

DWINDLING OF ARMY GIVES CUE TO CRITICS

**Military Men Say Force Is Reduced
Beyond Point of Safety for
the Nation.**

NEED OF REFORM IN SERVICE.

**Low Pay and Requirement of Hard
Practice Marches Are Main
Points of Attack.**

The War and Navy Departments are trying to reach an agreement by which the marines are to be withdrawn from the Isthmus of Panama and two regiments of infantry are to be sent to take their places as guards. It is fully expected that before long two regiments or foot will be on their way to the canal zone. This diverting of army regulars to a new field will mean that the forces in the United States are to be depleted beyond that which officers believe to be the danger point.

The infantry problem is one of the most serious factors in the greater problem of the army's weakness. On paper we are supposed to have 30,000 infantrymen, but in truth we have nothing like that number, and unless the increase of pay bill pass Congress, it is perfectly evident that the ranks will be thinned still further. An army officer who knows conditions tells a Washington correspondent that in a case of emergency there would be less than 7,000 infantrymen who could be brought with anything like dispatch to any threatened point within the limits of the United States proper.

There are two chief army measures now before Congress, one dealing with the matter of the increase of pay and the other dealing with the matter of the increase of the infantry. A correspondent says there is precious little hope that both bills can pass. It probably would be folly to pass the second bill without passing the first, for it would be useless to provide for an increase in the ranks if no inducements were held out by which the increase could be effected.

Objections to Army Life.

Interviews with enlisted men disclose three chief objections to army life, and, in order of numerical precedent, they rank like this:

- Monthly practice marches.
- Poor pay.
- Non-military duty required of the enlisted men.

Some of the ranking officers of the army have inveighed constantly against what they call the folly of the frequent practice marches. The men are kept in fine physical condition and as hard as walnuts through the daily drills, the guard duty, the good food, and the regular living generally. Yet they are compelled at least once a month to hike out on the road under heavy burdens and trying conditions for the purpose of keeping in trim so that they will be ready for the field in case of hostilities. The practice march, fairly long continued and to come at long intervals, has its uses, and the men like it; but they don't like it coming as it does every three or four weeks.

COAL MINE EXPLOSION.

New Theory Advanced as to the Conditions Producing Them.

Experts who have made investigations of the recent mine disasters, notably those of Monongah and Jacob's Creek, have come to the conclusion that the explosions are caused by climatic conditions.

Supporting the position taken, it is a noticeable fact, they say, that the recent catastrophes have occurred at about the same hour in the day, in a zone of certain altitude, in about the same longitude and in places where climatic conditions are similar. The majority of the mines operated today are below the level of the streams in the same sections, and, owing to the moisture, the outside air forced into the mines by the fans has been laden with carbon dioxide moisture and other impurities.

It is suggested that if the air forced into the mines was gathered from a higher stratum and was heated sufficiently and otherwise treated to remove the impurities the accidents would be less numerous during the change of seasons. Proper ventilation with this purified air, it is believed, will remove to a great extent the coal dust and explosive gases which are found to a certain extent in every mine.

The Burlington and Union Pacific will take porters off chair cars and do away with flagmen on some of their passenger trains, according to a dispatch from Omaha. Retrenchment is given as the reason.

THE NEW CHINATOWN.

**Oriental Quarter Arises on the Old
Site in San Francisco.**

San Francisco's new Chinatown, which has arisen on the ruins of the old is ready for occupancy and is rapidly filling up with merchants and tradesmen who were scattered to the four winds by the terrible earthquake and fire of a year and a half ago. All movements looking toward the transfer of the Chinese to a less desirable part of the city failed utterly, and the new Chinatown has risen on the site of the old, under the shadow of Nob Hill and touching shoulders with the financial district. In the first flush of hope after the catastrophe several plans were evolved for moving Chinatown out toward Telegraph Hill or to some suitable part of the Mission district. The site of old Chinatown was needed for the expansion of the financial district. One thing stood in the way of this part of the "city beautiful" dream. Chinese firms and wealthy Mongolian individuals owned much of the property in Chinatown. They were satisfied with the site of their quarter. It was near the big hotels patronized by eastern tourists, and it was not too far from the water front whence their goods came. The Chinese refused to sell and straightway set about rebuilding.

