

Q. M. CORPS TO OBSERVE 146TH ANNIVERSARY

Indianapolis Dinner June 16, Will Be Part of International Observance

Indianapolis will join with other cities of three continents, June 16, in dinners to be held in observance of the 146th anniversary of the quartermaster department of the United States Army. The dinner here will be held at the Claypool Hotel, with commissioned officers and civilians who held commissions in the department during the war and a large number of business men attending. Governor Warren T. McCray will make an address at the dinner.

Civilians who stood behind the department, furnishing supplies during the war, also will attend. John B. Reynolds, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, who served as a colonel in the aviation service, will give a talk.

OFFICER REVIEWS HISTORY OF CORPS.
A brief history of the founding of the quartermaster corps is given by an officer of the department, as follows:
June 16, 1775, in Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, the lawmakers of the federated colonies, facing the problem of supply for the fighting men of the new nation, enacted the following legislation: "Resolved, That there be one quartermaster general of the Continental Army, and one deputy under him for the separate army. That the pay of the quartermaster general be \$80 per month and that of the deputy by \$40 per month." This came into being the quartermaster corps, known in the beginning as the "military stores department."

The quartermaster corps, during the very days that the Nation was going through the throes of birth, the quartermaster corps, the backbone of the nation's beginning, has grown side by side with the institutions and traditions of our country, and today stands the largest and oldest supply department of our Army, and one of the most important in the world.

What the quartermasters of the Army had to do in the limited land operations of 1812 was well done, and not a little of Jackson's victory at New Orleans was due to the supplies which were brought up to him by those entrusted with the task.

GAVE VALUABLE AID IN MEXICAN WAR.
The triumph of the American arms during the Mexican war was due in no small measure to the fact that the quartermaster department was able to solve with success the difficult problems of supply and transportation that confronted it.

In the Civil War an army which had more than two million enlistments was well clothed, fed, sheltered and transported for four years, and this in a theater of operations where even single-track railroads were rare and highways were little better than glorified trails.

In our Indian campaigns it was the faithful, rugged workers of the quartermaster department who supplied the clothing and transported the food which made it possible for our troops to go beyond the limits of civilization, that the American pioneer, carrying the flag of progress, might win westward his way. During the Spanish-American War, in Cuba and Porto Rico and in the far away Philippines, lacking neither food, shelter nor clothing, thanks to the ability of the quartermaster and subsistence departments to meet the needs of the army under other conditions that had never before presented themselves to the supply departments of the Army.

The quartermaster corps has just emerged from the mildest conflict of all time with the brilliant achievement of having successfully clothed, fed and otherwise supplied 2,000,000 across 3,000 miles of ocean, while caring for a total of 1,000,000 in camps and cantonments at home. In speaking of the work done by the corps in France General Pershing said:

"The task of supplying an army the size of the American expeditionary force in the field of operations, so many thousands of miles from home depots, was never before attempted. The quartermaster corps carried this task to a triumphant conclusion and thereby made possible the success of the fighting troops on the Marne, St. Mihiel and in the Argonne."

Again in a report to the Secretary of War the commander in chief of the American force in France expressed in the following words his appreciation of the work of the quartermaster corps:

"The quartermaster corps has had a difficult and varied task, but has met it with all the demands that have been made upon it. Its management and its personnel have been efficient and it deserves every possible commendation."

Second only to the long list of achievements of the quartermaster corps in war are the services it has rendered our people in disasters, during time of peace.

GAVE SUCCESS IN JOHNSON TOWN FLOOD.
In the Johnson town flood of 1899 it was the quartermaster department that made it possible for the despairing inhabitants to win their battle while they mourned more than 6,000 of their fellow citizens.

After the San Francisco earthquake and fire fifteen years ago the Army quartermaster and commissary were rushed to the scene with their tents, food, clothing and bedding to help the devastated city rise from its ruins.

