

HARBOR AT HAVANA

IS NOT DEFENDED BY MINES UNDER WATER

SEÑOR DU BOSQ MAKES DENIAL

Naval Officers Are Inclined to Accept Evidence Offered as Conclusively Showing an Accident

Associated Press Special Wire

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The government authorities were today placed in possession of information, by Señor Du Bosc, Charge d'Affaires of the Spanish Legation, that no mines exist inside or outside of Havana harbor. This information reached Señor Du Bosc after midnight last night and was communicated to the Associated Press in a brief and explicit statement. It is stated that this statement was made not as a matter of opinion or personal conviction on the part of Señor Du Bosc, but as a conclusion of fact ascertained from those whose official position makes them familiar with every circumstance connected with Havana harbor. Until this information was in the possession of the Charge d'Affaires he had no personal knowledge of the facts. It was suggested to him early yesterday by a representative of the Associated Press that in many quarters positive statements were being made that mines existed within Havana harbor and in the vicinity of the Maine. Under such circumstances he was asked for a direct statement bearing on the point, with a view to clearing up any misapprehension that might exist. In view of this request, Señor Du Bosc set on foot an inquiry by cable. Naturally the only direct information on the subject, the official statement was secured and made public by Señor Du Bosc. It is not, however, it is explained at the Legation, a statement of the Spanish government, for the government has not felt called upon to deny the insinuations which, from its standpoint, grossly reflect upon its honor. The purpose of Señor Du Bosc was to make the statement as one of fact established from the best official authorities and not to make it as a government utterance, which he regarded as unnecessary. As a statement of fact, however, it is given by Señor Du Bosc with the greatest positiveness and from sources of Spanish information whose authority is not open to question, he says.

When seen today Señor Du Bosc had no details to add to his statement. With emphasis he said he had no intention that he should feel it to be his duty to repel the insinuations and statements that Havana harbor was mined, which are inspired by those anxious to stir passion and resentment between the two nations. He considered such suggestions an insult to Spain and his indignation at the insinuations he submitted as a bare fact that there were no mines or submarine defenses of any character in or about Havana harbor.

When the attention of Prof. Phillip Alger, of the Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Department, was called to Señor Du Bosc's statement, he said he had been looking for some such expression, as it seemed the natural thing for the Spanish authorities to make such a statement in case no mines existed. From the first, he said, he had maintained the view that the explosion of the Maine was probably the result of an accident, and if Señor Du Bosc's statement could be proved to be true, it would, in his opinion, render the torpedo theory of the explosion entirely untenable.

SITUATION IMPROVING

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Secretary Long enjoyed a sound sleep last night, the first he has had for some time, and he felt so much refreshed this morning that he decided to abandon his proposed absence from the Navy Department and continue at his duties. So he was early at his desk and in consultation with Assistant Secretary Roosevelt and Captain Crowninshield of the Navigation Bureau. As to the outlook, he said he thought things were looking much better. He said the public ought not to be under misapprehension with regard to naval movements; that so far they had mostly been the ordinary dispositions which are made from time to time; for instance, the shipping of guns to New York to supply the Chicago and other vessels, which are under reconstruction there, and they would go in any event. The gun factory at Washington is where they are made and they are sent to various points as the occasion requires. So, too, the call for more men, he said, is simply the revival of the recommendation in his annual report.

This statement by the Secretary evidently was made to allay the impression caused by the reports of heavy shipments of guns from the Washington Navy Yard and other warlike measures. The movements of some of the warships, such as the Detroit and Marblehead, towards Key West, had already been shown to have been in accordance with orders, not only made, but published in the newspapers as well, before the Maine disaster, so that the Secretary's explanation on this point is only confirmatory of the statements of the subordinate officials of the Navy Department.

The telegraph brought news this morning of the arrival at Key West of two vessels—the Detroit, coming from Mobile, where she was sent to participate in the Mardi Gras festivities; and the Marblehead, from New Orleans, where she was sent for a similar purpose. The Detroit is going up to the Naval Station to take on coal and both vessels will remain attached to the North Atlantic Squadron. It is also stated at the Navy Department that the Montgomery has been ordered to drop down to Key West from Tampa, where she landed Captain Crowninshield, but has not as yet received any orders to proceed to Havana and it is not decided yet when the orders will be issued, if at all.