There is a reason why Chinatown was rebuilt before the other parts of the burned area, even before Market street had been repaved. The Chinese property owners had no trouble in getting ready cash. They did not try to borrow from San Francisco banks or even from New York money lenders. The first steamer to China carried long letters describing the situation. Inclosed were drafts on the treasurer of the company which backed the San Francisco firms. The return steamer brought the gold that was needed and the Chinese could tell their contractors to go ahead.

The building department and the health authorities insisted that the new Chinatown be built according to law and the new Chinatown has, of course, lost such picturesqueness as was found in the dirt and the squalor and the tumbledown effect of the old buildings. To offset this, however, there will be a heavy gain in healthfulness.

POLITICS and POLITICIANS

Jackson Day at Chicago was a far different affair from that of the New York gathering. There the banquet given by the Jefferson Club was the scene of a Bryan love feast, in which 600 Democrats cheered riotously the words of the Nebraskan.

The Ohio Republican State Central Committee at its recent meeting decided to give the members of the party an opportunity to express by direct vote their choice for a presidential candidate on March 11, when delegates to the Republican State convention will be selected. Senator Foraker has issued a statement declaring that he will not abide by this action of the committee.

The first open declaration of the conservative Democrats of the East who are known to be unfriendly to the candidacy of William J. Bryan took shape at the Jackson Day dinner of the National Democratic Club at New York. Ex-President Cleveland sent a letter of regret, in which, after expressing his interest in the success of the party, he said: "Our country needs conservatism, recuperation from nervous prostration, re-instatement of constitutional observance, buoyant, but none the less safe and prudent, Americanism; scrupulous care of every person and every interest entitled to care, and a 'square deal' that means exact and honest equality before the law and under constitutional guarantee."

After his return home from Washington Mayor Dahlgren of Omaha gave to the press a corrected statement of his much-discussed interview with President Roosevelt. According to this the President said: "Tell the boys out West that this financial panic is being placed on my shoulders by reason of the position I have taken. If this is true, it shows that we are on a rotten foundation, and it only came a few months sooner than it would have done otherwise, and it shows we needed a housecleaning. You can tell them also that I don't care what ex-judges or judges or ex-Governors or Governors say about it." Mayor Dahlgren says that as this was spoken in the presence of eight or ten other persons as a message to the West, he felt free to give it out.

Secretary Taft, who will soon begin the preparation of an extended report on his observations in the Philippines, in a recent interview expressed himself as highly pleased with the progress already made in the islands. Peace, he says, prevails throughout the Philippines to a greater extent than ever before in their history, and agriculture is proceeding without fear from predatory bands. He finds the natives receptive to education and to modern western conceptions of religion and politics, and says there is no difference between the educated and the ignorant Filipino that cannot be overcome by the education of one generation. The Secretary thinks the people should not be entrusted with self-government until their primary and industrial education is complete, and this may require more than a generation owing to a lack of funds for educational purposes.



The Signal Corps of the War Department has made public specifications for the construction of a dirigible balloon to be used in a series of tests at Fort Myer next spring. Proposals for furnishing the balloon will be opened at the department on Jan. 15 next. The balloon is to consist of a gas bag of silk, to be covered with an aluminum preparation. The material for the bag and the hydrogen with which it will be inflated will be furnished by the government. The dimensions and shape of the bag will be left to the bidders, except that the length must not exceed 120 feet. It must be designed to carry two persons having a combined weight of 350 pounds; also at least 100 pounds of ballast. A speed of twenty miles an hour in still air is desired, and the scheme of ascending, descending and maintaining equilibrium must be based on shifting weights, movable planes or some method which will not necessitate balancing or changing of position by the aeronaut. The balloon must have all the fittings necessary for successful and continuous flights. It will be accepted only after a trial flight to be held at Fort Myer next spring.

