

## SECOND BATTALION NOT DISBANDED BY STAFF RESOLUTION

Governor West Holds Only Disobedient Officers and Men Must Leave Service; Hearing Set for August 20.

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.)  
Salem, Or., Aug. 13.—Controversy over the general impression that the second battalion of the Third Infantry, Oregon national guard, was disbanded by the resolution passed by the general staff and approved by him, Governor West today called attention to the fact that the disbanding order affected only those officers and men who participated in the mutiny at Gate, Wash., at the time of the recent maneuvers.

"Only those who refused to obey orders are dismissed from the service," said Governor West. "Not one of the others is affected."

This statement is borne out by the wording of the disbanding resolution passed by the general staff, which, after citing the offense in question, says:

"Said battalion is hereby disbanded, in accordance with section 25 of the military code of Oregon, the same being section 487 of Lord's Oregon laws, except such officers and enlisted men as were not present or were not involved in the said misconduct of said battalion."

Governor West said he would give no one a hearing in regard to the dismissal of the officers who refused to obey orders until the time of the public hearing scheduled to be held here August 20.

## PRIEST DOES PICKET DUTY BEFORE THEATRE

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Vienna, Aug. 13.—Determined that none of his church members should see one of Sudermann's plays which he had preached as "immoral," a priest in the town of Fussen stood in front of the theatre like a "strike picket." Those who refused to heed his warning he noted in a book to do penance as he expects to place upon them. The pleas of the theatre manager for the priest to leave were unheeded.

## PAVING WORKMEN QUIT JOBS AT PENDLETON

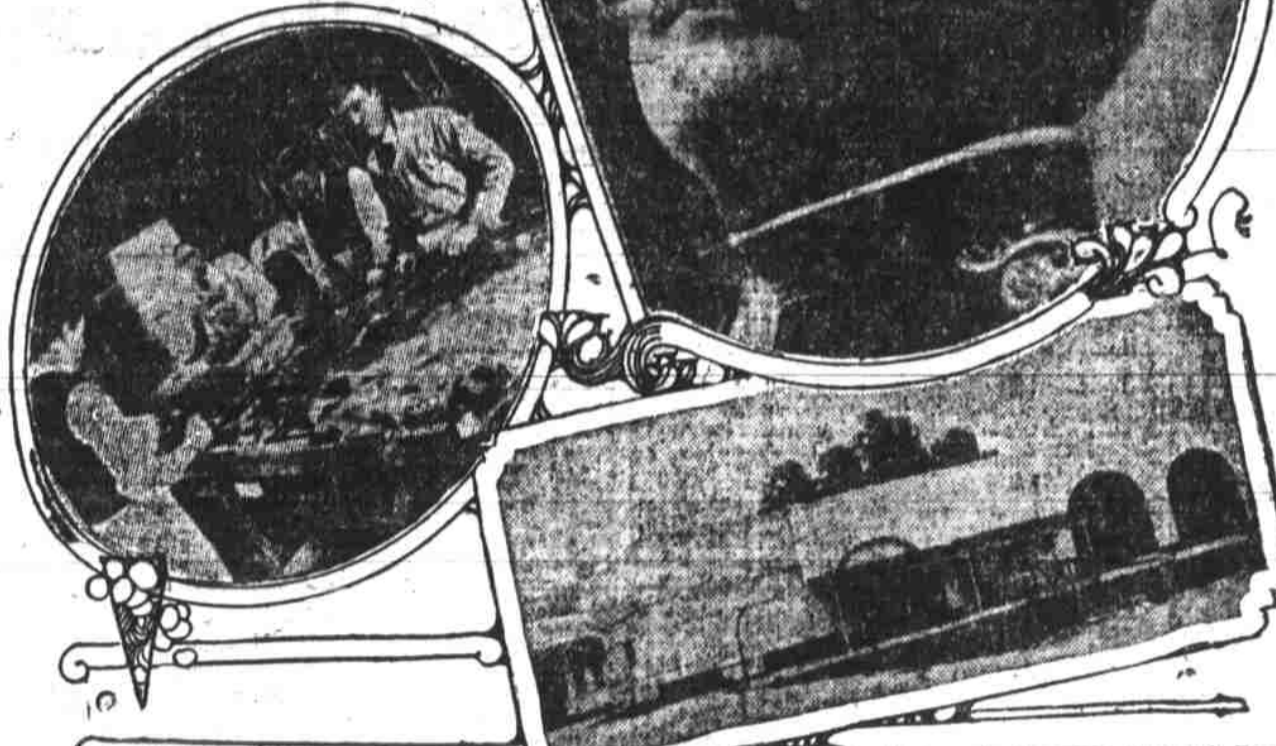
(Special to The Journal.)  
Pendleton, Or., Aug. 13.—Paving operations in this city came to a stop yesterday when 15 workmen walked out after their demand for higher wages had been refused. They asked for a raise from 25 to 30 cents an hour. Owing to harvest labor is very scarce here. The Warren Construction company is trying to get men in Walla Walla and Pasco.

