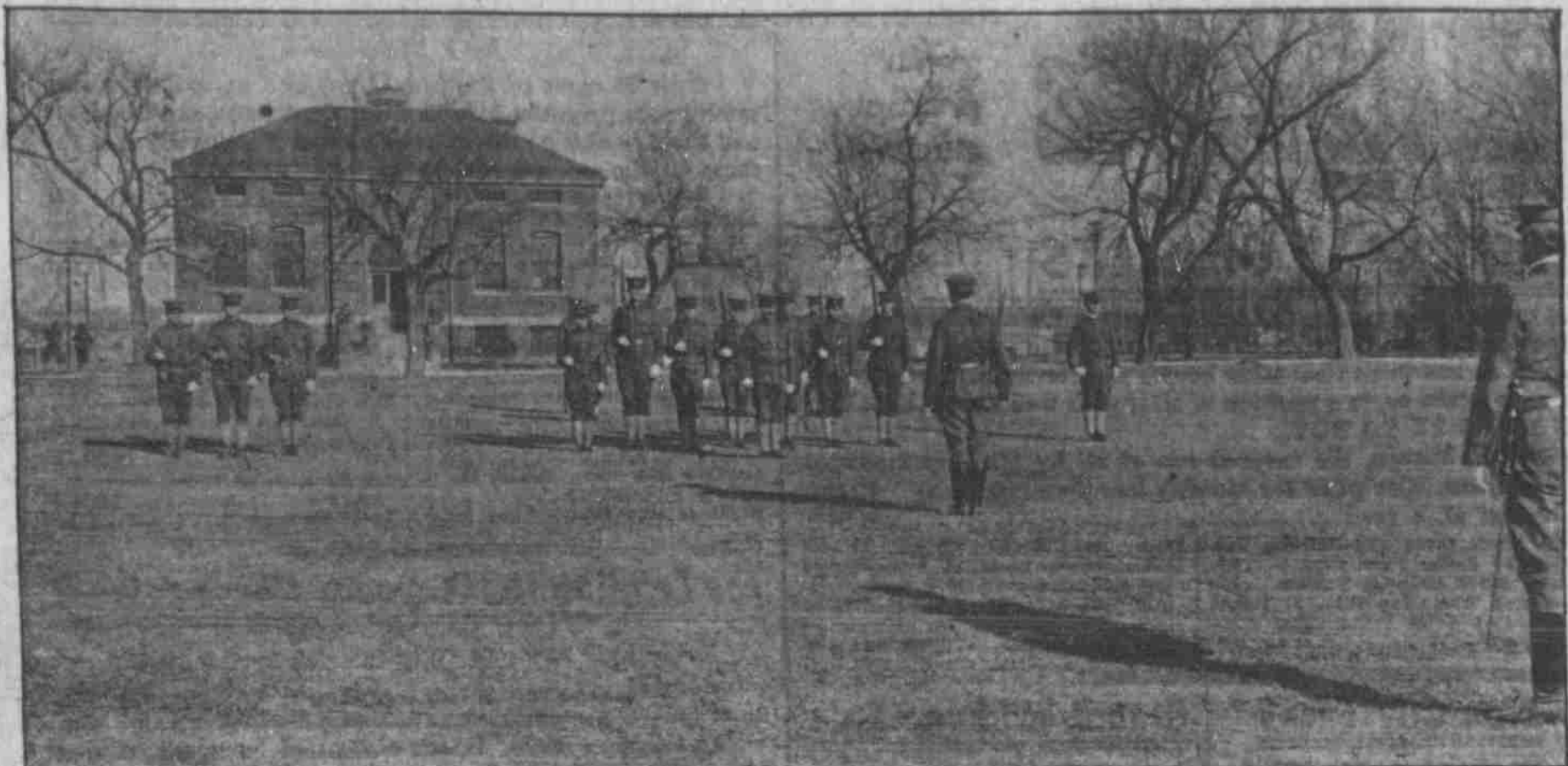
