

BOARD PLANS BIG BUILDING PROGRAM

Dr. G. D. Strayer in Survey Report Says Efforts in Past Have Been Indefinite and Haphazard.

"One of the most important, if not the most important, public enterprises being conducted in all communities is the public school system," wrote Dr. George D. Strayer in his survey report which has been submitted to the Board of Education.

"With a gradual adoption of a program for continuation schools, for evening schools and for a wider use of the school plant for social purposes, the time is approaching when the entire population of every city will be served. In the past it has all too often been the custom to allow a school system to grow as the city has grown, without any plan or program. The future needs of the community have received little recognition in the purchase of sites or the location of buildings and the need of reorganizing the school system in terms of changing social conditions has received little consideration.

"The Omaha Board of Education has realized that the building program of the past for their city has been indefinite and haphazard. They have fully realized the need for adopting a program covering a number of years before they invest any more of the money entrusted to their care.

Interiors a Disappointment.

"Though many of Omaha's school buildings present pleasing and substantial exteriors, it will be disappointing to citizens to learn that in many of them the interior does not at all conform to present requirements of school architecture."

In determining adequacy of the school buildings, Dr. Strayer and assistants applied a system which is based on 1,000 points as a perfect score. The 1,000 points allotted to a perfect school building are distributed among 125 items which enter into the construction of a school plant, according to the judgment of a large number of competent educators from all sections of this country.

Dr. Strayer estimated Omaha should spend \$5,000,000 during the next ten to fifteen years to place the school system on an adequate basis.

The committee on buildings and grounds is working on a building program which includes a new high school of Commerce and a high school for the north side. The proposition of junior high schools is being seriously considered.

Among the schools which will be replaced with new structures in the near future are: Central, Benson, Dupont, Long, Walnut Hill, Saratoga, Farnam and Lowell.

The Board of Education is contemplating presenting to the voters a definite building program which would require voting \$2,000,000 additional school district bonds.

Plans have been drawn for a new High School of Commerce on a site already obtained at Twenty-second and Davenport streets.

Italian Crop Estimate For World is Optimistic

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Rome, July 30.—This month's bulletin issued by the International Institute of Agriculture of Rome announces a careful and detailed study of coming crop conditions in the principal agricultural states of the world, and, in consequence of these studies, a generally favorable situation.

In France, Great Britain and Italy, says the report, meteorological conditions have been extremely favorable during the past month while in northern Europe, notably in Luxemburg and Holland, the crops are retarded.

Even in Switzerland, continues the report, the outlook is for a crop of less than the average size, unless the excellent results in the spring bring up the total to normal. Russia, in spite of late frosts and cold, faces a favorable situation on the whole and may hope for results equal at least to last year.

The report then deals with the United States, and finds that prospective losses due to bad weather have been overcome so that the crop total may be expected to be about 2 1/2 per cent better than last year, even though still 18 per cent behind the average.

Of Canada, the report says that the next crop may be counted upon as 4 per cent better than last year, and 16 per cent better than the average for the last five years. In India concludes the report, the situation is excellent, the production being 19 per cent better than last year and 5 per cent above the average.

Greeks in Anatolia Sent to the Interior

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Athens, July 10.—Latest Havas dispatches from Anatolia says that after the abdication of King Constantine, virtually all of the Greeks who lived near the coast were sent to the interior.

The Turkish soldiers in Anatolia are said to be in a bad plight. They are miscellaneous armed with Mausers, Martinis and almost any available kind of rifles, and are commanded by German noncommissioned officers, whose rule is such as to provoke an irritation that cannot be disguised nor concealed.

The situation is the worse for the fact that the fare of the troops is getting steadily worse. Meat, which once was plentiful and cheap, is now almost unobtainable, because the Germans are said to have sent away everything they could lay hands on, even to dead horses.

Forty Harley-Davidson Gas Bikes for Fort Omaha

The United States government has placed an order for 1,500 motorcycles with the Harley-Davidson factory at Milwaukee and while there last week. Victor Roos, their local representative, saw a squad of men putting the machines through a road test before being shipped to different localities. The aviation station at Fort Omaha is to receive forty.

British Line Makes Some Big Steamship Purchases

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Liverpool, July 15.—According to the Journal of Commerce, the Holt Line, Ltd., has bought the four steamers, Knight Companion, Knight Templar, Knight of the Garter and Knight of the Thistle, for about \$3,500,000.

Man Who Signaled "Hold the Fort for Help is Coming" at the Battle of Kenesaw Mountain To the Relief of Altoona is Visiting in Omaha

"Hold the fort, for help is coming!" Fifty-three years ago flashed out the message from General Sherman on Kenesaw mountain, Georgia, to the hard-pressed garrison at Fort Altoona, twelve miles away.

Yesterday a white-haired old man told in simple, but dramatic, language the story of that eventful day which led to the writing of the famous gospel hymn, "Hold the Fort, for I Am Coming."

