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MORE SOLDIERS TESTIFY

Before the Commission as to Camp Life.

THE CAMP HOSPITALS

Against the Subject of Investigation, Army Surgeons Testify as to Their Equipment—Testimony as to Quality and Quantity of Food Served at the Camp.

Anniston, Ala., October 24.—The war investigating commission began its work today with Major Otto H. Falk on the stand. He was the chief quartermaster of the First Infantry, division of the Third Army Corps, when at Chickamauga Park and he now occupies the position of chief quartermaster for this army. He said the most serious complaint in the early history of Camp Thomas was from the First Missouri, whose men claimed that their trousers were "rotting more than rats and threatened to appeal to charity at home to supply their wants. There was also a shortage in tents which became quite serious at the time of the beginning of the rainy season. Previous to that time men had slept under the trees and under their shelter tents without complaint. Indeed, he said there was never a sufficient supply of tents and it was necessary to put six men in a tent. Continuing, he said the division had never been completely equipped until the present time, especially in the matter of transportation facilities. He said, however, that there had been no refusal to honor requisitions. He thought, however, he had seen that there was too much red tape in the quartermaster department. "I do away with it whenever I can. I have succeeded so far," he said, "even though I sometimes violate regulations. I have seen the process of signing his name nine times in the process of paying a bill of \$20. It is not, as you say, M. Drake, in charge of the general hospital here, and who was in command of the hospital of the First Infantry, at Chickamauga, he told of various improvements. He had found it necessary to make in the hospital at Chickamauga. "There was," he said, "such a flood of disease that it was almost impossible to meet the demand for tentage and quite out of the question to anticipate it." As fast as he would pitch new tents they would fill them up. He stated that the medical supplies had been ample from the beginning, but the hospital corps had proved inefficient as nurses. "They were as a class," he said, "the very worst material that could have been found out of which to make nurses." However, he thought there had been no more serious results than discomfort to patients caused by the inefficiency of nurses. He was positive there had been no death from starvation or deprivation. Ten per cent of the typhoid cases of the First had died, and compared with hospitals generally the percentage was phenomenally low. He was of the opinion that patients in this hospital received better attention than the average man in this country receives at the hospital.

Replying to charges made by a signal corps patient in the Chickamauga hospital, Dr. Drake said he had seen magnets on one occasion in a box in the hospital, but never on patients. Officers did not remain so busy, but they did not remain so.

Major Joseph H. Heaton, chief commissary of subsistence, said the quality of the rations had been excellent. However, he said a man would have to be a gourmand to eat it.

After Major Heaton was excused, General Dodge read a letter from Dr. Seaman, of New York, who was before the commission in Washington in which he commended the army in his testimony. He stated that he received only the army rations for the convalescents on the steamer Ogdan from Fort Rife for New York. He says that enough supplies as had been supplied up to the night of October 22nd, but had been received from the relief supplies during the night. He said: "The hospital ship Relief arrived and early the next morning I boarded her and personally secured without any requisition the additional supplies and equipment in the receipts signed by me. With my conference yesterday with Major Bradley I believed these supplies, like many others, were bought by the outside contractors and were not government supplies." The letter is dated October 16th and is directed to the surgeon general of the army.

The war investigating commission sat from 9 o'clock until 3:30 o'clock today and examined a number of witnesses, including a number of volunteer officers. It is now expected that the commission will leave for Huntsville tomorrow night.

Major David Vickers, who was inspector general for the Second division of the Third Corps at Chickamauga, attributed the troubles in that camp to the shallowness of the regimental officers insisted on making selections of camp sites and in one instance a Mississippi colonel who had put his men in a swamp, had insisted upon remaining on the ground. That Mississippi colonel had a natural affinity for swamps. Nevertheless, his men were taken sick. Major Vickers also complained that the drinking water was poor. He thought the camp site was a large army, but so far as food went, the patients were fed better than the officers. He said that at the beds of all the patients were on the floor and that there were some days when there were some on the ground. Asked as to the competency of the surgeons, the hospital, he said there was one man in the hos-

FEDERAL TROOPS

Asked for by Republicans for Intimidating Democratic Votes.

THE NEGRO RIOT AT ASHPOLE.

After a Conference Between Pritchard and Russell the Former Asks the President to Send Troops to this State for the Election—The Question Before the Cabinet—Boyd Comes to Spy on His State—The Attack of Lawless Negroes on the Town of Ashpole—The Mob Urged to Deeds of Murder by Their Leaders.

Raleigh, N. C., October 24.—Special to The Morning Post from Washington tonight says:

Senator Pritchard has suggested bringing United States troops into North Carolina, ostensibly to preserve the peace, but, as the democrats here believe, to influence the coming congressional and legislative election in the state. He has written two letters here, one to the president, and one to Chairman Babcock, of the republican congressional committee. Both are of similar tenor.

In the letter to the president, which formed the subject of a special cabinet meeting today and which was written last Friday and received this morning, Pritchard says the democrats have raised the race issue in this campaign; that the most intense feeling exists; that the democrats have instituted a system of intimidation of negroes that threatens the peace of the state; that the whites are arming, and that the negroes are buying weapons wherever purchasable, although the merchants, a majority of whom are democrats, will not sell weapons to the negroes; that most serious trouble is looked for in counties where the negroes predominate. It is charged that the democrats are buying weapons in these counties to intimidate the colored voters and to keep them away from the polls.

A general discussion of Senator Pritchard's letter followed its reading by the president, who handed it to Attorney General Griggs. The gravity of the situation was admitted by members of the cabinet after the meeting adjourned. During the session of the cabinet Chairman Babcock called but when informed that the president had laid Pritchard's letter before the cabinet did not send his letter in, feeling, as he said, that the matter would receive the consideration it demanded. He said he was fearful the president might overlook it in the accumulation of matters.