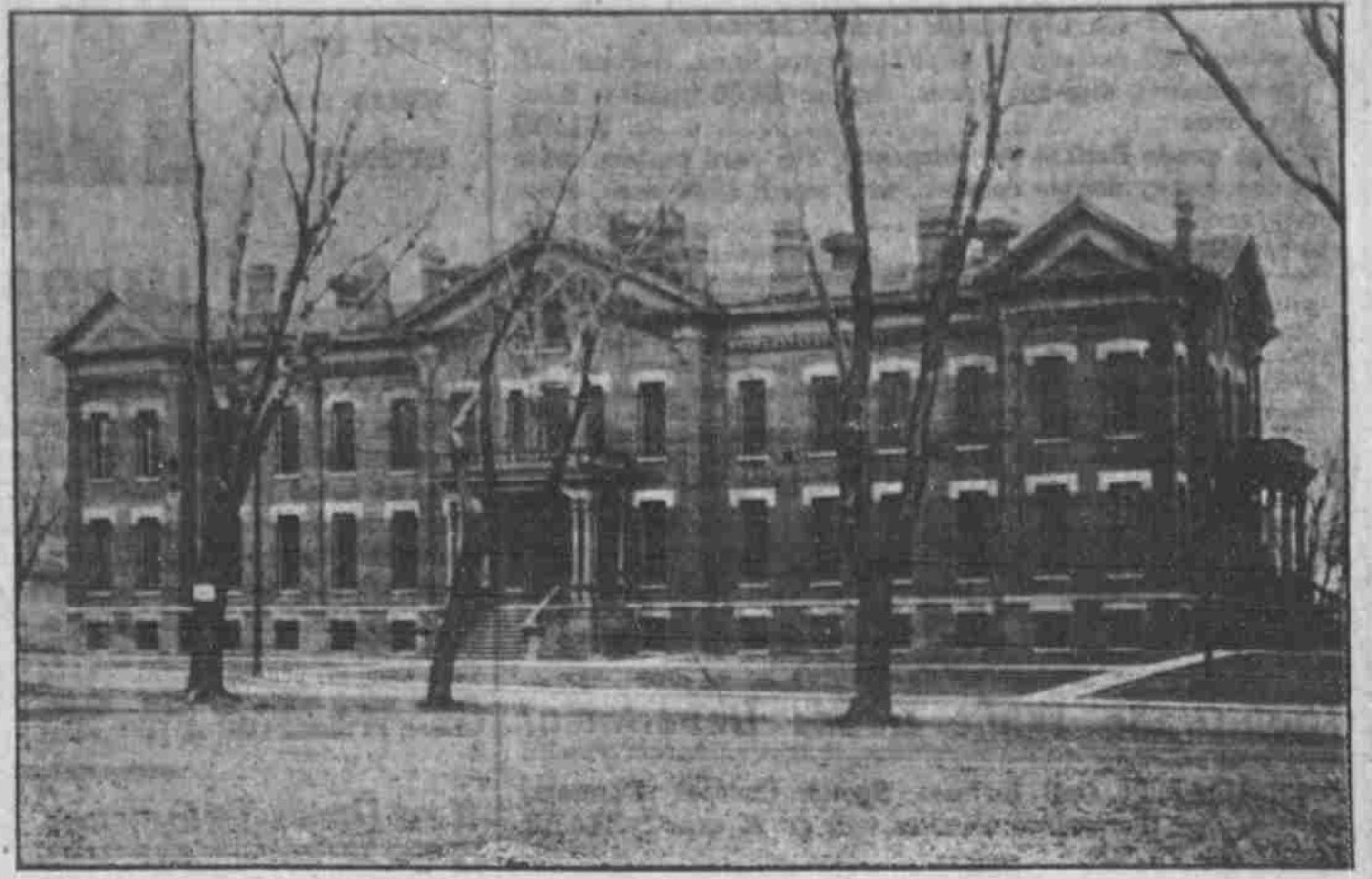


