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Eleventh Cavalry

One of the Most Distinguished in the Service of Uncle Sam.

In speaking of the Eleventh United States Cavalry, troop B of which will be in Big Stone Gap on July Third and Fourth, and will give extensive cavalry maneuvers, the Texan Field and National Guardsman, in a recent issue, says:

What true American man or woman does not feel their pulse quicken at the sight of the thundering artillery drill, the picturesque evolutions of the infantry, and the exhilaration of the cavalry dash? Perhaps no regiment stationed at the maneuver camp made a more favorable impression than the 11th U. S. Cavalry which was stationed here from March to November, 1911. This regiment became known far and wide throughout the State of Texas for its efficiency, zeal, esprit de corps and hearty comradeship during that period. With 51 officers and 1,150 enlisted men, it was during the time mentioned, the largest cavalry regiment in the world, and from April 14th to June 14th was divided into two provisional organizations for drill purposes and other experiments in military matters.

The 11th is one of the younger cavalry regiments of the army, having been organized under the Act of March 2nd, 1891. The first Colonel of this regiment was Francis Moore, soon afterwards promoted to be a general officer. He was succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel A. G. Hennisee. The regiment received its first active service in October, 1891, when it was ordered to the Islands to take part in the campaign against the Philippine insurrection which began in February, 1899.

The first squadron left Jefferson Barracks December 7th, sailing from San Francisco January 1st on the Transport Sheridan and reaching Manila, P. I., on the 26th of the same month, going into temporary quarters at Pasay Barracks, just south of Manila. The second squadron left Fort Ethan Allen December 4th, 1901, and sailed at once for Manila via Gibraltar, Malta, Alexandria, Suez Canal, Aden, Colombo and Singapore, arriving at Manila February 2, 1902, and going into camp Wallace just south of the Walled City on the 3rd. The third left Fort Meyer on the 19th of January, 1902, and sailed on the 21st in the wake of the second squadron, reaching Manila on March 21st. Although the entire regiment was in the Philippines, the squadrons were widely separated, and the regiment did not assemble until it embarked for home on the Sheridan, March 15th, 1904.

In January, 1902, the scene of greatest insurgent activity was Samar, the roughest, most impenetrable island of the Philippines, and where the most daring and desperate leaders of the insurrection under General Vicente Lukban, still resisted the power of the United States.

The first squadron embarked on the transport Lawton at Manila, on February 14th, and reached Tacloban, Leyte Island the headquarters of General Jacob Smith, on the 19th. This squadron was assigned to duty in Southern Samar, the worst part of the island, and the

transport proceeded to the Playa of Quinapundan, where Troops A and D were landed on the 22nd, (Washington's birthday) and marched to the village of the same name three miles inland. Troops B and C landed at Salcedo, a few miles south of the Playa of Quinapundan, on February 24, and the squadron remained in the section until June 3, 1902, operating in guerilla warfare. During this time two men were killed in action, one from troop A and one from troop D. On June 4th the squadron assembled at Guian, Samar, and proceeded to Manila where they went into camp at Camp Wallace, and on the 10th marched out to Pasay Barracks. On the 22nd of the same month the squadron marched to the railway station at Manila and proceeded to the North line, relieving four troops of the 3rd Cavalry, and taking over their mounts. All work in the Philippines by the squadron up to this time had been dismounted. Troop A took station at Paniquo, Headquarters and B at Tardac, C at Bamban, and D at Gerona. In April and May, 1903, the squadron assembled at Dagupan, the northern terminus of the Manila and Dagupan Railroad, where it remained until September 15th, proceeding on that date by rail to Manila, and again taking station at Pasay Barracks. Here it remained until February 21, 1904, at which time it turned over its horses to the 2nd Cavalry, and marched into Manila City, where it went into barracks at Malate, embarking on March 12, and sailing for the United States on March 15, as stated above.

