IN SHORT-GRASSDOM

Same Old Story Told by Comparison of Crowds.

DODGE CITY AND KINSLEY

Turn Out Ten For Long to One for Jerry.

Dodge City, Nov. 1.—(Special.)—Chester I. Long is out in short-grassdom this week. He is making a campaign in a territory which, generally speaking, has remained most loyal to Republican principles during the years that Populism has raged in Kansas.

There is no country on earth quite like the short-grass country. There is something unlike any other portion of the universe, after a man crosses the alleged boundary west of Hutchinson which enters him in short-grassdom. There is a broadness equalled only by the expanse of prairie; a liberality unparalleled anywhere else; a freedom which is refreshing after sojourning in the effete eastern portion of Kansas; a wholesomeness of spirit; a genial friendship and sympathy; a warm hospitality. People will do anything for you in the short-grass country. They have experienced all kinds of hardship and disaster, yet the most of them have weathered the storm and are now basking in the sunlight of prosperity and happiness such as they have never before known. Out in this country they never lock their doors, so great is their trust in humanity. They believe implicitly in mankind and they are broad and big enough to do it. There are no castes or cliques in the short-grass country—every man is the equal of every other man, and no one disputes it.

Politically, it is good for one's souls if he be Republican, to come out in the short-grass country. Faithful and true, contending against long odds, the Republicans have more than held up their end of things and they now feel good over it.

Ford county is one of the counties which has been less fortunate in holding up its Republicanism, but it is in good shape this year. Two years ago, Jerry Simpson had a majority of 64; Bryan, 88; Leedy, 53. That year the soldiers at the state soldiers' home gave the Republican ticket between 35 and 40 majority. Last year, a Populist supreme court decided, after a long-fought case, that these soldiers had no right to vote here and that they must return to their homes to vote. This will effect the Republican vote this year, and if there had been no such decision, the Republicans would have a nice, little majority. As it is, the enthusiastic Republicans actually talk and believe that they will be successful here this year. More conservative partisans agree that the fusion majority will be from 25 to 50. This will be a gain of considerable proportions for the Republicans.

Mr. Long will run slightly ahead of Stanley; not much, but then some. Long is very popular in Ford county. Men who know the county by heart say that there is only one man who voted against him two years ago who will vote for Simpson this year. On the other hand, there are many, many who voted for Simpson who this year believe that their interests will be best subserved by casting a vote for Chester I. Long.

Long is popular with the railroad men and they are no slight figure here. This is a division point of the Santa Fe. There are 300 railroad men here. The Rock Island also is here and has quite a number of men. These men believe in the administration of William McKinley. They will support it. They know that the way to support it this year is by voting for Chester I. Long for congress, for, if sent to Washington, he promised to uphold the hands of the president. Mr. Long made the rounds yesterday morning of the Santa Fe shops, roundhouse, yards, etc., and cordially greeted all the men. No place was too smoky, dusty or busy for him to approach. The men appreciated this courtesy, and spoke highly of it.

Chalk Beeson is the Republican candidate for the legislature, to succeed William Fitzgerald, who has represented the county for two terms, for, though fusion, by a slight majority, Ford has sent Republicans to the legislature for many years. Beeson is one of the best politicians in the west, and not only will he elect himself, but will do, and is doing splendid work for the state and congressional district. Several others, most all of them, of the candidates on the county ticket will be elected, too.

Among the distinguished short-grass statesmen who were at the meeting yesterday were United States Revenue Collector Mike Sutton and Ed. Madison, the bright young Republican, who lives here; Judge W. E. Hutchison, of Garden City; Special Land Office Agent A. H. Burtis, of Garden City, and Lew Pettijohn and Tom Scates, register and receiver of the United States land office here.

Judge Hutchison is one of the best informed men in western Kansas and he believes implicitly in Republican success this year. He says it is a year for Long and that he is gaining strength every day. The others talk the same way.

One pleasing feature of the meeting was the large delegation of soldiers from the Home who attended the meeting and occupied a conspicuous place. They came in in great numbers, in wagonloads, and some of the old fellows walked the entire five miles. They sat in a semicircular row away up in front, and led the applause. Tears came to the "old boys'" eyes as Mr. Long spoke of them and their struggle, and it was pathetic to observe them.

