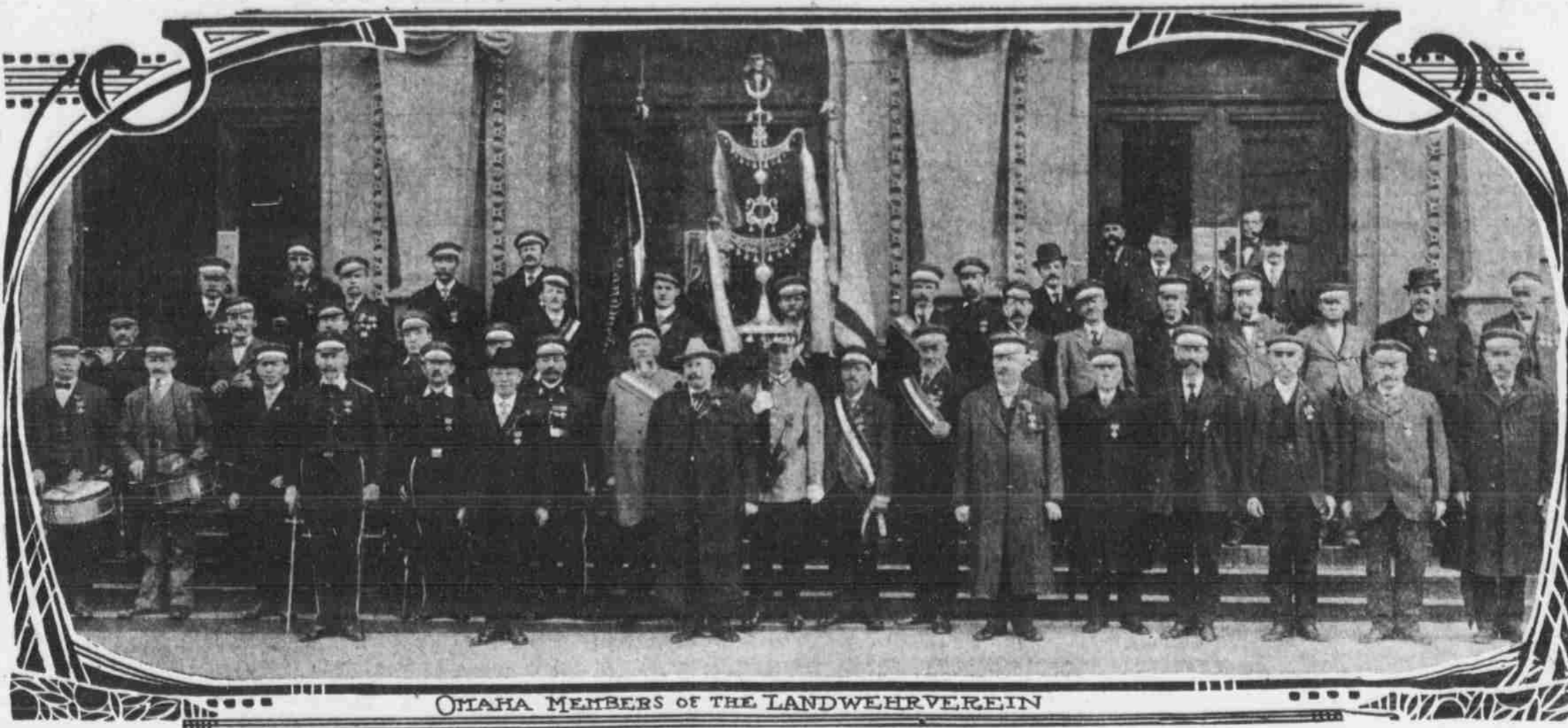


German Veterans Journey Back to Fatherland as Honor Guests

SIX veterans of the German army, residents of Omaha and vicinity and members of the Landwehr Verein of Omaha, sailed from New York on Friday on board the Hamburg liner Pennsylvania for Germany, to participate in the reunion of the German Landwehr in Berlin. The party consists of Fritz Stacker, Max Geier, Fritz Zetzman of Omaha, Jacob Neumayer of Council Bluffs, William Raschke of South Omaha and A. J. Jansen of Papillion, the latter being accompanied by Mrs. Lindebaum. The departure of the veterans for the Fatherland was made a memorable occasion by the Omaha Landwehr Verein, which accompanied the veterans to the train in a body with the German and American flags flying and the organization in uniform.

