

THAT "ROUND ROBIN" WAS REALLY A REVOLT

His Generals Advised Shafter to Disobey Orders from Washington.

SAY ALGER AND STERNBERG WERE TO BLAME.

The Theorists at the National Capital Did Not Know That Disease Had Conquered the Men Who Whipped the Spaniards.

WHEN the commanders under General Shafter issued their so-called "round robin" at Santiago, declaring "This army must be moved at once or perish," the declaration came as a shock to the people of the United States, and the emphatic assertions contained in the manifesto indicated a condition bordering on insubordination.

The fact is that there were indications of insubordination among the commanders, but the protest was against orders issued from Washington by Secretary Alger and Surgeon-General Sternberg, the theorists at the capital sending to the front absolute instructions, which those who were confronted with the actual conditions knew could not be carried out.

This is the story of the participant in the meeting: Disease Would Have Won a Spanish Victory.

"After the surrender of General Toral, General Shafter asked some of the army surgeons: 'Can this army be taken back to the United States without danger of starting an epidemic of yellow fever?'"

"Certainly," said the general's advisers. "If yellow fever should break out on the transports the patients can be transferred to the hospital ships and isolated."

"Where would you advise sending the men?"

"To some place on the New England coast."

"Why not Tampa?"

"That would result in a needless yellow fever scare in the South."

"The men by this time were dropping by the dozen, by the hundreds. Health conditions had become alarming. We all then knew that if the Spaniards had held out for two or three weeks longer, the campaign would have resulted in the greatest defeat the arms of the United States have ever known."

"Already we had about 3,500 to 3,800 men reported on the sick list. But that was nothing. Out of our 22,000 men, at least 75 per cent were really sick. Nearly all were taking medicine. The fact was that had there been any fighting to do, we could not have mustered 5,000 efficient fighting men."

The Easy Theory and the Sad Condition.

"With the army in this condition, down came an absolute order from Secretary Alger and Surgeon-General Sternberg, which caused the deepest anger and the greatest consternation. That order was that camp should be moved two miles every day. Each day the old camp was to be destroyed by fire, and the new camp ground was to be fired before the camp was made. The sick on each day were to be isolated, and left behind. So we were to move on, burning and isolating, burning and isolating, until the time should come when there should be no more sick."

"This was Sternberg's insane theory as to how disease was to be stamped out. Well, any man who knew that army and knew the work necessary in breaking camp, knew that it was physically impossible to carry out such an order. Why, few of the men were able to walk a mile, much less to carry a gun, and still less to move the baggage. Sternberg and Alger were working on a theory. We were face to face with a condition."

San Luis a Worse Pest Hole Than Santiago.

"Shafter wanted to send the troops home. But here was the order from Washington right in his face. So he asked his commanders to meet and bring their surgeons with them, so that the actual condition of the army might be ascertained and the facts transmitted to Washington."

"The meeting was held on August 3. Each commander brought his division surgeon and his regimental surgeons. Just as the meeting was held, down came another order from Alger. The scheme for breaking camp each day, burning and isolating, had been abandoned. The new order was to transfer the entire army to San Luis, twenty-five or thirty miles away on the line of the railroad."

"Now, I suppose those Washington theorists supposed we had a railroad at our command with which we could do anything in the way of transportation. The fact was, that railroad, if in repair, would have enabled us to move 400 or 500 men a day. You can figure for yourself how long it would have taken to move 22,000 men. These men couldn't march to San Luis. We had no transportation facilities other than that little, narrow-gauge railroad, with its cars ten or twelve feet long, for moving the camp equipment and impediments, and a big bridge on the railroad had been burned and was not repaired for a week or ten days after that."

"More than this, San Luis was a far worse place for the camp than where we were. At San Luis it rained nearly all the time. Where we were it only rained each afternoon. There was no reason to suppose that fever conditions would have been in any way bettered if the move could have been made."

Kent and Roosevelt Advised Insubordination.