The attention of naval officers has been strongly attracted to the statement made by representatives of the Spanish government to the effect that there were no mines or torpedoes of any kind in Havana harbor. It can be said that this statement exactly agrees with the inquiries that have been under way for many months by agents of our government. So far they have been unable to find the slightest signs of the existence of any plan of defense in the harbor by means of mines or torpedoes, much less

to locate them, as has been reported in some quarters. Officials of the Navy Department say the effect of this statement, if it is to be accepted as conclusive on that point, is almost certain to negative the supposition that the disaster resulted from other than accidental causes, as the almost unanimous testimony of experts here, based on the history of torpedo work, is to the effect that no single torpedo of any known type could have caused the terrific wreck of the Maine.

In the pursuit of details, some of the officers of the Navy, acting upon the theory that the large ten-inch magazine forward was not exploded, have been looking into the contents of the smaller and adjoining six-inch magazine. They find that, allowing for the amount of powder that was probably consumed in practice drills by the Maine before she arrived at Havana harbor, there was certainly no less than 8000 pounds of powder in this magazine, an amount sufficient to have caused enormous destruction had it been exploded at one time.

Colonel Heywood, Commandant of Marines, acting under orders from the Navy Department, is preparing to send all the marines at Key West, survivors of the Maine, who are able to travel, to New York, where they will be placed on the ship Vermont, there to be held for further assignment. They will go by steamer to New York. The sailors at Key West will be disposed of in similar fashion.

ON THE TURF

Results of Races at Ingleside and New Orleans

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 26.—Weather at Ingleside cloudy; track muddy. Results: Six furlongs, selling—Jack Martin won, Fortunato second, O'Fleta third; time, 1:17. Six furlongs, selling—Charles A. won, Benamela second, Daylight third; time, 1:17. Four furlongs, 2-year-olds, the Malowsky stakes; value \$1000—Mitt Young won, Frank Ireland second, Obsidian third; time, 1:04. Mile and a quarter, over five furlongs—Capt. Rees won, Maj. S. second, Monita third; time, 2:28. Four furlongs—Dr. Marks won, Odds on second, Moringa third; time, 1:34. Three furlongs, 2-year-olds, selling—Royal Fan won, Master Buck second, Cananea third; time, 36. AT NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 26.—Weather fine; track fast. Results: Seven furlongs—Tom Kingsley won, Percy F. second, Crystalline third; time, 1:32. Half a mile—May Hampstead won, Pansy H. second, The Driver third; time, 1:18. Six and a half furlongs—Jolly Son won, Black Irish second, Pop Dixon third; time, 1:26. Six furlongs, handicap—J. A. Grey won, David second, Ella Penzance third; time, 1:18. Seven furlongs—Irish Lady won, Trullio second, Stanza third; time, 1:38. Mile and a sixteenth—Jim Hogg won, Brother Fred second, Van Nessa third; time, 1:54.

COLLEGE ATHLETES

Drop the Bicycle and Change Scoring System NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—A meeting of the Intercollegiate Association of Athletes was held at the Fifth-avenue hotel today. The association declared against the registration scheme of the A. A. U. and decided not to be governed by it. It will lend its moral support to the National Interscholastic Athletic association in its fight with the A. A. U. on the registration scheme. It was decided that President Edward Brown of the California Intercollegiate Athletic team will have to prove his charges that in eastern colleges the amateur status is but a pretense; otherwise he will be asked to withdraw the team of the University of California from the I. A. A. After this year bicycling will constitute a separate sport, and will not be conducted in conjunction with the annual track competition of the association.

The only material change made in the by-laws was in the section governing the scoring of points. In future points will be scored as follows: First, two points; second, four points; third, two points; fourth, one point. In the make-up of championship events a two-mile run was substituted for the one-mile event.

These officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, I. N. Swift (Yale); treasurer, E. M. Bull (Cornell); secretary, B. S. Barringer (New York University).