After the meeting, Chairman N. B. Klaine proposed three cheers for McKinley and Long. The building rang with the responses, and as usual, the old soldiers led. Then they crowded about Mr. Long and shook his hand and talked to him. It would have been well if those who sneeringly speak of Mr. Long's relation to the old soldiers could have seen the touching scenes of yesterday's meeting.

An over-exaggerated short-grass wind blew from the south all day, making it very disagreeable, and keeping many country people away from the meeting. Yet, despite this, Dodge's monster rink was well filled. It was a good crowd—a most enthusiastic one.

As a matter of fact, all crowds this campaign here, have been good ones. Party workers have stirred up their people very well here. Jerry Simpson and Senator Baker spoke recently at night and each had about the same sized crowd. Congressman-at-large Botkin last night spoke to a crowd somewhat smaller than Mr. Long's. Ford county is debatable ground this year; all politicians realize it; Republicans believe their chances as good as those of their opponents; Chester I Long has helped them.

GREAT OVATION AT KINSLEY.

Kinsley, Kan., Nov. 1.—(Special.)—The trip of Chester I. Long last night from Dodge City to Kinsley was a triumphal tour. It was a magnificent ovation—on the way and after his arrival; as he entered the packed opera house before 8 o'clock, and as he was introduced to the audience by W. N. Beezley, candidate for representative; as he opened his speech, and declared it was his turn to be elected to congress in 1898; as he delivered himself of his patriotic remarks, and as he closed, when great numbers of persons enthusiastically surrounded him.

In the first place, Chalk Beeson and Lou Vedder brought their bands—the famous relic of an equally famous Dodge City cowboy band—along to Kinsley. Then there was a crowd of Spareville Republicans returning from the Long meeting at Dodge. Again there was a score or more of Dodge Republicans going to Kinsley with the next congressman. The band played on the train and it was an entertaining trip.

But the climax came when the train pulled into Kinsley. Distinguished citizens, prominent Republicans, men, women, children, greeted the next congressman as he stepped to the platform. Mr. Long and his party were escorted to carriages; the band, the way lighted by torches, took the head of the column, and a hundred or more people, cheering and enthusiastic, fell in behind. The way was made up town to the hotel, where another cheering crowd was waiting.

Night meetings are usually rather late in commencing. It was not this way at Kinsley last night. By 7.30 the big opera house, which seats 400 people comfortably, and 100 more on a pinch—and the pinch came—was nearly filled. At five minutes before 8, when Chester I. Long, G. W. Watson, W. N. Beezley and other gentlemen stepped on the stage, the house was filled with 500 people. Kinsley has a population of 700. Compare this with Jerry Simpson's audience of fifty persons a month ago and Jerry Botkin's concourse of sixty persons a week ago, and is it at all strange that men of reason talk of Chester I. Long's election by from 500 to 2,000? Hardly.

Edwards county two years ago gave Simpson 158 majority. There is not a sane man in any party in this county who does not say Jerry Simpson will do well if he carries Edwards by fifty this year, and there are good conservative Republicans who honestly believe it will be a standoff, or less than twenty majority for Simpson, while there are those who actually think Long will carry the county by a half dozen votes.

So it is, in this old-time hotbed of Populism, one of the strongly "off" counties of the short-grass country, Chester I. Long was met by a large delegation; had a parade in his honor; was escorted thirty-eight miles by a band and a Dodge delegation; was cheered and applauded and ovated for hours, and was given the finest political audience gathered in Kinsley or Edwards county this year, while Jerry Simpson came unattended to town; no committee met him; no band was there; no escort accompanied him; no parade marched in his honor, and his audience consisted of fifty persons!

Yet there are men who really profess to believe Chester I. Long will not be elected!

CASTORIA.

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Very Light Vote on Prohibitionist

Ottawa, Nov. 1.—Official figures on the recent vote taken throughout Canada on the question of prohibition were given out by the state department today. The majority in favor of prohibition is 13,884. Only 22 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots for prohibition.

The way to get a better position is to more than fill one's present one.—Ram's Horn.