When the Mississippi and Ohio valleys and the tidal wave engulfed Galveston the quartermaster corps did heroic work in sheltering the homeless, feeding the hungry and clothing the naked.

Amongst the several peace time services that the corps is rendering to the country may be mentioned the benefits that our farmers and stock raisers are now deriving from the activities of the remount service. Primarily functioning as a service of animal supply for the Army, its experts have already placed more than 150 stallions in practically every State in the Union for the convenience and use of those who breed animals. The light horse was passing out of existence because of the rapidly extending use of automotive power and the quartermaster corps has charged itself today with helping to restore that useful animal to the place it deserves in our domestic life on the farm and on the road.

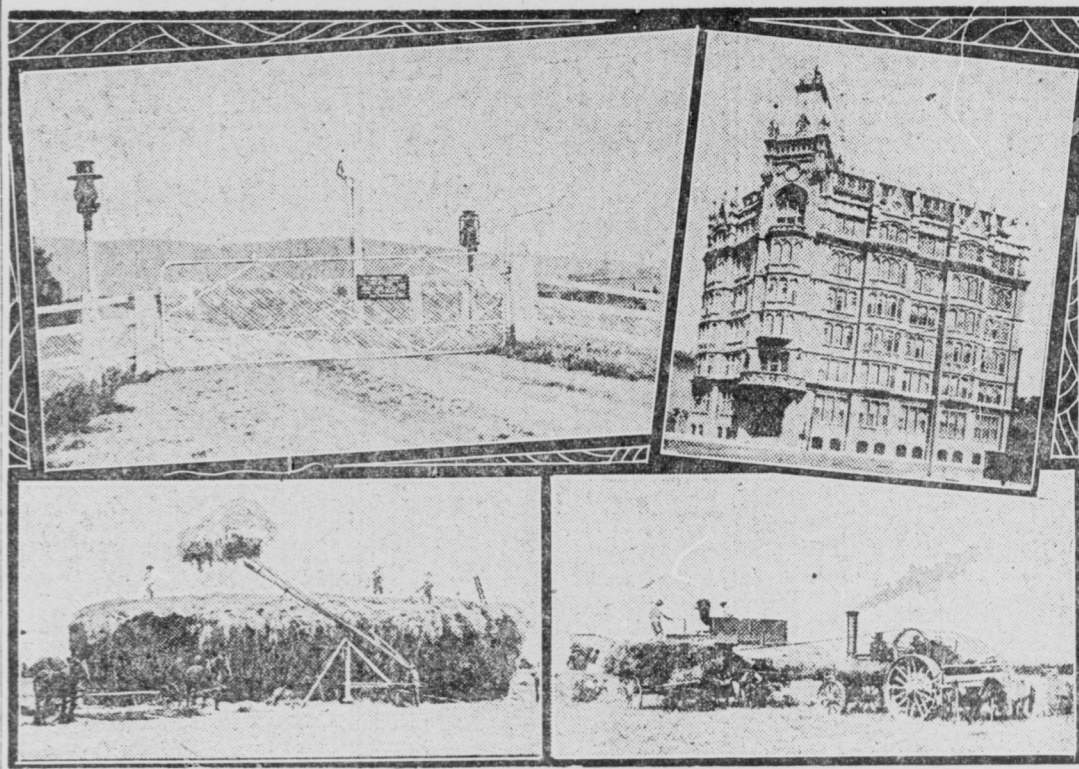
In fact, the fighting man is dependent upon the quartermaster normally the day he joins the colors to the day he leaves the service and should this service be curtailed by death, it is the quartermaster corps that is charged with placing him in his final resting place and keeping it in the spot. In this respect the splendid work of the graves registration service in its reverential duty of looking after the soldier dead of the Nation during and since the World War will ever be a monument to the corps.

Threaten They'll Isolate Town if Speed Trap Holds
COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 9.—Isolation by automobile owners is the threat held out to London, the seat of Madison County, twenty-five miles from the State capital, unless it abolishes a speed trap now maintained by municipal authorities to catch unwary travelers.

