

FASSETT GIVES TRUE CAUSE OF WORLD WAR

Veteran Believes Battle of Manila Bay Began Great Conflict

LAUDS ADMIRAL DEWEY

(By Neal S. Gomen)

The great World war was not caused by the shooting of Archduke Ferdinand but started at the battle of Manila bay, at which time Admiral Dewey, of the United States navy, sank the entire Spanish fleet in less than two hours," said F. L. Fassett, member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and past commandant of the Lincoln post.

"When the battle of Manila bay was being fought, there were lying in the harbor ships from Japan, England and Germany. Admiral Dewey requested that the foreign ships move out of the line of fire but the German admiral was obstinate and refused to leave. However, the Japanese and British moved back into position and placed themselves between the Americans and the Germans and forced the German fleet out of danger. It was at this time that the German admiral said, 'What would the Yankees do if I should open fire upon them, and Admiral Dewey replied, 'I would sink the whole German fleet.'"

Seated at his desk at the Lincoln Star office shortly after midnight, Mr. Fassett's eyes glinted as he spoke of Admiral Dewey and claimed that Dewey was the greatest admiral that the world has ever seen. With the din of presses and the click of telegraph instruments in his ears, Mr. Fassett told of his experiences in the Philippines with a clear voice which broke at times when he spoke of Admiral Dewey and the American flag. Several times during the discourse of the interview he banged upon the desk in order to emphasize his point.

Tells Cause of War

"The direct cause of the Spanish-American war was of course, the sinking of the Maine. The Maine was sunk February 15, 1898, in Havana harbor. The Maine had entered Havana harbor to protect the American interests from the atrocities of Gov. Gen. Weyler. Weyler came well by his nickname 'Butcher' because he committed some of the most degrading crimes in history. Before going to Cuba he was governor-general of the Philippine islands under Spanish dominion. While acting as governor he committed so many atrocities that he was sent to Cuba to prevent an uprising of the Philippine tribes."

Mr. Fassett went on to say that the Maine entered Havana harbor as a friendly ship in a friendly port and was sunk by a mine on the outside of the ship. A court of inquiry was held and as soon as it was determined that the Maine was sunk from the outside, war was declared upon Spain by the United States, April 26, 1898.

"To throw a little more local light upon the war," stated Mr. Fassett, "at the time of the sinking of the Maine we were practically sure that war was inevitable. The local state militia was quartered at 1634 O street."

Stayed at Barracks

"We had been staying at the barracks several weeks before war was declared. As soon as war was declared we moved to the fair grounds for intensive training. The camp was known as Camp Saunders."

"After a period of training we were sent to San Francisco where we again encamped and went through another period of training. We left Lincoln on May 10, and after our training at San Francisco we sailed for the Philippines and arrived in Manila July 17."

"One of the most outstanding results of the war was that it demonstrated the power of the American navy that brought a complete change of feeling, one of respect, among the powers of the world."

Brought Naval Prominence

"It also brought into prominence a rating with the best naval commanders of the world. Admirals Dewey, Schley and Simpson. Dewey was especially noted for his success at Manila while Schley and Simpson did stellar work in the West Indies."

"Another significant result of the war was that the United States, for the first time in history, had sent troops beyond the limits of the country. It was also the first time that American ships had ever entered a foreign port as a belligerent. The results of the war were even more enhanced by the fact that Spain lost all of her possessions in Asiatic waters as well as the island of Guam in the Pacific."

"A point that has never been understood by most of the American people and one that has been controversial for many years was the action of Dewey after he sank the Spanish fleet at Manila. Many people argue that he should have withdrawn but under international law it was impossible for him to do so. Up to the sinking of the Spanish fleet the people of Manila were under the protection of the Spanish flag. After Dewey defeated the Spaniards he could do nothing but offer the protection of the American flag to these people, and they demanded it."

Dewey Was in Honkong

In describing the battle of Manila Bay, Mr. Fassett said that Dewey was in Honkong at the time of the declaration of war. Honkong at that time was under the protection of the British fleet and at the declaration Dewey was ordered to leave Honkong at once. He had one of two alternatives: take to the high seas or advance upon Manila, as he did not have enough coal to steam to an American port.