The second squadron left Camp Wallace about a week after its arrival, embarking on the cable ship Burnside for the town of Batangas, capital of the Province of the same name, where General Frank Bell commanded the forces operating against Miguel Malvar, the successor of Emilio Aguinaldo. Batangas City was reached in a couple of days, and the squadron remained there one week, less Troop E, which was sent to Isla Verde, nearby, to search for arms and hostile natives. The entire Squadron marched to Ticao, in Tayabas Province, on the return of Troop E, reaching their destination after a three days' march. From this point Lieutenant-Colonel Hennisee, with a detail of ten men from each troop was ordered to Lipa, Batangas Province. The troops were then stationed as follows: Troop E to the field on Mt. Maslaco, north of Candelaria; Troop F to Sariain; Troop G to go with Troop F, and then to return to Ticao through the crater of the extinct volcano Banaho, and Troop H to Dolores, a ruined old village some eight miles southwest of San Pablo.

During the remainder of February and March, 1902, the troops scouted the mountains for the bands of insurgents still in the field.

During 1903 the squadron, in common with the other squadrons passed through the cholera epidemic, but owing to sanitary precautions, but few lives were lost in the regiment.

The third squadron arrived at Manila March 21, 1902, being accompanied by regimental headquarters, transferred from the Buford to the Lawton in

Manila Bay, and proceeded to Vigan, Ilocos Sur. In May, L and M took station further to the north at Laoag, Ilocos Norte. Later the squadron assembled at Salamaque, Ilocos Sur, the regimental headquarters transferring to San Fernando, Union, November 15, 1903, the squadron proceeded to the Mariguina Valley, just east of Manila, to guard the water supply of the capital city.

In August, 1906, the entire regiment took part in the maneuvers at Fort Riley, Kans., returning to Fort Des Moines, September 29. On October 6, 1906, Headquarters, and the second and third squadrons were sent to Cuba via Newport News, Va., sailing on the Zealandia, and landing at Havana on October 16. Headquarters and the third squadron proceeded to Pinar del Rio, west of Havana, and the second squadron went to Camp Columbia, just outside of Havana. Six hundred and eleven horses had been left at Newport News under charge of Troop M, and were embarked October 19 20, a terrific typhoon and tidal wave nearly wrecked the vessel, ninety-nine horses were crushed to death and five died later of injuries. Havana was reached on October 23, and Troop M proceeded to Pinar del Rio.

The troops remained in Cuba until February, 1909, during which time the second squadron marched to Pinar del Rio, and Troops F and G made a forced march of one hundred and ten miles from that point to Camp Columbia. Troop F made the distance, including halts, in twenty nine hours, and Troops G made it in 30 hours.

The squadron then took station at Lipa, Batangas, less Troop G which was sent to San Jose. In June the squadron embarked at Batangas City for San Fernando, Union Province on the Northwest coast of Luzon. Here it remained until the post, two miles distant, was completed in January, 1903 where the squadron remained until March, 1904, at which time it sailed to Manila, cantoned at Meisic Barracks a few days, and sailed on March 15 for home.

On March 8 the entire regiment left Fort Oglethorpe by rail for San Antonio, arriving March 19, and going into camp near Fort Sam Houston. Shortly after arrival the regiment was recruited up to 1,150 enlisted men, and on March 23 all recruits, together with 100 old soldiers as instructors, marched to the Leon Springs maneuver grounds for target practice, remaining until April 3. On the arrival of the 9th Cavalry the 11th was brigaded with the 9th, forming the Independent Cavalry Brigade. The command proceeded to Leon Springs for brigade maneuvers on May 3, in a very heavy rain, returning to San Antonio on the 9th.

June 3 the regiment marched with the maneuver division to Leon Springs, participated in the divisional maneuvers, and returned to San Antonio again on the 9th.

The regiments returned to Leon Springs some time later for regimental maneuvers, returning to San Antonio about August 1.

In September and October the regimental polo, baseball teams won the respective divisional championships, and just before leaving the regimental commander gave a three days' drill at Fort Sam Houston, each troop displaying its merits.

A few days before, the regiment was reviewed by the Secretary of War, Major General Wood, and Brigadier General Duncan.

The Eleventh left San Antonio November 7 8, 1911, in seven sections, arriving at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., November 10, 1911.

Birth Record.

State Board of Health Preparing to Carry Out Provisions of Vital Statistics Law June 14.