Formal demand for its abandonment has been made by Mayor Gordon by the Ohio State Automobile Association through Charles James, secretary. If this is refused notices will be sent to all automobile clubs in the State to avoid the town. At present the Columbus and Dayton clubs are advising members to keep a sharp lookout for the trappers, and the same warning is given to motorists from a distance.

Because of reconstruction work now being done upon the national road drivers virtually are forced to detour and pass through London in order to reach Dayton, Springfield and Cincinnati.

Agriculture in New Zealand



Top—Gate in rabbit-proof fence across line connecting Banks Peninsula from mainland. Farmers Institute Building in Wellington. Bottom—Haystacker on Canterbury farm. Threshing wheat on government experimental farm in New Zealand.

BY W. D. BOYCE.

I asked an official of the New Zealand department of agriculture why the quinquennial does not more wheat and oats, its principal cereal crops, and why the acreage sown in the last year or two was smaller than in the past.

"Sheep, principally," he replied with a smile. "Our rainfall is so plentiful, an average of fifty inches a year, and grass and forage crops grow so rapidly and heavily that the farmer finds sheep will pay him better than cereals and without so much work and risk as he can devote to other things. There is another reason, too. Fertilizer is high here, three times as much as it was before the war, and the farmer will not pay the price."

That is why New Zealand raises wheat and oats only on a small scale. The government tries to induce the raising of more wheat by guaranteeing a minimum price and fixing the maximum price at the same time. In the Dominion the wheat is produced in the fertile plains of Canterbury and the fields of South Otago where cereals, mostly oats, are grown. On the other hand the northern districts of the North Island near the seashore grows the very small amount of corn which is planted in New Zealand.

The South Island leads, too, in the production of barley, peas for export as well as home consumption, beans, linseed, grass and other farm seeds. In all parts of the Dominion the clover is grown and the fiber is exported in great quantities, principally to America for the manufacture of ropes and twine. A great quantity of the fiber is manufactured into cordage in New Zealand, but the exports alone amount to around \$6,000,000 (six million dollars) annually.

Of the total area of 45,500,000 acres, three and a half million acres occupied in New Zealand, 10,000,000 (sixteen million) acres were in pasture on land upon which seed had been sown. The figures for last year show that grain was sown on 700,000 (seven hundred thousand) acres, that grass for seed and hay was being grown on 900,000 (nine hundred thousand) acres, that 250,000 (twenty-five thousand) acres were given over to orchards, while 25,500,000 (twenty-five and one-half million) acres were wild land and unsuitable for agriculture.

The rest of the land under occupation was given over largely to small gardens and plantations and private farms.

DEPARTMENT STRESSES CULTIVATION OF GRASS.
The department of agriculture is particularly insistent in its campaign of education to impress the importance upon the farmer of the proper cultivation of grass crops. It has been repeatedly stated in its native state the lands of the Dominion were mostly covered with heavy bush and that it has been necessary to chop down much of it and then burn over to clear the ground.

It has been learned that it is foolish to turn large numbers of stock out on wide open spaces unless he has first sown it to grass of the very best kind. About a third of the lands now in grass have been ploughed, the rest being sown without cultivation of the ground.

Yields of wheat and oats depend principally upon the season. In 1915 the season was unfavorable. It rained the following year and in 1920 was still better with an average yield throughout the Dominion of thirty-six bushels to the acre for wheat and about thirty-eight bushels for oats.

In a previous article I described the bountiful yields of wheat which are obtained in the Canterbury plains where some fields produce as high as almost 100 bushels to the acre. These are exceptional, however, and yields of forty-five to fifty bushels to the acre are more commonly found there.

It interested me exceedingly to inspect a field of turnips which had been grown specially for the fattening of sheep during the winter months. In this particular field a small patch had been fenced off for feeding a small flock that was low in weight. The sheep had eaten all the tops, which were about two feet high, and then had gone down the rows and eaten off one side of the roots of the turnips. The farmer informed me that later they would come down the rows the other way and would eat off the other side of the turnips and finally would pull the roots out of the ground and eat them.

