



SPANISH FLEET BOTTLED UP IN HARBOR OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA

An Important Dispatch Received by the Navy Department From Commodore Schley.

BATTLE ROYAL EXPECTED WITHIN A SHORT TIME

Admiral Sampson's Ships Will Make a Descent on Havana.

TROOPS DEPART FROM SAN FRANCISCO FOR PHILIPPINES

Special Dispatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—At a late hour tonight a dispatch was received at the Navy Department from Commodore Schley stating in positive terms that he had the Spanish fleet bottled up in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba.

While he was reasonably sure of it in former dispatches this one contained the very important information that he had seen the Spanish fleet in the harbor and had recognized it.

A battle royal is expected within a very short period between the two fleets.

Special Dispatches to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Admiral Sampson's fleet is back at Key West, getting ready for the descent on Havana.

The arrival of Sampson at the home port means that Cervera is corked up in Santiago de Cuba, that Commodore Schley can do what he pleases with him there, and that the ships under the American Admiral are thus left free to tackle Havana whenever they choose to do so.

All reports from Key West indicate that the great blow of the war is soon to be struck. Sampson is ready and eager for the bombardment. A great army is prepared to make a descent at whatever base is selected.

There will be no need for delay in getting Sampson ready. His ships are filled with ammunition, and have long been stripped for fighting. Transports are ready to convey sufficient soldiers to effect a landing and hold a base of operations. The land artillery is in shape for active operations. All the necessary munitions of war are at hand for a quick descent.

The air of uncertainty which has clouded the Board of Strategy and the officials at the Executive Mansion has vanished. Evidently they now see their way clear to decisive action.

When Sampson arrived at Key West today he wired fully his knowledge of conditions along the Cuban coast, and also sent suggestions as to the best methods of procedure.

His dispatch started all the departments connected with the war into unusual activity, and, on coming from the President tonight, a high official said: "You'll hear something drop now, and it will drop hard."

Information Received.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The Navy Department received information today which for the first time relieved officials of the anxiety and doubt they have felt for the last few days and satisfied them on two vital points—first, that the American fleet under Commodore Schley was outside Santiago harbor, and second, that Admiral Cervera's Spanish fleet is inside that harbor.

This information came from private sources which naval officials regard as thoroughly reliable. It is from the same source that gave the Navy Department the first information, almost a week ago, that the Spanish squadron was inside of Santiago harbor. This source of information has proved itself reliable thus far, and for that reason the news received to-day was accepted as conclusive.

Schley Heard From.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The Navy Department to-night received a dispatch from Commodore Schley, who arrived off Santiago on Thursday morning. The dispatch was not given out.

A report was circulated that the Navy Department had stated that Schley reported that Cervera's Spanish fleet was "bottled up" at Santiago. On inquiring at the department late tonight it was stated that no such information had been given out and that it was a "shameful lie." Secretary Long was not at department 11 o'clock and he could not be found. In appears, therefore, that the mystery as to the Spanish fleet continues.

Charles D. Smith, an engineer, who was employed until recently for six years at a place a short distance from Santiago, and who is very familiar with that city and its harbor, but who is now in Chicago, has just made a statement in these words:

"I am certain that the largest American warships cannot pass into Santiago Bay owing to the winding entrance, which will not allow a long boat to go through."

In connection with that statement it is interesting to read the one made at the

same time at Key West by the captain of the Spanish steamer Catalina. This vessel was one of those seized as a prize and taken to Key West. It was released yesterday and the captain is now a free man. He felt greatly pleased over the release and today told a correspondent of the Washington Star that he did not believe that Cervera was at Santiago, adding:

"I am as familiar with Santiago harbor as I am with my native port of Santander, Spain. The approach is narrow, full of difficult heads, almost inaccessible for battleships and large cruisers, which would have to pick their way in single file."

The Harbor Guarded.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Twelve American warships are now outside the harbor of Santiago de Cuba and Admiral Cervera and the Spanish fleet are almost certainly inside. But nothing certain is known as to the communication which Commodore Schley has had with the shore, or as to the number of Spanish fighting which are bottled up in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba.

It is to be presumed that the U. S. auxiliary cruiser Harvard, which arrived here this morning, has important dispatches for the naval authorities at Washington.

The Associated Press dispatch boat Dandy took on board a messenger with dispatches cabled to Consul Dent here for transmission to the American fleet. The Dandy left Port Maria on the north coast of Jamaica last night. The messenger is an officer of the Navy Department and it is understood he has dispatches of the greatest importance from Commodore Schley.

Cadiz Squadron Sails.

