

INSURANCE THAT DON'T GO

Auditor Cornell Speaks in Language Most Plain to Mr. Armstrong.

"OVERHEAD INSURANCE."

It Will Not Be Permitted to Be Written in Nebraska—The President of the Manhattan Company Roundly Roasted by the Auditor of Nebraska.

Auditor Cornell is after P. B. Armstrong, president of the Manhattan Fire Insurance company of New York city. In a letter, which is herewith given, he intimates that the company of which Mr. Armstrong is president may just as well retire from business in Nebraska as not and the sooner the better as far as the auditor is concerned.

The difficulty arose over the writing of the "overhead" insurance on large properties by which the home office of the company saved commissions to local agents and also evaded paying a tax on the premiums to the state. Auditor Cornell has for some time been in correspondence with several companies in regard to the matter and they have almost to a one agreed to dispense writing insurance in that manner. The auditor in writing to Mr. Armstrong says that in securing a license for 1898, his company agreed to suspend writing that kind of policies and from correspondence which he has had he rather thinks this was not done. While Nebraska has no resident agency law, the auditor intimates that an agreement should be lived up to. He explains things in the following manner:

P. B. Armstrong, President Manhattan Fire Insurance Co., New York City—Dear Sir: Citizens of this state have frequently called my attention to the practices of eastern insurance companies doing business in Nebraska, in having insurance on property here, written through Chicago and New York brokers and agents, entirely disregarding their legally licensed agents in this state. Our statute provides that "insurance agents shall render the list of net premiums" for taxation; it is therefore urged that when Nebraska agents do not receive the premiums, our assessors do not meet with the men who receive them, and these premiums for that reason generally escape taxation in this state. This caused me to send a circular letter to eastern companies early this year, requesting that before I re-licensed them for 1898, they should agree to stop this overhead writing, and have all the Nebraska insurance written by Nebraska agents, who could under the law, "be personally held for taxes on the premiums." All but two companies agreed to stop the practice and many of the companies spoke of it as a bad practice, which they were very happy to see discontinued. If Nebraska had a "resident agency law" there would have been no need of trying to effect this agreement between the state and the companies. Mr. H. F. Neefe, secretary of your company, answered my letter under date of April 12, 1898, as follows: "It is not our intention, now that we have a commissioned and duly authorized agent in your state, to write business there, other than through such agent." I regarded this as all in good faith on your part and accepted it as a contract between your company and the state. I then sent you your license for 1898.

On July 22, 1898, I called attention to your violation of this agreement by insuring property in this state through New York agents. I asked if you would have the kindness to cancel this insurance and have it re-written through your Nebraska agent, so that the state could tax the premium. Your reply was under date of August 9, to say the least, is rude and in several respects it is false. You intimate that "companies pay into your treasury, taxes upon all such premiums received for this overhead insurance." You had our law in hand when you wrote this and knew its falsity quite well. Neither your company nor any eastern company you may mention, pays taxes on premiums into our state treasury.

You convey the idea that you "sent the bulk of our insurance covering the Cudahy plant, to our Omaha agents to be written," and they refused to write it because you placed the rates too low to please them. The truth of the matter is that the New York brokers controlling the line of insurance in question placed the insurance with your New York office and your office then sent same to your Omaha agents to have the policies written; but they refused to write the policies for the reason that by doing so they would materially help the New York brokers to continue to keep the enormous line of insurance carried by the Cudahy Packing company away from the Omaha local agents, who are as justly entitled to the business, as the state is to the taxes on the premiums.

Your remarks that I have joined an insurance trust to assist in oppressing the people of this state are very silly and unworthy of the president of any great corporation. The people of Nebraska do not need the assistance of outside corporations to keep their present state officers from oppressing them. I stand enjoined by the federal courts now and have been so enjoined for many months because I was considered too active in enforcing anti-trust and anti-combine laws relating to insurance agents.

