

A BATTLE IS ON

SHAFTER'S TROOPS NO SOONER LANDED THAN FIGHT BEGINS.

Advices From Spanish Sources—They Claim A Victory but Admit a Retreat—Cervera Says That the Situation is Critical—Time, Weather and Sea are Propitious for the War of Invasion.

MADRID, June 24.—News of a serious fighting near Santiago de Cuba has been received. Cervera cables that the situation is critical and the governor of Santiago admits the Spaniards have been compelled to retire, but says a victory has been won. The minister for war announced that he had received official dispatches from Santiago announcing that the American attack was repulsed after a hard fought and bloody engagement.

The scene of the fight is a short distance from Baiquiri, where the United States landed Wednesday. It is almost under the guns of the Americans, from which it is judged that it is highly improbable that the army was repulsed as stated.

SHIPS JOIN LAND FORCES
Cable dispatches from Cervera say the crews of the Spanish warships at Santiago have joined the land forces in the defense of the city. He adds that the situation is critical, but later dispatches affirm that the Spaniards "have victoriously repulsed the enemy."

A dispatch from the governor of Santiago says:

"The attack on Seboney and Baiquiri continued until nightfall. The enemy was repulsed, except on the left at Baiquiri, where the Spaniards were obliged to retire in consequence of a flanking movement upon the part of the enemy, who landed several kilometers east of Baiquiri. The Spanish forces retired in good order into the mountains. Seboney and Berraco were destroyed by the American shells."

An official dispatch from Santiago says:

"The attack commenced Wednesday. The enemy concentrated the landing forces in front of Punta Berraco, lying eastward of our left flank, which extended for eight leagues along the coast."

Another official dispatch from Havana says:

"The commander at Santiago de Cuba announces that the American squadron has commenced the bombardment and is trying to disembark at Baiquiri and Punta Berraco. American warships have shelled and destroyed a small wooden fort near Cienfuegos. Seven Spaniards were slightly injured."

SPANIARDS MAKE EXPLANATIONS.

During the afternoon a semi-official note was issued, "in order to avoid a misunderstanding," pointing out that merely the Spanish left had taken up a position in the mountains, owing to the Americans landing nine kilometers of Baiquiri, where there were no Spanish troops, and endeavored to outflank the Spaniards. The note then points out that "this part of the country is very unhealthy and that yellow jack is rampant."

The dispatches from Cuba were read in the senate here yesterday, whereupon the senators made patriotic speeches. Senator Navarro Rodriguez declared Europe and the whole world is "committing the greatest most horrible crime of less humanity in allowing Spain to be crushed by brutal weight of numbers."

Continuing, the senator dilated upon the grave danger to the Latin and Slav races, "if Europe tolerates Anglo-Saxon preponderance."

How a Landing Was Affected.

BAIQUIRI, MAHO, Cuba, June 23.—2 p. m.—On board the Associated press dispatch boat Wanda, (via Kingston, Jamaica, June 24.)—At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon 6,000 trained American soldiers are encamped in the hills in and around Baiquiri and 10,000 more rest on their arms on board transports off shore, ready to join those who have disembarked as soon as the available launches and small boats can carry them ashore.

Time and sea and weather were propitious for the army of invasion. The army and the navy co-operated splendidly and as the big warships closed in on the shore to pave the way for the approach of the transports and then went back again three cheers for the navy went up from 10,000 throats on the troop ships and three for the army rose from ship after ship as the troops moved in to take their share in the hazardous game. It was war, and it was magnificent.

The Cuban insurgents, too, bore their share in the enterprise honorably and well. Five thousand of them, in mountain fastnesses and rank thickets and ravines, lay all night on their guns, watching every road and mountain path leading from Santiago to Guantanamo. A thousand of them were within eight of Baiquiri, making the approach of the Spaniards under cover of the darkness an impossibility.

New Plan of Penetration.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Representative Gardner (N. J.) has introduced a bill authorizing the president to appoint a board of fire insurance commissioners at a salary of \$4,000 a year, to adopt rules and regulations for a military and naval life and accident insurance for the military and marine forces of the government providing the amount to be paid them on loss of life or injury in service, etc., which amount shall be in lieu of all claims for pensions from the men or their representatives.

IN BATTLE ARRAY.

Twelve of Shafter's Men Killed in a Fight Against Great Odds.

