

LEE ASKS FOR TIME

President's Message is Therefore Held Back Till Monday.

CONSUL'S REQUEST IS SHOWN TO LEADERS

Satisfies Aggressive Members of the Democratic Party.

DELAY IN MESSAGE A DISAPPOINTMENT

Public is Left in the Dark as to the True Condition.

RUMORS ARE AFLOAT OF A SETTLEMENT

Decision of the President is Not Reached Until Late in the Afternoon, and Its Announcement Creates Surprise.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Swift as a cannon's flash changed the Cuban situation today. The galleries of congress were crowded. Senators and representatives were anxious and agitated and the diplomatic corps was in a ferment, awaiting a message from the president to congress of the American people that might mean a war, when, with excitement at the very highest, like an electric flash the word passed that there would be no message today.

Its suddenness stunned the public which heard the news in distorted forms and amazed veteran members of congress. Ultimately it became known that not only would there be no message today, but no message this week, and that it was a possibility that the message written and approved might never go to congress at all.

The first reason given for the delay was that the administration had received advice from General Lee at Havana intimating that all Americans could not be gotten off the island today, and would be in grave peril if the message preceded their departure.

The second reason, and perhaps equally potent with the other, slowly drifted into public comprehension late in the day, chiefly through the medium of published dispatches from Madrid, for which one important feature at least is the declaration of an armistice by the queen regent of Spain.

SPAIN MAKES NEW OVERTURES.

This important news was that the Spanish government, after what plainly had been most exciting times in inner Spanish circles at Madrid, had decided to reopen the case, closed so far on this government was concerned by the refusal of Spain to make satisfactory response to the representations made by the president last week, and in order to avert impending war had decided to make concessions heretofore refused.

What will be the final outcome it is too early to say, but the aspect of affairs certainly is considerably more pacific, and sufficient to renew the hope of the president in a solution of the Cuban question satisfactory to American people and without bloodshed.

The details remain to be worked out, but it is expected that between now and Monday a clearer light will be thrown on the future feature at least is the declaration of an armistice by the queen regent of Spain.

This armistice, it is understood, will lead to ultimate independence of Cuba from Spanish rule, but by what intermediate steps perhaps the governing powers do not at this time know. Much, it is supposed, will depend upon the Cuban insurgents, and the peoples of the two countries of the United States and Spain.

The powers of Europe have brought to bear their influence on the government of Spain and are still actively at work seeking by the wisest and most politic course, necessary in view of the circumstances of the two great nations involved, to bring peace out of the gathering war clouds.

AMBASSADORS WORK TOGETHER.

All the capitals of Europe have been in communication to this end, a fact evidenced by the assemblage at the British embassy in this city yesterday of the representatives of the six great powers of Europe, who were made mutually acquainted with what had been done abroad, and the desire of those who accredited them to Washington that they should work in accord here.

This concert, however, in the United States was not to go beyond a mild tender of good offices to secure peace and delay of definite declaration of war if hostilities finally became inevitable.

Some of the representatives assembled at Sir Julian Pauncefote's may have wished for open mediation, but if so were warned against it by others in the conference, who understood more clearly that such a procedure would be resented and work to hostile and not to peaceful ends.

The improved condition of affairs was reflected throughout all public quarters late in the day. It was manifested at the White House, among cabinet officers and at the embassies and legations, including the Spanish legation.

At the latter establishment Senor Polo said that while he could not disclose any of the information reaching him in an official character, yet he felt that the strain of a few hours ago was materially relieved and that the prospects for peace looked much better.

He in no way confirmed, nor would he even discuss, views entertained in other high official quarters, that Spain was slowly, but surely, yielding, and confined his utterances to the general statement that conditions were improving.

SENSATIONAL RUMORS AFLOAT.

Accompanying the actual developments of the day came a flood of reports and rumors of a sensational character, little of it, however, having any authentic basis. The rumors of disturbance at Havana were not borne out by any official advice here.

The uncertainty following a great disappointment was the condition existing at the capital at the close of the day when the expected did not happen. Senators and members were at sea as to what was coming next.