You intimate that you will withdraw from the state if I insist that you live up to your agreement of April 12. The quicker all persons and corporations that do not regard the sanctity of a contract withdraw from the state, the better for the people of Nebraska. It is plain you obtained your license for 1898 under false pretenses. It cannot be returned any too soon. Parties at South Omaha and New York can manage their own affairs, but they must also manage to pay the taxes due this state so long as I am insurance commissioner.

To this date Nebraska has been an exceptionally fine field for eastern insurance companies. If the next legislature enacts a strict "resident agency law" and imposes a severe tax upon premiums, imprudent men, like the president of the Manhattan Fire Insurance company, can feel that they

are to blame for it all. The Spectator, the ablest insurance journal in the world, in its issue of August 18, speaks as follows: "Our sympathy for President Armstrong is very much weakened by the unwarranted statements in his letter to Auditor Cornell. Armstrong is by nature and education an iconoclast, more successful in tearing down than in building up, still he might refrain from attempting to prejudice the business that he relies upon for a livelihood."

You believe "there are forty other companies doing overhead insurance" in this state, and defrauding Nebraska of her just revenue. If I can secure a list of such companies I will show you that I treat all alike. If your statements are true in this regard, the anti-trust Nebraska puts laws on her books to compel insurance companies to deal fairly, the better it will be for all concerned.

When I wrote you July 29, I made a similar request of the Traders' Fire Insurance company of New York. Their answer is worthy of honorable mention, quite different from yours. They agree the state has rights which they will respect. Such a spirit of fairness is appreciated.

You have the bad grace to give private correspondence to the press and take special pains to send it to the western papers. I will save you the trouble this time by giving this letter out myself.

Very truly yours,
JOHN F. CORNELL,
Auditor of Public Accounts,
Per SAMUEL LICHTY.

Bartley in the Laundry.
Ex-State Treasurer J. S. Bartley, says the Lincoln Journal, has been assigned to laundry work in the penitentiary by Warden Leigh. Bartley was suffering from a bad case of granulated eyelids when he entered the prison to serve a twenty years' term. He had been receiving treatment long before his trial, but after his sentence was affirmed by the supreme court his eyes became worse and it was reported that he would be unable to perform hard labor. The warden did not make the assignment until the prison physician examined Bartley and gave him a physical rating. Recently Bartley's eyes began to improve. The change was so marked that some ventured the opinion that his eyes had not been given proper treatment while he was in the Douglas county jail. It is said this is the belief of the penitentiary physician. While some believe the story and pretend to assign a motive, others are satisfied to give their opinion of doctors in general and assert that many of them would dislike to cure a patient too speedily when the patient evinces a desire to pay good round fees for treatment.

Bartley's department is much the same as it was while he was in the Douglas county jail. He continues to attend strictly to his own business. He has no cell mate, has received no visitors and seldom communicates with others. His work in the laundry is said to be satisfactory. He helps wash and iron. The washing is done by machinery and it is a part of his duty to place the garments in the machine and remove them at the proper time. The ironing is done after the old-fashioned manner, with big, heavy flat irons. Some skill and muscle is required in the operation. Garments belonging to convicts and guards go through the laundry and Bartley handles his share of them, whether they be coarse striped goods or fine white shirts. He still wears glasses to protect his eyes, but his poor sight does not appear to interfere with his work. He has never made a complaint to the warden and he observes the rules of the penitentiary strictly.

Nebraska Medals for Fruit.

Superintendent Youngers of the Nebraska fruit exhibit, says the Omaha Bee, is furnishing some conclusive evidence that this is not the first exposition where the state has been in the lead in the way of showing first-class fruit. The evidence is in the form of bronze and silver medals, all of which are in a case close to the fruit tables and under lock and key.

The first medal Nebraska won on its fruit was at a horticultural exhibit in Baltimore in 1871. This was on a general exhibit. The next was in Boston in 1873, and was given on account of the largest variety of pears being shown by any one state. At that time Nebraska had forty-three varieties on exhibition. The first prize was awarded in 1876, at the Centennial, when the state was given a medal for the best collection of grapes. Prior to this time the state had won medals at Boston and Philadelphia, where it had shown its fruits.

Hot and Dry.