PLAYA DEL ESTE, Cuba, June 25.—Yesterday there was a serious engagement five miles from Santiago on land. Less than 1,000 American cavalymen and rough riders fought 2,000 Spaniards in the thickets, driving them back into the city.

The American loss is twelve or thirteen dead and at least fifty wounded, including six officers. Several of the wounded will die. Twelve of the Spaniards were found dead in the bush. Their loss is doubtless greater. The Spaniards had every advantage in numbers and positions.

Among the dead are: Capt. A. K. Capron, Hamilton Fish, jr.

Privates Tillman, Dawson, Dougherty, W. T. Erwin, Dix, York, Bjork, E. Kolbe, Berlin and Lennock, and Corporal White.

Seven Miles From Santiago.

OFF JARAGUA, June 25.—(Via Port Antonio, Jamaica, June 24.)—The advance of the American army has reached the edge of the tablan in which the harbor of Santiago de Cuba lies. Here seven miles from Morro castle, as the crow flies, the main body of the troops had united and the Spaniards are in full retreat toward Santiago de Cuba. They may attempt a surprise but an engagement is not expected for several days.

General Lawton's brigade, which rested last night four miles west of Baiquiri resumed its march at daylight. Before noon his brigade, consisting of the Twenty-second infantry, the First infantry, the Second Massachusetts volunteers, with companies of the Eighth cavalry, half of the Fourth cavalry and several companies of the Twenty-fifth colored cavalry, occupied Juragua, five miles beyond, and the American flag was hoisted there.

A detachment of 170 Cubans under Colonel Aguirre collided with the Spanish rear guard. The Cubans lost two men killed and had seven men wounded. The Spanish loss is not known. One Spaniard was mached.

General Chaffee, with the Ninth cavalry, the remainder of the Eighth and Fourth, Seventh, Twelfth and Seventeenth infantry, reached Juragua at dark. General Bates, with the reserve of the Twentieth infantry and Colonel Wood's rough riders dismounted, with a dynamite gun carried forward from Baiquiri, at 8 o'clock proceeded by forced marches.

When the couriers brought the news that Juragua had been occupied the troop ships which had not disembarked their troops steamed to Juragua with the view of landing them there, but the heavy sea beating on the beach made it almost impossible to get the boats through the surf.

Stars and Stripes Raised.

ON BOARD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH BOAT DAUNTLESS, off Baiquiri, Thursday afternoon, June 23, via Kingston, Jamaica, Friday, June 24, 10 a. m.—Late yesterday afternoon the American flag was hoisted on the top of the A-tares mountains, back of Baiquiri, amid much enthusiasm. The troops cheered and waved their hats, the warships and cruisers let loose their sirens and the bands played "Star Spangled Banner." Major LaMott, with two troops of the volunteer cavalry, climbed the heights and raised the flag. The Spanish-American iron works were destroyed yesterday. They belonged to the Steelton company near Baltimore, Md.

INSURGENTS POORLY ARMED.

The guns they carried were of many models, ranging from a flintlock to Mausers and Remingtons. All, however, were armed with machetes. The officers rode donkeys and scrub horses. The sun was blazing hot, and a number of the soldiers were prostrated by the intense heat and were taken on board the hospital ship.

The troops are in fine spirits and are overjoyed at the aggressive attitude assumed by General Shafter, who believes he can force his way into Santiago and strike the Spanish a heavy blow.

Anxious to Get at the Port.

OFF BAIQUIRI, June 23.—(Via Port Antonio, Jamaica, June 24.)—Before sunset last night over 4,000 of the 16,000 on board the transports went ashore. General Kent, with seven transports, will remain west of Santiago as a feint until the remainder of the troops here are landed. General Garcia arrived at camp before dark, and 1,500 of his Cubans are expected to effect a juncture with General Shafter's men today. As soon as the various commands were landed yesterday they were pushed out in the direction of Santiago.

At daybreak they bivouacked and were strung out in a column three miles long, the front resting at Demajayabo, and the rear of the column within a mile of the base at Baiquiri, in the following order: Colonel Wagner, with a reconnaissance party at Demajayabo, a mile in advance of General Lawton's headquarters, the Twenty-second and Twenty-fourth infantry resting at a small creek, the Second Massachusetts, the Twelfth infantry, First battalion, two companies of the Tenth infantry and the Second battalion of the Fourth infantry.

Mines Ready to Start Up.