## WAGING WAR ON PLAGUE INFECTED RATS TO PREVENT CONTAGION IN UNITED STATES

How Scientists Work to Check Disease at America's Doorstep.

By Surgeon General Rupert Blue of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service.

(By the International News Service.)  
New York, Aug. 10.—Plague has appeared for the first time upon the eastern borders of the United States. The nearest point from which the disease has heretofore approached our Atlantic and gulf seaboard is the Azores. But now it has found a lodgement in Porto Rico, where it has already caused over 42 cases and a score of deaths, and in Havana, Cuba, where a dozen persons



At top is Surgeon General Rupert Blue, in charge of the fight the United States is making to exclude the bubonic plague from the eastern parts of America. At left is the interior of the ratatorium. Here the rodents are tacked to shingles, with the labels showing, when, where and by whom they were caught. The rats are then examined by pathologists. On the right new offices of the United States hospital and marine corps at Puerto de Tierra, Porto Rico. From this building the fight of extermination is being waged. The bottom picture shows a typical rat infesting back yard in the native quarter of Porto Rico where the plague is most in evidence.

have been attacked and several deaths have occurred. Plague, then, is on our doorstep.

and now I am going to indicate measures which are being taken to prevent it from crossing the threshold.

The cities on the Atlantic and gulf coast, realizing that an absolute quarantine against rats, without the pro-

hibition of commerce, is almost an impossibility, have begun the work of examining their rodent population for plague. All vessels from San Juan and Havana bound for the United States, are thoroughly fumigated and every known measure taken to prevent their bringing rats into our ports. Crusades against rats are also under way in the threatened cities.

I cannot prophesy what United States ports, if any, will be attacked, nor can I say which will be the first to suffer from the incursion of the plague. Indeed, it is to be hoped that the timely warning that has been given and the manifold precautions that have been taken will serve to protect us. But in the meantime it is the duty of every port having marine communications with other countries which are plague infested to be on the alert for the signs of rats, and to so provide for their extermination that even if infected rats be imported, they will have no opportunity to enter human dwellings and spread the disease through the transference of their fleas to man.

When the plague was reported in Porto Rico, the public health and marine hospital service of the United States at once doubled its precautions in order to prevent this ancient disease from gaining access to our eastern and southern ports. Our experience with the disease in California has demonstrated the fact that it is only by measures of the utmost promptitude and efficiency that such diseases can be successfully eradicated. Therefore Assistant Surgeon S. B. Grubbs, who was already in Porto Rico as chief quarantine officer, immediately put into operation the machinery which is used to prevent the disease from leaving an infected port.

This embodies a thorough outgoing quarantine which means that all ships are fumigated after discharging a cargo that they are to be loaded from lighter and that the only freight that can be shipped is that which has been certified as having originated and having been stored in rat proof surroundings only.

### Fleas Carry the Plague.

Plague is carried to man from the fleas of infected rats. So if we can prevent the transportation of rats from infected ports into noninfected ports, we can prevent the shipment of plague from stricken territory into clean communities.

The situation in Porto Rico finally became so acute that it was soon seen that more exhaustive measures must be taken. The government of Porto Rico, therefore, requested the assistance of the public health and marine hospital service because of the recognized experience of this corps in plague warfare. Assistant Surgeon R. H. Creel, an officer of great field and laboratory experience, was at once ordered to Porto Rico. His assistants were sent. Assistant Surgeons Joseph Ridlon and T. L. Williams.

Plague has manifested itself by human death in the town of San Juan, Santurce, Carolina, Loiza, Arroyo and Dorado. This really represents quite an extensive area. The heaviest infection, however, has been found in the two most thickly populated portions of San Juan, Puerto de Tierra and Santurce and the work is therefore focused on these points.

