

MILES' CHARGES DROOP

The General Did Nothing to Stop The Embalmed Supplies.

JUST TALKED AFTERWARD.

Says He Never Asserted That Tinned Beef Was Treated With Chemicals, but Referred to Refrigerated Beef—Miles Declares That Newspaper Interviews Were Incorrect.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The court of inquiry appointed by the president to investigate the charges made by Major General Nelson A. Miles regarding the beef furnished to the army in the war with Spain held a brief executive session yesterday morning as stated, and perfected its organization. Major General James F. Wade presided.

All the members were in full uniform. The others present were Brigadier General George Davis, Colonel George L. Gillespie and Lieutenant Colonel Geo. G. Davis, recorder. After organizing, the court proceeded to the White House and was received by the president.

From the White House, the members went to the war department and paid their respects to Secretary Alger and General Miles.

The court reassembled at noon in the rooms formerly occupied by the war investigating commission.

Colonel Davis brought with him on his return from Cuba two cans of roast beef which were placed before the court for examination. After several minutes occupied in being photographed, Colonel Davis read the order convening the court. This was followed by the reading of a letter from the war department giving definite instructions to the court.

The members were then sworn, and General Miles was announced as the first witness. His examination was conducted by Colonel Davis, who inquired: "Did you submit to the war investigating commission a statement?"

"Yes sir," answered General Miles. Colonel Davis then submitted to General Miles a printed copy of his statement, indicating to him what referred to the question of beef supplies. This General Miles pronounced to be a correct report of his testimony, who explained that it had been supplemented by reports of regimental commanders.

Colonel Davis next called attention to an alleged interview in the New York Journal and asked General Miles if he had been correctly reported.

A clipping from the paper giving the interview was handed to General Miles. After carefully reading it he remarked: "This reported interview, you will notice, has four or five statements saying I declined to give names of officers. I declined to reply to questions, and in fact I do not recall any allegations in that interview that had not been given before the war investigating commission, and also in official reports from me and other officers. As far as the interview is concerned, it is evidently written from the memory of the interviewer. As the press has been so kind to the army and to the enlisted men, I have given such information as I thought proper."

"That is hardly material to this interview," interposed Colonel Davis. "Can you say that any one statement is correct or incorrect? Does it incorrectly set forth in any respect what was said?"

"I don't think I could remember the newspaper man's face should I see him again. In regard to the action of the chemicals I would have to compare that with my testimony. It was never asserted that the canned beef was treated with chemicals. It has been asserted that refrigerated beef was and such information has come to me."

"Are you now prepared to say whether or not the interview is correct? Is it in the main correct?"

"I do not think it is in the main correct," General Miles answered, at the same time again calling attention to the fact that he had declined to answer the questions of the reporter.

"Here is another interview in the Herald. What have you to say about it?"

"I have a letter from the gentleman who wrote this saying that he will swear that I declined to be interviewed, and that he, believing something had been given out, fixed this up."

General Miles pointed out several inaccuracies in the reported interview, and again explained:

"I have the statement that the writer will swear that I declined to be interviewed."

"Was that a fact that you declined to be interviewed?"

"There was this conversation: 'I decline to be interviewed. I decline to discuss the question, as it is before the proper authorities.'"

"Do you give as your answer that you did not give the interview or that it does not report you correctly?"

"It is not correct," was the reply of General Miles.

Colonel Davis then took up the statements of General Miles before the war commission, first calling attention to his remarks about the use of cattle on the hoof.

"You assumed in the beginning, then, that beef cattle on the hoof would be used in Cuba and Porto Rico?"

General Miles answered affirmatively, saying that from reports from officers, among them Captain Whitney, who was in Porto Rico as a spy, he believed that beef on the hoof was to be used in Cuba and Porto Rico. It was not supposed that cattle on the hoof would be procured in Cuba, but that such cattle would be shipped there from this country. He remarked that even now refrigerated beef was supplied to the troops through a country supplied with herds of cattle.

"You speak of them in your testimony as the finest beef cattle in the world. Are they large cattle?"

"No, they are small; but they are of good quality."

"Do the people of Porto Rico export their cattle?"

"I am told so."

General Miles again said that refrigerated beef was being supplied to the troops on the sea coast and also in the interior. The conditions now were different from those during the war. Then there were no refrigerators on shore, and not enough ice for the hospitals.