MADRID, May 29.—It is officially announced that the Spanish reserve squadron, commanded by Admiral Camara, has left Cadiz. Before going to its destination, the squadron will manoeuvre probably for several days in the open sea, afterwards immediately sailing for the Philippine Islands, Cuba, or Tunisias, as the government may judge most opportune. The squadron is understood to be composed of ten to twelve vessels.

Off to Philippines.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 29.—The expedition to relieve Admiral Dewey in the Philippines has started. Yesterday morning the Charleston made its second start from the Mare Island Navy Yard, laden with ammunition and other munition of war for the use of the gallant commander. There will be no turning back this time. The condensers, which were responsible for the delay in the departure, have been thoroughly overhauled. With them every other bit of apparatus aboard the ship has been overhauled and there is nothing now to interrupt the long journey to Manila save the necessity of a stop at the Sandwich Islands to renew the coal supply. By a judicious use of coal on the first stage of the journey, Honolulu should be reached by the Charleston in seven days. Allowing one day for delays incidental to unfavorable weather conditions and one day to coal, the second stage of the journey should be begun by June 1 and the Charleston should steam in past Corregidor Island and join Admiral Dewey's fleet in the harbor of Cavite by June 20.

The cruiser passed the lights about a five hour run shortly after noon. Captain Glass then took a southerly course, steaming at about ten knots. With colors flying the last sight of the ship was seen from the decks of the Manchester, which was steaming into the Golden Gate after a safe journey from Callao. The seven thousand miles journey before the crew did not dismay the men in the least, for they gave the Manchester a great salute and a cheer as they bade farewell to the last American flag they would see for thirty days.

Dewey Needs Munitions.

HONG KONG, May 29.—The United

States auxiliary cruiser Zaffo, which arrived here at midnight yesterday, reports that Rear Admiral Dewey is short of provisions and ammunition.

The Havila-Manila cable, it is said, was cut by the Americans on May 23.

May Seize the Carolines.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 29.—The country must not be surprised if a new naval and military movement is set on foot soon. The President has under advisement a project, which is understood to have a most influential backing in the best quarters in the United States, to which not a breath of suspicion of "jingoism" in the ordinary sense could attach for the seizure of the Caroline Islands, a dependency of Spain, about 300 miles east of the Philippines, from which we have had much trouble during the last few years through the persecution of American Protestant missionaries by the Spanish hierarchy who have assumed control of the islands, and incidentally to this the Spanish Government's refusal to recognize a Consul whom we sent there, the only ground for his rejection being that he was a kinsman of one of the missionaries whose property had been destroyed.

Off San Domingo.

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti, May 29.—A dispatch received here from Monte Christi, on the north side of Santo Domingo, reports that a Spanish squadron has been sighted near there. It is believed to be Admiral Cervera's fleet making its way to Porto Rico.

The dispatch, however, lacks confirmation.

May Utilize Balloons.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The possibility that the balloon can be made a useful adjunct of the war is suggested by the problem that confronts Commodore Schley. If Admiral Cervera is really "bottled up" in Santiago Harbor, a practical way of ascertaining that fact beyond all doubt, it was suggested today, would be to send up a balloon from one of the warships which are supposed to be at the mouth of the harbor, on a tour of observation. This, it is believed, readily could be done without any great risk or danger to the persons in the airship.

Spanish Need Food.

MADRID, May 29.—It was officially announced today that the Minister for the Colonies, Senor Giron, proposes to offer premiums for vessels carrying provisions to Cuba and Porto Rico.

Spies Becoming Bold.

KEY WEST, Fla., May 29.—An influential resident of Key West, who has always taken an active part in advocating the Cuban cause, says that the doings of Spanish spies here are becoming so notorious that it behooves the authorities at Washington to take immediate action in the matter. These men, he says, hold meetings nightly. Their meeting places are known to the public. One of them is not far from the Government reservation and the Marine Hospital, the other being on Petrona street. The authorities here have repeatedly been cautioned of the doings of these spies, but the government does not appear to place any confidence in the information given.

Prisoners Exchanged.

KEY WEST, May 29.—The correspondents, Charles H. Thrall and Hayden Jones, who had been imprisoned in Cabanas fortress at Havana for two weeks, are again on American soil. Colonel Cortijo, brother-in-law of General Weyer, and Surgeon General Julio, with their soldier servants, captured on the prize steamer Argonauta, were exchanged for Jones and Thrall off Havana last Friday morning.

Terror at San Juan.

MADRID, May 29.—It is announced that the Spanish torpedo boat destroyer Terror has arrived at San Juan de Porto Rico, having evaded the American warships which were watching for her.

American Fleet at Cavite.

