

FINZER SHORTAGE FOR MONTHS

Governor Tells of Learning of Demoralized State of Accounts Long Ago.

FULL RESTITUTION MADE

Among Items Are Drawing of Salary Twice in One Month by General Finzer and Taking Double Expense Money.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The statement made public by former Adjutant-General Finzer and published in Portland papers today, in which he admits and seeks to explain shortages in the accounts of the Adjutant-General's office and states that he had made restitution of all amounts called to his attention, was the subject of surprised comment in the State House circles today. While full knowledge of all the transactions involved has been in the possession of the Governor for several months, no publicity whatever has been given by the present Governor, and it appears that had General Finzer been chosen to air the subject himself it might have continued unpublished.

In commenting on the statement issued by the former Adjutant-General, in which he admits shortages, Governor Withycombe intimated that he had had reason to believe that the demoralized state of the accounts, provided full restitution was made. However, the statement makes it clear that the demoralized state of the National Guard accounts under the previous administration came to his attention almost immediately after he took office, and it appears that had General Finzer been chosen to air the subject himself it might have continued unpublished.

Administration Now Bookkeeping. That under the present administration business methods in accounting have been installed and that the demoralized state of the accounts is the further assertion of the Governor.

Governor Withycombe also referred to the situation as never disclosed publicly as in his letter, most ample justification for the change in the head of the National Guard, which he insisted on shortly after his inauguration.

The first examination of the accounts and books in the Adjutant-General's office was completed and submitted to the Governor on March 23. The second and more complete investigation, which goes back to 1913, was the work of W. R. MacKenzie & Son, of Portland. It was completed November 2. The total shortage detected by the complete audit is \$294,877. General Finzer has been referring this amount in installments, and it is understood, it is now all returned to the National Guard treasury.

Salary Drawn Twice. Among the irregularities charged in the audit, and covering which restitution by General Finzer has been made, is that General Finzer on one occasion drew his salary twice, and that he obtained the expense of certain trips in advance from the contingent fund and later drew upon the general fund for the same expense. No details of other matters said to be involved in the audit of the Adjutant-General's office, which it is understood, has on file the full reports. All such irregularities as are charged, according to the Finzer statement, are explained as being simply incidents to extremely careless bookkeeping methods.

No statement relative to what future action is contemplated could be secured from the Governor, and it is understood in well-informed circles that unless further irregularities are disclosed or some satisfactory turn of affairs occurs, probably nothing further may result, aside from the taking of steps carefully to avoid any possibility of overlooking the inefficient office administration which the reports and the admission of the former Adjutant-General seem to indicate characterized the guard headquarters during recent years.

Give Irregularities Found. Governor Withycombe's statement follows: "Shortly after General White took charge it became apparent that the accounts of the National Guard headquarters were tangled pretty thoroughly. Careful investigation disclosed that there were shortages, and there seemed fair reason to believe that grave irregularities existed which believe that affairs could have been permitted to get into such bad shape. General Finzer maintained that such irregularities as were mentioned were simply mistakes of bookkeeping, but with the evidence before me, and General Finzer's subsequent admissions of the shortages as they were disclosed, I approved the suggestion that a thorough audit was essential. Such an audit, extending back to 1913, has been made. In all, it discloses shortages that have been detected amounting to \$294,877.

"Plainly, there has been gross carelessness in the administration of the business of the Adjutant-General's office in the past, but in view of General Finzer's admission of responsibility and desire to make restitution, I was unwilling to humiliate him and his administration by giving publicity to the scandal, if it could be avoided.

Reason for Change Shown. "Now that the matter is aired by General Finzer himself, there seems no reason to withhold comment further. Certainly it is now apparent why a change in the National Guard administration was desirable. And on this head is the further fact that in February, as shown by the records, the former administration had over its appropriation some \$11,000. Later it developed that the deficiency totaled about \$11,900, as bills for the past year turned up.

"One of the first things that General White did was to put the bookkeeping on a businesslike basis, and I have heartily commended the needed reforms in this direction. It is also General White's plan to have a complete audit at stated intervals hereafter, even though it is now necessary to employ private accountants, while in the past the state had at its disposal an accounting department, whose services seem never to have been utilized in this direction.

"When asked if he contemplated any action against General Finzer, the Governor refused to make any statement. He intimated that the course of action for the future would depend entirely upon what developed.

