

Fort Douglas, the Most Beautiful Soldier-City of the West

FORT DOUGLAS, or, as it was known in the early days, Camp Douglas, was founded Oct. 22, 1862, by Major General Patrick E. Connor, U. S. A., at that time colonel, with a brigadier's command, immediately following his march through Salt Lake City from west of the Jordan with a force of Nevada and California volunteers, numbering 700 men, including the Third California infantry and the Second Nevada cavalry.

General Connor led his men to the east bench as a rendezvous, and on the present location of the post set them to building dugouts for shelter from the inclemencies of the weather. From this camp the troops were afterward occasionally called to war against the Indians along the Bear and Humboldt rivers, where the redskins were attacking emigration trains, and committing other depredations. One of these fights was the memorable one on the Bear River, when General Connor killed some 250 Indians, and put the rest to flight. General Connor's command lost 11 killed and 49 wounded, one of the latter dying later.

Lieutenant Darwin Chase also subsequently died from his wounds at Camp Douglas and was buried with military and Masonic honors at Farmington, where he had formerly been a "Mormon" Elder.

From Dugout Period.

In the spring of 1863, General Connor, through a misapprehension of the situation, planted cannon pointed toward this city from the military reservation, which occasioned considerable feeling among the residents of Salt Lake. Good will, however, was subsequently restored and the cannon removed. The size of the military post slowly increased, and each year witnessed a gradual development from the dugout period to one in which the garrison was more comfortably housed. But it was not until 1875, in the last year of Grant's administration, that any marked step was taken towards making of Fort Douglas a post in any way commensurate with the importance of the location. Up to that date, the commonest kind of frame structures had been the "princely accommodations" characterizing the physical equipment. But in 1875, the present headquarters of the commanding officer, and the circle of double barracks for officers, were built. These were of stone, rather gorgeous edifices for the time, though much out of date at present. Six stone barracks were also built at the same time—palatial affairs compared with the earlier accommodations, but naught more than shacks at present.

Only Part of the Money.

In fact, Fort Douglas remained practically unchanged from the rejuvenation period of 1875 until three years ago, when a scheme was seriously proposed to spend over a million dollars on the post and make it the headquarters for a 22-company regiment of infantry and a squadron of cavalry, or two batteries of light artillery, and perhaps all three.

The needs of the post had been called time and again to the attention of the military committees of both houses of Congress by the reports of the war department. But appropriations went to more favored localities, and Fort Douglas was left out in the cold. However, with Utah's entrance to the family of states, and with two representatives in the senate and a voting member in the house, the outlook became brighter. The Spanish war delayed for a few years proposed improvements, but in 1902, and following strong recommendations from army officers, the scheme referred to was launched in Congress. That the original plan has not been carried out, may be said to be due to the uncertainties always attendant upon political life resulting in a concentrating of the interests of those upon whom the success of the plan depended, in other directions, so that but a part of the entire appropriations intended for this post were made. However, they were enough to largely remodel and rejuvenate the post, so that it is by no means the eye sore it was, and the accommodations are vastly superior to any ever enjoyed previously.

What Was Done.

A construction quartermaster, Captain S. V. Hamm, was sent here two years and a half ago, to open an office in the Dooly building, and the era of reconstruction began. Three splen-



Photos by Johnson.

SOME OF THE YEAR'S BUILDINGS AT FORT DOUGLAS.

BUGLE BLAST FACTS FOR BUSY POST READERS.

Fort Douglas Founded by General Connor October 22, 1863. Situated on a Beautiful Plateau Three Miles East of Salt Lake City. First Enlargement Was Under President Grant's Administration in 1875. A Partial Reconstruction Was Commenced Three Years Ago But Not Finished. For Some Reason the Scheme to Spend \$1,000,000 in Improvements Failed. Several New Buildings Were Completed This Year as Shown on This Page. The Number of Buildings Erected Aggregate 56 and the Value is \$2,500,000. The Annual Repairs Reach Only to the Small Sum of \$10,000 or \$12,000. The Fort is at Present Occupied by Five Companies of the 29th Infantry. Colonel Benjamin C. Lockwood is in Command of the Post at the Present Time. The Fort is Recognized as one of the Most Healthful in the United States.

their influence, and well directed effort with the military committees of both houses of Congress ought to have good effect. Fort Douglas is one of the most delightfully located army posts in the country, and troops ordered here are always pleased with their assignment. The first battalion of the Twenty-ninth infantry, Companies A, B, C and D, are stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas. Companies K and M are at Duchesne, and I company is at Whipple barracks.

