

# Cuban Annexation and the Inevitable Movement Towards It.

Collier's Weekly is an article by Frederick Upham Adams which, before the military revolution broke out, is a fairly accurate picture of the peaceful revolution which has been under way for some time and which seems to him forcing the United States towards annexation with the United States. Mr. Adams writes, in part: "A study of the conditions which now exist in Cuba will convince the intelligent reader that the peaceful annexation of the island republic to the United States is not only inevitable, but that such annexation will not be postponed for many years. Those best prepared to judge do not hesitate to predict that this will be one of the events of the next 19 years, and many keen observers are of opinion that it will happen much earlier. In fact, they assert that it will occur in the next five years, and that the United States will win in the first battle of the Cuban revolution."

The invasion of American capital has only started, yet those alien financiers already in the field have a commanding influence. The real capital of Cuba is Washington and not Havana, and its agricultural and industrial features are in the hands of investors from New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago, and not in the keeping of the native capitalists of Matanzas, Camaguey or Santiago.

In any consideration of this great question it is idle to consider whether or not the Cubans are capable of self-government. Beyond doubt they have evinced a marked aptitude as politicians, and have a natural fondness for holding office. They cherish the honors which come with official promotion, and the man with the muck-rake need not scratch deep in Cuba to upturn material which will offend those who prefer to leave rottenness alone. But all this is beside the question. As I have said before, one need not dwell long on the governmental qualifications of the Cubans. Even today they hold their authority only by their sufferance. It is assumed that an accurate census of the island will show that the white Cubans are in a numerical minority. Certain it is that they will be in a decided minority within the next five years, and unless all signs are misleading, the following five years will find there as many Americans as Cubans.

Those who have not visited Cuba

It may be asserted beyond fear of successful contradiction that a large majority of the working class is in favor of annexation to the United States. I questioned hundreds of them on this subject and did not find a man who was not in favor of making Cuba an American state. Their reason is based on the purely selfish and material consideration of wages. To them an American is the symbol of money. They know that from the moment the United States terminated the rule of Spain they can get more money working for Americans than they can for Cubans or Spaniards. They believe that workers in the United States receive more pay than in any country on earth. In a dim way, they realize that the Cuban republic exists only by the consent and under the protection of the great nation to their north, and that their freedom is not of their own making, but a gift which can be withdrawn at any time.

Therefore there is no deep and abiding spirit of patriotism among the working class. They have prejudices and traditions, but none of these war against annexation. As a class they are ignorant and illiterate. The amount of money in their new envelopes makes the stronger appeal to them.

## EMPLOYED BY AMERICANS.

Already a considerable percentage of them is employed by American investors. When the large majority is thus employed—as it surely will be in the near future—it goes without saying that the workers will vote as those who hire them request. Since intelligent and independent American workers do this very thing at home, it is reasonable to

the dreaded specter of annexation, but they cannot find one. They are anxious to play at politics and state-manship, but they can find nothing with which to play. In the last election there was so little at issue that Gen. Gomez, the Liberal candidate, withdrew and told his followers to vote for Palma.

Thus Cuba is rapidly and placidly drifting to a condition in which the American "Outlanders" will own most of the productive land of that wonderful island, and in which the inevitable day will arrive when their employees will go to the polls and vote to petition the United States for admission as one of its sovereign states.

Whether it will be admitted or not will depend not on the disgruntled politicians of Cuba, but on the influence of those protected interests in the United States which dread free competition with the products of Cuba's wonderful soil.

Cuba will be ready for annexation any time her American capitalists decide to raise the political issue. The real battle will be fought, not in Havana, but in Washington, and the weapons will be not guns, but arguments advanced by those American raisers of sugar, tobacco, oranges, and other products which already are threatened by Cuban competition.

Therefore I do not hesitate to predict that whenever the United States is ready to open its tariff gate, Cuba will be found ready to step in. Live our next presidential election is decided who will be possessed by American capital and the flag follows the title-deeds of its citizens.

## LAST EXCURSION NORTH

SEPT. 15th

Via Oregon Short Line. Usual long limits will prevail. See agents.

## MENACE OF MACHINE-MADE MUSIC.

Right here is the menace in machine-made music! The first rift in the lute has appeared. The cheaper of these instruments of the home are no longer being purchased as formerly, and all because the automatic music devices are usurping their places.

And what is the result? The child becomes indifferent to practice, for when music can be heard in the homes without the labor of study and close application, and without the slow process of acquiring a technique, it will be simply a question of time when the amateur disappears entirely, and with him a host of vocal and instrumental teachers, who will be without field or calling.

Then what of the national throat? Will it not weaken? What of the national chest? Will it not shrink? When a mother can turn on the phonograph with the same ease that she applies to the electric light, will she croon her baby to slumber with sweet lullabies, or will the infant be put to sleep by machinery?