"So when General Shafter read this latest order to that meeting there was an outburst of indignation. Each commander had had his say; each surgeon had made his report. All agreed that it was necessary to send the troops home unless their lives were to be sacrificed. They knew the attempt to move to San Luis would have taken about two months, and that the order to break camp every day was the frivolous dream of a theorist."

"If I were you, General Shafter, I would absolutely ignore those orders from Washington," declared General Hates, emphatically. "I would put those men on the transports and send them back to the United States. Then I'd let those people at Washington deal with us afterward."

"I hope you'll telegraph those men at Washington that any one who keeps our troops here is guilty of murder," said Colonel Roosevelt.

Give Us Home or Give Us Death.

"I am going to send a telegram to the effect that if the army is kept here we will take nothing back but mortuary reports," said General Shafter.

"Then Roosevelt asked General Shafter if he would not like to have the opinions of his officers in writing, and this resulted in the so-called Round Robin. The fact was, the medical department at Washington were issuing idiotic orders for the eradication of disease in camp, and those orders could not be carried out. Sternberg and his medical department are responsible. For I suppose Alger looked to the doctors to advise as to his orders."

"At that time you couldn't see a well man about you. Officers and men were affected alike. They didn't complain, but they dropped right and left. The thing hit them like a bullet. I took touch with General Randolph one day, and he looked fit and well. At 3 o'clock the same day I saw him and hardly recognized him. He had had his chill."

Disease Dropped Them One by One.

"There was no possibility of getting away from disease. Drink boiled water, eat the best of foods, it made no difference. The strange fact was that the men who paid the least attention to sanitary regulations were the last to fall—but all fell in time. The truth is, certain diseases are indigenous to that country and that climate. Practically every man who goes there is affected. The Spanish officers told me they died like sheep when they came to the country. One of their battalions (which with them a regiment had been there two years and had lost 85 per cent of its men by disease. One regiment were well fed the first few days, but the diseases of the country caught them just the same."

"The yellow fever was not the trouble. It was malarial fever, dysentery and diarrhoea which we feared, and there was no escape. The yellow fever was mild or moderate, and the experts were wrong at variance about it. One said everything was yellow fever, another that there was none. Malarial fever is as deadly as yellow fever."

Malignant Yellow Fever Menacing Them in Front.

"But, according to the Spaniards, yellow fever would have been malignant and epidemic there in November and December, and yet those Washington theorists wanted to keep us there to meet it. Santiago had practically no yellow fever. There were only six cases, all convalescent, in the hospital when we took charge of the city. But I want to note a peculiarity of these diseases in that climate. While the Spaniards remained under cover in Santiago their death rate was small. We found in the hospitals 488 wounded (all the wounded except five, who were taken to our men), 877 cases of malarial fever, 100 of dysentery, 107 of diarrhoea, 8 of pernicious malaria, 2 leprosy, 12 insane, 25 of skin diseases, 23 of venereal diseases, 25 result of starvation—a total of 1,800 sick."

"But just as soon as those Spaniards were moved out of the town into camp they began to get from 100 to 200 sick cases every day. The death rate rose from 15 a month to about 15 a day. The same was true of the refugees from Santiago, who went to El Cuzco. When they were in Santiago they were nominally healthy, but under exposure they died off 25 or more a day."

"If our army had remained there one year it is certain that 60 per cent of the men would have died. The Spaniards showed us that they had lost in that proportion. So is it any wonder that officers advised disobedience of the orders from Washington when it was proposed to keep us in that place to face almost certain death when there was absolutely no necessity for it?"

"This was the genesis of the Round Robin. It seems to have had the effect of bringing the Washington theorists to their senses. It saved the lives of thousands of brave men."

FOURTEEN DEATHS ON A CATTLESHIP TRANSPORT.

ARMY HORRORS OF ONE DAY--AUGUST 31.

THE worst Death Ship yet to reach Montauk arrived yesterday. She was the CATTLE transport Alleghany with the Ninth Massachusetts Volunteers. Fourteen men died on the voyage. Their bodies were thrown overboard.

