

FULL POWER TO ACT

Peace Commission Takes Philippines in Hand.

PARIS, Oct. 25. The American peace commission was in session during the whole of this afternoon. The deliberations of the commissioners, however, had no relation to the question of the Cuban debt, upon which question the attitude of the United States has been strictly determined.

The Gaulois today, referring to yesterday's joint session, says: "It is certain that both sides will endeavor to gain time, the America is not wishing to take up the Philippine question before the United States congressional elections have taken place, and they do not want certain alleged mysteries, previously disclosed by the Gaulois, to become known at present."

This refers to the allegation that there has been some agreement between the United States and Spain outside of the protocol regarding Spanish sovereignty an allegation which the Associated Press has already declared, on high authority, to be untrue.

Continuing, the Gaulois affirms that the Spaniards are delaying a solution of the Cuban debt question until after election in the United States, "expecting them to get better terms," adding that if Spain does not perceive the advantages possible to her from the electoral situation in the United States.

War Inquiry at Anston.

ANNISTON, Ala., Oct. 25.—Dr. R. D. Boss, assistant surgeon in the First infantry, was the first witness before the war investigating committee yesterday. He was with this regiment and with the Fourth infantry in Cuba. He arrived at Santiago on the 10th of July. He found the medical supplies short and was unable to secure any of them for a few days until he learned how to get them from the division hospital. There was a sufficient quantity of quinine, but a shortage of morphine. He was able to secure hospital stores, such as food delicacies, by "rustling" for them; getting them first from the Red Cross society, and then going to Santiago for them.

Dr. Connor asked if the government could not have gotten these supplies to Santiago as promptly as the Red Cross, and Dr. Boss replied that while he had no information he thought it could have been so.

Colonel Fife of the Third Tennessee, having made a request to supplement his statement of yesterday, gave some particulars concerning the sinks used by his regiment. He said they were very near the tents and that it was impossible to remove them farther, owing to the proximity of other regiments, six of them being within a stone's throw. In one instance the sinks of other regiments were within twenty paces of the tents of the line officers.

Other witnesses examined were Lieutenant Reed of the Fourth Wisconsin, Lieutenant West of the Third Alabama, and Lieutenant Haley of the Third Tennessee. West is the commissary and quartermaster of this regiment, and Reed was commissary for his regiment for a time. West said the supplies were ample and excellent, but Reed complained somewhat of the meat supplied before the regiment left Wisconsin.

Lieutenant Haley is commissary for his regiment. He said there had been few complaints that the rations were not satisfactory, but he thought the complaint was caused by the return of the men on furlough.

Other witnesses at the forenoon session were Fountain Bagland and Edward Simmons, two colored men of the Third Alabama; H. C. Lenke, a quartermaster-sergeant of the Fourth Wisconsin; Congressman Colson, colonel of the Fourth Kentucky, and Lieutenant-Colonel Cabell of the Second Arkansas. Colonel Cabell said in reply to questions put by Dr. Connor that he had observed a condition of affairs at the hospital of the Second division of the Third army corps in June which he considered horrible. He had himself seen one sick man lying without the protection of even a tent and he had been informed by other officers that several others had been left in the same way. He thought the doctors were honest enough, but that they did not know how to get supplies. Mule drivers had been used for nurses, and he had been reliably informed that many of them were in the habit of getting drunk and on this occasion neglecting their patients. He said Dr. Schoeler was the division surgeon at the time. Colonel Cabell is a lieutenant in the regular army, and his testimony made an evident impression on the commission.

To Be Operated by A Trust

MARSHALL, O., Oct. 25.—William G. Hipp of the Marshall Fire Brick company has secured options on the plants of all the leading fire brick companies of this county and they will soon be purchased and operated by a trust. It is asserted that eastern capital amounting to \$12,000,000 is behind the scheme.

Furniture Contract Awarded

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 25.—The contract for supplying furniture for the Omaha public building was yesterday awarded to the Sextro Furniture company, of Cincinnati, at \$3,087.