Children are naturally imitative, and in their infancy they hear only phonographs, will they not sing, if they sing at all, in imitation and finally become simply human phonographs, without soul or expression? Congregational singing will suffer also, which, though crude at times, at least improves the respiration of many a weary sinner and softens the voices of those who live amid tumult and noise.

The host of mechanical reproducing machines, in their mad desire to supply music for all occasions, are offering to supplant the illustrator in the classroom, the dance orchestra, the home and public singers and players, and so on.

There was a time when the pine woods of the north were sacred to summer simplicity, when around the camp fire at night the stories were told and the songs were sung with a charm all their own. But even now the invasion of the north has begun, and the ingenious purveyor of canned music is urging the sportsman, on his way to

the silent places with gun and rod, tent and canoe, to take with him some disks, cranks and cogs to sing to him as he sits by the firelight, a thought as unhappy and incongruous as canned salmon by a trout brook.

In the prospective scheme of mechanical music we shall see man and forth, there will be no majestic drum-

maiden in a light canoe under the moon upon an Adirondack lake with a gramophone carolling love songs from amidships.

Shall we not expect that when the nation once more sounds its call to arms and the gallant regiment marches Sousa in Appleton's.

major, to serried ranks of sonorous trombones, no glittering array of brass, or roll of drums? In their stead will be a huge phonograph. How the soldiers' bosoms will swell at the thought that they are being led into the strife by a machine—John Philip Sousa in Appleton's.

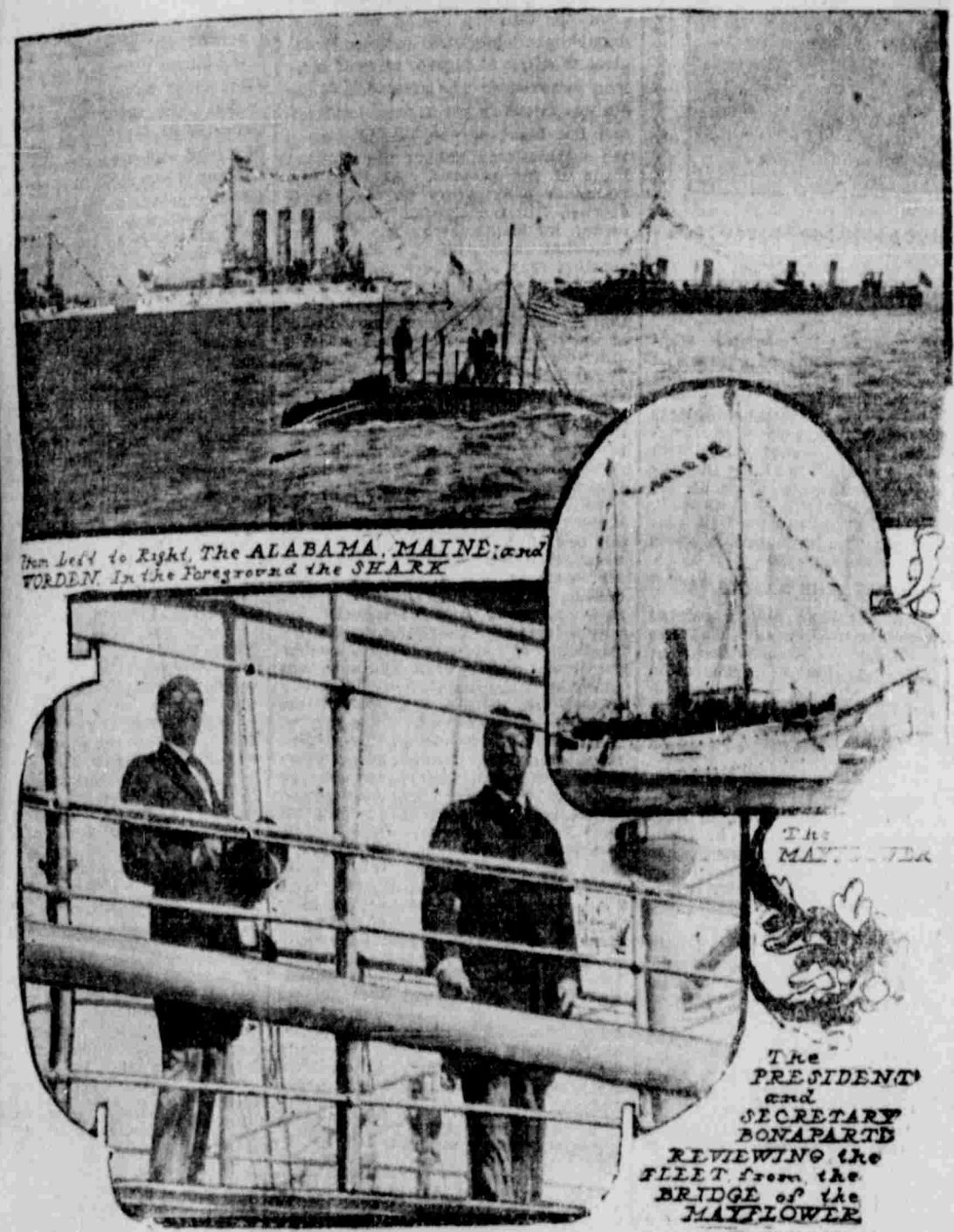
## LITTLE HOPE FOR TRANSPORT SHERIDAN.

