THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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ENGLAND SEES WAR

British Statesman Thinks Peace of World is Threatened.

WILL TAKE A MIRACLE TO PRESERVE IT

Consols Slump on News from Africa and America.

PANICKY FEELING ON STOCK EXCHANGE

Believed that Spain Desires to Provoke Rupture.

ENGLAND HAS TROUBLES OF ITS OWN

Foreign Complications Arise that May Result in the Resignation of Salisbury—English Options on War Ships.

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LONDON, March 7.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Nothing short of a miracle can preserve the peace of the world now, it is believed among British statesmen and politicians. Not since the Napoleonic wars has danger threatened from so many quarters. Today's news from Washington, combined with the grave tidings from China and West Africa, sent consols down one-half on the Stock exchange and the panicky feeling there was reflected in the House of Commons lobby. The report that Spain had given the United States to understand that it desired the recall of General Lee from Cuba was regarded in parliamentary circles as positive evidence of a desire to provoke a rupture. In their present temper Englishmen would regard with disfavor the transfer of any British-built war ships to any foreign country.

The admiralty was savagely attacked today for permitting Spain to take away two torpedo vessels recently completed for it, yet, as was cabled last week, those boats were only the partial filling of an order from Spain given more than a year ago, when four torpedo catchers were contracted for from the Fairfield Shipbuilding company. It is proof of the extreme exigency of Spain's requirements that those two completed torpedo catchers are accepted, notwithstanding that they failed in their recent speed trials and showed other defects which there has not been time to make good. They were contracted for as thirty-knot boats, but they only attained twenty-five knots. The work on the remaining two boats is being strenuously pushed, but it cannot be completed under six weeks at the earliest.

But Englishmen are too deeply preoccupied with their own critical condition with France and Russia to devote very much attention to the latest development of the American-Spanish situation. The news cabled yesterday that the British government had secured options prior to all nations on every available war ship building in British yards was current today in the House of Commons where, it was said that the British navy estimates to be issued this week will contain a surprise in the form of an announcement that, owing to the threatening aspect of affairs and the delay in the completion of the contracts on war ships caused by the engineers' strike, the government has completed its promised naval program by securing the right to purchase the ships now being built on the Tyne and the Clyde. Public feeling is so thoroughly wrought up that this or any other measure of national defense would be warmly approved.

A report is prevalent in the House of Commons tonight that Prime Minister Salisbury's resignation cannot be delayed long. Faith in his wisdom and courage as foreign minister has been dissipated, and with war clouds arising on all sides it is felt that his continuance at the head of affairs is a great national danger to the empire.

PRESS COMMENT.

LONDON, March 7.—All the morning papers comment on the menacing aspect of affairs in the far east. The Daily Chronicle, in a strong editorial, says:

"As a rebuff to Lord Salisbury, nothing could be more clear and painful. Russia has simply began the partition of China. If anybody asks what China will do the answer is simple. There is no such thing as China. The real questions are: What will England do, and what Japan?

"If ever Great Britain needed a strong man it is now, and the country will learn with dissatisfaction that again, at a moment of acute crisis, the premier's health compels him to go abroad. Thus, both the queen and the prime minister are to be absent when their presence is peculiarly needed."

The ministerial Standard's editorial is milder, but to the same effect as the Daily Chronicle's, and says: "Years may pass in the execution of the designs, but from the moment the covenant is signed the partition of China is begun. The disguise is too thin to be meant to deceive. It is no wonder that the eyes of the nation are fixed in eager expectation upon Japan. The question remains whether England will resist Russia or proceed to restore the equilibrium by independent measures of its own."

A dispatch from Nagasaki, Japan, to the Daily Mail says the Corean cabinet, with the exception of the foreign minister, Min Chong Mouk, has resigned because Min granted the Deer island concession to Russia without the consent of the cabinet.

ODESSA, March 7.—The Russian government has ordered thirty new torpedo boats to augment the Russian Pacific squadron at Vladivostock and Port Arthur. Russia also proposes to keep eight cruisers of the volunteer fleet continually in far eastern waters instead of the Black sea, so as to avoid the possibility of being hampered by Great Britain closing the Suez canal.

SPANISH VIEW OF THE SITUATION.

Faith Expressed in Ultimate Success of Autonomy.

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MADRID, March 7.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—I have had a most interesting interview with the Spanish statesman who is most competent to express the sentiment of the liberal party and government on the state of affairs in Cuba, and Spain's relations with the United States.

"The Hanava riots in January did us grievous harm," he said. "They created an unfavorable impression in the United States, even in government circles, causing an American fleet to be sent to Cuban waters and the ill-fated cruiser Maine to Havana. Moreover, we got an intimation that if order should be seriously disturbed, Marshal Blanco recalled, and the liberal policy and home rule be stopped, America would interfere sooner than let the old colonial policy be re-established or Weyler return to Cuba.

"De Lome made mischief. Then came the Dupuy de Lome incident, which cast for awhile a slur on the sincerity of Spain in the commercial negotiations and in the colonial policy. Such events naturally created tension in our relations with the United States, embarrassed the action of the new pledged colonial government, played into the hands of the Cuban juntas abroad, and above all paralyzed the negotiations which previously were progressing favorably with many insurgent leaders. It took time and trouble to repair such mishaps and to avert a rupture of relations and friction after the letter of De Lome. But we have weathered the storm and do not fear fresh complications from the Maine catastrophe, in view of the fair disposition of the American government and of a majority of the press and the public in the states. It cannot be denied that home rule is advancing in Cuba, the preparations for the elections permitting us to hope that the insular chambers will be elected in March and meet in April at the same time as our Cortes. We feel certain that the Cuban Parliament will contain a majority of autonomists with a respectable minority, composed of members of the old Spanish party headed by the marquis of Apeztegula.

"Nobody in Spain believed that the government would allow Weyler to return to Cuba to take part in the elections. Nor is it probable that he will be elected—or any of his candidates. Even in Spain Weyler now possesses no considerable influence with the politicians or military men outside of the equally discredited Romero Robledo.

"It is no longer of much importance for the West Indies to send their best men to the Spanish Senate and House of Deputies. It is far more important to keep them in the local assemblies. Besides, the only important question for the colonies—outside of the treaties of commerce—likely to be discussed in the Imperial Parliament will be, by and by, the settlement of the Cuban debt, which can be negotiated between the imperial and colonial cabinets when the time comes.

"We are all perfectly aware of the shortcomings of the new colonial cabinet, but it pulls so far in harness pretty well. Galvez, the premier, is a valuable leader, though aged. Montoro is very intelligent, though lacking decision and activity since his health has been impaired by serious illness. Zayas and Rodriguez are both respectable politicians, but Govin and Dolz are active, go ahead, resolute men, whom we count upon most for the success of home rule and of the negotiations to convince the insurgents and their leaders that it is useless to prolong the hopeless struggle.

"I don't assert that Galixto Garcia or Maximo Gomez are disposed to give in soon, but the latter was inclined to leave the island more than once during the present rising. I believe the bulk of the insurgents will give in when they see no prospect yet of exhausting our resources. It is a great error to suppose that our finances are exhausted. We can raise more money in the Peninsula and we can reduce the expenditures largely in Cuba by rigorous economy, by bringing home a great number of officers and all the men in bad health as soon as the rainy season begins. Unnecessarily costly and numerous military forces have been kept in Cuba. We share the opinion of Marshal Blanco that peace can be maintained in the four western provinces with a comparatively small army, assisted by the colonial volunteers, and that in the eastern provinces only 30,000 men will be required to deal the last blows to the irreconcilable leaders and bands that will not accept autonomy and the honorable terms of submission offered them by men like Govin and Dolz.

"If the feelings of the majority of inhabitants of Cuba had not been considerably modified in a sense favorable to Spain under the present home rule policy our troops could not hold the western provinces as easily as they do, nor successfully attack and defeat the rebels in their two eastern strongholds—Puerto Principe and Santiago provinces. Therefore we believe we are justified in hoping to be in a position to show such improvement in our prospects in Cuba at the end of April that President McKinley will also be justified in persevering in his friendly attitude, as meanwhile the negotiation will have made progress."

ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

SPAIN DENIES BRACE OF RUMORS.

Takes Prompt Action to Stop Panic on the Bourse.