# Fort Omaha the Beautiful Home of a Great Modern Military School



GUARD MOUNT AT FORT OMAHA.



THE MAIN SCHOOL BUILDING AT FORT OMAHA

**F**ORT OMAHA occupies a unique and important place among the military establishments of the United States, being a signal school and signal corps post exclusively. The Fort Omaha of today is essentially different from old Fort Omaha of historic fame, though on identical ground. The old fort was abandoned and dismantled in 1896, upon the establishment of Fort Crook, near Bellevue. It is now being designed to do away with Fort Omaha altogether. So the old buildings were sold and the parade ground and walks neglected until 1905, when the War department saw the necessity of the creation of a big signal school in the west, that should become distinctive from the war college at Fort Leavenworth, and the rather too far eastern school at Fort Meyer, near Washington. After casting about for some time it was decided that Fort Omaha would be the proper point for such a school. An appropriation of approximately \$400,000 was secured from congress for the rehabilitation of the post and work began at once and has continued since 1905, until today it is one of the handsomest military posts in the country.

Fort Omaha is located on Thirtieth street, between Fort street and Fort Omaha avenue, in the northern part of the city of Omaha, the reservation embracing 213 acres. It is reached by the North Twenty-fourth street and the Thirty-sixth and Ames avenue street car lines, with a change at Twenty-fourth street and Ames avenue to the Florence line. Many hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended for the buildings, scientific appliances, ordnance, quartermaster, medical and signal stores for the post, and these supplies are being added to constantly.

It is the theoretical and practical training school for the signal corps of the army. It is here that selected men from civil life, or other branches of the army, who have shown an aptitude for this specialty, are sent to become expert in the receipt and transmission of information in every way its transmission is possible.

Information is transmitted in the army, both day and night, by various means. Over short distances, by visual means, usually by wigwagging flags by day and lights by night; by heliograph, by radio, or by pyrotechnics whose colors or shapes have a significance to the signalist when seen during day or darkness. Rays of light from the sun are reflected from mirrors at longer distances when circumstances are favorable. The telegraph, telephone and buzzer, with their attending cables and wires, are some of the electrical apparatus used to serve at long and short distances, and over any character of country, as does also the modern wireless. To use these means for transmission of signals requires a knowledge of the apparatus and equipment employed, and technical training; also of their transport to make their use effective.

The school is divided into the recruit, telegraph student, advanced and specialty classes. The students progress from the recruit to the higher classes as they complete the work leading up to them. When qualified to be useful in the work of the signal corps they are sent to where their knowledge can be applied. Passing through this school will not only permit a man to become proficient in a useful calling should he return to civil life, but his discipline and drill will teach him the subordination to authority, build up his physique and prepare him for greater usefulness to the nation in time of war, perhaps in the higher grades. Young men trained in the grammar and high schools of the country are

best fitted to enter the signal corps and attain distinction and become experts in some branch of its electrical work.

It will thus be seen that at the outset the recruit for the signal service must be above the ordinary grade of intelligence required of the average soldier. Once admitted as a recruit the first three or four months of his enlistment is devoted to teaching him the duties of a soldier. He must learn the manual of arms, the care of his equipment, drill, guard, skirmish, scout and fatigue duty. He must also undergo a severe training in callisthenics or "setting up" drill in order to best develop his physique, and is gradually made familiar with every line of the duty of a soldier, ready to be placed in any emergency.