FITZ WILL FIGHT

Any Minute McCoy Can Put Up the Staff CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 26.—Champion Bob Fitzsimmons expressed a willingness to fight Kid McCoy. Fitzsimmons says: "I will fight McCoy any time he puts up enough money to make it worth my while. McCoy and Ruhlin have no more right to fight for the championship than a yellow dog. I will fight McCoy any second he puts up the staff. McCoy is a miserable upstart. He has been a little successful and it has made him daffy. The kid has the swellhead and he thinks he is in the heavyweight class. I will show him how to fight if he has the long green to back up his bluff."

McCOY IS READY

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 26.—Fitzsimmons has wired a proposition to the effect that he is willing to fight McCoy if the stakes are made large enough. The kid not being at home, his brother, Homer Selby, immediately answered Fitzsimmons' telegram, proposing \$10,000 a side, and if that were not enough the amount would be doubled. Stakes holders should be named at once, and McCoy's money posted immediately. Fitzsimmons was asked to send a representative to Cincinnati Friday, March 4th, to arrange details and put up money.

Canal Inspection

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—The Herald's correspondent with the Nicaragua Canal Commission, under date of Greytown, says that the commission has reached that city, thus finishing a hard trip on foot from Ochoa. Inspection of the country and the canal line has been finished by the commission, and it will go to Costa Rica and Panama next week. Civil Engineer Menocal, who was ordered back to the United States for court-martial in connection with defective work on dry dock No. 2 at Brooklyn, has not yet been able to get away. He will probably sail for New York in a few days.

INSURGENTS IN CUBA

DESIRE NO PEACE WITHOUT LIBERTY

AUTONOMISTS' CONCESSIONS

Utterly Scorned Though Including Everything But the Merest Shade of Spanish Sovereignty

Associated Press Special Wire

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—In the turmoil over the Maine disaster internal Cuban policies are forgotten, says the Havana correspondent of the Tribune. Nevertheless, recent movements promise to be as momentous to Spain as the loss of the American war vessel. If an unexpected discovery should change the present opinion of the naval experts that the ship was blown up and thereby assure a continuance of the friendly relations with the United States, the domestic problems would not be changed. Captain-General Blanco's embarrassments are appalling.

Leaving American intervention, whether peaceful or otherwise, out of the mind, except in the future of autonomy, would soon take the form of an official confession. The best commentary on the deadened state of Spanish authority in Cuba is found in the absolute indifference shown toward the proposals of the radical autonomists. The meaning of their proposition to open negotiations with the insurgents on a new basis is understood in Madrid, where it is fully discussed. If the shadow of an overwhelming sorrow were not over the American people it would be discussed intelligently in the United States. Yet here in Havana the debate is barely caused by passing comment of the insurgents were willing to content themselves with anything except complete separation from Spain they would find in those concessions proposed by the radical autonomists a basis of peace. They would not lay down their arms until the Spanish government had agreed to accept no terms not based on actual independence.

That Mr. Govin, a member of the Cabinet, should have been in a leading spirit in the proposition is in its way important and increases the hostility of the insurgents against the government, which makes Govin part of itself. They have never forgiven him for calling them "birds of passage," and they are now convinced that his aim is the destruction of Spanish sovereignty as the first step toward their liberation. It may not be correct to characterize the movement as insincere, yet a fatal weakness is the confession in advance that the insurgents are not expected to entertain propositions made to them.

The radicals do not expect that actual negotiations can be opened with the feeling, possibly, there is no cause for wonder at the absolute indifference of the Havana public to the politics of the scheme. If further concessions would result in an armistice between Spain and the insurgents, this might be regarded as the blessing of the island of inhabitants who are otherwise doomed to death by starvation, would be saved. Something would be preserved in the ruins of the agriculture. In spite of the immense area of charred cane fields, a large amount of sugar could be grown and marketed. Still, the business satisfaction there was not enough commerce left in Cuba to form the basis of a treaty of commerce between Spain and the United States Gomez has been more liberal. Several big plantations which have been in suspense and have paid the insurgent tax, will be allowed to grind. The promise now is of a sugar crop somewhat in excess of last year.