The veterans wore their "Iron Cross" badges, the badge of distinction that is most highly revered by the German soldier, as it is the evidence of his having served in the wars that brought about the unification of the German empire. The "Iron Cross" is in the form of the Maltese cross and is suspended from a bronze pendant resting on the German colors.

Two of the veterans served in the German-Austrian war of the early '90s, and the others were veterans of the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. The Landwehr Verein of America has been specially invited to attend the decenary reunion of the German veterans and Emperor William, and about 200 of the American German veterans have accepted the invitation. The trip across the water has been arranged for by the Central Bund of the German soldiers of the United States. In this they have been materially assisted by the Hamburg steamship line, which has given the veterans a much reduced rate for the trip.



OMAHA MEMBERS OF THE LANDWEHRVEREIN

The German-Americans will be received at Hamburg by their comrades of the German Landwehr with imposing ceremonies, at which a special representative of the emperor will be present. The great reunion will take place in Berlin, July 4, and will be one of the most elaborate affairs of its kind ever held in Germany.

The veterans will be specially honored by the German army in a grand review given in their honor, and they will be lavishly entertained at the nation's expense while in Berlin. The German-Americans will also be made the recipients of special attentions and honor in all the German communities

they may visit. The American travelers will not all return home together. Three or four of the Omaha party will visit in Germany for three or four months. The Landwehr is that part of the German army which has completed the usual military service exacted of all German

citizens capable of bearing arms, and he lacks any part of it, though he leave the country and become naturalized elsewhere and return to his native land, he is liable to arrest and may be compelled to complete his compulsory service. There with almost as great severity as de-

have returned to their native land, and when it was found that they had not completed their term of compulsory military service, they were forced back into the army, sent to the front and treated

Another branch of the German military reserves known as the Landstrum, which is the last branch of the reserves called out, is composed largely of old men not eligible for active military service and are called upon as a last resort. Neither the Landwehr nor Landstrum are the equivalent of the American organized militia, but are an institution peculiar to the German conditions and institutions. They are really social organizations, but of a distinct military cast, and in some localities closely resemble some of the American fraternal societies, having insurance benefits.

The Landwehr Verein is a strong institution in the United States, and is governed by the Central Bund, with headquarters in New York. It is divided into two or three branches. Notably, the German soldier who has seen active service in the German wars, and is thereby a member of the Iron Cross branch. The Landwehr and Landstrum, men who have clearance papers from the German Landwehr or German Landstrum for having completed the full term of compulsory service, and still another branch that left Germany before completing their term of compulsory service.

Some Light and Sunny Views of World Wide Noted Personages

THE late Mark Twain's fondness for all things English was well known, relates the London M. A. P. When he visited this country on one occasion he paid a charming compliment to her majesty, Queen Alexandra. "I think it is not an exaggeration to say that the queen looks as young and beautiful as she did thirty-five years ago, when I saw her first," wrote the famous humorist. "I did not say this to her, because I learned long ago never to flatter an obnoxious person, but I have been too wise for that. I have kept the remark unuttered, and have saved her majesty the vexation of hearing it the ten thousand and onth time."

The following, sent in reply to a letter of congratulation on an anniversary to his birth by an English school girl, is a charming and delightful illustration of the genial attitude and never failing kindness of the world's greatest humorist toward children: "Indeed, yes, Miss Nettie B., and I thank you for thinking of it. An attention from a school girl gratifies me more than the like from any other source. I am 73, and grandchildless, and so one would expect the whole left-hand compartment of my heart to be empty, cavernous and desolate, but it isn't—not by any means—because I fill it up with little school girls such as you."