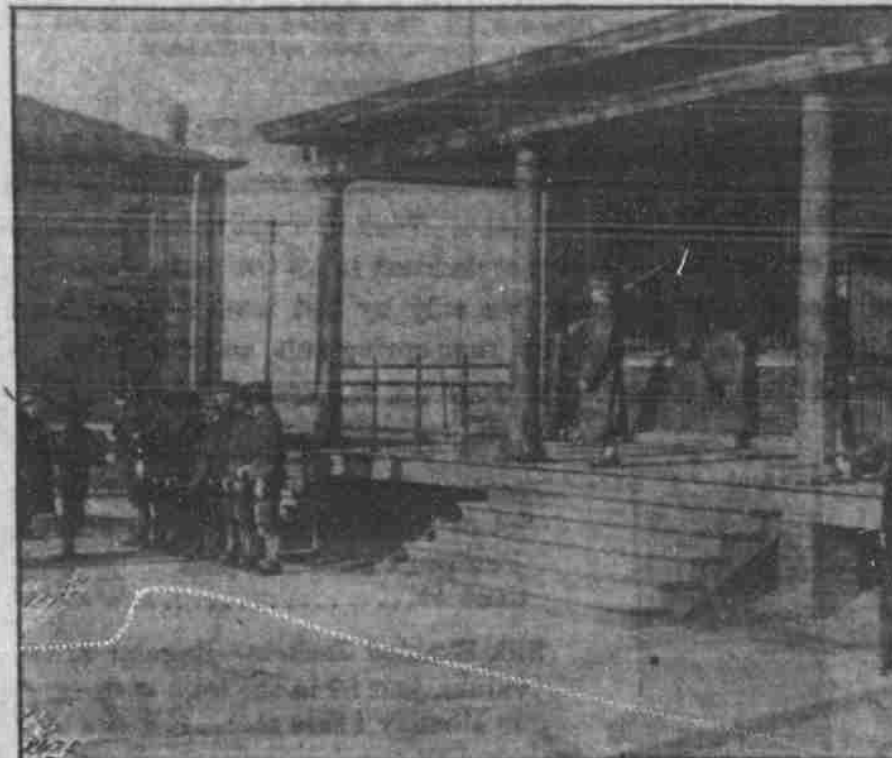
His education in signalling begins also in his recruit days. The daily routine of duty for the recruit is: Company drill, signalling, practice exercise, field practice exercise, squad drill, attending lectures (Wednesday afternoons), general police, and on Thursday, parade and military signalling. Guard duty is also an incident of his education.

When the recruit becomes advanced to the grade of telegraph student, telegraphy becomes a part of his studies instead of signalling. Then follows the course of a general student to which is added the duties of shop work and the study of instruments, and additional signalling in place of some other duties in which he is regarded as sufficiently proficient. The advanced student is given a course of electricity and telegraphy practice in addition to the usual drills. The specialty student, after completing a course of laboratory work, and signal engineering. The idea is always kept paramount that the signal corps man is a soldier, and while the fatigue duties and squad drills are eliminated in his higher education, he must still attend the company drill, parades and lectures.

If during the course of his education for a signal man, the recruit indicates a lack of ability to be developed into a signal corps man, he is either discharged outright or permitted to enter the regular line service, being given a preference of the branch of service he would like to serve in.

The course in telegraphy includes practice and reading to fit students to become operators. Instructions include the study of the telegraph, telephone, buzzer, cable splicing and retching. Electricity includes a course in theoretical electricity. Signal engineering, includes the study of and recitation in suitable text books, including the subjects of motors, engines, electric lighting, dynamos, electrical testing, power transmission, transformers, switchboards, aerostatics, hydrogen gas generation, fire control installations, photography and topography. Members of these classes proficient in the regular subjects will be authorized to follow any special subject on approval of the officer in charge.

A careful system of records is maintained of the standing of the several classes and promotions are made from one grade to the other on the basis of 75 per cent or over. As an instance the report for the month of February shows the standing of the recruit class studying manual No. 4, "Visual Signaling." Ninety-one students were in the class, and forty-seven of them were advanced to the student class, their percentage exceeding the 75 per cent limit. Of this number one recruit showed 90 and another 85 per cent. Thirty-one rated between 80 and 90 per cent and twelve over 90 per cent and three stood 75 per cent. Of those falling to pass fourteen were over 70



GUARD AND GUARD HOUSE AT FORT OMAHA.

per cent, fourteen over 60 per cent, the remainder running from 22 to 67 per cent. There is now under construction a brick gas generating house, an aerodrome or balloon house of steel, the latter to be eighty feet in height by 20 feet in length and 100 feet in width to shelter signal corps balloons. The hydrogen gas generating house will be equipped with machinery for generating hydrogen gas for inflating purposes, also a compressor where the hydrogen will be forced into steel tubes at a pressure of 100 atmospheres; in other words 100 cubic feet of hydrogen gas compressed into one cubic foot of space in a single steel

tube. Such storage tubes can be loaded onto wagons or cars and the gas thus carried into the field for balloon inflating purposes. On the picturesquely terraced portion of the reservation and on the main driveway running north and south is what is known as "Officers' Row." These buildings consist of seven commodious brick structures, which are occupied by officers on duty at the post. The commanding officer's quarters are in the center of the row, a little to the north of the main driveway.

