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THE PEOPLE'S RECORD

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COLUMBIA, S. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

REV. E. D. WHITE, State Agent.

THE CRUISER MAINE WAS DELIBERATELY DESTROYED.

Army and Navy Register Publishes This Information

WHICH SHOW THE CAUSE

Of the War Preparations Made During the Past Few Days

BY THE UNITED STATES.

Bids for Shot and Shell Opened--Torpedoes for Key West--The New War Map Made Up--North Carolina is in the Division of the East, and South Carolina in the Gulf Division. Missouri and Texas Departments Abolished.

The Army and Navy Register, in its issue of the 12th, says: "The Register is in possession of information, the correctness of which it has no reason to question, that certain evidence, gathered by the court of inquiry at Havana, has come in a semi-official form to the President from two prominent members of the board. The information has been in the hands of the President since Sunday and is the basis for the occasion of the unusual activity during the present week."

The information is that the Maine was destroyed by a government submarine, planted in Havana harbor deliberately by the Spanish government. It appears that the submarine was moored in the vicinity of the mine, and that the explosion occurred at a moment when the ship had been opportunely carried by wind and tide directly over the mine. These facts have been hinted at and written about in dispatches from Havana and Madrid, and among the varied statements made the actual conditions have been touched upon, but nothing authoritative has been permitted to escape from the court.

"That body is understood to have completed its work, but nothing is likely to be officially promulgated in regard to its findings for a week or more. There is obvious reason for such action, the objects of which cannot be defeated by independent newspaper statements. There can be but one outcome of such a report, and preparations for the inevitable results are being industriously and indefatigably prosecuted. The work of the week shows that the government at Washington appreciates the situation and will be ready to meet what has now ceased to be a mere emergency."

ORDERED EAST.

Near the Regular Army to Be Sent to the Atlantic.

Washington, (Special).--Substantially the whole regular army of the United States will be brought to the seaboard with all possible expedition, artillery and infantry to be moved to forts in the Atlantic States. Only sufficient troops will be left in the West to prevent any possible Indian uprising. Orders will be issued to mobilize the twenty-four thousand soldiers in preparation for the war. Plans will be issued by the War Department as soon as the plans for transportation of the troops can be made.

The action of the authorities furnishes conclusive evidence that the government has advanced beyond the stage of preparing for a precautionary measure. It now anticipates trouble and expects that the annual appropriation for transportation is wholly insufficient to cover the great body. It has therefore been necessary to draw upon the \$10,000,000 advance fund for this purpose.

It has been decided that Gen. Merritt command an Army of 100,000 men sent to Cuba by the United States.

Bids for Shot and Shell.

The War Department at once will bids for one of the largest orders of shot and shell for heavy calibre guns given, including armor-piercing shells, and also for forcing and torpedoes.

THE WAR MAP.

Will Be in the Division of the East and South Carolina in the Gulf Division.

Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, March 11, 1898.

The following orders have been received from the War Department and for the guidance of all concerned: War Department, Washington, March 11, 1898.

By direction of the President the following changes are made in the territorial limits, designation and headquarters of geographical departments: The Department of the East will embrace the New England States, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina, with headquarters at Governor's Island, New York.

2. A department is hereby established to be known as the Department of the Lakes, to consist of the States of Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, with headquarters at Chicago, Ill.

3. The Department of Dakota will embrace the States of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and so much of Wyoming and Idaho as is embraced in the Yellowstone National Park, with headquarters at St. Paul, Minn.

4. The Department of the Columbia will embrace the State of Washington, Oregon, Idaho (except so much of the latter as is embraced in the Yellowstone National Park) and the territory of Alaska, with headquarters at Vancouver Barracks, Washington.

5. The Department of California will embrace the States of California and Nevada, with headquarters at San Francisco, Cal.

6. The Department of the Colorado will embrace the States of Washington, (except so much thereof as is embraced in the Yellowstone National Park), Colorado and Utah and the Territories of Arizona and New Mexico, with headquarters at Denver, Col.

7. The Department of the Platte will embrace the States of Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas and Arkansas, the Indian Territory and the Territory of Oklahoma, with headquarters at Omaha, Neb.

