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OTTAWA.

Dominion Voters Lists Will Not Be Ready Until December.

Sir Charles Tupper Will Leave for the Maritime Provinces Today—Meeting of the Paris Exposition Commissioners.

OTTAWA, Sept. 21.—The following decisions of the board of customs have been approved by the minister of customs:

- Tariff item 270—Woven wire fencing or other wire fencing specified in tariff item 263 shall not include woven wire or netting made from wire smaller than No. 14 gauge—rate 30 per cent.
Tariff item 406—Fur skins, wholly or partially dressed, not provided for in the free list, and sewn only into plates, without being fashioned, lined or otherwise advanced in manufacture—rate 15 per cent.

requirements. Jamaicans ask that four be sent in barrels of oak staves, but they cannot get their wishes carried out. The correspondent also states that freight rates from Halifax are so high that they are practically prohibitory. As things are, Canadian goods, he says, can be exported into Jamaica cheaper through American houses than direct. The general complaint is that Canadian goods do not meet any suggestions. The report says Canadian whiskeys are well put up, but that the freight from Canada is double that on whiskeys arriving from the British Isles.

The staff of the government printing bureau is busily engaged on federal voters lists.

Sir Charles Tupper arrived here from England tonight. He leaves for the maritime provinces in a day or two.

Countersfeit one dollar bills are in circulation here. They are ostensibly issued by the state bank of New Brunswick.

OTTAWA, Sept. 20.—Capt. Finlayson of the government steamer Stanley, has been promoted to the command of the Druid.

Reports to the fisheries department show the sealing season to have been comparatively poor. Only twenty-five vessels were out, as compared with 62 in 1897.

A new fog siren at Belleisle, worked by compressed air, replacing the old explosive signal, went in operation on the 9th inst.

The National Cash Register Co. of Dayton, Ohio, are seeking tariff concession to enable them to start a branch factory in the dominion.

Lady Minto will leave for England during the first week of October.

Two Ottawa aldermen came to blows last night in a city hotel.

Out of thirty-six candidates from all parts of the empire who wrote at the last examination of the Institute of Actuaries, the three highest were Canadian, from Toronto University.

A press despatch from Halifax states that Sir Charles Tupper will run in his old constituency of Cumberland at the next general election. Mr. Dickey having declined to contest the constituency. Your correspondent has it on the best authority that the statement is absolutely without foundation. Sir Charles Tupper will run for his present constituency of Cape Breton, and it is generally expected that Mr. Dickey will be the conservative standard-bearer in Cumberland.

OTTAWA, Sept. 21.—The papal representative for Canada called from Liverpool today. He will arrive at Ottawa about the middle of October. It is generally thought he will make his residence here.

Hon. Mr. Tarte arrived at Quebec today. His health is not very good.

Authorities at the printing bureau announce that the Dominion voters lists will not be completed until December.

Sir Charles Tupper leaves for the maritime provinces tomorrow.

The Paris exposition commissioners were in session today. The first lot of exhibits will be sent from Montreal about November 9th, from Quebec two days later, and from Halifax on November 15th. It is not yet settled whether or not goods can be taken on the government steamer Stanley. The idea is to transfer them at Rouen, from whence they can be conveyed direct to the exposition grounds.

PEACE OR WAR?

The Situation Serious With the War Cloud Darkening.

Preparations for War Being Vigorously Pushed Forward by the Imperial Government.

The Cape Papers Declare That Sir William Vernon Harcourt's Speech Amounts to Treason.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—Summons were issued late this afternoon for a cabinet council, which, it is understood, will be held Friday. This is regarded as the result of the visit of the premier, Lord Salisbury, to London, to which he came this afternoon, remaining at the foreign office from 4.30 to 6.30 p. m. Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, was present in the building at the same time, and as a private doorway connects the offices, it is presumed that the summonses were the result of their joint deliberations.

The lack of all excitement in official circles bears evidence of the deliberation in which the highest officials are handling the crisis. Not is it by any means certain that the cabinet council will adopt extreme measures, in spite of the uncompromising nature of the Boer reply. This deliberation on the part of the government is interpreted not only in London, but in other European capitals, as a desire on the part of Great Britain to gain time while the transports are hurrying to Cape Colony.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—The steamer Jelunga will be expected to arrive at Natal tomorrow and will embark a rifle brigade at the Island of Crete for the Cape.

According to a despatch from Durban, Natal, the premier of the colony says that the alarm of the people of Natal at the unexpected conditions of the border towns is quite unwarranted, and that all efforts to incite the Boers to a premature attack are being vigorously suppressed.

The Royal West Sussex regiment left today for Malta, where it will replace the first border regiment, which goes by the steamer to Natal.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—It is announced that the British fleet, including the class cruisers Terrible and Powerful have both been ordered to the Cape. They have orders on board to be ready to form a naval brigade of a thousand men.

