

MEDICAL OFFICERS BEFORE THE COURT.

Testify as to Quality of Meat Furnished the Army.

The Canned Roast Beef Unsatisfactory as Food for the Troops.

Two Witnesses Interested in Supplying Beef on the Hoof Also Placed on the Witness Stand, Who Contradict General Eagan's Testimony.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—All but two witnesses before the army inquiry court to-day were members of the medical staff who were on service in Cuba during the Spanish war. The other two witnesses were George H. Giddings and General J. Hale Sypher, who had been interested in securing contracts for supplying beef on the hoof and on the block for the army in Cuba. They testified that General Eagan had told them that the Secretary of War had asked him to give the refrigerator beef a trial, while Mr. Sypher said that General Eagan had created the impression upon him that he preferred beef on the block to refrigerator beef. Their testimony throughout was contradictory to General Eagan's testimony. Mr. Giddings said that Congressman Hawley was present at several of his conferences with General Eagan.

A majority of the army surgeons expressed the opinion that the canned beef was unsatisfactory as food for the troops, but some of them thought it no more harmful than other meat in the Cuban climate.

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COURT.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The forenoon session of the Army Beef Inquiry Board opened with a number of officers of the medical corps of the army present as witnesses. Colonel Charles R. Greenleaf, chief medical inspector of the army, who was the chief surgeon in the field during the Spanish war, and who was with General Miles in Porto Rico, was the first called to testify.

He said that while in Cuba, on his way to Porto Rico, he had been asked to give no attention to the food supply of the troops, but while in Porto Rico he had looked into the question of food incidentally. He then heard no complaints of importance, except as to the character of the cooking. His attention had not been brought to any complaints concerning either the canned or refrigerator beef, but he had eaten some of the canned roast beef and did not relish it.

"It was not pleasant to the sight," he said, "and it was unpalatable to the taste without condiments, such as salt and pepper." In reply to a question as to what effect the use of this meat as food would have upon the health of the troops, Dr. Greenleaf said the effect of it would be similar to the use of all canned meats. If good and prepared with condiments and vegetables and not used too much, it might be eaten without detriment. If spoiled, it would produce sickness or, probably, if used steadily, the system would not accept it.

"It would, if used daily and without condiments or vegetables, pall on the appetite, which would at last revolt against it." He said he had found that in the hot climate of Porto Rico the meat did not keep long when opened. He had not taken the food question into account in connection with the health of the troops, attributing the sickness solely to the climate.

Colonel B. F. Pope, chief surgeon of the Fifth Army Corps in the Santiago campaign, also testified concerning the food supply of the campaign. The hard bread he found good and the canned vegetables generally so. The canned beef, "wrongly labeled roast beef," he did not speak of in such high terms.

"He accepted it as a part of the rations and ate it as well as we could, but it was unsatisfactory in appearance and entirely lacking in savor. It was also stringy and tough, and, in some cases, it was decomposed, causing the cans containing it to swell. I also noticed that it deteriorated rapidly after being exposed to the air. The great trouble seemed to be in the lack of facilities for cooking the beef. It was not so bad in the form of steaks or hash as when eaten alone, as it was necessary it should be used by the soldiers in the field, without cooking or preparation in any way. Taken so it was a very unsatisfactory diet. It looked like beef from which beef tea had been made. It has struck me since that the nutritive qualities of the beef were extracted in boiling, and my personal opinion is, that as food it was of a low order of nutritive value. It was a very trying food unless eaten with the eyes shut."

"The roast feature of it," he added, "was all in the label—not in the can."

He had been unable to trace any special disease to the food, but he thought that the use of the canned beef would tend to weaken the men and cause disease. Upon the whole, he would not advise the use of beef for food in the tropics, and he thought the bacon ration would have been better.

The refrigerator beef, Dr. Pope pronounced good. The troops had been compelled to trim off spoiled parts, but after this was done and the meat nicely cooked it was very palatable and nutritious. Most of the canned beef used at Santiago bore the label of the Wilson Packing Company.