VILLA QUITS CAMPAIGN

(Continued from first page.) priority, and that he would not come to the United States unless he was assured that he would not be arrested and subjected to extradition proceedings. Should his party not succeed in

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FLOWERS SOLD TO RELIEVE WAR SUFFERERS, NOW STARVING.

Maid and Matrons Arcost Pedestrians to Raise Funds to Aid Country-men in Europe.

More Than Million Handled.

WOMEN TO WATCH STORES

QUICK TRIP SAVES LIFE

TWO ARE SHUT IN VAULT

OREGON HENS WIN CUP

LETTER LIFETIME ON WAY

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 18.—A letter written by Rev. Samuel Ward, of Neoga, Ill., November 6, 1869, the day he cast a ballot for "good, old Lincoln," was received through the mails here today by Professor W. D. Ward, of Zanesville, O., the man to whom it was addressed. Where the letter went and where it has been after it was mailed probably will forever remain a mystery.

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\$490,000 Proposed by Engineers for Breakwater at Harbor.

\$10,000 ASKED FOR ARREST

Peter Rasmussen, After Being Found Sane, Files Suit in Salem.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Alleging that he has sustained great humiliation and disgrace because of his arrest on a charge of insanity May 1, today instituted suit in the Marion County Circuit Court against P. Hasselbacher, a neighbor, to recover \$10,000 damages.

FRITZ BOYSEN FINED \$300

Hotel Belle Owner Arrested Thrice, Fined Twice in 18 Months.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Fritz Boyesen, proprietor of the Hotel Belle in Milwaukie, today entered a plea of guilty on a charge of selling liquor to minors and was fined \$300. With costs, he paid \$124.29.

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Grease and Scale in Minnesota's Boilers Blamed for Trouble.

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inside this harbor, but the character of the report is such as to indicate that dredging and other improvements will be made later if substantial commerce is developed and if it is found the harbor is extensively used.

ARMY DESERTIONS FEWER

War Department Report Shows True Figures Below Last Year.

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Trading Stamps on Our First Three Floors. Don't Forget to Take Them. OUR STORE WILL BE OPEN FROM 8 A. M. TO 10:30 P. M. ALL THIS WEEK. Fitted Rollups. An Opportunity of a Lifetime. The Gift for the Little Girl. Beautify the Gift! The New Majestic Heater. Your Family Physician. American and German DOLLS. FLOWER PERFUMES. A BOOK OF S. & H. GREEN STAMPS SAVED IS SEVERAL DOLLARS EARNED. Woodward Clark & Co.

Hand Cameras and Kodaks. "Ansons" today are truly the perfect picture makers—a triumph of mechanical skill—a marvel of practical science—\$2 to \$55. Free to every patron, a course of lessons in practical photography.

Rest While Shopping. Enjoy a delicious light lunch. Hot Chocolate, a dish of Pekoe Tea, Old Master Coffee, Pure Ice Cream, Sherbets, Ices, and always, Oregon's famous health drink, Log Cabin.

Fountain Pens—S. P. U. G.'s Favorite. The famous Waterman (real), Conklin and Wood-Lark. \$1.00 to \$27.00.

The Floor of a Thousand Thoughts. Our Art and Gift Room. (Second Floor) SPECIAL AT HALF PRICE. All Our Framed Pictures \$3.00 Values, Upward.

El Grilstovo or Universal Electric Grill. and Ovenette make a combination that is hard to beat as a practical Xmas gift. Either fully guaranteed. UNIVERSAL GRILL allows four different degrees of heat. The best grill on the market.

Get Your Mouth Fixed Up for Xmas. To get you to remember your TEETH at least once a year, we will make you EXTRA SPECIAL PRICE during the holidays.

Whitman to Hold Home-Coming. WHITMAN COLLEGE, Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The students of Whitman College are preparing to close the period before the holidays with the annual matinee hop.

Grand Army Mourns Confederate. WESTFIELD, Mass., Dec. 18.—The flag of Lyon Post, Grand Army of the Republic, flew at half mast from the liberty pole in the public square today.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. Corvallis, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A pen of Oregon hens entered by the Oregon Agricultural College at Mountain Grove has been awarded a silver cup for the best record for the month of November. The record of the five hens was 101 eggs.

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