Annual Sales over 6,000,000 Boxes

BEECHAM'S PILLS

FOR BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Giddiness, Fulness after meals, Headache, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Costiveness, Blotches on the Skin, Cold Chills, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations.

THE FIRST DOSE WILL GIVE RELIEF IN TWENTY MINUTES. Every sufferer will acknowledge them to be

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.

BEECHAM'S PILLS, taken as directed, will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove obstructions or irregularities of the system and cure Sick Headache. For a

Weak Stomach
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IN MEN, WOMEN OR CHILDREN

Beecham's Pills are
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And have the LARGEST SALE of any Patent Medicine in the World.

25c. at all Drug Stores.

A

What does A stand for? When some friend suggests that your blood needs A sarsaparilla treatment, remember that A stands for AYER'S. The first letter in the alphabet stands for the first of sarsaparillas; first in origin, first in record, first in the favor of the family. For nearly half a century

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has been curing all forms of blood diseases—scrofula, eczema, tetter, rheumatism, erysipelas, blood poisoning, etc. There's a book about these cures—"Ayer's Curebook, a story of cures told by the cured,"—which is sent free on request, by Dr. J. C. Ayer, Lowell, Mass. The book will interest you if you are sick or weak, because it tells not what it is claimed the remedy will do, but what your neighbors and fellows testify that it has done. Will it cure you? It has cured thousands like you. Why not you?

IN THE THICK OF IT

Governor Barnes Joins in the Political Battle.

EQUALIZATION OF TAXES

And Other Issues Incite Him to Valiant Blows.

Guthrie, O. T., Nov. 1.—(Special.)—The central figure at the Republican rally held in the opera house in Guthrie tonight was Governor C. M. Barnes, who in an hour and a half's speech, completely riddled the charges of boodle and corruption so brazenly made by the opposition press and repeated by Keaton on the stump.

Governor Barnes' speech was devoted largely to the question of the equalization of taxes and the action of the territorial board of equalization, regarding which he said:

"It is alleged that we have been guilty of a robbery of the people by the improper action of the territorial board of equalization, whereby the taxes as levied by the assessors and county authorities have been raised in some counties and lowered in others.

"This law seems to be much misunderstood and I know the action of the board has been much misrepresented. Our tax law was first enacted by the first legislative assembly of Oklahoma in 1890 and provided that township assessors should assess the valuation of all taxable property at its true cash value.

"It may seem to you a harsh declaration but I am here to say to you that not to exceed one dozen of the township assessors in the territory ever performed the duties of their office in accordance with the law which they had sworn to execute.

"They never in any year assessed property at its true cash valuation, and as a rule each year the valuations would be placed on a lower basis than had been the rule the year before.

"The law of equalization provides that county boards of commissioners should equalize assessments of the various townships by taking one township as a basis and raising or lowering the other as the case might be, for the purpose of securing uniformity; that is, that the cattle, hogs, horses, buggies, pianos, watches, etc., in one township should be valued the same as like articles in another township.

"When this is done and the valuations uniformly extended by the county clerk, he is required to report the same to the territorial auditor, and the territorial board follows the same rule and procedure in equalizing the taxes of the various counties as was followed by the county boards in equalizing the several townships. This system seemed to work well and satisfactorily to the people until the year 1894-5, during the hard times which came upon the whole country under the last national and territorial Democratic administrations, the people complained of high taxes. The assessors reduced the valuations and, whether rightfully or wrongfully, the Democratic board of equalization raised the valuation in every county in the territory but one, basing their equalization upon the assessment of Kingfisher county, which property was assessed at a higher valuation than in any other county.

"At that time the various town, county and district boards charged with the levying o ftaxes—fixing the rates—met and performed that duty, i. e., fixed the rates, prior to the action of the Territorial board of equalization, so the percentage of increase of taxes was the percentage of valuation raised by the board. For instance, suppose our total rate in this city had been fixed at four per cent, if the assessed value of a lot was $500., the tax would be twenty dollars. But the territorial equalization boaard did not meet to equalize for the territory until after the county and school boards and city council had fixed the rate, so when the board did meet and raised our valuation 45 per cent to equalize our valuation with that of Kingfisher county, it raised the valuation of that lot from $500 to $725 and the tax would of course be raised to $29.00.