While the message was awaited there came a hurried summons of leaders of the senate and the house to the White House, and they were there informed that the message was to be withheld on information received from Consul General Lee.

MAINE'S FLAG HAILED DOWN

Tattered Ensign Taken from the Wreck of Sunken Battleship.

FERN'S OFFICERS PERFORM THE CEREMONY

Crew Stands at Salute While the Remnants of the Flag Are Taken from Their Place at the Masthead.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) HAVANA, April 6.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Sensational reports that officers of the Spanish transport Legazpi had hauled down the Maine's half-masted ensign are absolutely false.

The American colors were first hoisted clear to the peak and then taken down by Chief Quartermaster Hulgran by order of Captain Cowles of the Fern. This morning the Spanish admiral was notified of the fact. The Spanish patrol still continues. The ceremony took place at sunset, when the Spanish banner dropped from the Alphonso XII and the official day formally closed.

The officers and crew of the light little Fern passed toward it lowering the national flag and saluted. Meanwhile the fluttering strips of bunting, which are all that is left of the Maine's ensign, were hauled clear to the top and then the crew of the Fern faced about and stood at silent salute while the historic tatters came slowly down. As the sloop's ensign descended the Maine's single mast had Captain Sigbee's pennant between his teeth. The insignia of command and the national colors reached the deck together, the saluting hands on the Fern dropped and the United States battleship Maine had ceased to officially exist. It is no longer a piece of United States soil. According to naval usage the Maine is no more than the abandoned hulk of a wrecked merchantman.

These are half a million dollars' worth of machinery, machinery which is hoisted beams and four ten-inch guns still in their respective turrets. They could not be secured without the use of explosives. The new guns cost \$40,000 each.

SYLVESTER SCOVEL.

BADLY SCARED LOT AT HAVANA.

Naturalized American Citizens Want to Leave Right Away.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) HAVANA, April 6.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The American colony is in a state of great excitement. The Fern, Mangrove and Barbe stand ready to steam out at a moment's notice whenever Lee ships the best of the hundreds of scared naturalized citizens. Now that all quarantine regulations have been raised Brunner's office is not so beleaguered as it was, but every American citizen's house is full of packed and packing household goods.

The flight of these people is really pitiable. A cloudburst is expected tomorrow. Lee, as usual, is cool, calm and easy going. His well worn advice is, "keep cool and say nothing." He has full confidence in Blanco being strong enough to hold down disorder and conduct the departure of Americans, if such has to be, with all possible international courtesy. Politeness is now pushed to the last exquisite notch. The admiral sent his adjutant Cowles on the Fern to thank him for having notified the admiral of the removal of the American ensign yesterday from the Maine wreck.

The Mangrove will leave at 6 o'clock this evening for Key West and will carry the Cuban-Americans, who expect that war will be declared and are anxious to escape from Cuba before hostilities commence. The Mangrove will be crowded far beyond its regular capacity. Many Cubans will have to spend the night on deck, as there is no room for them in the cabins. The Fern line steamer Mascotte left today for Tampa with more passengers than it has ever carried before. Plant's agents here have cables requesting permission to have the Mascotte discharge its passengers at Key West and return to Havana tomorrow for another load. Although acting on Lee's advice the Plant line management has given official notification that visits of its steamers to Havana would be discontinued after the Mascotte's departure. The Fern line steamer Oribe leaves this afternoon with twenty more passengers. It is the first cabin that it accommodates with state rooms. The agents of the Fern line hourly expect notice from New York that no more Fern steamers will stop at Havana.

All American newspapers that arrived on the Mascotte early this morning were seized and taken to the palace and have not yet been released by the censor. As a result it is impossible to obtain American newspapers today in Havana. SYLVESTER SCOVEL.

Outlook in Barcelona.