## Quaint Features of Life

**Hid His Gold in a Wall.**  
ANKS might fall and cashiers also for all the late William H. Wilkins of Whiteside, L. I. cared, according to testimony presented to Surrogate Noble in Queens county, where his daughter, Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Horton of Whiteside, put in an appearance as executrix to straighten up her father's estate.

In her testimony she stated that her father's estate amounted to about \$1,300 and of this amount she found \$1,000 in gold and silver coin stored away in a hole in the wall. She said her father had no faith in banks or cashiers, so he had a sort of repository built in the wall back of the kitchen door casing. After it was once sealed up he had no way of opening his home-made bank and he dropped money in through a small slot from time to time. From the day he had the place built up to the time of his death, and he lived to be 85 years old, he never disturbed his hole-in-the-wall savings.

**Lived After Fall of 500 Feet.**  
That a man can fall 500 feet and survive has just been proved in Bristol, England, where his escape from death is regarded as a miracle. Twice the man's body struck the rocks as he fell from that great height to the railway below. Observatory hill and the second time it bounced out several yards from the rock wall and looked to some observers as though it would touch the carriage that stood on the station line. A strong wind was blowing, however, and this caught the man and carried him toward the rock. The result was that, instead of falling among the carriages he fell into the soft earth of the station master's garden. The man was picked up and carried to a hospital. If he survives the shock of such a fall as that one can only say that his time had not come.

**Forewarn His Death.**  
A strange story in regard to the recent death of Almaza Byrd at his home near Owingsville, Ky., has just been told by his family.

Byrd was occupying an upstairs room when, early Saturday morning, April 4, he rushed down into the family room, and in a very excited manner, told his wife that a voice had said to him: "Byrd, you will die before 11 o'clock today."

Mrs. Byrd tried to convince her husband that it was his imagination, but he grew more excited, and vehemently protested that the voice was real, and its prediction only too true. All that could be done did not calm him, and his agitation and fear became intense and uncontrollable, and when finally, almost exhausted, he lay down and suddenly died, almost without a struggle.

It was in the room occupied by Byrd on the morning of his death that he blew out the brains of his son with a load of buckshot two or three years ago. His son had battered down the door and was advancing on his father with uplifted axa when the fatal shot was fired.

**Trained Bull Beats Horse.**  
Elmer Hantz of Denton township, Columbia county, Pennsylvania, has a bull that he has trained to do the work of a horse. Last week the animal made a record. Hantz rode the bull over the sixteen

miles of rough, hilly road between Denton and North Mountain in less than two hours, beating his father, who was driving a horse, by more than half an hour.

The bull was then harnessed to the wagon, the horse hitched on behind and the bull pulled the wagon back to action in less time than he took to ascend the grade to North Mountain with young Hantz on his back.

Hantz uses the bull nearly all the time in place of a horse, not only in his farm work, but in trips to other towns.

**Wonderful Two-Tailed Cow.**  
The two-tailed cow owned at the Waldorf story, near Buffalo, in Dallas county, Missouri, has been sold to Baron von Theisen, a Dutch breeder, at auction, and probably will be taken out of the country. The bidding on the animal was spirited and she was finally sold at \$74. Aside from being a freak of nature this cow has several unusual points. It is said by the owners that during the summer months, when the cows were being worried by flies and in consequence gave little milk, the double-tailed cow maintained her average. Ordinarily when a cow switches her tail around on one side the flies assemble on the opposite. This cow was able to switch on both sides at the same time and this so confused the pests that they ceased worrying her.

**Cash Grew on Rose Bush.**  
Several months ago Frank Medinger, manager of the John H. Getz meat market, Rogersford, Pa., lost the cash receipts of three days' business, less his expenditures, which he failed to take into account in settling of his loss, which he estimated at \$2.