"The Democratic equalization board raised the total assessed valuation in 1895 from about $26,000,000 as returned by the county boards to $39,275,189, an increase of over 23 1-3 per cent and the people were required to pay fully one third more taxes than they would under the present law.

"And they did this for the avowed purpose of permitting the various counties to swell their indebtedness beyond the limit authorized by law. Perhaps you remember something about the extravagant expenditure made by the appointed Democratic officers of the new counties in the strip. Perhaps some of the old counties desired the same thing, but I have been informed, reliably I think, that every one of the new strip counties purchased of the Leader Printing Company, the official organ of the Democratic party and of the Democratic administration, books, blanks and supplies sufficient to run the courts and various county officers for twenty years, and at a price that was 200 and 300 per cent greater than the same work could have been done and the same supplies purchased in the market at commercial rates, and the purchases were made and the bills allowed therefor by the Democratic officers appointed by a Democratic administration. And the Democratic equalization board raised the valuation of taxable property over $13,000,000 for the avowed purpose of permitting these bills to be paid by warrants and the warrants then to be funded into long time bonds.

"As one of the beneficient results of a Democratic administation, the bonded indebtedness of the various counties in this territory is now over $926,000. It may be, and likely is, true that a portion of this debt was created by some extravagant and wasteful expenditure under the earlier Republican administrations, but by far the larger part of it was created under the circumstances I have detailed to you, and was made possible by the very large advance in taxable valution made by the Democratic board of equalization in 1895. And the people were compelled to pay into the various county treasuries millions of dollars more than was needed to pay their necessary running expenses.

"Of course the people complained. They had a right to complain, and no reasonable man will blame them for taking steps to resist such a high-handed and unwarranted abuse of power. And they found lawyers, of course, who advised them that the whole thing was illegal, and that they could for a small fee fight the tax raise in the courts and beat it, and so they made a case and they carried it to the supreme court, and the court said it was legal and the taxes must be paid. And it was a Democratic supreme court that said so. And I want to say right here that I have no sympathy with anyone who derides the decisions and impugns the integrity of the courts of our country. Courts may sometimes be wrong. Judges may occasionally be so absorbed in the buzzing of a political ambition to go to congress as to forget the high and holy duties with which they are charged, but it is not often that such is the case. And I believe it is the duty of every good citizen to sustain and support the decisions of our courts and to give full faith and credit to the integrity of our judges until it is absolutely certain they have gone wrong, and then wait before condemnation until it has been demonstrated by legal methods and lawful procedure that they are wrong, for it is possible that we may be a little wrong ourselves. So I am not going to criticise or condemn the solemn judgment of our supreme court, nor am I going to impugn the integrity or honesty of any of our judges. I shall leave that to those who in their political ambitions and aspirations are willing to so far forget the solemn duties and obligations of American citizenship. It is, however, amusing to reflect that one of our young men, who now aspires to a seat in the halls of congress, had, just before he was surprised and the people were surprised by his appointment to a position on the bench of our teritory, had offered resolutions in a Democratic convention at El Reno, denouncing in vicious terms a solemn decision of the court of which he was so soon to become a part; a resolution so violent in its abuse of the judges that the convention refused to entertain it until its tone and temper was very much modified.

"But to return to the tax question: When the legislature met in 1897, one of the first bills introduced was a bill to repeal the tax law, but after investigation it was found that the fault was not so much in the law itself as it was in the abuse of powers granted to the territorial equalization board, so finally the bill was defeated and the old law was amended so that the work of the territorial board would be completed and valuations corrected and equalized before the various levying boards meet to fix the rates. And this is the law now. I will not take the time to read it. The territorial board meets to equalize the taxes on the third Monday in June in each year, and the auditor certifies the result to each county on or before the fourth Monday in June, and counties, cities, school districts, towns and villages and townships all fix their rates of taxation after they know exactly what the valuation is. So they can fix the rate to raise just the amount of money needed to defray their expenditures for the year. No more and no less. And this law was in force this year when the territorial equalization board met on the third Monday in June.