In a recent address at New York City Francis E. Leupp, commissioner of Indian affairs, took occasion to reply to some of the criticisms that have been made regarding the treatment of the Indians by his bureau. He outlined the present policy of the government as that of absorbing the Indian into the white man's civilization, thus reversing the old policy of assisting him in his ardent desire of keeping as separate from the white man as he possibly could. He expressed the opinion that the final solution of the problem would be reached by intermarriage. He described the success of the government in making the Indian work; even the Utes, he said, were now working on the railroads and helping to build up the country of which they were a part. The commissioner said it was true that about 85 per cent of the Indians that went to Indian schools, such as Carlisle and others, and went back to the reservations sooner or later reverted to the blanket. But their children started away ahead of where their parents did so that the schooling was by no means wasted.

An unusual view of the army has lately been presented in a complaint over the decrease in strength of the coast artillery regiments. The Tenth Company, for instance, which mustered a hundred and one men in 1900, was able to get out only fourteen in the ranks in October. The explanation offered is that the men in the coast artillery receive training in some branch of mechanics, and can get employment outside at good wages. One officer instructed his company in the art of telephone repairing, and made the men so efficient that the telephone company in the neighboring city offered them sixty and seventy dollars a month, and in some cases bought the discharge of the men, so that they might begin work before their enlistment expired. If the army can train its men as effectively as this, it ought to be a pretty good school.

If there are not forty-eight stars on the flag within a year or two it will not be for lack of effort on the part of Arizona and New Mexico. A convention of delegates from every part of New Mexico adopted resolutions the other day demanding the admission of the territory as a State. The governor of Arizona has reported that the statehood sentiment in that territory is stronger than ever before. Bills were introduced in the Senate on the first working-day of the session of Congress, providing for the creation of two new States out of the territories. As the effort to pass a joint statehood bill has been abandoned, it is now necessary for the two territories to convince Congress that they are worthy to be admitted to the family of States.

According to Terence V. Powderly, formerly grand master of the Knights of Labor and now connected with the government Bureau of Immigration, extensive railroad building in Italy, the approach of the presidential election and scare headlines in the newspapers, aside from the financial flurry, are the causes for the present exodus of aliens from the United States. "No alarm need be felt because of the ebb in the tide," he says. "There is more work to do in this country than there ever was before; there is a necessity for men and women to do it, and the first months of the next year will see a return of aliens, who will be able to find remunerative employment in this country."

CALIFORNIA PLANT WIZARD.

**Man Whose Work Is Of Tremendous
Value to the People.**

Probably no other man in the world approaches Luther Burbank of California as an expert in plant life. His remarkable and wholesale experiments have been going on for many years and have resulted in a benefit to humanity which can be reckoned only in the hundreds of millions of dollars. By selection and crossing he has not only vastly improved a large variety of vegetables, grain, fruit, nuts and flowers, but he has actually succeeded in producing new species of a value far transcending that of either of the parent originals. By changing the nature of the fruits themselves he has largely extended the areas of their profitable cultivation. For example, oranges can now be grown in territories where formerly frosts made it impossible. He has "invented" grains and grasses which flourish in lands formerly considered worthless deserts. He has eliminated seeds from certain fruits, thereby greatly increasing their value. He has produced an edible thornless cactus capable of supplying forage for countless herds on the arid plains and even available as food for man.

As a result of his fame his experi-



mental farms have become the Mecca of everyone who by any chance gets within traveling distance of them. Heretofore Mr. Burbank has tried to extend every hospitality and convenience to his visitors, but they have grown in numbers to such an extent, 6,000 in one year, that he is now compelled to protect himself and his work from the invasion of sightseers. Recently he got out a circular announcing that he has nothing for sale and must deny visitors the courtesy formerly extended.

