

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Wednesday, September 19.

The United States Intervenes in Cuba.

By the 12th the United States government had four cruisers and one gunboat in or near Cuban waters, following in the wake of the Des Moines, reported last week as ordered to Key West (p. 559). The insurgents continued advancing. By the 13th they were in complete control of the province of Pinar del Rio, and of Santa Clara province except the city of Santa Clara, and held Havana province up to within a mile of the city of Havana. Under date of the 11th the insurgents issued the following proclamation to the American people, from their "Headquarters in the Field," near Cruces, Santa Clara province:

To the American People: Difficulties have arisen among us regarding questions of liberty and law or of peace. We do not ask for sympathy. We ask only an open field, that we may settle with Cubans and for Cubans the issues that we have joined.

There has come a time in the history of this republic when the only way to secure a permanent and righteous peace safe in regard to constitutional liberties is by war. Under the empty name of a republic the shackles of the overthrown Spanish dominion have again been imposed upon us.

Our constitution has been cast aside with contemptuous egotism. Royal laws of ancient regime have been revived and issued to us with the very forms and words of royal Spanish decrees. Absolutism is again fastening itself upon Cuba, and in the more dangerous guise and formulas of a republican system that is but the shell of democratic ideals, it has become necessary to resort to arms, not for war if it can possibly be avoided, but as a demonstration before the court of last resort that the spirit that for a century has fought against royal oppression still endures and will suffer again the hardships of campaigns rather than yield the fruits of their hard won liberties by a vast majority.

Cuba is with us. If the present administration in Havana so chooses it will be war. No longer will we be tricked by commissioners from Palma and armistices whose authority and validity he then denies. The intervention of the United States we do not wish. It is our own Cuban question—a question of our rights and liberties—that we ourselves must settle. And in considering the question we ask consideration of the fact that it is one fraught with more consequences to Cuba than of momentary commercial loss or gain.

The rights and properties of Americans will be respected by our forces. That all in Cuba will suffer as the result of the depression due to war is unfortunate and inevitable, but it is the Cubans, our countrymen, who will suffer most, and with their patriotism they are gladly accepting the sacrifice, for out of it will emerge the firmer rights and absolute liberties of real constitutional government.

To those Americans who believe in the liberties of all peoples, and that right and justice should triumph even

over peace, we present to your sympathies our cause.

(Signed)

EDUARDO GUZMAN, General Defe la Division de las Villas.

ORESTES FERRARA, General de Brigada Sabino Caballero.

JACINTO PORTALLO, Colonel Abelardo Rodriguez dey Rey Teniente.

Chiefs of the army in Santa Clara province.

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On the 14th President Roosevelt addressed a letter on the subject of intervention to Mr. Donzalo de Quesada, the Cuban Minister to the United States. After giving expression to his friendly sentiments and his hopes for Cuba, the President said:

Our intervention in Cuban affairs will only come if Cuba herself shows that she has fallen into the insurrectionary habit, that she lacks the self-restraint necessary to her peaceful self-government, and that her contending factions have plunged the country into anarchy.

I solemnly adjure all Cuban patriots to band together to sink all differences and personal ambitions, and to remember that the only way that they can preserve the independence of their republic is to prevent the necessity of outside interference, by rescuing it from the anarchy of civil war.

I earnestly hope that this word of adjuration of mine, given in the name of the American people, the staunchest friends and well wishers of Cuba that there are in all the world, will be taken as it is meant, will be seriously considered, and will be acted upon, and if so acted upon Cuba's permanent independence, her permanent success as a republic, are assured.

Under the treaty with your government I, as President of the United States, have a duty in this matter which I cannot shirk. The third article of that treaty explicitly confers upon the United States the right to intervene for the maintenance in Cuba of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty.

The treaty conferring this right is the supreme law of the land and furnishes me with the right and the means of fulfilling the obligation that I am under to protect American interests. The information at hand shows that the social bonds throughout the island have been so relaxed that life, property, and individual liberty are no longer safe.

I have received authentic information of injury to and destruction of American property. There should be cessation of hostilities and some arrangement made which will secure the permanent pacification of the islands.

I am sending to Havana the Secretary of War, Mr. Taft, and the Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Bacon, as the special representatives of this government, who will render such aid as is possible toward these ends. I had hoped that Mr. Root, the Secretary of State, could have stopped in Havana on his return from South America, but the seeming imminence of the crisis forbids further delay.

Through you I desire in this way to communicate with the Cuban government and with the Cuban people, and, accordingly, I am sending you a copy of this letter to be presented to President Palma, and have also directed its immediate publication.

