

GEN. ALGER'S REPORT SUGGESTIONS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

The Grade of Lieutenant General Should be Revived—Additional Regiments of Artillery Needed—Military Attachés—Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—In his first annual report, Secretary Alger makes many recommendations for the betterment of the administration of the war department, based upon the conclusions of his subordinate officers.

He says of Alaska that as many as 100,000 people will be gathered there next year, and a military force should be sent to the territory and large emergency powers should be granted to the president to repress lawlessness.

Secretary Alger recommends the revival of the grade of lieutenant general, saying that all the great nations give their officers much higher rank than does the United States.

He indorses the recommendation of the superintendent of the military academy that the number of students at West Point be increased by allowing each senator to nominate a cadet.

Favorable comment is made upon the work of the military colleges of the country, but it is suggested that the law be amended so as to authorize details of army officers only to such colleges as have at least 250 pupils actually present.

Attention is called to the need of a proper system of criminal jurisdiction over military reservations and a hall of records for the storage of official papers. The estimate for army transportation is increased by \$104,000 to provide means for moving heavy ordnance.

Until recently, the hospital at Hot Springs was open only to soldiers of the regular army, but Secretary Alger has just amended the regulations so as to authorize the admission of suitable cases among the veterans of the late war.

In the opinion of the secretary, an increase in the engineer corps in officers and enlisted men is indispensable. He points to the immediate value and extent of the work now in the hands of this corps and contends that it could be better supervised and improved in quantity and quality by the assignment of more officers, which is now impossible.

Secretary Alger transmits without reduction the estimate of the chief engineers for the next fiscal year, amounting to \$48,728,160, more than double the appropriations for the current year.

Secretary Alger especially commends for patriotism, generosity and real, Colonel Buffington and Captain Crozier, the inventors of the disappearing gun carriage, who generously donated the invention to the government.

The report closes with the renewal of the recommendation that provision be made for the erection in Washington of a statue to General Grant.

The estimates for the next fiscal year aggregate \$96,258,445, as against \$63,822,417, the amount of the appropriations for the current year.

The principal items of increase are the rivers and harbors, where the estimate is \$48,728,160, as against the appropriation of \$23,378,028; fortifications and sea coast defenses, \$13,378,571, as against \$9,517,141; and military posts, parks and cemeteries, \$3,559,432, against \$289,897.

New York, Nov. 23.—A murder broke up the wedding feast at the marriage of Isaac Goldstein to Katie Gordon last night in the flat of Velta Gordon in a tenement house on Henry street.

General Ordway and his wife returned from Europe last Wednesday. They engaged rooms at the Hoffman house. Next day the general was taken sick, and he continued to grow weaker and weaker until 7:15 o'clock last evening, when he died.

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CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—There was a general fall in the temperature of from 18 to 20 degrees throughout the Northwest yesterday. Havre, Mont., and Medicine Hat, N. W. T., carried off the honors, the thermometer at both points registering 10 degrees below zero.

DICKERING WITH CUBANS.

General Pando Seeking to End the War—Trying to Buy Leaders.

HAVANA, Nov. 23.—General Pando started by train last Saturday to take charge of the campaign against the insurgents. He was accompanied by his full staff and was escorted by a company of artillery.

For several months Morrison has been engaged to Miss Whittelsey of Topeka, a sister of the owners of the Whittelsey Grocery company, and they were to be married here during the Christmas holidays.

Morrison had been in Topeka attending the fall festival just a week before. He returned to Topeka October 21 and has been here most of the time since.

Morrison and Miss Whittelsey were engaged to be married October 3, nearly a week before the date of his wife's death. He was here from the latter part of September until October 2, when he left suddenly for Texas, having, it is alleged, secured a postponement of the marriage on the excuse that he had a large herd of cattle in Texas and the animals were dying of fever.

General Pando instructed Caballero to offer General Rabi a high rank in the Spanish army and a large sum of money to be distributed among the other insurgent leaders of that part of Cuba and, in addition, a large amount of money for himself.

