

A Chat With Fred Grant.

HE DISCUSSES MODERN WARFARE, THE PHILIPPINES AND THE ARMY.

Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.

CHICAGO, ILL.—I met Gen. Fred Grant this morning in the army headquarters, in the Pullman building. He is in charge of the troops here, and wears, as the regulations require, the uniform of his rank. As we talked other uniformed officers entered from time to time for orders or to have the general pass upon the military business which had been entrusted to them and our conversation took place during the intervals of this work.

FRED GRANT AND HIS FATHER.

Gen. Fred Grant grows daily more like his father. He has the same stocky frame, the same plain, honest features and the same blunt manner. He is just as unassuming as his father was, and he has much the same quiet common sense. He talks but little, but, once started, his words are full of meat, and his experiences have been such that he views the world in the broad.

Gen. Fred Grant is like his father in his fondness for military life. His father was his hero, and it was at his own request that Gen. Grant took him as a boy of 12 to the battlefield, and later on sent him to West Point. Little Fred was with his father during a great part of the war. He took part in five great battles, was twice shot and had many narrow escapes. He was on the flagship of Admiral Porter when the boats ran the batteries at Vicksburg, and he was wounded during the Vicksburg campaign. His wound was in the leg. It was only a flesh wound, but his leg is still paralyzed where the bullet struck. He told me once how it felt when the ball cut him, saying that the first sensation was that of a great blow, following which was a pain like a bee sting. He thought at first that he was killed, and upon his showing his wound to one of the officers the officer told him to move his toes. This he did. Whereupon the officer said he was not badly hurt. Young Grant thereupon wrapped a cloth about his leg and remained in his saddle until the battle was over.

FRED GRANT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

After his graduation at West Point Gen. Grant was assigned to the Fourth cavalry and rose to be its lieutenant-colonel. After 10 years' service he resigned and afterward became minister to Austria. He re-entered the army at the beginning of the war with Cuba,

served in Porto Rico for a year and then went to the Philippines. I met him when he was leaving Porto Rico, and afterward visited him at Angeles, in Luzon. He there had a large military diet, and under his charge we traveled over it together, visiting his several posts. Over mountain and valley, with a band of scouts in front of us, he drew the fire from Philippine ambush, we rode, passing through many towns and villages, visiting camps in the wilds of the mountains and fording rivers. The ride was a hard one, for much of it was through the beds of streams so heavily wooded that we could scarcely see the sky for the branches overhead. At other times the grass was higher than our heads as we rode through it on our horses. I remember I had to hold my hands in front of my face to keep the grass blades from scratching it.

The trip almost wore me out, but General Fred Grant threw upon it the fresher at the end than at the beginning. That was in 1899, when he was about 50 years of age. He is now 55 and seems to be younger than ever. He succeeded well in the Philippines. He was engaged in several battles and in the guerrilla warfare, which followed the active fighting. He was the first to bring his district to accept civil government. After I left him he was sent to southern Luzon and later to Samar and Leyte, where he received the surrender of the last of the insurgent forces. About a year ago he returned to the United States and took charge of the department of Texas. Since then he has been sent to Chicago.

PHILIPPINES AS FRED GRANT SEES THEM.

I asked Gen. Grant to give me his opinion of the future of the Philippines based upon his stay there. He replied: "I think the islands a valuable possession, and that they will eventually be an important self-sustaining colony of the United States. They are of large extent and their soil is very rich. So far the political conditions have been such that there has been but little incentive to develop the island. Under the Spanish rule both church and state worked against rather than for the good of the common people. Wages were low and the opportunity of the poor so few that there was but little incentive to work and practically no hope of a poor man becoming rich by his labor. This is now changing. The projects under way to build railroads will result in cheap transportation and there will be a rearrangement of values all around."

"Will the people ever make good American citizens?"

"I think they will, although it will be a long time before they will be able to govern themselves. If their government was left to them as they now are revolutions would be of frequent occurrence, and I doubt if the people would not soon be as badly off as they were in the days of the Spaniards. They need education, and this we are giving them. We are projecting their interests in every possible way, and I think they begin to realize it."

THE RICHES OF LUZON.

"Do you think the islands are naturally rich?"

"Yes. Nearly all have excellent soil and there is much magnificent timber. Luzon has valleys which will raise sugar and rice, and these crops might be



GENERAL FRED GRANT IN 1904. Soldier Who is Said to Grow More Like His Father Every Day.

greatly increased by scientific cultivation. At present the farming is done in the rudest way, some of the sugar mills being operated by water power or by water buffaloes. There is also much undeveloped country, and the mountains are said to contain valuable minerals. The islands have never been carefully prospected. As to the best forests, they have never been touched. The woods are of many kinds, including some which will take a polish like mahogany.

"One of the great values of the islands," continued Gen. Grant, "is in their location. They lie right on the trade routes of Australia, China, Japan and India, and are thus a good base for pushing our trade in the far east. I see no reason why they should not grow more and more valuable as time goes on."

THE WAR AND ITS LESSONS.

I here turned the conversation to the Russo-Japanese war, but this Gen. Grant refused to discuss, saying that he was an officer of the United States government, which held an absolutely neutral position, and it would, therefore, be improper for him to criticize either army or to discuss the possibilities of its success or failure. Said he: "We are friendly to both the Japanese and Russians, and we have been so for many years. We deplore the war they are waging, but we do not feel that we have the right to interfere with either nation nor to criticize it."

"But, general, can you not point out some of the peculiar features of their warfare. This is the first war of the twentieth century, and it is being waged after twentieth century methods, and not many new inventions being brought into use and new ways of fighting developed?"

"If what we see in the papers is true I might say yes to that," said Gen. Grant. "But we have no reports as yet that can be absolutely relied upon, and none upon which one would dare to base an opinion. New and powerful explosives seem to have been discovered, the wireless telegraph has been operated for the first time and other new things are, it is said, in use. We shall see the facts as to such matters through the information bureaux of the army and navy, but that will not be before the war is over. It will then be time enough to express an opinion."

THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN 1904.

"What is the present condition of the United States army?"

"It is steadily improving. Our soldiers are better trained from year to year. They have better habits, there is less drunkenness and they have higher ideals."

"How about profanity, Gen. Grant? It is said that the United States soldier

is the wickedest swearer on earth."

"I don't believe that," said Gen. Grant. "I know we have many soldiers who use profane language, but they are individual cases. There are many who do not swear at all. Profanity is, as you know, prohibited by the army regulations."

GEN. GRANT NOT PROFANE.

At this point the conversation turned to profanity among the officers, and I asked Gen. Grant as to whether the stories that his father used profane language were true. He replied that they were not and that he had never heard his father use a profane word. Said he:

"My father once told me that he had never uttered an oath in his life. I know that he did not use even the ordinary expletives and that he was averse to slang. I once heard him say 'thunder and lightning' and once or twice 'thunder,' but as he drew toward the latter part of his life he did not use even such expressions. He was a man of natural refinement. He never told a vulgar story nor would he listen to one if he could help it."

THE AMERICAN SOLDIER OF TODAY.

"Then you think our soldiers are growing better?"

"Yes. The character of our army always improves when the army has something to do. Since the Spanish war we have had our hands full, and there has been plenty of active service.

Army life is now busier than ever. The people have a higher regard for the soldier than they have had during the latter years of peace, and the soldiers feel it. The profession of the common soldier is more desirable, and I think I may say we are making better soldiers from year to year."

YOUNG MEN AND THE ARMY.

"Would you advise a young man to go into the army?"

"That would depend much on the man, upon his character, his condition and his ambitions," said Gen. Grant. "If he is anxious to make a fortune the army is no place for him. If he has natural business ability he can perhaps do better outside, but if he has a desire for the service and is anxious to improve himself in it, I think it offers many advantages. The common soldier is better paid, better fed and better clad than the majority of his same rank outside the army. He gets his lodging, food and raiment free, and has \$13.50 a month, out of which he has to pay only his wash bills. If he is a good man he can make a great deal more outside that. So you see his condition is by no means a bad one."

"Has he any chance to become an officer?"

"Yes, indeed. The army is always advancing those of the privates who are worthy. There are regular examinations for promotion, and the young man who would rise can do so if he has it in him."

"How many soldiers have we now in the army?"

"About 50,000."

"Is that enough?" I asked.

"We could use more, and when the fortifications now building are completed we shall require more."

SCHOOL CADETS AND THE MILITIA.

"How about the military spirit among your young men; does it grow?"

"Yes. It has become associated with the schools, both public and private. We are drilling school cadets by the tens of thousands every year all over the country, and are training them in case we should need them in the wars of the future. The militia is very strong everywhere. Indeed, we have a vast amount of reserve material upon which we can call should it be needed. The American, trained or untrained, is, you know, always ready to enter the army if his country needs him. In this respect the United States has a strong fighting machine. If all our men from 18 to 44, which should be considered the militia age, were in the army, we should, in round numbers, have 16,000,000 fighting men. Of these about 14,000,000 would be white, and the balance colored."

MILITARY EDUCATION IN EUROPE.

"How about the military systems of Europe, where every boy is required to spend so much of his life in the army? Would they be good for this country?"

"I do not think our people would consent to that, and our geographical situation is such that we do not need it. There are, however, advantages in the military systems of Europe. The armies there are great schools in which all the young men are taught obedience, discipline and good citizenship. They are taught sanitation and the laws of health, and by the exercises and drill forced upon them the nation individually and collectively is greatly improved. These are some of the compensations for the loss to the nation of

the work of the young men for several years. I do not wish to say that the system ought to be adopted here."

RECRUITS FOR OUR ARMY.

"Does the army have much trouble in securing recruits, general?"

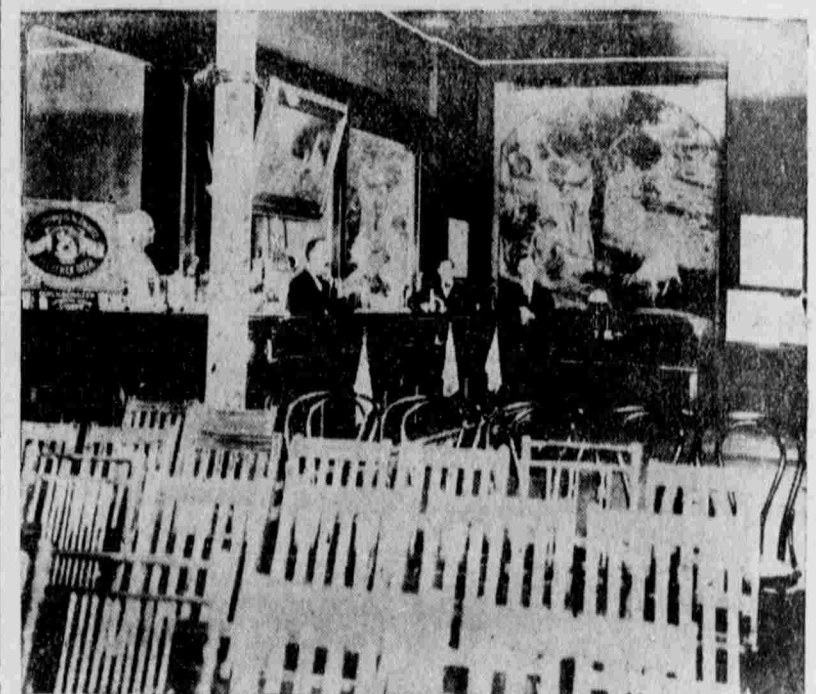
"No, there are always men who want to be soldiers. We treat our soldiers

better than almost any other nation, and we have little trouble in recruiting. When the times are hard the applications increase."

"How about the desire to be officers?"

"That seems to be born in a large proportion of our American boys. There are always 10 applicants for every vacancy at West Point."

THE SUBWAY TAVERN, SALOON DEDICATED BY BISHOP HENRY C. POTTER.



The dedication of this saloon at the corner of Bleeker and Mulberry street, by Bishop Potter, has created almost world-wide discussion. In connection with the saloon is a fine soda-water fountain, where liquor is also served. The soda fountain department of the tavern is open to women and young girls.

AT THE SUBWAY TAVERN.

(By James Barton Adams.)

Says Brother McFarland to Deacon O'Day: "I'm opposed to promiscuous drinking."

It pains me to see indiscreet fellowmen in the habit of intemperance sinking. But just an occasional nip on the sly when the stomach will take no denial.

Is different, you know, from the use of the stuff by habitual sons of Belial. And now, since the bishop's provided a place for the brethren to go for their today.

It cannot, I'm sure, taint the soul of a saint to brace up his perishing body. To lessen the weight of the crosses of life, the little annoyances smother in respectable ways with a swallow or two of the balm. Will you join me, dear brother?

Says Deacon O'Day: "It is just as you say strong drink is the fire of the devil."

The essence of grief, the vile tincture of woe, the root, I may say, of all evil. It leaves only misery strewn on its trail—when men seek its use to abuse it. But there is no poisonous sting in its tail for those who judiciously use it. And as you observed, when the bishop

approves and a sanctified place has provided.

I fail to see serious harm in a nip, if the nipper by prudence is guided. And since you've invited me into the place in a brotherly manner I'll show you.

I highly appreciate kindness like that. I'll go you, my brother, I'll go you!"

AN HOUR LATER.

"Atch right! Bet yer brithers good Deacon O'Day. It's a foundation of a manifold blessing."

We'll teach the low drinkers in Satan's vile dives a series of valuable lessons! We'll teach 'em to drink in respectable ways. Eh, Deaky, ol' boy? We will set 'em.

Exemplifies in temperate use of the stuff 'bout lettin' of Belyghub get 'em. Take who for the shake o' yer stomach, you know. Thatsch 'cording to shcripatural teachin'.

An' somethin' a little more three hich the spot when the ol' wine is short in its reachin'.

A somethin' that nips pepper sass in the blood an' puts jolly fire in the eye. Eh, Deaky, ol' son? Shat, barkee! flash up a couple more 'Piscopal highballs!"

"CUSS"

THIS RENTING."

This was the expression of one of our members who had paid rent for 17 years, long enough to have paid for two homes at about the same rate as he had been paying for rent. He realized that the amount was being thrown away, but did not know how to avoid it until our agent called on him. He is now living in his own home. Drop up a card. We will willingly call on you and explain same.



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