How Gage Was Spared.
The stories of ruptures in the cabinet which are being much circulated lately bring to mind the fact that Lyman J. Gage was nearly driven out of the McKinley cabinet by newspaper reports. After Mr. Gage had been in the cabinet for a time, reports the Washington Times, an influential paper appeared with persistent reports that President McKinley wanted to get rid of Gage, but had found no way to let him know the fact delicately. One story after another of that sort appeared until finally Gage one morning picked up a clipping telling how McKinley wanted him out and immediately thrust it into an envelope with a note in which he said: "Mr. President, if you want me to leave the cabinet you need not go to the newspapers to tell me so."

Twain's Tobacco Habit.
A clear shop man for many years was employed in New York not so far from Mark Twain's home in Fifth avenue. Talking of the humorist for Twain used to visit the New York store almost daily—the man said: "He used to be a remarkable smoker, but I don't think he had any taste to enjoy the best tobacco. Again and again I have seen him buy some of the most villainous cigars that were ever built. We did stop him once though with some goods with which we had been stuck. These cigars had attractive labels and a Spanish name, but they were unspeakable when they began to burn. "One day Mr. Clemens bought a pocketful and went off. The next time he came in I asked him what he thought of the cigar—naming the brand. "Young man," he said, "they smoked like a clergyman's discarded habits."

Twain's Tribute to His Wife.
Mark Twain has thus spoken of his wife in his autobiography: "I saw her first in the form of an ivory miniature in her brother Charles's store-room in the steamer Quaker City, in the Bay of Smyrna, in the summer of 1867, when she was in her 22d year. I saw her in the flesh for the first time in New York in the following December. She was slender and beautiful and girlish, and she was both ready with repartee even in cases where humor might well be expected not to flourish. As an instance of Mr. Beck's aptness is related what occurred when he was crossing the Atlantic last fall in company with a distinguished member of the bench. Mr. Beck is rather susceptible to seasickness, and on the second day out traveling was somewhat rough. As he leaned over the steamship rail discommodately, his friend, the judge approached and asked in the superior tone assumed by those immune of mal-de-mer: "Feeling bad, eh, Jimmy? Can I do anything for you?" Mr. Beck drew himself up to the top of his stature and said in formal tones: "Yes, your honor. I would like you to overrule this motion!"

Kitchener a Mere Recruit.
"I trust it was only post-flight—the words of a host to a guest—when Governor Gillet spoke of General Kitchener at the reception in San Francisco as the greatest living general in the world," says a correspondent of the Los Angeles Times. "Any day you can see on the streets of Los Angeles a sturdy old trooper whose war record throws Kitchener back in the recruit class. General Chaffee knows more about soldiering and has been in more fights than Kitchener ever heard of. He has had more bullets shot at him than Kitchener ever saw piled up in ammunition boxes. "The glorious victory at Omdurman, when Kitchener's troops cut down an army of dervishes who rushed headlong upon his machine guns, and his men, with their water pipe rifles, may have been a great feat of arms; but you will have to show me General Chaffee has been in a dozen Indian fights that the world at large never heard of, but which were fiercer by far than the victory over the dervishes, because our Indians were trained and almost indomitable fighting men. "Kitchener is the earl of Khartoum and Kandahar, and then some; General Chaffee is a member of the Board of Public Works."

How Caruso "Oils Up."
An ex-super relates in Harper's weekly: Back of the throne we waited with palpitating hearts for our "debut" in opera. Our attention was attracted by the entrance of the great Caruso, accompanied by his valet, carrying a towel, a glass of water and an atomizer. Then he began to "oil up." He "oiled" his nose with the atomizer, and sprayed his throat and nose repeatedly. Then "E-eh," he snorted, "Ah-ah, e-e," as he tried his voice. After this a gargle. His attendant gave him a small phial, which he tucked away in his bosom. Surely, we thought, he must be ready now, but he made more gargles, and then dipping his fingers into the glass of water he moistened his nostrils. "Now, gentlemen, ready!" "One—two—three," commanded the stage director, and we boosted Radame's chair with the precious load on to our shoulders. Jim looked at me and I looked at Jim. It was appallingly heavy, and we two were getting all the weight; some of the other "supes" were either under-sized, or were ducking under the burden, but we sallied forth, shaking and trembling in our knees. Caruso pounded on the floor of the chair with his staff and we halted. The king then rose on his throne and sang a few words of welcome. Another tap of the staff and we brought the hero down slowly; one—two—three. Again lifting the prodigious, but now empty chair to our shoulders, we marched offstage. Then, grabbing Amoretti (Scott) by the arm, we re-entrained him in his rush on to the stage. As often as I have heard Caruso in Aida, I have never failed to see him "oil up." Even while the act is in progress, and he turns in despair after having America thrust upon him as with the tonic, he raises his hands to his head, takes from his bosom the little phial and swallows its contents surreptitiously—so far as the audience is concerned, though in full sight of the ballet and the "supers." Then, turning again, he is Radame, singing as fervently as ever. Sometimes, while standing, he made us laugh with his funny faces of mock despair.

Gladstone as Prime Minister.
In the course of a description of the monuments of Westminster Abbey before the London Geographical society, Lord Eversley pointed out that he not only selected the Beaconsfield site in the sacred edifice, but he wrote the epitaph. It read: "Erected by Parliament in memory of Lord Beaconsfield, twice prime minister." He remembered at the time that in one speech Lord Beaconsfield had made he referred with great pride to his having been twice prime minister. When he showed the inscription to Mr. Gladstone the latter said: "Twice prime minister—that's no great distinction." He (Lord Eversley) had looked up the names of several who had been twice prime minister, and one had been prime minister three times. That was Lord Derby. By way of finishing the conversation with Mr. Gladstone—it was during his second ministry—he said to the prime minister: "I hope you will beat Lord Derby's record." Mr. Gladstone quickly retorted: "That's an impossibility; this is my last ministry. A man must be mad to think he shall ever be prime minister after this ministry is over." Lord Beaconsfield, however, was prime minister twice after that.

Squally Weather Imminent.
On one occasion, relates the Popular Magazine, Prof. Willis Luther Moore, head of the United States weather bureau, traveled from Washington to New York in a smoking compartment with three men who, when he encountered them, were busily engaged in roasting the very bureau of which Moore was the chief. "Why, that fellow Moore," said one of the strangers, "ought to be run out of the government service. He always predicts, but he's generally wrong."

Overruling the Motion.
James M. Beck, former federal district attorney for eastern Pennsylvania, later assistant attorney general of the United States, and now a tower of legal strength for some of the country's largest corporate interests, has a very pretty wit which is ready with repartee even in cases where humor might well be expected not to flourish.

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Expert Improves the City's Supply of Water

HAVE you noticed an improvement in the Omaha city water? Not in its color or consistency, but in its quality. An improvement should be due about this time, for Dr. John L. Leal now has his hypochlorite of lime solution at work.

Dr. Leal is the expert from New Jersey, brought to Omaha by the water company in an effort to improve materially the quality of the city water. He has made good his claims in other cities where he has superintended the installation of his scheme of purification and a good many cities in the east and south now have chlorination plants in operation.

Preparatory to the experiment now being tried at the Florence and Burt street pumping stations, Dr. Leal came to Omaha and examined into the situation in March. He told the company he could purify the city water to a point where the number of bacteria would be cut down to an almost infinitesimal number per cubic centimeter, which is about twenty drops of water. Going back to his home in the east, Dr. Leal prepared and forwarded plans to the water company, which proceeded to construct two sets of tanks at the settling basins for the mixing of the chemicals and introducing it into the water.