Major Lagarde, in command of the reserve hospital at Siboney, stated that the canned beef had been furnished at his table, at the hospital and to the patients.

"I was not especially fond of it," he said, "but, as a substitute, it took the place of fresh beef. When we could cook it with vegetables it was far more palatable than otherwise. The patients in the hospital used the canned meat regularly, and there was no special complaint about it. There was considerable diarrhea, however, and I presume much of this was due to the use of this and other meats. The ration contained more meat than it should have contained for food in the climate."

Captain Ashton B. Heyl, chief surgeon of the Rough Riders' brigade in the Santiago campaign, the first witness at the afternoon session, testified to being made violently sick on three different occasions by eating canned roast beef, and on one occasion several others who partook of the meat with him also became very ill. Soon after this experience he had found a piece of bacon lying by the roadside. This he had taken up, cleaned and cooked, and had found it very palatable. This meat had not caused any inconvenience. The beef had occasioned vomiting on each occasion.

The surgeon of the Tenth Cavalry had reported similar experiences among the men of that regiment as a result of eating the canned beef. Others had eaten it without apparent ill effect. The beef was tough, stringy, tasteless and devoid of nutrition, and Dr. Heyl thought its use had promoted disease in the army.

At this point the line of surgeons upon examination was broken in upon by the introduction of George H. Giddings of San Antonio, Tex., who had put in a bid for a supply of beef for Cuba on the hoof.

In reply to a request from Major Lee, Mr. Giddings detailed the particulars of various interviews with General Eagan concerning the letting of the contract for beef. His first conversation had related to the specifications for bids, at which Mr. Giddings had called attention to the fact that they were vague. General Eagan had then said that he could not give any specific information. General Eagan had at that time said his preference would be for refrigerator beef, if he had any confidence in it; but he did not think the refrigerator beef could be made available in the Cuban climate, and he had been in Cuba about this time myself," said the witness, "and I agreed with him that it would be impossible to keep the refrigerator beef in that climate without refrigerators."

Mr. Giddings then told of his visit to the Commissary General on the 1st of July, when the latter told him that the Secretary of War had sent for him the night before, and had said that owing to the difference in price they had better give the refrigerator beef a trial, and that he would have to do this.

"I then asked General Eagan if he had any confidence in the proposition, and he replied that he had very little, but that the refrigerator meat were prepared to give bond to keep the beef good for seventy-two hours after leaving the refrigerators. He also stated that they had a preserving process by which they were able to keep the beef in condition, but he said that if there was dissatisfaction after the contract went into effect he would upset it and give the Texas cattlemen a chance."

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"I then asked General Eagan if he had any confidence in the proposition, and he replied that he had very little, but that the refrigerator meat were prepared to give bond to keep the beef good for seventy-two hours after leaving the refrigerators. He also stated that they had a preserving process by which they were able to keep the beef in condition, but he said that if there was dissatisfaction after the contract went into effect he would upset it and give the Texas cattlemen a chance."

Mr. Giddings then proposed to make a proposition to keep his combination of cattlemen together for the purpose of taking the contract in the emergency indicated, and this he did. He produced a copy of this document. He had represented, he said, that the combination was fully capable of carrying the contract into effect.

Mr. Giddings said in reply to a question by Major Lee that General Eagan had told him that when he was an officer in the field he always drove his beef with him on foot, and that he (Eagan) thought this the proper way to supply beef for the army.

Repeating his interview with Secretary Alger, General Eagan had said, according to Mr. Giddings:

"Well, the Secretary sent for me last night, and told me that there was so much difference in price that we should give the refrigerator beef a trial."

"Did he order you to do that?" I asked.

"No," he replied, "but his wish amounts to an order." General Eagan then repeated his want of confidence, and reiterated that if the beef did not prove satisfactory he would annul the contract, for he would not let the soldiers be poisoned."

With reference to General Eagan's reference to a preserving process, Mr. Giddings said that the General had told him that Swift & Co., who had made the lowest bid on refrigerator beef, had a process which would enable them to keep the beef for seventy-two hours after being taken from the refrigerator.