Nebraska patents issued yesterday: Alpharetta Fair, Ashton, key-holder; Martin H. Hoyer, Ainden, dental engine; George Marshall, Fremont, steam engine; Henry C. Mithoezy, Fremont wheel.

BAD HITCH AT PARIS

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS MAY YET BE BROKEN OFF.

Wants the Cuban Debt Divided But Will Never Gain the Day—Question of Philippines Soon to Come Up—Hopes Other Nations May Come to Her Rescue.

PARIS, Oct. 25.—The American peace commissioners were in session yesterday from 10 a. m., to almost 2 p. m., when they repaired to the joint session. They took with them a carefully prepared written answer to the proposals of the Spaniards regarding Cuba. It is understood that the American reply is, to a certain degree, in the nature of a compromise proposal.

The session of the joint commission lasted from 2 o'clock p. m. until 6, when adjournment was taken until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Guam, in the Ladrones islands, has been chosen by the Americans, under the terms of the protocol, and the session has been confirmed by the Spanish commission. Details of minor importance alone remain to be decided upon in connection with the session of Porto Rico, the formal transfer of which is practically accomplished.

Cuban Question Near an End.

The chief matter considered at today's session was the American reply to Spain's revised, and renewed propositions of the last meetings, and the indications are that the Cuban question will be disposed of this week. But no details have been given out by either side regarding Spain's presentment of Friday last, or the American side of the same, submitted today.

The consideration by the commissioners of the Porto Rican and the Ladrones question has now been merged with the Cuban question, and all the points involved are being carried forward to a simultaneous conclusion.

When this has been arrived at the Philippine question will be taken up. Of course there is a possibility of a disagreement, and the Spaniards, if the American commissioners decide not to assume any portion of the Cuban indebtedness, may announce their unwillingness to proceed any further with the negotiations based on the peace protocol. Should the Spaniards decide to do this it will be because they wish to excite the pity of their creditors and of other nations. The cortes may then be asked to endorse their actions, in fact, the Spaniards may even prefer a resumption of hostilities to acquiescence in the American refusal to share their financial burden.

No Anxious for War Renewal

Spain, however, will not break off the present negotiations before having proposed that the United States share half the insular Cuban debt, which, in such a proposition, may be placed at 700,000,000, the interest rate to be reduced to 2 per cent, which, Spain may hold, practically reduces her share to \$115,000,000, being the proportion proposed to be borne by the United States or guaranteed thereby.

Such a proposition would not be accepted by the United States, either directly or in behalf of Cuba.

The Impartial yesterday says:

"No victor ever treated the vanquished as the United States is treating Spain. The government has received a grave dispatch from Porto Rico, announcing that the American general there is acting toward Spain as the European nations have treated China. He ordered a Spanish steamer to embark the remainder of the Spanish troops at Porto Rico, in spite of the protests of her captain, who had orders to go to Havana to embark sick soldiers. Our government will probably protest against such action."

Riots in North Carolina.

LUMBERTON, N. C., Oct. 25.—The expected riot between the races at Ashe Pole, this county, Saturday night, from Ashe Pole stated that a crowd was averted. A telephone message of mutinous negroes, who had been around the village all day making threats, had entered the village armed and the whites expected to be attacked any minute and asked that aid be sent. Several men went down from here, and as the negroes seemed to be quieting down the whites dispersed, a few gathering around a small fire in the center of the street as a guard. About 3 o'clock several blacks slipped up near the crowd and fired into them, wounding three men, none seriously. They then ran and the whites procured bloodhounds, and four negroes were caught Sunday morning. They were taken to Ashe Pole and it is said have confessed that they were in the crowd, and have implicated several others, some of whom were caught. It is reported that the posse in pursuit of the other negroes have shot one of them.

Evacuation of Porto Rico Completed.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—The navy department today received the following:

SAN JUAN, Oct. 23.—Secretary of the Navy. Evacuation of Porto Rico completed by sailing of last detachment of Spanish troops today.

SCHLEY.