8. A department is hereby established to be known as the Department of the Gulf, to consist of the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, with headquarters at Atlanta.

The Departments of the Missouri and Texas are hereby abolished. The records of the Department of the Missouri will be transferred to the Department of the Lakes, and those of the Department of Texas to the Department of the Gulf.

Major General John Brooks is to be transferred to the Department of the Lakes, and Brigadier General William M. Graham to the command of the Department of the Gulf. The officers of the several staff departments now on duty in the Departments of Missouri and Texas are assigned to like duties in the Departments of the Lakes and of the Gulf, respectively.

The transfer required under these orders is necessary for the public service. R. A. ALGER, Secretary of War.

By command of Major General Miles: H. C. CONNIN, Adjutant General.

Talked Peace.

On the 12th the new Spanish envoy Don Luis Polo y Bernabe in presenting his address and his credentials to the President expressed the hope that he would be able to cement more closely the friendly feeling between the two countries. President McKinley replied, saying he would do all in his power to draw the two countries more closely together on a friendly footing.

Ordered From Fort Riley.

Orders received at Fort Riley, near Junction City, Kan., directed the sending of three batteries of artillery to the South. Battery B, of the Fourth Artillery, Captain Anderson, commanding, will go to Fort Monroe, Va.; Battery F, also of the Fourth, Captain Taylor, goes to Savannah, Ga.; and Battery E, of the Fifth, Captain Riley, to New Orleans.

Torpedoes for Key West Harbor.

The steamer City of Key West, from Miami, has just landed two car-loads of torpedoes and torpedo buoys at Key West, Fla. These will be laid in this harbor.

Strength of the Spanish Navy.

The Liberal gives the following as the present strength of the Spanish navy: Protected ships 17, unprotected 20, gunboats 80, torpedo boat destroyers 14, torpedo boats 14, transport 25.

Loan of \$60,000,000.

The American Embassy in London has received information that Spain has raised sixty millions for the purchase of warships and that this amount was secured from a London bank.

Plenty of Ships Available.

The latest from Washington says an office will be opened at 26 Courtlandt street, New York, at which owners and agents for ships will be invited to make their proposals for turning over to the navy such vessels as are of value for war purposes. The naval officials say there will be no difficulty experienced in obtaining all the vessels that are desired as there are hundreds available.

Finishing Up Cannon.

At the Washington gun factory there are now in various stages of construction no less than 150 guns of formidable character, on which work is being done night and day, with a view to their early completion. No new guns are being started, but the entire efforts of the factory are devoted to finishing these.

for probably 30 more auxiliary cruisers, should so large a fleet be found necessary to supplement the regular warships.

Perfecting Plans to Move Troops.

The government is perfecting its plans for the movement of troops to the coast defenses, orders for which have been issued by the War Department and published. A conference was held at Washington by representatives of the following railroads to arrange for the transportation of light artillerymen and their accoutrements: The Atlantic Coast Line, the Southern Railway, the Seaboard Air Line and the Chesapeake and Ohio.

Florida's State Troops.

From all reports coming into the Adjutant General's office at Tallahassee, Fla., and letters from commanders of companies, it is learned that the Florida State troops are now recruited up to the full legal standard, with offers of enough men to put three thousand more in the field in a week. In Tampa and Jacksonville especially the war fever is strong, and the commanders of companies there, both infantry and artillery, report offers of hundreds beyond their needs.

Spain Will Not Provoke War.

Madrid--(By Cable)--The view held in official circles is that Spain will not provoke war, because if she did, she would find herself isolated, but if America gives the provocation, Spain will not be alone in the struggle. The general opinion is that in the event of war, Spain will not need to attack American territory. It will suffice her to pursue a war of privateering. As America's commerce is seven-fold greater than Spain's, American interests would suffer most. War would be madness, benefiting neither nation, and good sense, therefore, counsels peace.

Working Day and Night.

At Wilmington, Del., the powder works of the E. I. Dupont-DeNemours Company is now working day and night on a government order for hexagonal powder for the big guns. In addition some of the buildings are being enlarged and additional machinery is being put in. The daily capacity of the works is said to be 10 tons of hexagonal powder.

POLLOCK'S PLATFORM.

