

WAR, WAR, WAR

ULTIMATUM CONSTITUTES A WAR DECLARATION, SAY THE DON'S.

The Enemy's Note Declares That Their Ships Have Sailed to Meet the American Navy.

IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

Officials in Washington Accept Spain's Action as a Sign to Begin Hostilities.

North Atlantic Squadron Has Sailed from Key West for Havana--Will Blockade the Harbor Immediately.

Madrid, April 21, 3:20 p. m.—A semi-official note just issued says the Spanish government considers the ultimatum of the United States constitutes a declaration of war.

The semi-official note adds that the Spanish fleet is already on its way to meet the fleet of the United States.

Washington, April 21.—The North Atlantic squadron has sailed from Key West for Havana.

The squadron will blockade Havana immediately.

Washington, April 21.—In the opinion of the State department a state of war now exists between Spain and the United States.

Moreover, this, in its view, has been brought about by action of the Spanish government, which, in notifying Mr. Woodford that it had broken diplomatic relations, thereby took the initiative.

It is presumed that by this time the various consuls in Spain, who have so far without exception stuck loyally at their posts, are now making their way as rapidly as possible across the frontier into France.

WASHINGTON, April 21.—There were an unusual number of diplomatic callers at the state department this morning, the list including the three ambassadors from France, Belgium and Japan.

It is believed that the object of the French ambassador's call was to notify Judge Day formally that at the request of the retiring Spanish minister the French embassy, with the permission of the United States government, would look after the interests of Spain in the United States.

It seems to be the common understanding that in view of the action of the Spanish government there is now no occasion for delay upon the part of our government for action upon the joint resolution directing intervention, for the refusal of the Spanish government to receive the communication, knowing its character, is to be construed only as a refusal of its conditions.

Movements of our army and navy, therefore, will follow as soon as we are ready and it will not be necessary to wait until Saturday noon.

It is still absolutely unknown to anyone outside the administration proper, and even in that case only to few, how the campaign shall be directed. The attempt to outline publicly its details is bitterly resented by the army and navy officers charged with the strategic plans of the two departments.

The flying squadron at Hampton Roads is in a state of readiness for instant action, but it is surmised that its present function is rather to keep an eye upon the Spanish movements and be ready to defend quickly any point upon the coast that might be threatened by Spanish cruisers.

Troops will co-operate with the navy as soon as they can be concentrated. Ten days it is expected will be necessary to concentrate troops at Key West.

As soon as Congress passes the army bill the President will call for 100,000 men.

News came to the department that tended to confirm the newspaper reports that the formidable Spanish naval force at St. Vincent, Cape Verde island had sailed last night for an unknown destination. Naval experts say that leaving out of consideration the question of relative strength of the personnel the Spanish force is at least equal and probably much superior in some respects to Commodore Schley's fleet.

SECRET IN THE SENATE.

Senator Hoar Asks for Cautions in the Senate's Discussion of War Matters. WASHINGTON, April 22.—Mr. Money in the Senate, speaking of the fact that there should be no privateering by the United States in the war with Spain, said that the matter of deciding such a question was entirely in the hands of Congress.

Senator Hoar gave notice he would insist that all war discussions, such as precipitated by Senator Money on privateering, should be in secret session.

GIVEN HIS PASSPORTS.

Minister Woodford Not Allowed to Present the Ultimatum. WASHINGTON, April 22.—Judge Day, assistant secretary of state, early this morning received a cablegram from Minister Woodford at Madrid stating that he had been handed his passports and had been notified that official relations between the United States and Spain were ended.



STEWART L. WOODFORD

Woodford's cablegram said that he had been given his passports before he had had an opportunity to present the ultimatum transmitted to him for submission to the Spanish government, the delivery of the ultimatum to Minister Polo having been accepted by the Spanish ministry as a formal announcement on our part.

Judge Day at once hurried to the White house, where he found President McKinley about to enter a carriage to take Mrs. McKinley to the railroad station, where he intended to see her off on a short trip to New York.

