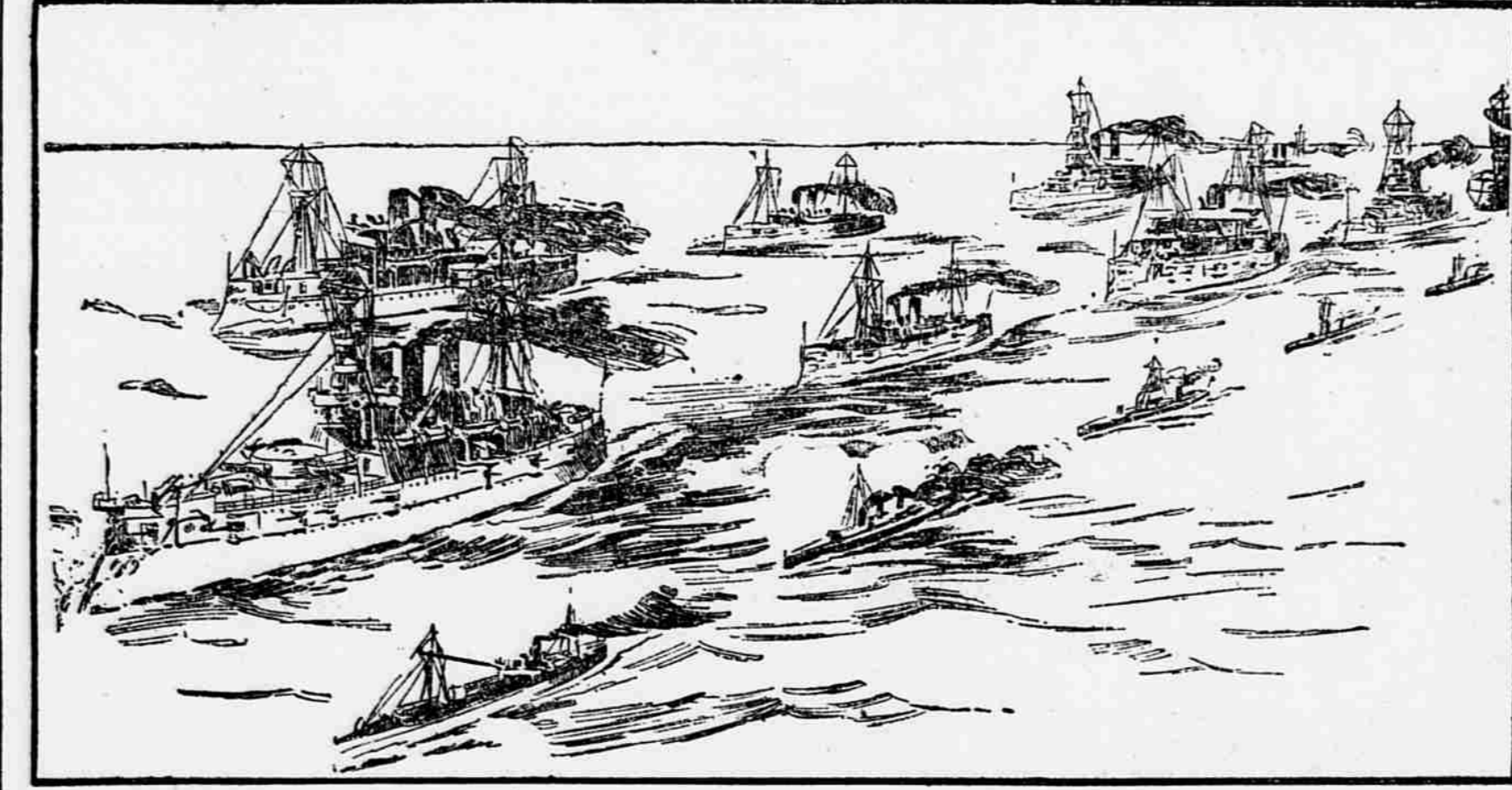
The Administration and All Officials at the National Capital Realize that the Country Is Facing a Crisis—Conditions Deemed Such that Hostilities Seem Inevitable—Spaniards Have Sought to Cause a Clash and Must Take the Bitter Consequences—No Honorable Recourse Save the Arbitration of Arms Appears Open.

