

National Society of the Army of the Philippines



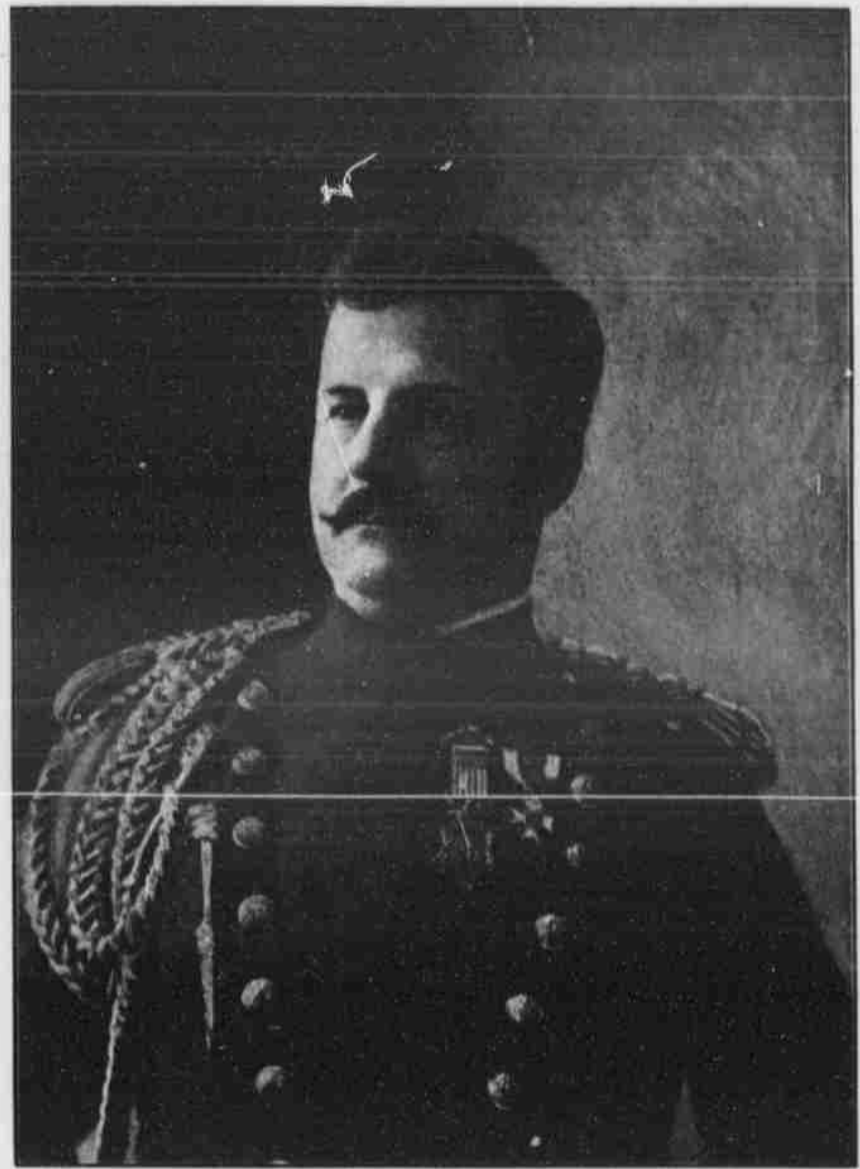
GENERAL IRVING HALE PRESIDENT NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES.



CAPTAIN P. JAMES COSGRAVE, FIRST NEBRASKA, LINCOLN, TREASURER SOCIETY OF ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES.



LIEUTENANT DONALD MACRAE, JR., FIFTY-FIRST IOWA, COUNCIL BLUFFS—PRESIDENT LOCAL SOCIETY ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES.



MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR MACARTHUR, U. S. A., WHO WILL BE THE GUEST OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES AT COUNCIL BLUFFS.

WHEN Dewey found himself master of Manila bay, but confronted on land by a hostile Spanish force he had no means of overcoming, he had laid the foundation for quite a chapter of history, not the least interesting paragraph of which has to do with the National Society of the Army of the Philippines. In order to make Dewey's work complete and effective, it was deemed necessary to send soldiers to supplement the naval forces in the archipelago, and then another glorious page in the record of American arms was written.

It's a queer looking thing, often mistaken for a target trophy, with its two circular centers of red, surrounded by bands for this reason is very dear to the people of the west, who watched with personal interest for months the news from faraway Manila. From June, 1898, to August, 1899, the history of the corps is the history of the volunteers. Volunteers stormed the trenches, threaded the morasses and penetrated the jungles. Volunteers captured the blockhouses, the forts and the towns and drove Aguinaldo's forces back and back, until they fled, broken into small bands, to the mountains and wilderness. It was volunteer blood that drenched the rice paddies, and it was volunteer dead that hallowed the soil of the island of Luzon.