Suspensions were aroused, but nobody was openly accused. While working on his lawn B. I. Latschaw found the roll of money in a rosebush and returned it, but Medinger says it is not his as the roll contained \$25 and that his actual loss was but \$27. With the finding of the money it was thought that the matter would come to a happy conclusion, but it appears that the matter is simply deepening in mystery and another revelation may show how \$27 grew into \$25 in a rosebush.

**Up a Tree in India.**  
Several papers in India, according to some of their London contemporaries, print the following, written by a native subordinate in his diary while in a trying position: "Up a tree, where I adhere with much pain and discomposure, while a big tiger is roaring in a very awful manner on the fire line. This is a very inconsiderate tiger and causes me great grief, as I have before reported to your honor. This is the second time he spoiled my work, coming and shouting like thunder and putting me up a tree and making me behave like an insect. It is a very awkward fate to me and the tiger is most inconsiderate."

**Odd Means of Shuffling Off.**  
Some people choose queer ways of leaving this world of troubles. A woman in New York laughed herself to death over an old joke and a man in Pennsylvania died of heart failure after eating fifteen plates of raw oysters one day and thirteen more the next. With all the prevailing fashionable diseases going around and the craze for operations, it does seem rather unnecessary to seek such unusual means of making one's exit.

the signal officers and men. A smaller building just south of the administration building is the electric light and power station. The post exchange, in the past more commonly known as the "canteen," is next south of the electric power house. It is most important in point of interest to the men and is devoted exclusively to their welfare. On the basement floor is the saleroom containing all manner of articles not furnished by the government as issue material, which are sold to the officers and men as desired. A lunch counter is attached where articles not on the government bill of fare can be had. The basement also contains a modern bowling alley, a billiard and pool room. On the first floor is a reading room, which is supplied with periodicals and other reading matter. On this floor also is the gymnasium, in which is all the necessary apparatus for athletic training. In the winter, once a week, the gymnasium floor is used for social gatherings and dancing.

On the south side of the parade ground and directly facing it are the new barracks, affording accommodations for two companies, with separate rooms for non-commissioned officers. Attached to the barracks are large dining rooms and complete kitchens. The basements are fitted with hot and cold water, tubs and shower baths. The entire building is heated by steam and lighted by electricity. The barracks rooms are equipped with steel beds with an ample and comfortable accompaniment of clean bedding, with spacious lockers for each of the men.

West of the new barracks, on a graded terrace, a continuation of the "Officers' Row" terrace, is situated the post hospital, which is modern in every respect, both in equipment and accommodation of patients. The medical corps of the army provides a surgeon and a detachment of trained attendants educated on the lines of the medical profession to care for the wants of the sick.

The single and two double buildings just south of the hospital are occupied by the higher grades of the non-commissioned force, as master signal electricians and their families.

The collection of buildings on the south side of the post are intended to provide space for housing animals and for the protection of property. These comprise the stables, quarters for stable guard, coal sheds and storehouses.

In the southwestern part of the parade ground is a fine base ball area. A small grandstand is provided for the accommodation of those who wish to witness the games. Foot ball and other outdoor athletics are played on these grounds. Once each month is designated as field day, when trials of strength and endurance in jumping, running, putting the shot, bugs of war and other tournament stunts are carried out. The grounds also afford

space for golf links and tennis courts. The first large building to the north of the main east entrance is jointly occupied by the post quartermaster and post commissary, with a great quantity of miscellaneous supplies that enter into the material welfare of the command. Immediately north of this structure is the signal corps storehouse, which is filled with an infinite variety of costly electrical material, electrical supplies to be utilized in signal work, not alone at Fort Omaha, but throughout the entire country. It is the main supply depot for all material which enters into electrical installation, telegraphic and telephonic construction work, not only for the United States proper, but for Alaska and the United States colonial possessions.

