

KENNAN'S ATTACK REPELLED

Indian Commissioner Defends His Course in Connection With Standing Rock Leases.

From The Journal Bureau, Room 42, Paul Building, Washington.

Washington, April 4.—Indian Commissioner William A. Jones is preparing a statement which he will send to the editor of Outing in reply to the attack upon him in that periodical by George Kennan. In that article it was alleged that the commissioner had not dealt fairly with the Indians on the Standing Rock reservation in leasing the grazing lands belonging to them. The commissioner was charged with a "change of heart" in changing from the permit system to the leasing system and with living up to the treaty made with the Indians last fall.

Mr. Jones says that the Kennan article is full of misstatements and was evidently written without a full knowledge of all the facts, to say the least. In that way only can he account for it. To a Journal man the commissioner said:

When Mr. Kennan accused me of a change of heart in the method of permitting grazing on the Standing Rock reservation he was not acquainted with all the facts. In order to present them fully it will be necessary to go back further than he did in his recitation of the alleged history of the proceedings. More than a year before the grazing proposition was made public, my attention was called to the fact that the squaw men and half-breeds on the Cheyenne River and Standing Rock reservations were pasturing large herds of cattle there. On the Cheyenne River lands the number was estimated at 10,000; on the Standing Rock reservation considerably less. These men would go to Omaha and Kansas City and arrange there with cattle growers to take a bunch of cattle on these reservations during the winter season. For this they were paid some thousands of dollars. The money went into their pockets and the Indians did not get a cent of it. They were even crowded off the ranges themselves so that they could not graze their own cattle, to which they depended to make a living.

To Break Up Bad Practices. This was the condition that obtained last spring. It was determined to break up these outrageous practices of a few men who were getting rich at the expense of the Indians, to whom the reservations belonged. In May a tentative proposition was made to have the permit system of grazing put in operation. It should be known that there is a difference between the permit and leasing systems. Under the permit system the consent of the Indians is not necessary to make contracts for grazing cattle on the reservations. The department grants cattle owners the privilege of taking their cattle on the reservation for a stipulated period, for which they are required to pay a certain price per head. Under the leasing system the consent of the Indians must be obtained because under it contracts are made to run for a term of years. The contracts give the lessee control of the area covered by their leases, subject to the conditions of the contract.

Last spring the proposition put forth was to grant permits to the cattlemen then occupying the Standing Rock reservation at a head a year. Nothing was done, however, until Oct. 9, when a letter was sent to agents at all the reservations in South Dakota, asking the Indians to whom contracts were made during their charge to lease the unoccupied lands for grazing purposes. In accordance with this suggestion Agent Bingham, and the Standing Rock reservation, included an agreement with those Indians. Here is a copy of it:

Text of the Agreement. We, the undersigned, Indians of Standing Rock reservation, North Dakota, over 15 years of age, hereby consent to the leasing for a period not to exceed five years, for the purpose of grazing cattle thereon, at a rate of not less than one (\$1) dollar per head per annum for each head of cattle so introduced and grazed upon said reservation, the unoccupied portions of said Standing Rock reservation, to whom contracts hereby given, to be subject in each and every instance to the following conditions:

Not "Nominated in the Bond." Mr. Kennan charges that there was in the agreement a clause providing that a committee of the Indians was to go with the agent and designate the "nominated" lands. It will be seen that there is no such provision. Major Binghamer denies that there was such an understanding, either written or verbal. He says that several Indians came to him and suggested that a committee be appointed, but that no bargain was made. His explanation was made after the leases had been drawn and were about to be executed. I knew absolutely nothing about it, and by my direction the descriptions of the land to