At both the Florence and Burt street stations temporary structures have been built to inclose the mixing tanks. The latter are large boxes built of two-inch lumber, about as big as an ordinary dry goods box. One is set above the other and in the upper box a certain quantity of lime that has been chemically treated. This material, called hypochlorite, comes from Wyandotte, Mich., and is now produced in quite large quantities for the use of cities and private water companies.

In the mixing tank enough hypochlorite is placed to make a sort of paste when mixed with water. Then the mixture is allowed to flow into the lower tank, where it is thoroughly stirred with an increasing quantity of water until the proper solution results. The solution is then let out into strainers at the bottom and from this point is led through a pipe to a small tank directly over an intake well.

This small tank, equipped with a very competent little valve and float contrivance, is the mechanical boss of the job. When set at the proper notch just so much of the solution is allowed to pass into the settling basin every hour—and not one drop more is considered necessary can get through. At the Burt street station this quantity of solution put into the water is 2 1/2 gallons per hour, while at the Florence station the quantity is 12 1/2 gallons per hour. The Burt street station has a capacity of 2,500,000 gallons per day and the Florence station has a capacity of 16,000,000 gallons.

When the solution enters the general body of water it has a pale, lime-like color, and to the uninitiated looks anything but impressive. It does the work planned for it, however, according to all reports.

Superintendent A. B. Hunt of the water company has given his personal supervision to the building and arrangement of the "hypo" houses and tanks, and keeps close keeps careful record of material used and sees to it that the quantity of lime used is correct and the solution is always "just so."

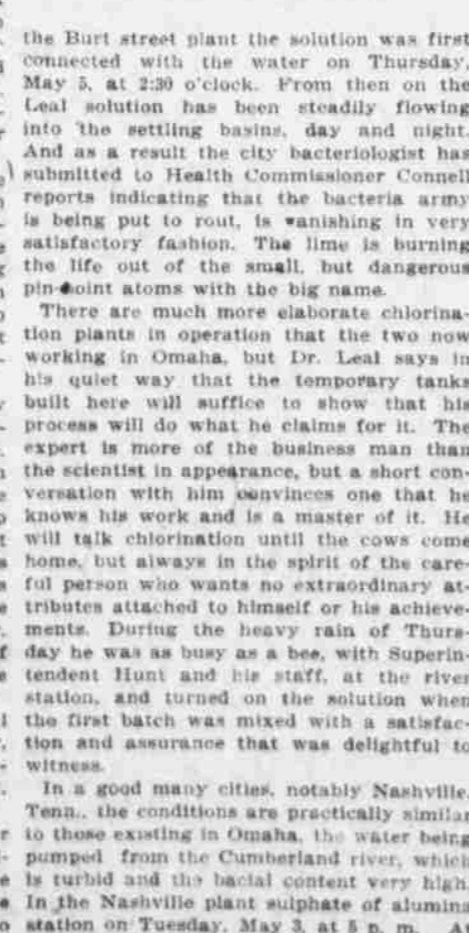
In the records of the water company it will appear officially that the "hypo" was first turned into the water at Florence

in a good many cities, notably Nashville, Tenn., the conditions are practically similar to those existing in Omaha, the water being pumped from the Cumberland river, which is turbid and the bacterial content very high. In the Nashville plant sulphate of alumina was first used, and afterward the chlorination process was added, with distinctly satisfactory results. There, as in Omaha, the raw water showed a number of bacteria entirely too high for the peace of mind of the people in control. The treated water is very much better ever since the

chlorination process was started, and the reports of Dr. Langfeldt in the local investigation are expected to continue to show improvement that will reassure the water users to a very appreciable extent. In turbidity reading at Nashville, when clear was 500 mm. In the treated water

the minimum depth at which the wire could be read was 1.37 mm., and the maximum depth was 2.72 mm. These figures will serve to indicate the beneficial effect of the chlorination treatment on muddy water.

WHEN THE CHEMICAL IS APPLIED CRAVENS, CROWLEY, LEAL, FAIRFIELD, LANGFELDT



EXTERIOR OF THE "PLAN"



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