How do you fight plague? To fight plague you must not only wage a war of absolute extermination upon the rat, but you must also trace the disease among the rodent population and prevent its being transmitted to man.

To exterminate the rodents you must

take into consideration every single factor of their existence.

The first thing is to cut off the rat's food supply. This implies a clean household both inside and outside. It does not mean that the remnants of the meals are merely out of sight, or that the refuse from the stables can be thrown into an uncovered bin, but it means that all foods which might tempt the rat shall be rendered inaccessible by the use of metal containers or metal screening.

Once you have done this it is easy to kill the rats off by using poisons. It has been my observation that phosphorus paste is one of the best poisonous agents. It shines at night, and the rats seem to like its taste and odor. Another advantage it has is that it deteriorates, hence you are not likely to kill an animal you never intended to harm a couple of years after you put the poison out. No matter what kind of poison is used, it must be put out carefully so that children and domestic animals will not come in contact with it.

In order to trace the course of the disease in rats it is necessary to obtain samples of the rodent population. To do this two kinds of traps are used, the large wire cage trap and the smaller snap trap. The cage trap has the advantage that it takes the rats alive and thus permits scientific investigation of the fleas upon their bodies. In this connection it may be stated that in San Francisco and Porto Rico many careful studies are being made of the different species of fleas.

It requires just as much intelligence and care to trap rats as it does to trap mice or other. The cage trap should be firmly anchored to the wall and the bait should be placed in the runway of the rat. The surroundings must be changed as little as possible, and every precaution taken to prevent frightening the quarry. Time and labor are required to train rat trappers. And a peculiar combination of skill and patience is necessary to produce a good rodent hunter.

All captured rats must be tagged to show where, when and how they were taken, and then taken to a laboratory and examined by a skilled corps of officers for evidence of disease.

The captured rats are first immersed in an antiseptic solution to kill the fleas. Next a tacker affixes the rat to a shingle. The shingle is then given a number so that even if the tags are lost the identity of the rat remains established.

Next the rat is passed to the skinner who, with a pair of forceps in one hand and a sharp scalpel in the other, reflects the skin from the abdomen of the rat and looks at the armpits and groins for enlarged glands. He then opens the body and looks for other evidences of disease. It is remarkable how skillful these laborers become in recognizing plague, leprosy and the host of other diseases which affect rats.

Next, the rats are gone over carefully by an officer who has been trained in a hygienic laboratory in the recognition of this disease. Should he find anything suspicious he makes the bacteriological cultures necessary to establish or disprove his diagnosis.

Suppose that a plague-infected rat is found, the field force is immediately notified and the districts from which the infected animal came is subjected to a thorough cleaning.

These are the measures that have been put in force in Porto Rico. Large

numbers of insanitary buildings have also been destroyed, others have been rat-proofed by the use of impervious material, such as concrete and sheet iron, and still others have been raised in the air so as to allow easy access to the cat and the dog, the natural enemies of the rat.

## BIG APPLE HOUSE NEARING COMPLETION

(Special to The Journal.)  
Hood River, Or., Aug. 13.—The four-story apple house being erected by the National Apple company is rapidly nearing completion. The structure is enclosed and work will now be begun in arranging the interior. This will be the only plant in Hood River that will be fitted with the latest precooling appliances. It is expected to complete the building in time to receive the earliest apples designed for shipping.

In the June issue of The Monthly Cyclopaedia and Medical Bulletin of Philadelphia, edited by Charles E. de M. Sajous, M. D., L.L.D., appears the following:

"Many physicians have come to realize that caffeine, as daily consumed in coffee and tea, has much to do with the causation of many annoying ailments and vaguely treated. It stands in reason that this alkaloid, when taken in daily doses of six or more grains, must exert a harmful action on the nervous and digestive systems. Its action must also modify the action of other drugs prescribed by the physician."

Continuing this article says: "Postum, the well known cereal beverage, made of clean hard wheat and a small percentage of molasses, has changed the means of effecting an easy stimulant—caffeine—to a wholesome, harmless, nourishing beverage."

Eminent analysts such as Prof. J. W. Mallet of the University of Virginia have proven that a cup of coffee (only three-fifths coffee and the rest milk) contains about 2 1/2 grains of caffeine.

A Government report issued April 4th, this year, from the Bureau of Chemistry shows that the deadly coffee drug, caffeine, administered in small doses, caused the death of cats, dogs, rabbits and guinea pigs in a few hours.

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