The two-story building on the north side of the parade ground is the old administration building, built many years ago, and is one of the few buildings left of the old fort. From it Generalis Augustus, Brook Crook and others directed many military operations against hostile Indians on the plains. The building has been remodeled into the instruction building for the signal corps. Its rooms are devoted to telegraph classes, electric installation and signal engineering instruction of every character. It has a signal students can devote their time to reading and study absolutely without interruption. There is a reference library on all subjects the signal student may require. It contains workshops, with machines, tools and instruments for practical training. One of the large rooms is devoted to practical instruction when the weather is inclement. The lectures are also conducted here.

A recent issue of The Bee told the story of the wireless system of construction at Fort Omaha with a description of the wireless tower of 175 feet in height and its adjacent building, which is located in the northwestern corner of the reservation. This tower is one of the most conspicuous features of Omaha, and wireless communication will soon be established through it with Forts Leavenworth and Riley, Kansas, and Fort Des Moines, Ia.

Fort Omaha is among the most beautiful in the country. Trees planted there thirty-five and forty years ago have now grown into magnificent and stately monarchs of the forest and the grounds enjoy an abundance of cooling and refreshing shade. The lawns are kept evenly cropped and the green, velvety swards, intersected here and there by white graveled roadways and white cement walks, makes the fort grounds a veritable picture of beauty.

The reservation is open for the inspection of the public at all times. The officers of the post are gratified to have the public visit the grounds. When off duty they will cheerfully give any information regarding the great post and without fail will find Fort Omaha a most interesting place to visit, and will at all times during the day receive cordial welcome there.

## New Clarkson Memorial Hospital Home

**T**HE Clarkson Memorial hospital, which was dedicated yesterday afternoon, is located at Twenty-first avenue and Howard streets on a large and slightly elevated lot, commanding a fine view of the surrounding country and liberally supplied with trees large and beautiful. The building now being erected will cost \$100,000, exclusive of furnishings, and it is so planned that wings may be added from time to time until it will finally be four times as large as the structure which is now being built.

Clarkson Memorial hospital was one of the pet hobbies of the late H. Rev. George Worthington, bishop of Nebraska and he worked assiduously for years that the new building might be erected to house the association which has been quartered for

many years on Dodge street, between Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets. So well was the work of Bishop Worthington planned that ample funds are now secured for the structure which is now being built.

The officers of the association are Bishop Williams, chairman of the board, and F. H. Davis, secretary and treasurer, with the board of directors consisting of Rev. George F. Beecher, dean of Trinity cathedral; Rev. T. J. Mackay, Mrs. A. J. Foytston, Mrs. F. H. Davis, Mrs. Joseph Cudahr, Mrs. Edward P. Peck, Mr. C. W. Lyman, Mr. R. S. Hall, Mr. H. W. Yates, Mr. C. G. Powell and Mr. Joseph Barker. The building is now nearing the second floor and work is expected to progress lively from now on. The present structure is designed to care for seventy-five pa-

tients, and as more room is needed the building will be enlarged.

All the Episcopal churches of Nebraska are interested in the Clarkson Memorial hospital, which is being built under Episcopal auspices, but, although the management is under that denomination, patients of all creeds will be cared for. The women of the churches of Omaha and Nebraska have raised the greater part of the money for the new building, which will be a source of pride to those who have worked so hard for its construction. The new building is near the central part of Omaha, although far enough away to be removed from the noise and dust of the city. The location is splendid, on a slightly knoll, where there will always be plenty of fresh air.