He Issues an Address to the Democracy of the Fifth Congressional District.

The Hon. J. M. McKimley, of Ohio, who is one of the ten or more candidates for Dr. Strait's place in Congress, has issued the following platform:

To the Democracy of the Fifth Congressional District: Believing in rotation in office, not only in respect to men, but also in respect to the different sections which are represented by any officer, and believing that Chesterfield county, which has never had a native born representative in Congress, is entitled to some consideration at the hands of the other counties in this district, I hereby announce myself a candidate for Congress from the 5th Congressional district, subject to the Democratic primary. I shall stand upon my record made in the General Assembly of South Carolina during the past four sessions of that body, and hereby declare my adherence to the principles set forth in the Democratic platform as adopted at Chicago in 1892.

I favor the free and unimpaired coinage of silver and a limited coinage of silver and gold at the rate of 16 to 1 in the ratio of the precious metals; 10 per cent. on the bonded debt; an amendment to the Constitution of the United States permitting the assessment and collection of an income tax; the restriction of the tariff so that it will only provide sufficient revenue for the economic administration of the government; the curtailment of the extravagant and outrageous appropriations for pensions and for rivers and harbors, and the destruction of the shameful and ruinous system of gambling in futures, by which the subject of the law of supply and demand on the price of cotton and other agricultural products has been destroyed, and by which the gamblers of Wall street have been enabled to fix the price which the toiling receive as compensation for their labor to a large extent.

THE COLORED MILL.

Pickaninies Learning to Manipulate the Looms.

The colored cotton mill at Columbia, says The Register, will be opened for work about April 15th. Several looms have been gotten into position already, and half a dozen pickaninies about 15 years old are industriously learning the difference between "weep" and "woof" and "combs" and "beats."

The expert mill men teach them declare that they make apt scholars and learn the intricacies of the looms readily. The question of the negro's capacity being settled, the next which suggests itself is his "stickability." The negro is, as a rule, musical and music-loving, sentimental and sensuous, faithful to others but negligent of self, and his cup of happiness is easily filled. But the negro race has made wonderful strides in recent years, and has assimilated many of the instincts characteristic of the "Yankee," the term which best expresses the humble and vigilance of the average American citizen.

The negro is more and more becoming to appreciate the realities of life and of the future, and it is probable that when this avenue for employment is opened to him he will see its advantages and stick.

If the business part of the bill is matured properly and the negro's intelligence increased by those in control, the negro will see its advantages and stick.

WE ARE READY FOR WAR.

Long Says We Can Obtain All the Ships We Want.

WE GET THE "AMAZONAS."

Reports That Autonomy in Cuba is a Failure--Preparations for Defence Going Forward Rapidly.

Washington, (Special).--"We are ready for war," says Hon. John D. Long, secretary of the navy. "I am content in saying that we can obtain all the warships we want."

He added, "Several war vessels can become ours at an hour's notice. We have concluded our plans for transferring merchant vessels into armored ships, but we will not take possession of them until the necessity for them arises. We are fully prepared for war."

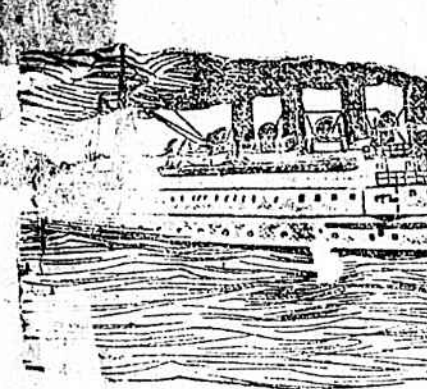
The United States has bought the battleship "Amazonas," which will be transferred and placed under the American flag as soon as arrangements can be completed for turning her over to an American crew.

Spain has bought the Chilean battleship "O'Higgins," and the Spanish flag will be hoisted over her within a few days, when she leaves the Tyne. This is stated on authority.

Senator Proctor made a report to the President on the 14th declaring that autonomy in Cuba is a failure and that the Maine was destroyed by design. He called at the war department.

The developments in the Cuban situation have been confined to the past few days to the continuation of active preparations made by the war and navy departments, preparing for a possible war with Spain.

