

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 4, 1897.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

REFUSES MEDIATION

New Spanish Premier Emphatically Opposes Foreign Interference.

SAGASTA PROCLAIMS HIS POLICY

Methods of the Last Two Years in Cuba Will Be Reversed.

WEYLER TO BE RECALLED AT ONCE

Autonomy on the Broadest Possible Plan Part of the Program.

EXTENSIVE REFORMS ARE PROMISED

Queen Regent Confides in Liberal Leader Task of Forming a Cabinet and Parliament Will Be Dissolved at Once.

(Copyright, 1897, by Press Publishing Company.) MADRID, Oct. 3.—(New York World Cable—Special Telegram)—I called on President Sagasta, who said in response to my queries:

"You ask me if the liberal party would consent to mediation by the United States with a view to hastening the pacification of Cuba and inducing the rebels in arms and the exiles to accept autonomy?

"Why should we assent to mediation when our intentions—long and often expressed by the liberal party—aim at realizing all that America could suggest. No Spanish party, certainly not the liberals, could assent to foreign interference in our domestic affairs or with our colonies. No government could hope to induce the nation to accept such interference. If America, as we firmly believe and hope, is disposed to be sincerely friendly with us, let her enforce the rules of international law and stop the flow of moral and material aid, without which the insurrection could not last six months."

WILL RECALLED WEYLER.

"We shall reverse completely the policy of the last two years in Cuba, beginning, naturally with the recall of Weyler.

"I informed the queen yesterday that the liberal party would accept the responsibility of office most willingly if her majesty honored the party with her confidence, that the liberal party had plans for all the pending questions of the day in Spain and certainly would grant to Cuba autonomy along the lines traced in the program of the Cuban autonomeists themselves. I said in my manifesto to June and have repeated the same promise during the government holidays. The liberal party is prepared to grant to Cuba all possible self-government—a broad tariff and every concession compatible with inexorable defense of Spanish rule and sovereignty in the West Indies. We believe this will satisfy the majority of the Cubans and we will act thus spontaneously."

The new prime minister spoke with much warmth and an unusual flow of words, although the statesman generally is reserved.

REFORM CUBAN ABUSES.

I understand that the liberal party will take in hand vigorously the reform of abuses in the administration in Spain, the Philippines and in Cuba especially, and make extensive reforms in taxation and the finances. All this will meet the desire of the queen regent. I am able to state that the queen confides in Senor Sagasta the mission of forming a liberal cabinet on the understanding that with her full assent he shall reverse the colonial policy of the last two years and recall Weyler immediately and that at her request he also shall undertake to reform every branch of the administration in Spain and the colonies. I have learned that the queen very resolutely took the initiative throughout this crisis and its solution is quite in harmony with the public sentiment.

The liberal party will have to dissolve Parliament, the majorities in the two chambers being conservative.

ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

QUEEN REGENT FORCES A CRISIS.

Leaves Azcarraga No Alternative but to Resign.

LONDON, Oct. 3.—The Madrid correspondent of the Standard says:

The queen regent took a strong initiative during the crisis and profoundly surprised General Azcarraga by leaving him no alternative but resignation. She frankly expressed her disapproval of the conservative administration, especially in its treatment of the anarchist prisoners at Fortress Montjuic. She said she had allowed Senor Canovas to remain in office in the hope that he would modify his policy. She had repeatedly called on the ministers to the administration and in Cuba and she had repeatedly called on the attention of the ministers to the administrative scandals and abuses. Moreover, her majesty said she waited patiently for two months after the death of Senor Canovas in the hope that the new government would correct these evils. On its failure to do so she took it upon herself to consult General Azcarraga. She told him that it was the best means of pacifying Cuba by an endeavor to satisfy the autonomists and thus virtually to steal a march on American diplomacy.

All the statesmen whom she consulted appear to have advised a liberal cabinet as the best way of pacifying the queen's wishes. Thereupon her majesty called on General Azcarraga for his opinion. He intimated that he must leave the cabinet as minister for war and intimated her his intention to appoint Senor Sagasta as minister.

The latter expressed his intention to give the largest measure of autonomy, up to independence, to the policy in Cuba and the Philippines, to recall General Weyler if he did not resign, to prepare for a dissolution of the Cortes and to select able representatives to go to Washington and European capitals as well as to the colonies of Spain, to press for colonies and to secure the Spanish vote to do what the United States suggested could be accomplished more quickly and better by mediation or the interference which the Spanish people would certainly not brook, and to which no Spanish government could assent.

The Daily News says, editorially, this morning: "General Weyler has been removed and substituted at Madrid. It seems clear that he has made representations carrying too many effects and practically resulting in the downfall of the cabinet. The change of the ministry seems to tend toward an accommodation with America's known enemies."

HAVE NO USE FOR AUTONOMY.

Cubans Demand Nothing Short of Absolute Independence.

NEW YORK, Oct. 3.—The Herald tomorrow will print a number of interviews with leading Cubans here on the situation in the island. The Cubans all maintain that autonomy for the island is out of the question, but most of them are in favor of pay-

ing Spain a reasonable indemnity providing it evacuates the island at once.

T. Estrada Palma, representative of the Cuban provisional government, said: "To the Cuban patriots it makes little difference whether a liberal or conservative ministry directs affairs in Spain, so long as it does not interfere with the Cuban cause." They are now more firmly determined than ever to push the fight until the absolute independence of Cuba is acknowledged. I believe the Cubans are willing to pay a reasonable indemnity to Spain provided it withdraws its troops from Cuba but the island is to be left alone."

Enrique J. de Verena said: "I believe autonomy would complicate rather than solve the Cuban situation. Absolute independence is the aspiration of the immense majority of the Cuban people. Cuba needs a state, not a Spanish autonomy which would give it to the island. The only practical solution of the Cuban problem is absolute independence."

Dr. Henry Leon de Sayes said: "Cubans are and have been willing to treat with Spain for the sake of peace, but Spain should acknowledge Cuba's independence."

Colonel Lopez de Querata, formerly of the United States army and a veteran of the ten years' war in Cuba, said: "I would like to see Cuba freed by force of arms. But to avoid further shedding of blood of innocent people, I would suggest painful and slow and give my consent to a compensation to Spain for the sake of getting rid of the Spanish."

E. Trujillo, editor of El Porvenir, said: "Cubans are fighting for absolute independence and will accept no other solution."

Brighton, Eng.—Col. Alfonso Almonte, surgeon general of the Cuban army, said:

"Cubans are firmly determined to fight until absolute independence is accomplished, but a few million, more or less, providing the sum is reasonable, would be paid by them to Spain in order to prevent a prolongation of the strife."

Regarding the plan for the purchase of Cuba from the Spanish General Emilio Nunez, who has been consulting with the Junta leaders in New York, he said: "I cannot see how the plans for the freedom of Cuba on the basis of a payment to Spain by us can be realized, but the amount which would be paid by them to Spain might reasonably expect."

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