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MADRID, March 7.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—People in Madrid are at a loss to understand the panic in Spanish securities on foreign bourses which caused some fall in funds and the sharp rise of foreign exchanges on the Madrid bourse. The government immediately took steps to contradict officially both the report that Spain had asked for the recall of Consul Lee and the report that Pope Leo XIII had made any declaration favorable to Cuban independence and the rebels. The latter rumor is positively denied by the papal nuncio at Madrid and on the contrary it is well known that the pope since the beginning of the Cuban insurrection has repeatedly sent his blessings to the Spanish troops starting for Cuba and has equally often stated that he prayed for the success of Spanish arms in Cuba. Echoing the impressions in financial and political circles most of the Madrid papers tonight attribute the scare to inaccurate statements floated by telegraph agencies and sensational papers concerning both incidents. The ministerial organs, La Correspondencia and El Coreo, tonight state that the government has received reassuring news from the Spanish legation at Washington concerning the disposition of the president and that relief for distressed Cubans will be sent by merchant steamers. The papers are still bitter in criticisms about the discovery of contraband goods under cover of relief. El Heraldo believes this incident will be damaging for Lee.

ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

American Colony Will Contribute.

LONDON, March 7.—At a meeting of the American society here today steps were taken to contribute to a fund for the purpose of providing a memorial to the dead of the Maine. Newton Crane, J. L. Taylor and Hiram Maxim made feeling speeches, and letters were read from the Anglo-Saxon club and the Honorable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, requesting permission to contribute to the fund as an expression of sympathy. It was decided, however, to limit contributions to Americans.

Simply Blocking Spain.

LONDON, March 7.—The St. James Gazette this afternoon says: "The United States is not buying any war ships as long as it does not feel the need for any outside reinforcements. It is understood that the efforts of the United States representatives in England are not directed toward the purchase of war ships building, but to prevent Spain from purchasing them."

HAUGHTY DONS BACK DOWN

Madrid Government Decides to Let Consul Lee Alone.

INCIDENT IS NOW PRACTICALLY CLOSED

Lee Obnoxious Because He Showed Sympathy for the Cubans—De Lome's Finger Thrust Into the Pie.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Spain has withdrawn its request for the recall of Consul General Lee, and it is now believed that the incident is practically closed. The withdrawal came today in the shape of an official communication from Minister Woodford. It is now stated that the request was never put in the shape of a demand, but that it was merely a suggestion on the part of Spain and when the ministry found it would not be pleasantly received by this country it promptly receded.

It is learned that the Spanish objection to Consul General Lee is based largely upon his sympathy for the Cubans, and some of his utterances, which have found their way into print. It is understood that the Spaniards also take exceptions to the friendly relations and companionship existing between General Lee and correspondents of papers which have been decidedly unfriendly to Spain. It is believed that Senor de Lome carried to Spain papers and information calculated to make the Spanish government request the recall of Consul General Lee.

There was a good deal of consultation this morning between the president and Secretary Long and Assistant Secretary Day, which was devoted to the consideration of our relations with Spain. Assistant Secretary Day also had a half hour's conference with Senor du Bosc, the Spanish charge here, and managed to find time to talk for a few minutes with Colonel J. J. McCook, whose interest in Cuban affairs is well known. It was stated that the administration has no statement to make further than that given out by Judge Day yesterday.

It is still maintained that there has been no demand on the part of the Spanish government for the recall of Consul General Lee, but this denial does not take the form of a complete assertion that something like an intimation has not been given that the Spanish government would be pleased were General Lee relieved. Still there is an official statement and an unofficial intimation and therein was a loophole for escape. Had the Spanish government made an official demand for General Lee's recall, it would have had no recourse in the event of refusal by our government to accede to the demand, but must have withdrawn the consul general's exequatur, thus leaving him without official status in Havana.

NO SNUB FOR SPAIN.

The matter not having taken that official form, however, there is no tangible excuse for Spain to look upon itself as humiliated in this matter. It is quite certain that the administration does not take the view, as a hasty glance at the situation would seem to indicate, that there may not be peaceful termination of this last incident, and such officers of the cabinet as have felt free to discuss the situation at all have not hesitated to declare that no rupture in the relations between the United States and Spain is likely to result.

As to the matter of sending supplies to Matanzas and Sagua, which has formed the basis of objection by the Spanish government, although not in official form, it is said at the State department and at the Navy department, as well, that the program laid down in the statement given out by the president is to be observed. The supplies are to go from Key West to these Cuban ports in "a naval vessel," but just which vessel or what kind of a ship has not been definitely determined. Indications, now, however, point to the use of the Fern for this purpose. It is unquestionably a naval ship, but scarcely a war ship in the proper sense of the term, its principal use being in dispatch carrying and in the transportation of freight from one navy yard to another. Because of its ability to handle freight this way it is undoubtedly better adapted than either the cruiser Montgomery or the gunboat Nashville for the transportation of supplies. These war ships are so cut up with small compartments below and so filled with machinery that their freight carrying capacity is limited to a little space on the upper decks. Secretary Long calculates that the supplies which left New York Saturday by steamer for Key West will reach the latter port Wednesday, giving ample time in the interim to make a selection as between the vessels. He said further that it would probably be left to Admiral Sicard, the commander-in-chief of the squadron, as to which vessel could best be spared.