Soldiers of the regular army have had their share in the warfare that followed before the pacification of the islands, but they came after the volunteers, and, while their record is no less valorous and their deeds were wrought with the same high purpose in view, it is not probable that the people will ever cease to think first of the volunteer when the Filipino insurrection is recalled.

At the beginning of the Spanish war the prospect was that all land battles would be fought in Cuba and consequently every effort was set in that direction. Only one regiment of the regular army was left on the Pacific coast when the news came from Dewey in Manila bay, the Fourteenth infantry, under command of Colonel Thomas N. Anderson. Colonel Anderson was made brigadier general of volunteers and given command of the Department of the Pacific, and the mobilization of volunteer regiments at San Francisco was hastily commenced. On May 20 Major General Elwell S. Otis, U. S. V., assumed command at San Francisco, and on the next day General Anderson was assigned to command the first expedition to the Philippines. This was the beginning. In a few days Major General Wesley Merritt, U. S. A., assumed command at San Francisco, and from that time on events moved rapidly.

In the first expedition, which sailed from San Francisco May 25, 1898, Brigadier General Anderson in command, were 158 officers and 2,386 men. These were the Second Oregon and the First California volunteer infantry, a detachment of Batteries A and D, California volunteer artillery, and Companies A, C, D, E and F, Fourteenth infantry, U. S. A. In addition were the usual complement of staff officers, hospital corps and the like. On June 15 the second expedition sailed, and from this time on the ferry across the Pacific was busy, until November 3, 1898, when there had been sent on five expeditions 919 officers and 21,410 men of all arms of the service. At that time, when it appeared that peace was soon to be declared, the sending of men to the islands was discontinued, and no more were ordered across until the outbreak of the insurrection.

The volunteer regiments in service in the Philippines were: First California, First Colorado, First Idaho, Fifty-first Iowa, Twentieth Kansas, Thirteenth Minnesota, First Montana, First Nebraska, First North Dakota, Second Oregon, Tenth Pennsylvania, First South Dakota, First Tennessee, First Washington, First Wyoming, all infantry; Batteries A and B, Utah Light artillery, California battery and Astor battery, of the regular army the Fourteenth, Eighteenth

and Twenty-third infantry, the Fourth cavalry and the Third artillery had been sent across.

On August 1 Major General Merritt issued the first order organizing the Second division of the Eighth army corps and forming it into brigades. Brigadier General Anderson was assigned to command of the division. The first brigade was under command of General Arthur MacArthur and was composed of the Twenty-third infantry, U. S. A., two battalions; one battalion of the Fourteenth infantry, U. S. A.; the Thirteenth Minnesota, the First Idaho, the First North Dakota, the First Wyoming and the Astor battery. Brigadier General F. V. Greene had command of the Second brigade, and under him were two battalions of the Eighteenth infantry and four batteries of the Third artillery, U. S. A.; a company of engineers and the First California, the First Colorado, the First Nebraska, the Tenth Pennsylvania and Light Batteries A and B of the Utah artillery. The Second Oregon and California battery were ordered to report to the officer in command of the division.

It was on this Second division of the Eighth army corps that the brunt of the fighting in the Philippines prior to the withdrawal of the volunteers fell. Under General MacArthur and Greene these two brigades led the assault on Manila when that city was taken on August 13. When the friction with Aguinaldo and his band of insurgents became intense it was this division that had the positions guarding the city, and when the hostilities became active it was this division that took the hardest part of the work. Brigadier General Irving Hale, who went out as colonel of the First Colorado, succeeded General Greene in command of the Second brigade, and directed its operations up till the volunteers were ordered to Manila to prepare for return home. He commanded in the advance to Malolos and from there to Cumpit and San Fernando. The arrival of more troops after the fall of Manila made some change in the composition of the Second division. Major General MacArthur succeeded Major General Anderson in command and Brigadier General Harrison Grey Otis succeeded General MacArthur in command of the First brigade. At the time of the outbreak the First brigade consisted of the Twentieth Kansas, the First Montana and the Tenth Pennsylvania volunteer infantry and the Third artillery, U. S. A. The Second brigade had the First Colorado, the First Nebraska, the First South Dakota and the Utah artillery. This organization was not again disturbed. A history of this division's operations is a history of the campaign in Luzon up till the relief of the volunteers by the regulars in June, July and August of 1899. It is a story of men who fought their way foot by foot from Manila to San Fernando,

wading swamps, swimming rivers, breaking thins across ice paddies, overcoming apparently insurmountable difficulties; the firing line always advancing and always a day at least ahead of the commissary, until the men were almost starved; of seeing comrades stricken by fever or ball, of struggling on under the blazing sun or the drenching rain of the tropics, always upborne by that indomitable spirit which has ever imbued the American soldier, until the object sought had been achieved. And when the president said, "It is enough; come home," the hardships of the campaign were forgotten in the anticipations of the reunion with the home folks.