The weather of the past week, says the last Nebraska crop bulletin, has been much like that of the week which preceded it and the results have been much the same. In the northern counties the week has been very favorable. Corn has matured rapidly and has not suffered from the hot, dry weather. The yield will be reduced somewhat in most other counties as a result of the heat and lack of moisture. Threshing from shock is about finished. The weather has been so favorable that very little or no grain has been damaged in the shock. Fall plowing is well advanced, but the ground is now getting too dry and plowing has about stopped. A very little wheat and rye have been sown, but generally seeding will be delayed till after a rain.

Killed at Manila.

Oseola dispatch: There have been so many reports in relation to the death of William Lewis and people here were so anxious to know the truth that a telegram was sent to the war department to have the mystery cleared up, and yesterday Postmaster Campbell received a reply from Secretary of War Meikeljohn saying that William P. Lewis was killed while in the trenches before Manila on the night of August 2 by the bursting of a shrapnel thrown by the Spaniards into the trenches.

Dennis Grimes of Saunders county, stopped to care for his horse, when the animal, presumably maddened by the flies, gave a vicious kick, the blow grazing the right side of Mr. Grimes' head, severing one ear. The blow had it struck Grimes squarely, would have caused instant death.

Buffalo county is harvesting an unusually large crop.

INDUSTRIAL CENSUS.

CONDITIONS IN MARCH, 1895, AND MARCH, 1898, CONTRASTED.

Value of 31.65 Per Cent. in Number of Hands Employed, 44.05 Per Cent. in Wages Paid, and 11.56 Per Cent. in Rate of Wages Per Capita.

The statistics of industry and labor tabulated from the industrial census just completed by the American Protective Tariff League, and the accompanying comparisons and comments by Congressman Robert W. Taylor of Ohio, which appear in the current issue of the American Economist, will not fail to attract universal attention or to excite profound interest wherever read and digested. The process of reading and digestion is greatly facilitated by the clear and luminous manner in which Mr. Taylor has presented his facts and conclusions. The report should be read entire, and doubtless will be by many millions of people, as it will be at once issued by the Tariff League in Defender document form, bearing the serial number 66, and made available for wide distribution in connection with the campaign of 1898.

No industrial census of equal accuracy and scope has ever been obtained outside of governmental operations. Returns are received from 2,229 industrial establishments in forty-seven states and territories, embracing almost every known line of industrial activity. Two years ago the League's census contained the figures of but little more than half the number of establishments which have reported this year. In 1896 the comparison embodied the conditions prevailing in that year under the Wilson law, and those prevailing in 1892 under the McKinley law. The showing then was one of tremendous shrinkage and depression. In the 1,388 establishments reporting there was a monthly loss in wages of \$1,601,204, or at the rate of

In Colorado sixty concerns employed in 1895 4,758 hands, and in 1898 6,532 hands; wages paid, \$200,478 and \$318,154, respectively.

In Connecticut seventy-eight concerns reported 13,839 and 15,576 as the number of hands employed in the two periods and \$508,956 and \$605,368 as the wages paid.

South Carolina gave reports from fifteen concerns, which in 1895 employed 3,718 hands, and in 1898 employed 3,892, and the wages paid increased from \$62,804 in 1895 to \$174,610 three years later—a gain of more than 100 per cent. in hands employed, of more than 250 per cent. in total amount of wages paid, and of nearly 20 per cent. in average rate of wages.

From the State of Washington the exhibit is equally remarkable. This state sent 163 reports, showing the employment in 1895 of 3,946 hands and 7,590 in 1898, while the wages paid increased from \$188,389 in 1895 to \$430,258 in 1898.

Equally interesting details pertaining to all the states and territories and to all the industries represented are given in the tabulated statements embodied in the census summary and recapitulation. The student of economic and political questions cannot afford to skip any portion of this remarkably interesting document. By every fair and open mind the summing up in the closing paragraph of the report will be accepted as cogent, fair and obviously truthful. Congressman Taylor says in conclusion:

"The American Protective Tariff League presents these facts for the consideration of the American people. Their meaning is apparent, and their effect must be to stimulate the hope and strengthen the convictions of every believer in the principle of protection."

LARGER RECIPROCIETY.

France Anxious to Extend Her Trade with the United States. From a Paris cable of July 20 it appears that the business interests of

SHOULD BE STOPPED AT ONCE.



(Uncle Sam—"There they go, loaded down with American money, and not an American shipowner among them. This foolishness is going to be stopped.")

\$19,214,448 a year; a decrease of nearly 30 per cent. in the employment of labor and a decrease of 26½ per cent. in wages paid.

Now mark the contrast. In 1898 the 2,229 establishments reporting show a wonderful revival from the paralysis which fell upon them as the result of hostile tariff legislation. These reports give information as to the number of hands employed and the gross sum of wages paid in March, 1895, and in March, 1898, the object of the inquiry being to bring into juxtaposition the conditions prevailing at an approximately equal length of time after the enactment of the tariff laws of August 23, 1894, and July 24, 1897—the Wilson and Dingley laws, respectively.

It is found that in March, 1895, several months after the Wilson law became effective, the 2,229 establishments reporting in response to the Tariff League's inquiries employed 204,580 hands, and paid these hands in wages \$7,079,323.

In March, 1898, after eight months of steady revival under the Dingley law, these same 2,229 establishments employed 269,329 hands, and paid them in wages \$10,198,136.

Gain for 1898, under the Dingley law, in hands employed, 31.65 per cent.

Gain for 1898, under the Dingley law, in wages paid, 44.05 per cent.

Gain for 1898, under the Dingley law, in average of wages paid per capita, 11.56 per cent.

Taking the month of March as a fairly representative month in the matter of industrial activity, Congressman Taylor finds that at the same rate of gain throughout the year the 2,229 establishments reporting will employ 64,500 more men than were employed in the year which embraced the returns of 1895, and will pay out wages exceeding by more than \$7,000,000 the sum paid during the Wilson law period named.

The figures of the Tariff League's industrial census tally so closely in percentage with figures obtained by parties who investigated separate industries independently of the League as to justify Mr. Taylor's conclusion that the comparisons and percentages given above represent with exceptional accuracy the industrial conditions prevailing very generally throughout the United States.

The reports, geographically considered, present some interesting facts.

France are growing impatient at the delay in securing a comprehensive reciprocal trade agreement with the United States. On Wednesday of last week a deputation consisting of prominent members of the chamber of commerce called upon M. Maréjols, minister of commerce, and asked that the government secure a commercial entente with the United States, according to section 4 of the Dingley tariff act. M. Maréjols promised to consider the matter.

Section 4 embodies the general features of the reciprocity clause of the Dingley law. Under its provisions the president of the United States with the advice and consent of the senate may enter into a commercial treaty with any foreign nation on the subject of reciprocal trade agreements, such agreements to cover a period of not more than five years.

It appears from this movement of the French chamber of commerce that broader scheme of reciprocity with the United States is desired than that recently provided for in the agreement under section 3 of the Dingley law. This agreement was limited to a small number of articles. What the merchants and manufacturers of France evidently want is a commercial treaty that shall cover a far wider range of the products of both countries. The big home market of the United States is a tempting field and foreign traders look upon it with unconcealed envy.

Muzzled and Mute.



A Healthy Yearling.
The Dingley tariff law was one year old Saturday last, at midnight, and it is the healthiest infant in the world today, despite the efforts of the conglomeration of the populist-democratic-free silver quack doctors to kill it.—El Dorado (Kan.) Republican.

ONE-THIRD MUSTERED OUT.

Eighty-Three Volunteer Organizations Ordered Discharged.

THIRTEEN REGIMENTS TO STAY

They Will Probably Be Retained in the Service Until Next Spring—No Western Troops in the List—Mostly Eastern and Southern Regiments for Garrison Duty.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—A statement prepared at the War department shows that including to-day eighty-three of the organizations in the volunteer army have received orders looking to their being mustered out of the service. This number includes fifty-three regiments and a number of minor organizations, such as batteries of artillery, independent companies of cavalry, etc., and probably represents almost one-third of the approximated 230,000 men called for by the President in the two proclamations issued by him.

The appended bulletin was issued by the War department to-day announcing the additional regiments to be mustered out of the service. Adjutant General Corbin said that in all probability few if any other troops would be ordered relieved from duty at this time. The bulletin of the organizations to be mustered out follows:

First United States volunteer cavalry, "Rough Riders," at Galveston, Texas; Ninth Massachusetts infantry; Batteries B, C and D, First Maine artillery; Companies A, B, C and D, Second Washington volunteer infantry; District of Columbia infantry; First battalion, Nevada infantry; Third, Ninth and Fourteenth New York infantry; Second New Jersey infantry; First Massachusetts heavy artillery.

In connection with the orders mustering out the above named regiments it is significant of the government's intention to retain many of the volunteer troops in the service that orders were issued transferring thirteen regiments from their state camps to the various camps of mobilization throughout the country. It is understood that the orders were issued with a view to the retention in the service, perhaps, until next spring, of the organizations named in the orders. The regiments included in the orders are as follows:

Third Georgia, from Griffin, Ga., to Jacksonville; Fifteenth Minnesota, from St. Paul to Camp Meade, Middletown, Pa.; Fourth New Jersey from Seagirt, to Camp Meade; Eighth infantry (regulars) from Fort Thomas, Wash., to Lexington; Fifth Massachusetts from South Framington, to Camp Meade; Thirty-fifth Michigan from Island Haven, to Camp Meade; Third Mississippi from Jackson, Miss., to Lexington; Two Hundred and First New York from Hamstead, to Camp Meade; Third North Carolina from Fort Macon, to Knoxville, Fourth Kentucky from Lexington, to Knoxville; Third Alabama from Mobile, to Jacksonville; Third regiment United States engineers from Jefferson Barracks, to Lexington; and First Territorial regiment from Tucson, Ariz., to Lexington.

TO ABANDON CAMP WIKOFF.

Regulars to Be Ordered to Garrisons—The Twentieth to Fort Leavenworth.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—A dispatch to the New York Tribune from Washington says: Orders were prepared at the War department to-day for the practical abandonment of Camp Wikoff at Montauk Point. All the volunteer regiments now there will soon start for their homes and will receive furloughs as they are mustered out, while most of the regulars, as soon as they have recuperated sufficiently, will resume duty at the posts which they garrisoned before the war began. The orders for the regulars may be issued to-morrow. The Twentieth infantry will go to Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

PANDO FLED WITH MILLIONS.

A Vast Sum Taken by the General in His Secret Departure From Havana.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—A dispatch to the New York Herald from Havana says: Having successfully done everything in his power to convey the impression he was sailing for Spain by way of New York on the steamship Philadelphia, Thursday, General Pando, instead, secretly started for his native land about ten hours later on the French steamer Notre Dame du Salut, it is said, with \$2,400,000. The secret was so effectually kept that very few persons here have any knowledge of it, and all the Havana newspapers announce Pando's departure on the Philadelphia.

The Only "Official Case" on Record.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—The alleged overcharging by stewards on board transports as stated at the quartermaster general's office, is said to be one single instance where a steward charged a soldier twenty-five cents for a sandwich. No other complaints of the kind have been made at the quartermaster's department.

A Young Girl in Trouble.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 5.—Ida Totman, a Cameron girl 17 years of age, was arraigned before Commissioner Pollock to-day, charged with opening and destroying mail not her own. Mrs. Linda Totman, the girl's mother, entered a plea of guilty for her daughter, and the young defendant was bound over to the federal grand jury. Mrs. Mary Totman of Cameron, an aunt of the defendant, is the one whose letter was tampered with. A check for \$50 was taken from the letter, the signature forged and money obtained and spent by the girl in having a good time. Bail for \$1,000 was furnished.

SPANISH ARMS CAPTURED.