Private John Wagner, Company H, Seventeenth Infantry, Regular Army, hanged himself from the ridgepole of his tent at Camp Wikoff. He had been denied admission to the hospital and was delirious from suffering.

Private John J. Quilty, of the Seventy-first, received a second burial at the hands of his parents. He died at Camp Wikoff and was buried without notification to his parents, who went there Saturday expecting to see him. Delicacies they had sent to him had never been delivered. He died believing his parents had deserted him.

Private Percy E. McKeever, of the Seventy-first, died from the effects of hardship and starvation in Mount Sinai Hospital.

Orderly Stanley, of the Ninth New York, told of autopsies performed with needless haste on the bodies of privates.

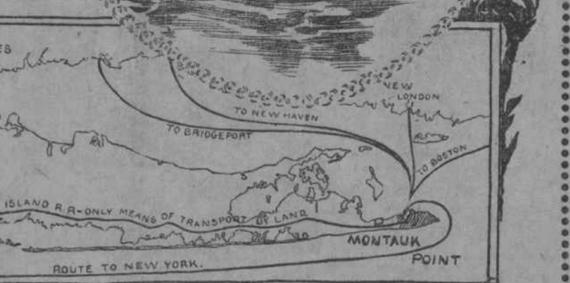
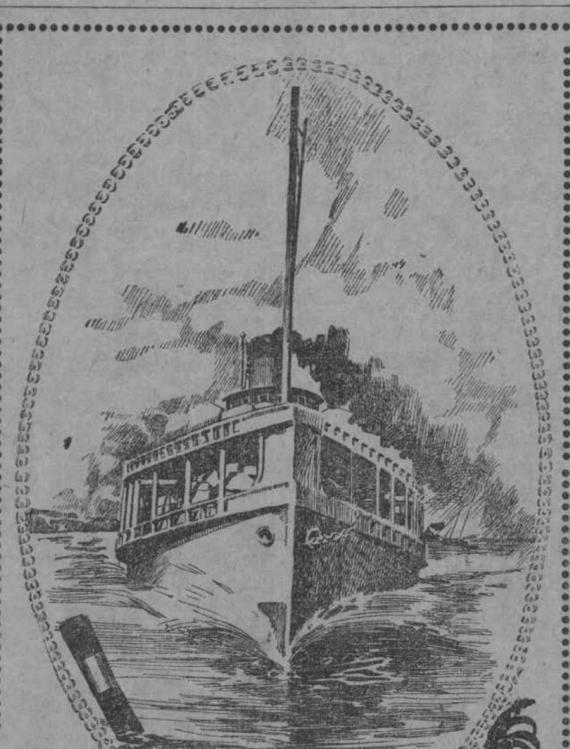
CAMP WIKOFF, Montauk Point, Aug. 31.—Thirteen men died during the terrible voyage of the transport Alleghany, which arrived here to-day from Santiago. Another fell overboard and was lost. This is the heaviest death list of any of the transports so far, but those who have seen the vessel need no explanation of this.

For seven days the first eight companies of the Ninth Massachusetts have been herded in the old cattle ship. Dr. Magruder and the other inspecting officers were loud in their condemnation of the state of affairs they found on board of the ship. They said she should never have been used to transport even well troops, much less sick and weakened soldiers. The ship was a cattle transport, totally unfitted for the work out for her. Her conditions were put on board, and according to Dr. Magruder, it was frightful before she arrived here.

Of the 625 men yet left aboard, 480 are able to care for themselves or are cared for by their comrades, who are little better than the sick. There are 145 men sick. Some of these are very low and probably will not recover. The quarantine officers say the wonder is so few died on the trip. Dr. Magruder visited the Alleghany in a tug. He returned to the quarantine dock with a sad face. He reported the conditions on board far worse than on any other transport that has arrived. None of the men on board was landed, and hence details of the voyage with death aboard all the time could not be obtained. Of the 145 sick none has an infectious disease.