(Copyright, 1898, by Press Publishing Company.) BARCELONA, April 6.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—People in this city of 600,000 inhabitants, the chief center of Spanish industry and the most important port in the kingdom, take more interest even than the rest of Spain in the Cuban question, because the prosperity of the mining, shipping, mercantile and manufacturing interests of Barcelona and of the Castilian provinces long depended on the West India markets, where they used to send \$200,000,000 worth of exports annually before the present insurrection. Practical people like the Catalans often say that if autonomy in tariff loses them all the advantages in connection with the colony it is hardly worth while to prolong or increase sacrifices to retain it. Nevertheless the Catalans show their willingness to contribute vessels and money should war break out. When the battalions of the line regiments marched from the south station to the quay through the main streets of Barcelona to embark on the transatlantic steamer Antonio Lopez, 1,196 strong, with colors flying and bands playing the Cadiz military march of the people of all classes, from the wealthy citizens to republican and socialist workmen, so numerous in Barcelona, looked to see and cheer the troops departing for the Canary Islands. The artillery batteries left Monday with patriotic demonstrations. Transports are getting ready to take two battalions of line artillery to reinforce the Philippine Islands.

Ordered to Active Duty.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 6.—Lieutenant John B. Milton, who has been in charge of the naval observatory at Mare Island for the past year, went east last night and will report at the Brooklyn navy yard for duty. His summons was a surprise to himself and colleagues. He is considered one of the best officers in the service and since his appointment as a midshipman in 1866 has had nearly nineteen years of active sea duty.

Nearly Tender of Electricians.

PHILADELPHIA, April 6.—The services of Philadelphia Electrical division, composed of practical electricians organized to serve

ASK NEBRASKA TO BE READY

Officials of the State Look to a Coming Clash at Arms.

SENATOR ALLEN TELEGRAPHS GOVERNOR

Tenders His Personal Services in Case of War—State Military Board in Session Makes Preparations.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Senator Allen of Nebraska sent the following dispatch today. Hon. Silas A. Holcomb, Lincoln, Neb.: Tender all state troops without delay. In the event of war with Spain I desire through you to place my services at the disposal of the state to serve the country in such capacity as you may assign me in defense of the national honor and for Cuban liberty. WILLIAM V. ALLEN.

LINCOLN, April 6.—(Special Telegram.)—In response to Senator Allen's message and on account of the crisis that is thought to be near, the governor called a council for this afternoon of the State Military Board, composed of General Barry, General Billa, Colonel Pratt and Colonel Bischoff.

A heavy artillery regiment of three batteries is being organized to be made up and offered by ex-students and cadets of the university, and it has already offered its services to the state. It is said that the new regiment is being formed under the direction of an officer of the regular army.

The governor and the members of the Military Board were in session all the afternoon. Major Edward Hale, judge advocate of the Guard, participated with the board in the council, as also did Captain Cuvelier of the cavalry and Captain Murdock of the artillery. As a result of the meeting the following telegram was sent:

LINCOLN, April 6.—To His Excellency, the President, Washington: Commanding officers of Nebraska National Guard in conference join with me in unreservedly placing at your disposal entire organized military forces of state in event of hostilities with Spain. With slight additional equipment, forces are ready for active duty on short notice. SILAS A. HOLCOMB, Governor.

The question of concentrating and handling the state troops on short notice had already been fully considered, and all arrangements made, but at the meeting this afternoon the matter of supplies and additional equipment was taken up and a requisition was made on the government for overcoats, blankets and some other articles.

The present strength of the guard is about 1,300 and the number will reach 2,000 when the companies are recruited to their full size, and in case of a call from the president, it is expected that the full number will be ready to take the field, as applications from recruits are pouring in.

POPE EXPRESSES NO SURPRISE.

Says He Expected America to Decline His Offer.

LONDON, April 6.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily News says: Both the pope and Cardinal Rampolla, papal secretary, declare that they never had any illusions about mediation, knowing that the United States would reject it, and that anyway it would cause bad blood between Catholics and Protestants there. In fact the Vatican has received several despatches from prominent Americans saying that intervention of the pope might seriously retard the progress of Catholicism in America. The pope's only object now is to gain time, so that Spain and America can reflect.

I have also heard that influential prelates in the Vatican consider it well for the church and the prestige of the papacy that the undertaking of the pontiff proved abortive. They think that if Lee had been appointed mediator he would have found himself in a delicate position, as, because of his known affection for Spain, and being godfather of King Alfonso, he would have been open to a suspicion of sympathy with Spain, and unless the independence of Cuba had been granted the United States would have been disappointed.