No Definite Record.

It is interesting to note that local historians have failed to give any connected narrative of the physical improvements made from time to time at Fort Douglas, having apparently felt it rather their province to recount the socio-political phases in the history of the Post; so that no record has been kept of important events in the history of construction there, and even on the Post records, appear the words opposite important buildings erected in the seventies, "cost unknown," or "time of building unknown." The name Camp Douglas was changed some years ago to Fort Douglas because of the establishment of a Camp Douglas in Wisconsin.

Post and Property.

The number of buildings on the Fort Douglas reservation aggregate 56, and the total valuation of the same amounts to \$2,500,000 in round numbers. The capacity of the Post is as follows: Commanding officer's quarters of brown stone built in 1875-76,

cost unknown; 10 double sets of officers' quarters, also built in 1875-76, cost unknown, and fronting on the plaza; double set, field officers' quarters, built in 1884, and costing \$4,189.77 each; bachelor officers' quarters, built in 1894, and costing \$35,044.50; officers' club house, built in 1891, and costing \$12,975, now used for school as well as club purposes. Six stone barracks for enlisted men, built in 1875 of stone; three company barracks, frame, built in 1893, and costing each \$4,481.40. These barracks have a capacity of 40 men; one frame barracks, built in 1883, occupied by the Twenty-ninth infantry band, and costing \$5,360.28.

There are also quarters for the non-commissioned staff, built in 1891, frame, three buildings, costing each \$2,000; three fine new brick and stone double barracks, built in 1904-05, costing \$63,062, and the other two each, \$65,841.00, capacity, each, two companies of 65 men; hospital, 30 beds, stone, built in 1875, cost unknown, with brick addition built in 1884, and costing \$6,552.15; chapel built in 1883, and costing \$1,500; Post exchange, built of brick and stone, in 1904, at a cost of \$19,266; brick and stone guard house, built this year, and costing \$23,476.

Also two buildings, quartermaster's warehouse, each 50x100 feet, date of building and cost unknown; subsistence warehouse, 50x100 feet, date of building and cost unknown; quartermaster's stables, capacity 60 animals, rebuilt in 1903, at a cost of \$700; artillery stables, built in 1896, stone, capacity, 86 animals, cost \$4,763.33; ar-

tillery stables, frame, built in 1902, capacity 126 animals, and costing \$1,618.16; wagon shed, frame, for the quartermaster, capacity 36 wagons, built in 1894, and costing \$7,700; headquarters, non-commissioned staff, built in 1875, cost unknown; hospital storehouse, built 1902, brick, cost \$1,200; recreation hall, 1893, frame, cost unknown; bakery, 1883, stone, cost, \$317.60; corral sergeant's house, 1885; magazine, cost \$79.37; coal shed, capacity 1,100,000 pounds, 1883, cost \$311.92; ordnance store house, 1885, cost \$1,650; bath house for enlisted men, 12 tubs, four shower baths, 1897, cost \$1,214.60; two sets quarters, frame, non-commissioned officers, quarters for married enlisted men, civilian employes headquarters, stable for guard house, 1904, cost \$256.50; teamsters' quarters, oil sheds, paint shops, carpenter and wheelwright shop, blacksmith shop, postoffice, hospital stable, 500 tons ice house and a few minor buildings.

Annual Repairs.

