

# NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SECTIONS.

## ALL SUBJECTS TOUCHED UPON

Religious, Social, Agricultural, Political and Other Matters Given Due Consideration.

Johnson county has decided to hold a fair this year, sometime in October.

The state railway commission refused to authorize the ten cent rate of the Nebraska Traction and Power company between Omaha and Ralston.

By the will of Mrs. Marie Steinbeck of Grand Island, which has just been probated, the Nebraska Children's Home Society receives \$500.

The first annual old settlers' reunion for Cass county was held at Union and was attended by thousands of people.

At Weston Will Warren's four-year-old girl was badly bitten about the face by a dog which it is believed has hydrophobia.

At Lincoln death came instantly to Maurice Laughlin, a young lineman in the employ of the traction company. He was killed by a shock while on top of the hurry-up repair wagon.

City delivery service will be established on November 1 at Aurora with three letter carriers, one substitute carrier, twenty street letter boxes and one combination box.

T. S. Keltner of Wagner, who had been attending to some business in the land office at Broken Bow, was found dead in bed at the home of D. M. Amsberry, with whom he was stopping. Death was due to heart failure.

The county commissioners of Otoe county have given notice to all farmers to comply with the law in the matter of cutting weeds about their places and unless it is done and the roads kept clear the work will be done and charged up to their property.

Pioneer day will be celebrated Saturday, August 28, at the public park in Florence by the old settlers of Douglas county. The civil war veterans of Douglas county hold an encampment of four days at Florence beginning August 25 and ending with Pioneer day.

Patrick Duncan of Rulo found a body on a sand bar five miles north of Rulo left there by the high water of the Missouri river. There was very little left of the body but the skeleton and no trace of the identity of this man could be discovered by Coroner Reneker.

A separator belonging to William Leonard of Odell was burned on the farm of Frank Burger, ten miles southwest of Beatrice, while the harvest hands were eating supper. It is believed to be the work of an incendiary. Bloodhounds were taken to the Burger farm to assist in ferreting out the case. The loss is placed at \$1,000.

Charles Bumgard and Clara Powers, who eloped from Sabetha, Kan., were arrested at Fairbury and lodged in jail. En route west they stopped off at Rockford in the same county, but upon learning that the officers were after them, left on the first train before a warrant for their arrest could be issued.

Great preparations are being made for the annual agricultural fair at Calaway, the dates for this year being September 21, 22, 23 and 24. This fair was organized and is supported exclusively by the business men of Calaway and the farmers of the community, and no financial help is received from either the state or county.

Frank Larson, who received a Carnegie medal about two years ago for saving the life of little Earl Delaney at Exeter, is to marry the mother. One day when young Larson was firing on the road he saw a child on the track ahead of the engine which was moving at the rate of forty miles an hour. He climbed out of the window and made his way to the cowcatcher, where he pushed the child away from the track and thus saved his life.

In answer to the request of the railroad companies for a postponement of the hearing on the classification of freight rates set for the latter part of September, the State Railway commission has made the roads a proposition to the effect that if the railroads will furnish a transcript of all the evidence taken before the court for the use of the commission it will consent to a postponement until December 1.

James J. Hill, chairman of the board of the Great Northern, has offered \$2,500 in gold as prizes to be awarded for the best grains and grasses grown in the territory along his lines to be exhibited at the National Corn Exposition in Omaha December 6 to 18. The money is to be divided into 200 prizes by Prof. C. P. Bull of the Minnesota Agricultural College and Prof. Thos. Shaw of the Dakota Farmer. There will be about 40 first prizes for wheat, oats, barley, corn, clover, timothy and alfalfa hay, as well as prizes for speltz and field peas.

John Palm, a painter from Omaha, secured work temporarily on the farm of Charles Smith over on White Rock creek south of Superior and while on the windmill tower, oiling the gearing, he lost his balance and fell, breaking both legs.

Joseph Wackel, the 19-year-old son of Nicholas Wackel, a well known farmer of Cuming county, committed suicide by blowing the top of his head off with a shot gun. The boy has been sickly for some time and was partially crippled.