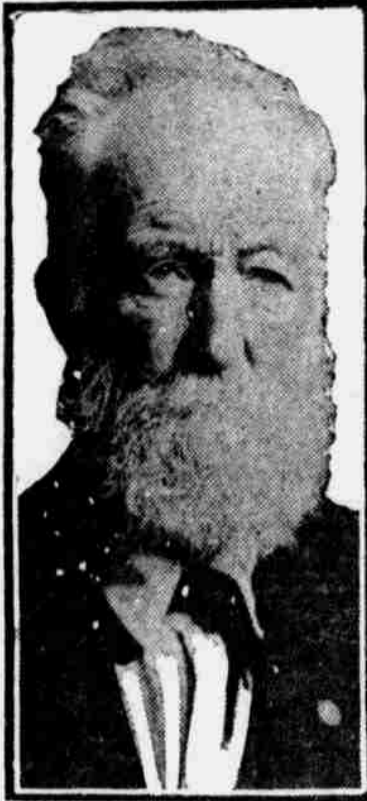
Alfred Nye, who has just come to Omaha to pass his remaining days with his son, M. A. Nye of the North American Life Insurance company, was one of a detachment of the signal corps sent to aid General Logan in Georgia then.

"In those days," said Mr. Nye, "we didn't know anything about wireless telegraphy—we had to make use of flags and torches for sending our messages. We didn't go up in balloons and airplanes to survey the country; we climbed church spires or tall trees on a high hill.

Sherman Was Worried.

"But we had thrilling times, nevertheless. On October 8, 1864, the whole army of the Tennessee was on the march against the fort at Altoona, which guarded an important pass between the mountains. I was with a detachment of the signal corps sent to help General Logan who was trying to relieve them.

"We spent all that day up on Kenesaw mountain, from which we could signal with our flags over to Fort Altoona, twelve miles away. Now-adays your big guns could shoot that



ALFRED NYE.

Up-to-the-Minute Gossip About Boys in Khaki in Omaha Camps

A great convenience to the young men desiring to enroll in the National Guards but perhaps absent from his home town unit, is the new ruling of the army allowing the recruiting officers for the regulars to also enlist men for the guards.

Two officers of the Dandy Sixth refused commissions at Fort Snelling to join this regiment. "Ted" Metcalfe, of Omaha, is one of those who needs no introduction. He is first lieutenant of company C. Lieutenant Cecil Cool of the machine gun company is another who was recommended at Fort Snelling for a commission. He is a famous foot ball player and was half back on the all-high school team.

The lieutenant and Governor Neville are friends. Cool accompanied the governor on his campaign tour last year. According to Captain Metcalfe of the machine gun company, who also was one of the party, the governor and young Cool passed hours discussing foot ball together. Lieutenant Cool comes from North Platte.

While the National Guards are in the limelight, the regular army is calmly sawing wood. At the recruiting station in the army building yesterday, sixty-three men enlisted.

Many of these chose the popular aviation branch of the service, but the infantry ran a close second. A number enlisted as cooks and bakers, of which the army is in great need just now. The army maintains a training school for bakers and men who desire it will be taught this trade.

Why does a dog love a soldier?

"We don't know why it is," said Sergeant Kinsey of company D, Fourth Nebraska, but the minute a bunch of soldiers set up camp a lot of dogs appear. The news is telegraphed to Towserville in a hurry and all sorts and descriptions of dogs are on hand shortly. There will be no trouble getting mascots at Denning."

Company D has a new mascot ready to take along. "Turk" is a pedigreed bull dog and he won his position in a competitive test in which twenty

far, but to us it was a great distance. "Some of General Logan's men and other troops were trying to relieve the fort from different sides. In one body was Dexter A. Thomas of Omaha, father of C. L. Thomas, city editor of The Bee.

"General Sherman and his whole staff came up on the mountains, too,

for the general was terribly worried about the fort over there. The confederates had surrounded three sides of the mountain and were pressing them hard. At the fort, General Corse in command of the union forces fought like a demon. He sent back messages to us and we seven men of the signal corps translated them to Sherman.

"Sherman paced up and down, his hands working and lips moving. The messages kept telling how the confederates were getting closer. Sherman shouted to us 'Tell them we're coming.'

Signal Famous Message.

"So we signaled the famous message 'Hold the fort, for help is coming.'

"Sherman kept on walking up and down and we worked feverishly with our messages though it was dangerous for all. After awhile came one from General Corse. It said:

"I have lost my nose, part of my face and a piece of my ear, but I can lick all Hell yet."

"Sherman slapped his hands together and exclaimed 'He's worth a dozen of the men I've got around me now!'

"But the officers around him just laughed. They knew he was at high tension and didn't really mean any reflection on them.

"Our forces didn't get to Fort Altoona but General Corse won the day and kept the fort, anyway."

The old man concluded his story and sat dreaming.

"Do you know where I can get a copy of that song?" he asked. "I haven't heard it for years."

token of their regard and good will."

"We wanted to give him something he could really use and which nobody would be likely to think of, so we hit upon the boots," said one of the company.

Drilling in earnest has not yet begun at headquarters of the Sixth in the auditorium. All the men have been vaccinated and inoculated for typhoid and their captains are letting them take things easy for awhile.

Several officers are yet to be appointed in the Omaha battalion of the Sixth. These will be chosen in a few days from the ranks and there is much speculation as to who the lucky ones will be.

"We will choose these men solely on their merits," said Captain Brome of company A. "We are watching them closely and the fittest will fill the vacancies. As so many of the men are new to us, we want to go slow till we are sure. The appointments will not be made for several days at least."



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