The annual repairs will average from \$10,000 to \$12,000. The physical equipment of the Post has been augmented by new and macadamized roads all through the post, and across the reservation west to the head of Brigham street, with a spur running north to the head of the Penrose drive. These with the new sidewalks, have greatly added to the convenience of the occu-

pants of the Post. The quartermaster has contracted for the enclosing of the entire reservation with a barbed wire fence of four strands, and this is to be erected in the spring. The Post is supplied with an abundance of water from a reservoir a little ways up Red Butte canyon, and which is protected by an iron fence. Until a few years ago, the cess pool system obtained; but the seepage from these receptacles proved such a grievous nuisance to residents immediately west of the reservation, that the city was glad to arrange with the military authorities for connection with the head of the Brigham street sewer, and the sewage from the reservation now runs through the city pipe.

Now Quartered There.

Fort Douglas is at present occupied by headquarters and band and five companies of the Twenty-ninth infantry, Companies E, F, G, H and I, with these officers: Col. Benjamin C. Lockwood, Maj. Edwin P. Pendleton, Capt. John F. Madden, John E. Woodward, Howard R. Perry (commissary), Geo. H. Jamerson, (quartermaster), Frank D. Ely, Briant H. Wells (adjutant), Paul T. Brockman (chaplain), John N. Strout, Lieut. Will H. Point (assistant adjutant), Alpha T. Easton, Frank H. Burton, Paul C. Galleher, Richard P. Rifenberck, E. O. Saunders, Albert G. Goodwyn, Royden E. Beebe, Hanser, Bernard P. Oswald, all of the Twenty-ninth infantry. The artillery includes light batteries 12 and 13, commanded respectively by Capt. Samuel D. Sturgis and John C. W. Brooks, with Lieut. Edmund L. Gruber, Lund and Charles T. Smart. The hospital corps is commanded by Maj. A. M. Smith and Lieut. William L. Keller. The entire garrison numbers 550 officers and men, the artillery claiming 123 officers

and men for each battery command. The veterinary is Dr. LeMay. The regimental band of the Twenty-ninth infantry is stationed at Fort Douglas, under the direction of Bandmaster C. F. Harris, formerly bandmaster of the Fifteenth cavalry in the Philippines. This organization is one of the best in the army, and numbers now 34 musicians, the excess over the regulation number 28, being by special detail from the various companies. Concerts are given in the band stand on the Plaza during the pleasant months of the year, which draw many people up there from town.

Compiled for Christmas News.

Following is a schedule of the military commands and commanding officers stationed at Fort Douglas since Jan. 22, 1862, when the date of the official records of the Post begins. These data were never collected before, and were "dug up" after several days' labor by Sergt-Maj. Adolph Wells of the Twenty-ninth infantry and his assistants under the direction of Capt. and Adj. R. H. Wells of the Twenty-ninth from records that had to be gathered, assorted and classified. From an historical standpoint, the facts are very valuable for reference.

Following are the military organizations that have been stationed at Fort Douglas, from January 22, 1862, to the present day:

Third California volunteer infantry, Colonel Patrick E. Connor, colonel commanding; Second Nevada volunteer cavalry, Robert Pollock, colonel commanding—Jan. 22, 1862 to Feb. 13, 1865.

Fourteenth U. S. infantry, G. Chapin, major commanding, Charles S. Lovell, colonel commanding, J. D. O'Connell, captain commanding, J. Hunt, colonel commanding—Feb. 13, 1865 to 1870.

Thirteenth U. S. infantry and D troop, Second U. S. cavalry, R. De Trobriand, colonel commanding, and Morrow, lieutenant colonel commanding—1870 to 1874.

Eighth U. S. infantry, J. D. Wilkins, lieutenant colonel commanding, 1874. Fourteenth U. S. infantry, companies E and I, George A. Woodward, lieutenant colonel commanding; Fourteenth infantry companies E, I, D and G, David Frause, captain commanding—1874 to 1875.

Fourteenth U. S. infantry (whole regiment), M. Briant, major commanding, J. C. Smith, colonel commanding, Geo. A. Woodward, lieutenant colonel commanding, N. Douglas and L. C. Hunt, colonels commanding—1875 to Aug. 23, 1881.