"Do you believe it?" I asked General Eagan," said Mr. Giddings, "to which he replied: 'I've got to believe—I've got to give it a trial.'"

Mr. Giddings said his relations had been pleasant with General Eagan; that he had gone into the General's office frequently before he felt that he had no right to do so. "If," he added, "General Eagan referred to me when he said he had forbidden some one admission to his office, the statement was untrue."

J. Hall Sypher, attorney for the Texas cattlemen, confirmed what Mr. Giddings had said. He said that while he had not visited General Eagan with Mr. Giddings, he had seen him frequently and talked fully with him on this subject in the interest of the Texas men.

"General Eagan," said the witness, "conveyed the impression to me that he distinctly and positively preferred beef on the block to refrigerator beef, and I so informed my people, sending for some of them to come here."

General Eagan had been first discovered a tendency to change his mind on the part of General Eagan soon after the bids were opened. "He disclosed to me then," said the witness, "that the refrigerator beef men had volunteered to give a bond for the preservation of their meat for seventy-two hours after leaving the refrigerator. I asked him if he thought it

possible to do this, and he replied 'I don't believe it is, unless they put up cold storage plants.'"

Continuing, General Sypher said that something was said by General Eagan at this juncture concerning a preserving process, but that he gave it very little attention. "Some days later," General Sypher said, "General Eagan informed me that owing to the great difference in price he would have to give the refrigerator beef a trial. 'Trial' was the word used."

The witness said in reply to a question put by Major Lee that General Eagan had said something about "poisoning the meat," but that he had said something about his conference with the Secretary of War. As to just what he had said on this latter point witness could not remember, but he thought Mr. Giddings had stated it correctly.

Major Philip F. Harvey, who was chief surgeon of the First Division of the army at Santiago, and Major A. H. Appel, who was in command of one of the division hospitals, both testified to neither had given special attention to the beef used. Major Appel said he had never heard a good word for the canned beef.

At Little Rock, Ark., March 31.—Weather cold and attendance light. Track good. Results: Half mile, Bahia won, Capron second. First Past third. Time—0:50. Selling, six furlongs, Clinton Park won, Finer second, Savarin third. Time—1:18. Six and one-sixteenth mile, Lamplighter won, Cheese-straw second, Lord Wier third. Time—0:56. Seven furlongs, handicap, Branch won, Hapeldean second, Admetus third. Time—1:30. Seven furlongs, selling, Burlesque won, Cochrane second, Ransom third. Time—1:30.

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EVENTS ON THE TURF.

RESULTS OF COAST AND EASTERN RACES.

Polk, Baseda, Yellow Tail, Eddie Jones, Tiburon and Limewater Winners at Oakland.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31.—Oakland track: Weather fine and track fast. Results: Futurity course, selling, Polka (E. Jones), 5 to 2, won; Dolore (Pigott), 2 to 1, second; Petrarch (Macklin), 25 to 1, third. Time—1:12. Colonial Dame, Midas, Formella, Henry C. Royal Fan, Sidelong, Merry Boy, Madrone and Earl Islington also ran.

Three and a half furlongs, selling, Baseda (Pigott), 7 to 20, won; Ice-drop (Thorpe), 4 to 1, second; Tanobe (Hennessy), 15 to 1, third. Time—0:42. Palapa, Fidalla, Fannie Mills, Champion Rose, Giga and Kolena also ran.

Four furlongs, two-year-old colts and geldings, Yellow Tail (Pigott), 1 to 2, won; Limerick (Thorpe), 5 to 1, second; Tom Sharkey (McNichols), 30 to 1, third. Time—0:49. Siquido, Gusto, Big Horn, Saul of Tarsus and Yoloco also ran.

Purity course, selling, Tiburon (Macklin), 25 to 1, won; Anchored (J. Reiff), 25 to 1, second; Ocoona (Hahn), 75 to 1, third. Time—1:12. Jingle Jingle, Sombre, Judge Stouffer and Yarbulo also ran.

One mile, selling, Eddie Jones (Thorpe), 5 to 2, won; Joe Ullman (J. Reiff), 8 to 5, second; Moringa (Devlin), 13 to 5, third. Time—1:41. Imp. Mistral, Horatio, Earl Cochran and Vallejo also ran.