At Monowi, Frank Jura, in ill health, suicided by shooting.

# FROM SAVAGERY to WILL P. SHAFTER

## MINIONS of the LAW

THE mutiny of 30 members of the Philippine constabulary at Davao has brought to notice that splendid organization, founded on the remnants of Aguinaldo's insurrectionary army in the early days of the American occupation. For the last eight years they have given to the islands a season of law and order and to various tribes of our newer domain a respect for the majesty of the great nation of whose army they form, though indirectly, an important part.

The mutiny, in itself, amounted to little. One American planter was killed by the bullets of the mutineers and there were two or three men wounded. Then the loyal members of the constabulary, with the backing of small detachments of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth United States Infantry, chased the would-be revolutionaries back into the fastnesses of the Davaoan hills and, within 48 hours of the first notice of the difficulty reaching headquarters the first internal serious trouble since the organization of the corps was at an end.

The Philippine constabulary was organized just nine years ago. At the conclusion of the insurrection of 1899-1900 the military governor of the Philippines, Gen. Arthur MacArthur, issued the following order:

"In order to encourage among the people the idea of self-protection against robbers and roving bands of criminals, with which the country abounds, department commanders are authorized to arm the local police in towns where such action, in their judgment, would be prudent and expedient. For this purpose requisitions may be submitted to the division headquarters for caliber .45 Colt's revolvers and an adequate supply of ammunition. This arm will be replaced at an early date by a more suitable weapon.

"For the better performance of the duties contemplated it is desired that the organization of police be systematized and, if possible, the scope of action extended so as to make these constabulary bodies, by means of mounted detachments, conservators of the peace and safety of districts, instead of confining their operations to areas limited by the boundaries of towns and barracks.

"Department commanders are empowered to enforce the provisions of this order by appropriate instructions."

By the autumn of 1900 some organization of the constabulary had been effected and in February, 1901, the Philippine government had, in addition to the army and the native scouts then on duty, an embryo of the present efficient constabulary force numbering 2,571 men.

The newly organized body had an amusing complexity of personnel and diversity of armament. It included every race and every color, every language and every degree of civilization, from cultured Castilians of the Malecon drive to the dusky savage of Mindanao and Negros. The catalogue of their weapons was fully as mixed as their racial affiliations.

The organization grew in numbers and in popularity. At first the ill-disposed were prone to take chances with the little "coppers." They had seen them as soldiers of the army of Aguinaldo driven from point to point by the husky soldiers of the United States until they had become imbued with the idea that running was their chief and only accomplishment. It took but a few brushes with them to show that they had gained something of Uncle Sam's determination to do things in his own way and when the way of the preserver of order and the native disorganizer ran counter something had to drop, and drop hard. Gradually the good work of the constabulary became understood and with the spread of their reputation for keeping things straight the minor disorders of the urban and agricultural communities became fewer and fewer.

When at the last pacification of the civilized and semi-civilized portions of the islands became an established fact the constabulary took up the work of teaching the hill tribes, the head hunters and professional larders that the plying of their various forms of nefarious business or pleasure anywhere near a constabulary post was a highly unwholesome pastime. When the hillmen and others got enough of going out on trouble hunts the constabulary organized little trips on their own account and went back into the woods to drag out the real bad men and teach them the art of behaving themselves even under their own vines and banana trees.

One of the most remarkable things about the organization of the constabulary has been their extreme amenability to discipline and their readiness to assimilate western ideas of conduct and deportment by the members of the force. In the illustrations will be noticed photographs of a detachment of Moro and Subano recruits. These pictures of the same group of men were taken only four months apart. In the first the barefoot, disheveled, turbaned band had just entered the service

as the veriest of rookies. In the second picture, straight, trim, clean, well-drilled and set up fit to make even a regular look to his laurels, they are presented again. In a third of a year they have been converted from semi-savagery and are representative members of one of the best disciplined bodies of troops in the world.