Washington correspondence: THERE is a general feeling at the capital that we are face to face with a crisis. The bill to appropriate \$50,000,000 for the national defense is evidence that the administration has recognized this in its preparations for an emergency.



SPANISH PREMIER SAGASTA. appropriating \$50,000,000 for national defense. This bill is as follows: "Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled: That there is

THE NORTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON IN CRUISING ORDER.

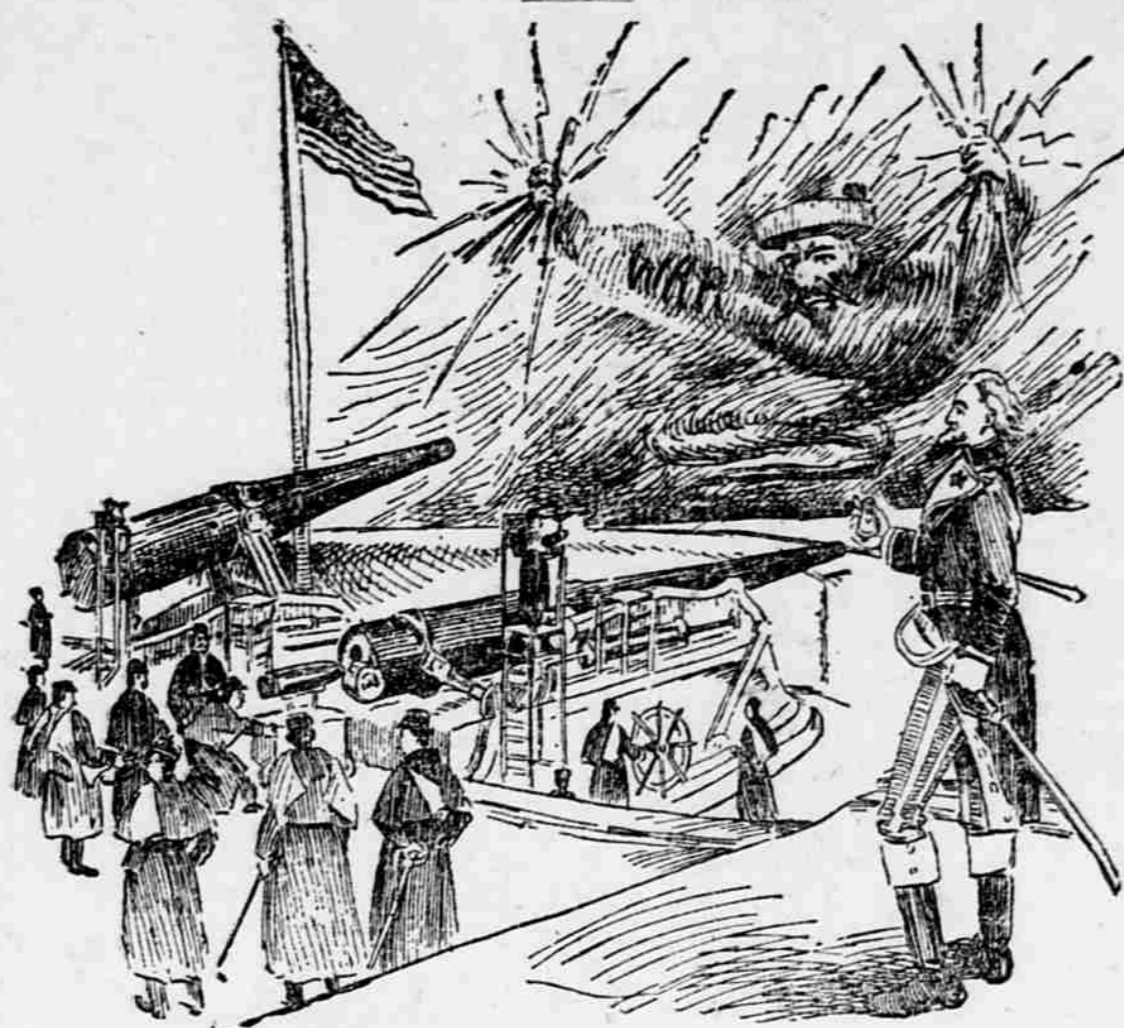


herby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the national defense and for each and every purpose connected therewith, to be expended at the discretion of the President, and to remain available until June 30, 1899, \$50,000,000."

