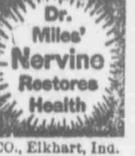


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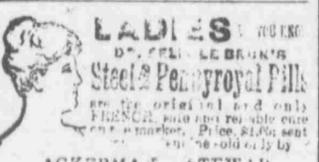
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**CUBA UNDER PEACE.**

MINISTER PALMA ON THE FUTURE OF THE ISLAND.

Says First Work After Peace Is Feeding of Natives—Thinks Cubans May Want Annexation Ultimately—Believes Spaniards Should Have No Vote on Annexation.

Tomas Estrada Palma, delegate at large of the Cuban republic, said recently at the office of the Cuban junta in New York city, when asked what steps would be taken by his government upon the declaration of peace: "The first thing to be done by the Cuban patriots in America after the blockade has been raised will be to send immediate relief to the starving Cubans in the field. Money which otherwise would have been spent for arms and ammunition will be devoted to the purchase of food, clothing and medicine for the Cuban soldiers and for their families."

"Without raising the issue of who should govern Cuba, we feel that we will have the hearty co-operation of the United States government in this matter of relieving starvation. That comes first, as a humanitarian necessity. The relief will be sent immediately, with the permission of the American government, and, so far as the Cuban republic is concerned, for the present we will follow the custom of old by turning the swords into plowshares and try to get down to actual as well as theoretical peace as speedily as possible."

"What will the government of the republic of Cuba do as a government?" was asked. "The leading men of that government, from President Maso down, have implicit confidence in the declaration of the United States government that it went to war not for the acquisition of Cuba, but to free the island for the Cubans. Personally I believe that it is only a question of time when the people of Cuba will wish annexation, but at the present time there are many, especially among those who went into the field against the Spaniards, whose aim and ambition have been independence. Any policy of the United States which attempted to force annexation before the people were ready might cause considerable internal trouble."

"How soon after the declaration of peace do you think the question of annexation or independence could be brought up?" was asked. "It may take several months for the Spanish government to remove its soldiers from the island. After the Spanish soldiers have gone away there will be left only about 120,000 Spaniards. Many of those might renounce allegiance to the Spanish government. But assuming that there would remain 100,000 Spaniards on the island, that is a small number in comparison with the 1,200,000 native Cubans. While the Spanish troops are being removed I think that the United States government would be wise in consulting unofficially the wishes of the large native population. The American provisional government, which will no doubt be of a military character, can do much toward strengthening the gratitude which the native Cubans already feel for the United States for having freed them from the Spanish yoke. In what way the United States should try to get the opinion of the people of Cuba, whether by popular election or otherwise, is one of the problems which it will have to solve. But no matter in what way the American government goes about it it will always find the native Cubans not only willing but anxious to help the Americans in the solution of the problem."

"If there should be an election on the subject of annexation or independence, do you think the 100,000 Spaniards on the island ought to be allowed to vote?" "Certainly not," replied Mr. Palma. "It is true that they are part of the Cuban population, but their interests have never been with the Cubans. Only on one condition should any native Spaniard be allowed to vote in Cuba on any question, and that is that he should publicly renounce his allegiance to Spain."

"How about protecting the property of the Spaniards in Cuba?" "The honor and dignity of the native Cuban government would compel it to respect the property and persons of all inhabitants, even of the Spaniards." "How about the liberation of prisoners for political offenses?" "That will be the next desire on the part of the native Cubans after food, clothing and medicines have been supplied to the needy. The liberation of political prisoners is something which should come so quickly that we feel confident that the temporary American government on the island will liberate them all before the question of annexation or independence is brought up."

"How about the retention of Spanish officers in civil offices in Cuba?" "The native Cubans, who are as ten to one compared with the Spaniards numerically, would be much more easily governed by anybody but Spaniards. They would have very little faith in the profession of allegiance on the part of a Spanish officerholder."

"And as we know it will be the desire of the American government to rule Cuba temporarily with as much tranquillity as possible, we feel confident

that after peace has been declared the temporary American government in Cuba will put men in office whose sympathy is with the native Cubans and who stand for the policy of liberty for which the American government went to war. By dismissing from office every native Spaniard and putting in office conservative Cubans all traces of Spanish government, so hateful to the native Cubans, will be removed. We have every confidence that the United States government will eventually turn over the island of Cuba to the people free and independent, and personally I believe that it will not be long after that that Cuba will be one of the many proud states of the Union."—New York Sun.

**AFTERMATH OF THE WAR**

More Important Developments in Establishing Peace.

**Dewey Reports Manila's Fall.**  
Admiral Dewey's official announcement of the bombardment and surrender of Manila was received in Washington Wednesday. It read: "Manila surrendered Aug. 13 to the American land and naval forces after a combined attack. A division of the squadron shelled the forts and entrenchments at Malate, on the south side of the city, driving back the enemy, our army advancing from that side at the same time."

"City surrendered about 5 o'clock, the American flag being hoisted by Lieutenant Brumby (a Georgian). About 7,000 prisoners were taken. The squadron had no casualties, none of the vessels were injured." "On Aug. 7 General Merritt and I formally demanded the surrender of the city, which the Spanish governor general refused."

**Davis on Peace Commission.**  
Senator Cushman Davis, chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, Wednesday accepted the tender of an appointment as a member of the Spanish-American peace commission.

**Merritt Cables Washington.**  
The war department received a dispatch from General Merritt Thursday reporting the fall of Manila and giving details of the demand for surrender and incidents preliminary to the final capture of the city.

General Merritt estimated the American killed and wounded at 50.

**Instructions to Merritt.**  
The war department sent General Merritt a dispatch Thursday giving him instructions for the government of the Philippine islands, all of which, it was announced, had been surrendered to America.

Our commander was ordered to require the insurgents and all others to recognize the authority of the United States.

**Spanish Commissions Named.**  
The Spanish government announced Thursday that Generals Blanco and Castellanos and Admiral Manterola had been appointed commissioners to act with Americans in arranging for the evacuation of Cuba and Generals Macias and Ortega and Admiral Vailarino for Porto Rico.

**Awful Crimes in Santiago?**  
The Fifth infantry of regulars and Twentieth Kansas volunteers were ordered to Santiago de Cuba Thursday, from which point news of a disquieting nature had been received.

A special dispatch to an Atlanta paper charged the Second and Fifth regiments of immunes with shocking crimes, alleging that no discipline prevailed and that the troops committed robbery, murder, rape and arson at will.

**Meeting of the Cabinet.**  
The cabinet session Friday was brief. The disbandment of the army and the naval review scheduled to occur at New York Saturday were the main points of discussion. As to the former, Secretary Alger stated the details were being worked out and considerable difficulty was being experienced in selecting the regiments to be put on the mustering out list, but he expected the matter would be in shape for the issuance in a few days of the necessary orders.

**General Wheeler in Charge.**  
General Joseph Wheeler Friday formally assumed command of Camp Wikoff at Montauk Point, L. I.

**Question For the Peace Board.**  
Dispatches from Madrid Saturday said Spain would claim indemnity from the United States for all government property in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

This was looked upon in Washington as one of the many vexatious problems the peace commission would be called on to settle.

**Naval Review at New York.**  
The victorious American warships, including the Indiana, Oregon, Iowa, Texas, Brooklyn and New York, reached New York harbor Saturday from Cuban waters and were reviewed by an immense concourse of people, moving up Hudson river amid tumultuous cheers to the tomb of General U. S. Grant and firing a national salute of 21 guns.

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