In the North Island there are a great many thousands of acres of volcanic, or pumice lands, where the government is making a strong effort to treat the land so that it will become productive. The discovery was made that near the edges of small streams and lakes where livestock had rolled and pawed up the earth a crop of rich grass had sprung up. The government authorities believe that ploughing, harrowing and rolling this ground ultimately will result in making it suitable for crops.

It is in the "back blocks," as they are called, where the pioneer of New Zealand is laboring today to clear the land for his farm. With ax and saw he is clearing off the timber and brush, then burning over the land, blowing up the stumps and ploughing. Having put the ground into shape he is turning more and more to his department of agriculture for soil analyses and advice as to what his land best is suited to grow.

FOUR EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.
With agricultural and pastoral pursuits the principal industries of the Dominion, the department of agriculture has developed into one of the most important branches of the government and the service which it renders to the farmers seems to be most complete.

There are four large experimental farms, located in different parts of the Dominion, where conditions are analyzed and

experiments conducted for the benefit of the immediate neighborhood. A new department has been made in the back blocks. It is tedious, hard toil and only the fittest can survive it. Very few of those ex-soldiers who have once embarked on this work have given it up.

If the returned soldier prefers to buy private land which already has been improved the government will advance him \$12,500 on the purchase price, \$3,750 with which to fence, clear, buy stock or implements and \$250 for his household furniture.

NEW ZEALAND'S TAX SYSTEM.
And now what taxes does the New Zealand farmer pay?

Land tax is assessed on the land the same as it is in the United States, with exemptions and deductions, according to the value of the holding. Where the land is mortgaged still further exemptions are allowed. In certain cases the system of taxation is that of a progressive land tax, the object being to break up the large holdings of land by putting a higher tax rate per acre on large blocks than on small holdings. Absentees and shareholders in land companies pay a 50 per cent higher tax than those who live on the land.

In addition to the land tax the farmer must pay an income tax on earnings above \$1,500 a year. Exemption of \$1,500 is allowed on incomes up to \$3,000 and above that the exemption gradually decreases until on incomes of \$4,500 there is no deduction at all. For every child under 16 years of age an exemption of \$125 also is provided.

The experience of the American ranchman and farmer has been that sheep are very hard on land. Most of our sheep raisers, however, are on dry and poor land and the better of sheep country find anything to eat for themselves the year round. Here sheep never are put up in the winter and the fifty inches of average rainfall furnish abundant pasturage at all times. The general system here is to change sheep from one fenced range to another so they will not eat down the grass too closely or destroy the roots. Another explanation for the very healthy sheep they have here is the abundance of little streams which run through every pasture. The fact that 10,000,000 (sixteen million) acres, or more than a third of the whole country, which has been opened up and once cropped has been turned back into sheep and cattle land proves that they pay better than grain.

LAND DISTRICTS IN THE DOMINION.
The Dominion is divided into seven land districts, each under the supervision of a commissioner who transacts all routine business in the sale, leasing and occupation of lands belonging to the crown. The commissioner with three men chosen by the governor general and one by the House of Representatives, act as a land board for that district.

There are three methods whereby government land may be obtained by settlers. One is by outright purchase, another by lease with the right to purchase ultimately and the third only by lease with no option to buy at any time. To rent land with a view to buying it later the tenant pays a rental equal to 5 per cent of the sale price of the land. On land which is leased only the rent is 4 per cent of the sale price.

Land is divided into three classes. For the first class lands the sale price is not less than \$5 an acre, for second class not less than \$2.50 an acre, and for third class not less than \$1.25 an acre. The above are the minimum prices on the poorest quality of land. The holdings are usually very small, the first class, 2,000 acres of second class and 5,000 acres of third class lands to any one person. For town and suburban lands the prices are correspondingly higher.

The man who leases land with a view to buying has twenty-five years in which to pay off the debt, but leases without the option of buying run for sixty-six years and have the privilege of renewal. There are modifications of these terms for those who want to settle on the land for only short periods.

When land is bought outright certain improvements must be made, such as a case with leased lands, and residence on the land is compulsory for two years on most crown lands.

At this time the government owns 4,500,000 acres of land, 700,000 acres open for settlement. Most of that which is not open consists of rugged, mountainous lands which is suitable only for pastoral purposes. The holdings of the government are divided into three classes: more and more Maoris dispose of their holdings which at this time are around 4,000,000 acres. Later on some 100,000 acres are disposed of each year, either sold or leased. The total acreage to be disposed of each year is double that.

TENDENCY AGAINST LARGE LAND HOLDERS.
Of recent years the legislation on land has tended more and more to prevent individuals from obtaining large blocks of agricultural lands and using it for pastoral purposes. The government frequently takes steps to compel big land holders to divide their tracts and permit more settlers to come in. Usually it is not difficult for the government and the owner to agree upon a price, but if the owner is obdurate the government takes the land by condemnation. In one instance in a district of the North Island the government decided that one man was too great a land holder and compelled him to sell half of it. On that half the government settled thirty-two families, while the original holder suffered no loss in his income because he began more general cultivation of the half which he had left.

The government takes steps to prevent any hoarding when land is to be subdivided by advancing the money necessary for subdivision, for survey and the cost of construction of bridges and roads.

Since 1904 the government has had laws which permit it to advance money to worthy settlers. The smallest advance made is \$125 and the largest is \$12,500. The loan must be repaid in thirty-six and one-half years at a rate of 3 per cent a year.

Since the advance to settlers law was put into operation money loaned to 50,000 persons has totalled \$100,000,000. Half of the principal has been repaid. The department makes a net profit for the government each year of \$250,000.

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settle on either virgin or improved land. Great care is taken in selecting those who want to become pioneers in the back blocks. It is tedious, hard toil and only the fittest can survive it. Very few of those ex-soldiers who have once embarked on this work have given it up.

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Just the thing for thaticed summer drink.

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For minute cleanup on cakes or sweetening of lemonade and other iced drinks.

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20-inch material in cream white; makes excellent scarfs.

\$1.69 Stamped Pillowcases, \$1.39
Spoke stitched for crocheting.

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\$1.50 Hose, 79c
Ladies' full fashioned silk and fiber hose, reinforced heel and toe, elastic lisle garter tops; in black and white; some are slightly irregular.

Cotton Plaid Skirting, Yard, 45c
Plenty of black and white effects.

55c Pettis Linen, 35c
A pound package of linen writing paper; 102 sheets.

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Varnished tile, washable, kitchen and bathroom wall paper.

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Infants' Dresses and Petticoats, Half Price
White dresses and Gertrude style petticoats; lace and embroidery trimmed; slightly mused; infants and 6 months to 2 years.

Children's \$3.50 Creepers and Rompers, \$1.98
In gingham, crepe and combination crepe and dimity, fancy and plain styles.

Children's \$3.50 Lawn Dresses, \$1.98
Of fine lawn with multi-colored figures and dots; some have white collars and cuffs and sashes. Others are trimmed in embroidered stitching.

\$2.98 and \$2.49 Envelope Chemise, \$1.49
In batiste, built-up and strap shoulders, lace and embroidery trimmed.

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Lace and embroidery flounces, Regular and extra sizes.

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Second floor.

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Iced tea pitchers with cover, 3 pint capacity, poinsettia cutting, regularly \$2.50; Friday special, each \$1.98

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Pongee Silk, Yard, 65c
Natural color, 33 inches wide; imported quality.

Foulard Dress Silks, Yard, \$1.49
In the best neat styles and colorings.

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White washable all-silk satin. Yard wide, in summer weight.

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The best street shades of half silk, yard wide.

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