Mr. Cannon introduced this bill in his individual capacity, but it was after a most important conference at the White House attended by Secretary Long, Senators Allison and Hale, and Representatives Cannon, Dingley, Boutelle and Grosvenor. The conference continued for an hour and was regarded as most significant, in view of the developments of the day and the reports that the President had given an emphatic refusal to the request for the recall of Consul General Lee, and another to the request that relief supplies should be sent to Cuba in merchant rather than in war vessels.

While Senators and Representatives were speculating as to the meaning of such a conference, the answer came from Mr. Cannon when he introduced his bill appropriating \$50,000,000 for the national defense. There was much excitement in the House, but Mr. Cannon said he had no intention of adding to the excitement throughout the country. "The bill speaks for itself," said he. "It is an appropriation for national defense and it gives the President discretion in the use of the money. I am not certain that we should not always have such an emergency fund. But just now, with the strained relations between this Government and Spain and the talk of war, it is important that the President should leave nothing undone that would strengthen the national defense. He is doing everything, but there are some things which cannot be done legally, such as the purchase of ammunition for our navy, projectiles for our big coast defense guns, coal for our fleet, and other things that have to be contracted for

THE UNITED STATES IS READY.



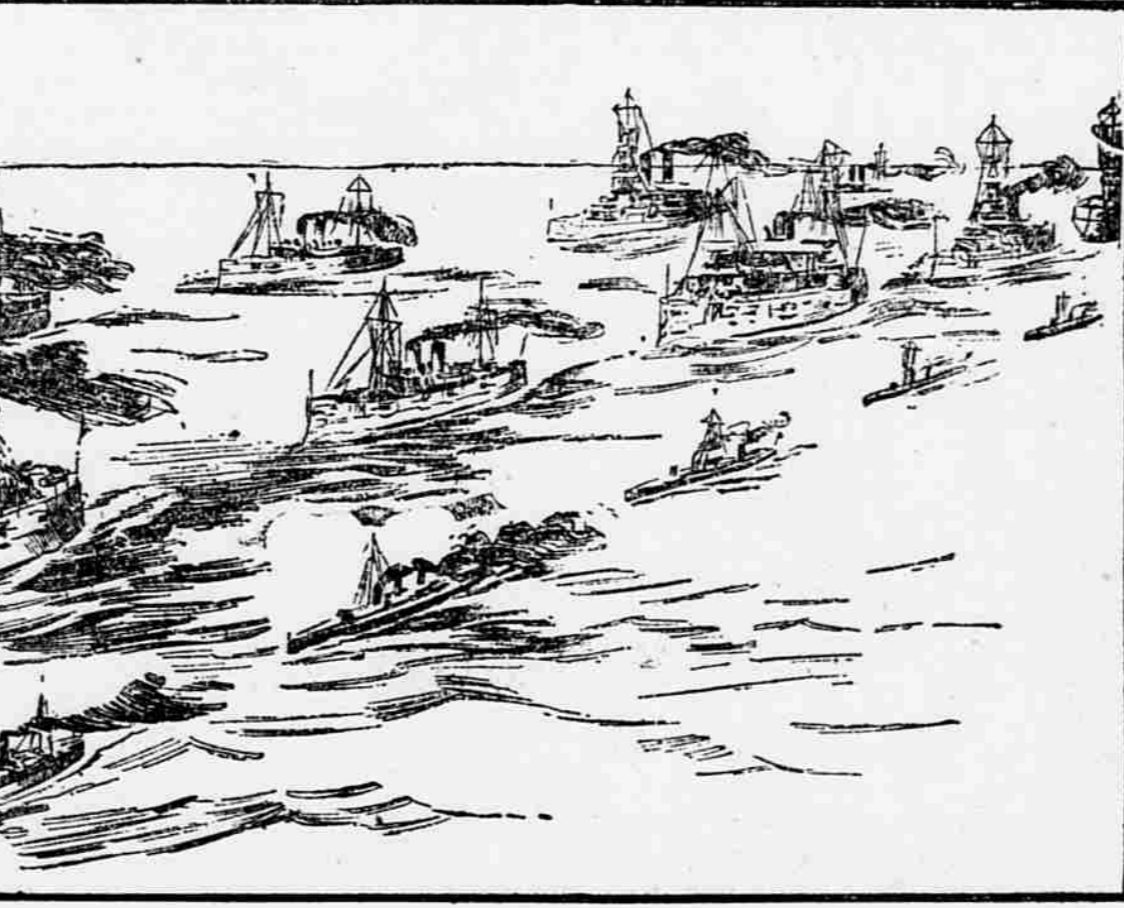
when there is an emergency. This appropriation is to be drawn against in just such an emergency." The bill is not simply a private bill, it is an administration bill and an emergency measure. The situation regarding Cuba has become so delicate that it is recognized that war is inevitable unless Spain is made to understand that this Government is ready for war and will not stop at half-way measures. The President proposes to be ready for any emergency, and if Spain wants war she shall have it, but she will be driven from the western hemisphere. She has done enough bluffing.

