

The War Inquiry.

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION OUTLINED BY THE COMMISSION.

The commission to investigate the conduct of the war with Spain indicates the scope of its inquiries as follows:

- 1. The times and places of the mobilization of the regular and volunteer troops.
2. The organization of these troops into the various sub-divisions of the army, the personnel of the brigade, division, corps and army commanders, and of their staff, whether appointed from the permanent establishment, from the National Guard or from civil life.
3. The amount and kind of camp and garrison equipage and other supplies that were on hand at the beginning of the war, the amount subsequently purchased, when and where purchased, when and where delivered, and when and where actually issued to the troops.
4. Similar information in regard to furnishing the troops with arms and accoutrements.
5. Which of the volunteers were armed and equipped in the various State camps and which in the general camps.
6. Upon whose recommendation or judgment the various general rendezvous were selected, and the reasons for such selection.
7. Full particulars relative to the transportation of troops by sea, giving an account of the provisions made for the accommodation and care of the sick and wounded.
8. An account of the quantity, quality and kind of food furnished the troops, and in case that any of them failed of being plentifully and seasonably supplied, state the reasons therefor.
9. As to the proper tentage, beds, linen, medicines, food and all other necessary equipment and supplies for the use of the hospital corps of the army. If there was any lack of these things at any time, state the reasons therefor.
10. Whether the medical staff was efficient and sufficient at all times for the proper care of the sick and wounded; and if not, state the reasons therefor.
11. Such information relative to the conditions and operations of ordnance and engineering departments as will be of value to us in our investigations.

We have outlined briefly a portion only of the information that we trust you will be able to give us. It will be satisfactory to have it communicated to us in writing, or by the chiefs of the several bureaus in person, with the submission of such records confirming their statements as they may be pleased to hand us.

To aid you in complying with this request there is submitted herewith a list of special questions, to which so far as possible answers are desired.

To Secretary Alger the commission has addressed six queries for his reply. 1. Plan of campaign proposed immediately after the declaration of war; was it intended to move at once to Havana, or that the campaign should be postponed until autumn?

2. When was the Santiago campaign determined upon? 3. Why was Tampa selected as the base of operations? 4. Why were summer camps organized at Fernandina, Jacksonville and Tampa?

5. When was the Puerto Rico campaign determined upon? 6. Why were the troops held on transports for embarkation at Tampa, and not permitted to sail for several days?

PARDONS FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS IN CUBA.

Habana, Sept. 29.—The Official Gazette publishes to-day a decree signed by Capt. Gen. Blanco and bearing date of September 27, granting pardon to and ordering the release of all political prisoners now undergoing confinement in the island.

It is understood that orders have been given to the Spanish forces at Holguin to march to Gibara, concentrate there and hold themselves in readiness for shipment to Spain. The troops at Puerto Principe are ordered to go to Nuevitas, those on the Jucaro-Moron trocha to San Fernando and those at Manzanillo to Cienfuegos.

The Third and Fourth divisions of the First army corps will embark at Matanzas and the First and Second divisions of the same corps from Habana. The forces in the province of Pinar Del Rio and the division engaged in the defense of Habana with Gen. Blanco and his staff will embark at Habana.

The Spanish provisional forces organized here will, according to the orders, go out of existence and will be incorporated in the ranks of the expeditionary troops of the Spanish army, returning to Spain as a part of "mobilizados." Irregular troops will be disbanded.

Each battalion is authorized to sell the horses, mules and oxen belonging to it, and a special committee is appointed to oversee the sale by auction of the cavalry horses and the mules of the commissary department.

THOUGHT TO BE

McKINLEY'S VIEW.

Hanna Says Whole Philippine Archipelago Belongs to Us.

Cleveland, Sept. 30.—The Leader has from its Washington correspondent the following interview with Senator Hanna concerning the Philippine question, which is believed to be the present views of President McKinley:

"I do not know what the instructions given to our peace commission are," said the senator, but so far as concerns the negotiations which will be instituted in Paris to-morrow, I can see no other result than that Spain will have to relinquish her sovereignty not only over Luzon island, but the entire Philippine archipelago. Spain has no reason to expect to be able to retain any portion of the group. She went into the war and lost, and now ought to be prepared to suffer all the consequences which such a defeat implies. I regard the Philippines as lost to Spain, and that being a foregone conclusion, in my opinion, the problem which next confronts us relates to the form of government which we will give the islands."