Diplomatic negotiations with Spain have been practically suspended since the Maine was blown up and with regard to the general question, Cuban freedom, have not been renewed.



UNITED STATES CRUISER COLUMBIA. (She is a converted destroyer, her mission being to prey upon an enemy's commerce rather than to have a share in the fighting line. She has triple masts and only the very fleetest of the ocean greyhounds can escape her. She has just been ordered in commission.)

BYRAN AND MCKINLEY.

Their Homes to Be Reproduced at Omaha Exposition.

Senator J. M. Thurston, chairman of the Senate committee on Expositions, recently suggested that the McKinley home at Canton be reproduced at the Ohio State building on the grounds of the trans-Mississippi exposition at Omaha. The board of managers approved the idea. The building when constructed will be used as a place of reception for Ohioans and it is proposed to exhibit therein many mementos of the late campaign, avoiding, as far as possible, anything savoring of partisanship. Noting the action of the board of managers, the friends of William Jennings Bryan lost no time in putting a proposition looking to the reproduction of the Bryan homestead at Lincoln. The board of managers have unanimously voted authority to the buildings and grounds department to allow the space for such building, making a proviso, as was done in the McKinley homestead, that the exhibits be non-competitive and not for sale.

Reward for Lynchers.

Governor Atkinson, of West Virginia, has offered a reward of \$250 for the arrest and conviction of the lynchers who hanged a negro named Bailey at Bramwell, in that State about a month ago.

Fatal Fire in New York.

In a fire at New York in a Bowery lodging house, five men were burned to death, and twenty thirty were rescued.

Bryan Talks in Atlanta.

Hon. Wm. J. Bryan spoke at Atlanta, Ga., in the auditorium to 10,000 people. His address was along his usual line of argument.

Distinguished Men Die.

General William S. Rosecrans died near Redondo, Cal., on the 17th, having passed away peacefully in the presence of his son and daughter, Carl and Anna Rosecrans, and several friends. Rosecrans had a fine military career. He served in the Civil war and was in command of the 1st Division of the Army of the Potomac.

Millionaire Joel Killed.

Woolf Joel, the South African millionaire, nephew of Barney Barnato, was shot and instantly killed by a man named Faldheim. The murderer was arrested.

Mining Millionaire Dead.

E. C. Bassick, who located a famous Colorado silver mine, and by it became a millionaire, died at 100 years of age.

A Kansas Trial.

In the United States Supreme Court at Washington, an opinion has been handed down by Justice Harlan, in the case of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company vs Charles E. Taylor, affirming the constitutionality of the State laws of Kansas prohibiting the transportation of a civil action for the infringement of

GRAIN IN FARMERS' HANDS.

120,000,000 Bushels of Wheat, 783,000,000 Corn, 272,000,000 Oats.

The consolidated returns of the different crop reporting agencies of the department of agriculture made up to March 1 show the wheat reserves in farmers' hands on that date to have been the equivalent of 22.9 per cent. of last year's crop, or about 121,000,000 bushels. This is 33,000,000 bushels in excess of the farm reserve reported one year ago, but the result of the special wheat investigation made to the department last fall would indicate that the crop of 1896 was larger than the department of 1897 shipped beyond country lines is 50.7 per cent.

The corn in farmers' hands as estimated aggregates 734,000,000 bushels or 41.1 per cent. of last year's crop, as against 1,164,000,000 bushels or 51.0 per cent. on hand on March 1, 1897, and 1,073,000,000 bushels or 43.8 per cent. on March 1st, 1896.

The proportion of the total crop shipped out of the country, where grown is estimated 21.8 per cent. or about 412,000,000 bushels. The proportion of the total crop exportable is estimated at 86.8 per cent.

Of oats there are estimated to be about 272,000,000 bushels, or 38.9 per cent. still in farmers' hands, as compared with 317,000,000 bushels, or 44.2 per cent. on March 1, 1897. The proportion of the crop shipped beyond country lines is estimated at 29.3 per cent.

The Enemy's Ships Coming.

A special dispatch from Cadiz, Spain, announces that the Spanish squadron has sailed from that port. It is understood that the Spanish warships are going to Porto Rico, where they will wait the orders of Captain-General Blanco. Enthusiastic crowds of people gathered to bid farewell to the war vessels.