LEADVILLE, Colo., June 25.—The first activity in the downtown mines since the long strike was observed yesterday, when a force of men began clearing up and digging holes for the winches at the Bonair and Penrose mines. Thus was begun the initial work of the Home Mining company and within two weeks all preparatory work will be finished and this company and the Leadville pumping association will be ready to start the pumps in the downtown mines.

FIGHT FROM AMBUSH

SPANIARDS FIGHT IN INDIAN STYLE—THE DEATH LIST INCREASES.

Sixteen Americans Killed and Sixty Wounded—Honors Due Rough Riders—Escaped Death by a Magnificent Charge—Thirty-seven Dead Spaniards Found.

JARAGUA, Cuba, June 25, 4 p. m., per Associated Press Dispatch Boat Dandy via Kingston, Jamaica, June 26, 10 a. m.—The initial fight of Colonel Wood's rough riders and the troopers of the First and Tenth regular cavalry will be known in history as the battle of La Quasina. That it did not end in the complete slaughter of the Americans was not due to any miscalculation in the plan of the Spaniards, for as perfect an ambush as was ever formed in the brain of an Apache Indian was prepared and Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt and his men walked squarely into it. For an hour and a half they held their ground under a perfect storm of bullet from the front and side, and then Colonel Wood at the right and Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt at the left led a charge which turned the tide of battle and sent the enemy flying over the hills toward Santiago.

SIXTEEN ARE DEAD.

It is now definitely known that sixteen men on the American side were killed, while sixty were wounded or reported to be missing. It is impossible to calculate the Spanish losses, but it is known that they were far heavier than those of the Americans, at least as regards actual loss of life.

Already thirty-seven dead Spanish soldiers have been found and buried, while many others undoubtedly are lying in the thick underbrush on the side of the gully, where the main body of the enemy was located. The wounded were all removed.

SPANIARDS WERE WELL POSTED.

That the Spaniards were thoroughly posted as to the route to be taken by the Americans in their movements toward Seville was evident, as shown by the careful preparations they had made. The main body of the Spaniards was posted on a hill, on the heavily wooded slopes of which had been erected two block houses flanked by irregular intrenchments of stone and fallen trees. At the bottom of these hills ran two roads, along which Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt's men and the troops of the First and Tenth cavalry with a battery of four howitzers advanced. Nearly a half mile separated Roosevelt's men from the regulars and between them on both sides of the road in the thick underbrush was concealed a force of Spaniards that must have been large, judging from the terrible and constant fire they poured in on the Americans. The firing was opened by the First and Tenth cavalry under General Young.

A force of Spaniards was known to be in the vicinity of La Quasina, and early in the morning Lieutenant Colonel Roosevelt's men started off up the precipitous bluff back of Seboney to attack the Spaniards on their right hand, General Young at the same time taking the road at the foot of the hill.

CUBANS GIVE THE WARNING.

About two and a half miles out from Siboney two Cubans, breathless and excited, rushed into camp with the announcement that the Spaniards were but a little way in front and were strongly entrenched. Quickly the Hotchkiss guns were brought to the rear, while a strong scouting division was thrown out. Then cautiously and in silence the troops moved forward until a bend in the road disclosed a hill where the Spaniards were located. The guns were again brought to the front and placed in position, while the men crouched down in the road, waiting impatiently to give Roosevelt's men, who were toiling over the little trail along the crest of the ridge, time to get up.

At 7:30 a. m. General Young gave the command to the men at the Hotchkiss guns to open fire. The command was the signal for a fight that for stubbornness has seldom been equaled.

The instant the Hotchkiss guns were fired the hillside commanding the road gave forth volley after volley from the Mausers of the Spaniards.

One husky warrior of the Tenth cavalry, with a ragged wound in his thigh, coolly knelt behind a rock, loading and firing and when told by one of his comrades that he was wounded laughed and said:

"Oh that's all right. That's been there for some time."

In the meantime away off to the left could be heard the crack of the rifles of Colonel Wood's men and the regular, deeper toned volley firing of the Spaniards.

Over there the American losses were the greatest. Colonel Wood's men, with an advance guard well out in front and two Cuban guides before them, but apparently with no flankers, went squarely into the trap set for them by the Spaniards, and only then unflinching courage of the men in the face of a fight that would even make a veteran quail prevented what might easily have been a disaster.