Not Fitted for the Work.

The ship was hastily fitted out as a troop ship when Shafter's army was to be taken to Cuba. It is said the sick had no accommodations such as they had on even the poorest of the other transports. The names of those who died are Walter J. Tilton and Walter Small, of Lowell; M. F. Gaughan, Joe Donovan, James A. Conroy, Thomas J. Murphy, Patrick J. Donahue and Robert F. Flint, of Boston; Michael J. Healey and Charles C. McMann, of Worcester; Austin Dumar, West Roxbury; J. F. Dunn, Roxbury, and



Relief Boat Lenox, the Best Means of Sending Supplies.

THOSE who wish to contribute to the comfort of the soldiers at Montauk will do well to send them by way of the Lenox, chartered by the Merchants' Relief Association. The accompanying map shows the comparison between the land and water routes, with the advantage by way of the steamer.

Stephen J. Ryan, Lawrence, Edward F. Sullivan, of Worcester, fell overboard on their return to New York.

One explanation for the fearful mortality and for the great numbers of sick is that nearly all the sick of the regiment were taken on board a few remaining in the hospital at Santiago. The voyage was a long one, the vessel having left Cuba on August 22.

The auxiliary cruiser Panther, which left after the Alleghany with Companies I and M of the Ninth Massachusetts, arrived here three hours ahead of the transport.

The Panther brought 106 men, of whom fifteen were sick. The only death during the voyage was of Private Charles A. Braden, of Lowell, who fell overboard and was drowned.

Private John Wagner, of Company H, Seventeenth Infantry, committed suicide last night by hanging himself to the ridge pole of his tent. He was found there this morning by the guards.

Wagner was suffering from malaria and had been delirious for the last thirty-six hours. The hospital could not accommodate him. The regimental surgeon ordered a guard around his tent, fearing Wagner would do himself harm.

In an unguarded moment he leaped from his cot and, making fast around his neck the rope which held the canvas to the pole, he raised his feet from the ground and was dead within a few minutes.

Constant lookout was kept to-day for the steamer City of Mexico, aboard of which is General William B. Shafter and his staff. General Wheeler expects General Shafter to remain at this camp and take charge. Wheeler becoming second in command. The officers about headquarters, however, think General Shafter will go on to Washington to report in person to the Secretary of War.

WILL TURN HOME INTO HOSPITAL.

Mrs. Lange, Volunteer Nurse, Has a Plan to Assist Convalescents.

The wife of Dr. Hugo Lange, of No. 655 Bedford avenue, Williamsburg, who has been a volunteer nurse at Camp Wikoff, returned from Montauk Point yesterday, and announced her intention of turning her home into a hospital. She brought with her two convalescent soldiers, who are not suffering from any form of contagious or infectious disease, and will care for them

at her own expense until they are well. The men are Private William Philip Partridge, of the First District of Columbia Volunteers, and Private Fairbanks. They are on furlough.

It is Mrs. Lange's intention to place all her household goods in storage and provide her house with cots. No soldiers with contagious or infectious diseases will be received. Mrs. Lange says there is plenty of room for volunteer help, and she believes there will be ample supplies given in the way of wine and delicacies to maintain all the patients in her hospital.

"While sick soldiers are here they can write to their relatives, who may know that all are being well cared for," she says. "My hospital will be only for convalescents and for those soldiers who are far away from home or have no friends."

THIS HERO CAME HOME TO DIE.

Private McKeever, of the 71st, Could Not Be Saved After His Return.

Percy E. McKeever, a private of the Seventy-first Regiment, died at Mt. Sinai Hospital yesterday. McKeever was taken to the hospital Tuesday suffering from typhoid-malarial fever. The entire staff of Mt. Sinai Hospital worked to save his life, but this was found to be impossible. He was so emaciated and weakened by lack of food and attention that he sank slowly from the time he entered the hospital. McKeever's father and mother were present when he died.

