

NEBRASKA NEWS.

The Clarks board of trustees decided not to accept the waterworks system in its present condition. It claims that the plan is not in compliance with the contract.

While the family of Jacob Shively of Fairfield were at church, sneak thieves effected an entrance by forcing a door and got away with about \$150 worth of money and jewelry.

The governor has been requested to name delegates to the tenth session of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress, which meets at Wichita May 31 and June 1, 2 and 3 of this year.

The annual meeting of the Western Nebraska Stock Growers' association will be held on May 9 next at Alliance. The subject of inspection will come up for settlement at this meeting, and it is desired that there be a full attendance.

Citizens of Beatrice are sorry to learn of the wounding of A. S. Wadsworth, second lieutenant of company B. Mr. Wadsworth left that city as a private of company C when the war broke out, but has been promoted during his career as a soldier.

A little son of C. H. Aldrich of David City swallowed the contents of a bottle of cough syrup and had a close call for his life. A physician was immediately called, and after a few hours' skillful treatment the little fellow was pronounced out of danger.

James O. West, of Grand Island, Neb., who has been appointed deputy collector of customs at Manila under Lieutenant Colonel Colton of the First Nebraska volunteers left for San Francisco with orders to sail as soon as possible. The position is worth about \$3,500 per year.

John Miller, living north of Exeter, while hawking with four horses, noticed his pigs over at his neighbor's. Tying his horses to a wire fence he went to drive them home, and while gone the horses got loose and started to run with the harrow and before he could return one horse was killed and another badly cut up.

The motion for a new trial in the Argabright case was overruled by Judge Litton at Auburn and Argabright was sentenced to ninety-nine years in the penitentiary. The case will be taken to the supreme court, as there is great dissatisfaction relative to the manner in which the case was conducted by the prosecution.

When the announcement came from Fort St. Vrain to Valentine that Colonel Stotsberg of the First Nebraska had fallen in battle the Grand Army of the Republic flag was hoisted at half mast, followed by the one over the high school building and but a short time elapsed before flags at half mast were seen floating from most of the business houses, which remained so for the day.

Of the twenty-two boys who enlisted from St. Edward in the First Nebraska regiment two were discharged from duty at Honolulu, Lieutenant Sisson killed and seven are now in the hospital suffering from wounds. The last one reported was Eli Sisson, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Sisson, cousin of Lieutenant L. E. Sisson, who has many friends that hope his wounds will not prove serious.

Every day from twenty-five to fifty laborers are carried out of Omaha for railroad work in western Nebraska and Wyoming, but that is only the forerunner of the movement which will begin the first of next month. The proprietor of one of the labor agencies in that city says that he alone will send between 500 and 600 men every week after May 1. These laborers are sent to different localities where railroad construction is under way.

State Senator Newell of Cass county was in Lincoln last week in company with T. E. Parmelee of Plattsmouth. They were en route home from a visit to Marquette in Hamilton county, where they have a large cattle ranch. They own 1,350 acres out there and are feeding 350 head of cattle. Part of the grain for the stock is raised on the ranch, about 300 acres being under cultivation. They had the Hamilton county ranch in operation about five years, and it has thus far proved very profitable.

Settlement for the month of March with the patrons of the Schuyler Creamery company occurred last week, the thirty-five patrons of the company receiving a total of \$1,081.90 for 175,998 pounds of milk skimmed at Schuyler and other stations, as follows: Schuyler, 50,613; Octavia, 43,922; Station No. 2, 46,534 and Station No. 3, 34,924, which netted a gain of 24,264 pounds over February. The average test was 3.97; butter fat produced, 6080.6, which was paid for at the rate of 15 1/2 cents per pound.

