

**THE SITUATION**

**ADMIRAL DEWEY AND THE ENEMY MAY MEET.**

Senator Stewart Offers a Resolution to Arm the Cubans—Austria Prepares to Step In.

WASHINGTON, April 28.—The war situation is substantially this: The blockading squadron remains passive before Havana, with no present purpose of bombardment or of drawing the fire of the shore batteries. The strategic purpose of effective blockade of the Cuban capital is being accomplished to the entire satisfaction of the authorities here. There is no indication that a part of the fleet will be withdrawn for the purpose of affording additional protection to North Atlantic ports.

As to the reports of the imminence of a naval battle off the Philippine islands, the naval authorities here seriously doubt whether the Spanish fleet will make a stand against the American ships. Their reason for this belief is that the Spanish fleet is very inferior to the American force under Admiral Dewey.

The department, therefore, is satisfied that the Spanish fleet will not do battle on the high seas with Admiral Dewey, but will remain in port to secure the protection of the batteries of Manila, and the department is not expecting an engagement for about two days without giving any explanation for setting this time. The department allows it to be surmised that the estimate based on its knowledge of Admiral Dewey's whereabouts.

There is no certainty that there will be an engagement at all in the near future, the main purpose of the American squadron being to seize and hold some suitable Spanish territory in the Philippines as a base of operations in Asiatic waters. It is possible that this can be done without attacking the other at all, by seizing a suitable port at some adjacent island, without fortifications, the sympathies of whose inhabitants are towards the insurgents.

**World Arm the Cubans.**  
WASHINGTON, April 28.—Soon after the senate convened yesterday, Mr. Stewart (Nev.), introduced the following resolution for which he asked immediate consideration:

"That the secretary of war be, and he is hereby directed to furnish the senate with an estimate of the amount of appropriation necessary to arm, equip, subsist and furnish with munitions of war the Cuban army now at war with Spain and such additions as may be made thereto from the people of Cuba until the Spanish army shall be expelled from the island of Cuba, or until the next session of congress."

Mr. Hall (Me.) suggested the resolution be referred to the committee on military affairs and after a statement by Mr. Allison (Ia.) that the whole subject covered by the resolution was now being considered by proper committees of senators and that there would be no delay in the matter, Mr. Stewart agreed that the resolution should go to the military affairs committee.

**Expect News of Bombardment.**  
LONDON, April 28.—It is reported from Madrid that the Spanish fleet has been at sea for some days and the news of the bombardment of American coast towns is expected at the Spanish capital before long.

It is reported here from Madrid that the destination of the Spanish fleet is unknown to anyone but the minister of marine, Admiral Bermejo. The reports from Madrid also say that the Spanish naval authorities are satisfied that Spain can easily force the blockade of Cuba, when it desires to do so, but in the meantime it is expected as the governors of Cuba and Porto Rico have advised the Spanish government that they do not need the fleet, the government has decided to "utilize the warships elsewhere."

**Sail Under Sealed Orders.**  
HALIFAX, N. S., April 22.—H. M. S. In defensible sailed last night under sealed orders for Barbadoes.

**MAY COME WITH SHOT AND SHELL.**  
Spain's Possible Answers to McKinley's Ultimatum.

NEW YORK, April 22.—A dispatch to the Herald from Washington says Spain's answer to President McKinley's ultimatum may take the form of shot and shell.

It is formidable fleet, which has been mobilizing at the Cape Verde islands for some days past, sailed on Wednesday from that point for an unknown destination. The fleet is composed of the armored cruisers Almirante Oquendo, Cristobal Colon, Infanta Maria Teresa and Vizcaya, the torpedo boat destroyers Furor, Terror and Pluton and the torpedo boats Arctico, Azore and Rayo, and perhaps the battleship Pelayo.

Information of the sailing of the fleet has been received by the attaches of the Spanish legation. It is conceded to be highly probable that the fleet will hasten across the ocean to Porto Rico and Cuba to prevent by force the outfiting from the islands of the naval and military forces of the Spanish government now there. On the other hand, it is possible that the ships have gone to the Canary islands.