The news that diplomatic relations between the United States and Spain were formally at an end was so important that the President bid a hasty good-bye to his wife on the White house portico, and repaired immediately to the upstairs part of the White house, where he and Judge Day held a conference.

By a hasty summons Senator Davis of Minnesota, chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations, Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, a member of the committee; Senator Allison of Iowa and others were brought to the White house, where they joined Assistant Secretary Day and the President shortly after 10 o'clock in a conference. The purpose was to map out the immediate policy of the United States.

Chairman Davis of the Senate foreign relations committee was laconic and not explicit, simply remarking: "We've taken the trick." Asked specifically regarding the handing of his passports to Minister Woodford he said that that was all right; that the delivery of the ultimatum to the Spanish legation here had served all purposes.

Senator Cullom of the foreign relations committee was at this conference also, and at 11 o'clock, on leaving the White house, said that the handing of the passports to Minister Woodford constituted the Spanish reply and ended all peaceful relations.

While an effort might be made in Congress to make a formal declaration of war, there was no occasion for it, and in his opinion there probably would be none. He added: "There is enough of a state of war now existing."

Everything now, he suggested, would go ahead without a formal declaration of war by Congress. The next step, he said, would be to call out the troops.

The cabinet meeting this afternoon discussed a number of questions, all of which involve almost immediate hostilities.

The question of a formal declaration of war was considered, but it is understood that it is unlikely that any formal declaration will be made. An intimation is given that an important naval movement might soon be expected.

MADRID, April 22.—The newspapers of this city print highly colored accounts of how General Woodford was handed his passports. The Spanish government having received the text of the ultimatum of the United States from its own sources, did not wait for the United States minister to present the ultimatum but sent him his passports.

It is not expected that there will be any formal declaration of war, as Spain's action to-day is considered as such, and hostilities may begin immediately.

Both nations, however, may send to their own people and to all neutrals what is termed "the notification of war."

Polo to Stay in Canada During Hostilities. TORONTO, Ontario, April 22.—J. Enoch Thompson, Spanish consul in this city, has received an official dispatch from Senor Polo y Bernabe, Spanish minister at Washington, stating that he would arrive in Toronto Saturday. It is expected the Spanish minister and his staff will remain here for the present and will likely make Toronto their headquarters during hostilities.

General Hugh J. Campbell Dead. ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 22.—General Hugh J. Campbell is dead. General Campbell was the member of the Louisiana returning board whose vote decided the presidential election in 1876 in favor of R. B. Hayes and against Tilden. He organized the first regiment in Iowa for the civil war. He had just volunteered to raise a regiment.

Thirty-Three Mules Burned to Death. MEXA, Ark., April 22.—A fire occurred at the King-Ryder Lumber company's stables and thirty-three head of mules were burned to death.

THE FIRST GUN

A SPANISH MERCHANTMAN CAPTURED.

Only Two Shots Fired—The Gunboat Nashville Followed a Blank Charge With a Six Pounder, and the Spaniard Surrendered—Towed Into Key West.

KEY WEST, Fla., April 23.—The United States gunboat Nashville has captured the Spanish ship Buena Ventura of 1,000 tons, having on board a cargo of lumber.

The Buena Ventura was bound from Pasangoula, Miss., for Rotterdam with lumber. First the Nashville fired a blank shot, which the Spaniard ignored. This was followed by a shot from a six-pounder. The Buena Ventura then promptly surrendered with her crew of twenty men.

The Nashville towed her prize into this harbor at 11 o'clock this 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.

The Nashville is one of the smaller of the light draft gunboats. She is 220 feet long and displaces 1,371 tons of water. Her draft is only eleven feet. She can make fourteen knots an hour and carries 238 tons of coal. Her battery consists of eight 4-inch rapid fire guns, four 6 pounders, two 1-pounders and two Gatlings. The Nashville is protected by a three-eighths inch steel deck and carries 294 officers and men. She was built in 1894 at a cost of \$283,000. Captain Maynard is her commander.

The Nashville sailed this morning with the fleet from Key West.

A RICH PRIZE IS COMING.

LAS PALMAS, Canary Islands, April 22.—The Spanish steamer Montserrat of 2,583 tons, which sailed from Cadiz April 19 for Havana, touched here April 23 and left the same day for Cuba. She had on board a valuable cargo and a number of troops and war material.

The troops and war supplies were landed here, but the steamer proceeded with a big cargo for Havana and should prove to be a rich prize for a United States cruiser.

A BLOCKADE ON CUBA.

The President Issues a Proclamation to the Nations.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—The President has issued a blockade proclamation. It announces a blockade of all ports upon the north coast of Cuba and the port of Cienfuegos on the south coast.

The following is the proclamation announcing a blockade: "By the President of the United States—A Proclamation.

"Whereas, by a joint resolution passed by the Congress and approved April 23, 1898, and communicated to the government of Spain, it was demanded that said government at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters; and the President of the United States was directed and empowered to use the 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 might be necessary to carry said resolution into effect; and

"In order to effect the said resolution the President of the United States deems it necessary to set on foot and maintain a blockade of the north coast of Cuba, including all ports of said coast between two feet and Bahia Honda and the port of Cienfuegos upon the south coast of Cuba;

"Now, therefore, I, William McKinley, President of the United States, do hereby declare and proclaim that the United States of America have instituted and will maintain a blockade of the north coast of Cuba, including ports on said coast between Cienfuegos and Bahia Honda and the port of Cienfuegos upon the south coast of Cuba; and that the laws of the United States and the laws of nations applicable to such cases, an efficient force will be posted so as to prevent the entrance and exit of vessels from the ports aforesaid.

"Any neutral vessel approaching off said ports or any vessel of the United States or of any other nation, without the consent or knowledge of the establishment of such blockade will be duly warned by the commander of the blockading forces, who will endorse on her register the fact and the date of such warning; and if the same vessel shall again attempt to enter any blockaded port she will be captured and sent to the nearest convenient port for such proceedings against her and her cargo as prize as may be deemed advisable.

"Neutral vessels lying in any of said ports at the time of the establishment of such blockade will be allowed thirty days to depart therefrom.

"In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington this 22d day of April, A. D. 1898, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-second.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, President.

JOHN SHERMAN, Secretary of State.

MAY DECLARE WAR.

Senator Cannon Thinks Action Will Be Taken To-Day.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Senator Davis, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, and Senator Cannon of Utah were with the President early to-day. Senator Cannon's visit, however, was of a largely personal character. He expressed the belief that there would be a formal declaration of war by Congress to-morrow.

CUBANS CO-OPERATE.

Brigadier Generals Nunez and Castillo Consulting With General Miles.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Brigadier Generals Nunez and Castillo, of the Cuban insurgents are now associated with the active work of the Cuban delegation here, and their recent conferences with Major General Miles, commander of the army, is looked upon as suggesting possible co-operation of the insurgent forces in the event of an attack by United States troops on the Spanish forces in Cuba.

SQUADRON OUT TO SEA.

North Atlantic Fleet Has Sailed—New York in the Lead.

KEY WEST, Fla., April 23.—The North Atlantic squadron, except for the monitors Terror and Puritan and the smaller cruisers, sailed from Key West at 5:45 o'clock this morning headed for the Florida straits. Besides the two monitors the ships left behind are the gunboat Helena, cruiser Marblehead, dispatch boat Dolphin, and the torpedo boats Cushing, Dupont and Porter.

It was just 5:42 o'clock when the flagship New York, without unnecessary display, moved pompously and slowly toward the outer waters of the gulf. The red light flashed the signal to the eager eyes on the following fleet and told them to get in motion at last.

The flag ship New York was the first to move. After going out two miles beyond the anchorage Admiral Sampson ordered a return, evidently for the purpose of signaling the other ships. The Iowa moved next, closely followed by the Indiana. From the inner harbor the Marblehead was the first to get under way. A few moments later the Amphitrite raised anchor and was the first of the monitor class to get out.