HONG KONG, May 29.—The entire American fleet is at Cavite. The report that some of the American ships had sailed for Iloilo, where the Spanish gunboat El Cano is supposed to be, is incorrect. Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader, is with the insurgents between the Americans and the Spaniards.

Cannon Boomed.

COLOS, Columbia, May 29.—A dispatch from Dominica Leeward Islands, reports that cannonading was heard to the southeast of that island last night.

Thinks Fleet Has Escaped.

LO-LO, May 29.—A dispatch to the "Daily Telegraph" from Kingston says: "Despite the most energetic search, the whereabouts of the Spanish Cape Verde squadron remains unknown to the American authorities." On Saturday Cervera was reported to be at Santiago de Cuba, and Schley left Key West for that port.

"The next morning I learned where the squadron was bound, and was enabled to follow aboard the British ship Premier. Since then we have been engaged in a fruitless search for the Spanish in the Gulf and the Caribbean Sea."

"Sunday morning we came up with the American ships off Cienfuegos, and learned that Commodore Schley believed that Admiral Cervera was in the Cien-

fuegos harbor, but owing to the nature of the port it was impossible to learn from the sea whether this information was correct.

"The American squadron, which consisted of the battleships Iowa, Massachusetts, Texas, Brooklyn, Marblehead, Castine, Vixen, Eagle and Dupont, maintained a close blockade of the entrance.

"The topmasts of three or four large ships could be seen in the harbor over the promontory which conceals the entrance, and it was believed that these were the Vizcaya and the other cruisers under Cervera.

"On Tuesday evening the Cuban insurgents sent a boat with positive information that the Spanish fleet was not in Cienfuegos harbor; and just after sunset Commodore Schley's squadron sailed away southeast, bound for Santiago de Cuba.

"We followed in the Premier, and despite a heavy gale from the southeast kept in touch with the squadron until 10 o'clock Wednesday. A severe rain squall then hid the vessels, and when it cleared we found they had altered their course and disappeared.

"We stood along toward Santiago, but as the gale increased in severity and our supply of coal and water was dangerously low, the Premier was obliged to run for Kingston, where she arrived Friday at 6 o'clock.

After losing losing touch of the fleet we sighted the United States gunboat Hawk, which the news that the Spanish fleet under Cervera was not at Santiago. I am afraid there is little chance of meeting the Spanish fleet.

"The probabilities are that Cervera, after discharging ammunition and supplies for Blanco at Santiago, put out again, run down the Caribbean to Martinique and got out into the Atlantic by the same way he entered.

"In this way it appears that the Spanish fleet has completely outmaneuvered the American commanders, and has succeeded in concealing its movements, though the Americans have some seventy war vessels patrolling the West Indian waters.

"It is reported that severe fighting took place between the insurgents and Spaniards near Cienfuegos on Sunday, in which the Spaniards lost 300 killed and wounded.

Startling Rumors.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, May 29.—There is a rumor here, first started last night, but not yet officially confirmed, that the fleet under Commodore Schley forced the channel at Santiago and destroyed Admiral Cervera's Spanish squadron, bombarding the town after the enemy's ships were destroyed. The report emanated from Cuban official circles.

Merritt in Command.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 29.—General Merritt, who will command the American forces in the Philippines, has established his headquarters in this city at the Palace Hotel. He had a long conference with Major General Otis, but will not divulge any of his plans for the future.

General Otis today took up his residence at Fort Richmond and will have the volunteers now encamped there under his eyes at all times. He will enforce strict discipline in the camps from now on.

Captain C. L. Hooper has received instructions from Washington ordering him to proceed to Manila by the next transport to assume command of the cutter Hugh McCollough, to succeed Captain Hodgson, who is ordered home.

It is not expected here that the transport fleet of five vessels, which will make up the second expedition to go to Manila with reinforcements for Admiral Dewey, will get away for at least ten days.

Army Appointments.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The President yesterday sent these army nominations to the Senate:

To be Major-General of Volunteers—Matthew C. Butler, of South Carolina.

To be Brigadier-Generals of Volunteers—James R. Wates, of Texas; Nelson Cole, of Missouri; William C. Oates, of Alabama.

To be Assistant Adjutant-General, with the rank of Major—M. E. Bell, of Missouri.

To be Assistant Quartermasters, with the rank of Captain—Frank Spuire Polk of New York; Amos W. Kimball, of Ohio; Charles J. Goff, of West Virginia; John M. Patton, of Iowa; Richard J. Fanning, of Ohio.

To be Commissaries of Subsistence, with the rank of Captain—Elmer Harrison, of Ohio; Charles Ellet Cabell, of Virginia; Joseph N. Dunsbar, Jr., of Pennsylvania; Winslow S. Lincoln, of Massachusetts.

