

twelve carloads of troops left Fort Bayard and Wingate, N. M., for Fort Meade, N. D. Eight hundred soldiers were transferred.

DENVER, Dec. 1.—The United States troops at Fort Logan, near Denver, have been ordered to prepare at once to go to Dakota. They will probably join the regiment on the way from Fort Wingate.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—A dispatch to the *Daily News* from Pine Ridge agency confirms the report that many Indians from Rosebud are joining the hostiles on their way to the Bad Lands. The correspondent says many more "friendlies" have stolen away from Pine Ridge agency. The hostile force in the Bad Lands is now estimated at four thousand. It was reported tonight that the hostiles sent word to the friendlies, that any spies caught would be killed. Halfbreed settlers are coming in from all around, reporting loss of cattle.

Night Hawk, one of the hostile chiefs, sent a letter to Agent Roger, which the agent will not make public. It is reported that it contains this threat: "Send your soldiers to take us; we are ready to fight." The weather is cooler tonight and snow is falling.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—General Miles, in an interview today on the Indian troubles, said he believed the danger imminent. The seriousness of the situation, he said, has not been exaggerated. The disaffection is more liable to spread than for years. There is a conspiracy of Indians of different tribes that have heretofore been hostile, but are now in full sympathy with each other, each scattered over a large area of country. The causes of the difficulty are easy of location. Insufficient food supplies, religious delusion and the innate disposition of the savage to go to war must be held responsible.

General Miles referred to the great necessity which exists for more cavalry. "Although," he said, "we have about two thousand mounted men, we have plenty of infantry, but you cannot catch a mounted Indian with white foot-soldiers."

"Is it not a novel proceeding for the Indians to go on the warpath at the beginning of winter?" queried the reporter.

"Yes, in some respects it is," replied the general.

"Their argument is good, though. They are better armed than ever, and their supply of horses is all that could be desired. Every buck has a Winchester rifle and knows how to use it. These hostiles have been starved into energy, and they will prefer to die fighting rather than starve peacefully. I hope the problem may be solved without bloodshed, but such a happy ending to the trouble seems improbable."

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—At army headquarters this morning orders were given all employees to remain at their desks unless special leave is granted. There are important telegrams from the Indian country, but General Williams refused to divulge the contents until General Miles' arrival from Washington.

The situation is regarded as critical. General Brooke telegraphs: "A number of Rosebud Indians, with some from Pine Ridge agency and some from Lower Brule and Standing Rock agencies, to the number of 3000, have gathered on White River, above the mouth, and are very defiant."

PIERRE, Dec. 2.—Letters were received today from the commandants at Fort Sully and Fort Bennett, stating that the Indian frontier, so far as that country is concerned, is perfectly safe. An officer returned from a personal visit to Hump's and Big Foot's camps on Cherry Creek, and states the cold weather and snow have driven the Indians in from the ghost dances. They advise that all settlers procure rifles and plenty of ammunition this winter, because the danger, of an outbreak in the spring is great.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Cutcheson, of Michigan, called up the Senate joint resolution, authorizing the Secretary of War to issue a thousand stands of arms to each of the States North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska. On motion of Carter (Montana), Montana was included in the provisions of the joint resolution, which was then passed.

PINE RIDGE AGENCY, Dec. 6.—As perilous a mission as anybody has undertaken for many a day in the interest of averting great bloodshed, was completed yesterday, when the good Father Jute, a Catholic priest, whom General Brooke had requested to go out and talk with the rampantly hostile Indians, returned to the agency. He was the only white man who might think of making a trip and living to get back. The reverend father was accompanied by Jack Red Cloud, who went by reason of being the widely respected son of the famous chief. Ten miles from the hostile camp, they were halted by the pickets and conducted to camp under cover of Winchesters. A conference followed, at which there were present Two Strike, Turnling Bear, Short Bull, High Hawk, Crow Dog, Kicking Bear, Eagle Pipe, Big Turkey and High Pipe. Father Jute opened the council by asking the chiefs to state their grievance. The replies were substantially as follows: We object to the recent census returns made by Lee. His enumerator would not give food sufficient for us to live on. Lee puts us down many less for each tepee than the tepee contains. If we shall starve, we will have one big eat before starving time comes; after that we shall

FIGHT OUR LAST FIGHT.

and white man shall see more blood, more dead than ever before. Then we will go to the last hunting ground, happy. If the white man did not mean to cheat us out of food, the great Father never would have sent soldiers. There is no need of soldiers if the great Father intended to be fair with us. The great Father has done another wrong. He has put a new boundary line, between Rosebud and Pine Ridge agency, that makes many of us leave our

homes and give them to others. The great Father broke the old treaty when he did this. We can no longer believe the great Father. He says to us: "Children, you shall never be moved again unless you want to move," and then he goes right ahead and moves us. We have done with promises, and now we make a promise that

WE WILL FIGHT

and the great Father will find that we must not break our promise. We will now be very plain with you, Christian Father, and tell you another thing, something of which you may have already thought. It is this, that we are not coming in now and will not lay down our rifles, because we are afraid of the consequences. We have done wrong; we know it; if we should stop now, we would be punished. The great father will send many of us to his big iron house to stay many moons, we would die.

Father Jute urged them to be peaceful, and explained that the soldiers would not harm the Indians but protect the agency; that rations should be increased and if they came to General Brooke, he would telegraph to Washington and get permission for them to stay on this agency as they desired. So far as depredations are concerned, the father told them they had better stop committing them and they would be more easily forgiven. Finally he urged the chiefs, all to come back with him. To this some of the older ones made a favorable reply, but the young ones who were heavily in the majority said, "no," but the old men, finally agreed that

THEY WOULD COME IN

to Father Jute's house, four miles northward of the agency, this morning, and there meet General Brooke and tell him in person just what they told Father Jute.

This brought on a renewal of the bitter opposition from the majority. Finally, the young chiefs cooled off and Two Strike, addressing Father Jute, said: "Hold your hands up to the Great Spirit and tell us as though you were about to start on a journey to the last hunting grounds of the redmen, whether what you say to us from General Brooke be true, and that we will not be harmed, if we come in, simply to talk to General Brooke."

Father Jute says, he complied with the request. All the chiefs then extended hands toward heaven and with great solemnity promised they would come.

OMAHA, Dec. 6.—The *Bee's* Pine Ridge special about the conference between General Brooke and the hostile chiefs says the latter were Turnling Bear, Big Turkey, High Pine, Big Bad Horse and Bull Dog. They were decorated with war paint and feathers, as were also their ponies. General Brooke explained to them that the great father wanted to tell them if they would come in near the agency where he and General Brooke could see them often and not be compelled to depend upon irresponsible rumors to learn what they were