PRETORIA, Sept. 19.—The reply by the government to the latest British note is variously commented upon, but the Pretoria Press printed the following, which is believed to be a fair and correct translation of the original. The reply will yet be held, and that there is still a possibility of an understanding being reached.

The Volksraad, as a matter of urgency, has passed the new law providing for the confiscation of the property of persons found guilty of treason and lese majeste to a special committee for consideration and report.

At the request of President Kruger, the chamber then went into secret session.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—Despite all outward show of calm, Great Britain is in a state of high tension. The news that the United States a few weeks before the opening of the war with Spain, beneath the crust of diplomatic reserve the military officials are working night and day, preparing for the signal to begin hostilities, whether these come or not.

England is not going to be caught napping any more than the Transvaal. While Lord Salisbury is quiet at home in Hatfield House, Mr. Chamberlain is buried in work at the colonial office, and double forces at the royal arsenal and dockyards are straining every nerve to equip and transport troops to the Cape.

It may be set down for certain that Great Britain will do nothing to precipitate matters, and the colonial office is far from admitting that the case is hopeless. The report that Great Britain has demanded the dismantlement of the forts at Johannesburg, together with a material reduction in the armament of the Burgers, the colonial office today would neither confirm nor deny, although it is much doubted.

Meanwhile the Marquis of Lansdowne, secretary of state for war, who returned this morning from Dublin, has held long conferences with Gen. Lord Garnet Wolseley, field marshal, and General Sir Evelyn Wood, adjutant general of the forces, and the activity at headquarters is reflected in the contract, supply and transport departments.

The departure of the British transport Jelunga, for the Mediterranean today with 1,100 troops, was witnessed by a large and enthusiastic crowd. At Woolwich activity increases daily, especially in the ordnance department, where Maxim guns, shells, balloon equipments, gas reservoirs, wagons for illuminant apparatus, water carts, ambulances, army wagons and other paraphernalia of war are being hurried forward.

While rumors of the re-assembling of parliament are current, the fact is recalled that in the Afghan war in 1878, Great Britain declared war first, and then assembled parliament.

This evening the Marquis of Lansdowne issued a strict order to the staff of the war office warning all subordinates to refrain from giving the press information without the authority of their superiors, and calling attention to previous breaches of duty in this respect, which the order says "will be no longer tolerated."

Advices from Cape Town this evening are to the effect that the Afrikaners declare that the Transvaal will further and that if the imperial government does not recede from its present position war is inevitable.

The South African News supports the contention of the Transvaal. The convention of 1854 abolished the suzerainty.

According to other advices the burghers are rapidly going into laager with the absolute intent of holding out until the arrival of the British. The stock exchange at Johannesburg has resolved to close the moment martial law is proclaimed, but all current contracts will be carried out until the proclamation suspending all business. In the meantime the merchants are erecting barricades in front of their shop windows.

At Pretoria the interest seems to be centered in the meeting of the Orange Free State Volksraad tomorrow (Thursday), which, it is hoped, may somehow suggest a modus vivendi that would save the situation.

The special despatch from Johannesburg says that 450 persons left by one train today.

tempt to invade the Transvaal by way of the Van Riebens Pass.

Urgent messages are reaching the Boer from members who are demanding authority for the Boers to mass at strategic points.

PORTERAY, Sept. 21.—Major General Hunter and his staff, with the Devonshire regiment and a squadron of the 19th Hussars, have sailed for the Cape.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—The speech of Sir William Vernon Harcourt, the former liberal leader, in connection with the New Tredegar last night, and the message of the Cape Town Afrikaner members of parliament to President Kruger have proved "red rag" to the Boer press.

The Cape papers declare the action of the members of parliament amounts to treason, and the same terms are applied to Sir William Vernon Harcourt's remarks by the English anti-Boer papers.

Those who claim the situation has not yet passed the palladium of pacific negotiations see in President Kruger's answer to the Afrikaner leaders a genuine desire to avoid hostilities. The report that he has personally petitioned Queen Victoria to avert hostilities certainly does not bear out the alarmist reports of the English correspondence.

South Africa that President Kruger determined long since upon war. Nevertheless, preparations for that eventuality continue energetically on both sides.

The Boers are harrying and the British troops are reaching Kimberley. LONDON, Sept. 21.—Reuter's Telegram Company announced this evening that no message had been received from Queen Victoria from President Kruger.

JOHANNESBURG, Orange Free State, Sept. 21.—The Volksraad met today with a full attendance. President Steyn read a carefully prepared speech. After welcoming the Burgers, he expressed regret that the relations between Great Britain and the Transvaal had become strained.

Members he said were aware of the meeting of Sir Alfred Milner and President Kruger at Bloemfontein, when President Kruger made proposals which, although refused by the British high commissioner, were unanimously concurred in throughout the Orange Free State to be exceedingly fair.