SURGEONS ADD TO CAMP HORRORS

Orderly Stanley, of the Ninth New York, who arrived in Jersey City yesterday in charge of sick from Chickamauga, was especially bitter against some of the surgeons at Chickamauga.

He said they did not show any respect for the dead. The orderly declared that when Private Charles Nunn died last Saturday his body was cut up by the surgeons within two hours. It was in connection with this case that charges have already

been preferred by Captain O'Connor, of the Ninth.

The orderly also cited the case of Private Graham and declared that an autopsy was being made on his body an hour after his death. Orderly Stanley said Adjutant King was making an investigation and that he expected immediate orders to return South to assist in the investigation.

MUSTER OUT OF ROUGH RIDERS.

Command to Be Discharged at Once and Its Members Sent Home.

Camp Wikoff, Montauk Point, Aug. 31.—The Rough Riders are to be mustered out at once, under orders telegraphed from Washington. The work of taking account of equipment was begun to-day, and it is not improbable that the men will be out of the Government service by the end of the week.

There are one hundred of them sick in hospitals here, and more than that number have been left dead or wounded in Cuba. The men would like to be mustered out at their homes, as they expected a sixty days' furlough with transportation home and back. If mustered out in camp they will be given transportation to the place where they enlisted. Many of the Western men went all the way to Tampa to enlist, and they do not want to be sent back there. The boys all look forward with great joy to their holiday outing in New York, as many of them have never seen the town.

The Rough Riders were on dress parade to-day for the first time since they went into camp. They rode all over the upper end of the island.

CAMP BLACK HAS 75 IN HOSPITAL.

Camp Black, Hempstead Plains, L. I., Aug. 31.—There were seventy-five men in the hospital to-day, all suffering from malarial fever. This is the way the regimental surgeons diagnose their disease, but in order that there can be no mistake, Major B. S. Booth, Surgeon of the Two Hundred and Third Regiment, to-day sent one blood from two of the men to a bacteriolo-

SOLDIERS IN BOX CARS BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Long Island Railroad Agreed to Carry Them in Sleeping or Parlor Cars.

WHOLE SEAT TO EACH MAN PROVIDED FOR.

Its Excuse Is That It Gave the Best It Could, but Uncle Sam Paid for the Best and the Sick Men Got the Worst.

THE only explanation given yesterday by the Long Island Railroad Company of its sending 103 soldiers, many of them ill or wounded, in box cars from Camp Wikoff to Long Island City on Tuesday, was that the cars were the "best they could offer" for the purpose.

This exploit of the company, told in yesterday's Journal, set the friends of every man in camp at Montauk alight with indignation, and set them to asking questions. Here were a hundred men bundled like cattle into freight cars and jolted along the weary ride from one end of Long Island to the other. People asked what right the railroad had to do it.

According to the War Department officials at Washington, with the added testimony of Captain Wm. Robinson, who has charge of the transportation of soldiers on furlough, the company had no right to treat the soldiers as cattle.

What the Contract Called For.

The contract which President Baldwin had to sign in Washington embraces this condition:

Each soldier must have a seat to himself—not the half of a seat allowed to ordinary passengers—in a passenger car.

If the journey is longer than six hours, the soldier traveling—even the soldier going home on a furlough in good health—is entitled to a seat in a sleeping or drawing room car.

What the Soldiers Got.

This is what the sick soldiers from Camp Wikoff got:

A ride in a freight car without springs, not the half of a seat allowed to ordinary passengers.

A bed of straw piled a foot deep on the floor of the car, which every soldier has for some of the sleepless hours.

There was the ordinary ventilation of the box car, which every traveler has observed from his passenger coach to be none too copious.

The Long Island Railroad has a large and good suburban service, which enables for the movement of many thousands of passengers daily. It could not find any cars

suitable for fulfilling its contract with the Government, and was compelled, according to the excuse made by its officials, to draw upon its freight equipment.

In connection with this statement was made at the War Department that the Government had not greatly taxed the Long Island Railroad's passenger equipment, for only between four and five thousand troops from the South have been hauled from Long Island City to Montauk Point since Camp Wikoff was opened.

