

THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

How, When and By Whom it Was Organized.

THE HISTORY OF ITS CONCEPTION

And How Everybody in Omaha Became Interested—Leading Business Men and Capitalists Assisted by the Association Make it a Success.

The grand national encampment which is to be held in Omaha from June 13 to 20 inclusive, commencing one week from tomorrow, promises to be the largest and best encampment ever yet held. Military companies from almost every state in the union have signified

ford's headquarters, was well attended. Captain Mulford was elected temporary chairman of the meeting, and John E. Aitchison secretary. For an hour the matter was discussed, and it was decided to organize a national drill council for the purpose of securing an encampment each year. An executive board of twelve members was selected to represent the north-east, southeast and western sections, each section to have a representation of four men, composed of the captains of two infantry companies, one artillery company and one zouave company. The executive board is composed as follows:

SOUTH EASTERN DIVISION. Chairman, Captain Harry Allen, Chickasaw guards, Memphis, Tenn. Captain Koff Simms, Southern guards, Macon, Ga. Captain Kit DeFreay, Memphis zouaves, Memphis, Tenn. Captain W. H. Beunham, battery B, L. F. A., New Orleans, La.

NORTHEASTERN DIVISION. Chairman, Captain J. B. Curtis, Indianapolis Light artillery, Indianapolis, Ind.

Captain G. A. Hurd, Aurora Zouaves, Aurora, Ill. Captain F. M. Joyce, Avon Rifles, Cincinnati, Ohio. Captain C. S. Domer, National Fencibles, Washington, D. C.

WESTERN DIVISION. Chairman, Captain William Heyman, Walsh Zouaves, St. Louis, Mo. Captain C. A. Sinclair, Branch Guards, St. Louis, Mo. Captain A. P. Wozencraft, Dallas artillery, Dallas, Tex. Captain Robert B. Green, Belknap Rifles, San Antonio, Tex.

It was unanimously decided to call the organization the National Competitive Drill association and to hold the encampment next year at Omaha. Considerable enthusiasm was apparent in the success of the new association. The officers present at the meeting represented the different sections.

Their Return to Omaha. Immediately upon their return from Indianapolis, President Mulford and Secretary Aitchison commenced instituting the interest of the citizens in the coming encampment. Committees were appointed by the mayor to represent the city at large, by the city council, by the Board of Trade, by the Real Estate Owners' association, by the Manufacturers and Consumers' association, by the Builders and Traders Exchange, by the Omaha Commercial association, by the Omaha Athletic club, and by the Elks club. In fact the entire city was interested in the success of the undertaking.

These committees met as one committee in the Board of Trade rooms and perfected an organization. Hon. W. J. Broatch being elected president and John E. Aitchison secretary.

Committees were appointed to solicit the guarantee for the prizes and expenses of the encampment. These committees immediately began their work and were successful in getting the amount from the generous business men and capitalists of the city.

To take charge of the business affairs of the encampment and to insure its success a local executive committee, consisting of Hon. W. J. Broatch, H. Silloway, W. E. Clarke, F. P. Kirkendall, A. L. Reed and Julius Meyer, were appointed. Mr. Meyer was elected secretary; Luther Drake, cashier of Mor-

chants' National bank, elected treasurer, and Mr. Aitchison assistant secretary. This committee have worked like beavers and have now the satisfaction of seeing that their labors are to be rewarded by a grand success.

Zollinger Battery. Zollinger Battery, Fort Wayne, Ind., dates its existence from April 5, 1883. H. C. Eastwood, to whose activity and energy the organization of the company is mainly due, was made its first captain. William Cherry and J. C. Willard bore, respectively, the ranks of first and second lieutenant.

The organization was named in honor of Colonel C. A. Zollinger, a distinguished Indiana soldier of the late war, and at present mayor of the city of Fort Wayne, for his invaluable assistance in promoting the welfare of the battery. His most conspicuous service was rendered during his official term as state pension agent for Indiana, when he secured from the government the issuance of ordnance and equipments to the new artillery company.

