

WAR OFFICE VACANT

Secretary Alger Proffers Formal Resignation of His Portfolio.

NO REASON IS ASSIGNED FOR THE ACTION

Announcement Makes a Sensation in Official Circles of Washington.

RETIREMENT IS NOT EXPECTED SO SOON

Alliances with Pingree Supposed to Be Distasteful to President.

PARTIES TO AFFAIR DISCREETLY SILENT

Alger Will Now Hit His Ambition to the Michigan Senatorial Nomination—Much Speculation as to His Successor.

WASHINGTON, July 19.—Secretary Alger today tendered to the president his resignation of the War portfolio. The resignation will become effective August 1, though it was tendered "at the pleasure of the president."

Alger has begun already as his successor, but is entirely speculative, for notwithstanding the reports that Mr. Alger would not long continue at the head of the War department, his actual resignation came suddenly and unexpectedly.

Formal acceptance of the resignation had not been made by the president up to a late hour tonight, but will be in a letter to be written within the next day or two.

The belief had prevailed in Washington for some time that Secretary Alger would resign from the War portfolio, but the date generally set for it was toward the end of the year, after he had submitted his annual report, in which he had intended to sum up what had been accomplished during his brief but eventful direction of the War department.

Alger Makes New Friends. There have been many explanations and denials of the facts in this case, but the end of the Michigan visit of the secretary had been to change the relations between the president and himself to such a degree as to make the restoration of their former status impossible and to render the connection of the two as part of the same official family impossible.

At one time since then has there been ground for the belief that a rupture might be avoided, but this belief ceased to be held when the news that Vice President Hobart and Secretary Alger were in conference at Normanhurst.

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This attended to, Secretary Alger wrote out his formal letter of resignation, and personally carried it over to the White house. His call on this occasion was brief, and when he returned to the War department he closed the door of his office to most of the many callers who were in waiting and had a long conference with Adjutant General Corbin.

At his residence in the evening the secretary was equally uncommunicative and positively declined to assign any reasons for the action he had taken. He had called during the afternoon upon Secretary Hay at the State department and with him at home were Major Hopkins and Mr. Mason, but beyond many newspaper men, few of whom secured access to the secretary, Mr. Alger saw no one.

Alger's Plans for Future. His plans for the future have already been defined. Mr. Melkiohn, the assistant secretary of war, is at present supposed to be in Wisconsin, whether he went two weeks ago to make a personal inspection of the

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CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Generally Fair; Southwest Winds.

Table with 4 columns: Hour, Temperature, Hour, Temperature. Rows show temperatures for 5 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m., 11 p.m.

etement the bluecoat made no distinction. The boy was knifed over and carried home with a bad scalp wound.

Mike Sheridan, a strike sympathizer, of East Forty-second street, was taken home with a fractured skull. A sergeant and forty reserves were got out on the double quick and dispersed the crowd, making a number of arrests.

Another crowd got together in a minute or two at Fifty-fifth street and Second avenue, and when a car bound down came along it met a perfect shower of bricks, stones and other missiles thrown from the streets and the windows of the flats.

Inspector Cross, Inspector Harley and Inspector Kane were in charge of the police line. They had 600 patrolmen at the stables and distributed along the avenue at various points. The cars coming into the stables from downtown looked as if they had run the gauntlet of Balaklava. Windows were broken and sides dented in, and more than a dozen horses were killed.

Several Passengers Wounded. One car which had 111 fares and transfers hung up at Fourteenth street had only the motorman, conductor and police escort and two men aboard when it reached Eighty-fifth street. Several of the passengers had been wounded and got off the car further down town.

The plaza near St. Mark's church, Second avenue near Tenth street, was thronged with a jeering, riotous crowd of 2,000 or more. Police Captain Diamond had a large squad of men there and found it almost impossible to keep the crowd from moving.

One of the diversions for the mob was to drag up the heavy iron covers that cover the conduit manholes. These were turned on end and thrown into the holes, leaving about half of the cover projecting and making a most effective barrier. At 9 o'clock the police block at Eighty-seventh street. Someone jammed the slot with wire, and it was half an hour before the cars could proceed.