SPANISH CABINET PROTESTS.

Madrid, Sept. 30.—The cabinet has decided to authorize Gen. Rios to grant reform in the Vizayas island on the lines demanded by the inhabitants and to concentrate his forces at Mindanao, as there are only 450 men garrisoning the Vizayas.

The Spanish ministers also decided to protest to the government at Washington against the refusal of the Americans to permit Spanish troops to be sent to the Vizayas, while, it is claimed the insurgents are constantly receiving arms and cannon with which to attack other places, which the Americans permit without pretending to intervene.

The Spanish cabinet, it is added, will acquaint its Paris commissioners with these contentions in order that they may be used in the peace negotiations.

Finally, it is announced, the government here would inform the government at Washington that it has decided to send reinforcements to the Vizayas, and it has ordered seven batteries of artillery in Andalusia to get ready to start for the Philippines in twenty-four hours.

In addition to this the cabinet will repeat its protest against the insurgents continuing to hold Spanish prisoners in the Philippine islands.

The government here estimates that there 200,000 people in Porto Rico who desire to return to Spain.

Delegates in Washington Not Fully Enlightened.

Washington, Sept. 29.—The reports from Manila that Agoncillo would today hold a grand ceremony and proclaim the republic of the Philippines with himself at the head, has not been made known to Agoncillo, head of the Philippine delegation here. He said today through his secretary and interpreter, Mr. Lopez, that reports of a more or less important character had come to them ever since they had landed, but that they were not officially notified as to any of the steps and this largely accounted for their inactivity, as they desire to know exactly what resolutions and policies had been adopted by the Philippine congress. They looked for a cable at any time, in response to inquiries, which would show just what the present status of affairs was.

Senator Chandler of New Hampshire, who is taking a personal interest in the Philippine question, and Gen. Greene, who accompanied Agoncillo on his trip here, had a long conference with him today. Senator Chandler said afterward that there was no doubt that the President would receive the delegation, the delay being due to the desire of the delegates to get full information on the condition of affairs at Hong Kong. When asked to sum up the desires of the Philippine delegates, Mr. Chandler said:

"The first and most essential purpose is to have the treaty of Paris—the final treaty which will stand for all time—contain an article terminating absolutely the sovereignty of Spain over the Philippines. It is not alone the termination of Spanish sovereignty over the island of Luzon, or Manila, that they desire, but the end of Spanish rule over the entire group of islands.

"The disappearance of Spanish rule from the Philippines being assured, the next purpose of the Filipinos, as I gather from their delegates, is to have an opportunity to try their capacity of self government, under American protection if need be, during the transition period, or, if that seems inexpedient, then they want this government to assume the direction of affairs, by annexation or such other method as may best meet the condition of affairs. They seem to feel satisfied that the question of future rule can be severed without difficulty after the first great aim of terminating Spanish rule is brought about."

General Wood Outlines

The Work Accomplished.

Washington, Sept. 30.—In a long personal letter to Secretary Alger, Gen. Leonard Wood, military governor of Santiago, outlines the work he has accomplished since he took charge of the city.

He says that when the American forces entered the town the sanitary situation was something frightful. Unburied dead lay in the houses, 3,000 Spanish sick and wounded crowded the hospitals and barracks, a horde of 20,000 half-famished people walked the streets, the water supply had been cut off and the streets were full of dead animals and filthy material. Because of the advance of decomposition, the dead were burned. Yellow fever was raging, twenty or more cases being in the Spanish hospital alone and the civil hospital was filled with dying persons.

Gen. Wood began systematically to improve the situation. He has 170 men constantly at work and the death rate is only one-fourth what it was in July. The sick are given careful medical attention and the worthy poor are fed, 15,000 rations being distributed every day. The garbage is taken outside the city and burned, and the unhealthy parts of the city have been drained. The police force in the city and the lighthouse system in the harbor have been re-established. The courts are not in operation yet, but Gen. Wood himself sits each day as a police judge. Since the Americans took the city the customs receipts have \$100,000.