MAY MEAN MUCH.

No attempt is made to deny that the attitude of the Spanish government towards the entry of the war ships into Cuba ports may be full of significance and lead in the end to trouble. It is realized that if it is conceded that vessels of the United States navy may be, in times of peace, excluded from Matanzas or Sagua, by the same rule they likewise may be kept out of the Havana harbor and the administration would thereby not only be prevented from redeeming its promise to send another war ship to replace the Maine, but would be obliged to leave American citizens resident in Havana entirely without protection in case of need. This possibility is not contmplated with equanimity by the administration, hence it may be fully expected that the officials will stick to their teachnical purpose to "use a naval vessel for the transportation of supplies."

It is learned that Spain's suggestion was made originally upon a misapprehension which was due to a newspaper report. This report was to the effect that General Lee had expressed the opinion to a newspaper correspondent that the Spanish authorities were responsible for the disaster to the Maine. Accepting this report as to Lee's expressions as accurate, the Spanish prime minister brought the matter to Minister Woodford's attention, making at the same time the suggestion that General Lee's recall would be gratifying to Spain.

It did not require a great while for Spain to discover that General Lee had been, according to the United States authorities, incorrectly represented. Before this discovery was made, however, the reply of President McKinley refusing to heed the suggestion, and expressing a determination to keep Lee at his post, was received. Spain then retired from its position, basing its retirement upon the ground that the original suggestion had been founded upon a misapprehension of facts.

FROM A SPANISH VIEW.

MADRID, March 8.—El Liberal says today: "Senor Gullon, the foreign minister, has informed the journalists that Spain having protested to Washington on the subject of sending two men-of-war to Mantanzas and Sagua to carry relief to the Cubans, the American government decided that the vessels should not be men-of-war. Senor Gullon has sent a report of the matter to the queen regent."

El Naccional's Washington correspondent confirms the foregoing statement.

La Correspondencia de Espania regards the fact that America has renounced sending men-of-war as "indicating good official relations between Spain and America."

COURT WILL FINISH WORK SOON.

May Wind Up Its Sitting in Three Days More.

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HAVANA, March 7.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The Maine court of inquiry will finish its work within three days, I am reliably informed. The members are satisfied, I am certain, of the cause of the disaster. All indications still point to a unanimous report, but the court maintains great reserve. Captain Chadwick did not don the diver's helmet, it now appears, and descend into the Maine's wrecked interior. He accepts the divers' report as true.

Consul Barker's resignation asks for its immediate acceptance. Probably his request will be granted. Mr. Barker's inflexibility is well known. Senator Proctor and Miss Barton are with Mr. Barker now. They will try to persuade him to stay.

The city is still full of rumors of the wholesale expulsion of American newspaper men. Probably there is more smoke than fire, as these men have never blamed the Spanish government for the Maine disaster.

The latest Navy department news reports that an American schooner has been seized on the south coast on suspicion of being a filibuster.

The big wreckage tug Right Arm left today for some unknown destination. Its captain expects to return soon.

SYLVESTER SCOVEL.

MONTGOMERY GOES TO HAVANA.

Takes the Place of the Dispatch Boat Fern.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The Navy department announced at 2 o'clock this afternoon that the cruiser Montgomery would relieve the dispatch boat Fern at Havana and that the Fern would carry provisions and relief supplies to Matanzas. This is understood to be a satisfactory arrangement to the Spanish government and will relieve the incident of its irritating feature.

KEY WEST, Fla., March 7.—Naval officers had scarcely learned of Admiral Sicard's order directing the departure of the cruisers Nashville and Montgomery for Matanzas and Sagua la Grande with supplies for the reconcentrados ere an order was received rescinding it. A telegram received from Washington was followed by a hurried conference between Admiral Sicard and Commander West, and shortly after 3 o'clock Admiral Sicard countermanded the order issued at noon and directed that the Montgomery proceed as soon as possible to Havana, and the Fern was again assigned to the duty of carrying supplies to Matanzas.

The Montgomery is being hurriedly coaled and work on it will be carried on throughout the night. It is hardly expected that it will leave for Havana before morning, and its departure may be further delayed.