With an interval of peace it would be largely in excess. An armistice would insure a fair crop along with a further recuperation of the industrial resources of the island. Unfortunately, Spain does not know how to reach a direct proposition of this kind. Should the present menace between her and the United States be changed to friendly relations, a proof of that friendship might be shown by asking President McKinley's administration to arrange an armistice with the insurgents.

THE SPANISH PRESS

MADRID, Feb. 26.—Deputy Mesena, an intimate friend of General Weyler, has received a message from the former Captain-General of Cuba, denying the report that Weyler took from the War Department at Havana papers and plans connected with the fortification of the island. The deputy says it is doubly absurd to suppose that General Weyler placed mines and torpedoes in Havana bay to endanger navigation without warning the shipping. It is further said that all the documents and plans relating to the campaign in Cuba are among the archives in the War Department at Havana.

The Imparcial today warns Spain "to distrust the pacific speeches of President McKinley and that of General Woodford at the recent banquet here," adding: "America is actively preparing for the war which is inevitable if the rebellion in Cuba is prolonged beyond May."

The Spanish government, it is said, is equipping its forces at the different arsenals and is organizing its marine and infantry.

Senor Morel, Minister for the Colonies, declares the fact simile of the latter of Senor Govin, the Secretary of the Interior, published by the Imparcial on Tuesday last, is dissimilar to the autographs of Senor Govin existing in the Ministry for the Colonies.

El Nacional insists upon the authenticity of the fact simile of Govin, before the courts. This paper also defies the government to prosecute it and it says that, if proved, it will publish "more astounding revelations."

The Imparcial, on Tuesday last, published a fact simile of a letter from Senor Govin, the Cuban Secretary of the Interior, to a friend, in which Govin is said to have said: "How could you think Sagasta, a man inferior to Canovas and Liberal only in name, has inspired my attitude and my ideas and sentiments as a Cuban? McKinley as well as Cuba will determine whether I am a Spaniard. Long live our country and Liberty."

Kinley as well as Cuba will determine whether I am a Spaniard. Long live our country and Liberty."

BERNABE'S BANQUET

Which Led to Criticism of Minister Woodford

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Minister Woodford's words at the dinner to Senor Polo y Bernabe were in the name of the President and people of the United States, says the Madrid correspondent of the Herald.

"I wish him," said the Minister, "a safe voyage and assure him of a most cordial welcome by the government at Washington. I drink to peace. May peace always be and abide between the land of Columbia and that new land beyond the sea which Columbus gave to civilization and to the future."

Minister Woodford's speech, which was purely spontaneous, began thus: "My Friends: I ask you to join me in drinking to the health of Her Majesty, the Queen Regent of Spain. My government is especially gratified that Her Majesty has named as a representative to the United States our friend and guest at this table, Senor Polo y Bernabe. He will be thrice welcome at Washington. His father, Admiral Polo de Bernabe, and his wife's father were long and honored representatives from Spain to the United States and in the new Minister my people will recognize a worthy representative of the historic nation of Spain."

FEBRUARY FINANCES

Customs Receipts Will Show a Small Gain

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The monthly treasury statement, to be issued Tuesday next, will show a small surplus for the month of February. The customs receipts for last month, up to today, amount to \$14,436,715, a gain over the same period last year of over \$2,350,000. The receipts from internal revenue show an increase of about \$564,000. The excess of expenditures over receipts for the first year of the present administration, exclusive of the Pacific railroad payments, is about \$24,000,000, a total which is in deficit about \$47,000 for the first year of the last administration. It is expected by treasury officials that the receipts from the customs for March will show a material increase over any previous month during the year, and as there will be small interest payments due, it is expected that the surplus for March will aggregate \$5,000,000.