To be Chief Surgeon, with the rank of Major—Francis Bonner, of Georgia.

To be Assistant Adjutant-General, with the rank of Captain—Theodosius Borkin, of Kansas; Frederick J. Komtze, of Ohio.

To be additional Paymasters—Fred T. Jones, of Ohio; George E. Pickett, of Virginia; Newton C. Foote, of Louisiana; Brewster C. Kenyon, of California; George H. Ray, of North Dakota; Edward S. Fowler, of New York; James S. Harvey, of Florida; William H. Thrift, of Iowa; George D. Sherman, of Illinois; John H. Townsend, of Missouri; Charles Albert Sangle, of Virginia; Daniel M. White, of New Hampshire; John M. Sears, of Tennessee; Winfield M. Clark, of Pennsylvania; James W. Daves, of Nebraska; James Canby, of Colorado; Otto Becker, of Georgia; Louis Knapp, of New York; Samuel D. C. Hays, of Colorado; and Beverly Waugh Coiner, of Washington.

Miss Sarah H. Beach is the guest of friends out of town.

AND WHY ARE MATTERS THUSLY

When the "Git-Together" Club Fails to Meet and Elect Officers.

FRED & CO. DO NOT APPEAR

At the Luxuriously Appointed Apartments on King Street.

The Small Political Dodgers and Disorganizers Will Not Sing "After the Ball is Over," But Instead That Ballad of "Johnnie Git Your Gun."

From the deserted appearance of the headquarters of the "Git-Together" club early on Saturday evening, it is quite evident that no meeting of that would be political "disorganization" was held.

The meeting was to be held for the purpose of electing permanent officers, but from the non-appearance of the members it is possible that the fact that an election was to be held had "purposely" slipped their memory.

At 8:30 o'clock the "luxurious" quarters at 908 King street, furnished with chairs, was in darkness and to a reporter's inquiry as to whether any one had been about, the answer was given.

Think of it, Fred Eden Bach, Mayor H. C. McLearn, Dr. Evan G. Shortidge, Medford H. Cahoon and other "alleged" leaders of such a "powerful" organization failing to materialize on such an important (?) occasion.

What the members who pedestrated that far and found the rooms minus light, will say is a mooted question, and one that will bear "interest" on next Saturday evening when the wire pulling element "Git-Together."

That they will see there, goes without saying, and Fred & Co., will have all they can do to explain their whereabouts without suggesting the means of gaining certain ends at the coming election in November next.

One of the irate members, classed as a small political "dodger," asserted that an excuse to the effect that "Freddie, dear, I'm called away," would not go down and that Mr. Bach and his intimate constituents must formulate a better reason than that for their non-appearance.

The supposition that Fred and his other "trolley-dodgers" were afraid to face the music as there was every indication that there would be more than a "tempest in a teapot" raised if they had appeared, and the chances were that the land or dissatisfied disorganizers would not have rendered "After the Ball is Over" if they had materialized but instead would have sang that beautiful and touching ballad of "Johnnie, Git Your Gun."

They were all cocked and primed to hurl a bombardment of questions at Fred & Co., and it is supposed that some one had the nerve to tell them of the broadside that awaited them.

Another meeting, however, may be possibly held on next Saturday night and the indications point to a hot time with the elements in favor of compelling the "Git-Together" Club to give positions to some of the hungry office seekers and if not they will have the ultimatum sprung on them of sinking into the stage of innocuous desuetude from which they sprang.

Heard Testimony.

DOVER, May 29.—Chancellor Nicholson yesterday heard testimony on the application of Attorney General White for a rule to show cause why the Commercial Insurance Company, of Wilmington, should not be prevented from doing business.

Testimony was given showing the value of the assets of the company, while the evidence for the defense was that the concern does business through a trust company of Chicago.

Amos Cole, who is accused of complicity in the Boggs robbery of the Dover bank, is president of the company and the action was brought by Insurance Commissioner Fowler, who charges that many of the securities of the company are worthless.

Quiet Day at Camp Tunnell.

MIDDLETOWN, May 29.—Very few visitors were at Camp Ebe W. Tunnell today owing to the fact that no special excursion trains were run from Wilmington.

The reason for this was that on last Sunday a crowd of toughs from Wilmington raised a fight on the return train to that city and threatened to do the same thing today.

The boys are very much elated over the fact that they are to be paid on Wednesday. On the same day a court martial will be convened at Camp Tunnell, and over fifty men will be tried for drunkenness, disrespect to officers and desertion.

Rodney Street Presbyterian Church Quartet rendered a special musical program at the Y. M. C. A., 1007 Market street, yesterday afternoon.