Three months after its inception, Zollinger battery attended the state encampment at Evansville. Here it was entered for the competitive drill and won its maiden honors, taking third artillery and first Gatling gun prizes. The return home from Evansville was veritably a triumphant entrance into the city. The battery received a tremendous ovation, and no public event in Fort Wayne, perhaps, has been marked by such an outburst of popular and genuine enthusiasm.

The first trip of the

Crack Companies Coming. The Very Best Drilled Companies Will Attend.

ALL ANXIOUS FOR THE EVENT

Grand Prize Drills by Infantry, Artillery, Zouaves and Gatling Sections Each Day of the Encampment—Rules and Regulations Which Govern.

Secretary Aitchison has received many letters from every state in the union in regard to the encampment which takes place in Omaha at the fair grounds in the north part of the city June 13 to 20 inclusive.

The Belknap Rifles of Texas and the Branch guards of St. Louis, the best two companies in the United States, and sixty of the other crack military companies of the United States, including infantry artillery, gatling and zouaves, are entered and will compete for the generous prizes offered by Omaha and the Galveston semi-centennial cup and the championship of the United States, but the two mentioned are the champion teams of the entire country, and one or the other keeps possession of the great Galveston cup. This prize is considered by military companies as the greatest that can be won.

New rules and regulations which have been adopted for military tactics will govern the contest at the encampment.

Camp Rules. The camp regulations for companies are as follows: All commands are

CRACK COMPANIES COMING.

The Very Best Drilled Companies Will Attend.

ALL ANXIOUS FOR THE EVENT

Grand Prize Drills by Infantry, Artillery, Zouaves and Gatling Sections Each Day of the Encampment—Rules and Regulations Which Govern.

Secretary Aitchison has received many letters from every state in the union in regard to the encampment which takes place in Omaha at the fair grounds in the north part of the city June 13 to 20 inclusive.

The Belknap Rifles of Texas and the Branch guards of St. Louis, the best two companies in the United States, and sixty of the other crack military companies of the United States, including infantry artillery, gatling and zouaves, are entered and will compete for the generous prizes offered by Omaha and the Galveston semi-centennial cup and the championship of the United States, but the two mentioned are the champion teams of the entire country, and one or the other keeps possession of the great Galveston cup. This prize is considered by military companies as the greatest that can be won.

New rules and regulations which have been adopted for military tactics will govern the contest at the encampment.

Camp Rules. The camp regulations for companies are as follows: All commands are

Commanding officers will be required to have their quarters policed daily, and will be held responsible for the behavior of their men while in camp, and all individuals and organizations will be required to perform such camp duties as may be ordered by the commandant of camp so far as they may be consistent with tactics and regulations and customs of service of the United States army.

Rates for the Drill. All infantry organizations shall drill strictly in accordance with the new drill regulations approved by the secretary of war September 28, 1891.

The time allowed each company for competitive drill will be forty-five minutes, counting from the time the first movement on the program is commenced by the company, credit to be given each company for time saved.

Inspection of companies will be held in the morning, and companies will drill without music.

The program for infantry companies may embrace any movement in the school of the soldier, squad or company, including bayonet exercises and extended order drill.

The judges will be competent United States army officers, who will make the program, and the program of drill for prizes in all classes except the zouave class will be handed commanding officers one hour before the time for their respective commands to drill, and the commissioned officers, noncommissioned officers and privates of such companies will not be allowed to witness the drill of companies prior to their own, and must pledge themselves neither to give nor receive any information relative to contents of said program until the drill is over, and at the completion of his drill the captain of each company will return his program to the judges.

Commands must report ten minutes before the time of drill, rain or shine and those failing to do so, will have lost time deducted from time allowed to drill.

Commanders of companies competing

same regulations as infantry officers regarding competitive drill.