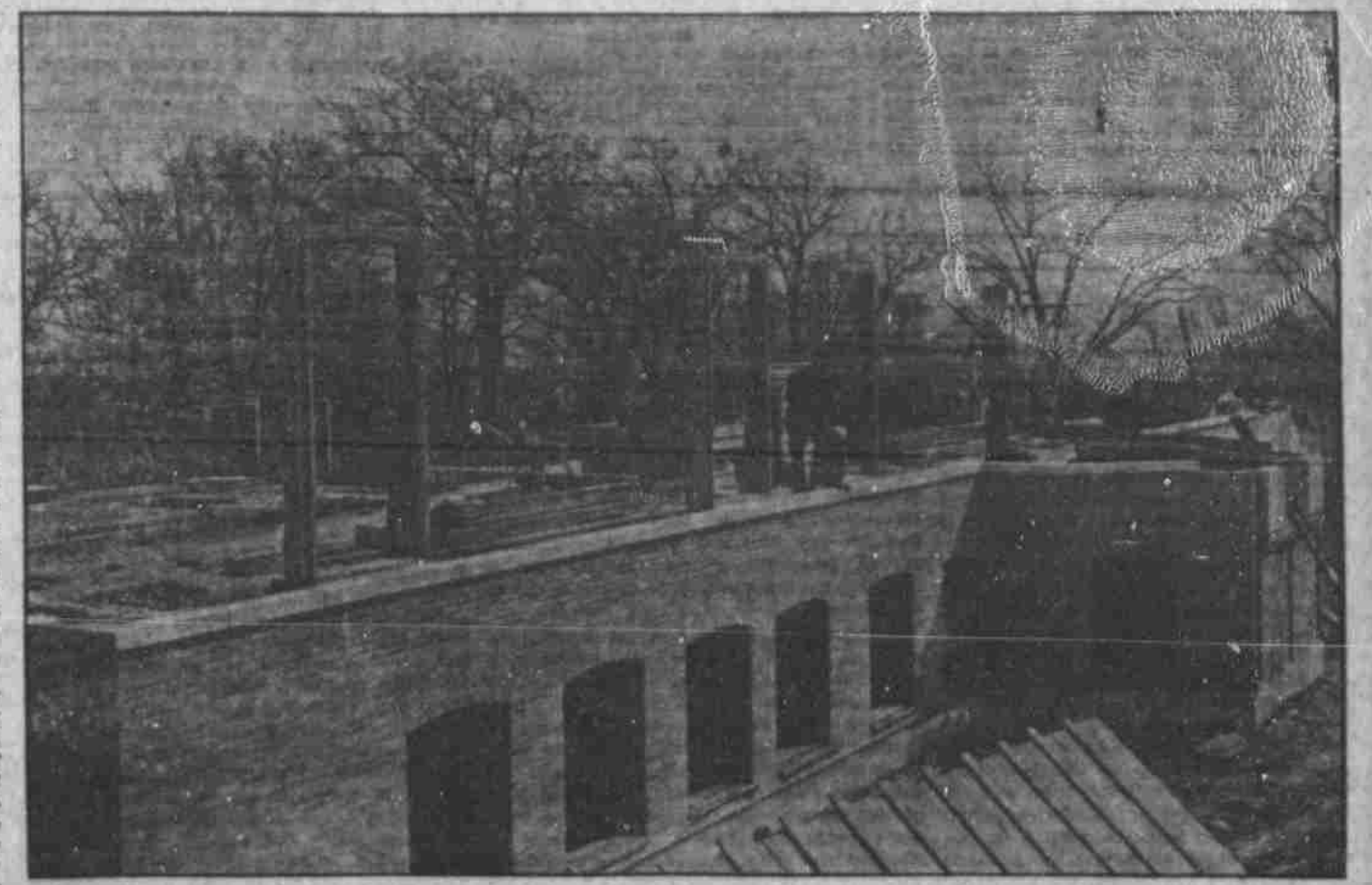
## Emil Brandeis Among the Egyptians

**C**OLONEL EMIL BRANDEIS of Omaha will not be present at the presentation of a silver service to the battleship Nebraska by Governor Sheldon, for the very good reason that he is on the other side of the globe. During the last three months Colonel Brandeis has been spending his time among the magnificent relics of the domes and buried greatness of Egypt. From the modern hotels and other evidences of a new and virile civilization as found at Alex-

andria to the uttermost limits of the past in the upper reaches of the Nile, he has pursued his investigations with more than the ordinary traveler's assiduity, and will be ready to tell a tale to his friends when he gets back to Omaha. Before he left here he said he was going for a rest and wanted to get so far away that the rush of the big store could not possibly reach him. The photograph shows him surrounded by such evidences of rest as indicated that he has achieved the object of his quest.



EMIL BRANDEIS IN PHAROAH'S GARDEN AT MEMPHIS.



CLARKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BUILDING READY TO RECEIVE THE CORNER STONE.