Adjutant General Barry has received copies of orders issued by the war department directing the honorable discharge of the following Nebraska soldiers, all being from the First regiment: Quartermaster Sergeant George W. Bemis, Privates Louis Friez, company A; William A. Coon, Jesse L. Farling, Edward M. Schoop, George W. Wilson, company B; John Anderson, Lewis M. Gable, Norman C. Griffith, William Johnson, Charles F. Runyon, George M. Thompson, Henry W. Westbrook, company C; Fred Carver, company K; James W. Chevront, company C; Thomas James, company B. These soldiers were mustered out at San Francisco and were allowed travel pay to come home from there.

Gordon has the crack hunter of the entire state. Fad Heywood a few days ago, shot, killed and brought home five wild geese, the result of one shot. Now, can any other goose hunter in the state beat or even equal this record? Don't all "squack" at once. Sheriff Byrnes of Platte county, returned from Glenwood, Ia., bringing with him George Hayden, wanted here for burglary committed last November. Jack Hayes, his pal, who was caught at the time, was tried in the district court and given three years in the penitentiary. Hayden was positively identified and concluded to come without releasing papers.

First Regiment May Return. Friends of the First Nebraska regiment have been assured that the regiment will be returned to the United States within a few days. Whether it will be possible for the war department to spare the regiment immediately is doubted by many. Brad P. Cook, of the receipt of the following letters from President McKinley's private secretary and Assistant Secretary of War Melkijohn, which indicate that the regiment may sail for home May 5:

Executive Mansion, Washington.—Mr. Brad P. Cook, Lincoln, Neb.: My Dear Sir—I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., with enclosure, and to say that it was promptly brought to the attention of the president. Very truly yours, GEORGE B. CORTELYOU, Assistant Secretary to the President.

War Department, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Washington.—Mr. Brad P. Cook, Lincoln, Neb.—Dear Sir: I am just in receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., enclosing copy of a resolution addressed to the president, adopted by the relatives, neighbors, and friends of the First Nebraska volunteers, and have very carefully noted the contents of same. In reply I take pleasure in advising you that cable advices just received from General Otis are to the effect that the return of the volunteers will commence about May 5 and will continue as rapidly as the accommodations of the transport service permit. I earnestly hope that this action of General Otis will serve in some measure to allay the natural anxiety which the relatives and friends of the Nebraska boys feel as to their return, and perhaps the statement of General Otis to the effect that the health and spirits of the troops are good will also have a tendency in the same direction. I trust that my interest in the welfare of the Nebraska regiment is not lost sight of in the earnest desire for its return to civil life. No efforts of mine have been spared to aid the troops in any way within the power of the government, and it would have pleased me as much as anyone had it been possible to have ordered the return of those troops some time ago, in response to the earnest solicitations which have emanated from the parents and friends of these boys.

I trust, however, that the prospect of their early return will be satisfactorily regarded. Very respectfully, G. D. MEIKELJOHN, Assistant Secretary of War.

Land Troubles in the Northwest.

There is being developed a condition of affairs in the grazing region of the northwest part of the state that, according to rumors from that section, portend serious conflicts between the present occupiers of government lands and others who are preparing to assert what they contend are better rights to them. In the grazing portion of the state which is sparsely settled there are large bodies of government land which have not been taken up under the homestead or other acts which permit settlers to obtain title from the government. This land is nevertheless valuable to the owners of herds of cattle and the luxuriant grass upon it is turned into dollars through the medium of the cattle that are fattened there every year. The cattlemen do not own this land and no one else has cared to purchase it. The lines defining the ranges are pretty well defined and the rule that no one will trespass on another's range previously occupied by him, is well established. Thus the use of the grazing ground is by unwritten law of the range, made by the property of the particular ranchman almost as much as if he had purchased it and held a written title to it.

Two years ago the national congress passed a law making certain provisions concerning lands belonging to the government which are included in the zone known as the semi-arid region, where irrigation and other devices for the distributing and saving and storing the water from streams are utilized to assist in the raising of crops or providing domestic animals as well as men with water for ordinary domestic purposes. One of the provisions of this law is that whenever a person or corporation builds or constructs a reservoir on or near this unsold government land in the irrigation region, that so much of this land shall be set apart and the constructor of the reservoir shall have the right to use it.