"No, sir; no, sir. It would be killed at night, when it was cool, and would not spoil the next day as quickly as refrigerated beef, unless the latter had some artificial preservative that would keep it seventy-two hours."

Did Not Complain to the Department.

Gen. Miles made an explanation to the reports read by him to the commission about the canned beef. The commission had information that the officers making the reports had not been to Porto Rico, and it was in explanation of this that General Miles directed his remarks, saying that he had called for reports only from regular regiments, as they were familiar with the army ration, and many of these reports were from officers then in this country. What attracted attention to the canned beef were the reports about the weakness of the men who had been in Cuba.

"I thought that very unusual, and directed an investigation by asking the adjutant general to call for reports on the subject of the beef supply of the army."

"Did you inform the commissary general of this condition?"

"It is not my duty to report to the commissary general."

"But did you inform him?"

"No; I had not received my reports."

"Did you inform the secretary of war?"

"The rule of the office is that when I have an order to issue it goes to the adjutant general. I sent the order calling for reports to the adjutant general to be issued. Under the rules of the office it is his duty to call the attention of the secretary of war to such orders. I supposed that this had been done."

General Miles said that he first knew that canned beef was being issued to the men while in Porto Rico.

"Did you then call the attention of the secretary of war to this important matter of food?"

"I did not. I was not convinced that it was an improper article of food."

"You said that the canned beef was furnished as a 'pretence of experiment.' That was serious, and implied fraud," remarked Colonel Davis.

"As far as fraud is concerned I disclaim any such intention," quickly exclaimed General Miles. He added that while he had been under the impression that it was furnished as an experiment, it was not intended by him to say "pretence."

"I should have said theory," was his explanation.

Referring to the remark "embalmed" and the reference to the chemical treatment of refrigerated beef General Miles testified that he got his first idea about that from a report of Surgeon Daly.

made, he believed, in the latter part of September. Later there were other references to processed beef. Some suspicion had been caused among army officers by reason of the contract for refrigerated beef calling for the beef to be in good condition seventy-two hours after delivery. He had also received a number of letters about the beef supply. Eighteen of these referred to "embalmed beef," five to "injected beef," three "poisoned," and one used the term "inoculated." Nearly all of these letters, however, were subsequent to Dr. Daly's report.

"What action was taken by you after the receipt of Dr. Daly's report?"

"The same action as in the canned beef."

"Was any preventive action taken?"

"No. I was informed that the contract called for delivery of beef that would keep seventy-two hours outside of refrigerators in a tropical country. I have other information that will be submitted to you later that I do not care at this time to divulge."

Colonel Davis announced that he had concluded his inquiry, and Colonel Gillespie inquired:

"Did you, on arrival at Ponce, eat any of this refrigerated beef?"

"I don't remember that I did."

"Was there any controversy among the officers about this beef?"

"I cannot recollect that there was."

General Miles said that he may have eaten refrigerated beef, but did not know it.

"Then you do not know that it possessed any distinguishing qualities from other fresh beef?" continued Colonel Gillespie.

"I do not."

General Miles was excused.

President Faure's Funeral.

Paris, Feb. 21.—In the Chamber of Deputies the premier, M. Dupuy, asked for a credit of one hundred and sixty thousand francs to defray the expenses of the obsequies of the late President Felix Faure.

M. Dejeante, Socialist, representing one of the districts of the department of the Seine, asked that the obsequies be purely civil.

This drew forth murmurs and protests from the Rightists and Centrists, who threatened to leave the Chamber.

The president of the Chamber of Deputies, M. Deschanel, interrupted M. Dejeante several times, calling upon him to respect the stricken family of the deceased.

Eventually M. Dejeante's motion was rejected by a vote of 444 to 68, and the credit was adopted by a vote of 463 to 42.

The Chamber unanimously decided to attend the departure of the body from the Elysee Palace on Thursday. A large multitude defied before the coffin yesterday.

Congratulations for M. Loubet.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The secretary of state has sent the following telegram to our ambassador at Paris: "You will appropriately convey to President Loubet the president's most cordial congratulations on his elevation to the chief magistracy of the French republic, and the sincere wishes of the government and people of the United States for the continued welfare of the French nation."