Because of the army of visitors all the important experimental work was delayed beyond recall; grounds were overrun by crowds from daylight till 10 o'clock at night; there was no rest for him or his employes day or night. Rare plants died from lack of attention, letters were neglected and telegrams delayed. Meals were taken standing, sleep was disturbed and health was jeopardized. The question arose: "Should he continue his valuable work of research undisturbed, or should he submit to being murdered piecemeal as a showman?" The answer is found at every gate announcing that positively no visitors will be allowed and that all trespassers will be prosecuted.—Utica Globe.

Blank!

A New Orleans woman, well-known for her work for charity, recently accepted an invitation to speak at an anti-tuberculosis meeting. On the platform she found herself seated between a bishop and a rabbi, and the tone of the meeting seemed to be rendered extremely solemn by the combination.

In order to lighten the solemnity, she said, turning to the rabbi, "Do you know, I feel as if I were a leaf between the Old and New Testaments."

The rabbi turned a sad-eyed gaze upon her.

"Yes, madam," he said, "and, if you will recall, that page is usually a blank one."

The Trouble with Carr.

"I rather like your friend," Mrs. Page said, graciously, after Carr had gone home. "He is good-looking and agreeable, but you can't call him a brilliant conversationalist. The Lawton girls talked all around him."

"Unfortunately," replied Mr. Page, "Carr cannot talk on a subject unless he knows something about it."

Born that Way.

"Uncle Amos, how did your boss acquire his title of colonel?"

"Dat goes wif de plantation, sah. All his antecessers wuz cunnels befo' him, sah."

In Reach of All.

Though eatables of every kind Must now be dearly bought, The poorest man among us still May have most food for thought.—Kansas City Times.

Many a man knows from experience that it is far easier to find a wife than it is to lose her.

The Jar of Coughing

Hammer blows, steadily applied, break the hardest rock. Coughing, day after day, jars and tears the throat and lungs until the healthy tissues give way. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral stops the coughing, and heals the torn membranes.

"I always keep Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house. It gives perfect relief whenever any of us have coughs or hard colds. I have used it for a great many years and so know all about it."—Mrs. W. M. OBERMAN, Vermont, N. Y.

Made by J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.
Also manufacturers of
Ayer's
SARSAPARILLA
PILLS.
BACR VIGOR.

Biliousness, constipation retard recovery. Cure these with Ayer's Pills.

Its Lasting Effect.

"Rippling, did you ever convert anybody to your way of thinking by your street corner oratory?"

"I know of one, anyhow, and it made a changed man of him."

"What is he doing now?"

"He's in the insane asylum, Ruggles. In the insane asylum. A glimpse of the truth was too much for his modernized intellect."

PILES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS.

FAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

Opinion of a Connoisseur.

"Mr. Spoonmore, don't you think a kiss 295 seconds in duration is a great deal too long to be agreeable?"

"Well, that depends entirely on the— desirability of the kisser."

Probable Outcome.

Chronic Kicker—What do you suppose would happen to your boasted fleet if it should get into a real battle?

Phlegmatic Citizen—O, I suppose we'd get licked—same as we've always been.

Sprains.

Any sudden turn or twist which may throw a member out of its normal position is likely to cause a sprain, which is really a sudden and more or less serious wrench or twist of a ligament or of the muscles controlling the ligaments. Use hot water for bathing the sprain; dry the surface and apply St. Jacobs Oil as for soreness and stiffness.

Reduction.

The old nag was jogging up the hill with the elopers.

"Yes," said the old nag, "it is rather tough pulling them up to the parsonage, but it will be easier coming back."

"How so?" queried the friendly goose at the roadside.

"Why, can't you see that after leaving the parsonage two will be made one?"—Chicago News.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by his firm.

WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for Constipation.

His Personal View of It.

Admiring Constituent—Senator, you have your own opinion of this currency question, haven't you?

Senator Lotamun—Yes, sir, and I suppose I have answered it hundreds of times. It's nobody's business how a man gets his currency.

Austrian mines are provided with rescue chambers at convenient locations underground. They are equipped with food and conveniences for miners in case of accident.

Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna

acts gently yet promptly on the bowels, cleanses the system effectually, assists one in overcoming habitual constipation, permanently. To get its beneficial effects buy the genuine.

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