It was said that the officials here and at Washington believed that the incident as reported was true. Being assured of this by a Journal correspondent, a War Department official said:

"The railroad company, then, should be held responsible for this. The officers in charge should not have permitted this breach of contract. A captain recently in charge at Lynchburg had transportation offered for his men which was not according to the contract. He told the railroad people that he would accept it, adding that he would camp there in Lynchburg until he got the kind of service to which his men were entitled. And he got it."

No Competition for Them.

It was noted here that President Baldwin's contract with the Government frees the railroad from all competition in traffic, whether freight or passenger, to and from Camp Wikoff, except that of the Government's transports. Excursion steamers and vessels of every kind are forbidden to land at Montauk Point. This was partly due to the Government's wish to exclude visitors from the camp.

Captain Robinson suggested that anxiety, both of the soldiers to get here and of the officers to get them away, was the reason for the "shipment" of the troops in such discomfort.

Captain Robinson has another fault to find with the Long Island service. He complains that soldiers on good duty are brought on trains which arrive in this city at night. Few of the soldiers have any money at all, and many are obliged to pass the night in the open air. If they arrive before the closing of the gates in the Army building the men are allowed to get their transportation at a special travelling allowance of \$1.50 a day, which the Government allows to soldiers going home (usually) centrally. The railroad people that this must be altered in future.

ALGER'S DEFENCE MILES'S TRIAL

Secretary Will Court-Martial General if He Acknowledges Interviews.

Washington, Aug. 31.—In private conversation Secretary Alger has announced his determination to court-martial General Miles on his return to this country if he acknowledges the responsibility for the interviews that have been attributed to him.

It is said to-day, however, that the President will endeavor to avert an open rupture between the Secretary of War and the General commanding the Army.

It is announced on good authority that when General Miles arrives in Washington he will find awaiting him orders to report at once to the President. The President will then endeavor, the report goes, to persuade General Miles to abandon his present intention of demanding a court of inquiry and to induce him to disavow responsibility for the publications that have been made in his name.

There is a possibility that the President may deem it best to leave to Congress the investigation of the conduct of the war, if the suggestions are confident of being able to successfully cope with all the cases. Major Timothy Wilcox, of the United States Army, is positive that the sickness is malarial fever, and says it is due to the men sleeping on straw laid on the damp ground. He expected this trouble would be put in every tent. This was done, but Major Wilcox thinks that malarial fever had been contracted by the men before the floors were put in.

Regiments, compensation equal to that which they would receive if they had been in the service of the State instead of the National Government.

He estimates that the total amount required will be about \$25,000, and he hopes that the next Legislature will make the appropriation. The Governor was in Washington last night to meet General W. Spencer and Senator W. M. Johnson. Commissioners sent to Jacksonville to the Second Regiment and ascertain the condition of the men.

"State pay has not been promised, except an implied sense," said the Governor, "but I am at liberty now to say that the intention was from the outset to have the volunteers receive it. Our boys were called out to quell any disturbance, even to spend a week or two in camp at Sea Girt. The privates would receive \$1 a day, or \$10 a month while in service, not reasonable, therefore, to think the people of our state would expect to leave their homes, ready willing eager to fight Spanish bullets in the national cause for fifty cents a day."

HAWAII TRANSFERRED IN 100 WORDS.

Washington D. C., Aug. 31.—The following document, unique in American history and remarkable for its brevity, has been received at the State Department:

Executive Chamber, Honolulu, H. I., Aug. 12. The Hon. Harold Sewall, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America:

Mr. Minister—A treaty of political union having been made, and the same formally consented to by the Republic of Hawaii being accepted by the United States of America, I now, in the interests of the Hawaiian body politic, and with full confidence in the honor, justice and friendship of the American people, yield up to you, representing the Government of the United States, the sovereignty and public property of the Hawaiian Islands.

SANFORD B. DODD