Mr. Porter's Trip Unofficial.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—It is stated on authority that Mr. Robert P. Porter's trip abroad has no connection whatever with the government. On his recent return from Cuba Mr. Porter declined for the present to accept another government mission, saying that it was his purpose to go abroad for a few weeks on private business.

Nine Years for Stephens.

Easton, Pa., Feb. 21.—Prof. Stephens, who was convicted on Saturday of setting fire to Pardee Hall, Lafayette College, was yesterday sentenced by Judge Scott to serve nine years in prison.

SCHLEY DEFENDS HIMSELF.

Unwilling to Rest Under Long's Charges of Reprehensible Conduct at Santiago.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Commodore Schley's reply to the letter of Secretary Long regarding his course during the Santiago campaign was filed with the Naval Committee yesterday. Senator Perkins is acting chairman of the committee in the absence of Senator Hale, and will lay the document before the committee at its regular meeting today. At the first executive session the injunction of secrecy will be removed and the document made public. It is long and in an elaborate defense of Schley's actions and a refutation of the criticisms of Sampson and Long.

Speaking of the "retrograde movements," which the secretary, adopting the language of Admiral Sampson, characterizes as "reprehensible conduct," Admiral Schley says that in forty-two years' service "never was such language used to characterize conduct of mine, and I see no reason for it now."

As to the battle of Santiago, Admiral Schley says the facts of that contest speak for themselves. He quotes from his official report to Sampson, in which he congratulated the commander of the squadron and said the "victory seems big enough for all of us," he asks the committee to contrast his reports and those of Sampson containing references to himself, and continues:

"As to all this criticism of my course prior to the discovery by me on May 29 of Cervera's fleet, whether from Admiral Sampson or the department, none of it has ever been made by either to me, and I never heard a word of it from anyone until after the battle with that fleet, although more than five weeks had passed since the alleged 'reprehensible conduct' had occurred. Although Admiral Sampson used this language to the secretary concerning me on July 10 (just one week after the battle), he has never to this day, in any manner or to any extent, intimated to me any disapprobation, or made to me any criticism of my conduct of the flying squadron."

Admiral Schley quotes the department's dispatch of May 29 in these words: "The department looks to you to ascertain the fact of the presence of the enemy, and that the enemy, if in the harbor at Santiago, does not leave without a decisive action." Commenting on this, the admiral says:

"In obedience to the above order and without any further order or instruction from any one, I did ascertain the fact that the enemy was at Santiago, and the enemy did not escape without a decisive conflict."

In conclusion Admiral Schley contends that the turn of the Brooklyn in the battle was "the crucial and deciding feature of the combat, and of decided advantage." Furthermore, he says, it is a mistake to say that the vessel's distance from the enemy was increased to the extent of eight hundred yards, and adds:

"Through this may not be of record, it is a fact, nevertheless."

He cites the fact that the charts of the board of navigators show that the Brooklyn was nearest when it emerged from the harbor, nearest at every stage of the battle, and nearest the Colon when she surrendered.

He says he made no report of his manoeuvre in his report of the battle, as its effect upon the battle was never a question with him. His last paragraph reads:

"On May 31 I received a telegram from the commander-in-chief congratulating me upon my success in locating and blockading the enemy's fleet at Santiago. If it was worthy of commendation at that time, I am at a loss to understand how it could have grown into 'reprehensible conduct,' as suggested by Admiral Sampson in his letter of July 10, 1898, some six weeks later."

G. A. R. Must Elect Sexton's Successor.

Minneapolis, Minn., Feb. 21.—Captain Torrance, judge advocate general of the G. A. R., has made his decision in the matter of the disputed succession to the national commandery made vacant by the death of Colonel Sexton of Chicago. The decision is that a successor must be elected; that there is no promotion in the G. A. R. through death. Captain Torrance holds that the executive committee of the national council has full power to elect the commander.

Condensed Dispatches.

Senor y Bernabe, formerly Minister to the United States, has been appointed Minister to Portugal.

The examiners of the war department will probably wait till March 1 before starting for Cuba.

The health of King Oscar of Sweden has been restored, and he has resumed the government amid general rejoicings.

The moulders employed in the Holly Manufacturing Company's shops at Lockport, N. Y., went out on strike yesterday morning.

Sixteen claims, aggregating \$16,000, for damages to property by reason of improvement work to the canals, were filed yesterday with the state court of claims at Albany.