More Troops for Shafter.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., June 27.—The auxiliary cruiser Harvard sailed at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon for Santiago with the Ninth Massachusetts regiment and two battalions of the Thirty-fourth Michigan. Thousands of people gathered along the river shore and gave vent to their patriotic ardor by continued cheering as the stately cruiser moved slowly down the stream. The cheers were answered with enthusiasm by the troops.

SOME WORK AHEAD

Shafter Massing His Men—Cervera Planning A Dash.

ON THE RIO GUAMA, June 28.—The advance force of the American army rests on the steamer with the city of Santiago de Cuba four and a half miles westward in plain sight.

Sunday night the outposts, of two companies of the Seventh infantry under Major Coolidge, occupied positions at right angles to the troops guarding the crossing a mile and a half below Sabina, where three regiments of General Lawton's division camped, the First, Fourth and Seventeenth, the Eight, the Second and the Twenty-second Massachusetts, with the rough riders, Tenth cavalry, and portions of several other regiments, are strung out behind them towards Juragua. About 800 Cubans, under General Gonzales, were camped around General Lawton's headquarters, but less than fifty of them did scout duty last night.

General Wheeler yesterday, with the First, Second and Tenth cavalry and the rough riders, with dynamite guns, moved up to where Lawton's outposts were and four batteries of the Third artillery and four Gatling guns, with a special detail under Lieutenant Parker, were brought up and planted in the brow of a hill overlooking the basin in which Santiago lies. The top of every hill and mountain north and east of Santiago is occupied by blockhouses, from which the Spaniards detect the movements of the American army as it advances beyond Sabina.

ENTRENCHMENTS ON EVERY SIDE.

The correspondent of the Associated press, from an elevation to the right of the American line yesterday, counted thirty-four of these entrenchments, completely fencing every approach to the city. The trenches have been dug as the ground admitted. The entrenchment overlap where breaks in the line occur, thus securing comparatively safe retreat from rifle fire in case parts of the trenches are captured. Upon one of these works modern guns have been mounted. They can be plainly seen.

Spies report that inside the entrenchments are four parallel lines of rifle pits, shoulder deep, and in front of them are marked ranges and several rows of barbed wire fences. No officers who have surveyed the field over which the advance must be made underestimate the task ahead of the Americans.

The general opinion is that more artillery will be necessary before it will be safe to attempt to make an assault upon the Spanish works, as the fire of the rifle pits must necessarily be deadly and sufficient to demoralize any force, no matter how brilliant in its courage, when halted by fire obstructions.

Some officers believe it will be necessary to lay a large siege to Santiago until the rifle pits can be shelled with shrapnel by the light artillery. These pieces have an effective shell range of 2,800 yards, and the Mauser rifles in the hands of the Spaniards are sighted to 1,500 yards and they kill at 2,100 yards. The road over which the ordnance must be brought is densely lined by underbrush. Every yard is in artificial hedge row and the road to the base of supplies is in a similar state.

SPANIARDS ON THE DEFENSIVE.

But very little danger is apprehended of a tank attack, as it is evident General Linarez is acting strictly on the defensive. The failure of the Spanish troops at Holguin, Manzanillo and Guantanamo to effect a junction with him have left the Spanish commander so weak that it would be an act of insanity upon his part to attempt to assume the aggressive or to retreat. The problem now confronting the army is the transportation of artillery, for the roads to the front are still impassable for wagons, but are being improved.

In the meantime the pack train is being used. The first of these left Juragua late Sunday night and arrived yesterday. The officers and men were completely out of rations Sunday. The Seventh received half rations and yesterday they received nothing. The boys are completely exhausted, but are pacified with the assurance that the pack train will be here tonight. Should an attack occur our soldiers would fare worse than they did in Guantanamo, as the attacking force here would not be at the disadvantage of having to charge uphill.

The Spaniards are using brass sheet-lead bullets and the brass ribs on touching tears the flesh horribly, while the small brass splinters cause blood poisoning. They are practically explosive bullets and are used in the Remingtons. They also cut a small cross through the end of the Mauser bullet, so that it mushrooms on striking, with a similar result.

Keeping Watch on Cervera.

OFF SANTIAGO DE CUBA, June 28, via Kingston, Jamaica, June 28.—It is believed Admiral Cervera contemplated making a dash out of the harbor last night. Four columns of smoke were seen at sundown advancing toward the mouth of the harbor and two small boats, believed to be torpedo boat destroyers, were observed in the neighborhood of the sunken collier Merrimac.

