

The Madison Daily Leader.

ESTABLISHED 1890.

MADISON, SOUTH DAKOTA WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1896

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Highest of all in Leavening Strength.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

IT IS DISCREDITED

Report That Weyler Returned From Fear Not Believed at Washington.

It Would Be Absurd for Him Longer to Chase After Fleeing Bands.

Report of Summary Courtmartial of Competitor Prisoners Also Doubtful.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The dispatch from Jacksonville, Fla., reciting that a cipher telegram had been received from Havana in which it is stated that General Weyler was driven to return to Havana through fear, is discredited here. The Spanish view of the return of General Weyler is entirely different. In the first place it is said that no cipher telegrams can be sent from Havana, except by the representatives of foreign governments to the government they represent. This, it is claimed, would be true of any place in time of war. Again, it is pointed out that General Weyler is not only commander of the troops, but governor general of Cuba, and in Havana there is a large amount of official business needing his attention. It is stated that in the campaign just made, Weyler has been to the strongholds of the insurgents, passed through many towns and destroyed their supplies. From the Spanish point of view the war at present has resolved itself into chasing small bands of insurgents about the country, and it would be absurd for the captain general to place himself at the head of one company or another of these troops, and follow the straggling bands of insurgents from one cover to another. General Campos was quite severely criticized because he absented himself from Havana for such long periods. As to the assertion that General Weyler says it is too hot to fight, it is said that the rainy season has not yet ended in Cuba, and that the movement of troops is still very difficult. From the Spanish standpoint, there is nothing discouraging in the return of General Weyler.

DIFFICULT OF BELIEF.

Washington Authorities Hardly Credit Reports of Competitor Courtmartial.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The state department has received absolutely no information of any kind from Havana or elsewhere concerning the report that the Competitor prisoners have been tried in Moro castle by a secret and summary courtmartial. Under these circumstances no statement will be made at the department concerning the report, but in view of the plain provisions of our treaty, and also of the clear requirements of the domestic laws of Spain, the officials are loath to believe that the report is correct. It is pointed out that under the law for public order promulgated in Havana some months ago it is absolutely essential that counsel shall be allowed to prisoners on trial, and that there shall be no secrecy in proceedings. Under the protocol of our treaty with Spain, there likewise is a provision for publicity in trials, and for full representation of accused by counsel. It is believed in view of these provisions of law that the authorities at Havana would not make such a flagrant breach of law as the report alleges.

Examination Is Preliminary.

From further inquiries it is apparent that the reports concerning the Competitor's prisoners are at least based on a misconception of the nature of the present proceedings. They have not yet been placed on trial in the general sense of the word, the facts being that the Spanish authorities are making an investigation of the Competitor cases similar to that provided for under our grand jury system, that is, a sort of preliminary examination.

The consuls and vice consuls of Spain, in this country are investigating the claims of the persons arrested to American citizenship. For instance, one of the men claims to be a resident of Kansas, and the consul for that district is engaged in an inquiry as to his citizenship, either by birth or naturalization. From Spanish sources, it is learned that there is no intention of dealing with the Competitor prisoners in a harsh or unjust manner.

Steam Launch Blows Up.

CARRO, Ill., Nov. 25.—The steam launch Pilot, on which C. B. Bryan, J. M. Mitchell, C. N. Peterson and Daniel O'Day, all of Chicago, were preparing to take a pleasure trip to New Orleans, blew up here. Mitchell and Bryan were fatally scalded. The other two are unhurt.

WEYLER'S SIDE

The Cuban Captain General Interviewed by a Newspaper Correspondent.

Tried Hard to Find a Few Insurgents, but Was Unable to Locate Them.

The Campaign, He Alleges, Is in a Highly Satisfactory Condition.

HAVANA, Nov. 25.—The unexpected arrival of Captain General Weyler from the province of Pinar del Rio without having been successful in bringing about an engagement of any importance with the insurgents under Antonio Maceo, is causing considerable comment here, and there are many rumors in circulation. On one side it is asserted that Weyler's return means that he will shortly return to Spain on some plea or other. Notwithstanding this is denied, the impression prevails that there will shortly be important changes here.