It is generally admitted that General Pando is somewhat mortified at the non-success of his plans up to the present. The general, it is understood, will continue his efforts to come to an understanding with the insurgents, and the military authorities believe the best way to do this is to inflame upon the enemy the signal defeat which General Pando hopes to accomplish.

GENERAL ORDWAY DEAD

Expiree at a Hotel After a Brief Illness—His Notorious Daughter.

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General Ordway's death is attributed by the attending physician to jaundice and pleurisy, which developed from a cold contracted in Paris.

Brevet Brigadier General Ordway, who was born in 1843, served with credit and gallantry throughout the civil war, the greater portion of the time with his regiment, the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts infantry.

For gallantry at various times, and because of his ability, he had been successively promoted until, at 21 years of age he was made brevet brigadier general, being the youngest officer in the service to receive that grade.

CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—Rev. P. T. Gentry, one of the oldest ministers in Missouri, and a man with a state reputation, died Sunday afternoon, aged 85 years, leaving a wife to whom he has been married sixty-five years and seven children, some of whom hold responsible positions of trust in Kirksville, Mexico, Booneville and Columbia. It was his desire to die on Sunday.

PREACHER AS A POISONER.

Uxoricide in Order to Marry a Topeka Woman Charged.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 23.—The Topeka police have arrested the Rev. A. E. Morrison, Methodist, of Panhandle, Texas, and are holding him on suspicion of murder until the sheriff can arrive from Panhandle and take him home for trial.

For several months Morrison has been engaged to Miss Whittelsey of Topeka, a sister of the owners of the Whittelsey Grocery company, and they were to be married here during the Christmas holidays.

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MOTHER AND CHILD BURN.

Mrs. Griggs and Little Girl of Topeka Perish Together in Their Home.

TOPEKA, Nov. 23.—About 4 o'clock yesterday morning the house occupied and owned by Mrs. Mary E. Griggs, a widow of 52, and her son Walter, aged 18, and daughter Ethel, aged 19, caught fire from the kitchen stove and was soon in flames.

Mrs. Griggs aroused her son, who, after vainly attempting to escape down the stairway, jumped from a window and an ankle was sprained. Then the mother ran down the hall to call her daughter, and this she lost her life, for after the firemen had partially extinguished the flames they found her body, frightfully burned, just inside the daughter's room close to the child's bed.

The child was found in the room burned black by the flames, but not destroyed. The child had left her bed and tried to reach the door where her mother was.

DEAD IN A WATER BARREL.

A Topeka Hatcher Stricken With Heart Disease and Then Drowned.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 23.—Ed Baechner, aged 52, a dealer in provisions and president of the Arion society, was found dead this morning in his shop with his head under water in a barrel used to catch drip water from a refrigerator.

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NEWS IN BRIEF.

Mr. Bryan says that he expects to remain in politics all his life. It is reported that Gladstone's health is rapidly failing.

The government has abandoned the attempt to make soldiers of Indians. Legrand Larow of Lamar, Mo., rejoices in a beard seven feet in length.

The Cœur d'Alene country is flooded for the second time in its history. Fort Scott is without water. The supply is entirely exhausted on account of the long drought.

Bank robbers failed in an effort to loot the Breckinridge, Mo., savings bank.

The leading racing men of the country have decided to boycott the California Jockey club's tracks.

Eleven buildings were burned in Kansas City, Kan., and four badly damaged. Loss, \$25,000.

The Spanish cabinet has prohibited the proposed demonstrations in honor of General Weyler.

Miss Edna Whitney, the Chillicothe "Labor Queen," will soon move to Kansas City and study for the stage.

George Tubb, one of Durant's lawyers, has been missing since last June, and foul play is feared.

The conductor and gripman of a Kansas City cable car were badly wounded by a highwayman who attempted to rob the conductor.

Major J. K. Hudson has joined the opposition against Leland in Kansas, and has given out a fiery interview against Republican bossism.

The officers of the O. M. B. lodge, Lawrence, Kan., have been convicted of selling liquor and maintaining a nuisance.

William Jacobson, a teacher in the Indian school at Carlisle, Pa., has plied with Julia Bulard, a quarter-breed Sioux girl.