Sixth U. S. infantry, A. D. McCook, colonel commanding, Osborn, lieutenant colonel commanding—Aug. 23 to June 2, 1882.

Sixteenth U. S. infantry and Light Battery D, Fifth Artillery (Captain Rawles), M. M. Blunt, colonel commanding; Parks, major commanding; W. H. Penrose, lieutenant colonel commanding; E. M. Coates, lieutenant colonel commanding; W. H. Penrose, colonel commanding; H. A. Theaker, colonel commanding; June 2, 1882 to Oct. 22, 1885.

Twenty-fourth U. S. infantry, (colored), J. T. Kent, colonel commanding; W. R. Dashiell, first lieutenant commanding; Thompson, major commanding; H. B. Freeman, colonel commanding; Oct. 22, 1885 to June 24, 1890.

C troop, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, Geo. P. White, first lieutenant commanding, W. C. Forbush, major commanding; June 24, 1890, to Aug. 9, 1900.

Twenty-third U. S. infantry, R. J. Eskridge, lieutenant colonel commanding; T. F. Schley first lieutenant commanding; Aug. 9, 1900, to Oct. 1, 1901.

Twelfth battery, Field Artillery, J. M. Caffie, major commanding, Oct. 1, 1901, to Oct. 6, 1901.

Twenty-second battery, field Artillery and one battalion Eighteenth U. S. infantry, George D. Young, major commanding; Oct. 6, 1901, to May 10, 1902.

Twelfth U. S. infantry, John W. Bubb, colonel commanding; May 10, 1902, to Feb. 24, 1904.

Twelfth and Twenty-second batteries Field Artillery, J. M. Caffie, major commanding, Feb. 24, to May 24, 1905.

Twenty-ninth infantry (five companies) Benj. C. Lockwood, colonel commanding, May 25, 1904, with Nineteenth battery substituted for the Twenty-second Nov. 18, 1905.



COLONEL BENJAMIN C. LOCKWOOD.
Twenty-Ninth United States Infantry, Commanding Fort Douglas.

How Uncle Sam Wishes All the World A Happy New Year.

At midnight Dec. 31, from the white, towering time factory on deer-grown heights, Admiral Chester, superintendent of the national observatory, will have sounded completely around the earth by the cables which now upon our great spinning top and to the continental and insular nations to the north and south by vast networks of wire ramifying in all directions from this great globe a signal announcing the birth of the year 1906 at the capital of our republic.

At one push of the official button the electric greeting will permeate our continent and leap across the Pacific from San Francisco to Honolulu, to Midway, to Guam, to Manila and to Hongkong. Flashing up and down the entire eastern coast of Asia, from Alexandria to the Malay peninsula, it will cross

Sumatra and the home of the wild man of Borneo; will speed over the coffee plantations of Java to Australia and New Zealand.

Hurrying over the snowdrifts of Siberia and Russia, it will be felt in Moscow and St. Petersburg and there be taken up by the thick mesh of wires covering northern and central Europe, going to London and at the same time spanning the coast of the black continent of Africa. From Alexandria it will be shot 750 miles up the Nile into the very heart of Africa. Leaping out into the sea, it will register itself in the Isles of Madagascar and Mauritius. From Lisbon to the Madeiras and over the Cape Verde Islands it will jump to Pernambuco, Brazil; thence down into the wilds of central Argentina and up into Bolivia, across the Windward Isles,

the Lesser Antilles and the West Indies and thence again to the capital of the nation.

It is almost inconceivable that such a circuit of the earth can be made in scarcely more time than you would expend in wishing a neighbor "a happy new year!"—Washington Star.

Not many years ago it was the custom in all countries to visit one's friends on New Year's day, and in this country open house was kept all day until a matter of some 10 or 15 years ago. It is questionable whether it will ever become fashionable to set New Year's day aside for calling again. The ancient Romans made much of their New Year's calls, and after the empire of Rome had passed away the custom lived in England, France and Germany.



CAPTAIN AND ADJUTANT BRIANT H. WELLS.
Twenty-Ninth United States Infantry, Stationed at Fort Douglas.