

EX-MAJOR H. L. REES OF THE U. S. ARMY

President Approved Findings of Court Martial Which Dismissed Portland Man.

POLITICAL PULL GOT PLACE HE COULD NOT HOLD

Spectacular Career of Paymaster Who Drank Hard and Was Guilty of Irregularities.

A special dispatch to The Journal from Washington yesterday announces that the findings of the court-martial in the case of Major H. L. Rees had been approved by the president, and the paymaster dismissed from the service. He was accused on about 14 counts of making false reports and of conduct unbecoming an officer. While there was no shortage in his funds, there was sufficient evidence of irregularities to warrant his conviction and dismissal.

Major Rees' career was short and rather spectacular. He was a Portland hog dealer, and through the influence of political friends, secured appointment as paymaster of the 1st Cavalry, Philippine. After the Spanish war he returned to Portland and was stationed here as one of the paymasters of the department of the Columbia. He became acting chief paymaster, and his prospects were excellent.

But about that time his conduct gave rise to suspicion, and there were complaints from several quarters that he had secured money from friends and had failed to return it. He borrowed \$500 from a brother officer, Captain Baker, and repaid only a small portion of it. His habits had become erratic; he had patronized drinking places and ran up bills. At the Louvre, where he was a steady customer, he gave a check for \$400 on his personal bank account and one of the proprietors cashed it without question. Upon presenting it for payment the Louvre proprietor was informed that Major Rees had no funds on deposit. Rees was notified to call at the Louvre and make the check good, but ignored the matter.

Complaints were sent to Washington and he was suspended, and an examination of his affairs resulted in charges.

MICHIGANDERS WILL HELP THE EXPOSITION

Thirty-two Portland people who formerly resided in Michigan met at the city council chamber last evening and formed a Michigan society, with the following officers: President, Arthur Langguth; first vice president, Judge M. J. McMahon; second vice president, H. A. Stark; secretary, Mrs. Franc Hood; treasurer, O. R. Baker. A committee of three was appointed to draft a constitution and report at a meeting to be held at the city hall next Thursday evening. Some of the objects of the society are to advertise Oregon in Michigan, exert influence to help the Lewis and Clark fair in securing a Michigan building and entertain Michigan people who come to the fair. The society expects a large growth in membership this year. The charter members are: Robert B. Cox, A. J. Wagnit, Charles E. Kott, Mrs. C. E. Livensy, Mrs. J. H. Baylor, Mrs. J. P. Garamy, Mrs. Arthur Langguth, Mrs. E. H. Davison, Mrs. Franc Hood, Mrs. Mary Vyse and Mrs. Lottie Wade, O. R. Baker, J. H. Baylor, J. P. Garamy, J. Day, H. A. Stark, Arthur Langguth, M. J. McMahon, P. B. Davison, Jay Wade, J. E. Ready, Louis J. Wentz, F. A. Coleman, J. A. Eastman, N. T. Smedley, D. Taylor, D. H. Kelsey, George C. Cameron.

BOARD OF TRADE WILL HEAR TOASTS TONIGHT

The annual dinner and reunion of the Portland board of trade will be held this evening at the Commercial club at 8 o'clock. The opening address will be announced, to be made by Governor George E. Chamberlain. G. W. Allen, the recently elected president, will speak on the work of the coming year. I. B. Hammond, the retiring president, will also speak, as will other members and guests.

Clean-Up Sale

Of High Grade Shoes. Where quality and wear are apparent at a price—the only small or cheap items in connection with this sale are the prices quoted throughout the entire stock. Note a few prices quoted here for Saturday buyers:

- Men's Hand-Sewed Shoes**
No better made, worth \$3.50 and \$4. Here, Saturday Only..... **\$2.70**
- Women's Fine Shoes**
Of best wearing quality, worth up to \$3. Your choice here Saturday Only..... **\$1.49**
- Boys' Shoes**
The kind that wear well, worth as high as \$3. Saturday Only..... **\$1.25**
- Misses' and Children's Shoes**
The kind like mamma wears, worth up to \$3. Choice Saturday Only..... **\$1.25**
A Splendid Baby Shoe for..... **49¢**
Good Working Shoe for men **\$1.35**

Big Reduction on All Goods Throughout the Store

BARON SHOE CO.