Bishop Monaghan will administer the first communion and confirm a large class of girls and boys at the Pro-Cathedral next Sunday.

THE MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

Held in the Grand Opera House and Addressed by Prominent Persons.

TO HONOR THE SOLDIER DEAD

Arrangements All Perfected for Today's Celebration.

Graves to be Decorated and Salutes to be Fired This Morning—The Route of the Parade and Organizations That Will be in Line.

A large audience attended the Memorial Day services held in the Opera House yesterday afternoon at 4.30. Smyth Post, No. 1; duPont Post, No. 2; Phil Sheridan Post, No. 23; Charles Sumner Post, No. 4, colored, and Camp No. 2, Sons of Veterans, attended in a body and filed into the Opera House at 4.15, headed by the Smyth Post Band.

Past Department Commander Liddell acted as master of ceremonies and introduced the speakers.

Patriotic addresses were made by W. S. Hilles, Esq., William Michael Byrne, Esq., Rev. W. J. S. Murray, of St. Paul's M. E. Church; Dr. Tinker, of Asbury M. E. Church; Dr. Harris, of Brandywine M. E. Church, and the Rev. O. G. Budington, of Bethany Baptist Church.

Prof. Jacob T. Clymer had charge of the vocal program.

A quartet composed of Miss Hattie Walthers, Miss Mary Cloud, C. Loomis and L. C. Fritz rendered several patriotic selections, as did a chorus of male voices under the direction of Prof. Clymer.

During the addresses many references were made by the speakers relative to the present struggle between the United States and Spain, and Dr. Tinker in making the closing address said that though this was a war for humanity he hoped to see the stars and stripes not only wave over Cuba and the Philippines, but that it would be planted in the very heart of the Spanish dominion.

The meeting closed at 5.45 with a prayer by Dr. Murray and the singing by the audience of the "Star Spangled Banner."

The stage was profusely decorated with the flag of the nation and numerous G. A. R. Posts flags.

Delegations from different posts attended divine services last night at Asbury M. E. Church.

Among the prominent people who occupied seats on the stage were: Washington Hastings, Colonel A. J. Woodman, Colonel Leitch, Adjutant General of the G. A. R. Riley, W. C. Maris, J. B. Martin, Chaplain McCook of the Second Pennsylvania Volunteers stationed near Pennsylvania, C. S. Arbuckle, G. A. Elliott, M. T. Dannenberg, Mayor McLearn, Sheriff F. Finn, ex-Sheriff Phillip Clark, Stephen Downey, Daniel Ross and others.

PROCEEDINGS TODAY.

The decoration of the graves with flowers will take place this morning and salutes will be fired by squads from the different posts.

Smyth Post will decorate the graves in Asbury, Old Swedes and Riverview cemeteries. Commander William Douglas will lead the detail and firing party.

duPont Post will decorate the graves in the duPont burying ground, Greenhill, Mt. Salem and St. Joseph's cemeteries. L. L. Pierce will command the detail. Grant Post will decorate the graves in the new Cathedral cemetery, John Sheridan Post, with Caleb Woodrow as commander, will decorate the veterans' graves in the Wilmington and Brandywine cemetery. In the afternoon a detail, in charge of W. J. Irwin, will visit Lombardy cemetery, where the graves will be decorated and the usual salute fired.

At 3.30 o'clock this afternoon the parade will take place and all organizations participating will report by that time as follows:

FIRST DIVISION.
Platoon of Police.
Marshal Daniel Ross.
Chief of Staff General Peter B. Ayars.
First Division, General William H. Bentz, Commanding.
Department Commander Robert Liddell and Staff.

Thomas A. Smyth Post, No. 1, G. A. R. William H. Douglas, Commanding.
Admiral S. F. du Pont Post, No. 2, G. A. R., L. L. Pierce, Commanding.
Appomattox Camp, No. 2, Sons of Veterans, Captain Frank P. Gentien, Commanding.

Boys' Brigade, Captain William Haley, Jr., Commanding.
The first division will form, on French street, right resting on Fourth.

SECOND DIVISION.
Major Frank Nealy, Commanding.
Mayor Henry C. McLearn.
City Council and City Officers.
Board of Education.
Chief of Police and Police Commission.
Water Commission.
Board of Health Commission and Officials.

The second division will form on French street, right resting on Fifth. The column will move at 3.30 p. m., over the following route: From Fourth and French streets down French to Third, to Market, to Eleventh, to Delaware avenue, to Jackson, countermarch on Delaware avenue and Eleventh street to Market and dismiss.

Pusey and Jones Company will observe Memorial Day by closing at noon today