The Philippines have been divided into districts by the constabulary and each of these districts—there are five in all—contains about a thousand of these soldier policemen. The force numbers, in addition to the sub-district of Palawan and the Constabulary school at Intramuros, Manila, something over 5,000.

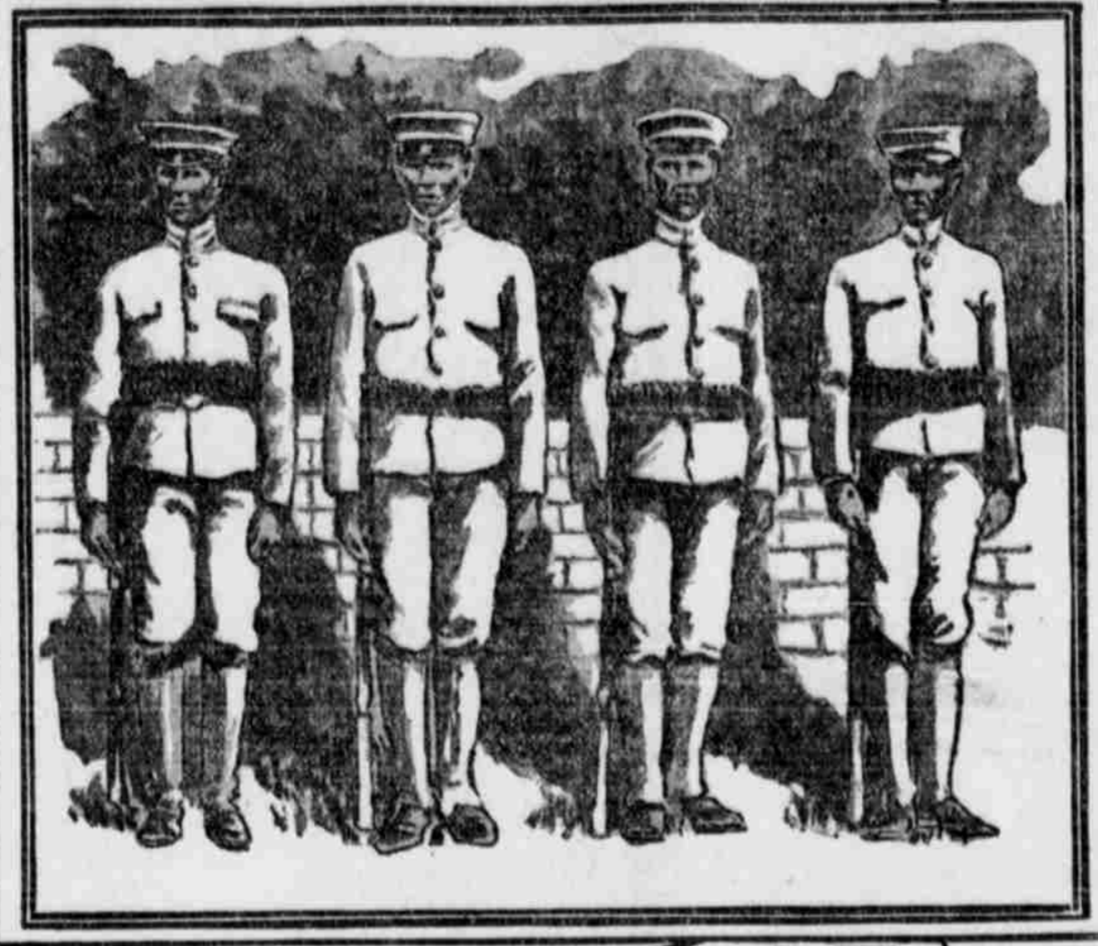
They are under the command of Brig-Gen. Henry H. Bandholtz, who holds the title of director. There is an assistant director, two inspectors and a staff of about a dozen officers attached to the headquarters at Manila. There is a director for each of the general districts of the archipelago and these districts in turn are divided into subdistricts and minor stations, some of the smaller stations having only half a dozen policemen in charge.