be leased were drawn up in accordance with the terms of the written agreement. Now, because of the change of heart, the agreement provides that the grazing privilege shall be granted and the price to be paid shall be at a rate "not less than \$1 per head per annum for each head of cattle introduced and grazed upon said reservation." There was no limitation placed on the number of cattle to be brought on the reservation at any time. The ranges could easily be overstocked and ruined in one season under such an arrangement. It was thought best, therefore, when the leases were prepared, to provide for leasing the ranges by the acre. It also provided that the number of cattle brought on the ranges should not exceed one for every forty acres of pasture. It was also provided that the fences should be constructed at the expense of the lessees and not at the expense of the Indians, as they agreed. The latter change was for the benefit of the Indians, as they would get all the first year's lease money without a cent of deduction, while under the form of agreement quoted they would have lost considerable because of the expense of fencing the lands. The leases also provide that each Indian who owns stock shall have the use of forty acres of grazing land in these pastures for each head of cattle owned by him up to 100 head. This would give each Indian who owned 100 head of cattle 4,000 acres of land for his own use, for which the lessee would have to pay the lease price. The best price offered when the bids were opened was 10 cents an acre, 2 cents an acre. It will be seen that, with the number of cattle limited to one for every forty acres of grazing land, the price that the Indians will get for their grazing privilege brought on the reservation. This is 20 per cent more per head than would have been put into their hands under the agreement quoted, and the provision limiting the number of cattle insures the preservation of the range.

Not So Many Families. Mr. Kennan speaks of the number of families occupying the area that is to be leased, and the hardship that will be forced upon them by having outside cattle put on their lands. They are nearly all located along Grand river. Mr. Kennan says there are 400 families there. The delegation of Indians who were here informed me that there are only 176 families living along that stream, while Inspector O'Laughlin, whose wife and family live on the reservation, tells me there are only fifty-two families within the grazing area. Mr. Kennan also says that these Indians cannot get the wire to fence their lands, and that the reservation is not a tract of land, because they can get all they want at the agency for nothing. All they have to do is to ask for it and take it away. Pensions are also plentiful, notwithstanding Mr. Kennan. As to the difficulty they will have in constructing these fences, the office offered to give help to such Indians as could not do so for themselves. We do not propose to let an able-bodied Indian loaf while some one else does the work, but every assistance will be afforded such as cannot fence their lands unaided in a reasonable time.

Referring to Mr. Kennan's strictures on the method pursued by me in advertising for proposals for these leases, I will say that twenty days. The office may have restricted the time in this instance because of the desire to put the leases in operation by the beginning of the season. But, notwithstanding that, six proposals were submitted for the leasing privileges on the two pastures on the Standing Rock reservation, while but one bid was received for the leasing of the pastures on the Cheyenne River reservation, in which case the advertisement ran for the usual period. As to the difference in prices offered, it should be known that the Standing Rock reservation is not as good winter ranges as the Cheyenne River reservation, which is further south.

As to my contention that I acted in collusion with any one in this matter, I will not dignify it by discussing it in any way. I will only add that the entire transaction was conducted by me with the full knowledge and approval of the president and the secretary of the interior.

ROOT OR MILES President Must Decide Between Them and Will Keep Former. New York Sun Special Service. Washington, April 4.—Lieutenant General Miles, who has been retired by the president for the age of compulsory retirement a year from next August. The president has authority to retire Miles under the act of 1882. Miles may be retired within a week or two or not for several months, depending on the necessities of the war. The president regrets that Miles should be placed beyond the power to continually embarrass the war department and demoralize the army as he has done for the last five years. Secretary Root has tried to work with Miles, but has to devote one-half his time to overcoming the opposition of the general and straightening out the embarras. The general has created by him. Root will not much longer endure this annoyance. He surrendered a large and lucrative law practice to give his time and effort to the war department. He is willing to continue in the cabinet, but he is not willing to devote his time to bickering with an army officer whose sole ambition seems to be to annoy and embarrass him. Miles must go or Root will. The president will retire Miles and stand by the secretary of war. The cabinet agrees with the president in this determination.

ST. PETER LAUGHS Nothing in the Story That Juror Kachel Was Drugged. Special to The Journal. St. Peter, Minn., April 4.—Everyone here is laughing at the latest cock-and-bull story in relation to the insanity and death of Anton Kachel, a juror in the trial of the murderer John Wells, who was given the jury by persons interested in the case, the trial of Tanke for the murder of John Wells, and that he died from the effects. Sensational disclosures were promised.

Women's Neckwear A large assortment of Women's Neckwear, in twice around ties, pique stocks, in all the latest styles, 25c. All at, each.

Jewelry Special. Special Ring Sale Saturday. Solid Gold Set Rings—Pearls, Opals, Ruby and Emerald doublets—by mail. Actively worn \$2 \$1.25 and 2.25. Sat. Spec.

SPERRY IS DEAD Winnebago City Man in the Wreck at Houston, Texas. Special to The Journal. Winnebago City, Minn., April 4.—A telegram from Houston, Texas, was received this forenoon announcing the death of Byron Sperry of this place. Mr. Sperry was one of the men who left in a special car for the southern trip and was hurt in a street car wreck at Houston some two weeks ago.

Soo Line Home-seekers' Rates. Very low one way and round trip rates to points in Minnesota, the Dakotas, Alberta, British Columbia and the Pacific coast. For particulars apply to ticket office, 119 South Third street.

Candy Square.

Fine hand-made Assorted Chocolate Creams. Special Saturday, 15c. Cream Candy, mixed. Saturday special, 5c.

POWERS

Meroantile Company, Formerly S. E. OLSON CO. Write for Samples of New Goods.

Wash Goods Aisle.

Special Values for Saturday Only. 300 pieces of Printed Lawns, all white ground; Checked Apron Gingham, pretty Dresden Challies and double-fold Spring Prints; all new goods; values to 3 1/2c and 6c. For one day only, per yard.



Our Swell Millinery Shop.

The beautiful, high-class trimmed hats we show are the delight of womankind. They are correct in style and material of course, and more than that, about one-fourth lower in prices than you would suppose, according to prices elsewhere. We are always bringing out something new from the hands of our expert milliners, and you'll be greatly delighted with this line of about 50 imported patterns and patterns from our own workrooms that sell regularly at \$12, \$15, \$18, special for Saturday \$10.

See our big bargain in hand-made trimmed Chiffon hats at \$6.00. Also a nobby hat trimmed with flowers and laces (excellent materials), \$4.50 and \$5.00. A line of nice trimmed hats for children and misses, at \$3.50 to \$10.

In our Untrimmed Hat Section you will find every style on the market. Dress shapes from, each, 75c to \$6.50. Children's Hats of every description. An excellent school hat at, 25c. New Mull Hats, in all colors, from, 25c to \$3.50. A big assortment of the new Sailors, from, 35c to \$3.00. Chiffons, Malines and Silk Mulls in all the new shades.



We are showing an excellent line of new Flowers—Roses in all the new styles: Crush, June Roses, Dolly Varden and American Beauties. Forget-me-nots, Daisies, Poppies, Clovers and Blueets; and everything else in the flower line. Also a fine line of black Flowers; Violets, Rose and Chrysanthemums.

Suits, Jackets and Skirts

Four specials for Saturday only. It's bargains like these that crowd our Cloak and Suit Dept. with buyers. Our advertisements never mislead. Children's Jackets—Made of Broadcloth, Kersey, Cheviot and Venetian, colors red, blue Oxford and black—some with large sailor collars, sizes 6 to 14 years, values to \$3.75. Saturday at \$1.85 only. Misses' Jackets—Made of Cheviot, Thibet, Covert and Venetian; also Children's Raglans; Misses' Jackets 12 to 16 years, Children's Raglans 6 to 14 years, \$5.00. Saturday special at \$3.50 only. New Misses' Suits—Made of pure wool Cheviot and Basket Cloth, Blouse and Eton styles, all jackets lined with silk serge, skirts with new serpentine flounce; colors navy, royal, castor and tan. Saturday at \$10.00. New Spring Suits—Made of pure wool Venetian, Cheviot and Broadcloth, Blouse and Eton jackets; skirts 7-pore, serpentine flounce; suit trimmed with Taffeta bands, black and colors. Saturday bargain at \$12.50.

Silk Waists

On Sale Saturday. New goods in choice styles—sold everywhere at \$5.00. This lot on special sale at, each—\$3.50. All \$1.25 Waists on special sale Saturday at, each—98c. Outing Flannel Gowns, Play Dresses and Aprons for Children, small sizes worth 50 cents.—Choice 25c.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS

In this Department we will show for Saturday some especially good values. Here are a few of them. 48 dozen men's Bicycle Hose, bought at a sacrifice; black, with very swell plaid tops, worth up to 75c pair. Special Saturday, 29c. 69 dozen men's working and outing shirts with collars attached, 50c to 60c values.—Special Sat 45c. 50 dozen men's Suspenders, of some of the best makes, 50c values; special to close, 29c. 100 dozen men's Rockford Socks—pair, 5c.

Corset Dept.

There's so much satisfaction in buying Corsets where you are waited upon and fitted by experts, where you know you are getting the most and best possible at reasonable prices. We give you the expert service, you know our prices are right. A straight front Corset, made of fine batiste; low busts and short over hips; trimmed neatly at top and bottom; colors of white, lavender, Saturday Special, 49c. A good J. B. model made of extra fine coutil and batiste, bias good, straight front, long or short over hips; trimmed neatly at top and bottom; colors of pink, blue, white, drab and black; A good value \$1.00 at \$0.75. A good Straight Front, bias good model, made of coutil or batiste, trimmed neatly; colors of white only for such extraordinary values, Sat \$1.50.

Shoe Department.

Fashionable footwear—with us that means made right, of the right materials, on the late shape lasts. Furthermore we sell at reasonable prices. Women's Spring Shoes—15 styles of the season's most popular fashions. Patent leathers and viol kid, single soles, double soles, double decks, yellow or black rope stitched edges. The most complete line of stylish, perfect fitting shoes ever shown. Choice of 15 styles, pair, \$2.50. Women's Strap Slippers and Oxford Ties—common sense or apron shapes, soft hand turned or double extension soles. Pair, \$1.00. Men's Shoes—Our entire line of \$2.50 shoes consisting of oak skin, viol kid or box calf, made on several style toes, lace or congress. On sale Saturday at, pair, \$1.79. Misses' Shoes—Light or heavy weight, sizes 12 to 2. Special price for Saturday only, pair, 98c. "Defender Shoes" for women or men. Every pair the acme of modern shoe making. See the "Defender" Oxfords for women. Just in, \$3.00. Shoes or Oxfords, pair.

Men's and Boys' Clothing.

The best values in men's ready-to-wear suits to be had in the city; this line of clay worsted and blue serge suits that we are proud to offer is usually sold at \$15. Our price \$10.00. We offer a line of men's high grade suits in black and blue unfinished worsteds, equal in every way to merchant tailored clothes; as these are hand-tailored and are correct in style, fabrics, trimmings and workmanship, in fact they are faultless none better at any price; usually sold at \$22 \$18.00 and \$25. Our price is—\$12.50. These are Gentlemen's Clothes. Boys' double-breasted suits, sizes 8 to 16, an immense line; you will find a very large range of fabrics and colorings, and all are extra good values; are usually sold at \$3.00 and \$3.50. Our price—\$2.50. For boys wanting something that is strictly new and nobby see what we have at \$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.00 in two and three-piece suits, with belts to match; nothing nicer in the two towns. These cannot be equalled at the prices we ask. It will cost you nothing to see them.

Book Section.

Saturday Specials. THE THRILL OF LEIF, THE LUCKY—An unusual book. A beautiful romance of the Vikings days, per copy \$1.08. AUDREY.....\$1.08. The Role of the Unconquered.....98c. The Puppet Crown.....95c. Lazarus.....95c. The Man From Glangery.....95c. D'ri and I.....95c. Ralph Marlow.....95c. The Eternal City.....95c. The Cavalier.....95c. The Right of Way.....95c. Kim.....95c. Eben Holden.....95c. The Turn of the Road.....95c. 3,000 Paper Books, each.....10c. The New York Times Saturday Book Review is full of interesting book news. We have a copy for any who wish it. Yours for the asking.

Stationery Specials

Prices are for Saturday Only. 1800 pounds of writing paper sold regularly at 25c per pound—these lines we are going to discontinue. Special price, per pound.....9c. 200 boxes Writing Paper, 60 sheets paper, 50 envelopes, box 15c. 1,000 bottles Thomas' Paste, regular 6c—per bottle.....2c. 200 Ink wells for writing desks, 200mln oxidized silver, ea. 25c.

Seeds---Seeds

Fine Grass Seed, the celebrated Central Park mixture, the best for your lawn. 3 1/2 lb., 10c, 3 1/2 lb., 15c, one pound.....25c. Sweet Pea Seeds, fine mixed or in separate colors, per ounce.....10c. All other Flower and Vegetable Seeds in full size packages, illustrated and description how to grow same. CANNED GOODS—The opportunity of the season. Extremely low prices. Special for Saturday only. No limit to consumers while the lot lasts. (None to Dealers.) High-grade Tomatoes, full solid, extras. Special for Saturday only, a can for.....10c. French Stringless Beans, high grade, value 22c. Special for Saturday only, a can for.....15c. Peas, Wisconsin, best selected, delicious Marrowfat or Telephone. Special, Sat. only, can, 10c. Tomato Soup, Columbia brand, 3 cans for.....25c. Sugar Corn, sweet and tender, the best standard. Special for Saturday day only, a can for.....7c. Sliced Pickled Beets, 3 cans 20c for.....10c. 3-lb. cans Standard Peaches, Pears, Pineapples and Apples, a can for.....10c. 2-lb. cans standard cherries, strawberries, gooseberries, blueberries, egg & grape plums, can, 10c.

Cigar Counter.

"La Evidencia," a strictly hand made, clear Havana cigar, 10c straight size 3 for 25c. Most all popular brands of 5c cigars—Saturday, 25c. "La Satisfecha" a fine Key West cigar, 10c size, each 5c. 9c Drapery Sale. 12 1/2c Silk-lined, wide, figured or plain.....9c. 12 1/2c Deulins, printed on both sides.....9c. 12 1/2c and 10c Swiss 40-in. white or colored.....9c. 12 1/2c Filice Cord, 2,000 yards, all colors.....9c. 12 1/2c fancy colored or striped.....9c. Saturday, all at one price per yard.....9c. Women's Hosiery. Imported fancy Hose, Lisle and Maco cotton, in stripes, figures, polka dots; plain and drop stitch, black and colored grounds. Regular price 50c per pair. Special price for Saturday only.....35c. Leather Goods. Women's Beaded Chastelaines, in steel and jet beads, with metal chain and hook. Each.....50c. Full Leather Padded Saddle, (like cut), each.....50c. Oil Can, each.....4c. Bicycle Sundries. (In Basement.) The Rival single tube tire, fully guaranteed, each.....\$2.25. The Solar Gas Lamp, best lamp on the market, each.....\$2.50. Niagara Pedals, pair.....50c. U. S. Bicycle Wrench, each.....10c. Base Ball Specials. (In Basement.) Special Oak Bat, "Boys' Size," Saturday only.....5c. Catching Mitts, good quality, large size, each.....10c. Extra quality Boys' Base Ball Masks—each.....25c. Good Base Balls—from each, 5 cents to.....\$1.50. Professional Catchers' Mitts, all latest improvements, each.....\$2.75.

RELIC OF ANTIQUITY

Tomb Found Older Than Traditional Date of Rome's Foundation. New York Sun Special Service. Rome, April 4.—In the excavations that have been proceeding in the Forum, a tomb has been discovered that is supposed to be older than the traditional date of the foundation of the city. Archaeologists regard the discovery as important. Train to the Lake Next Sunday. Leave Minneapolis & St. Louis depot at 9:45 a. m., returning, leave Tonka Bay, 4:50 p. m., stopping all lake stations. Round trip fare, 50 cents. Best for you because best made, Sals-Skin Cream and Satin-Skin Powder. Use is prof. 25c. At leading stores.

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