Transports Still at Sea.

MANILA, June 28.—(Via Hong Kong, June 28.)—Up to the time this dispatch is sent the transports from San Francisco, having on board American troops intended to reinforce Rear Admiral Dewey, have not arrived here and there is no change in the situation. The insurgents have not made any further advance and the Spaniards have been continuing the construction of sand bank fortifications and planting of sharpened bamboo around Manila for the purpose of stopping the insurgent advance.

GAP IS CLOSING UP

SHAFTER HAS MADE ANOTHER MARKED ADVANCE ON SANTIAGO.

Short on Food—New Japanese Cabinet—Spain in a Turmoil—Troubles of the Gravest Kind are Brewing all Over the Provinces.

WASHINGTON, June 29.—It was very late in the day when the first dispatch within two days came to the war department from General Shafter, but the news was regarded as so good that there was no disposition to complain. It disclosed a very satisfactory rate of progress on the part of General Shafter towards the town of Santiago itself and apparently he has gained all this ground and has come within three miles of Santiago without any losses of since the bloody skirmish of Friday last. [As near as can be gathered from the brief dispatch the American army is now at the fork in the road, one branch of which leads to Santiago and the other to Morro Castle at the entrance of the harbor. General Shafter is thus free to move in either direction, according to the demands of the campaign. With the 1,300 men who reinforced him yesterday on the Yale and the additional brigade that will reach him by tomorrow, it may be possible to make even more rapid progress in the advance upon Santiago, as these men can be relied upon to relieve the main body of troops of the necessity of the keeping open the base with Baiquiri.]

In the meantime new troops are being prepared and dispatched as rapidly as possible, and it is believed that several thousand sailed from Tampa today.

Spain in a Turmoil.

LONDON, June 29.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, says: "Spain is in a state of ferment, of transition without parallel during the present century. Troubles of the gravest kind are brewing all over the provinces. Every political and social institution is threatened in turn and the least nervous among far-sighted politicians apprehend a complete debacle."

"But the failure of the national defense is not alone accountable for this. Incredible as it may seem, the majority of Spaniards have absolutely no interest in the war, and even display a willingness to forget the past and to endeavor to rub along without colonies."

"The statement responsible for the loss of the colonies are utterly reckless, and the indifference to the people's ruin manifested by the governing and upper middle classes is probably unparalleled in history. Hunger and misery are making themselves felt throughout the country. There will soon be 300,000 unemployed in Catalonia and everywhere there are signs of distress."

"The government is painfully conscious and is now taking energetic measures, but all of these are of a coercive character. Troops which might have successfully defended the Philippines are being massed at all the centers where starvation protests are likely to assume an aggressive form, while money is being wasted on war ships that will never fire a shot."

"The press expects to be gagged, but it unanimously declares that no amount of coercion and no degree of dictatorial despotism will hinder the country from rising and manifesting its will. What is far more serious is the unfortunate circumstances that the dynasty shares in the unpopularity of the government."

"The people argue that repression is being employed solely in favor of the monarchy, which has remained absolutely passive during the terrible national crisis. On my way to the palace to witness the confirmation of the young monarch I heard expression given to anti-dynastic sentiments of the most uncompromising character which bode no good to the boy king. In all other classes the same lack of sympathy is unmistakably manifest."

Little Food in Santiago.

BAIQUIRI, June 28.—(Via Kingston, Jamaica, June 29.)—A Spanish spy who was captured by the Cubans on Sunday reports that the Spaniards in Santiago believe the Americans suffered heavy loss during the fighting near Seville, on Friday, both in killed and wounded. The spy also reported that there was much criticism in Santiago on account of the fact that the American landing was not contested at Baiquiri and he also says there was talk of an American attempt to flank the Spanish troops. The spy says there is very little food in the city of Santiago.

New Japanese Cabinet.

YOKOHAMA, June 29.—Okuma Stagi has been charged to form a new cabinet. It will be the first party cabinet in the history of Japan. The resignations of the Marquis Saigo Tingumichi, the minister of marine, and Lieutenant General Katsuri, the minister of war, have not been accepted. They will probably retain their posts, in deference to the clan feeling among the officers.

Kills His Mother With an Ax.

