

THE WASH. Is Applied in Liberal Quantities in the Report Of the Beef Inquiry Board Submitted to the President, EXCEPT TO GEN. MILES And to Gen. Egan, Who Are Mildly Censured. The Packers Are Made to Appear Immaculate. The President Wants the Whole Matter Dropped.

Washington, May 8.—By direction of the president, who approves the findings, today made public the report and findings of the military court appointed to investigate the charges made by Maj. Gen. Miles, commanding the army, that the beef supplied to the army during the war with Spain was unfit for use of the troops.

The most important features of the report are: The finding that the general's finding that the refrigerated beef was treated with chemicals was not established; that his allegations concerning the canned fresh or canned roast beef were sustained as to its unsuitability for food as used on the transports and as a ration in Cuba.

The conclusion of the court adverse to further proceedings and based upon the charges is as follows: "It has been found in the course of the inquiry, as recited in this report, that in some instances some individuals failed to perform the duty of duty or to observe the proprieties which dignify high military command, but the court is of the opinion that the mere statement of the facts and the facts developed meets the ends of the discipline, and that the interests of the service will be best subserved if further proceedings be discontinued."

There is more or less criticism of Gen. Miles in various parts of the report. Probably the most direct instance is the one that is made in the criticism of officers found elsewhere in the report. "The court finds that against none of the officers commanding or supervising the operations of the army and their staff officers should a charge of guilty be brought."

The court also finds that the major general commanding the army had no sufficient justification for alleging that the refrigerated beef was embalmed or was unfit for use of the troops. It also finds that he committed an error in that, having belief or knowledge, as claimed, that the food was unfit, that it caused sickness and that it was dangerous, it was supplied under the pretense of exonerating that other beef was embalmed, he did not immediately report such knowledge to the secretary of war, to the end that proper remedy might be promptly applied."

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also finds that there is no ground for an imputation whatever of any other actuating motive, on the part of the commissary, than the earnest desire to procure the best possible food for the troops. The court pronounces this act of the commissary general of subsistence an error for which there is no palliation.

"The court finds that there was neglect in Cuba and to a less degree in Porto Rico in delivering the refrigerated beef. "The court," says the report, "does not wish to state the case more strongly than to say that the finding appears to be warranted that too much time was consumed in distributing this perishable article. The fault, if any there was, rested with the brigade and higher commanding officers and their commissaries and quartermasters, but the testimony is not so definite as to warrant the naming by the court of any particular officer."

It says that the refrigerated beef was at first received with great satisfaction. There is also a criticism of the delay in unloading the refrigerating apparatus which was made at Santiago, Cuba, by the contractors' agents to General Shafter for an order on the quartermaster to expedite the delivery from the contractors to the refrigerating plant did not effect any result. The delay in this matter was the cause of serious loss.

"The court is of the opinion that the canned roast beef was not suitable as a travel ration on transports, considering the absence from that ration of fresh vegetables and condiments. For use on shore as a field ration, where the comparative without injurious effect as to the preservation of the meat, and vegetables were available, canned roast beef is suitable for issue, say two days in ten, but not for two days in five, the court finds that the ration seems to have constituted at least one-half of the meat ration and the remainder of the ration consisted of no means of cooking other than was practicable with the individual kit carried. For such extensive use, or any other kind save as small quantities of common salt have been added as seasoning to the product of certain packers.

"The refrigerated beef is, in the opinion of the court, a suitable ration for troops who are not to be issued to them in good condition."

"As to whether anything better than that which was available for a ration, the opinion is: "First—That on the transports the reliance on canned fresh and canned beef was not wise, but that the canned fresh beef was less desirable than the corned beef."

"Second—That while bacon is not regarded as a ration for troops in the tropics, combined with the vegetables that were available it would have been a better ration than the ration of corned beef and unfamiliar canned roast beef, eaten direct from the can."