**Fishermen May Be Lost.**  
NEWPORT, Mich., April 22.—Louis Du boyer jr. John Fear, Phillip Navarre and William Anderson, all fishermen, went out on Tuesday's gale on Lake Erie, but their nets and have not since been seen.

**Gladstone Is Worried.**  
HAWAII, April 22.—The bulletin issued today regarding the health of the Hon. William Ewart Gladstone says the condition of the patient is not quite so favorable as it has been recently.

**Will Carry No Contraband.**  
BERLIN, April 28.—United States Ambassador White has informed the foreign office here of President McKinley's declaration regarding privateering and all the large steamship companies have jointly resolved not to transmit contraband goods. Therefore the companies have given a circular to the government requesting the hope that under these circumstances both combatants will abandon the right to search their vessels.

**WAR ALREADY A FACT.**

Lacking Only the Formal Declaration of Congress.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—War between the United States and Spain is a fact, though not so formally declared by congress.

The stirring event of Wednesday were succeeded yesterday by others of equal importance, culminating in the departure of the North Atlantic squadron for Havana.

This practically is an act of war, so that war between this country and Spain may fairly be said to date from yesterday, April 21, 1898.

Two minutes after the opening of the state department this morning came word from Minister Woodford that the Spanish government, having anticipated and prevented his intention to present the president's ultimatum, had asked for his passports.

**IN SPAIN RESTS THE BLAME.**  
The president in a public statement, said the action of the Spanish government rendered it unnecessary for any other negotiations, and stated further that he regarded the course adopted by Spain as one placing upon that country the responsibility for the breach of friendly relations.

Mr. Woodford's telegram resulted in the calling of a special cabinet meeting to arrange an outline of a plan of campaign or rather to determine how to begin the execution of the plan of campaign already prepared by the strategic boards of the army and navy departments.

**FLEET ORDERED TO MOVE.**  
The immediate result was the order for the North Atlantic squadron to begin the blockade of Havana. How much further than this the cabinet proceeded in its deliberations it is not possible to say, for the obvious reason that the time has now come when the interest of the government require that the movements of the ships and troops should be guarded with the greatest care from undue publicity in order to prevent the enemy from taking advantage of information.

The North Atlantic squadron, under Captain Sampson's command, is comprised of the battleships Iowa and Indiana, monitors Puritan and Terror, armored cruiser New York (flagship), protected cruisers Cincinnati, Mareblehead and Montgomery, gunboats Vicksburg, Wilmington and Annapolis, torpedo boats Ericsson, Cushing, Winslow and a large number of fast yachts and other vessels that have been added to the fleet by purchase.

This force is quite competent to blockade all the ports in Cuba, connecting by rail with Havana and likely to be used to supply that place in the event of siege with food and munitions of war. The government is to be taken with the understanding that it does not contemplate the calling to Cuban waters of the Spanish fleet. In such case, however, the probable policy will be to abandon the blockade and endeavor to force the Spanish fleet to battle.

**WORK IN THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.**  
The navy department today continued the work of adding to the navy and purchased another ship at Norfolk as an auxiliary craft and some small vessels.

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**CAUGHT NAPPING**

**CRUISER NASHVILLE TAKES FIRST SHOT AT NAVAL ENEMY.**

Spanish Ship Buena Ventura Loses Colors—Proves a Merchantman With Lumber Aboard—Towed as a Prize to Key West.

Key West, Fla., April 23.—The United States cruiser Nashville has captured the Spanish ship Buena Ventura of 1,000 tons, having on board a cargo of lumber. It was on its way from the coast of Texas. The cruiser fired a six-pounder and the Spaniard surrendered.

The Nashville towed its prize into this harbor at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and put a prize crew on board. Both ships are lying well out in the stream.

The news of the capture of the Spaniard set the people of Key West frantic with enthusiasm. All work has been suspended and the docks are crowded with people.

**SPANISH COMMANDER SURPRISED.**  
Key West, Fla., April 23.—The United States fleet was about twelve miles off Sand Key light yesterday morning at 7 o'clock when the Spanish merchantman Buena Ventura was sighted, bound north. The gunboat Nashville ran down and put a shot across her bows from the four-inch gun on the port side, which was ignored by the Spaniard, but another closer to her bows brought her to a prize crew under Ensign T. P. Magruder was put aboard. Captain L. C. Carasa, in command of her, was astounded. He said he did not know that war had been declared, but when he was informed of the state of affairs he shrugged his shoulders and accepted the situation philosophically.