Although few persons will openly admit it, the feeling in the inner circles of the administration at the time this is written is that the country is on the verge of war. Conditions are such that an outbreak seems unlikely to be long postponed. There is good authority for the statement that Congress will declare war against Spain soon after the report of the board of inquiry into the Maine disaster has been made public.

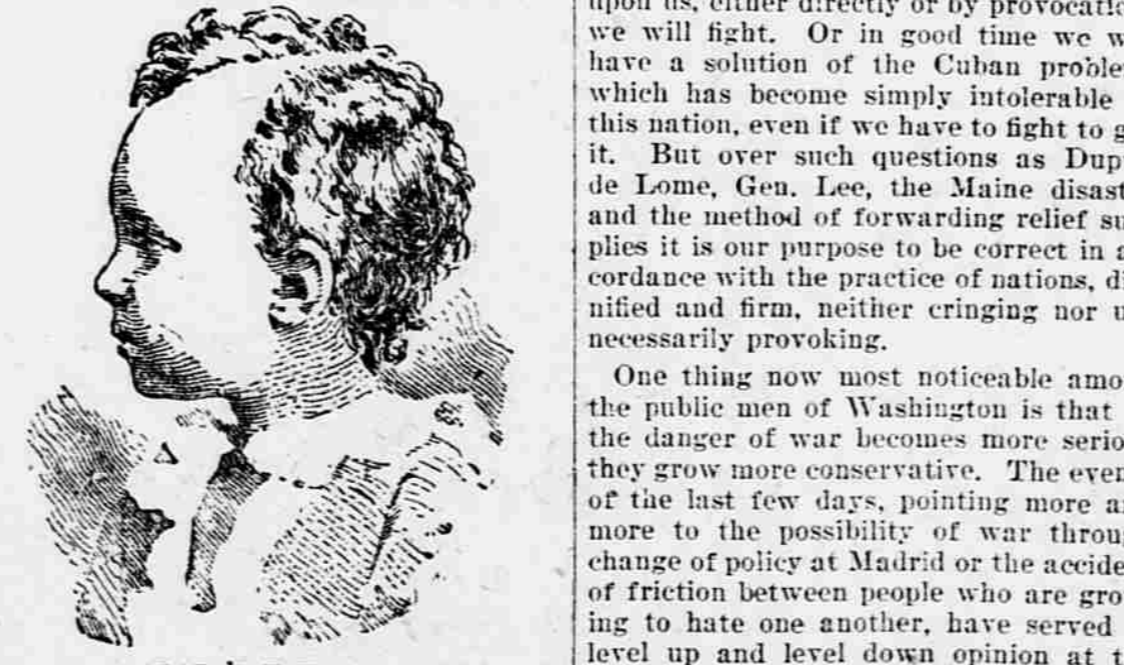
The change of front on the part of the administration is regarded as significant. Mr. McKinley, who all along had seemed somewhat averse to the ominous move of asking Congress to assist him in making preparations for war, has thrown off his indifference and did not hesitate to request the emergency appropriation of \$50,000,000. The change in the attitude of Speaker Reed was even more noticeable than in the case of the President. The Speaker had set his face resolutely against every proposed piece of legislation which might be construed as intended to prepare the country for war. Mr. Reed had declared that there should be no increase in the standing army and that the bills for 1,500 additional seamen and the arming of the auxiliary cruisers should never see the light of day. Monday, however, Mr. Reed looked and acted very differently.