On Sunday May 1, 1898, Dewey with his fleet, ran into Manila bay passing through the straits and wrecking the fortifications at what was then known as the Corrigator Islands. He went on up the straits and at daylight attacked the Spanish fleet and in thirteen minutes

Oklahoma Instructor Urges Care in Selecting Clothes As Art Expression

Lincoln Baseball Club Looks at Coach Rhodes

John "Choppy" Rhodes, head coach of the Nebraska football team, is being considered as a possible selection for leader of Lincoln's ball team. The position was left vacant when Bob Browne was deposed Sunday night.

had reduced it to half of its at tendency and in less than two hours had annihilated it completely.

On his way to Manila, Dewey had the cable from Manila to Honkong cut but after the battle he had it repaired and by cable to Honkong, then across the two continents to London, by telegraph thence to New York by cable, and to Washington by telegraph again, he reported to President McKinley that he had sunk the entire Spanish fleet and asked for troops to protect Manila from the Spaniards.

McKinley Issues Call

McKinley immediately issued a call for 10,000 men, which was answered in a very short time. There was no draft and all the troops that fought in the Spanish-American war were either volunteers or enlisted men. It was this call to arms that sent the first Nebraska regiment of volunteers, in which Mr. Fassett was a sergeant, to San Francisco and then to Manila.

"When we arrived in Manila, July 17, we went into camp between Cavite, which was the base of the Spanish fleet, and Manila. Our camp was approximately six miles from the outskirts of Manila. Our outfit was the second regiment to arrive in Manila, the first contingent being composed of U. S. army regulars."

"Our first engagement with the enemy was on July 31. However, we were called into the trenches on the 30th. The entire city of Manila was surrounded by our troops and those of the Philippines. The volunteers were stationed on a front about four miles in length from the coast to a road running into the heart of the city. From the road east about a mile the U. S. regulars were stationed. At the southeast corner of the city the Philippines were stationed and their troops extended around the city to the coast on the extreme northwest edge of the city. Dewey and his fleet were in the harbor."

Company Was Closest

"My company was the closest to the coast and I, with my squad, was on outpost duty. About 2 o'clock in the morning of July 31, all hell broke loose. The Spaniards, from their position in the city shelled the entire front with our four little two-pounder field pieces being sadly inadequate."

"After the artillery fire had slackened it was just becoming light and one of my men noticed a movement about 500 yards in front of us out in 'no man's land' and then as if a great tidal wave was sweeping over the country the Spaniards arose and charged in solid formation."

"We ran back to our trenches and then began one of the longest days I can remember. We fought for four hours in almost hand to hand combat. The Spaniards were using a 30-30 Springfield rifle while we were using a 48-70. Advice received by reporters from Spanish authorities stated that over 80 percent of the Spaniards that entered the field were either killed or wounded. All during the battle Fort San Antonio was shelling our second line of defense."

Pushed Toward Manila

"On August 2, we took the offensive and pushed on toward Manila. After several days of fighting we succeeded in pushing back the Spaniards to the old original city of Manila known as 'the walled city.' As we were about to advance upon the wall, and believe me we were all scared and I'm not ashamed to admit it, our captain saw approaching us a company of regulars headed by a major replied that he was the advance guard of the attack and our company had already been in possession of the position for several hours."

"Concentrating our attack upon the wall, from which no signs of hostility were apparent, but knowing the Spaniards were there, we advanced cautiously until we were only a few hundred feet from the wall. As we were about to rush a large white flag ascended the pole on the other side of the wall. I'm not exaggerating a bit when I say that it looked like the side of a mountain. We still feared treachery and it was only after we were inside the walls that we breathed easily again."

Mr. Fassett then went on to explain that the Filipinos were the ones that caused the most trouble. After the surrender of the Spanish the Filipinos insisted that they take the city of Manila as spoils of war. They wished to sack and pillage and murder all the Spaniards in the city. It was only the threat of Dewey's guns that kept them from doing it. This was the most critical point of the war, according to Mr. Fassett, because there were only 520 American troops holding off 10,000 Filipinos from pillaging the city of Manila."