230-232 Morrison Street, Near Second

WANT EVEN MILLS IN ALL TAX LEVIES

Bill Will Be Presented to the Legislature Asking Needed Reform.

WOULD SAVE LARGE SUM TO THE WHOLE PEOPLE

County Clerk Fields Explains Its Benefits to Portland and Multnomah.

A bill is now being drafted to be offered to the legislature providing for the imposition of a tax levy of even mills, which, if adopted, will obviate such troublesome work this year in connection with the extension of the rolls. The bill will provide that all cities, school districts, municipal, county and other corporations that have power to levy taxes must levy an even mill or mill, and may not levy fractional parts of a mill. The bill also provides for the approval of County Clerk F. B. Fields, who, when asked what he thought of it, said:

"Such a bill should become law. It would effect a saving of labor of extending the tax rolls, and also, by permitting the earlier collection of taxes, enable the stopping of interest amounting to a considerable sum. Usually two weeks are required to extend the tax rolls. This year four weeks will be needed. During the extra two weeks interest continues on the county indebtedness of \$125,000 at six per cent, amounting to about \$400, and the interest on the city and other debts will equal a sum several times \$400. In addition the expense of figuring the tax roll is much greater, and the worry and trouble are no small matter.

The city tax this year was levied at 3.555 mills. When one considers the work of figuring the city tax by multiplying every item by 3.555, he will believe that it would be better to levy even mills, in so far as concerns the work of the county clerk in figuring the rolls. The added interest on the public debt is also an argument worthy of attention. The city school district No. 1 and the Port of Portland having a debt very much larger than the county's.

In connection with the handling of the taxes, one of my hobbies has been the application of the methods of the everyday business man to the keeping of the county books. I mean that the county should carry all delinquent taxes over from year to year as a balance on the account due the county from the property, so that the tax roll of any year would show every cent due for taxes, and there would be no need to look at the books of past years to ascertain whether or not there were any back taxes due.

PORTLAND SAVINGS BANK'S LAST PAYMENT

Final distribution of the assets of the Portland Savings bank will be made by H. C. Smith, deputy clerk in charge of the clerk's court department, who will have \$1,000 to divide among 32 claimants. On October 1, 1904, creditors were notified of the last opportunity to file claims, and were instructed to record them before January 1, 1905. Mr. Smith is now prepared to recall the remittances. Some of the checks will be for only 5 cents, and the Lamson estate, which asked for \$42,850, will receive only \$122. Richard Nixon, receiver of the defunct bank, turns over \$1,000 as final assets, which in large part is the residue of amounts previously allowed on claims that never were called for, some of the persons having died.

Grandest display of fine scenery ever seen—Portland at the corner of Third and Alder street, exhibition from 9 in the morning till 9 at night.

EAST STARK STREET FOR IMPROVEMENT PEOPLE MADE GLAD

City Will Aid in Making Fill Between East Ninth and East Twelfth.

EARTH WILL BE TAKEN FROM NEW SCHOOL SITE

No More Contracts for Fills Where Plank Roadways Are to Be Laid.

East Stark street will be improved and the city will pay for one half the cost of the fill between East Ninth and East Twelfth streets. This was the decision of the street committee of the executive board, which met yesterday afternoon. Councilman John P. Sharkey and several interested taxpayers told the committee of the desirability of the improvement. They had to pay for the fill that their property would be confiscated. They proposed using the earth taken from the central school block when grading began for the new high school, and estimated that 20,000 cubic yards at 10 cents a yard, would be necessary to make the fill. The committee promised to pay 5 cents of this, providing the amount asked did not exceed the estimate.