APPEALS TO RUSSIA.

China Wants the Germans Ousted.

GRAVE COMPLICATIONS MAY ENSEUE OVER THE ACTIONS OF THE KAISER'S WARSHIPS IN TAKING POSSESSION OF A CHINESE ISLAND—GERMANY AFTER LAND.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—According to a Washington dispatch to the Herald, China has appealed to Russia to oust Germany from her territory as a result of occupation by a German force of a part of the Shan Tung peninsula.

As the Russian legation in Peking is in charge of the secretary, Count Cassina, the minister having been transferred to Washington, the negotiations on the subject are being conducted in St. Petersburg. It is hoped by the Chinese that the influence exerted by Russia, which prevented the rehabilitation of the Turkish navy, will be exercised upon Germany with equal success in the matter of her withdrawal from Chinese territory.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the Chinese government to get Germany to name a date when she would withdraw her forces, the German government has taken no step in the matter, and the fear is expressed in Eastern and European diplomatic circles that her occupation, if not of a permanent character now, is simply a preliminary to such an end.

A diplomat thoroughly conversant with Eastern affairs made this statement in regard to the landing of the German force: "At the time the landing occurred the Chinese government had already taken measures for the amends of the murders of the German missionaries, and, in fact, instructions of this character had been obeyed to such an extent that several of the culprits had been placed under arrest. It was also intended to require the people of the district in which the murders occurred to pay a suitable indemnity. These facts had been laid before the German minister in Peking, who, I may say, is of a very excitable temperament, and his failure to accept the apology and await the results of the efforts of the Chinese government show that Germany was simply awaiting a pretext to occupy a portion of the territory belonging to the Celestial kingdom. Germany has always been anxious to obtain territory in the far East. Her citizens, who have established themselves in China, have been especially clamorous that the black, white and red flag should wave over a section of that country, and their government, seeing the opportunity growing out of the murder of the two missionaries, promptly seized it."

The attitude of the other European governments is of interest. None of the latter desires to see Germany obtain a slice of Eastern territory, though it is said she landed her forces after having informed them of her purpose. I believe China's representations to Russia will result in representations being made by the latter government to the Berlin officials. It will be only in case of pressure, I believe, that Germany will withdraw her troops from the Shan Tung promontory."

LONDON, Nov. 24.—According to a special dispatch from Berlin, received here to-day, the German government considers that the land occupied by the forces of Germany at Kion Chou bay, Shan Tun peninsula, China, is sufficient for a naval station and proposes to enlarge its holdings there, "diplomatically, if possible."

COMPETITOR CREW HOME

Too Weak to Respond to the Cheers of Welcome in New York.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—The recently released Competitor prisoners arrived in New York from Havana yesterday. They are Captain Alfredo Laborde, William Gludea, Osa Melton, William Leavitt and Charles Barnett, an Englishman. The five men were in fairly good health and excellent spirits on reaching quarantine. Captain Laborde suffered somewhat from paralysis, which he contracted during his long confinement in the Cuban fortress.

The six men who had escaped the fate of the Virginian captives were greeted upon their arrival in New York by an enthusiastic crowd, who gave them a hearty welcome. The poor wretches were too weak to respond to the cheers which had been given in their honor.

Probably the most wretched of the Competitor's crew is Osa Melton. Last Thursday afternoon he was taken out of the dungeon, as he supposed, to be shot, but in the corridor he met Consul General Lee, who, to Melton's surprise, informed him that all of the Competitor prisoners had been pardoned. When arrested Melton weighed 165 pounds but now he could not pull down the scales to 100 pounds. He will remain here for about a week, and will then return to his home.

GERALD IS VINDICATED.

Waco Jury Holds That He Acted in Self-Defense.

WACO, Tex., Nov. 24.—At the hearing in the case of Colonel G. B. Gerald, who shot and killed the Harris brothers in a controversy arising out of the Brann-Baylor case, it was shown that Colonel Gerald was justified and he was exonerated by the court. It was shown that Colonel Gerald did not draw his weapon until he himself was under cross fire from the Harris brothers, and that the shooting was in self-defense. Colonel Gerald is resting easily at his home, and receives callers freely.

Soldier's Burial for Ordway. NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—General Albert Ordway, who died Sunday night at the Hoffman house from the shock sustained on learning of the illness of his daughter, Bettina Gerard, will be buried in Washington with military honors.

Negro Malefactors Break Jail. MARYSVILLE, Mo., Nov. 24.—Jim Gaulling and Shine Groves, negro boys, held pending sentence for burglary and larceny, broke jail yesterday and are still at large. The jailers do not know how they escaped.

Accident May Cost His Life. Thomas Curran, one of the industrious and thrifty farmers about twenty-five years old, residing near Brady's Crossing, in Dakota county, was riding on a load of shelled corn, when in going down a hill he slipped off; the wagon went across his back. The load contained sixty bushels of corn. He may die.

Peter Wanser, the oldest resident of Butler county, died Sunday night. He was ninety-two years of age. He was born on Long Island and was a veteran of the Mexican war. He leaves a wife and three children.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to blow the safe of C. A. Pyle's lumber yard office at Benedict Tuesday night. A well defined clue is being followed.

APPEAL TO CUBA FRIENDS

Address by the American League—For Action by Congress.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—The Cuban League of the United States of America, has issued an address to the branch leagues in various parts of the country urging united and energetic action in a further effort to induce Congress to grant belligerent rights to Cuba.

The address, which is signed by Colonel Ethan Allen, the president of the league, points out, first, that the Cuban problem is approaching its solution and demands that the American people should insist upon their political representatives taking action in behalf of the Cuban insurgents. "The onward march of wealth," it continues, "reducing our officials to inaction while murder has been done, the insincerity of rulers in inventing special pleas to cover their treachery to national duty, the open and unnecessary interference with the legal commerce of the country as an act of grace to brutal Spain, and making us her ally against these following our heroic teachings, have all run their course to the wounding of national pride and to our utterly exhausted patience. But time and the Cuban sword have brought the crisis which foretells a final cure in Cuban independence. This is the hour of American opportunity. Effective work can be done, which, if well done, will go far to excuse our past neglect. Congress is the objective point. Cuba should be put on equal terms with Spain, regarding supplies from our burdened magazines."

The address then calls upon its members throughout the country to unite in demanding that their congressional representatives shall vote for the granting of belligerent rights to the insurgents.

PIANO TRUST UNDER WAY

The Big Manufacturers Scheming—Will be a Huge Affair.

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—The World says: "Several attempts have been made during the past six years to bring the piano industry into line with the numerous other great industries that have united. Alfred Dolge was the prime mover in former plans. He has spent years working up the deals of his great project.

Among the firms it is hoped will become a part of the organization, are these: Steinway & Sons, Sohmer & Co., Hazleton Bros., Alfred Dolge & Son, Weber-Wheelock Co., Strauch Bros., E. Gabler & Bros., Spies Piano Manufacturing company, Wessel, Nickel & Gross, Haines Bros., Krakauer Bros., Pease Piano company, Decker & Son, Esty Piano company, Jacob Doll, Weiser Bros., Behr Bros., J. & C. Fischer, Davenport & Treacy company, Roth & Englehart, Needham Piano & Organ company, the Kroeger Piano company, the Chickering, the Knabe and the Cottage companies.

"The Steinway, Chickering, Knabe Kimball and Cable (Chicago Cottage) companies, will, it is expected be the promoters, with the supply house of Alfred Dolge for the backbone of the organization. The organization will have branch houses in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, Denver, San Francisco, and in a few other large cities. Great savings are expected. On the output of 100,000 pianos (a good year's product) the saving in advertising alone would amount to from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000. A still greater saving is expected from the concentration in a few factories in the great cities of the work now done in a hundred factories scattered all over the country."

ELIOT FAVORS FOOT BALL

Harvard's President Comes Out as Champion of the Game.

BOSTON, Nov. 24.—President Eliot of Harvard makes the following statement over his signature: "Everybody cannot play foot ball. It is only the strong and well built men who can expect to play the game with any degree of success. Therefore I do not favor foot ball for everybody."

"So I think foot ball should not be prohibited without just cause. I have never heard of any city or state ordinance prohibiting the playing of the game before the bill in Georgia was passed. And I repeat, the grounds on which the passing of that bill was affected are not sufficient to attract my favor."

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INVESTIGATING RATES.

Board of Transportation Secretaries at South Omaha.

Secretaries Dahlman, Edgerton, and Laws of the state board of transportation went over to South Omaha Monday morning and began the investigation of the alleged excessive charge for transportation of live stock by the railway companies under their new tariff, which charges by the hundred pounds instead of by the car as formerly. This complaint is made a part of the general complaint of overcharging filed by T. H. Tibbles, but it is backed up by J. R. Van Boskirk of Alliance, secretary of a live stock shipping association, which by resolution at a recent meeting, directed him to prefer and prosecute the charge. Van Boskirk was present today to urge the case, although the commission, or rather Secretary Edgerton, the lawyer of the board of secretaries, pronounced the inquiries that brought out the testimony for the complaint.

The railways were represented by a big squad of attorneys. A number of witnesses were examined relative to the rates for stock. It appeared from the testimony that under the old schedule shippers used to pack the cattle into the cars as tightly as the safety of the cattle would permit, as the cost was the same for a packed car as for one that was not so well filled. Now the railroad companies provide a minimum charge for the car, and if the load runs over a specified weight according to the length of the car, there is a charge of so much a hundred for all over the minimum. Shippers therefore now only seek to be certain that they get enough cattle into a car to reach the minimum. It is claimed that under the new schedule of rates the cost is 50 per cent greater than it was under the old. The railroads deny this.

The hearing was continued to Tuesday.

CERESCO STORE LOOTED.

Burglars Raise a Nash and Help Them selves at Leisure.

The store of Nelson & Co. of Cerescos was burglarized the other night. Admittance was gained to the store by breaking a glass out of the side window and raising the sash. The thieves helped themselves to at least a dozen pairs of shoes, a dozen or more suits of underclothing, some shirts and other articles have been missed which no doubt were taken at the same time. No one sleeps at the store, hence they had an easy time helping themselves and escaping without detection.

Worked by a Stranger. A smooth swindler operated successfully in the vicinity of Tekamah recently. Two local physicians each had a patient in the county whom they were treating for an eye affection. The stranger dropped quietly into town and hired a livery rig and went out to visit these patients. He represented himself as an eye specialist and said he had been sent by the physician in charge to make an examination of the eyes, which he pretended to do. He represented to each patient that his case was a critical one and demanded expert attention, succeeding in fleecing from each a fee of \$25 for a worthless prescription which he left them. He drove to a neighboring town and notified the Tekamah liveryman to come after his team. He has so far successfully eluded capture.

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Sugar Beet Factory. Considerable correspondence is passing between the capitalists desiring to locate a beet sugar factory in Fremont and the committee appointed by the board of trade. It has a business ring and the committee is of the opinion that arrangements can be perfected. The agent representing the easterners received a telegram Monday stating that they would accept Fremont's proposition of \$30,000 of bonds and forty acres of ground, providing the bonds be raised to \$75,000. The committee held a meeting to talk the matter over and decided to stand pat on its original offer.

Got a Move on Them. At a special meeting of the Omaha city council Monday afternoon, a communication was read from City Attorney Baldrige stating that an ordinance pending by which it was proposed to license slot machines, was in contravention of the statute against gambling. The council thereupon decided to notify the police to have the machines closed by 8 o'clock Tuesday morning. Monday evening the board of fire and police commissioners held a meeting and instructed Chief Gallagher to "at once" see that the machines were closed down, which he did, thus forestalling the action of the mayor.

Lindille Captured. Word comes from Dakota City that Sheriff Borowski had returned from Spink county, South Dakota, having in charge James Lindille, who on the morning of August 23, 1897, in a drunken row at Goodwin, Dakota county, shot Henry Carpenter, who died the same day from the effects of the wounds. He was apprehended through W. W. Klasse, a farm hand who knew Lindille, who went to South Dakota to work and ran across him.

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