La Lucha's correspondent in the field had an interview with the captain-general previous to the latter's arrival here from Artemisa and Mariel and it is gathered from the statements the captain general is said to have made that he may not resume personal charge of the operations against the insurgents in Pinar del Rio. In this review the captain general was asked for an expression of opinion as to the course of the campaign, and he said: "I am contented with it. We entered Rubi, hoping to give battle to the combined insurgent forces and you know the result. They went southward, much to our regret. Maceo himself went towards Mocurrias, Mayria, and Corajal da Yaguas. Nevertheless, our columns, in two divisions, arrived without firing a single shot and only saw a band of about 15 insurgents in the woods near San Luis."

Maceo's Whereabouts Unknown.

The captain general was then asked if he knew the whereabouts of Antonio Maceo at present. He answered: "His whereabouts are not known. The truth is that the insurgents were not found in the mountains nor on the plains. Nevertheless, they boast that our troops always fly before them."

General Weyler was then asked if many cattle remained in the part of Pinar del Rio which he had visited, and he said: "Not many. Only a few bullocks and calves remain. The insurgents have killed or captured most of them and the Spanish columns will finish the rest."

Opinion of the Insurgents.

In insurgent circles it is said that leaders claim that the return of the captain general to Havana without bringing about an engagement with Maceo is equivalent to a defeat of the Spanish forces, for the latter have completely failed to carry out the programme mapped out by the Spanish commander and he has returned here in every way unsuccessful. It is asserted that the plan of Antonio Maceo was to avoid a general engagement with the Spanish troops, as he feels confident that the wearisome campaign being conducted by the Cubans must ultimately exhaust the Spaniards and bring about the concession of all or nearly all the demands of the insurgents.

GOMEZ HEARD FROM.

The Cuban General Has 35,000 Men in His Command.

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—The protracted silence of Commander-in-Chief Maximo Gomez of the Cuban army, which had caused considerable anxiety among Cubans here as to his safety, has at last been broken and the junta in this city has received a communication from him.

In this communication, which comes from Las Villas, Santa Clara province, General Gomez says that he has at his command 35,000 well equipped men, and that with these he intends to proceed to Havana province. The commander-in-chief writes that on account of the bad condition of the roads it took this force of men 12 hours to pass a certain point. General Gomez adds that he is in good health, as are his men, and has every hope of victory.

Burleigh Discharged.

SEATTLE, Nov. 25.—Andrew F. Burleigh has filed a petition with the federal court for his discharge as receiver of the Northern Pacific railway, having closed up the affairs at this end of the old company. Judge Hanford issued an order of discharge.

Bishop Keane Goes to Rome.

SAN JOSE, Nov. 25.—Bishop Keane, former rector of the Catholic university at Washington, has left this city for Rome. His friends here think that he will be made archbishop, perhaps cardinal, with residence in Rome.

Frank P. Slavin Whipped.

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—Bob Armstrong of Chicago defeated Frank P. Slavin of Australia in the fourth round. It was purely a slug-fest match, though advertised as a 20 round glove contest.

Diphtheria Epidemic Abating.

ST. PAUL, Nov. 25.—Dr. Hewitt of Red Wing, secretary of the state board of health, said while at the Hotel Ryan that the recent epidemic of diphtheria at Austin and Owatonna is now under control. "The anti-toxin," he added, "has worked wonders. It could not, of course, be used as a preventive of the disease, but it is certainly a very low cure."

South Dakota Educators Meet.

VERMILION, S. D., Nov. 25.—The Educational association will hold their 14th meeting here Dec. 25 to 31. The meeting promises to be the largest of its kind ever held in the state. Among the prominent speakers on the programme are Superintendent Frank I. Crane, Professor H. E. Kratz, L. L. French, W. W. Garton and others.

The Death of Campanini.

ROME, Nov. 25.—The only particulars obtainable at present regarding the death of Ilmo Campanini, the great tenor, is that he died at his own home near Parma, seven days ago, after a long illness.

Over Six Hundred Co.-firmed.

WINONA, Minn., Nov. 25.—The largest class in the history of St. Stanislaus Polish church of Winona was confirmed by Bishop Carter. Six hundred and fifty candidates were received into the church.

A Few Chinese Ministers.

PEKIN, Nov. 25.—Lo Fengle, Wu Tingfang and Hwang Tsum Hsen have been appointed respectively Chinese ministers to London, Washington and Berlin. Yan Yu, the Chinese minister at Washington has been transferred to St. Petersburg.



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