Ordered Home.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 25.—The governor this afternoon ordered company F, Sons of Veterans, which has been doing guard duty at Pana, home at Macomb, and company C, which has been at Virden, to return to Oregon. This leaves troop A, cavalry of Chicago, at Virden, and company G, Sons of Veterans, Joliet, and troops B, First cavalry, Bloomington, at Hans. All officers and men of the hospital corps were relieved from further duty at Virden.

TO MARCH ON MANILA

Admiral in the Philippines Far From Tranquil.

MANILA, Oct. 23.—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 treaty, but it is now again interrupted, this time by orders from General Rios.

The steamer San Nicolas, which left Manila yesterday flying the American flag, was compelled to return by a Spanish gunboat whose commander offered a plea for his assertion that the crew consisted of Filipinos, who might smuggle contraband articles.

The San Nicolas, after reporting her experience, sailed again, accompanied by the United States gunboat McCulloch.

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 here for six months. In the existing conditions business relations with the provinces have been in many cases entirely suspended. The meeting resolved to make an urgent appeal to the British government to endeavor to hasten a settlement in pending issues. The attitude of the insurgent troops has become very menacing. Their supplies are growing scarce and they are becoming desperate. Their leaders assure 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 and American protectorate with equal energy.

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

Three Drown in the Lake.

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—A small skiff in which were Louis Baban, son of a wealthy brick manufacturer of Evanston, William Schaffer and another man whose identity has not yet been established, capsized in Lake Michigan, about five miles off Wilmet yesterday and all were drowned. The men started out yesterday morning duck hunting. A high sea was running and after drifting about five miles the boat overturned. The unfortunate hunters clung to the overturned craft for over an hour, but weighted down with heavy canvas coats he pockets of which were filled with ammunition, they finally sank. Schaffer's body was recovered.

Wrecked off New London.

NEW LONDON, Conn., Oct. 24.—During a heavy gale yesterday morning the tug Thomas J. Scully lost the barges Admiral, Comarie, Wyandotte and Atlantic, four miles west of Cornfield, by her tug's hawser parting. Soon afterward the Admiral sprang a leak, and collided with the second barge, which ultimately resulted in the sinking of the four barges. The men on the Admiral were lost, but the crew of the scully, by means of a line, rescued seven men, two women and a baby from the other barges. This morning an unknown schooner off the shore about a mile and a half east of Bartlett's reef light, was wrecked in the south-east gale, and those aboard drowned up to last night there had been no wreckage washed ashore that would give any identity to the schooner.

Death Visits the First.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 24.—The transport steamer Rio de Janeiro arrived here yesterday from Manila with 140 sick and twenty four discharged soldiers on board. The following seven men died on the trip over:

Elliott Ordway, company H, Oregon regiment.

E. F. Fiske, hospital corps, First California.

H. A. Stude, company F, First California.

J. A. Glover, company A, First Nebraska.

F. W. Tucker, company C, Twenty-third infantry.

L. D. Pasmore, company G, First Nebraska.

H. D. Shuter, Astor battery.

All the dead were buried at sea except Ordway, Fisk and Shuter. The vessel was sent to quarantine yesterday afternoon and upon examination by the quarantine officers the sick soldiers were transferred to the division hospital at the Presidio, where they are being cared for.

Most of the Rio's passengers are convalescents and those who are detained in the hospital are nearly all doing well and are out of danger.

Tug Sinks in Collision.

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—The big tug L. P. Smith was sunk in the harbor entrance at Thursday in a collision with the steamer Olympia. The captain and engineer were rescued. The fireman went down with the tug and was drowned. The Olympia was uninjured.

Does Not Look Peaceful

CHERBOURG, France, Oct. 24.—Orders have been received at the military and naval arsenals here to prepare for the arrival of a large body of troops tomorrow. The barracks are being hurriedly put in order for their reception.

Made Public

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—The navy department has made public that portion of Admiral Sampson's report covering the conduct of the fleet under his command in its operations in the West Indies for about two months prior to the destruction of Admiral Cervera's ships on July 3. It is made up largely of official dispatches and the movements of the fleet, with explanations and comment by the admiral.