Meantime the torpedo boat Dupont, carrying the admiral of the torpedo fleet, W. W. Kimball, rushed by the other boats and caught the Indiana and Iowa. At 6:30 o'clock the Cincinnati was under motion and rapidly chasing the leaders. Then came the first accident of the morning. The Detroit was closely following the Cincinnati, when she ran aground. As the tide was rising, it had only to wait for the assistance that the gulf would soon furnish. Two hours later the Detroit was afloat and moved after the fleet that had by that time disappeared below the horizon. The Wilmington and Newport went together. The Castine was the last of the larger boats to get in motion.

The torpedo boats Porter, Winslow and Foote brought up the rear, leaving the Detroit aground and the Puritan and Terror coaling. The Dolphin, Ericsson and Cushing waited for dispatches. The Dolphin's orders cannot be learned. The Ericsson left at 11 o'clock this morning, carrying what dispatches had been received at that hour. The Cushing will remain until the first dispatch boat returns from the fleet.

As the great fleet was silently moving out there was a commotion at Key West. The newspaper fleet was instantly in motion. All the boats had steam up, but the New York Herald's dispatch boats, the Dewey and Summers N. Smith, carrying artists and correspondents, were in the lead. The town did not awake to the realization of the fact that the fleet was moving until after 8 o'clock, when nearly the entire population swarmed to the harbor front and cheered the ships that were left in the docks.

BLANCO'S MANIFESTO.

Issues a Call to the Spaniards in Cuba—Says He Counts on Them.

HAVANA, April 23.—The official Gazette publishes an extra containing the following manifesto: "The general government of the island of Cuba, to the inhabitants of Cuba: Without any reason of legality, without the least offense on our part, and at a time when they have received from us only peace and freedom, the United States are forcing us into war just at the moment when quietude began to settle over the country, commerce taking courage and peace approaching, with the co-operation of all classes and all parties under the new institutions granted by the United States."

"Such a proceeding is without precedent in history. It evidently manifests the bony politics of the republic, demonstrating the truck plans and purposes that have always been manifested against Spain's sovereignty in Cuba, which the enemy has been conspiring for nearly a century to destroy. Our foes now carry their hypocrisy and falsehood to the extent of demanding immediate peace in a war provoked and sustained by themselves.

"If the United States want the island of Cuba, let them come and take it. Perhaps the hour is not far distant when these Carthaginians of America will find their Zama. In this island of Cuba, which Spain discovered, peopled and civilized, and which will never be anything else but Spanish.

"It is our turn to have the honor of defending her, and we will know how to do it with decision and an effort many a time put forth. I count upon you for this with an absolute certainty. I believe there is no sacrifice you are not prepared to make in defense of the national territory, whose integrity is sacred to all Spaniards, of whatever origin. I am sure that every one in whose veins runs Spanish blood will respond readily to the call which, in these solemn moments, I address to all, and that all will group themselves around me to contribute as much as they can to repel a foreign invasion, without allowing dangers, sufferings or privations to weaken the heart of courage.

"To arms, then, fellow countrymen, to arms! There will be a place for all in the fight. Let all co-operate and contribute with the same firmness and enthusiasm to fight the eternal enemy of the Spanish name emulating the exploits of our ancestors who always exalted high their country's fame and honor. To arms! Cry a thousand times: Viva Espana! Viva El Rey Alfonso XIII! Viva La Regenta! Viva Cuba Always Spanish! Your governor general, RAMON BLANCO.

Havana, April 21, 1898."

ARMIES FACE EACH OTHER.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, April 23.—The peace negotiations between Nicaragua and Costa Rica have failed. War is probable. The two armies are facing each other near the frontier, scarcely half a mile apart.

POGORA ON THE CANADIAN SIDE.

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., April 23.—Upon crossing the bridge to Niagara Falls, Ontario, Senor Polo y Bernabe and his staff, accompanied by two United States secret service men and a Pinkerton detective, went to the Lafayette hotel, where it was their intention to remain until next Saturday afternoon. They will then go to Toronto.

GUARDS FOR THE WHITE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—It has been decided to place a military guard about the White house in a few days.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA.