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The Cuban Congress met in special session on the 14th (p. 559), and though lacking one or two of a quorum in both Senate and House, proceeded to meet the crisis by granting full powers to President Palma to carry on the war, including the right to appropriate any public funds for war purposes; revoking appropriations voted at the preceding session

of Congress, in order to permit the diversion of the moneys involved to prosecution of the war, and authorizing increases of the rural guards to 10,000, and the artillery to 2,000 men. With the approach of the American emissaries a truce was called by President Palma, but apparently with only temporary effect, according to the dispatches, although the following letter from General Castillo, the commander of the insurgents in Havana province, to Mr. Sleeper, the American chargé d'affaires at Havana, was reported on the 17th:

In view of the letter of the President of the United States to the Palma government, I have the honor to inform you that we are disposed to suspend hostilities in order to facilitate peace efforts, provided these are based on new general elections, with guarantees of justice and legality, and on the resignation of the present forced administration and guarantees that the peace be lasting.

The revolutionists do not intend to permit government by force. They insist that the people possess the inviolable right of electing congress and provincial and municipal officers. We have no candidates, but we shall never permit elections manipulated by executive fraud and violence to stand.

If through the mediation of Mr. Roosevelt's government and a fair construction of the laws, honest elections ensue, the people who are in arms will suspend operations as soon as you secure a similar disposition on the part of Palma. With other interests and respecting the majesty of the government we sincerely hope for a peace which shall cement justice and honesty through the arbitration of the President of the United States.

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On the 19th Secretary Taft and Mr. Bacon arrived in Havana.

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Politics in the United States.

After the adoption of its platform (p. 558), the State convention of the Independence League in New York, nominated on the 12th a full State ticket. Inasmuch as large numbers of delegates to the Democratic convention to be held next week were known to favor the nomination by the Democrats of William Randolph Hearst for governor, it had been supposed that the Independence League might nominate Mr. Hearst, and then, without making any further nominations take a recess until after the Democratic convention, so as to make fusion between the two parties possible. But this policy was voted down by the delegates to the League convention, and the following candidates were nominated:

Governor, William Randolph Hearst; lieutenant governor, Louis Stuyvesant Chanler; secretary of state, John S. Whalen; treasurer, George A. Fuller; controller, C. H. W. Auel; state engineer and surveyor, Frank L. Getman; attorney general, John Ford. Mr. Hearst appeared personally before the convention, accepting the nomination in an informal speech and promising a formal letter later.

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On the 11th the Republican convention of Ohio (p. 489) organized at Dayton. A sensational incident was the speech of Senator Foraker, in which he defended his right to oppose President Roosevelt or any other man, and declared that the convention must not indorse him as senator nor the party re-

elect him if his methods were not liked. Senators Foraker and Dick, leading the Hanna faction of the party, dominated the convention on the 12th. A reform movement led by Congressman Burton of Cleveland to oust Senator Dick as chairman of the State executive committee was defeated by 573 to 285. Both senators were endorsed, and Carmi A. Thompson was nominated for secretary of state. The platform demands the maintenance of the Republican policy of protection and the correction of tariff schedules along protective lines and by the Republican party.

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In Colorado the Democrats nominated Alva Adams (vol. vii, p. 805) for governor on the 13th. The platform endorses Bryan for President. On the 15th the Republicans nominated Philip B. Stewart for governor. The Democratic convention in California (p. 560) endorsed Bryan for President and nominated Theodore A. Bell for governor on the 12th; and on the same day the Democratic convention of Connecticut nominated Charles F. Thayer for governor. On the 14th the Democratic convention of Wyoming nominated S. A. D. Kelster for governor. The Republican convention for New Hampshire met on the 18th. After 9 ballots in a hard struggle by Winston Churchill (p. 506) against the railroad candidate, Charles M. Floyd, the latter was nominated, the vote being 408 for him, and 335 for Churchill, with 56 scattered. Churchill succeeded in getting into the platform demands for the abolition of railroad passes and for a registration of lobbyists.

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Mr. Bryan's Speaking Trip.

Leaving St. Louis where he spoke on the 11th (p. 561), Mr. Bryan went to Louisville, speaking there on the 12th to an audience of 2,000. Explaining here his New York speech on government ownership of railroads, he said:

I have spoken for myself and myself alone. I did not know how the suggestion would be received, but it has not been treated as harshly as I thought possibly it might be treated. There is this, however, I do expect, namely, that those Democrats who oppose government ownership will accompany their declaration with the assertion that they will favor government ownership whenever they are convinced that the country must choose between government ownership of the roads or railroad ownership of the government.

On the 13th Mr. Bryan spoke in Cincinnati, Ohio, to 10,000, on the 17th at Raleigh, Durham, Burleigh and Greensboro, N. C., and on the 18th at Charlotte, N. C.

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Progress of Chicago Traction Movement.

The last act but one in the legal phases of the movement for municipal ownership of the traction service of Chicago (p. 560) took place in the court room of Judge Thomas G. Windes of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, on the 16th, when Judge Windes delivered his opinion in support of the Mueller law and the ordinance adopted pursuant to it by the Chicago City Council.

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The argument, which occupied several days, had been made by leading lawyers in opposition to the