Burglary Epidemic

RIVERSIDE, Feb. 26.—The butcher shop of Bulky & Palmer, on the East Side, was entered last night, and a quantity of meats taken. The thieves entered the shop by prying open a rear window, and so far the police have not secured any clue to the thieves. There is a range of burglars operating in the city at the present time, and scarcely a night passes but that from one to two burglaries are committed. It is believed by the police that the thieving is done by orange pickers, who have found work very scarce here recently, since the lack of orders for fruit has thrown many of the men who came here out of employment. Tierney and Rodgers, the burglars who were arrested the other day by the police, and who were found to be in possession of a large quantity of stolen goods, were given their examination today, and both men were held for trial in the superior court. They claim to have bought the goods found on them from her chiropodist, and both men are charged with the burglary. It may not be correct to characterize the movement as insincere, yet a fatal weakness is the confession in advance that the insurgents are not expected to entertain propositions made to them.

Brewing Didn't Pay

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 26.—Unable to meet its accumulating obligations the management of the San Francisco Stock Brewery has given its creditors the alternative of a settlement on the basis of 25 cents on the dollar or forcing the corporation to go through insolvency. The concern practically failed for \$10,000, as last week it deeded over its property to the German Savings and Loan Society, which held a mortgage for \$47,000 that it was about to foreclose. The unsecured liabilities aggregate \$67,000, distributed among twenty-two creditors. Bauer & Schwitzer, hop merchants, are the heaviest sufferers, their claim being \$25,000. The creditors have appointed a committee to look into the affairs of the concern.

Spanish Bread Riots

SALAMANCA, Spain, Feb. 26.—A crowd of about three thousand workmen, accompanied by groups of women, carrying flags, paraded the streets today, shouting for work and bread. Many houses were stoned and the railroad station was stormed and considerable wheat was stolen. The authorities promised to find work for the unemployed and as this dispatch was sent they were restoring order.

Beet Sugar Policies

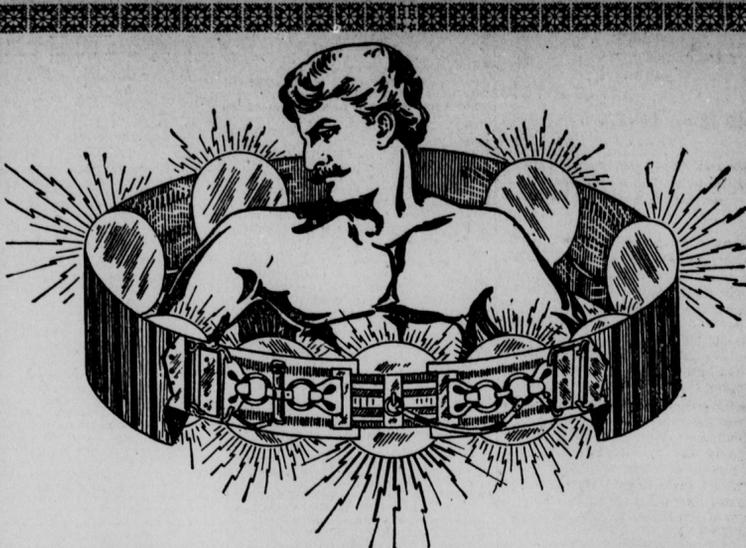
WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Consul-General Frank K. Mason, at Frankfurt, has transmitted to the State Department a significant publication from one of the leading German papers, warning the Agrarians in that country against pressing their warfare upon United States products and pointing out the stimulation of the beet sugar industry in the States as one of the most dangerous results of that policy.

A Munificent Gift

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—Rev. Dr. W. H. Claggett, President of the Board of Trustees of the proposed Presbyterian University of Texas, the site of which has not yet been selected, who is in the East in the interests of the University, has received a subscription of \$10,000 for the institution. The donor's name is withheld.

Will Refund the Bonds

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 25.—Judge Bunn at Macdon had refused to grant the motion of the Endion Improvement Company in the city of Superior refund-



How to be Strong

Wear Dr. Sanden's Electric Belt, which is credited with 10,000 cures of weak men last year—10,000 men who had drugged and doctored until their stomachs were almost ruined; until they could pay no more drug bills.

Do You Want to be Strong

To feel the old vigor in your nerves, the old fire in your blood? Do you want to feel bright, energetic, joyous. Then let this wonderful vitalizer saturate your system with its life; let it pour the electric warmth into your weakened body, and life will take on a new brightness for you. It will be a pleasure to live and to know that again you are a well man.