After a terrible struggle in his front yard at Ypsilanti, Mich., with his eldest daughter, who is a mute, William Cery, a pensioner, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor.

Thomas O'Neill, a butcher, employed at Fwitt's Packing House, in South St. Louis, Mo., was killed last night by his two younger brothers, armed with butcher knives. They had a dispute over money matters.

The United States Cotton Company of Central Falls, R. I., has announced to the operatives that to-day their wages will be restored to the rate paid a couple of years ago. This increase will amount to ten or twelve per cent. on an average.

Senator Proctor yesterday presented an amendment to the army bill. Its object is to place the army upon the same plane as the navy in the staff departments. This change is to be gradual. The amendment provides that when a vacancy occurs in the staff department a line officer shall be detailed to fill the vacancy created in the lower grade, but shall not become a permanent member of the corps, and may be transferred back to the line at any time.

SECRETARY HITCHCOCK SWORN IN.

Secretary Bliss Will Once More Become a Man of Business in New York.

Washington, L. C., Feb. 21.—Ethan Allen Hitchcock, the newly appointed secretary of the interior, called on the president yesterday to pay his respects and to arrange for entering upon his duties in the interior department.

Shortly after Mr. Hitchcock's visit, Secretary Bliss went to the White House and called on the president for probably the last time as secretary of the interior. It was arranged that the office business should be turned over to Mr. Hitchcock at his convenience.

Mr. Hitchcock was sworn into office in the afternoon and introduced by Secretary Bliss to the heads of bureaus in the department.

Secretary Bliss told a reporter that this was his last trip to Washington as an officer of the government. "Next time you see me," said he, "I will be plain Bliss. I expect to leave my position on Tuesday, and hope to return to New York about the middle of the week. I will renew my associations in business and settle down to a private life."

Pay for Cuban Army.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—It is proposed to reconcile the radical element among the Cubans to the American offer to pay the Cuban soldiers \$3,000,000 by authorizing the Cuban municipalities and provinces to raise \$7,000,000 additional by an issue of bonds. It is expected that the administration will sanction this plan.

General Gomez himself is expected to broach the scheme formally when he begins his conferences with General Brooke in Havana.

Gomez arrived yesterday at Matanzas, making his way very slowly toward the capital.

In addition to this, the United States government is to be asked to sanction the redemption, out of the customs receipts, of the bonds issued in aid of the Cuban rebellion, to the amount of \$2,750,000.

Later, it is stated here, will be produced by the Cuban assembly to show that every cent of this sum was expended in legitimate war expenses.

Plea for Mrs. Place.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 21.—A plea was made to Governor Roosevelt yesterday to exercise executive clemency in behalf of Mrs. Martha Place of Brooklyn, who is awaiting execution at Sing Sing prison for the murder of her stepdaughter, Ida Place.

The plea was made by Howard McSherry of New Brunswick, N. J., and Robert Van Iderstine of New York city, attorneys for the condemned woman. The hearing was in the main audience chamber of the executive suite.

Mrs. Van Iderstine said he was personally of the opinion that Mrs. Place is insane and was at the time of the crime. He could not make that plea at the time of the trial because Mrs. Place told him she was innocent and reiterated that statement until Saturday last.

Ordered Mustered Out.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The war department announces that orders have been given for the muster out of the following volunteer regiments:

At Savannah, Ga.—Third Georgia; Batteries A, B, C, D, Maine Artillery; 26th New York volunteers.

At their present camps at Augusta, Ga., and Greenville, S. C.—Third Alabama, Third Connecticut, Fifth Massachusetts, Thirty-fifth Michigan, Fifteenth Minnesota, Fourth New Jersey, 20th New York, 20th New York, Tenth Ohio, First Rhode Island, Second West Virginia.

This order discharges all the volunteers remaining in the United States.

Sampson at the Bermudas.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The advance guard of the North Atlantic squadron, composed of the flagship New York and the battleship Indiana, arrived at the Bermudas yesterday and reported to the navy department by cable.

Admiral Sampson also said that William J. Brownley, a first class gun captain, was swept overboard Friday morning from the Indiana. The squadron was between three and four days in making the trip from New York to the Bermudas, owing to the terrible weather.

They will proceed to Havana.

Khedivah Has a Boy.

Alexandria, Feb. 21.—The khedivah has given birth to a son at Montazak. There are great rejoicings because the khedive has an heir to the throne.