The Nashville has taken on stores and will return to the fleet early Ensign Magruder, who will be relieved by Ensign Carleton.

A body of marines is pacing the deck of the Spaniard and her crew of twenty-eight (not twenty as previously reported) are lounging about the decks in nonchalant fashion. Not a man is in irons. According to prize laws, Captain Magruder will turn the prisoners of war over to the United States district attorney, who will decide the question of their disposition.

The monitor Puritan is taking on coal and water and will sail to Key West tonight.

On excellent authority it is reported that the destination of the fleet is Matanzas. On board the flagship is Captain Araguesen, brother of the late Brigadier-General Nestor Araguesen. He will pilot the fleet to Matanzas. The Cuban pilots went on board last night after 12 o'clock.

**MOB LAW IN MADRID.**

Acts of Vandalism Attributed By the Police.

MADRID, April 23.—Crowds are parading the streets. A mob gathered in front of the Equitable Life Insurance building and smashed the American eagle to bits. They carried the fragments through the streets yelling, "Down with the Yankee!"

The police mixed with the crowd and allowed the destructions to go on without restraint.

The civil governor of Madrid, Senor Aguilera, instead of prohibiting disorder allowed complete liberty of action, mingling among the demonstrators. He was loudly cheered, especially when the American escutcheon was thrown from the balcony of the Equitable building and fell at his feet. Aguilera, as he trampled upon the escutcheon, addressed the populace amid enthusiastic applause, saying: "The Spanish lion is roused from its slumber. He will shake his mane and arouse the rest of the brute creation."

The paper demands that a date should be fixed for their expulsion, giving them time only to reach the frontier.

**INSULT TO OLD GLOBE.**  
LONDON, April 23.—Mail news, which has just been received here from the Grand Canary, one of the Canary Islands, says that up to April 20 the thousand Spanish troops had arrived there and 2,000 were expected that day.

When the mails closed it was rumored at the Grand Canary that the stars and stripes over the United States consulate had been torn down by the rabble and trampled upon.

The militia of Canary islands has been mobilized and fifty officers were then coming from Spain to drill these troops.

The excitement at the islands is described as being so intense that the inhabitants were panic-stricken when a foreign warship unexpectedly entered the harbor. No Spanish war vessel had arrived at the Great Canary up to April 12.

**Everything Quiet at Sagua.**  
NEW YORK, April 23.—The American schooner James A. Garfield arrived yesterday from Sagua, Cuba, after a run of nine days. Its captain states that everything was quiet at Sagua. The Garfield was cleared by the British consul at Sagua.

**Coal Embargo Bill a Law.**  
WASHINGTON, April 22.—The coal embargo resolution has been signed and is now a law.

**WAR REVENUE BILL**

Tea and Coffee Escape but Tobacco Come High—Gun Chewers Must Pay.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Chairman Dingley made the following statement regarding the revenue to be raised from the revenue bill. The statement says: "The ways and means committee estimate that the increased revenue this would be derived from the war measure proposed would be from ninety to one hundred million dollars distributed as follows: Fermented liquors, \$17,000,000; tobacco, \$15,000,000; cigars, \$5,000,000; dealers in tobacco and cigars, \$5,000,000; stamp taxes on documents, telegrams, \$3,000,000; stamp taxes on wines, mineral waters, etc., undetermined; tonnage tax on vessels engaged in foreign trade, \$2,000,000. Tea and coffee are not touched, as all the measures proposed for war revenue are internal revenue taxes."

A compensating tax of half that amount which is the amount of the increase upon the stock of cigars and cigarettes on hand. The following licenses are placed on tobacco dealers: Dealers in leaf tobacco, whose sales do not exceed \$10,000, shall pay a \$24 license; those whose sales exceed \$10,000, \$48; dealers in tobacco whose sales do not exceed \$10,000, \$4.80; in excess, \$12.

The provisions of the stamp tax include proprietary medicines and similar preparations, a tax of 1 cent on all packets, boxes, bottles, etc., which retail at 25 cents or less; 2 cents between 25 and 50 cents; 3 cents between 50 and 75 cents; 4 cents between 75 cents and \$1, and for each 50 cents or fraction thereof above that amount an additional 2 cents.