A great many men were injured all along the line. Policeman Olson of the Kings Bridge mounted squad was severely injured. He was held in the station at Ninety-fourth street. The horse was struck on the head with a stone and so frightened that it reared, throwing its rider heavily. The policeman's leg was broken and he received internal injuries. A motorman was struck on the head during a fight near Forty-third street and seriously injured. Several of the passengers of one of the cars going up town near Tenth street received nasty scalp wounds from stones thrown by the mob.

Strike Takes on New Life. Brooklyn Street Car Service is Interrupted and Riders Receive Scanty Patronage.

NEW YORK, July 19.—The strike ordered this morning on the lines of the Metropolitan street railway in New York infused new blood into the strike in Brooklyn and led to a more active and more determined rest of twenty-one men charged with conspiracy to destroy the elevated railroad this morning at Fifth avenue and Thirty-sixth street had little effect upon the public, although it was expected that public sympathy would turn against the strikers.

The car service was very poor. In the early part of the day 95 per cent of the cars of the Brooklyn Heights system were operated, but this was lessened to a considerable extent later in the day. On the Nassau lines cars worked on half roadway all day. This included Fifth and Seventh avenues and Douglas and Bergen streets. The scarcity of passengers on the Nassau cars leaving the foot of South Eighth street for Canarsie, Hamburg avenue and Brownsvale was more noticeable than any day since the strike began. The traffic on Flatbush avenue running as far as Vermont avenue, was paralyzed. On the Green Point and cross-town line hardly more than half as many cars were running as compared to the number operated yesterday. Along Franklin and Manhattan avenues the crowd was quite active and slight disturbances occurred. Only a few Coney Island and Bergen Beach cars were running and Brighton Beach was so isolated that the Casino had to be closed and the musicians dismissed.

Trial of the Rioters. The twenty-one men who were arrested at Carberry's hall, at the corner of Atlantic and Rockaway avenue, were arraigned in the afternoon at the Adams street police court before Magistrate Bronner. They were represented by counsel, who pleaded not guilty in their behalf and demanded an immediate hearing. The original charge of vagrancy, on which the men were held, was dismissed and they answered to a charge of conspiracy, substituted by the affidavit of William Ashby, a "pooker," who deposes that on Monday evening he had attended a meeting at Carberry hall and that there was talk of buying dynamite, the use of the dynamite to be contingent on the action of the engineers of the elevated road concerning the proposition to strike. If the elevated employees refused to go on work, some deposit of dynamite used to blow them up. Such remarks were followed by cries of "We will, we will."

Ashby further stated that he saw O'Hara and three other leave the hall, saying they had the stuff with them and that they had in their pockets packages of rolls of brown paper, looking like dynamite. The prisoners' counsel caused a sensation when he said: "Your honor, I admit a conspiracy, and this is a conspiracy by the politicians and the police to deprive these men of their liberty."

Magistrate Bronner overruled him and held the prisoners in bonds of \$750.

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Extra Ballots in Package. W. J. Lynch, one of the judges of election for the First ward of the city of York in 1896, was called to identify the ballots and poll book of his ward. He said the poll book, which showed 193 votes for the amendment, which showed 193 votes for the amendment and 26 against, was in the same condition as when certified by him in 1896. The seal on the package of ballots for the First ward was then broken and there were found 199 ballots, an increase of sixty over the count made by the electors

ARCHARD HAS A SNAP

Buys Up Leases on York County Land Which Others Have Improved.

CONTRACTS OF SALE ARE CANCELLED

No Notice Given of Such Action to the Holders of the Contracts.

MUST PAY ARCHARD TO HOLD THEIR FARMS

Judges of Election Testify to Manipulation of Amendment Ballots.

BLANKS RETURNED WITH MARKS ON THEM

Bear No Evidence of Having Been Folded to Place in Ballot Box—Do Not Tally with the Poll Book Returns.