Richmond, Va., June 8.—With a large part of the necessary printed matter already on hand, and with requests daily for the registration of births, the State Department of Health is preparing to carry out the provisions of the new statute for registering births and deaths when that measure becomes effective Friday.

The printing of the forms on which births and deaths are to be reported was a very considerable undertaking and illustrates the immensity of the task before the Health Department in securing a legal record of every birth and death in Virginia. Estimating that there are at least 30,000 deaths every year in the State, and a much larger number of births, the Department had to provide sufficient forms to distribute among the 1,900 registrars who are to issue burial permits and to record birth and death certificates. The contracts call for about one million pieces and these were awarded, upon competitive bid, to firms in Richmond, Petersburg and Roanoke. Several hundred thousand of these forms have already been received.

Health Commissioner Williams, who is to act as registrar of vital statistics, is much encouraged at the number of birth certificates which have already been filed by parents who desire a legal record of the birth of their children. The now famous Irwin twins have preempted first place in the records of the State, but since their certificates have been filed a number of fond parents have requested their physicians to enter their children's names on the great roster of the Virginian's newborn. Only a few days ago, according to Dr. Williams, a prominent physician of Virginia presented the birth certificates of his two children with the urgent request that certificates be listed. He was unwilling, he said, that his children should go through life without a legal record of their birth.

"Where parents can secure the proper medical certificate of the birth of their children, we will accommodate them and record the births, regardless of the age of the children," Dr. Williams said yesterday.

"The new law is primarily for the benefit and protection of the people and should receive their heartiest support. It gives to every Virginian that record of his life to which he is entitled."

Boy Scouts Of America.

A troop of Boy Scouts of America, located at Gate City, Va., will come to Big Stone Gap Friday, June 21st. There are thirty of the boys, and are thoroughly equipped with uniforms, hiking sticks, wigwags, guns, camp, etc., and will demonstrate all forms of scout activity. These scouts are well drilled, and many useful things may be learned by a careful observation of their work.

The boys of Big Stone Gap, between the ages of 12 and 15, are invited to be at 11.45 V. & S. W. train from Gate City, with picnic lunches, and take a hike to the woods for dinner. A message to and from the mayor of the town will be signaled by the boys at 2 p. m., some on the streets of the town and some on a distance hill.

At four p. m. a street demonstration will be given in front of the Monte Vista Hotel. An excellent program will be rendered at the School Auditorium at 8.30 p. m. This program is worthy the consideration of anybody in Big Stone Gap, and is highly instructive

and entertaining. It introduces practical scouting, salute, oath, law, yell, lassoing, bandaging, knot-tying; Indian drill and war dance with a pretty Indian song specialty, all in costume; military tactic according to latest U. S. drill regulations; an animal sketch with masks; the Scout Dream, together with other songs and musical features.

Be sure to secure a seat in time. Tickets on sale June 17th at the Kelly Drug Store. Admission, 35 cents; Reserved seats, 50 cents; Children under 12, 25 cents.

District Conference.

The twenty-first session of the Big Stone Gap District Conference closed at Wise June 2nd. There were in attendance nearly a hundred delegates and pastors. The reports made to the conference were most encouraging; many new churches and parsonages were being planned and constructed. There had been already this conference year, from October to June, about one thousand conversions. The pastors and people generally are happy and contented.

The conference enjoyed the presence of God's holy Spirit. At times the feeling was tense. Men and women rose from their seats, sang and praised God aloud. It was the old time power.

A resolution offered by the preachers and one by the laymen touching the faithfulness of the presiding elder, were offered and unanimously adopted and ordered published.

Coeburn and Big Stone Gap were placed in nomination and Coeburn was chosen as the place for the next district conference.

Resolutions.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the members of this district conference that the past quadrennium has been the most successful in the history of the Big Stone Gap District, and that the consecrated energy and application of our presiding elder, J. W. Rader, has been the greatest contributing influence toward this success.

Resolved further, That it brings a feeling of sadness to our hearts when we remember that, owing to the four year limit, we have to give up our beloved presiding elder at the end of this conference year, and we heartily recommend him to the conference at large as an efficient presiding officer, a forceful preacher and a faithful and untiring worker.