The official reason for the Montgomery's going to Havana is that it is merely to relieve the dispatch boat Fern. A naval officer—one of the few at the time this dispatch is sent aware of the latest change of plans—said that he thought it most significant that a cruiser of the Montgomery's caliber should be sent to take the place of a mere dispatch boat.

The officials expressed the greatest surprise when shown the dispatch from Washington regarding the sending of the Montgomery to Havana, as the strictest orders have been issued to keep this movement secret. The frequent changes in orders during the last twenty-four hours have thrown all the naval arrangements and opinions on the situation into more or less disorder.

A Mallory line steamer is expected Wednesday with provisions for Cuba.

This afternoon the torpedo boat Porter arrived from Mobile. The torpedo boat Cushing will probably have to be laid up for repairs and the Ericsson is in none too good condition.

A schooner with coal for the fleet at the Tortugas passed during the afternoon.

The correspondent of the Associated Press went on board the cruiser Montgomery late tonight. The coaling had been stopped and the men were too weary after packing away tons of ammunition to perform this additional labor.

A high officer on board said: "No, we do not mind going to Havana a bit. We shall be off in the morning unless we get a countermanding order. These changes have kept us on the jump and we hardly know where we are. With provisions and ammunition aboard, however, we are prepared to go anywhere.

The coal lighters were still alongside the Montgomery at midnight and it is presumed that coaling will be resumed at daybreak. The coal used for the Montgomery was originally intended for the New York.

The Nashville will remain here. There are rumors that the Detroit and the Marblehead will shortly join the fleet at the Tortugas.

BURY MORE VICTIMS OF THE MAINE.

Six of the Unfortunates Are Interred on American Soil.

KEY WEST, Fla., March 7.—The coast survey steamer Bache arrived here from Havana, having on board the remains of six more victims of the disaster to the Maine. They were buried with the same ceremonies observed when the first body was buried on Thursday last.

At the cemetery about 400 persons witnessed the interment. One of the bodies buried today is thought to be that of Robert White, a mess attendant, and another is supposed to be that of a sergeant of marines, but it was not fully identified. Two bodies were put in one coffin.

One hearse and four ordinary wagons, covered with the stars and stripes, were used to convey the remains to the cemetery, where Chaplain Royce of the cruiser New York read the burial service.

Commander McColla and a gun division from the United States cruiser Marblehead paid the last honors to the remains.

All was quiet at Havana when the Bache left there last night.

STRIKE DELAYS WORK ON WAR SHIP

Men Refuse to Work Overtime Without Extra Pay.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—Owing to the strike of the steel molders at the Pacific rolling mills in this city work upon the battleship Wisconsin, which was recently ordered rushed, has been delayed very materially. The contract for the steel moldings

(Continued on Third Page.)

BACKING UP THE PRESIDENT

National Legislators Will Support Mr. McKinley's Hands.

CAN HAVE WHAT HE WANTS OF CONGRESS

Members of Minority Say Present is No Time to Draw Party Lines—Speaker Reed Misunderstood.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The sentiment at the capitol today, and especially on the house side, was unanimous in support of the action of the president in declining to recall General Lee. The immense gravity of the situation seemed profoundly to impress the members who stood about the lobbies before the house met. Without regard to party all united in commending the president's firm stand and the unanimous desire expressed was in support of any measures he may deem necessary to maintain the American contention.

Representative Livingston of Georgia, a minority member of the appropriations committee, and Mr. Bodine, a minority member of the naval affairs committee, both declared that they would vote for anything the president asked. "Congress ought to be solidly behind the president now," said Mr. Livingston. "This is no time for criticism or bickering of any kind. In the face of an impending foreign war party lines should be forgotten. We are Americans first, partisans afterward."

It can be stated on the highest authority that the attitude of Speaker Reed and some of the other republican leaders who have sought to keep down the "jingo" spirit in the house has been misunderstood by the public. Their purpose in delaying action on the bill creating two additional regiments of artillery was to prevent, as far as possible, any undue alarm. While it is not generally known, it is nevertheless true that republican leaders of the house have given the administration assurances that any emergency action which may be deemed necessary to uphold the dignity of the country will be promptly ratified. The whole aim of the republicans, under the leadership of the speaker, has been and is to avoid hasty action, or the possibility, so far as possible, of incendiary utterances on the floor which might make a diplomatic settlement of the controversy more difficult. But the administration understands that the majority in the house is behind them, and that money and men will be voted without stint when they are called for.