Six and one-sixteenth miles, selling, Lime-water (Holmes), 13 to 5, won; Una Colorado (Jenkins), 60 to 1, second; Torsado (Bullman), 13 to 20, third. Time—1:49. P. A. Finnegan, Prince Blazes, Twinkle Twinkle, Byron Cross and Coda also ran.

AT NEW ORLEANS. NEW ORLEANS, March 31.—Weather cloudy and track fast. Results: Selling, mile and twenty yards, Phidias won, Our Clara second, Dominis third. Time—1:49.

Six furlongs, Very Light won, Marion Sanson second, Maurice W. third. Time—1:18. Mile and an eighth, selling, School Girl won, Bill Powell second, Bishop Reed third. Time—1:50. Mile and a sixteenth, handicap, Double Dummy won, Hubert second, Muskadine third. Time—1:51.

Six and a half furlongs, Walkenshaw won, Dousterswivel second, Whirrmantaine third. Time—1:24. Seven furlongs, selling, Lauretta D. won, Tappan second, Halton third. Time—1:31.

AT LITTLE ROCK. LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 31.—Weather cold and attendance light. Track good. Results: Half mile, Bahia won, Capron second. First Past third. Time—0:50. Selling, six furlongs, Clinton Park won, Finer second, Savarin third. Time—1:18.

Six and one-sixteenth mile, Lamplighter won, Cheese-straw second, Lord Wier third. Time—0:56. Seven furlongs, handicap, Branch won, Hapeldean second, Admetus third. Time—1:30.

Seven furlongs, selling, Burlesque won, Cochrane second, Ransom third. Time—1:30.

A Ballooning Club. Certain well-known Frenchmen interested in ballooning have decided to found a club with a view to promoting their favorite sport. The preliminary meeting of the Aero Club, as the association is to be called, was held on Saturday on the temporary premises of the Automobile Club, many of whose members are to join the new body.

One of the first steps the club proposes to take is to erect a building in the neighborhood of Paris in which one or more balloons will always be kept in a state of readiness for an immediate ascent. One of the founders of the club, M. Chesnay of Dijon, has already presented it with a balloon and with a special apparatus for manufacturing hydrogen gas. The club intends to encourage the solution of the various problems connected with ballooning, and as an initial effort in this direction it already offers a prize for an improved system of producing gas possessing the necessary qualities for ballooning purposes.

The club, too, will grant certificates to aeronauts establishing their competence. Needless to say, the question of steering balloons is a matter to which the club intends to devote special attention. Among the most prominent promoters of the Aero Club are the Prince d'Orleans, Hiram Maxim, the Baron de Zuylen de Nyevelt and the Comte de Dion—London Standard.

Coronado water, Stockton sarsaparilla and iron, champagne cider, ginger ale, orange cider. J. McMorry, agent.

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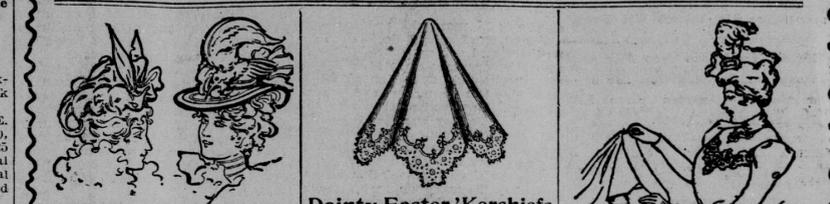
SALT LAKE POTATOES. We can't say enough in praise of them, but ask you to only come and see. For size, meanness and flavor, in short, for everything that constitutes a good potato, they cannot be equaled. No where else in town can you get them. Here only.

CURTIS & CO.'S MARKET, 308 K Street.

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Now for the Finishing Touches

But a brief time to prepare—ere Easter chimes ring out on Easter dawn. Is there a millinery want, a wrap want, or a need in the ready-to-wear outer garment? Are your ribbons, neckwear, parasols and gloves ready? Shoes?—and the many little bits, too, that fit right into your Easter outfit? Really we can't ask about them all, but BE SURE YOU'VE NOT FORGOTTEN ANYTHING.