Abbas Hilmi, khedive of Egypt, succeeded to the throne on the death of his father, Mohammed Tewfik, on January 7, 1892. He married the Princess Ikbal Hanem. They have three daughters. There had been some talk of deposing the khedive and placing his only brother, Mohammed Ali, on the throne.

Joint High Commission Adjourns.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 21.—The Anglo-American joint high commission yesterday decided to adjourn until midsummer, when it will reassemble to seek to agree finally on the pending questions in difference between the United States and Canada. Agreement on several of the most important issues pending is apparently impossible at this time.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the head of the Canadian commissioners, left for Ottawa last night.

A Medium Guilty of Assault.

New York, Feb. 21.—The jury in the trial of Dr. Henry B. Rogers, a spiritualist, brought in a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation to mercy.

Dr. Rogers was accused of having, at a spiritualistic seance, at No. 100 East Seventy-sixth street, in 1895, attempted to strike a detective with a hatchet when the officer tried to expose the fraud of his performance. Dr. Rogers was remanded to the Tombs until Friday, when he will be sentenced.

No Monday Quorum at Harrisburg.

Harrisburg Pa., Feb. 21.—The twenty-ninth ballot for United States senator resulted as follows here yesterday: Quay, Republican, 8; Jenks, Democrat, 4; Grow, Republican, 1; paired two hundred. There was no quorum.

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To Cure Constipation Forever. Take Cascarets Candy Cathartic. 10c or 25c. If C. C. fail to cure, druggists refund money.

—A deed was recently recorded in Lackawanna county which required \$4,000 in revenue stamps. The consideration was \$4,000,000.

HAVE YOU A SKIN DISEASE?—Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Eczema Itch, Barber's Itch, Ulcers, Blotches, Chronic Erysipelas, Liver Spots, Prurigo, Psoriasis, or other eruptions of the skin—what Dr. Agnew's Ointment has done for others it can do for you—cure you. One application gives relief.—35 cents.—23.

Sold by C. A. Kleim.

MANY SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE SICKLY.—Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children, used by Mother Gray, a nurse in Children's Home, New York, break up colds in 24 hours, cure Feverishness, Headache, Stomach troubles, Teething disorders, and Destroy Worms. At all druggists 25c. Sample mailed FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmstead, LeRoy N. Y. 2-16-41-d

The cornstalk will no longer be an encumbrance to the farmer, but under a new style of treatment will become a commercial and manufacturing commodity of high value. As a result of experiments of the Marsden Development company, paper, cardboard and newspaper stock of the finest quality are now being manufactured from corn shives, and the discovery is expected to revolutionize the paper manufacturing business for the country.

FOSSIL PILLS.—The demand is proof of their worth—Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are beating out many fossil formulas at a quarter a box—They're better medicine—Easier doses and 10 cents a vial. A thousand ailments may arise from a disordered liver. Keep the Liver right and you'll not have Sick Headache, Billiousness, Nausea, Constipation and Sallow Skin.—24.

Sold by C. A. Kleim.

It has been observed that "no girl can become such a clever elocutionist that she can bring tears to the eyes of those who have been her neighbors all her life."

WITHOUT A PEER.—WORKS MIRACLES.—Dr. Agnew's cure for the heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease. Thousands of times has the hand of the grim destroyer been stayed by its use. If there is Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Pain in left Side, Smothering Sensations, don't delay or you may be counted in the long list of those who have gone over to the great majority, because the best remedy in the world to-day was not promptly used.—21.

Sold by C. A. Kleim.

DOES COFFEE AGREE WITH YOU?—If not, drink Grain-O—made from pure grains. A lady writes: "The first time I made Grain-O I did not like it but after using it for one week nothing would induce me to go back to coffee." It nourishes and feeds the system. The children can drink it freely with great benefit. It is the strengthening substance of pure grains. Get a package to-day from your grocer. 15c. and 25c. 2-24-41.

The speculative astronomers have given us some queer calculations and odd comparisons. One of the most curious of these is one which the relative size of the sun and some of the planets is shown. They tell us that if the sun could be represented by a globe two feet in diameter, the earth would be represented proportionately by a pea, Mars by a pin-head and Mercury by a mustard seed.

—Trying to jump on a Reading coal train at Shamokin, Ralph Shupp, aged 15 years, fell under the wheels and sustained fatal injuries.

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