MONEY FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE.

Congressman Cannon Offers a Bill Appropriating Fifty Millions.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Chairman Cannon of the appropriations committee today introduced a bill entitled "Appropriations for the national defense." It is as follows: "That there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated for the national defense and for each and every purpose connected therewith to be expended at the discretion of the president and to remain available until June 30, 1899, $50,000,000."

It was referred to the committee on appropriations.

The Cannon bill, it was learned later, was the outcome of a conference held at the White House this morning, at which Mr. Cannon, Secretary Long, Mr. Dingley, Senator Allison and General Grosvenor were present. The situation was considered so grave that it was deemed imperative that an immense appropriation of this character should be made at once to prepare for the national defense. This bill will be presented in the house at once. This can be stated on the highest authority.

Representative Cannon, after his interview with the president this morning, went to the capitol and called a special meeting of the appropriations committee. After this meeting Mr. Cannon introduced the national defense bill in the house. The appropriations committee will meet tomorrow.

The Cannon bill, appropriating $50,000,000 to provide for the national defense, will probably be presented to the house tomorrow.

Mr. Cannon says he simply introduced the bill in his individual capacity as a representative. This is, of course, true, but it can be stated positively that the bill was introduced as the result of the conference with the president and the republican leaders of both houses, and that the bill has the president's approval. The bill will be considered at the postponed meeting of the appropriations committee tomorrow, and probably reported for immediate action. Several democratic members of the committee say they will vote for it if the president deems it necessary, and so far as known, there will be no vote against it.

There was a conference last evening at the residence of Senator Hoar of Massachusetts, which was attended by members of the cabinet, senators and representatives. Some of those known to be present were: Secretaries Long and Alger, Judge Day, assistant secretary of state; Senator Allison, Representatives Dingley and Cannon. It is also known that some democrats were present. Assurances were given the representatives of the administration that any amount of funds that were deemed necessary would be provided by congress to put the government in a state of defense and that the administration would be backed up in anything that was thought necessary. The result of the conference last evening was a meeting of Secretary Alger and Speaker Reed today, and a conference at the White House today of house and senate leaders, followed by the introduction of the $50,000,000 defense bill by Mr. Cannon today. It is expected that the bill will pass the house tomorrow.

There is little doubt expressed among senators that the Cannon bill appropriating $50,000,000 will be promptly considered and speedily passed when it reaches the senate. Many senators express the opinion that the most effective method of dealing with the question would be to take up and pass the bill immediately upon its receipt in the senate without reference to committee. Some of the members of the committee on appropriations express themselves as satisfied to have the measure take this course, but others are of opinion that none of the effect of the measure will be lost to have the bill referred and reported in the regular way.

Chairman Allison of the committee expressed the opinion that the bill should be referred, saying that the committee would probably be able to report it within twenty-four hours.

A few senators said they did not consider the time had come for the actual appropriation of money for preparation for war, but they did not indicate any intention to antagonize the passage of the bill or to seek to delay it.

Senators who favor the bill say it is a peace and not a war measure, and some expressed the opinion that it would be more effective if it carried $100,000,000 instead of $50,000,000.

HOUSE PASSES ARTILLERY BILL.

Only Three Members Are Recorded Against the Measure.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The spirit of patriotism was rampant in the house today, and by almost unanimous vote the Hawley bill providing for two additional regiments of artillery was passed under suspension of the rules. No effort was made to obstruct action, but Mr. Bailey, the democratic leader, pleaded for more time than the forty minutes allowed under the rule, and because it was refused, after the bill had been passed, he inaugurated a filibuster against District of Columbia legislation that continued all day. Mr. Bailey desired to speak in favor of the bill, but could not get time.

Mr. Hull (rep., Ia.) in opening the debate explained briefly the necessity for these men to man the coast defenses of the country. By June 1, he said, 244 big guns and 232 mortars would be mounted. These guns required eighteen men each to handle them, and in time of war sixty. There were 4,025 artillerymen all told in the service. The guns emplaced July 1 would require 7,000 regardless of any exigency that might arise. Even if no exigency arose these men, he insisted, would be necessary to care for the fortifications and guns upon which we were expending millions of dollars. The charge that this bill was an attempt to increase the standing army, to be used possibly to overawe the cities, he said, he considered too frivolous to discuss.