Women's Trimmed Easter Hats.

Busy as we've been, rushed to the utmost, we managed to prepare, at intervals of a breath, a representative lot of new creations for to-day's belated choosers. Mingled with the patterns of late arrival and many beauties yet unchosen we can safely say we've a hat for everyone at everyone's price.

There are styles in rough and smooth straws, and artistic made shapes for women in all the favored colors. Elegantly trimmed with the newest materials and a wealth of flowers, combining in the majority the popular shades of fuchsia, violet, bluet and their multitudes. Then there's the grays and the black and white. Priced \$2.50, \$5.00, \$7.50, \$10.00 and up.

Our final Easter preparation for misses and children you'll see in an entirely new display of leghorn flats in connection with the jaunty smaller shapes of fancy straws. They're daintily, airily and variously trimmed with chiffon, maline and flowers, narrow velvet and silk ribbons, plain or plaid, and gauze, lace aigrettes, etc.

The children's styles priced from \$2.50 to \$4.00. The misses' styles priced from \$2.50 to \$6.50.

OUR \$1.00 GLOVES. Come in two-clasp plique and three-clasp styles in black, white and all the new and favored shades in black or colored stitching to match your costume, if you like.

OUR \$1.50 GLOVES. Are favorably represented in a two-clasp English walking glove; tan, red, brown and white.

Easter Veilings. New bonnet suggests new veil, and any want in that direction you'll find from the simplest and plainest conventional mesh in modest the wanted shades, and black, through the fancy meshes, plain and dotted, in all the desirable and new shades, also black and up to the novelties in the brightest favorites from the new color card. (Always the latest, always the fairest priced.)

Black fancy mesh veiling, dotted and plain, large and small dots, 25c yd. Black mohair and chenille dot silk, fancy mesh, 50c yd. Black all-silk fancy mesh veiling, large and small chenille dots, closely dotted with dots put on by hand, 75c, \$1.00 to \$2.50 yd. Novelties in chiffon veilings, black, white and new blues, etc., 35c and 50c yd.

Parasols. Another fitting adjunct to your Easter outfit, which will also fit into your preparation for the coming term to follow, is the parasol. A pretty white one would be the correct thing, and we can surely suit you as to price.

White Japanese silk parasols, with one ruffle. Price, \$1.25. White Japanese silk parasols, with two ruffles. Price, \$1.50. Each of the above-described parasols have paragon frames and neat white enameled handles.

Silk Petticoats. If you've a thought of a silk skirt, no matter how your fancy runs, you may be suited here. New kinds, new colorings, with all their rattle and fruffon, and priced to preclude a possibility of extravagance.

Ladies' changeable taffeta silk skirts, deep flounce, with four rows of cording, flounce face and velvet-bound; colors cerise, new blue, turquoise, red and golden-brown. Price, \$6.00.

Ladies' taffeta silk skirts, Spanish flounce, corded, extra dust ruffles; all the newest shades of green, turquoise, cerise and purple. Prices, \$7.50 and \$8.50.

Ladies' taffeta silk skirts, with four and five ruffles on bottom of skirt; colors, light green, light blue, heliotrope, purple, cerise, new blue. Prices, \$10.00 and \$12.50.

CHILD'S black drop-stitch Hose in richelieu and cluster rib; sizes 8 1/2 to 10. To wear with your white Easter slippers. Price, 25 and 50c.

Ladies' fast colored tan and bronze drop-stitch Hose; sizes 8 1/2 to 10. Price, 50c.

Ladies' fast black drop-stitch Hose in fancy rib and lace effects; sizes 8 1/2 to 10. Price, 50c.

Child's fast colored 1 by 1 ribbed tan and bronze Hose; double knee, heel and toe; sizes 5 to 9. Price, 25c.

White Japanese silk parasols, with one ruffle. Price, \$1.25. White Japanese silk parasols, with two ruffles. Price, \$1.50.

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