SUCCESSFUL SUMMARY OF A WEEK'S EVENTS

Most Important Happenings of the Past Seven Days Briefly Mentioned—All Portions of the State Covered—A Thorough Resume of Nebraska News.

The slaughter houses located north of Hastings were burned to the ground, entailing a loss of about \$1,000.

When Nebraska boys find time hanging heavily on their hands, they hang ex-Captain General Weyler in effigy. The latest trick of this kind occurred the other day at Rising City.

Wm. Neve, a Danish-American citizen of Omaha, has recruited a company composed almost wholly of trained soldiers who served in the Danish army. He has for some time been in correspondence with Governor Holcomb.

Fred Ekstrom, a well known traveling man of Omaha, has a project under way for a decided novelty on the exposition ground. It will be a building in the form of a monster beer keg fifty feet high, within which will be a theatre with galleries and refreshment rooms.

The Argo Manufacturing company of Nebraska City is extending its business until through it that city will come to be known throughout the world. They have for the past two years been making heavy shipments of their starch to Europe, and recently they loaded a car to go to Johannesburg, South Africa, which is to be followed by more extensive shipments to the same place at a later date.

J. B. Johnston, a farmer living about two miles west of Edgar, was attacked by an enraged bull while attempting to drive some cattle out of the yard. The bull was of the Red Polled variety. Mr. Johnston was knocked down and butted severely and quite badly injured. His ribs brought his son to his aid, who knocked the bull out of time with the end of a scapular tongue. Mr. Johnston is not thought to be dangerously injured.

Many who are interested in the G. A. R. reunion next fall will be pleased to learn that the holding of the trans-Mississippi exposition at the same time in Omaha will not lessen the interest in the meeting of the old soldiers at Lincoln in the least. Special rates will be made on all roads between Omaha and Lincoln and a great many comrades who visit the exposition will take a run down to see old friends, and taking everything into consideration the reunion this fall will be the most interesting and enjoyable one yet held.

Hearty applause came from a congregation of 600 people at St. Paul's M. E. church, Lincoln, Sunday morning in approval of the pastor's assertion that in waging war on behalf of liberty loving and oppressed Cubans this country is carrying out principles taught in the parable of the good Samaritan. The applause came spontaneously at the close of an eloquent period in the sermon of the pastor, Dr. W. R. Halstead. Approval of the audience was expressed by handclapping in which many joined. The pastor paused until the applause ceased and then continued his line of thought.

George Brost, from the table country, went to Chadron and swore out warrants for Ernest Lobo, Byron Lobo and Ed Hartman, their brother-in-law, charging that they came to his house in the night time, masked, called him to the door, beat him very grievously with a six-shooter and made him tell where his money was hidden, threatening him with death if he refused. No money could be found by the marauders, who were doubtless greatly frightened when they discovered him senseless. During the night he regained his senses enough to creep to a neighbor's house, who, in the morning, tracked the horses ridden by the assailants. The peculiar tracks were such that no mistake seems possible in following them. Brost is now able to be around, but the wounds have not all gone from his face.

Governor Holcomb has received the following telegram from Colonel Buffalo Bill, who is a member of the governor's staff:

New York, April 24. To Governor Silas A. Holcomb, Lincoln, Neb.—Dear Sir: I have accepted a position to go with General Miles to Cuba. Have any objections? Should Indians go on the warpath I will be at your command.

Whether Colonel Cody will go to Cuba as a member of General Miles' staff is not explained in the telegram, but it is supposed that the position is one of responsibility. Governor Holcomb sent the following answer and congratulations:

LINCOLN, Neb., April 24.—Col. W. F. Cody, New York—Dear Sir: I am gratified to know that you go with General Miles to Cuba. Your courage, ability and patriotism render your services in the present crisis of great value. Nebraska is proud of you. Thanks for tender of your services in the event of Indian hostilities. SILAS A. HOLCOMB, governor.

NATURALLY SCARED.

They say a man is always scared when he proposes. "Yes; especially if he proposes something like champagne and oysters."

FIGURES THAT STAGGER THE MIND.