Rev. J. A. Marrow,
Rev. E. H. Cole,
Rev. J. H. Wagner.

Resolved, That it is with deep regret that Brother J. W. Rader, our beloved presiding elder, must, under the laws of our church, be removed from us to a new field of labor.

In him we recognize a wise and worthy leader, an earnest worker, a sympathetic brother, and a consecrated Christian, under whose leadership the district has made the greatest strides in development, progress and material good in its history.

Signed by C. Q. Counts, H. M. Miles and eighteen other laymen.

Coal Business Improving.

Notwithstanding the continued shortage of labor in this district, the mine output for this field for the month of May is as follows: Of coal there was an increase of 10 per cent over the amount produced in the month of April and of 15 per cent over that of May 1911. The production of coke in May of this year was an increase of 25 per cent over that of the preceding month. The movement of coal from this field into the Southern States show about the same increase as in previous months, namely, 75 per cent more than the amount taken by the western trade; and spot and contract coal from this field continue to gain strength in the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida, while the railway fuel requirements upon this field are now at the maximum.

compiled from loading reports of the Stonega Coal & Coke Company, the largest producing company in Virginia. This company operates eighteen mines at Stonega, Oanka, Roda, Arno, Imboden and Keokee, on the Interstate and Virginia and Southwestern railroads, and more men are needed at all these places.

Civic League Column

EDITED BY PRESS COMMITTEE.

Meetings Second Friday of Each Month.

The Womans Civic League met with the President, Mrs. E. E. Goodloe, Friday, June 7 at 4 p. m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The League wishes to thank all the property owners for the response by checks and cash for the expenditure of trees put out on Wyandotte Avenue. The following amounts were received: W. S. Rose, 50 cents; R. H. Bruce, \$2.25; John Payne, Lexington, Ky., 75 cents; Dr. Baker, \$1.50; G. W. Lovell, \$3.00; Dr. H. Wythe Davis, Richmond, Va., \$3.00; George Marrs, \$3.00; Pondleton & Bush, \$1.50; Mr. Goodpaster, \$5.25; J. B. Collier, \$3.00.

Volunteer Day cleaned up the heart of the town pretty thoroughly. Not being able to accomplish all of the work that day, a committee hired a team a few days later, and had ashes and garbage hauled from the pavement of our School Building, also from some of our merchants premises. The League, by observing Volunteer Day, has tried to give citizens and property-holders a clean town, with all the advantages accruing from cleanliness and sanitation.

We may have given some people the wrong idea of our work in this direction, inasmuch as they pile all debris from one year to another waiting for the League to cart it away. Our idea was to instill into our citizens the love for order and cleanliness and to help themselves in this direction. A great many have been benefited and their premises are in good condition, others, throw the burden on the League.

We wish to announce that Volunteer Day will no longer be observed. There is an ordinance of our town that all property-holders have to keep their properties clean, and we will do utmost to see it enforced. We are beholden to Dr. Lloyd for \$1.50, Rev. Craft for \$1.00, and Prof. Young for 50c, to help defray expenses of Volunteer Day. A committee was appointed to appear before the Council Saturday, June 8, to bring numerous matters to their attention.

It was moved and carried that we consider the running of a Novelty Booth on the third and fourth of July. The League then adjourned to meet the first Friday in July.

We have begun a war on the fly, and have had 4,000 flies turned in by the children. Ten cents a hundred is offered and we have so far paid out \$4.60. When people will not keep premises clean, the next best thing to do is to kill the fly, that breeds in filth then comes and visits us in our homes, alighting on our food with its germ-laden feet.

So swat the fly and turn them in to the League.

John L. Dingus Dead

News was received here that John L. Dingus, the well known real estate dealer, is dead, after a general decline. He was laid to rest at St. Paul Friday.

Mr. Dingus was a native of Scott county, and was a little past fifty years of age. He was never married. He made and lost money, at one time being in fine financial condition. Many friends all over the country will regret deeply to learn of his death.—Gate City Herald.

There is a rumor that the furnace will go in blast, which means the opening of the quarry here, the resumption of work at Cross Mines.—Cumberland Gap News.