Placed On Guard Duty

After the surrender the soldiers were placed on guard duty. It was Mr. Fassett's luck to have to patrol a blind alley in the slums of the city. He says that he did not know that so many criminals could congregate in such a small space. He was always in danger of being stabbed in the back."

"The morning after the surrender of the Spanish was the greatest moment of my life. We were camped about the square and as reveille sounded the sun was just coming up. As the first sun beam came across the square the flag was raised for the first time over the Philippines. The flag went up slowly and as it reached the half-way mark it began to slowly unfurl and as it reached the top it whipped out into the breeze. Never before or since have I heard such cheers as came from the troops at attention around the square. I was proud to think that I was an American and that I was fighting for my country."

Good Taste in Dress Is Not Determined By Number Of Costumes, But Skill Shown In Assembling

STILLWATER, Okla.—(Special).—The well-dressed woman and good taste in clothes are reversible phrases as one cannot exist without the other, believes Mary Stutz, of the home economics department at the Oklahoma A. and M. college.

Lack of good taste in clothes and perverse negligence in choosing and assembling them are infrequently admitted by women. If they would admit the true reason for these defects and thus clear the underbrush that impedes their way, the worst could become the best. Every woman wants to be well-dressed, Miss Stutz believes.

Selecting clothes should not be merely for the purpose of providing a covering for our bodies, but an art expression. It is in the assembling of the various parts of a costume that we show our good taste or lack of it. The most impractical way of spending money is to pick up unrelated garments in chance hours.

Reason for Each Garment

It is true that one is "chic" in proportion not only to what one puts on, but to what one leaves off. Miss Stutz explains. Everything added to a costume must have a number of costumes to be well-dressed, but have them perfect in taste, fit and in material.

The beauty of the texture, line form, and color, rather than the extravagance of the design should be emphasized. As a foundation for this simplicity in dress should be the motto. The keynote of simplicity is to have one important idea in either line, color, or light and dark and then subordinate everything else to it, says Miss Stutz.

Must Be Consistent

To be well-dressed, consistency and logic should be held as an ideal as well as simplicity. Logic is a legitimate governor of the world of dress. Never expend all on one part of the costume and leave the important accessories as gloves, shoes, and hats to take care of themselves.

It is not the frequent changes of clothes, but in their suitability for each occasion and the individual for whom they are intended that we gain the reputation of being well-dressed, she says. "Dress sincerely, consistent with what one does and what one is," urges Miss Stutz.

The study of clothes is a waste of mental vitality unless it follows the study of one's self. Choice of clothes should be founded on the knowledge of the figure, coloring, carriage, facial features, and personality. Individuals are confronted with two problems in selecting a correct costume, physical make-up, and mental reactions or personality.

The failure to study the physical make-up is one of the errors in selecting clothes. The use of a triple mirror is the best way to discover where improvement can be made. The reflection tells one whether the hips are too large or the waist too short. Then with the use of line, color, and texture more pleasing proportions can be created, suggests Miss Stutz.

It is important for a woman to surrender to her type, rather than to combat it. The person who wants to look like someone else will never be chic. There has been a tendency to over-emphasize the physical characteristics and to minimize the part one's personality should play in clothes selection. Expressing one's personality is the touch of genius in "chic" and it is the quality which distinguishes a person of consequence from the common run of humanity, believes Miss Stutz.

COED TENNIS ENTERS ROUND OF SEMI-FINALS

Winners of Frame Will Be Known Today; Posted In Gymnasium

Participants for semi-finals in women's singles tennis tournament are Margaret Ward, playing Emily Waters, and Verna Norton, playing Louise Kibul. The winners of the finals will be known today and posted on the Intramural board in the women's gymnasium. The tournament is being managed by Kathryn Allen.

Semi-final winners for mixed doubles tournament are Ross Pyle, Elise Willson and Stephen Hokuf, Edna Schrick. The final game will be played this afternoon on the university courts. Neille Mae Bloss is in charge of the mixed doubles tournament.

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