Heretofore the President has believed that he could bring the war in Cuba to an end by peaceful means. While not entirely confident that he could secure the peace and independence for the island by such means, he hoped at least that he might secure autonomy for Cuba with the promise of independence to be accorded the

THE NORTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON IN CRUISING ORDER.



Cubans at some date in the future. Heretofore all preparations made by the President have been for defense, for he has recognized all along that war might result in spite of all his precautions. Since he has looked at the evidence deduced before the board of inquiry he has changed all his plans. During the last month a lesson in coolness and self-possession has been well learned. If Spain were only able to realize it, the very calmness of the American Government and the American people



SPAIN'S BOY KING. speaks louder than any noisy vociferation. In the presence of a real danger of war—no one denies that a real danger now exists—party lines seem obliterated and every branch of the Government and every man who has anything to do with it stands squarely out for the preservation of American honor. Though the war cloud darkens, it is not believed by some that the storm is likely to break very soon, although it may come at any time. It is a long ways from a strained situation or a misunderstanding to actual war, they argue, and this distance may never be bridged. In fact, there are plenty of acute observers of the situation who say Spain's apparent policy of aggressiveness is a mere bluff, designed for home consumption, and that the best possible treatment of it was to refuse the recall of Gen. Lee and to refuse to change the plan of sending relief supplies to Cuba by war vessels. If it were Spain's purpose to test the firmness of the United States, to ascertain whether or not this country was really willing to take its place, gun in hand, ready to fight a duel, Spain has her answer.

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OUR GRAND OFFER \$100 To keep our great factory busy, and introduce early our splendid '98 models we have concluded to make a marvelous offer direct to the rider. For 30 days we will sell samples of our swell '98 bicycles at net cost to manufacture and will ship, C. O. D. on approval to any address on receipt of the nominal sum of \$1.00 (if west of Denver, \$5). This deposit is merely to show good faith on purchaser's part; if you don't want to send money in advance, send your express agent's guaranty for charges one way and we will pay them the other if you don't want the wheel. SIBERIAN. Highest grade, embodying every late improvement of value, 1 1/4 inch imported tubing, flash joints, improved two-piece cranks, arch crown, large detachable sprockets, handsomest finish and decorations, Morgan & Wright, quick repair tires, single or double tube, high grade equipment. Special price on sample \$29.00. COSSACK. A splendid machine, equal to any for service and easy running. Best 1 1/4 inch seamless tubing, two piece cranks, arch crown, detachable sprockets, finely finished and decorated, Morgan & Wright, quick repair tires, single or double tube, high grade equipment. Our special sample price \$24.00. KLONDIKE. Best medium grade for 1898. 1 1/4 inch tubing, striped and decorated, arch crown, dust-proof bearings, ball retainers, best Indiana or New Brunswick tires, standard equipment. Special price on sample \$19.00. NOTE. Choice of Color, Style, Height of Frame, Gear, etc. Fully Guaranteed. You will be surprised at the appearance and quality of these wheels. Don't wait, order now while this offer is open. Prices will be much higher soon. You can make Big Money as our Agent, selling for us. We give our agents choice of cash, the free use of a sample wheel, or gift of a wheel, according to work done. Do You Want Cheap Wheels? We have numbers of 1896 and 1897 model wheels of various makes and styles, some a little shop-worn, but all new \$12.00 to \$16.00. Wheels Slightly Used, Modern Types, \$8.00 to \$12.00. Our business and reputation are known throughout the country. References, any of the express companies, or any bank in Chicago. Art Catalogue free. Secure agency at once. The J. L. Mead Cycle Co., = Chicago.