He would have found a great obstacle also in having to declare for or against the Monroe doctrine. Strange to observe, while the intervention of the pope, no matter how noble and generous, is considered by outsiders a failure, at today's weekly reception of the diplomatic body by Cardinal Rampolla he received and accepted congratulations on the pope's proceeding at Washington.

Cardinal Rampolla himself asserted that these proceedings had had the result of delaying President McKinley's message and he made it understood that negotiations were continuing, with a prospect of obtaining an armistice in Cuba.

It is announced that the pope, to set the real truth before the world, will in due time publish a history of the whole affair.

The Rome correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says: "Archbishop Ireland has called to the pope that mediation is almost impossible in consequence of the resistance of public opinion. His holiness is much grieved."

OBJECT TO INCREASED BEER TAX.

Brewers Call on House Ways and Means Committee.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—A delegation representing the United States Brewers' association appeared before the ways and means committee of the house today and protested against the proposed increase of the tax on beer to meet war emergencies.

The delegation consisted of Messrs. G. Thomann of New York City, Paul A. Saaga of Baltimore, Robert Portner of Alexandria, Va., J. W. Brown of Brooklyn and C. W. Wells of this city.

It urged that there was no reason why the brewers should be subjected to such an additional tax when other lines remain exempt.

Chairman Dingley explained that the increase had not been considered, either by the committee or the house, but if the members wanted to state their views they might do so.

The brewers said that if it became necessary to increase taxes all along the line, they would raise no objection, because the Red Cross society, who arrived by the Mascotte this morning, visited Governor General Blanco at 2 o'clock this afternoon and was most kindly received. She left the palace expressing herself satisfied with the visit.

Miss Barton in Havana Again.

HAVANA, April 6.—Miss Clara Barton of the Red Cross society, who arrived by the Mascotte this morning, visited Governor General Blanco at 2 o'clock this afternoon and was most kindly received. She left the palace expressing herself satisfied with the visit.

Shipped to San Francisco.

ROSTON, April 6.—The third of the 12-inch disappearing gun carriages which have been manufactured at the United States arsenal at Watertown was shipped today to Fort Winfield Scott, San Francisco.

Double the Force at Rock Island.

THE BEE BULLETIN.

Weather Forecast for Nebraska—Warmer; Southerly Winds.

1 Consul Lee Asks for More Time. Maine's Ensign Hauled Down. Nebraska Forces in Readiness. Spain Begins to Back Down.

2 Great Crowds at the Capitol. Much Excitement in Washington.

3 Nebraska News. Hearing in the Senate. Editorial and Comment.

4 Editorial and Comment.

5 Judge Gordon on His Salary.

6 Council Board on Military Matters.

7 General News. The Farther West.

8 Hearings on the Situation. Schemes for Stimulating Industries.

9 Spain's Fighting Material. Stray Bondsman in Jeopardy. Stray Soldiers Are Tied Up. Squatters Lay Claims to Land.

10 Commercial and Financial News.

11 "The Regeneration of Judy."

12 Britain's Newspaper Tones.

Temperature at Omaha.

Hour. Deg. Hour. Deg.

5 a. m. 31 1 p. m. 45

6 a. m. 30 2 p. m. 46

7 a. m. 30 3 p. m. 48

8 a. m. 32 4 p. m. 47

9 a. m. 34 5 p. m. 50

10 a. m. 39 6 p. m. 48

11 a. m. 42 7 p. m. 47

12 m. 44 8 p. m. 45

1 p. m. 42

2 p. m. 42

3 p. m. 42

4 p. m. 42

SPAIN COMING DOWN

Reconsiders Its Refusal of the Proposal Made by the President.

IS NOW WILLING TO REOPEN THE CASE

Announcement Comes from Madrid that a Settlement is Reached.

STATEMENT OF THE TERMS IS NOT GIVEN

Queen Regent Issues Proclamation of Armistice for Cuba.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IS IMMINENT

Advice of the New Condition of Affairs Reaches the President and Encourage Him to Look for Peace.