Mr. Cox (dem., Tenn.) in opposing the bill said he would vote as cheerfully as any man in the house for this bill if it were needed for the national defense or a war measure, but he argued that the president, as commander-in-chief of the army, had authority to detail men from the other branches of the service, the cavalry and infantry, and that such details could man and care for the coast defenses without increasing permanently the standing army.

Mr. Belknap (rep., Ill.), a son of ex-Secretary of War Belknap, and Mr. McClellan (dem., N. Y.), a son of General McClellan, both warmly advocated the passage of the bill in brief speeches, and Mr. Hay (dem., Va.) created the first open enthusiasm by declaring himself in favor of taking every step necessary now to prepare for the emergency which confronts the country.

Mr. Jones (dem., Va.), the other democrat who opposed the bill, insisted that the bill was not a war measure, as it had been recommended for several years.

Mr. Shafroth (sil., Colo.) caused a round of applause when he expressed his regret that a single voice should be raised against such a bill at such a time. There was no denying the fact that our foreign relations with Spain were on the eve of a rupture. War ought to be averted if possible, but we ought to prepare at once, he said, for every emergency.

Mr. Williams (dem., Miss.) said that while his voice was now as ever for peace it seemed absolutely certain that Spain was forcing us into war to extricate the reigning family from the desperate straits into which it was placed by its futile attempts to subjugate Cuba. He had been for Cuban belligerency and Cuban independence, and if war was to come as a result of our sympathy for those who were struggling for their freedom he would not refuse to give his vote to any measure designed to prepare us to meet the enemy.

The time for the debate expired at this time and Mr. Bailey, who had not been able to get the floor, asked for unanimous consent for three minutes. Mr. Hepburn (rep., Ia.) objected.

Mr. Lewis (dem., Wash.) attempted to offer an amendment prohibiting the use of these two regiments to suppress strikes.

The bill was then passed without division. The great chorus of ayes was offset by three voices on the minority side, Messrs. Cox (dem., Tenn.), Jones (dem., Va.), and Todd (fusion, Mich.).

District of Columbia business was then taken up and Mr. Bailey, as a method of resenting the refusal to accord the privilege of addressing the house on the artillery bill, inaugurated a filibuster. Roll call followed roll call for two hours. When the confusion of the floor became such that order was called for, the speaker requested all members to take their seats.

Mr. Bailey retained his place on the floor. Again the speaker requested members to take their seats.

"I take my seat," said Mr. Bailey, as he finally sat down, "because the rules of the house require it."

"The speaker exercises no authority except that conferred by the rules," said the speaker. "He holds no other authority, and he expects none."

There were several exchanges after that, after one of which Mr. Bailey, to the accompaniment of republican jeers and democratic applause, declared that he could not be "badgered" by the speaker. Then, turning to the republican side, in response to their jeers, he added:

"That demonstration either indicates a lack of decency or a lack of sense, and I suspect both."

At 5:40 p. m. the house adjourned.

Spanish Buying Ammunition.

LONDON, March 7.—Two separate commissions of Spanish officers arrived in London last week to purchase ammunition.

THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—
Fair; Variable Winds.

Page.
1. English Statesmen Sniff War.
Haughty Spaniards Back Down.
Congress Supports the President.
Decision in Maximum Rate Case.
2. Havana People Admire Their War Ships.
3. Grand Jury Indicts Eugene Moore.
Government Prepares for Emergencies.
4. Editorial and Comment.
5. Meeting of the Board of Education.
Rush for the Klondike a Failure.
6. Council Bluffs Local Matters.
Iowa Legislative Proceedings.
7. General News of the Farther West.
Clews' Review of Wall Street.
8. Latest News of the Exposition.
Meeting of the Woman's Club.
9. Changes in Stock Raising Industry.
Aid for the Central Boulevard.
New Factories for Omaha.
11. Commercial and Financial News.
12. "Wiggiesby's Wooing."
Young Scout in War Times.

Neb. State Historical Soc.

Temperature at Omaha:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	39	1 p. m.	60
6 a. m.	39	2 p. m.	62
7 a. m.	39	3 p. m.	64
8 a. m.	41	4 p. m.	65
9 a. m.	45	5 p. m.	65
10 a. m.	51	6 p. m.	64
11 a. m.	58	7 p. m.	60
12 m.	59	8 p. m.	57
		9 p. m.	55

DECIDES RATE CASE

United States Supreme Court Finally Takes Action.

AFFIRMS DECISION OF LOWER COURT

Long Expected Opinion Handed Down by Justice Harlan.