Made a Positive Cure

DR. A. T. SANDEN—GLENDALE, Cal., Feb. 18, 1898. Dear Sir—It is with great pleasure that I address you. You will remember about eight months ago I came to your office suffering terribly from a very bad case of varicocele which I had had for nearly three years. I was very weak and could hardly attend to my business. I was also bothered with rheumatism. Today I can truthfully say I am a well man. By your advice I purchased one of your No. 7 Belts and it has proved to be exactly what you said it was—A POSITIVE CURE. My wife has also used it with Beneficial results. H. S. WILLIAMS, Glendale, Cal.

Read the Book, "Three Classes of Men."

This book is worth \$100 to any man who is ailing. It tells how strength is returned by Dr. Sanden's Belt, gives prices and many testimonials. It is sent, sealed, free, upon application. Call or address

Office Hours—8 to 6; evenings, 7 to 8; Sundays, 10 to 1. SANDEN ELECTRIC CO., 204 1-2 South Broadway, Corner Second Street, Los Angeles. SPECIAL NOTICE—Dr. Sanden's office is upstairs. His Belts cannot be bought in drug stores.

ing case. The original order, which provides for the refunding of \$250,000 of bonds, will stand. This is a victory for Superior in its endeavor to refund \$1,000,000 of indebtedness.

In Queer New York

The morning mail brought to a certain woman not long ago an impressive looking envelope deeply bordered with black. Although monogrammed and sealed in smartest fashion, the woman recognized neither symbol. With much curiosity, and thanks to the black border, some little trepidation, the woman opened the letter. It was from her chiropodist, or, to speak more strictly, it concerned him who had been her chiropodist. In a few well chosen words, that so far as possible sought to soothe the blow, the misty-announced his death, and added that the business would, however, be carried on at the same old stand. It was the latest and altogether the most original development in advertising enterprise.—New York Evening Sun.

STATE NOTES

A ten-pound contest between Frank Purcell and Young Peter Jackson took place at Chico last night. Referee Murphy declared the fight a draw.

Gen. Booth, Commander of the Salvation army, and party, passed through Fresno yesterday on their way to San Francisco. He addressed a large crowd at the station.

Ex-Congressman Towne of Minnesota addressed a mass meeting at Metropolitan temple, San Francisco, last night. He made a strong argument in favor of the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 and was enthusiastically received.

A naval court martial has been holding sessions on board the Monadnock, now in San Diego harbor, hearing the case of Lieutenant Commander C. A. Adams of the Monterey. The principal charge against him is drunkenness, and it is alleged that on one occasion he thus transgressed when the captain of the Monterey was absent and Commander Adams was in charge of the ship. Evidence was concluded yesterday.

The Weinstock-McClatchy libel suit, in which plaintiff sued the Sacramento Bee for \$50,000 damages for an article published as the outcome of the alleged expose of a combine for corrupt purposes in the city board of trustees in connection with the notorious Detective Von Arnold, terminated today. The jury returned a verdict for plaintiff for \$100, which carries with it the costs of suit, amounting, it is stated, to several thousand dollars.

England has requested a bid from a Missouri packing establishment for furnishing 75,000 pounds of canned meats for the British army in India.

Drawing to a Close

TO CLOSE OUT OUR LOS ANGELES STOCK Every Department Thoroughly Overhauled and Everything Marked at Forcing-Out Prices. Don't miss seeing the Astounding Values Offered In Stylish and Seasonable Goods

Our Great Mark-Down Sale

TO CLOSE OUT OUR LOS ANGELES STOCK

Every Department Thoroughly Overhauled and Everything Marked at Forcing-Out Prices. Don't miss seeing the

Astounding Values Offered In Stylish and Seasonable Goods

No Samples Given And No Goods Exchanged at This Sale

Those of our patrons having book accounts are urgently requested to call at once and settle their balances.

Use only one heaping teaspoonful of Schilling's Best Baking Powder to a quart of flour.

You must use two teaspoonfuls of other baking powder.



204-207 NORTH SPRING ST. NEAR TEMPLE USE GERMAN FAMILY SOAP