The bid of Joplin & Meeks for a fill and plank roadway in Belmont street was rejected. The committee stated it would not let any more contracts for fills on which plank roadways were to be immediately built, as it was a waste of money; the fills settled and the plank roadway was destroyed. The bid was for \$17,000. New plans and specifications will be provided and other bids called for.

The Warren Construction company's bid of \$99,315 for the improvement of William street, between Morrison and Morris streets, with bituminous pavement was held up, as the contractors offered a maintenance bid for eight years. The street will demand a maintenance bid for 10 years. If the contractors do not consent to this the bid may be rejected, and the street improved with some other material.

The Oregon Water Power & Railway company was granted a franchise for a term of 10 years, to conform with other franchises held by the company, for a road on Oak, Pine and Second streets, where it is proposed to build a loop to relieve the congestion of traffic on First street. The company will pay the city \$25 a year for the franchise.

A claim for \$485 from J. B. C. Lookwood for a mistake made by H. L. Nevall in levying on the Thurman street bridge, was rejected. The bill was believed to be legitimate, but it was thought that it would have to be included in the cost of the bridge and assessed to the property-owners.

DEARTH OF CARS IN WEST SIDE YARDS

In the west side yards of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company, which can hold hundreds of cars and are usually crowded, there are today less than a score, the smallest number seen there in years. The reason given for the scarcity is that nearly all the cars are in the east, having been taken there loaded with Oregon wheat. In former years roads that received cars from other lines used the rolling stock as a rental of \$3.50 per day for each car after its original load has been disposed of. The result is that cars are returned with reasonable promptness to the companies that own them. It will be but a short time until all the cars of the O. R. & N. company that have carried wheat to the eastern markets will be returned.

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA

At Gospel hall, 287 Ankeny street, between Third and Fourth streets, special meetings will be held Saturday and Sunday evenings at 8 o'clock, led by Captain and Mrs. Cliff and Lieutenant and Mrs. Fidler of San Jose, Cal. Sunday school Sunday at 3 p. m. Sunday evening, training service by Captain Neff and wife and assistants. A welcome hand is extended to all.

FOR IMPROVEMENT OF NATIONAL GUARD

Adjutant-General Finzer Recommends Purchase of Permanent Grounds.

STATE TARGET RANGE AMONG NECESSARIES

Interesting Report on the Condition of Oregon's Militia Made to Governor.

Adj. Gen. W. E. Finzer, in his annual report to the commander-in-chief, Governor Chamberlain, states that the total strength of the Oregon National Guard at the present time is 1,384 enlisted men and officers. This includes the Third Infantry, First separate battalion, Troop A, cavalry and First battery of field artillery. The Third Infantry has 12 commissioned officers and 324 enlisted men, the First separate battalion 15 commissioned officers and 339 enlisted men, Troop A three officers and 24 enlisted men and the battery of artillery four officers and 34 enlisted men.

All the men are armed with 30-caliber Krag-Jorgensen rifles of the United States army, and the adjutant-general has based a sufficient number to give to each company the maximum allowance of 60 rifles. The large field gun used by the army has also been furnished, which enables company-cooks to prepare food expeditiously and in the most satisfactory manner. The expenditure for 1905—until the close of September—for the entire guard was \$77,790, which did not include any of the arms, equipment or supplies drawn from the national government, these being charged to the allotment made to the states pursuant to the Bix bill. The value of all property drawn from the government and paid for by the national allowance was \$21,100.

Adjutant-General Finzer calls attention to the fact that there is yet \$1,139 due the Spanish war veterans under the clothing allowance granted by the state and the government pay for the period of 1905 before maturity. A general order of the medals struck off by the state for this service have not been distributed. Of the disbursements to Indian war veterans, the report says that 115 claims were filed for the \$2 a day provided by the legislature. Of the total claims 802 were allowed, aggregating disbursement of \$135,482; 40 claims aggregating \$5,945 are being considered, and 68 claims were disallowed. An estimate is made that \$45,000 additional will have to be appropriated to take care of the other claims that will be presented.