STATE LAW MAY BE CONSTITUTIONAL

Question of Reasonable Rates Left to Another Tribunal.

FORMER INJUNCTION MAY BE DISCHARGED

This Can Be Done if Condition of Business Admits of a Just Application of the State Law.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—(Special Telegram.)—The supreme court of the United States this morning handed down an opinion in the Nebraska maximum freight rate cases which have excited so much interest throughout the country. Early this morning it was given out that the decision would be forthcoming at noon and in consequence the court room was crowded with representatives of the stock interests, who had anticipated the decision by discounting it on Wall street, predicting it would be favorable to the railroads. Justice Harlan affirmed the decision of the circuit court and rendered the opinion, announcing that Chief Justice Fuller had not participated in either the consideration or decision of the cases and that Justice McKenna was not a member of the court when the cases were argued or submitted. The opinion was lengthy, embracing all the points presented by counsel, but the most vital and far-reaching was the decision that the circuit court had looked far ahead in its judgment in giving the Board of Transportation the right to move for a dissolution of the present injunction when conditions seemed right to justify such a course. In the language of Justice Harlan the decision reads:

"Conditions of business, so far as railroad corporations are concerned, have probably changed for the better and the rates prescribed by the statue of 1893 may now afford all compensation to which railroad companies in Nebraska are entitled as between them and the public. In anticipation, perhaps, of such a change of circumstances, the circuit court wisely provided in its final decree that defendants, members of the Board of Transportation, might, when circumstances have changed so that rates fixed in October, 1893, shall yield to said companies reasonable compensation for services aforesaid, apply to the court by bill or otherwise, as they might be advised, for a further order in that behalf. Of this provision of the final decree the State Board of Transportation, if so advised, can avail itself. In that event if the circuit court finds that the present condition of business is such as to admit of the application of the statute to the railroad companies in question without depriving them of just compensation, it will be its duty to discharge the injunction heretofore granted and to make whatever order is necessary to remove any obstruction placed by the decrees in these cases in the way of the enforcement of the statute."

CONSTITUTIONALITY IS ADMITTED.

Herein was seen the first intimation that the law as passed was constitutional, although through the body of his opinion Justice Harlan discussed at great length the right of the state to make reasonable maximum rates, but in conjunction with article xiv of the constitution. The court treated most exhaustively the questions of confiscation and equities in the case, using many tables and schedules to outline the basis upon which the decision of the affirmation of the court below had been reached.

The opinion goes on to say that the idea that any legislature, state or federal, can conclusively determine for the people and for the courts that what it enacts in form of law, or what it authorizes its agents to do, is consistent with fundamental law, is in opposition to the theory of our institutions. Continuing Justice Harlan said: "It is the duty of courts, both federal and state, to see to it that no right secured by the supreme law of the land is impaired or destroyed by legislation. The perpetuity of our constitution and the liberty which is enjoyed under these depend in no small degree upon the power given the judiciary to declare null and void all legislation that is clearly repugnant to the supreme law of the land."

The effect of the decision is that the supreme court leaves the whole question of reasonableness of rates to another tribunal, passing only upon the right of the circuit court to intervene, notwithstanding that the law known as H. R. 33, and which bears the name of Fred Newberry of Hamilton county, gives the supreme court of the state the right to declare whether the law is within the provisions of the constitution. Upon one proposition the court was emphatic, that there could be no separation of local from interstate business, Justice Harlan contending that the whole earnings made up the receipts of the railroad company and that one could not be made subservient to another.

PASSAGE OF THE ACT.

In his opinion Justice Harlan first detailed the facts relating to the passage of the act by the Nebraska legislature in 1893, and then sketched briefly its provisions, saying that among others of its provisions was one to fix reasonable maximum freight rates on the railroads of the state, and to classify freights.

He then took up in order the points at issue between the state and the railroad companies, dealing first with the question of the propriety of considering the case as one of equity rather than of law. It was contended in the argument that the railroads had an adequate remedy at law before the state and supreme court, and that therefore the United States circuit court sitting in equity was without jurisdiction. On this point he said:

We cannot accept this view of the equity jurisdiction of the circuit courts of the United States. The adequacy or inadequacy of a remedy at law for the protection of the rights of one entitled upon any ground to invoke the powers of a federal court is not to be conclusively determined by the statutes of the particular state in which the suit may be brought. One who is entitled to sue in the federal circuit court may invoke its jurisdiction in equity whenever the