Drill of section to include drill at and with piece, such as changing posts, limbering and unlimbering, firing; in fact all movements that can be made without the complement of horses. Drill with diminished numbers, the cannoners to be fallen out, to be selected by the judges. The original program can be retained. Taking part, dismounting, re-mounting and assembling the piece. Gun detachment to consist of not less than seven men.

Gun detachments to bring their own pieces and 1,000 rounds of blank cartridges suitable for firing in their pieces.

Zouave drill will be governed by same rules as those made of infantry, except as to tactics. General military appearance, quickness in execution and work distinctly zouave, will be considered in awarding prizes.

The object of the National Competitive Drill association is the elevation of the standard of the military companies of the United States. All soldiers will appreciate the necessity and importance of a correct military discipline in a camp so large as this will be and will cheerfully do all in their power to advance the object of the association. At the same time, they need have no apprehension that there will be anything of a martinet severity, or anything in fact, more than is strictly essential for the government of so large a body of troops when in camp together.

EXTENSIVE ARRANGEMENT MADE. A Large Tract of Ground in Addition to the Fair Grounds Secured.

The committee in charge of the National Encampment of the National Competitive Drill association are making extensive arrangements for the encampment. One thousand tents have been ordered and will be put upon the ground this week.

The fair grounds have been obtained for the encampment and the large tract of land northwest of the grounds have also been fenced, and will be used as the camp grounds.

Arrangements for meals on the grounds have been made so that a good meal can be had at a very reasonable price.

The grounds are

A GRAND SHAM BATTLE

It Will Take Place on Encampment Grounds June 15th.

THE CITY WILL BE CROWDED THAT DAY

It Will Be the Event of a Life Time—People Will Come Hundreds of Miles to See It—An Interesting Sight.

Extensive preparations are being made for a grand sham battle to take place on Wednesday, June 15th. The battle is to be a true representation of one of the most noted battles known in the annals of history. Regular army officers will command the forces on either side and it is hoped that the Second infantry will take part in the event. These, with the united forces in attendance at the encampment, will make the largest body of troops ever assembled in Omaha.

The booming of the cannons, the crack of the rifles of the infantry, the clashing of sabers and the roll and crash of the rattling and machine guns will remind all old soldiers of the bloody wars in which they took part; will bring tears to the eyes of mothers when they think "it must have been in some real battle like this when my son was killed," and will impress upon all the horrors of modern warfare.

The local committee have ordered hundreds of pounds of powder and thousands upon thousands of rounds of blank shells to be used in this grand, realistic sham battle.

It will be the best display of the kind ever given and no one should miss seeing it.

Grand Military Street Parade. The street parade which is to take place during the national encampment will be one of the leading features of Omaha's big week. All of the troops in attendance at the encampment will participate, and fully 4,000 armed men, attired in the most handsome uniforms of the states in the union will be in line. It is hoped that the Second infantry will

MILITARY GRAND TOURNAAMENT ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT OF THE NATIONAL COMPETITIVE DRILL ASSOCIATION At Omaha, June 13 to 20 Inclusive. GRAND SHAM BATTLE. GRAND STREET PARADE. GRAND MILITARY BAND CONCERTS. GRAND PRIZE DRILLS. 4,000 Soldiers in camp. 60 of the crack military companies of the United States competing for prizes aggregating \$17,000 and the championship of the United States.

REDUCED RATES ON ALL RAILROADS! CHILDREN UNDER 15, 25c. CHILDREN UNDER 12, FREE. JOHN E. AITCHISON, Secretary, Omaha, Neb.

ADMISSION, 50c. For particulars, address

their intention to attend and compete for the liberal prizes offered and for the championship of the United States. These companies are the best drilled and the finest equipped in the country, or what is called in military parlance "crack military companies." Many of them have competed in from fifteen to twenty prize competitions and in this line are veterans.