It requires four years and four months for a ray of light to reach us from the nearest star, and yet light travels at the rate of 186,330 miles a second. At this rate a first-class express train, running at the speed of thirty-seven miles an hour, would require a continuous run of 75,000,000 years to reach Alpha Centauri. It would take 250,000,000 years for a cannon ball traveling at the usual speed of such projectiles to reach this same point, which is our nearest star neighbor.

Colonel E. C. Pace of Lincoln has enlisted a company of cavalry.

A grain elevator at Keone, Neb., was destroyed by fire. A good deal of grain was destroyed.

Nebraska's quota for enlistment in the volunteer army is 2,400. The call to arms was promptly met.

Humboldt is all worked up over a couple of elopements in which prominent citizens figure. No details yet.

County Attorney Paul Jenson of Oto county has enlisted in the Nebraska City company of national guards. He is anxious to go to the front.

Governor Holcomb has issued a proclamation offering a reward of \$200 for the apprehension and conviction of the murderer of Oliver Jones, who was killed in Barada precinct, Richardson county, April 9.

Patrick McDonald, an old man living alone in a shanty south of Green street, near Thirtieth, in Omaha, was burned to death. His cabin caught fire, presumably from an overturned lamp. He was addicted to drink.

Dora Frazier, an occupant of the restricted district of Lincoln, after a quarrel with a gentleman friend in whom she was interested, sought to end her woes by a morphine. A physician was summoned who brought her safely back to the vale of tears.

Masked men held up the conductor and motorman on the Hanson park line of the street railway at Omaha, at the southern terminus of the line, securing about \$24. They entered while the trainmen were sitting in their car waiting for time to start on the return trip, covered them with their revolvers and demanded their money.

Some would-be train wrecker placed a coupling pin in the switch on the Burlington where the Nebraska City line connects with the main line in the south part of Beatrice, and when the passenger from the east came in a bad wreck was nearly caused. The train passed over safely, but the switch was badly damaged.

At Alma, Neb., recently, Joe Jones, who has been holding revival meetings there, ended one sermon in the following words: "God bless you, my dear friends; I love all of you. This nation owes all it is to you; you are the saviors of this country. God bless you." Jones was a captain in the confederate ranks.

H. W. Kane, Omaha representative of the Richardson silk company, which has homes in several eastern cities, has been notified that the representatives of the company will have their pay continued if they enlist, and that \$2,500 insurance money will be paid their families if they die while serving the country during the war.

Blumenthal's department store at Fremont was successfully burglarized a second time last Saturday night. The haul was valued at \$500. The Beatrice bloodhounds were placed on the trail and followed the scent to the home of Frank Fuhroott, a young man who has been clerking for Blumenthal. The young man is now under arrest.

Guy Murray, employed in the elevator of the Standard Cattle company at Ames, was seriously injured recently. He was found in the engine room in an unconscious state and was taken to the hospital at Fremont, where it was found that his jaw was broken in two places besides many bruises. No one was with him at the time of the accident so it is not known how he was injured.

The plans for the press building are being completed by Fisher & Lawrie. Where the building will be located has not been determined. It will be 50x60 feet in size and forty feet to the top of the flag pole. There will be a main assembly room 31x45 feet and around this will be about sixteen small rooms 8x12 for private use of representatives of the press. At either front corner will be rooms for the use of the telegraph companies.

W. H. Taylor's general merchandise store at Exeter was broken into and quite a haul made from the jewelry department. An entrance was effected by prying up the lower sash of one of the back windows in the store room and the door between this room and the store proper was opened without difficulty. Three gentlemen's gold watches, one of them having a chain and charm attached, three dozen gold rings of various designs and sizes, and a card of stick pins have thus far been found missing.

MOSES FIFIELD'S WIVES.

Moses Fifield of Brookfield, Mass., has been married for the fourth time. He is eighty years old, and the last three marriages have been within the last six years. His first wife died of paralysis seven years ago; his second wife fell out of a cherry tree; his third wife was killed in a runaway, and Mr. Fifield is so sturdy and stout as to be likely to outlive the fourth, even should no accident occur.

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