Attorney General Griggs, was seen by a Post correspondent this afternoon. He produced Pritchard's letter, two typewritten pages beginning: "My Dear Mr. President:

"This is a private political letter," said Mr. Griggs, in response to a request for a copy, and it would be manifestly improper for me to make it public." He said it referred to the North Carolina situation which he said was represented as threatening.

"Will you send a deputy United States marshal to preserve peace?" he was asked.

"Marshals have authority to appoint deputies if the necessity arises and I will approve such appointment when made," he replied.

Mr. Griggs said no United States troops would be sent into the state unless called for by Governor Russell, unless United States mails were interfered with. In that case he said troops will be sent whether the governor calls for them or not.

Reflecting a moment, Griggs said the people of North Carolina, South Carolina, California or New Jersey may as well understand, now as at any other time, that where riot and violence is threatened and the governor asks for troops of the general government they will be sent and will preserve peace if they have to overrun the entire state. Order must and will be maintained.

Attorney General Griggs, has the entire matter in charge and if Governor Russell should deem the situation to be so critical as to demand troops, he will communicate with Mr. Griggs, upon whose advice the president will act.

The object of Governor Russell's recent mysterious visit to Senator Pritchard, in the light of Pritchard's letter to the president is now made clear. As there are no state troops in service should armed force be necessary, national troops will have to be sent.

Inquiry at the war department develops the fact that the Second regiment will be mustered out by October 29th. There is no probability that even in an emergency this regiment will be retained for possible service, as it is believed to be in sympathy with the white movement.

Adjutant General Corbin said this evening he had no official knowledge of contemplated trouble in North Carolina and had not been asked for troops.

Boyd left Washington today for North Carolina, to remain until after the election. He will keep Griggs posted.

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DOCKERY AT LUMBERTON

Notified that no Incendiary Speech Would be Tolerated—A Conservative Speech Made.

SPAN SQUARELY

Fineness of Our Peas Commissioners.

NO SIGNS OF BACK DOWN

(Special to The Messenger.)

Maxton, N. C., October 24.—Colonel H. Dockery spoke here today to 140 persons, 125 black and fifteen whites. A committee waited on him and asked for a division of time, which was refused. He was then notified that a speech of an incendiary nature would not be tolerated. The speech was conservative. There was an enthusiasm, and in conversation with several of the negroes afterwards it was found that it did more good than harm.

A dozen red shirts from here rode down to Ashpole last night, returning this morning. The reports are still excited and high. Six negroes have been captured and the posse is after others.

DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve has the largest sale of any salve in the world. This fact and its merit has led dishonest people to attempt to counterfeit it. Beware of the cheap cheap cheap to deceive you when you call for DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, the great cure. R. R. Bellamy.

SPAN SQUARELY

Fineness of Our Peas Commissioners.

NO SIGNS OF BACK DOWN

On their Part as to the Refusal to Accept the Independence of Any of the Spanish Provinces—Spain Must Give Way or Renew Hostilities—Spain Cannot not be Allowed to Remove Heavy Ordnance from Cuban Ports.

Washington, October 24.—The president had an exceedingly busy forenoon today. Attorney General Griggs, and Secretary Long, Hay and Alger called about 10 o'clock and the president discussed with them several matters which he found awaiting his attention on his arrival from the west. A telegram from General Wade, at Havana, was read recommending that the limit of the allowed the Spaniards to vacate Cuba be extended from December 1st to January 1st. He said that if it would be physically impossible for the 12,000 Spanish troops on the island to depart before the first of the year and he would extend the extension of time as reasonable and just. After the matter had been discussed at some length an agreement was reached and General Wade was telegraphed that his recommendation was approved. In the meantime, however, the United States troops now in Cuba and others to be dispatched will take possession of the territory as fast as the Spaniards vacate, probably leaving Havana till the 15th.

In regard to the reported purpose of the Spaniards to dismount and remove to the heavy ordnance of the forts and arsenals about Havana, it was stated in positive terms that nothing of the kind would be permitted. Any such movement had already begun and should be stopped at once. The conditions given our evacuation commissioners at Havana covered all these questions and explicitly provided that the arms in the hands of the troops and what are generally understood as impedimenta would be permitted to be taken away.

Nothing of special importance has been received recently from our peace commissioners at Paris. It was again reported today that under no circumstances would the United States assume any part of the so-called Cuban debt or the debt charged against the Philipine Islands. It might be possible that the United States would assume to guarantee the municipal obligations of Havana or other Cuban cities, but this would not permit them to be repudiated. The same might be true of Manila, but as to the national debt which Spain had seen fit to charge against Cuba and the Philipine Islands, neither would be assumed or in any sense guaranteed. This policy, it was declared, our peace commissioners understood and it would not be repudiated from in the slightest degree.

PEACE COMMISSIONERS.

It was expected that at today's meeting of the peace commission in Paris the American commissioners delivered to their adversaries something very close approaching an ultimatum. The president is satisfied that the Spanish commissioners are purposely delaying the negotiations. This is the belief of the American commission also. The time has now come to cut off all false pleas and to come directly to the main issue left open by the protocol, namely, the disposition of the Philipines. Up to this point the entire course of the commissioners has been consumed in repeated efforts on the part of the Spanish commissioners to delay the Cuban debt question upon the objection of the joint commission. After the firm opposition of the American commissioners, the latter have submitted as positively as they could that under no circumstances would they assume sovereignty over Cuba, involving an assumption of the Cuban debt, and the time has now come when, in the opinion of the American com-

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure