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PEACE!
PROSPERITY!!
UNION!!!

Change in Situation as Re-
gards the Discharged Soldiers of
the 25th Infantry

This week has witnessed no material
change in the attitude of the admin-
istration toward the discharged sol-
diers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry.
In the absence of the President pro-
ceedings came in so thick and fast
against the unjust action of the Chief
Executive that the Secretary of War
suspended the order until he could
acquaint the President with the same,
and he is determined it seems, and
will not even give the soldiers a re-
hearing. And it seems now their only
address is in Congress, and while it
may be some time before justice is
done them, we verily believe that the
spirit of fair play will eventually tri-
umph, and they will ultimately be re-
stored to their full rights, especially
those who are in all probability inno-
cent of any wrong doing. In the
meantime the public at large, espe-
cially that part which is not biased
or prejudiced on account of the color
of the victims of this drastic order,
denounce the same in unmeasured
terms, and we verily believe they will
eventually have their day in Court.

How to the line, let the chips fall
where they may!

TO SUPPORT DISGRACED MEN
New York, Nov. 22.—The three com-
panies of negro troops discharged
from the United States Army by order
of President Roosevelt will be taken
to Chicago, Philadelphia and New
York, according to a plan announced
here today.

The movement is said to have been
started by the citizens of the three
cities. According to the plan the
soldiers are to be clothed and fed by
their supporters until they are in
condition to take care of themselves.
The soldiers are as yet at Fort Reno.

Negro Company Discharged
Fort Reno, Okla., Nov. 22.—The dis-
charge of members of the Twenty-
fifth Infantry was resumed today.
Another half company of Negro sol-
diers was discharged today, making a
full company mustered out of service
since President Roosevelt's order was
issued.

Hon. E. W. King for Speaker
We hope that the Republican
members of the 10th Legislative
Assembly will see fit to place in
the speaker's chair the Hon. E. W.
King from Gallatin County. He is
every way qualified for this high
position, and with him at the helm
we predict a businesslike and pro-
bable session.

As we go to press we receive
the intelligence that the Hon. F.
L. Barnett has been counted out
by Judge of the city Court. We
hope that his friends will see to
it that a recount of the ballots is
made, and that all due vigilance
is used to the end that justice
may yet be done.

The action of the President in
dishonorably discharging the mem-
bers of the 25th Infantry who
saved his life, in disgrace at the
highest of a Southern copperhead
has not met the approval of any
man with whom we have con-
versed.

The Open Door
It is quite evident that the Presi-
dent still adheres to his open-door
policy.

Those who have been putting
all their confidence and life in a few
uttered words, failed to examine
ascertain as to the way the door
to which the President referred
was to open. Some doors revolve
on a pivot, some go in and out,
while others open only one way.

The "door," in our opinion, open
to the dark-skinned brother, works
on pivots, and the "hope" is
found in the brother's alertness
in not being caught between the
door-facing and the door.

There must always be one man
to do a certain something first,
and the President advanced the
policy of the "open door," and
was the first man to show how
the door could be worked in
crushing a number.

The action of the President
just before leaving for Panama is
similar to the Atlanta riot.

As the real culprit could not
be found, the lives of innocent
men were sacrificed to satisfy the
demand of the rioters.

As the real culprits were not
discovered, the honor of many
brave men was sacrificed to sat-
isfy the demands of the Presi-
dent.—Washington Bee.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN REGARD TO THE DIS- CHARGED SOLDIERS OF The Twenty-Fifth Infantry

Washington, Nov. 21.—The War
Department issued the following
statement today concerning the
Negro troops ordered dismissed at
Fort Reno:

"In the matter of the order dis-
charging the enlisted men of three
companies of the Twenty-fifth In-
fantry, issued by the President, a
plan was presented to the Secretary
of War by a number of persons of
standing, asking for a rehearing
by the President on the ground on
which the action was taken. The
Secretary telegraphed the Presi-
dent of the application, and de-
layed the proceedings of the dis-
charge until the President could
indicate his wishes. The Secretary
was meantime called out of
town. No answer was received
from the President. The Secretary
on his return did not feel just-
ified in further delaying the plan
of the order of discharge and view
of the fact that the Secretary then
learned the President had fully
and exhaustively considered the
argument against the order of the
persons who now applied for a
hearing. Accordingly the Secre-
tary yesterday (Tuesday) directed
that the proceedings of discharge
be continued with out delay."

Hears from President

Later in the day Secretary Taft
received a dispatch from Presi-
dent Roosevelt, and issued the
following additional statement:

"A telegram was received from
the President at 11 o'clock today,
after the previous statement was
given out at the War Department,
in which he declines to suspend
the discharge unless there are
new facts of such importance as
to warrant cabling him. He
states that the action was taken
after due deliberation, and that
the only matter to which he can
pay heed is the presentation of
facts showing the official reports
to be in whole or in part untrue,
or clearly exculpating some indi-
vidual. If any such facts la er
appear he can act as he deems
advisable, but thus far nothing
has been introduced to warrant
the suspension of the order, and
he directs that it be executed."

Secretary Taft says that imme-
diate steps will be taken to recruit
colored soldiers to replace the
men discharged. Members of the
three companies who were on a
furlough at the time of the
Brownsville affair will be notified
of their discharge.

SENTIMENT SO STRONG AGAINST DISMISSAL ORDER OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

THAT SECRETARY TAFT SUSPENDS THE SAME

The War Department has been
so deluged with protests against
the unprecedented action of Presi-
dent Roosevelt in dishonorably dis-
charging Companies B, C and D
of the 25th Inf., that Secretary
Taft in the absence of the Presi-
dent suspended the order until he
could acquaint the President with
the sentiment prevailing through-
out the country.

But the President will not yield,
and his orders have again been
taken up and put into execution.

Washington, Nov. 19.—Acting
under orders of Secretary Taft,
Maj.-Gen. Ainsworth, the Military
Secretary has directed that further
discharges of the men of the three
negro companies of the Twenty-
fifth Infantry, on account of the
shooting at Brownsville, Tex., be
suspended pending further orders.

The action, it is said, tonight,
is in order to await the return of
Secretary Taft to Washington to-
morrow, and is pending further ad-
vice from President Roosevelt,
who has been communicated with
on the subject.

"If these companies were per-
mitted to remain in the service,
and were to shoot up another town
and again endanger the lives of
citizens the War Department
would be an indefensible position.
It is impossible to court-martial
each of the men in these compa-
nies, for a charge cannot be pre-
ferred against everyone of the
members of the companies. The
government has no means of pun-
ishing the crime committed except
by discharge of all the men."

Upon the recommendation of
Brig.-Gen. E. A. Darlington, In-
spector General of the Army,
President Roosevelt has ordered
the dishonorable discharge of
every man of Companies B, C, and
D of the 25th Infantry, for alleged
complicity in the Brownsville fracas
of August 13, in which one white
man was killed, and several injured.
It is not alleged that all the men
of this battalion were concerned in
the fracas, but it is alleged that
they refused to give such informa-
tion whatever concerning the affair
as would lead to the apprehension

IDLERS AND EASY LIVERS ON THE MOVE

Chief Flannery is to be commended for his
warfare against the IDLER, and we sincerely
hope that the good work will be kept up, until Hel-
ena is entirely purged of this undesirable citizen-
ship. Every one of them who refuses to work, and
persists in being a charge upon fallen women,
should be made to hot-foot it out of town or be put
on the Chain Gang. In this movement for a
higher citizenship the police have the thanks of all
good citizens.

The War Department has been
deluged with protests against the
order directing the discharge of
the three companies. It is re-
ported tonight that a further in-
vestigation will be made, and that cer-
tain officers may be called on for
an explanation.

Awfully Bad and Desperate Says Asst.-Secretary Oliver

"The three companies of the
Twenty-fifth Infantry were ordered
discharged because it is not safe to
have them in the Army. They
cannot be trusted, and for the pro-
tection of the public and the pres-
ervation of the discipline of the
Army their discharge is necessary,"
Acting-Secretary Oliver of the
War Department said today.

Reason Misunderstood

"The idea seems to prevail that
the men were ordered discharged
because they refused to tell on
their companions, and because
they are black. Nothing could
be further from the truth. These
soldiers shot up a town. All of
them refuse to tell anything about
the disgraceful affair at Brown-
sville which resulted in murder.
The companies are shielding mur-
derers. There are men in the
companies who are criminals of
the worst sort. Every effort pos-
sible has been made by the War
Department to find the guilty men,
but without avail.

of the alleged guilty parties.

This action of the President is
considered extraordinary by army
men and civilians. It is carrying
into the Federal Government the
demand of the Southern white
devils that innocent and law-abid-
ing black men shall help the legal
authorities spy out and deliver
practically to the mob black men
alleged to have committed one sort
of crime. The principle involved
is not only vicious and contrary to
the spirit of our Constitution, but
is an outrage upon the rights of
citizens who are entitled in civil
life to trial by jury, and in military
life to trial by court-martial.

Any black man in any part of
the United States who offers to en-
list in the United States Army to
fill the places of those innocent,
but dishonorably discharged men
should be hated and spurned by all
the members of the Army in the
25th Infantry, and by the Afro-
American people at large; and any
member of the 25th Infantry
whose term expires should not
re-enlist in the service, which has
so little regard for him that it gives
him no promotion in the Army,
however meritorious his service,
and no protection in his civilian
rights when a mob of hoodlums in
a Southern town seeks to do him
bodily injury and he retaliates, as
he should, and as all Afro-Ameri-
cans should, under like circum-
stances. If we cannot have a

change of policy in the War De-
partment toward Afro-American
troops in all directions, The Age
earnestly advises the members of
the three remaining black regi-
ments not to re-enlist when their
term expires, and that Afro-Ameri-
cans everywhere refuse to enter
the Army unless conscripted to do
so. If we cannot get justice in
the Army, we are not compelled to
enter it.—New York Age.

As it was exclusively stated in
the columns of The Broad Ax
several weeks ago, which was
doubted by the loud-mouthed so-
called Negro leaders of the Repub-
lican Party in this city, that Presi-
dent Roosevelt, who has long since
proven himself a traitor to the Ne-
gro race and has gone back on
every pledge that he has made to
it, in the way of reducing South-
ern representation in Congress, on
account of the exclusion of the
Colored voters in those rebellious
states, would dishonorably dis-
charge companies B, C and D of
the 25th United States Colored
Infantry, who saved his life at El
Carney, assisting him to win his
great victory, and making it possi-
ble for him to become President of
the United States, unless they re-
vealed the names of its members,
who participated in the shooting
affray at Fort Brown, Tex., August
13th, in which one white man was
killed, and another wounded, and
it is the first time in the history
of this country, and possibly in the
world in which its Chief Executive
Officer has resorted to such damna-
ble tactics, in order to wreak ven-
geance on innocent soldiers!

An order has been promulgated
by President Roosevelt, while at
the same time no effort has been
put forth by him, nor by anyone
else connected with the War De-
partment, to bring to the bars of
justice the white gentleman who
insulted the uniform of the United
States, and at the same time knock-
ing down with his revolver the two
Colored soldiers wearing it, on the
streets of Brownville, without the
slightest provocation.—Broad Ax.

It is so unlike our ideal Roose-
velt that we can hardly believe the
act that our President has dis-
charged with disgrace three compa-
nies of the famous Twenty-fifth
Regiment of Negro soldiers for a
crime for which only one or two
men were guilty, if any were. It
seems that the white people of
Brownville, Texas, where these sol-
diers were quartered, got into some
trouble with the soldiers, which re-
sulted in a conflict and shooting.
One white man was killed and
another wounded. The citizens of
Texas, who generally lynch Ne-
groes for resisting or fighting with
white men, demanded that the of-
ficers turn over the soldiers engaged
in the trouble to the civil officers
for trial. This the soldiers refused
to do on the ground that they did
not know who the guilty parties
were. The matter was finally taken
up by the government and a de-
mand made on the companies in-
volved to reveal the names of the
parties to the troubles. Fearing

they would be lynched, the soldiers
defied the demands of their supe-
rior officers, and stuck together,
num. As a result, the President,
the Commander-in-Chief of the
Army, ordered the Companies dis-
honorably discharged.

To a civilian who knows some-
thing of the rigid discipline of the
Army this act of the President
looks like a piece of pure pre-
judice and Negro hatred, and a cow-
ardly catering to the proud, un-
bridled passion of the bloodthirsty
element of the white South; but
Army rules and discipline are not
matters of mercy, and sympathy,
and our judgment in such matters
may not always be just. We could
never understand why a man
should be shot to death for run-
ning when he is frightened in bat-
tle, but it is said the rules of the
Army require it. The same Presi-
dent who issues this terrible order,
in the same breath issues an order
asking that a prominent white
colonel of the Army be punished
severely for using offensive lan-
guage about Negro soldiers at
Fort Sheridan, and the whole busi-
ness may be a part of the great
play of Uncle Sam's Army. The
President, in our opinion, did very
wrong, and played into the hands
of the worst element of the South
when he disgraced the men who
saved the flag for a people who
tried to shoot it full of holes. If
the soldiers did wrong they should
have been punished, but the wit-
nesses upon whose testimony they
were punished should have been
freer from race hatred and prej-
udice than were the Texas wit-
nesses.—Conservator.

We are surprised to learn that
President Roosevelt has approved
the order for discharging one bat-
talion of the 25th Infantry, sta-
tioned at Fort Reno, because a
few of the soldiers asserted their
rights as men in protecting one of
their comrades against the inva-
sion of a few Texas rebels, where
they were stationed. Some of
these Negro men have been in the
service nearly thirty years, and
had fought at San Juan Hill sav-
ing Roosevelt's life, and prevent-
ing his Rough Riders from being
entirely wiped out. We think this
is one of the unkindest cuts of
all, and President Roosevelt has
lowered his dignity as a soldier,
and a statesman in the estimation
of thousands of loyal American
citizens. We cannot understand
his attitude on the Negro question
at this time. It seems that since
his trip South he has joined hands
with the Southern rebels to con-
tinue the outrages on the Negro.
It was not right nor just to dismiss
all these soldiers for the action of
two or three, and we hope Con-
gress will take this matter up, re-
storing them to their rights.

Governor Hoch, when asked by
the manager of The Topeka Plain-
dealer to telegraph President
Roosevelt, asking that he recall
the order discharging the soldiers,
said, "I did not know it, and will
give the matter my most careful
consideration."
We next went to Congressman
Curtis and made the same request,
(Continued on fourth page)

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