The amount of land that a company or person may take possession of is dependent upon the size of the reservoir, its capacity to hold water and supply the surrounding land with the necessary element for human livelihood. The reservoir men do not get a title from the government to the land, they simply have the sanction of the law for their occupation and use.

Recently there have been several companies formed for the purpose of building reservoirs in the grazing section of Nebraska and filing made for the use of large bodies of this government land. The promoters of these companies are said to be principally eastern people, but Nebraska citizens are also in this business. The point where the trouble is likely to arise is when these claimants to the right to use the land try to oust the ranchmen who have heretofore held it. The prospect for conflicts of this sort are said to be more than likely and if the reports that are coming in to the state capital are not exaggerated this does not seem to be far from wrong.

Weaver's livery barn in Schuyler, burned to the ground. The fire broke out about 3 o'clock and in less than thirty minutes was completely consumed. Twenty head of horses were burned, besides twelve carriages and a lot of harness and other paraphernalia. Gibson & Fiddles had the barn rented and owned most of the contents. Messrs. Flynn, Sixta, Grassman and Nelhart lost five horses and buggies which were kept in the barn. The total loss is about \$6,500, of which Weaver's is about \$3,000 on buildings and the balance is a loss on personal property within the barn.

Madman in a Theatre. MADRID, May 1.—At the Comedy theater Friday night where the queen regent and Infanta Isabel were present, a man dressed like an American was observed walking up and down the corridor with a dagger protruding from his pocket. On arrest a loaded revolver was also found. He gave an incoherent explanation. A card was found with the name Patricia Charmon, a military veterinary surgeon. It is believed he is mad.

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General Corbin said that every volunteer who participated in the fighting in the Philippines since peace was declared should have a medal of honor. By the terms of their enlistments they were entitled to withdraw from the service, but they had remained voluntarily, performing more than was required of them, which was more than the ordinary duty of a soldier. It is expected that tomorrow there will be further negotiations with the insurgent representatives. While the hope is expressed that our commission will not hold out for terms so severe as to lead to a renewal of the fighting or the withdrawal of the insurgents to another stronghold further north, it is realized that Otis must exercise care to make sure they do not in bad faith take advantage of the opportunity afforded by a suspension of hostilities to secure whatever of benefit to themselves may come from the rapidly approaching rainy season. Campaigning on the part of the Americans will be almost impossible at that time. However, it is believed that Aguinaldo is now really in earnest and that his sole effort is to shift responsibility for the surrender to the Filipino congress.

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Parities Sent Within Our Lines to See What Arrangements Can Be Made Looking to a Cessation of Hostilities—Last Ditch Undoubtedly Reached by the Insurgents.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—The end of the Filipino insurrection is in sight, in the opinion of army and navy officials. A telegram received from General Otis announced that Aguinaldo had taken what is regarded as the first step toward surrendering, namely, requesting a cessation of hostilities. Secretary Alger said, as the department closed, that, while it could not be said that peace was assured, he regarded the prospects as of the brightest and felt confident that the end of the insurrection was near. To his mind there would be a repetition of the negotiations which were had before Santiago. The secretary left Washington tonight for a ten days' trip in the west, and it gave him great satisfaction to leave affairs in such promising shape. Everybody is praising the volunteers, a marked change in the sentiment expressed a few days ago, when it was understood that the same men were pleading to be brought home. Colonel Funston came in for the most commendation, even the regular officers taking note with admiration of the fact that his achievements were all strictly within the line of plans laid down for him by his superior officer, General Wheaton.