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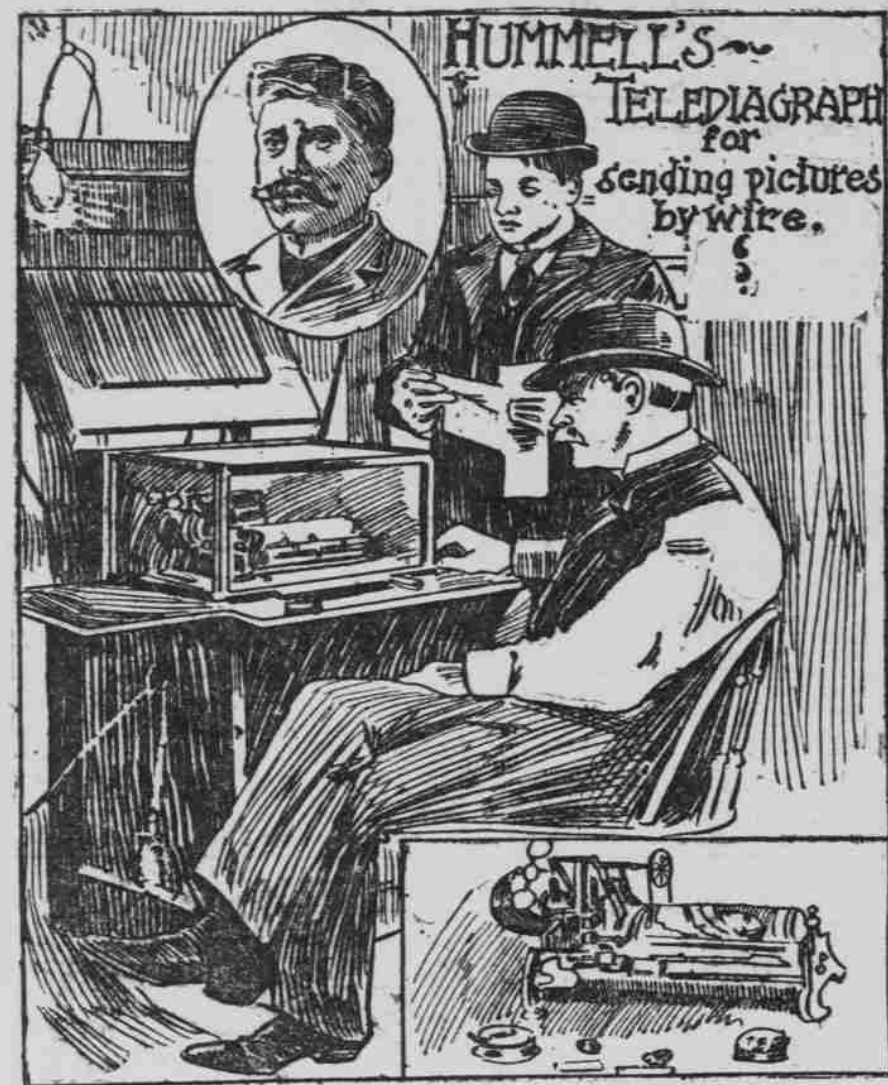
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HATS FOR CHILDREN.

[From the New York Press.] Of all the gay colors which fashion is good enough to allow the children this spring pink is the favorite. Deep rose pink, the hue of the sunniest bud in the garden, is the preferred shade. And these pink hats and bonnets, like nearly every dressy head covering for children, are frilled and puffed exceedingly. So that whatever pretty faces later come under them, those faces will seem to be framed in swirls of pink. Sometimes the entire brim of the hat is finely plaited taffeta silk four inches deep. This is fastened only at the crown, and the outer edge has a will of its own. Other brims are of straw obscured by several ruffles, one over the other, of pink chiffon.

And a different sort of straw is favored on the under side toward the face with a dozen weaves of pink silk to give it a soft, downy texture. "Tam" shapes, of pink silk, or silk and inserting, or natural straw. And the choicest trimming is a big headed bow plaited with the same material as the front. Some of these hats, even the largest, have long strings of pink mousseline or tulle around the crown.

Other hats are all red from straw to ribbon. Straws used for the best hats are tuscany, leghorn, fine manilla, satin and many other kinds. The reds have knots of red ribbon and plenty of red quills. The blues, many of them with sugar-loaf crown, are wreathed with wild flowers.

Children's school hats are sturdy sailors, especially in bright red and blue. The reds have knots of red ribbon and plenty of red quills. The blues, many of them with sugar-loaf crown, are wreathed with wild flowers.

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THE MONEY IS COMING.

Final Work on State Capitol Soon to Be Commenced. Will Cost About \$100,000 to Complete the Building. THE MONEY IS COMING. Authorized Levy Will Raise Nearly \$175,000. New Library Rooms Will Be Furnished at Once.

An event long delayed in Kansas history is about to come to pass. The state capitol in this city is to be finished. The state executive council announces that the closing work will be commenced with the completion of the new state library rooms. This will be accomplished and the library moved to its new quarters at least by the end of the year. By September or October the finishing of the first floor will be started, and by the time of meeting of the next legislature the rooms in the north and south wings above the first floor will be ready for occupancy.

The levy of one-fourth mill, authorized at the last session of the legislature, will not become available until January, and for this reason the work of finishing the building will not be taken up before September or October. For the work done during the latter part of this year the contractors will be content to plan the work for the next legislature.