The same schedule applies to perfumery and cosmetics. Chewing gum is to pay 1 cent for packets selling at 5 cents and 2 cents for packets exceeding 5 cents. Ginger ale and mineral waters are to pay 1 cent per pint and wines 2 cents per pint, of indelicateness, after June 1, issued by any association, corporation, etc., are to pay 5 cents on each \$100 or fraction thereof issued and on all transfers of shares or certificates of stock 2 cents on each \$100 of face. On bank checks and drafts exceeding \$20, 2 cents. Bills of exchange, drafts at sight or promissory notes for circulation not exceeding \$100, 5 cents; between \$100 and \$200, 10 cents; between \$200 and \$500, 15 cents; between \$500 and \$1,000, 20 cents; between \$1,000 and \$2,000, 25 cents; between \$2,000 and \$5,000, 30 cents; for each \$2,000 in excess of \$5,000, 5 cents.

Foreign bills of exchange, letters of credit, including express money orders, to pay the same rate as bills of exchange or promissory notes, except when drawn on sets of three or five, when each bill of each set, where the sum payable does not exceed \$100, 3 cents. Above that there is a gradual scale running \$1.70 cents and 30 cents for each \$2,500 additional. Bill of lading receipts for goods, merchandise, or export, 10 cents each; express orders all such as pay not to exceed 20 cents; between 20 cents and \$1.2 cents; in excess of \$1.5 cents, indemnifying bonds, 5 cents; all other bonds required in legal proceedings, 25 cents; certificates of profits on each \$100 of face, 2 cents; certificates of damage or otherwise issued by a port warden, 25 cents.

**Day of Fasting and Prayer.**

PRINCETON, Pa., April 25.—The executive committee of the national reform association has prepared a message, which has been sent to President McKinley urging him, at "this critical hour of our national life, with the horrors of war impending," to proclaim a day of fasting and prayer.

**Secretary Sherman Will Retire.**

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The Evening Star Saturday says: "On the best information it can be obtained Secretary Sherman contemplates leaving the cabinet and that he will probably withdraw within the next few days. It is generally understood that he will be succeeded by Judge Day, now assistant secretary of state. Mr. Sherman will withdraw from the cabinet because of a breaking down of his health and inability to keep up with the strain of the present situation. The fact that Mr. Sherman's health has been failing since his entrance in the cabinet is well known. President McKinley and all of the cabinet members, together with hundreds of close personal friends of the secretary, have noticed his condition, but owing to the sincere desire to have Mr. Sherman remain at the head of the state department his attention was never called to what he himself had not observed."

Advised him that he ought not to attend to any work in the department and should retire. He is the only person who has spoken to the secretary on the question of his health. The unanimous opinion on it is that Secretary Sherman will retire to his home and devote whatever time he chooses to the management of his personal affairs. The opinion that Judge Day will succeed Secretary Sherman is based on the knowledge that President McKinley desires this.

**Many Drafts Stolen.**

ST. LOUIS, April 25.—A mail bag containing the suite of Senor Polony Bernabe was seen yesterday relative to the report that he had challenged Captain Sigbee of the Marine to fight a duel. The lieutenant corroborated the story. He said he had sent his challenge on the 20th and if he does not hear from Captain Sigbee by the 25th he will brand him as a coward. Should Captain Sigbee refuse the lieutenant will then challenge Consul-General Lee.

**Sigbee Challenged.**

TORONTO, Ont., April 25.—Lieutenant Carreza of the 2nd of Senor Polony Bernabe was seen yesterday relative to the report that he had challenged Captain Sigbee of the Marine to fight a duel. The lieutenant corroborated the story. He said he had sent his challenge on the 20th and if he does not hear from Captain Sigbee by the 25th he will brand him as a coward. Should Captain Sigbee refuse the lieutenant will then challenge Consul-General Lee.

**Board of Mission Meets.**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April 27.—The 300 delegates to the twenty-seventh annual convention of the woman's Presbyterian board of missions of the north-west have been gathering all day together with an equal number of visitors. The meetings have been merely preliminary to the convention which opens formally tomorrow. The conference includes those of synodical and Presbyterian officers, secretaries of young people's societies, corresponding secretaries and treasurers.