In the early days of the force the officers of commissioned rank were all Americans. A large percentage, a majority, in fact, are still natives of the States, but there is always opportunity for the ambitious and educated Filipino to reach a promotion if by diligence, fidelity and good hard work he desires to accomplish it.

The force at first appeared in a great variety of uniforms, everything from the cast-off blue and white drill of their former conquerors, the Spaniards, to the rusty blue flannel shirts and khaki breeches of the American volunteers, who put Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo out of business. To-day they are all uniformly attired and their appearance is distinctly natty. Khaki for service and general wear, with shoulder cords and facings of artillery red, caps or campaign hats, in accordance with the season, wool puttees and comfortable canvas shoes complete the rig.

For dress occasions the officers wear snowy duck and the enlisted men are privileged to provide themselves with a similar costume for fiesta days and Sundays if they so desire. The Mahometan members of the organization wear the tarboosh or fez instead of the cap, as may be seen in the picture of the Moro detachment, which is known officially as Company A, Fifth district constabulary. The fez is of crimson felt and the tassel which hangs to the eyebrows is of yellow silk.

A portion of the force is mounted. It is the hope of the Philippine government that, as the islands become more and more orderly and the necessity for the retention of regular cavalry has passed, they will be able to make nearly the whole constabulary a mounted organization. Horses or the little Philippine



PART OF COMPANY A, 2ND DIST - ONE YEAR IN SERVICE



SAME RECRUITS ON DAY OF ENLISTMENT



BEFORE A BONTOC IGORROTE AND AFTER

ponies have been used most of the time, one of the pictures shows what the men have been put to at times of flood, the carabo, the unique Philippine beast of burden, having been used as a cavalry horse on more than one occasion. When on land his progress is perhaps a trifle slow, but he is a mud horse of high degree, a splendid wader and an even better swimmer. Some of the Americans who have had occasion to use the carabo as a means of locomotion say that they would be almost willing to attempt the crossing of the Pacific astride his bony shoulders.

As a supplement to the army of occupation and a go-between that is not military in anything save arms and discipline and which the

insular government can use as it will and when or wherever it is needed the Philippine constabulary stand comparable to any irregular force in the world. They have much in common with the Indian police maintained for much similar purposes by the viceregal government of British India, but they are more the soldier than even that famous body of conservers of the law. Their discipline has improved with rapid strides and has kept pace with their efficiency and usefulness.

The constabulary maintains the finest military band in the islands. It was their band which participated in the inauguration of President Taft and which later toured the United States, giving concerts.

### CURIOSITIES OF BIRD-NESTING

An authority says: "It is not at all an uncommon thing to find the first and sometimes second egg of a young bird abnormally small, but I came across a case some few years ago which was quite unique. In April, 1901, I was hunting for a few clutches of the carrion crow in some small woods, which were their favorite nesting places in that district. I walked right through the first wood without success, but on leaving it I saw, perched on a tree some distance away, two crows. Guessing that I had disturbed them and that they were watching me, I walked on for some distance, still keeping my eye on them. Sure enough, as soon as they were satisfied that I was leaving, one of them made off straight for a large oak tree at the extreme end of the wood I had just left. On returning I discovered the nest and the reason I had missed it. It was

built out on the extreme end of the lowest limb of the tree, within 10 feet of the ground, and hidden by the undergrowth below—a most unusual position. I climbed to the nest and was much astonished at the contents. In it were four miniature crow's eggs, very little larger than blackbird's eggs, and in shape almost round. On blowing them I found the shells were abnormally thick and tough for the size of the egg and they contained no yolk. Knowing that crows invariably remain in the same locality year after year, the following season I went to look for my friends again and to my great delight found the nest in a very similar position in another oak tree within 20 yards of the first nest. It contained five eggs, four exact counterparts of the first clutch and one of normal size, the only one to contain any yolk. The following season I found them for the third time again quite close to the previous nests; this time there were four eggs, only one small one and three full size."