MADRID, April 6.—It is said here that a satisfactory settlement has been arrived at between the United States and Spain.

12:05 p. m.—A ministerial crisis is imminent. It is understood that Senor Silveira, the leader of the dissident conservatives, and the conservatives will, if necessary, accept office on a program of an immediate armistice, with full authority to the autonomist government to negotiate and conclude an immediate and effectual peace in Cuba.

12:20 p. m.—It is confidently asserted that an hour's proclamation of the queen regent announcing an immediate armistice in Cuba will be issued tomorrow. It is added that some of the cabinet ministers may resign, but, if necessary, the ministry will be changed.

The Austrian ambassador, Count Dubsky, had an interview with the United States minister, General Stewart L. Woodford, today. They both seemed much pleased at the situation.

7:40 p. m.—The official statement that has been taken a pacific turn has not become generally known and public opinion remains much excited. The bourse has declined heavily, owing to the belief that there is dissension in the cabinet, which, however, the ministerial supporters absolutely deny.

The hope of reaching a peaceful settlement with the United States is growing strong. It is reported that the basis of an armistice in Cuba has been arranged. If this be true a royal decree will appear in the Gazette tomorrow or Friday, announcing the conclusion of an armistice.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The president has received advice and information which make him hopeful that war between the United States and Spain may be averted and an outcome of the Cuban situation secured that will be satisfactory to the people of the United States. The matter has not yet progressed to a stage that makes it safe to state this as more than a possibility, but the disposition manifested the last two days by the Spanish government gives ground for an expectation that it will yield on vital points. There has been a tremendous pressure brought to bear on Madrid from almost if not all influential quarters in Europe, and the queen's influences on the government is believed will be exerted to the end that peace may prevail.

Secretary Long, when shown the Madrid bulletin announcing a settlement, said: "I know nothing of it." He refused to say anything more.

WOODFORD PREPARES TO LEAVE.

His Family and Official Staff Move to France.

MADRID, April 6.—5:30 p. m.—The family of United States Minister Woodford will start this evening for Biarritz, France. The staff of the United States legation has left Madrid and will probably remain in Paris for the present.

9 p. m.—Mrs. Woodford, wife of the United States minister, accompanied by her niece and Lieutenant G. L. Dyer, the United States naval attaché, left by the 8 o'clock train for Biarritz. General Woodford took his farewell at the station. Considerable surprise is expressed at their departure, "in view of the settlement," but Mrs. Woodford remains and it is explained that the others will soon return.

Deny the Mine Story.

MADRID, April 6.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—On the highest authority I am able to state that nothing is known at Madrid in the marine department concerning the alleged purchase of materials for a few years ago for laying down submarine mines in Havana harbor. At the marine department the opinion is held that the local Cuban authorities could not have done this without reporting the same at home, even to cover the expenditure. What is more, the predecessor of the present minister of marine, Admiral Bringer, never heard of the matter. The late commander of the West Indian station denies as energetically as Campos and Weyler did when questioned. ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

Shipped to San Francisco.

ROSTON, April 6.—The third of the 12-inch disappearing gun carriages which have been manufactured at the United States arsenal at Watertown was shipped today to Fort Winfield Scott, San Francisco.

Double the Force at Rock Island.

DAVENPORT, Ia., April 6.—Orders were received today doubling the force at the Rock Island arsenal and rushing work upon gun carriages and ordnance. A night shift commences work Monday.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, April 6.

At New York—Arrived—Karlruhe, from Bremen. Sailed—St. Louis, for Southampton; Teutonic, for Liverpool; Noordland, for Antwerp.

At Southampton—Arrived—St. Paul, from New York. Sailed—Lahn, for New York. At Queenstown—Sailed—Scythia, for Boston.

At Gibraltar—Arrived—Fulda, from New York, for Naples.

At Plymouth—Arrived—Trave, from New York, for Bremen.

At Mollie—Arrived—Anchova, from New York.

At Copenhagen—Arrived—Aragonia, from New York; Norge, from New York.