"We found a large variation in the valuations of the various counties, but not one of them was assessed at anywhere near an actual cash valuation of the property enumerated. The law requires that it should be.

"We found that the expenditures of the territorial government for care of the insane, the transportation and keeping of our convicts, the very large and juicy printing bills left over by the Democratic administration in addition to the usual and economical expenditure for ordinary running expenses was largely in excess of the revenues provided for. We found the credit of the territory impaired an dterritorial warrants selling at 85 cents on the dollar and often no buyers at that price. We found that the bills for the care of the insane were increasing rapidly—that the prison bill was also likely to increase—both by reason of the constantly increasing number of patients and convicts sent to these places—and these must be cared for by the territory and the expenses must be endured and met in some way. So in the performance of our duties as members of the board, we selected the assessed valuation of Pottawatomie county as a basis, believing that to be as near a fair cash valuation as in any county excepting Greer county, which however, was so high that we thought it wise and expedient to reduce it to a level with Pottawatomie county—and on this basis we calculated and equalized the valuation of the various counties.

"Now as to the results of this action by the board. The various counties, etc., fixed their rates to raise their necessary revenues after the perfected and completed valuation had been certified to them, so that they did not collect one cent more money than they needed or than they would have collected for county and other municipal purposes had no changes been made in their valuation, but the territorial levy of 4.3 mills remained the same as fixed by the legislature so the territorial tax was increased or reduced by exactly the percentage of raise or reduction made in the county valuations. For instance, if a farmer's valuation was originally $500, and the board raised the valuation of his county 50 per cent, the actual increase of his taxes would be 4.3 mills on $250 or in other words, if his original valuation was $500 and it was increased 50 per cent, making $750, the increased tax he would be required to pay would be $1.07 and there are very few persons whose valuations on the tax rolls exceed $750, and those that do exceed that are generally bankers and business men, and if they have the property they can afford to pay a few dollars more taxes. The result of the action of the board and the several decisions of the supreme court sustaining this law was that the price of territorial warrants advanced to 96 to 98 cents, and our territorial credit stands equal today to that of any of the new states and is far better than many of the older states.

"Another result in which the settlement of this question is a strong factor, is that money can now be borrowed on real estate security in Oklahoma from 3 to 5 per cent less than it could have been had before the credit of the territory was again made good and confidence restored.

"I have shown you just exactly what the raise of valuation of fifty per cent amounts to under the law as it now stands. In Woods county the raise of valuation would result in the collection of 27 cents additional upon each one hundred dollars valuation. Now, this statement is based upon the supposition that the officers of the county do their duty as the law directs them to do, and as they have taken an oath to do. Of course, if they haggle about the valuation until after the various boards fix their rates based upon the original valuation, and are then compelled by the courts to perform their duty and extend the valuation as completed and perfected by the board, the result would be the same as it was under the old law in 1895, and their people would have the right to complain; but this time not of an abuse of power by the territorial board, but they should complain because their own officers have not done their plain legal duty, because they have violated their oaths of office and the least they can do is to relegaate such men to private life and elect good Republicans to office, who will do their duty and will not violate their oaths of office in the hope of making people believe that they are above the law and smarter than the combined wisdom of two supreme courts.

"I am not going to defend nor insist upon a retention of the present tax law; I am only explaining and trying to make clear the action of the territorial equalization board, which has been charged by a journal of a strong yellow cast, and by such nominated candidate for congress with having robbed the people of this territory. Will any one say after understanding the action of the board and its true and legitimate results, that the board can be logically charged with a robbery of the people or with a flagrant abuse of the power vested in it? I think not.

"If the law can be made better, let the legislature amend it, but so long as it remains upon the statute books of our territory and is sustained by the supreme court, it is the duty of all good citizens to conform to its provisions and it is the duty of the executive to see that it is enforced justly and equitably in every county, and so long as I am governor I intend to do my plain duty in this matter as well as in every other."

Governor Barnes also justified the alleged irregularity in the appointment of Lieutenant Orner as adjutant general of the territory, maintaining that the exigencies of the situation demanded the action taken. He also contended that in the case of Rosenbaum's alleged extravagance, the administration had completely exonerated itself by rectifying whatever mistakes had been made.