STANDS HER GROUND

FRANCE THINKS HER CLAIMS AS GOOD AS ENGLAND'S.

Asks Stage Declared Not Yet Reached and Naval Activity Means Nothing—Her Position Stated. Not yet Ready to Give Way.

PARIS, Oct. 24.—A semi-official note issued this evening says:

"There is no foundation for the alarmist rumors regarding the relations between France and Great Britain. It is equally incorrect to say that extraordinary measures have been taken at any of our naval ports."

The Fashoda yellow book is voluminous, but it does not include Major Marchand's report, which will be published later. The dispatches were largely anticipated by the English Fashoda blue book.

The diplomatic conversation recorded show a curious endeavor on the French side to represent that Marchand's mission was quite as important as General Kitchener's on the ground that the struggle was against the khalifa and barbarism.

On September 18 M. del Casse, the foreign minister, informed the British ambassador to France, Sir Edmond Monson, in explicit language that France did not regard Lord Salisbury's claim to the soudan by virtue of conquest as applying to Fashoda on the ground that the Marchand expedition went to the relief of the French expedition under Captain Lieotard, which dated from a period long before the declaration in the house of commons by Sir Edward Grey as to the policy of the British government toward the soudan and at a time when the equatorial provinces were lost to civilization.

In fact, M. del Casse argued, unless Great Britain possessed the sultan's mandate, as well as the khedive's, as well as former Egyptian provinces, France considered herself equally entitled with England to possession of any point occupied by French officers.

ENGLAND'S DEMAND UNJUST

Judging from the yellow book dispatches the foregoing represents the French standpoint, and M. del Casse contends that as Marchand reached Fashoda first England has no right to demand an evacuation prior to negotiations.

On Sept. 30 M. del Casse declared to Sir Edmond Monson that such a demand would be equivalent to an ultimatum, and while he could afford to sacrifice France's material interests so long as her honor was intact for the sake of the Anglo-French entente, no one could doubt what would be the reply of France to such an attack.

The subsequent dispatches appearing in the yellow book relate to conversations between Baron de Courcel, French ambassador in London, and Lord Salisbury, the latter contending that the capture of Khartoum, entitled Egypt to possession of all the Mahdi's dominions, and the French ambassador arguing that Major Marchand had captured Fashoda before General Kitchener took Khartoum, and that France had for a long time held several posts in the Bahr-el-Gazal.

Lord Salisbury retorted that the French forces in the regions referred to were too weak to constitute effective occupation.

A final dispatch, dated October 12, from Baron de Courcel to del Casse, records a conversation with Lord Salisbury in which the French ambassador claimed access to the Nile through the Bahr-el-Gazal, and asked an amicable delimitation of the respective spheres of interest of two powers, in reply to which Lord Salisbury indicated that it would be necessary for him to consult colleagues.

Great Britain Looking On.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The negotiations at Paris between the Americans and Spanish peace commissioners have been watched with the greatest interest by foreign office officials here. The feeling seems to be gaining ground that the Spaniards are daily hoping that some event may transpire which will result in the breaking off of a further conference. The activity of Don Carlos recently, and his threat of inciting a revolt in Spain should a "dishonorable peace" be concluded, is believed to be one reason why the Spanish commissioners would be pleased should the peace deliberations come to naught.

Another view held by the Spaniards is said, is that should the commissioners become involved in a hopeless deadlock, the McKinley administration would find itself embarrassed and be compelled to make concessions. Should this be the case, Spain still bugs the fond delusion that European powers would make it a point to interfere and prevent an attack upon the coast of Spain by the navy of the United States.

In this connection there is a story afloat to the effect that some sort of an alliance between the United States and Great Britain has been suggested which would bring Spain to her senses and at the same time cause a change of front on the part of France concerning the Fashoda affair. It is even hinted that the foreign office has made some such suggestion to Washington.

Troops Retreating Home.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Two dispatches were received at the war department today from General Brooks. One dated at Ponce, says:

"The Relief sailed from Ponce yesterday with 246 patients."

The other from San Juan, said:

"Manitoba sailed from Ponce this morning with Third Wisconsin, thirty-five officers and 764 men, sixty discharged soldiers, and thirty passengers."

JOHN BULL READY TO FIGHT

Has Put His Foot Down and France Must Obey.

LONDON, Oct. 20.—Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, speaking at North Shields last evening, announced that the government had opened negotiations with the powers with a view of securing the subjects of the various powers the right of "developing the respective spheres in which each country is especially interested."

Regarding the Fashoda question he said he wished cordially to acknowledge the desire evidenced in the speeches of Lord Rosebery and Herbert Aquith, to help the government in the matter, "a matter which might develop to the utmost gravity."

"It is impossible," he continued, "for France to maintain that she had political rights at Fashoda. She has naturally and properly asked for time to receive Major Marchand's report, but until the contrary is proved I decline to believe that France will refuse to withdraw. If she refused, the matter would assume an aspect as grave as is possible between two great nations. The government is animated by the friendliest spirit towards France, and does not wish to inflict humiliation. What we desire is fair treatment."

"I hope, trust and believe the question is capable of a friendly solution, but this country has put her foot down. If, unhappily, another view should be taken by France, the queen's ministers know what their duty demands. There are greater evils than war and we shall not shrink from anything that is coming, knowing that we are supported by a united people."

FRANCE PREPARING FOR WAR.

PARIS, Oct. 20.—In spite of semi-official denials, the Echo d'Paris asserts that the embarkation of war material and supplies continues at Toulon, adding that extraordinary activity reigns at the arsenal there. Four ironclads and three cruisers are embarking ammunition and war material. Two transports are almost ready for sea. All French naval officers on leave of absence have been recalled. The naval authorities at Toulon are very reticent.

The Temps, commenting upon the sensational stories of naval mobilization, says:

"While the political situation necessarily induce unusual vigilance and activity, it must not be forgotten that the present naval movements are principally an inauguration of reforms planned by M. Lockroy when he was appointed minister of marine and which he desires to have completed prior to January 1 next—reforms whereby the squadrons and ports will always be ready and clear for action and fully equipped within a few days."

After enumerating the present and future strength of various squadrons intended for coast defense, the Temps concludes as follows:

"Ashore our military works are quite ready, and certainly the best disposition is being made of the means at the disposal of the navy, even if before the date mentioned the hoped-for solution, agreeable to both countries, should be found for the Fashoda question."

Going After The Governor.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 20.—Certificates of the election and inauguration of Governor Tanner were obtained of the secretary of state today by a representative of the Chicago-Virden Coal company, and it is supposed they will be used in injunction proceedings against Governor Tanner for his interference with the unloading of negro miners at Virden.

A Virden Special to the State Register says:

Sheriff Davenport was the principal witness at the coroner's inquest today. He said that he told Lukens' guards that in case of emergency he would call on them, but did not administer any oath to them. He saw men on the rear end of the train, shooting, one of whom was the man who killed Kiley, the C. & A. detective.

Eleven of the guards were arrested on warrants sworn out by Ed Cabill, the president of the local miners' union. The company bailed them out. The remainder were sent to their homes in Chicago and St. Louis.

The company has made a proposition to the miners to arbitrate the matter of wages, and the men held a meeting to consider the matter, but nothing was done.

Troop C and battery B returned yesterday to Chicago and Galesburg, respectively.

Dewey in Another Fight.

LONDON, Oct. 20.—The Madrid correspondent of the Times says:

"Captain Annon, the minister of marine, has received a dispatch from Manila, announcing a naval engagement between the Americans and the rebels. In consequence of Admiral Dewey forbidding the latter to fly the rebel flag from their ships. The dispatch adds that there were losses on both sides, but the American captured the rebel ships."

"The scene of the engagement is not stated, but it is supposed to have been Manila Bay."

Committed For Revenge.

PERU, Ind., Oct. 20.—Fitzgerald Woods has been arrested for the alleged murder of a fourteen-year-old boy at Bunker Hill two weeks ago. The killing was mysterious, but it has developed that the crime was committed for revenge. The alleged connection of Woods with it is due to a very clever detective. Men armed with rifles and accompanied by bloodhounds are now hunting for two others who are believed to have been associated with Woods.

UNDER A NEW FLAG

PORTO RICO PASSES TO CUSTODY OF UNITED STATES

No Provision Made for Naturalization and Bodily Transfer By Act of Congress the Most Likely Method—Sensational in Position to ask Where They are At.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—In view of the fact that at noon today with the acquisition of the island of Porto Rico by the United States about 800,000 inhabitants of that island to their Spanish citizenship, the question as to what shall become of these people politically becomes of importance. Madrid advices report that leading citizens in Porto Rico have already taken steps to become naturalized as United States citizens. This is an error, for existing law provided no way in which this change of citizenship can be effected by the residents of the island. There is no United States court there before which declaration of intention can be filed, and in fact no machinery at all which can be put in motion to change citizenship.

Inquiry into this subject at the state department discloses the fact that it has been usual to provide for bodily transfer of the citizenship of people conditioned as those in Porto Rico, in the treaty of peace which terminates a war. I may perhaps be prudent for the commission on at Paris to avoid any reference to Porto Rico again, in which case congress will be called upon by the president to confer citizenship upon the Porto Ricans in the same act as that which was passed to provide a stable form of government for the island.

MADRID, Oct. 19.—The premier, Senor Sagasta, having to prepare a long dispatch to Senor Morero Rios, president of the Spanish peace commission, the cabinet is not to meet today.

Advices received here from Porto Rico say that all the high officials there have taken steps to become naturalized Americans.

Four Men Killed by Explosions.

READING, Pa., Oct. 19.—Four men were killed by the explosion of a Wilmington & Northwestern freight engine at Joann station this afternoon. The dead were:

William Herdicker, engineer, aged 45.

George Mills, fireman, aged thirty-five.

Willis Woodward, brakeman.

Harv Huydam, conductor.

All lived at Birdsboro, this county.

Nine Killed in a Wreck.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—A terrible railway accident occurred Tuesday evening on the Great Central railway near Barret, eleven miles north of London. An express train going at the rate of a mile a minute came into collision with a freight train that was switching across the track at Barret Junction. The express piled up a complete wreck. Nine dead and thirteen seriously injured have been recovered from the wreck, and there are others under the debris.

Ready to Lock Horns.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 19.—Because of the discharge of three freight conductors running out of Parson, Kans., the federation of American railway employes and the M. K. & T. will lock horns tomorrow at St. Louis. Each side declares there will be no surrender and in the event that compromise fails there may be a general strike called, extending the entire length of the railway system.

Heads of the great railway organization arrived last night at St. Louis hotels to attend the conference.

It is understood that three conductors were discharged for the violation of rule—failure to report on the time cards—and the federation takes issue on the ground that the punishment administered was unwarranted severe. They declare there was a technicality in the application of the rule.

Killed His Insane Wife.

FLOYD, Mich., Oct. 19.—W. H. Murray of Clinton, Iowa, yesterday shot and killed his wife, Harriet, an incurable inmate of Oak Grove asylum located here, and then killed himself. Their bodies were found in a grove, where they had gone late in the afternoon for a walk, each shot through the head. In Mr. Murray's pocket was found a letter addressed to the physician in charge of the institution explaining the reason for his action. He said that the only way to relieve his wife from her suffering was to kill her, and that as it was against the law to do so, the only thing he could do was to shoot himself also. Mr. Murray left a number of letters giving minute directions as to the disposal of both their bodies, the distribution of his estate and other matters which tend to show that the crime was done with cool deliberation.

Thinks Trouble All Over.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The following dispatch from Indian Commissioner Jones was received:

WALKER, Minn., Oct. 18.—Held a final council with the Indians at Bear Island camp today. All but one will surrender Wednesday. I will send the marshal in capturing this renegade. Believe that trouble is all over. Have agreed to attend the court at Duluth with the prisoners. I am not likely to be home for a week.