**MORE TROUBLE**

**20,000 SPANIARDS ASK CASTELAR TO LEAD THEM.**

Dynasty Begins to Enter Parts From Without Greater Than a Foreign Interference Declares for War Without a Word of Debate or Protest.

MADRID, April 26.—About 20,000 republicans of all shades of opinion have signed an address to Senor Castelar, the republican leader, under the pretext of congratulating him upon his recovery from recent sickness, but in reality offering him their services if he proclaims a republic.

Senor Castelar has so far made no reply, but it is certain that he will not emerge from his retirement from parliament, into which he has not put foot for the past twenty years, although constantly returned to the cortex. His coming speech in the cortex, will, it is said, depel the idea that he is heading a revolution. On the contrary, it is said, Senor Castelar will, from patriotic motives, not oppose the present democratic monarchy. His speech will be a panegyric of Spain's past greatness, lamenting the "sudden conversion of the United States into provokers of an unjust war."

Senor Castelar, "appreciating the valor of his countrymen," will predict that the quarrel between the young unwarlike nation and the oldest fighting race in the world will result in the traditional heroism in Spain, inflicting severe chastisement on the prestige and material interests of the big democratic republic, whose existence and prosperity is due to Spanish discovery and support when America cast off the yoke of England."

New York, April 26.—Spain's dangers from within are becoming fully as grave as those from without, says the Madrid correspondent of the World. The war with the United States may cost it the last of its colonial possessions in the West and East Indies. But no one can tell what will be the result of its rapidly increasing domestic troubles—the cabinet crisis, the dissensions among statesmen and warriors, the intrigues of the Carlists, the plotting of Weyler and Romero Robledo and the popular agitations.

The street demonstrations in the capital and elsewhere have assumed such a threatening character as to cause the gravest concern to the queen and her government. All these political dangers are aggravated by the financial disturbances in Madrid and a dozen principal towns in the provinces, marked by an alarming run on the silver reserve of the bank of Spain, a fall in the price of securities of every kind, a rise of exchanges, sending the gold premium to 75 per cent. These things have made the politicians and everybody else pay less attention to the news from America and Cuba, starting as it is. The press advises the people to desist from demonstrations, which might become inexpedient and dangerous. The newspapers attribute the financial policy to the Heredia bankers and speculators.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The house of representatives yesterday passed the bill declaring the existence of a state of war between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain in a manner which cannot fail to impress the world. The representatives of 70,000,000 people voted for it without a word of debate, without a dissenting vote and without a roll call, but with a solemn appreciation of the gravity of their momentous action. It required but one minute and forty-one seconds to accomplish this.

The house was considering an election case and simply paused to declare war. There was no excitement, no cavil, no word or question. It was only in the great cheer that went up from floor and galleries, when Speaker Reed announced its passage, that the tremendous support of the act and the suppressed enthusiasm behind it was shown. After the president's message was read the committee on foreign affairs framed the resolution. Acting Chairman Adams wrote the report and it was passed and on its way to the senate in an hour and six minutes. The speaker signed it at 4:46. The remainder of the day was devoted to the election case of Wise vs. Young from the Second Virginia district.

Following is the report from the house foreign affairs committee:

A bill declaring that war exists between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain.

Be it enacted, etc., I. That war be and the same is hereby declared to exist, and that war has existed since the 21st of April, A. D. 1898 including said day, between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain.

2. That the president of the United States be and he is hereby directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several states, to such an extent as may be necessary to carry this act into effect.

Just prior to adjournment Speaker Reed signed the bill declaring the existence of a state of war.

When the army reorganization bill with senate amendments came back to the house, on motion of Mr. Hall, the amendments were non-occurred in and the bill was sent to the conference. Messrs. Cox, dem. Tenn., and Marsh, rep. Ill. were appointed conferees.

At 5:10 p. m. the house adjourned.

**Board of Mission Meets.**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., April 27.—The 300 delegates to the twenty-seventh annual convention of the woman's Presbyterian board of missions of the north-west have been gathering all day together with an equal number of visitors. The meetings have been merely preliminary to the convention which opens formally tomorrow. The conference includes those of synodical and Presbyterian officers, secretaries of young people's societies, corresponding secretaries and treasurers.