The governor praised the management of the school land department under the able management of Commissioner Filson, and justified the increase in the salary of that officer by declaring that Mr. Filson was not only doing enough work to earn such a salary, but had saved it to the territory many times over in bad debts collected, thanks to his ability in that direction.

In closing, Governor Barnes rendered a magnificent tribute to President McKinley and his conduct of the war, and warmed up to the highest pitch in his closing adjuration to the voters of Oklahoma to stand by Dennis Flynn. He said of these:

THE PRESIDENT.

"President McKinley has proved himself as great in diplomacy and in war as he was great in the successful guidance of the state through the troubled waters of distress and misfortune brought about by the mistaken policies of a Democratic administration, and if sustained by the people in this election, as I hope and pray that he will be, he will be also great in the solution of the new problems of scientific government which now confronts the American people.

"He is a Republican president, and no Republican president ever yet hauled down teh American flag from any place that it had been planted by the valor and bravery of an American soldier and sailor. The blood of our soldiers and sailors shall not have been shed in vain if the people do justice to themselves and stand loyally by the president in the only way that you can stand by and support and encourage him in the great work before him. And where shall Oklahoma stand on the day when the die is cast and the verdict made up.

"It is true that we do not have as much to say about those things as do those communities who wear the full mantle and garb of American statehood, but we are aspiring to that proud position and let us for once show ourselves reasonable and consistent in politics as well as in other matters.

"The only reasonable and logical thing for us to do to show ourselves worthy of the consideration of thoughtful people and intelligent statesmen is to place ourselves in the grand and victorious column of the states and people who will vote this fall to sustain and support the wise and beneficent policies of good government embodied in the very person of our great, grand president, William McKinley.

"Oklahoma is our home, for al litime to come. So long as we shall live. It behooves you who desire to establish here a state of which ourselves and our childen may be proud, and a state to be founded upon the principle of the greatest good to the greatest number; a state that shall secure and guarantee to each and everyone of its citizens the largest liberty, equal and exact justness between man and man; a state in which good society, social purity and the moral and material welfare of the whole people shall always prevail. I say if you desire and wish to establish here a state which shal not only be the equal but shall excel if possible the wise and good government prevailing in other states of this American Union, then, in my judgment, the surest way to accomplish this result is to vote the Republican ticket and elect every man nominated by the regular party convention and make the Republican party responsible to the people for good, hones and clean Republican government. It is the only political party in the territory that is even making a pretense of electing candidates upon regular and well defined party platforms and party pledges of responsibility.

VOTE FOR FLYNN.

"Vote for and elect Mr. Flynn to represent Oklahoma in the councils of the nation. He has had experience which no other candidate has had. He is thoroughly acquainted and in touch with the desires and wishes, the hopes and aspirations of our people, which no other candidate is. He is in harmony and in sympathy with the national administration, and can claim the attention of those in authority as no other candidate can do, and he will feel his responsibility to the party that nominated him and to the people who will elect him as no other candidate can possibly do. Vote for and elect a Republican legislature and make the party that is bound by and governed by its principles and its pledges responsible for the enactment of wholesome and salutary laws. Vote for and elect the Republican ticket from top to bottom; from stem to stern. In this way we will secure not only a good but a responsible administration of affairs; in this way you will say to the world that Oklahoma is as intelligent and as virtuous as she claims to be.

"Oklahoma is in favor of good government—honest government. Oklahoma is entitled to all those things which she is asking and will ask at the hands of the national administration and at the hands of congress."

Mr. Scaggs—"My dear, isn't the grocer on the next corner a Celtic gentleman?" Mrs. Scaggs—"No, indeed! He sells for cash only."

A Virginia Mother says she used five bottles of Mother's Friend, beginning six months before confinement. She felt perfectly well up to a few hours before the baby was born, and was in labor less than two hours. She had no morning sickness, no headache, no distressing tightness, no swollen or rising breasts. Her baby was strong and the picture of health.

Mother's Friend is the only remedy known which relieves the expectant mothers. It is a liniment to be applied externally. Nothing but harm can come from taking medicine internally at such times. All internal preparations said to relieve coming mothers are not only humbugs, but positively dangerous.