23,139 Rifles and 3,500,000 Cartridges Surrendered at Santiago.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—Colonel H. D. Borup, the chief ordnance officer of Santiago, has forwarded to the war department a complete list of the ordnance captured from the Spaniards. The number of rifles and carbines captured far exceeds the expectations of the authorities in Washington. The list as received by General Flagler, chief of ordnance, is as follows:

Rifles:
Spanish Mausers..... 16,902
Argent..... 872
Remington..... 6,118
Carbines:
Mausers..... 813
Argent..... 81
Remington..... 336
Revolvers..... 75

Ammunition for small arms:
Mauser rifle cartridges..... 1,500,000
Argent rifle cartridges..... 471,500
Remington rifle cartridges..... 1,680,000
The worthless small-arm ammunition amounts to 973,000 cartridges. Forty-four smooth-bore siege guns and five mortars were also captured, together with the following rifled guns: Bronze, 30; cast-iron, 10; steel, 8.

Projectiles captured: Solid shot, spherical, 3,551; shell, spherical, 678; shell, cylindrical, 1,879; shrapnel, cylindrical, 437.

NAVY TO KEEP 20,000 MEN.

No Great Falling Off From the War Quota to Be Allowed.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—The enlisted force of the navy is to be maintained at its full strength and as fast as vacancies occur through discharges and the expiration of enlistment periods they will be filled. The number of men enrolled in the navy during the war with Spain reached 24,000, including about 4,000 naval militia.

The return North of the Santiago fleet, and that on patrol service, resulted in the mustering out of over 400 regular seamen, whose terms had expired, and who had no desire for further active service. Many ships have on their list sailors who will also leave the government service in the next month for the same reason.

To keep the strength approximately up to 20,000 enlistments have been directed to begin again at recruiting stations, and so anxious are hundreds of well-equipped men to join the navy that no difficulty will be experienced in soon having the quota filled.

NO PARADE OF MILES' ARMY.

The Volunteers From Porto Rico to Be Sent to Their Homes at Once.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—General Miles and his army of between 4,000 and 5,000 volunteers, now on the way to this country from Porto Rico, will not parade in New York city or elsewhere as a body upon their arrival. The official announcement of this fact was made at the War department to-day.

When the transports arrive in New York harbor they will be met by officers with orders for the troops to proceed directly from their ships to the trains, to be sent immediately to their state camps, preparatory to being mustered out of the service.

MAINE WRECK STILL THERE.

Havana Authorities Establish a Patrol About the Hulk in the Harbor.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5.—A dispatch to the New York Herald from Havana says: Within the last few days the authorities have reinstated the system of patrol boats about the Maine wreck as maintained before the war, intending to show the commission their determination that American property shall be fully protected and, incidentally, that they do not regard the cause of the disaster as determined and intend to give no opportunity for the manufacture of evidence.

For the New Naval Hospital.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—A dispatch to the Chicago Record from Washington says: The surgeon general of the navy has asked for proposals, to be opened October 12, for the construction of a model naval hospital at Mars Island, Cal., under a congressional appropriation of \$100,000. The plans are of the most modern type, conforming to the latest hospital practice at home and abroad, and provide for indefinite expansion.

The Negro Had Killed Four Women.

DALLAS, TEXAS, Sept. 5.—From the confessions of "Dobie" Joe Malone, the negro hanged here yesterday, it is believed that he participated in four or five murders. Two years ago he killed Mrs. Durham near Dallas, and he and another negro killed three white women at Eagle Lake, near Houston, about three years ago.

Governor Black Wants His Men Relieved.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—Governor Black was an early caller at the War department this morning. As a result of his personal inspection and observations, the governor recommended the mustering out of the Third, Ninth and Fourteenth regiments of New York volunteers in addition to those previously ordered out of the service.

A Kansas Hotel Man Kills Himself.

OSAWATOMIE, Kan., Sept. 5.—C. A. Furr, proprietor of the Central hotel at this place, shot himself last night. He recently came here from Lane, Kan., and had just recovered from a severe sickness. His mind has been affected at times since coming here.

Missouri Day Probably Given Up.

OMAHA, Sept. 5.—Missouri day at the exposition will probably have to be given up. The commissioners have been unable to secure the desired rates from railroads.