**THE BEST CAPTURE YET.**

**Mangrove Makes a Prisoner of a Spanish Steamer.**

Key West, April 27.—The Spanish steamship Panama of the Ceballos line, which left New York April 20, for Havana loaded with a number of Spanish fugitives and a very valuable cargo, including it is thought stores for the Spanish army, was captured Monday evening about twenty miles from Havana by the little lighthouse tender Mangrove, now belonging to the Mosquito fleet. The Mangrove mounts two six-pounders and four thirty-eight revolvers. It is commanded by Lieutenant Commander W. I. Everett and has a crew of 130 men. The Panama is of about 2,900 tons and a very valuable prize.

When the Mangrove sighted the Spaniard she ran up to it and fired a gun across its bows. The liner did not take the hint, and a second shot was fired, after which the Panama slowed down a little. A third shot was fired across the bows of the Panama at 100 yards and the deck officer of the Spanish vessel was hailed and notified that if he did not heave to a shot would be sent through his vessel. This notification caused the Panama to be brought to.

Ensign Dayton boarded the Spanish steamer and took possession of it. The battleship Indiana then steamed up and Commander Everett notified Captain Taylor of the Indiana that he had captured the Panama, and borrowed a prize crew from battleship consisting of Cadet Falconer and fifteen marines. The Mangrove was then ordered to report to the flagship and Rear Admiral Sampson told Commander Everett to take his prize into Key West.

The Panama is understood to have thirty-nine passengers on board. As it rounded to after the little Mangrove captured it, the latter, knowing the Panama was an auxiliary cruiser, expected to be fired upon. It is not yet known whether the Panama has guns on board.

The United States gunboat Newport, Captain B. F. Tilley, has brought in the Spanish sloop Paquette and the Spanish schooner Pincro, Cuban coasting vessels which it captured off Havana this morning.

New York, April 27.—It was stated at the office of the Spanish trans-Atlantic line, which owns the Panama, that that vessel was valued at \$200,000 and its cargo at \$75,000.

**Foreign Nations Respond.**

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Conditions in Washington are rapidly settling down to those of a truce war. Notices came to the state department from the four quarters of the globe yesterday showing that the nations as a rule are prepared to assume an attitude of strict neutrality as between the United States and Spain in the present struggle. In most cases, they were in answer to the identical note sent out Monday by the state department to all United States embassies and legations, instructing them to inform the governments to which they were accredited that war had existed since April 21.

Great Britain always has taken an advanced stand in the principles of neutrality, so that it was with great interest that the news was received here of the terms of the neutrality proclamation issued in London. On the whole the officials are disposed to take the view that the strict adherence by Great Britain to these rules will be rather more advantageous to the United States than to Spain, particularly as we are now operating in the naval sense, close to our own base of supplies and in all probability soon will cut Spain off from the two bases that she now has in the neighborhood of Cuba.

**Canadians Anxious to Enlist.**

OTTAWA, April 27.—A committee composed of George A. Baynes, late major-general Montreal garrison artillery, D. N. Campbell, late Canadian militia, and W. H. F. Homes, late queen's own rifles Toronto, have called a meeting of Canadians who are in sympathy with the United States and are willing to volunteer their services and form a Canadian regiment to assemble at the Sherman house tomorrow evening for the purpose of effecting an organization. The object is to raise a battalion composed of Canadians, of whom there are upwards of 50,000 in Chicago alone, besides large numbers in other cities.

**Purchasing Transports.**

TAMPA, April 27.—The government today secured options on all boats at Tampa to be used in transporting troops and supplies to Cuba. It is known here that the government will soon establish supply stations on the island and the troops now here will be transported to guard them. The point selected for the station is kept secret, but it is within easy sail of Tampa. But one regiment will be left behind to be used for the drilling of recruits.

**Sherman a Private Citizen.**

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Secretary Sherman retired finally yesterday from the position of secretary of state, and his successor was confirmed in the person of Judge Day. John Bassett Moore undoubtedly will be confirmed tomorrow in Judge Day's place.

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