THE HOUSE.

63rd DAY.--The House devoted itself to routine business. The legislative, judicial and executive appropriation bill went through its last stages in the adoption of the final conference report, and the remainder of the day was consumed in the consideration of the Senate amendments to the Indian appropriation bill.

64th DAY.--In the House the Senate amendment to the Indian appropriation bill was voted down. The naval appropriation bill has been practically completed by the House committee on naval affairs, save as to the question of increases in the navy, dry docks and armor plate. There have been few changes from the estimates, and the bill will involve in the neighborhood of \$30,000,000, aside from new vessels, dry docks and armor.

65th DAY.--The bill to pay the Bowman act claims, aggregating \$1,025,000 for stores and supplies furnished the Union army during the war, was passed by the House until 5 o'clock, but beyond completing the general debate, little progress was made. Of the 800 odd claims in the bill all but a few come from the South, and dilatory tactics were resorted to to prevent progress with the bill. In a speech favoring the bill, Mr. Gibson, (Rep.) of Tennessee, said the claims were distributed as follows by States: Alabama, 60; Arkansas, 55; Georgia, 42; Illinois, 1; Kansas, 3; Kentucky, 56; Louisiana, 22; Maryland, 70; Mississippi, 109; Missouri, 261; New York, 1; North Carolina, 12; Ohio, 2; Oregon, 1; Pennsylvania, 4; South Carolina, 2; Tennessee, 180; Virginia, 66; and West Virginia, 46. The House then adjourned until Monday.

66th DAY.--This being the second Monday of the month, it was given over, under the rules, to the consideration of business relating to the District of Columbia. The District business was concluded at 4:35 p. m. A few Senate bills were passed and at 5 o'clock the House adjourned.

67th DAY.--The House agreed to consider the bill for the relief of the legal heirs of the Maine disaster, upon a postoffice appropriation which was taken up in the House. It was passed by a vote of 100 yeas and 10 nays. During the general debate on the postoffice bill, members endeavored to take advantage of the latitude granted the committee of the whole to bring a resolution to discuss various questions and the discussion covered a wide range.

The great European war has been declared, and each country is endeavoring to outdo the other in the display of military power. It is now the victor's turn to show toward with covetous eyes. Every great European power is now preparing for a civil action.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Proceedings of Both the Senate and House Day by Day.

THE SENATE.

58th DAY.--The Senate passed the emergency bill, carrying \$180,000 for deficiencies, and placing at the disposal of the President \$50,000,000 for defense. The vote by which the measure was passed was unanimous. Sixty-six short, sharp and emphatic speeches were delivered in favor of the bill, each one being simply a ringing "aye," during the roll call upon the passage of the measure. Not only every Senator present registered his vote in favor of the bill, but for every absent member the authoritative announcement was made that if he were present he would vote "aye." Favorable comment to the Hawaiian annexation treaty was under discussion during an executive session of the Senate today. The amendment provides that the treaty shall not become operative until ratified by a majority of the members of the Hawaiian Islands.

59th DAY.--The Senate transacted business of real importance and adjourned until Monday.

60th DAY.--During its session of three hours, the Senate passed a considerable number of bills upon the general calendar. The number one authorizing the construction of eight new revenue cutters not exceeding an aggregate of \$1,025,000. A resolution authorizing the committee on naval affairs to go on the investigation of the Maine disaster was adopted. Among other bills passed were: To increase the pension of Mrs. Lottia Tyler Semple, a daughter of President John Tyler, to \$50 a month.

61st DAY.--After the passage of numerous bills from the calendar, the Senate began the consideration of the measure providing for a national system of quarantine. The beyond the reading of the bill was accomplished. Some discussion occurred on an amendment but no progress was made on the bill. Among the bills passed were: To authorize the Alabama, Alabama, Tennessee road company to build a bridge across the Alabama river, at Wilcox, Ala.; to establish a postoffice at Pitch of the Cherokee Nation to exceed \$2,000; to extend the uses of the mail service, the plan being to adopt the return postal card of the United States Economic Company.

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