LAKE CITY, Minn., June 29.—Allie Walsh murdered his mother Monday by crushing her skull with an ax. He is about twenty-two years old and the crime was committed at their home about five miles from here. The young man had been confined in the Rochester insane asylum, but was released about four months ago as cured. It is supposed a sudden return of his mania was responsible for the deed. After committing the murder Walsh escaped and the sheriff and posse are now in pursuit.

READY FOR AN ATTACK.

Shafter Convinced of the Necessity of Immediate Action—Germany Keeping Good Faith.

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The opinion prevails here that within a day or two at most General Shafter will have begun his attack upon the city of Santiago proper. The important event of the day was the general's announcement that he could take the city in forty-eight hours, but at considerable loss. Taken in connection with the announcement contained in another dispatch that he is going to attack without awaiting reinforcements, it will be seen that the officials have ground for their expectation that a general engagement will begin in a very short time. Numerically the opposing armies are not different, the estimate of the Spanish force being placed at 14,000 men, thoroughly entrenched behind barbed wire fences and block houses as against about 18,000 men under Shafter's command aided by 1,000 Cubans. One of the gravest elements in the problem, however, is the Spanish warships, for unless Shafter is materially assisted by Sampson, who might engage the full attention of the Spanish ships, the fire upon the American advance forces will be very hard to meet.

THE ENEMY APPROACHING.

The war department received the first definite news yesterday as to the approach of these Spanish reinforcements. This as in an official dispatch, stating that 8,000 men, with pack trains and flocks of animals, were advancing from Manzanillo, and were forty-five miles from Santiago. It has been known through reports from Lieutenant Joyce that the Spaniards have 12,000 men at Manzanillo and 10,000 at Holguin, and very precaution has been taken to guard against their advance from either quarter. The official reports yesterday showed that 8,000 of these at Manzanillo had covered half the distance to Santiago, and it is the belief of military officials here that General Pando is making a similar advance with his 10,000 men from Holguin. These advances, now practically unopposed, are regarded as one of the most serious phases of the situation. There is the further element to which the military authorities are giving careful attention, that one man entrenched behind earthworks or in rifle pits is worth three men in the open. It is said that the battles of Chancellorsville and Spotsylvania affords the most direct proof on this point. It was announced at the war department by their reports that 3,000 soldiers should be leaving Tampa to join Shafter. They will be three or four days on the voyage and it is probable that it is this force that General Shafter refers to as likely to arrive too late for action.

LINAREZ A CAPABLE LEADER.

The military authorities here say that General Linarez has shown great military tactics in slowly retiring during the last few days, as he has gradually drawn our troops from the protection of the American ships and brought them close to the fire of the Spanish ships in Santiago harbor. For this reason it was with relief that the announcement was received here that Shafter had succeeded in landing all of his artillery, including his siege train, for unless Sampson can be relied upon to force his way into the harbor and attack the Spanish ships the siege guns planted on heights commanding the bay will be the main reliance of General Shafter in offsetting the presence of the Spanish ironclads.

Undoubtedly Shafter is animated to attack as soon as possible by heading off the reinforcements from Manzanillo, or with this additional force Shafter's position would be disagreeable, if not perilous, at least until he had received reinforcements.

GERMANY KEEPING GOOD FAITH.

The navy department yesterday gave out a message from Admiral Dewey, which was brought to Hong Kong by the McCulloch, so that it must have left Cavite on the 23d. The admiral made no reference to the landing of German marines, and the officials here are satisfied that Germany is acting in good faith and according to the rules of neutrality.

The report that the Egyptian government had finally refused coal to Camara's fleet at Port Said has not been officially confirmed, but its accuracy is not questioned. There is still some doubt whether this refusal in itself will operate to prevent its further movement of the Spanish squadron toward the Philippines, as Madrid advises alleged a purpose on the part of the Spanish government to send additional coaliers with the expedition to overcome the refusal of the various ports along the way to the Philippines to supply coal. There is a strong impression, however, that the Spanish government will avail itself of the pretext, afforded by this refusal to turn the fleet back to Spain.

Railroads Must Pay the Tax.

ST. LOUIS, June 30.—Freight traffic managers of the lines south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi river, met here to effect a readjustment of grain rates on shipments to the southeast. The meeting also discussed the methods of applying the revenue stamps on bills of lading, dray tickets, etc. Southeastern lines take the same view as the eastern and western lines that the railroads must bear the expense of the stamp on the original bill or receipt, but that the shipper should pay for all duplicate receipts.