Mother's Friend costs $1 a bottle at druggists, or you can send to

The Bradfield Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga

RUNNING UP THE FLAG

Ceremony of Taking Over Porto Rico, Oct. 18.

NO USELESS TRUMPETRY

Just a Business Matter Done in a Business Way.

San Juan, P. R., Oct. 18—The Governor's Palace in San Juan stands across the western end of Fortalesa Street. It is a large and somewhat imposing structure, though of no impressive style of architecture. In the shade of an angle formed by a junction of the wing with the main building, there stood, a little before 12 o'clock at noon, on October 18, some twoscore officers of the American Army and Navy. They were all in so much of dress uniform as their campaign outfit permitted, and wore their side arms. With them were six or eight civilians, some in dress and some in frock coats. These were foreign consuls and members of the insular government of the island of Porto Rico.

Immediately in front of this groups and facing the arched portal of the palace stood the regimental band of the Eleventh United States Infantry. Behind the band, filling the street from curb to curb, stood two battalians of the Eleventh. Their uniform consisted of campaign hats, blue flannel shirts, trousers of the kind furnished to the troops for the campaign in the tropics, and the brown regulation leggings. They presented no brilliant spectacle, these tall, sunburned soldier men, but the Spaniards in the western part of the island ran away from them a few weeks ago. Behind the infantry, Troop H of the Sixth United States Cavalry sat on their big bay horses, with drawn sabres. They presented no more gorgeous appearance than did their fellows who stood in front of them, but the Sixth Cavalry, or any part of it, is the Sixth. On the balcony of the first story of the palace stood a little groupe of ladies and gentlemen. Among them was Mrs. Gordon, whose husband stood with his staff, states, Admiral Schley and Gen. Brooke, of the United States Commission, among the group of officials. Outside the military lines, and up the adjacent streets, on roofs and balconies, and at the windows of the palace and other buildings of the vicinity, were soldiers and civilians, ladies and children.

Just before the stroke of noon all movement ceases, all voices are still. The heads of all officials are bared, as are the heads of all spectators who are blessed with any sense of the fitness of things. There is an instant of impressive silence. To all save the shallow and the thoughtless the moment is one of deep solemnity. Many eyes are wet and many lip quivers with intensity of feeling. Into the grave of the past there fall 400 years of history of Spanish power in sea-girt Porto Rico. It is the end of a long life misspent if you will, but venerable in its antiquity if nothing else. Then upon the hushed air there sounds the musical note of a distant bell, slowly striking the hour. Upon its third stroke a second bell chimes in, and then a third. While they are still sounding, there comes the roar of the signal-gun, fired by Major Day of the Fifth United States Artillery, from the walls of the old Morro. Before the sound of the gun has died away, the band strikes up the sweet strains of our national anthem as the stars and stripes are slowly hauled to the masthead on the top of the palace by Major Dean and Lieut. Castle of General Brooke's personal staff.

With the dying of the notes of "The Star-Spangled Banner" the spectators give three hearty cheers, the inevitable, enthusiastic howls—tiger-r-r-r—and the ceremony is over. The troops march away to their barracks; carriages drive up to take the officials to their homes or to the hotels, and the little crowd of spectators melt away in different directions. It was all a quiet affair. There was no excitement and but little enthusiasm. An hour after its close the streets had assumed their wonted appearance. There was little to show that anything important had taken place, that by this brief ceremony Spain's power on the island of Porto Rico had ended forever. There was little to indicate a change, except over the frowning heights of San Cristobal, and over all the public buildings of the city, there shone the bright colors of the red, white and blue, instead of the red and yellow of Spain.

There was a deal of handshaking among the two or three hundred American civilians gathered in the city. A cork or two popped, and few less effervescent and more economical throat-moisteners went down to an accompaniment of, "Well! Here's to——" whatever it might be. Blue flannel shirts and campaign hats took the place of linen blouses and white helmets on the streets, as the Krag-Jorgensen was substituted for the Mauser and old-pattern Remington. Here and there a native showed the new national colors, and a few householders and merchants displayed the American flag. But the event had been anticipated. Flag-raising in Porto Rico has now got to be an old story. The citizens of San Juan had already become quite familiar with the appearance of the American soldiers and civilians on their streets, and the proportion of ardent supporters of the new government is not of sufficient strength to lead to any very effusive demonstrations on the part of citizens.