General Corbin said that every volunteer who participated in the fighting in the Philippines since peace was declared should have a medal of honor. By the terms of their enlistments they were entitled to withdraw from the service, but they had remained voluntarily, performing more than was required of them, which was more than the ordinary duty of a soldier. It is expected that tomorrow there will be further negotiations with the insurgent representatives. While the hope is expressed that our commission will not hold out for terms so severe as to lead to a renewal of the fighting or the withdrawal of the insurgents to another stronghold further north, it is realized that Otis must exercise care to make sure they do not in bad faith take advantage of the opportunity afforded by a suspension of hostilities to secure whatever of benefit to themselves may come from the rapidly approaching rainy season. Campaigning on the part of the Americans will be almost impossible at that time. However, it is believed that Aguinaldo is now really in earnest and that his sole effort is to shift responsibility for the surrender to the Filipino congress.

Adjutant General Corbin says the Filipino peace overtures will not bring about any change of plan in this country as to forwarding of ships, supplies and troops to the Philippines. Transports are about to sail from San Francisco and a considerable number of troops are under orders to proceed to Manila.

It is said at the navy department that the developments of the day make it improbable that the Iowa will be sent to Manila, according to the original program. In view of the state of affairs in China, however, the American fleet on the Asiatic station will be kept at a high standard.

Jury Acquits Mrs. George. CANTON, O., April 29.—The jury in the George case brought in a verdict of not guilty. Mrs. George entered the court room at 10:35. She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. St. Clair and Mrs. Milligan, a friend.

Before the verdict was read the court cautioned the audience that there must be no demonstration. In spite of that there were loud cheers as the clerk read the verdict of "not guilty." A score of women rushed to Mrs. George and shook her hand. Congratulations were also extended to her attorneys. Mrs. George worked her way to the jury box, took each jurymen by the hand and gave them a word and a nod of thanks. Then the court said she was discharged and released the jury.

The jury was out just twenty-three hours and forty-five minutes, and during that time twenty-two ballots were cast, the interval between these ballots was spent in reviewing the testimony and discussing its various phases. After the jury reported, it was said that the first or preliminary ballot showed four jurymen favoring a verdict of guilty in the first degree and eight jurymen for a verdict of not guilty and acquittal. The last ballot was a unanimous vote of the twelve men of not guilty.

A number of congratulatory telegrams were delivered to her. To a reporter of the Associated Press she said she would go to her old home in Hannoverton tomorrow and visit her mother, Mrs. Lucinda Ehrhart, for a few days. Then she would return to Canton to gather up her belongings and arrange for the future. As to the future she said she had no definite plans as yet. She has been invited to go to the seaside on an extended vacation during the summer, and she would probably accept the invitation.

President Thanks the Soldiers. PHILADELPHIA, April 29.—Immediately upon receiving from Washington the dispatch of General Otis, President McKinley sent the following message of congratulation and thanks to the soldiers in the Philippines: "PHILADELPHIA, April 28.—To Otis, Manila: Your message announcing the achievements of MacArthur's division and the proposal by the insurgents of suspension of hostilities most gratifying. Convey to officers and men heartfelt congratulations and gratitude for their signal gallantry and triumph. "WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

Spain Ready for Her Pay. WASHINGTON, April 29.—Secretary Hay this afternoon notified by the French ambassador that Spain would accept, through him, the \$20,000,000 to be paid under the treaty of peace for the Philippines. The payment will be made to the ambassador as soon as the president returns.

Casualties of the Missouri Cyclone. KIRKSVILLE, Mo., April 29.—The latest details of last night's tornado show that the list of known dead has been raised to forty-nine by the identification of twenty-four more bodies. As the night advanced the number of injured was also considerably increased. Days must pass before a complete list of casualties can be secured and before the real extent of the damage to property can be known.

Work on Burlington Extension. CHEYENNE, Wyo., April 29.—A special to the Cheyenne Tribune from Wheatland states that 600 teams are at work in western Nebraska on the Burlington's Wyoming extension. The grade will be completed from Alliance, Neb., to Fort Laramie, Wyo., within four weeks. Burlington right of way men have purchased