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Remington Standard Typewriter advertisement. Includes text: 'EMERGENCY. Final Work on State Capitol Soon to Be Commenced. Will Cost About \$100,000 to Complete the Building. THE MONEY IS COMING. Authorized Levy Will Raise Nearly \$175,000. New Library Rooms Will Be Furnished at Once.' Also features an illustration of a typewriter and the text: 'Remington Standard Typewriter. Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, 327 Broadway, N. Y. Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, 105 W. 9th St. Kansas City, Mo. J. F. MYERS, Local Dealer, Topeka, Kansas.'

A PICNIC IN JAPAN.

[From the St. Nicholas.] A picnic in Japan is a treat that does not fall in the way of many Americans; but it was not strange that the children of the British Raj, the Gurkha, the Pathans, the dashing and impetuous Pathans and the grim warrior Sikhs have all a world-wide reputation (the most illustrious street at home can tell you all about them), but the Drogas, good and sterling soldiers though they have proved themselves to be, have not yet attained a like pinnacle of fame. And yet our Drogas sepoy have done us equally gallant service, as the records of our frontier expeditions amply prove, and on many a hard-fought field have shed their blood freely for the honor of the British flag.

The Drogas are natives of the hilly country lying along the base of the snowy Himalayas, extending from the Sutlej in the south to the Chenab in the north. These hill regions consist of a series of parallel ranges divided by longitudinal valleys, which increase gradually in elevation as they recede from the plains and approach the snowier border which forms the northern boundary. Here every zone of climate and variety of vegetation are to be met with, from the scorching heat and arid heights destitute of verdure and capped with perpetual snow. The four Drogas classes are the Pathans, Rajputs, Pathans and Gurkhas, and these four classes comprise upward of four-fifths of the Drogas. The Drogas are a brave and well imagined that, on service, the caste prejudices of the Drogas would create difficulties and tend materially to the detriment of the British army. This, however, has been proved not to be the case. For example, the Drogas, particularly as he is about his drinking water in camp, should be made to serve cheerfully drink out of a musk-servic.

THE DOGRA SEPO.

[From the Indian News.] Of all the martial races of the north who furnish recruits for the ranks of our native army, the Drogas of the Kangra Valley are, undoubtedly, the least known. The gallant little Gurkhas, the dashing and impetuous Pathans and the grim warrior Sikhs have all a world-wide reputation (the most illustrious street at home can tell you all about them), but the Drogas, good and sterling soldiers though they have proved themselves to be, have not yet attained a like pinnacle of fame. And yet our Drogas sepoy have done us equally gallant service, as the records of our frontier expeditions amply prove, and on many a hard-fought field have shed their blood freely for the honor of the British flag.

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PRODUCTION OF ASBESTOS.

[From the Boston Transcript.] Asbestos is a physical paradox, yet one of the most important mineral productions. It has been called a mineral vegetable; it is both fibrous and crystalline; elastic, yet brittle; and its growth, which can be readily carded, spun or woven into tissue. In Germany it is known as steintuch (stone flax), and the miners of Quebec call it 'coton de pierre' (cotton stone). The asbestos mines of Quebec are the most famous in the world, yielding more than 90 per cent of the total production of the world. Italy being the only competing country; and there the industry is declining. Although Charlemagne is said to have used asbestos for his armor, which he cleansed by throwing into the fire, it was practically unknown until 1850. The Italian mineral was then experimented with, and some years later came on the market. In 1873 the first Canadian mine was opened, and the product steadily increased. In 1898, were mined. There has since been a decline in value, the amount for 1898 being 12,000,000 lbs. Asbestos is a mineral, flexible, non-combustible and a non-conductor of heat and electricity, and uses these properties its increasing use. It is used for making fireproof safes, fireproof doors, fireproof floors, etc. It is made into a material for fire escapes, and is used to insulate electric wires. It is used to prevent heat from steam pipes. Mixed with rubber, it is used to pack steam joints.

AFRICAN RIVERS.

[From the Gentleman's Magazine.] It is a distinguishing feature of most African rivers that they contain no water for at least eight months of the year. In the rainy season, the water is always to be found in a river bed by digging for it, but in outward appearance a river is usually a broad belt of sand lying between high and precipitous banks. Many and many a coach has been upset in one of these drifts, as they are called. The descent is always steep, frequently so steep that the brakes cannot hold the coaches. They start going down at a crawl, and then the coachmen, who are driven into a heap anyhow, and one wonders that they do not get their legs broken by their own team. In the dry season, the water is always to be found in a river bed by digging for it, but in outward appearance a river is usually a broad belt of sand lying between high and precipitous banks. Many and many a coach has been upset in one of these drifts, as they are called. 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