The present expenses attending the work of operating the city, which are to some extent extraordinary, are about \$5,000 a week. By the measures adopted by General Wood a general epidemic of yellow fever has been avoided. The general hopes soon to start the schools and thus get the children off the streets.

Will Have a Force of Cuban Mounted Police.

Santiago de Cuba, Sept. 29.—Arrangements have been completed for the formation of a force of Cuban mounted police for the province of Santiago. It consists of a commandant with the rank of major, three captains, six lieutenants, ten sergeants and 240 enlisted men. The rates of pay of the enlisted men are the same as in the United States army, while the officers get two-thirds.

Gen. Castillo has charge of the preliminaries of the appointments. He must have able men who have served in the Cuban army, and the officers must have held similar or a higher rank in the Cuban army. This police force will have a large territory to cover and it is expected that as soon as the Cuban troops disband the lawless element will break loose and will have to be kept in check. Even at present quantities of cattle are stolen and complaints are frequent to Gen. Wood and Gen. Castillo and they are determined to put an end to this state of affairs.

Hester's Cotton Report.

New Orleans, Sept. 30.—Secretary Hester's New Orleans cotton exchange statement issued today shows a net decrease for the month in round figures of 114,000 bales. The total for September was 955,350 against 1,609,439 last night. Receipts at all ports for the month were 687,524 bales against 778,407 last year. Southern mill takings exclusive of amount consumed at ports, 107,356 against 103,570 last year. American mills taken during the month 181,533 bales against 249,984 last year.

Foreign reports for September were 294,838, showing an increase over the same period last year of 975.

Stocks at the seaboard and the 29 leading southern interior markets at the close of September were 746,545, against 742,115 last year.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns and the number of bales of the new crop brought into sight during September the supply to date is 1,222,915.

The Spanish cabinet has instructed the peace commission to insist on the retention of all the Philippines by Spain.

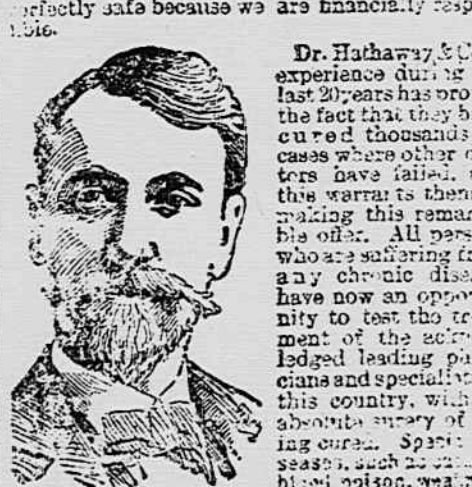
Washington, Sept. 29.—Col. John Hay, the newly appointed secretary of state, paid his respects to the President today and remained in conference with him for an hour. When Mr. Hay left it was announced that he would take the oath of office at the executive mansion just before cabinet meeting to-morrow, the oath to be administered by Justice Harlan of the United States supreme court. Mr. Hay will assume control of his duties as secretary of state on Sunday.

Santiago de Cuba, Sept. 29.—Senor Tachez Garcia, one of the Spanish judges, who was continued in office after the capitulation until ordered a month ago to cease performing his magistrate functions, but who, despite the order, has continued to try cases, has again been ordered to cease under penalty of arrest. A Cuban has been appointed to succeed him.

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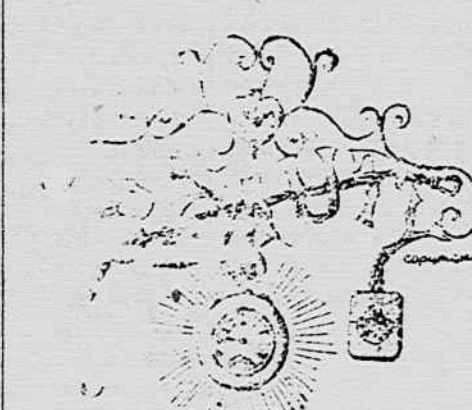


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JAMES G. GIBBS, State Land Agent, Columbia, S.C. Nov. 19.