Under the head of recommendations, General Finzer advises the purchase of permanent Oregon National Guard encampment grounds, to embrace not less than 100 acres, conveniently located, where permanent improvements may be made for accommodation of the troops. He also urges acquisition of a state target range accessible to the militia uniform for each enlisted man in the service is recommended, so that in emergency maneuvers a change may be had, and a new issue of the blue fatigue is also urged because of the bad condition of the present lot. A graded pay while troops are in service is recommended, to give greater recognition to non-commissioned officers than privates. General Finzer says regimental sergeants-major and company first sergeants and quartermasters should receive \$3 a day, battery sergeants-major and sergeants \$1.75, corporals \$1.60 a day and privates \$1.50. Urgent recommendation is also made that the battery of field artillery be furnished with two more field pieces each as are used in the regular army, and that the hospital corps be furnished with a complete regimental outfit.

EQUAL SUFFRAGISTS TO GREET CHAMPION

Monday evening the State Equal Suffrage association will tender a reception to Miss Mary M. Chase of Anderson, N. H., in the parlors of the Commercial club from 8 to 10 p. m. Mrs. Henry W. Coe, president, and Mrs. Abigail Woodbury will receive with Miss Chase. New Hampshire people are especially invited.

Miss Chase, state president of the suffrage association of New Hampshire, arrived yesterday to act as state organizer for Oregon, and will remain until after the national convention in June. She will visit all the important towns of Oregon, organizing new local associations and arousing interest in the national convention. Miss Chase has had wide experience in field work and expects great results in Oregon.

A campaign was carried on in New Hampshire two years ago, when there were only 27 suffragists in the state; now there are 402. Many of the leading politicians of the state are friendly to the movement, and Miss Chase hopes to bring about a like condition in Oregon.

HOME TRAINING WILL HAVE CLOSE ATTENTION

The Home Training association gave an unusually good program at its meeting yesterday afternoon. The program yesterday included the solo, "Just a Wee-bit for You," by Mrs. Katharine Linhart, contralto of the First Christian choir, and "Three Green Bonnets," by Miss Carrie Johnston, soprano of St. Mark's Episcopal church. Mrs. E. E. Tate read an excellent paper on "Professional Motherhood," pointing out the need of special training for mothers as well as professional men. Mrs. Samuel Connell, vice president, presided and spoke of the work already done by the association and the plans for the future. A systematic course of child study for mothers and teachers will be followed. After adjournment an informal social hour was passed. Refreshments were served and Mrs. W. J. Grundt and Mrs. R. L. Seater gave piano numbers.

WORLD'S WOODMEN ENTERTAIN FRIENDS

The Marquam Grand held a large crowd last evening on the occasion of the Woodmen's free vaudeville show, one of a series of entertainments by which the order hopes to increase its membership by 1,000 within 90 days. Governor Chamberlain was detained at Salem, and J. J. Ferguson of Portland acted as master of ceremonies and began the program with a short address. C. V. Cooper, head banker, also spoke, predicting that the installation of new members next month will be less important than that of three years ago.

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when 1,100 new names were added to the rolls after a similar campaign. The principal address of the evening was delivered by W. C. Hawley, chairman of the board of head managers. He traced the growth of civilization and Woodcraft, completing his picture with a description of the great work accomplished by the fraternal orders of St. Louis, especially in the free hospital, where nothing could be bought or sold, but where all sick were provided for in a spirit of fraternity. The speaker urged all young men to become Woodmen and presented figures showing the excellent financial standing of the W. O. W.

Between the speeches many excellent vaudeville acts were presented by representatives from the local vaudeville theaters. The crowd was well pleased and the entertainment doubtless accomplished the purpose for which it was arranged.

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