Under the circumstances, all was best as it was. It was far better than any great parade of armed troops. It was better that there were no long speeches and ceremonial forms. We have hardly laid a big enough egg to warrant our doing any great amount of cackling over it. All was done that was necessary. The national salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the different forts, and the American ships in the harbor were dressed from stem to topmast, and from topmast to stern, with all their bunting. The revenue cutter Manning was the only government vessel here, except two or three transports. She echoed the cannon from the forts with the proper twenty-one shots from her guns.

None of the Spanish commission was present at the ceremonies at the palace. Some are gone to Spain, and the one who is still here did not attend. By a special invitation extended by the United States commission, all the chiefs of the insular government were among the guests of the occasion, as were also the different foreign consuls.

The people of the city were happily disappointed in their apprehensions of disturbances on the part of the anti-Spanish element, and the order which garrisons the city with the Eleventh regulars will eliminate much of the danger of rowdyism on the part of our soldiers. The war in Porto Rico is over. It ends with much of hopeful outlook for the future. Much will depend on the judgment, the tact, and the breadth of view of our officials. There are a few small clouds in the morning sky, but they will be easily dissipated, and the coming years should be a time of sure and steady growth and development for this spot for which a beneficent Creator has done so much. A. G. R.

Plattsburg, Mo., Nov. 1.—Smith M. Weed arrived home this morning from the West Indies, where he was a passenger on the cruiser Montgomery. Mr. Weed is president of a syndicate which controls the customs and railroads of San Domingo, paying that republic a large sum every year for the privilege. He went to Nassau to meet President Hereureaux, at the request of President McKinley, or at least under an understanding with the administration to settle the grievance San Domingo has against this country on account of the Hernande affair.

It will be remembered that during the early stage of the war, Hernando, understood to be a Cuban patriot, headed an expedition organized by this government for the relief of Gomez, for whom he proclaimed great friendship. It turned out, however, that his real purpose was to promote an insurrection in San Domingo. He landed on the coast of the little republic, but was promptly met by a government force, and out of a party of sixteen he was the only one to escape. San Domingo naturally felt that she had a claim against the United States for damages for fitting out an expedition which was used to provoke rebellion on her own soil.

It was to settle this difficulty that Mr. Weed first visited the president and afterward went to Nassau. Said Mr. Weed today:

"Acted in an unofficial capacity. The matter was satisfactorily settled. There is absolutely no truth in the reports of proposed annexation. Neither the United States nor Domingo desire it."

Now He's Sorry That He Shot.

Newark, Ohio, Nov. 1.—Thomas Randall, a farmer near Kirkensville, shot into a crowd of village hallowe'eners last night in his cornfield and killed Harley Smoke, aged 12, son of Jacob Smoke, of Kirkersville. Randall used a revolver. Smoke had an armful of corn when he fell. A party of girls was waiting at the fence for the boys, who went for the corn. Randall is nearly crazed over the affair. He has given himself up to the Newark authorities.

Appointed by the President

Washington, Nov. 1.—The president has made the following appointments:

Colonel Samuel M. Mansfield, corps of engineers, U. S. A., to be a member of the California Debris Commission.

Third Lieutenant Richard M. Sturdevant to be a second lieutenant in the revenue cutter service.

Joseph K. Goodrich of Pennsylvania, to be interpreter to the consulate of the United States at Nagasaki, Japan.

Dr. Nancy Guilford's Home Coming

London, Nov. 1.—Dr. Nancy Guilford, the midwife, of Bridgeport, Conn., who is wanted for murder in connection with the Yellow Mill Pond tragedy, sails for New York on November 12, in custody of Detective Cronan, of the Bridgeport force.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 1.—Commander Snow, who is to relieve Admiral Schley as commandant of the San Juan naval station, sailed from New York today on the Solace.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 1.—John F. Phillips, treasurer of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad, is dead, of paralysis. Mr. Phillips was born in Brattleboro, Vt., July 14, 1837, and had been connected with the Rock Island road for thirty years.

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