And what a reunion that was! It began at the Golden Gate, and it didn't end until

the major general's who were connected with the Eighth army corps were Wesley Merritt, Elwell S. Otis, Thomas N. Anderson, Arthur MacArthur, H. W. Lawton, Henry C. Merriam. Brigadier Generals Lloyd Wheaton, Charles King, Francis V. Greene, Harrison Grey Otis and Marcus P. Miller commanded brigades in the corps, and Brigadier Generals Irving Hale, Frederick Funston, Owen Sumner, James F. Smith, Harry C. Kessler, C. McC. Reeve and John H. Wholley, who went out as colonels, won their star in the jungles of Luzon.

While talking of the homecoming of the volunteers, here's a story from the Presidio that has never been in print. If you meet Lieutenant "Bill" Sweeney of the First Colorado at the reunion he can tell who the soldier is. He is a tall young man from Alabama, but served with the First Colorado. When the volunteers were quartered at Camp Merritt on the way out the good women of San Francisco put in their time making the boys comfortable. Each "adopted" a number of the youngsters, and each to her squad was known as "mother." This incident occurred on the evening the First Colorado reached the Presidio on its return. The young soldier told the story: "Yeh see, ah hadn't had a good Christian drink of whiskey since we sailed from San Fran, an' so when a fellah met me and mah bunkie down heah by the cook house and handed me a half-pint of good ol' cohn likker, ah felt like ah was home again, suah. Ah hands the bottle to mah bunkie an' says, 'Aftch you, seh.' Mah bunkie says 'how,' and takes his share an' hands the bottle back to me. An' ah stands theh, wipin' off the mouth of that bottle an' thinkin' how good that cohn julee's goin' to taste an' ah heah's someone say, 'Oh, theh's that little southun boy,' an' ah turns round an' theh's mah mothuh. An' I jest draps the bottle an' the good ol' lady she hugs me like ah was heh own boy an' that cohn likker soaks into the sand."



SUMNER KNOX, FIFTY-FIRST IOWA, COUNCIL BLUFFS—SECRETARY LOCAL SOCIETY ARMY OF THE PHILIPPINES.

every man of the volunteer regiments of the Eighth army corps had been made to feel that he was indeed welcome home. Nothing could more forcibly express the sentiments of the American people toward the volunteer soldier than the demonstrations which greeted the several regiments at their homes. It was during this time of jubilation that the National Society of the Army of the Philippines was born. General Irving Hale, Lieutenant Colonel Moses of the First Colorado, Majors Anderson and La Belle and other officers of the same regiment were interested in its formation, and after calling a meeting of members of the regiment in Denver, addressed themselves to officers and men of other regiments, and the society was soon well under way. Its first reunion was held at Denver in 1901. Its second will be held at Council Bluffs, beginning on Wednesday. It will bring together many of the men who fought side by side in the morasses, jungles and trenches of the Philippines, and many who have won high names in the annals by reason of their connection with the Eighth army corps. For this the life of this corps was far more prolific of that which brings men to light than any engaged in the Cuban end of the cam-

Comes from Cleveland

Washington Times: Prof. Elliott, an Ohio scientist, was before the ways and means committee some time ago speaking upon the subject of the preservation of the fur seals of Alaska.

In the course of his statement Representative Tawney asked the witness what his business was.

"I am a pomologist, a horticulturist, viticulturist, an artist, and a naturalist," replied the professor.

The reply staggered the Minnesota representative for a moment, and then he said: "Oh, I understand, you come from Cleveland; that explains it."

A Ready Financier

Washington Star: "Release me!" exclaimed the American woman.

"It wouldn't be business," answered the European outlaw, gently, but firmly.

"But you are wasting your time. I have no rich relatives who can pay my ransom." "That is all right. I'll keep you in captivity long enough to secure a sufficient measure of publicity and then take a mortgage on the receipts of your lecture tour."



GENERAL HALE IN THE FIELD—Taken Near Blockhouse No. 5 in February, 1899.

of blue and white, but it's a badge of which thousands of brave young men are proud, because it denotes that they have followed Old Gicry beyond seas, have faced death in swamp and jungle, and have served their country faithfully as soldiers. It is the insignia of the Eighth army corps, called into existence when the government determined to take possession of the Spanish islands of the East. This corps was composed almost wholly of volunteers, and mainly of volunteers from the west, and