U.S.S. SHERIDAN



The United States army transport Sheridan, with 125 passengers and 50 sailors on board, which went aground on a coral reef on Barber's Point, the southwestern extremity of Oahu Island, on which Honolulu is established, on Aug. 31, will probably be a total loss.

The Sheridan is 445 feet, 5 inches long and 48 feet 2 inches beam. Her gross tonnage is 3,573 and her draft under normal conditions is 30 feet. She was formerly the transport Massachusetts. While still the Massachusetts she was known as the "hoodoo" of the government service.



From Left to Right, The ALABAMA, MAINE, and OREGON. In the Foreground the SHERMAN.

The PRESIDENT and SECRETARY BONAPARTE REVIEWING THE FLEET FROM THE BRIDGE OF THE MAYFLOWER.

## UNCLE SAM'S BIGGEST NAVAL REVIEW.

The illustrations above show three scenes in the naval review at Oyster Bay on Sept. 3, when President Roosevelt brought together 45 warships, the biggest assembly of the vessels of the United States navy in the history of the republic.

It is interesting, and to an extent amusing, but it is by no means novel, promises to offer a parallel to the conditions which were developed in the normal, in which the invasion of capital precipitated a conflict between the sturdy but uncommercial farmer, the Cuban welcome the American invasion of capital, and their desire for national individuality does not seem large against their ambition for material wealth.

It is not to infer that there is not a serious and considerable faction which has for its slogan "Cuba for the Cubans," but unless all signs are misleading these loyalists must give way to the pressure which will be exerted by the hundreds of millions of outside money which are pouring into Cuba, which will awaken her to an active participation in the giant production in which she is peculiarly fitted.

## STRONG PARALLELS.

The South African republic could preserve itself against the aggression of a country removed by thousands of miles, and for every way, what shall be the outcome of Cuba, whose headlands are under the shadow of the Spanish-American war have hardly died away,

since the war have no conception of the agricultural and industrial revolution which now is fairly under way. At a conservative estimate more than \$120,000,000 of American and Canadian capital is already invested in that island, and this amount will be doubled in the next two years. Shrewd capitalists are buying land in tracts of from 10,000 to 100,000 acres, vast citrus fields and organic groves are being planted, great plains or savannas are being devoted to the raising of cattle imported from Texas ranges, copper and iron mines are being developed, a network of railroads is spreading out over former wilderness, modern hotels are taking the place of wretched inns, American banks and business establishments excite the wonder and envy of the natives—a new Cuba is building.

## THE OLDEN DAYS.

Before the invasion of American capital these laborers were glad to receive from forty to sixty cents a day. When the issue of annexation arises they will look forward with confidence to an increase over the present rate of a dollar a day, and it is certain that they will not be disappointed. The "American" have "made good" with them thus far, but they have not done so openly, the time not having arrived when it would be politic or advisable. Most of them are financially allied with American capitalists. In all the great Cuban undertakings now in process of development, we find a harmonious alliance between Americans and Cuban or Spanish financiers, and it is a truism that money knows no country.

## THOSE WHO OPPOSE.

There remain the politicians, officeholders, rural guards, and other employees and beneficiaries of the present form of government. They are opposed to annexation, and they may be depended on to fight it by means at their command. They do not discuss it; they do not wish it discussed. Their great fear is that it will be raised as an issue, and full well they know that it will sweep many of them from power when it forces itself to the front and demands a decision.

## THE FUTURE.

It is almost laughable to study the plight of the Cuban politicians. They long for some issue which will keep the attention of the voters away from

anticipate that the rule will not be broken in Cuba. Take a sample illustration: In the Ceballos district of Central Cuba there are now employed fully 6,000 Cuban workmen engaged in the development of the great sugar-cane plantations and citrus groves which are destined to make that section well known. J. M. Ceballos and other New York capitalists, in association with wealthy Cuban principals, are spending millions in this work. Within three years they will have on their payrolls fully 20,000 native workmen. The tariff against sugar, oranges, grapefruit and other products raised on their groves and plantations naturally commits Mr. Ceballos to the policy of annexation; moreover, like all normal Americans, he is unselfishly in favor of such a consummation.

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## CANDIDATE FOR PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNORSHIP.

Lewis Emery, Jr., is the gubernatorial nominee of the Democratic and Lincoln Republican parties in Pennsylvania. In a recent speech Mr. Emery started the voters of that state by the declaration that the Standard Oil group of capitalists have a dominating interest in corporations which have a total capitalization of \$5,000,000,000.

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