YORK, Neb., July 19.—(Special.)—The senate investigating committee arrived here last evening and this morning opened a session at the county clerk's office, where a number of witnesses were examined relating to the ballot frauds. The testimony all confirmed the reports already published and those present were convinced that if the recount commission had been allowed to manipulate the ballots of the entire state, as was done with those of York county, the two additional judges would have been counted in with an overwhelming majority.

The committee also went into a matter of great interest to York county people, if not to the entire state, this being the cases of school land grabbing. The testimony produced, as well as the face of the public record, disclosed these facts: That Land Company, under the name of the York county school land, had secured a contract with the state, September 27, 1897, declaring the cancellation of three pieces of school land in this county and Wolfe quietly auctioned off the leases to Archard. Then the two public servants left town as quietly as they had entered and the men who had all through the drought and hard times striven to build up permanent homes on the land were afterward obliged to pay tribute to the precious pair of officials. The land-grabbing scheme was consummated without the formality of a notice to the parties either by letter or newspaper publication.

No Notice to Welch. One of the farmers this wronged was Jacob Welch, living about six miles east of this city. He held a sale contract to eighty acres of school land, upon which he had paid the state \$303.36. The payments were complete up to January 1, 1895, but since then the bad crops had run Mr. Welch into a hole and he had been unable to buy any more of the school land in the state. Still he had a bunch of hogs almost ready for the market and expected to clear up his land with the proceeds. The land commissioner and his allies at the state house, however, paid no attention to Welch's prospects and gave him no notice of the sale. He had already been land and compelled him to buy an assignment of a lease instead of the sale contract which he had originally held. Wolfe appraised the land at \$4 an acre to Archard, making the yearly payments on the eighty acres \$160.20. At this rate Welch had paid enough cash already to have squared up a lease for sixteen years and then was compelled to pay Archard \$225 additional.

Another case was that of Henry Rolfs, living eighteen miles northwest of York. Rolfs held a contract for eighty acres, upon which he had paid \$129.04, the original appraisal having been \$40. Wolfe turned a lease to the land over to Archard at an appraisal of \$120, which provided for a lease payment of \$7.20 per acre. At this rate Rolfs had already paid enough to have settled the lease for nineteen years and when the state house reformers had finished their performance he either had to buy a lease assignment to the land which he had hoped to hold in fee, or else allow it to remain in the hands of the wolfish officials.

H. B. Gue, who owned a lease of eighty acres about ten miles southwest of town, also got tripped up by the reformers, according to the evidence and records. He had paid his lease up to January 1, 1893, but woke up one morning to learn that he would have to pay tribute to a state official before he could hold his land. The fact that Archard had once been deputy county treasurer here, giving him a full knowledge of the condition of the land, and the further fact that he came here in 1891, when he was county commissioner, made it look at the time as if it were an arranged plan to grab the land, and the evidence today only tended to confirm this belief.

Take Up the Ballot Frauds. H. C. Kleinschmidt, deputy county clerk, was called to testify as to the manner of preserving the ballots. He said that they were kept in the vault at the county combination was kept by the county clerk and the one deputy.

George W. Post, who was chairman of the republican state committee in 1896-7, testified as to two conversations he had had with Governor Holcomb early in the winter of 1897. He had urged upon the governor the advisability of having the recount of the ballots conducted in an open manner, and the appointment of commissioners who would be beyond suspicion. He submitted to the governor a list of names of prominent republicans who would be eligible to be made. The governor had apparently coincided with the idea that the recount should be openly and fairly conducted, but at the close of the conversation he said: "Now, remember, I make no promises."

Mr. Post further testified that when the governor failed to select any of the men suggested and when it was learned that the recount was being conducted in a star chamber manner, witnesses were sent in. When it became apparent that wholesale frauds were being committed, especially in regard to the ballots from York county, a committee of citizens was sent to Lincoln to investigate. This committee found what seemed to them plain evidence not only of the marking up of ballots, but also of the forgery of the names of election officers. Soon after this a reward of \$1,000 was offered for the detection of the parties responsible for the fraud and detectives were employed to watch the further progress of the recount. The reports made daily by these men showed that the attempt was being made to increase the number of votes for the amendment in every county.