From the large number of inquiries which the secretary is receiving daily there is no doubt that many thousands of strangers will visit Omaha during the week of the encampment. The National Competitive Drill association was organized at Indianapolis, Ind., in July, 1891, at a meeting held at the Omaha Guards' headquarters for that purpose. The Omaha Guards left for Indianapolis with a determination to obtain the 1892 encampment for the city whose name they so proudly bear, and never for a moment did they relax in their energy and work, as they know that they could thus in a measure repay the citizens of Omaha for the many favors they had received at their hands.

Of the meeting to organize the association and locate the encampment the Indianapolis Sentinel of July 6, says: OMAHA NEXT YEAR. A NATIONAL COMPETITIVE DRILL ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED. At Camp Curtis last evening at the headquarters of Captain H. B. Mulford of the Omaha Guards, was effected an organization that is of very great importance. The Omaha Guards came here, as much as anything else, to secure an encampment at that city in 1892, and all the arrangements were made last night to that end. Since their arrival in this city, Captain Mulford and John E. Aitchison have been busy enlisting the interest of the captains and commissioned officers of the various companies, and consequently a meeting of the latter, called for last night at Captain Mul-

bles, Washington, D. C. WESTERN DIVISION. Chairman, Captain William Heyman, Walsh Zouaves, St. Louis, Mo. Captain C. A. Sinclair, Branch Guards, St. Louis, Mo. Captain A. P. Wozencraft, Dallas artillery, Dallas, Tex. Captain Robert B. Green, Belknap Rifles, San Antonio, Tex. It was unanimously decided to call the organization the National Competitive Drill association and to hold the encampment next year at Omaha. Considerable enthusiasm was apparent in the success of the new association. The officers present at the meeting represented the different sections.

Immediately upon their return from Indianapolis, President Mulford and Secretary Aitchison commenced instituting the interest of the citizens in the coming encampment. Committees were appointed by the mayor to represent the city at large, by the city council, by the Board of Trade, by the Real Estate Owners' association, by the Manufacturers and Consumers' association, by the Builders and Traders Exchange, by the Omaha Commercial association, by the Omaha Athletic club, and by the Elks club. In fact the entire city was interested in the success of the undertaking.

These committees met as one committee in the Board of Trade rooms and perfected an organization. Hon. W. J. Broatch being elected president and John E. Aitchison secretary. Committees were appointed to solicit the guarantee for the prizes and expenses of the encampment. These committees immediately began their work and were successful in getting the amount from the generous business men and capitalists of the city. To take charge of the business affairs of the encampment and to insure its success a local executive committee, consisting of Hon. W. J. Broatch, H. Silloway, W. E. Clarke, F. P. Kirkendall, A. L. Reed and Julius Meyer, were appointed. Mr. Meyer was elected secretary; Luther Drake, cashier of Mor-

battery was signally successful, and their victories bore emphatic significance from the fact that their drill was executed with brasspieces which weighed over four hundred pounds more than those used by their competitors. In September, 1888, Captain Eastwood and Lieutenant Cherry, for personal reasons, resigned. Lieutenant Willard succeeded to the captaincy. W. F. Ranke was elected first lieutenant and W. W. Mungen second lieutenant. The company attended the state encampment at Indianapolis in 1889. South Bend in 1890, and Fort Wayne in 1891. Some months subsequently to the Indianapolis encampment, Captain Willard resigned his commission, owing to business interests which much of the time necessitated his absence from the city. Lieutenant Mungen was thereupon promoted to the captaincy, and D. S. Eckert was elected to succeed him as second lieutenant.

Subsequent to the Evansville successes Zollinger battery was identified with no competitive contests until August, 1891, when it entered the prize drill at a meeting of the National Kriegerfest association, held in Fort Wayne. The battery was an easy winner, drilling against infantry for points. Captain Mungen was honored by the association with a medal.

Railroad Rates Reduced. All the railroads running into Omaha have made special reduced rates during the National Competitive Drill Encampment at Omaha, June 13 to 20 inclusive. The Manufacturers Exposition. This will also draw many people to Omaha during the week of June 13 to 20. The exposition will be one of the finest ever seen in this section, only six states ever having held anything that would surpass it. Many different manufacturers will manufacture their goods right in the exposition.

requested to enter camp Sunday, June 12, and will be required to enter camp not later than 12 o'clock, noon, Monday, June 13, and to remain until the end of the encampment, unless sooner relieved by the camp commandant, and special exceptions may be made only by the officers of the association or commandant of camp for such reasons as they may deem imperative. Officers will furnish to the secretary a roster of all the officers and men of their commands, and a list of all the employees and servants, and they are especially and urgently requested to furnish said roster not later than May 15, 1892.

All companies will be organized into battalions and regiments. All organizations will be required to participate in such inspections, reviews, dress parades and other ceremonies as may be ordered by the commandant of the camp. Noncompeting squads of any number of men from any military organization, under the command of a commissioned officer, will be received in the camp precisely as competing companies and will be expected to do guard duty if called on, and will take part in reviews, dress parades, etc. No other soldiers than those referred to will be permitted in camp or allowed to pass camp bounds on any pretext whatever, except on business, or where vouchered for by an officer of the companies in camp. All officers and soldiers belonging to the camp, in regular uniform, will, of course, be allowed free ingress and egress at all times, under such laws and regulations as the commandant of camp or the association may prescribe.

for the grand national infantry prizes will not be permitted to drill their command in practice drills during the encampment (prior to the time for entering the field for competition), except for one hour immediately succeeding dismissal of dress parade, and then only on the regular parade grounds. The manual of arms may be practiced at any time. All companies competing for grand national infantry prizes will be considered as pledged on their honor to observe this requirement. In making up their score on inspection of arms, judges will take into consideration age and condition of guns and equipment when received by organization. (This rule is adopted owing to some companies having received old guns and equipment which were in bad shape at the time of their issue.) Artillery and Zouave Drills. Drill for artillery will be in the manual and mechanical movements pertaining to the section, and will embrace the command, "mount and dismount piece and carriage," and fire two rounds of blank cartridges. Each gun detachment shall consist of ten men, rank and file. Saber exercise excluded. The arm used shall be the muzzle-loading field piece, of the size applicable to be drawn by four horses, and shall be with gun, limber and caisson. The drill will be by program and officers of artillery will be subject to the

located within the city and are on the line of Electric Street Railway within a few minutes ride of the business center of the city. Several of the officers of the military companies that are to visit Omaha have given the grounds, and in the expression that they will be the most beautiful of any on which they have ever camped. Some Prizes. Mr. C. S. Raymond, the jeweler, has offered a medal to be known as "the Raymond medal for the best drilled soldier." Will Lawler, with his characteristic enterprise, has presented a beautiful sword, valued at \$400, to the National Competitive Drill association to be given to the captain making the best score in the grand national infantry drill at the encampment June 13-20. The sword is of the finest Damascus steel, mounted with chaste gold and very richly engraved. The sword is now on exhibition at Wonderland.

also assist in making this the largest military parade ever held. The troops will be reviewed from a reviewing stand in the center of the city. No one should miss seeing this grand parade. Musical Union Military Band. The famous Musical Union Military band will give a concert every afternoon of the encampment and in the evening after dress parade a concert which will be taken part in by the entire band and soloists of the Musical Union. Passenger Rates Reduced. All railroads have made special rates to Omaha for the National Encampment which takes place in Omaha June 13 to 20 inclusive. It will be the big week in Omaha's history. Ninth Infantry Notes. Company A, Ninth infantry, gave a hop after their election, which was a most enjoyable affair. They are now drilling seven times a week preparatory to going to Omaha to take part in the competition there in June.—Western Soldier.

State Business Men. The State Business Men's association hold their third annual session in Omaha, June 13 to 15.