Proceeding to review the negotiations, President Steyn said the Transvaal had been deceived by the British diplomatic agents at Pretoria. Conyngham Green, and he practically accused the imperial government of a breach of faith. He said he was disinclined to advise the Transvaal government to accept the latest British demands. The present critical state of affairs could not be a matter of indifference to the Orange Free State, which was bound by treaty to afford assistance to the Transvaal, and he had therefore considered the Volksraad to decide what attitude should be taken.

"There is nothing," declared the president, "that warrants war or an attack upon the Transvaal. Such a decision as could be resolved by arbitration. War would be an insult to religion and civilization."

In conclusion, President Steyn said he would take this opportunity of laying "again a dress" upon the Volksraad for constant prayer, praying God to give the members strength to pass resolutions not only conducive to peace and prosperity, but also in the interest of their beloved state.

Immediately after the speech, President Steyn asked the Volksraad to go into secret session, which was agreed to unanimously.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—While the president of the secret session of the Volksraad of the Orange Free State is not yet known here, President Steyn's speech at the opening of the session is regarded as an almost infallible indication of the attitude which the Free State will take. Commenting on this point of view, the London morning papers are all impressed with the added gravity of the situation, and rumors are beginning to be heard regarding the dilapidation of the government in getting troops forward.

MONCTON.

Two Boys Committed for Till Tapping.—The Y. M. C. A.

MONCTON, Sept. 21.—Stanley McDougall and Johnnie McKinnon, two lads of about twelve years, have been committed for trial on the charge of robbing the till of John O'Neill's grocery store. The money was kept in a locked cash drawer under the counter, in the back of which these boys, however, an aperture large enough to admit a small boy's hand. The McDougall boy, who appears to have been the leader, gave the snap away to the other boy, and they were in the habit of going into the store early in the morning, when few people were about, and asking for five cents worth of potatoes, tapping the till while the clerk was in the back store getting the potatoes. Mr. O'Neill missed money from his cash frequently, and marked bills and set all sorts of traps for the thief, but everything failed until the clerk caught one of the boys in the act. As much as \$15 was missed one day, and Mr. O'Neill can figure up his loss altogether to \$75. McDougall is supposed to have got most of the money.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Y. M. C. A. was held last night. The receipts of the year have been \$1,218.00, and the payments about \$200.00, so that the year has not been a favorable one financially. The trustees report the receipts of the year from rents, \$1,723.17, and they still have a floating debt of \$2,624.00 in addition to their bonded debt.

It is a curious fact that the queen should have an equal number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren—thirty-two of each—which, together with her seven children, makes the total number of her descendants sixty-one.

Advertisements in the Semi-Weekly Sun

THE NATION'S HERO.

Official Programme for the Reception of Admiral Dewey.

General Wesley Merritt Has Been Chosen by the President to Welcome Dewey on Behalf of the Army.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—The plan and scope committee of the Dewey reception committee have announced the following official programme for the reception of the admiral: Thursday, Sept. 23, 1 p. m.—North Atlantic squadron will sail up from the lower bay and anchor off Tompkinsville.

3 p. m.—Admiral Dewey on the Olympia will follow the squadron up the bay, and, passing the fleet, will take his place in the van.

4 p. m.—Rear Admiral Sampson, with his staff, will visit the Olympia and greet the admiral.

5 p. m.—Mayor Van Wyck and members of the municipal committee will call on Admiral Dewey and welcome him home.

8 p. m.—The entire Staten Island and Verney coast, as far as Seabright, and Long Island, as far as Rockaway, will be illuminated.

Friday, Sept. 23, 12 m.—Naval parade starts up North river, from government anchorage at Tompkinsville. The Olympia will be in the lead, followed by the squadron, presenting the same line of formation as taken at the anchorage. The steamer Sandy Hook, bearing the mayor and official guests of the citizens committee, will steam abreast of the Olympia. The steamers Glen Island, the Gen. Stocum, the Mt. Hope, the San Sloan and the Matteawan, carrying the committee and city officials, will follow the Sandy Hook, and be the only vessels outside the lines. The merchant marine and the yacht flotilla will follow the warships. J. Pierpont Morgan's yacht the Corsair, and Sir Thomas Lipton's yacht, the Erin, will lead the yacht squadron.

4 p. m.—Salutes will be fired from Grant's tomb and responded to by the Olympia, which will remain at anchor in midstream of the tomb. The remainder of the procession will pass the Olympia in review, and then counter-sail. Headed by the New York, the line will remain unbroken until it passes the Battery.

8 p. m.—The fireworks display on land will be from these points: Mt. Morris Park, Fifty-ninth street, and Fifth avenue, Union square, City Hall, intersection of Broadway, Broadway and Cincinco, Soldiers and Sailors' monument, Brooklyn City Hall, county court house, Long Island City, Barron Hill, Staten Island.

On the water, four lighters will start at the same hour, from Grant's tomb, down the North river, and from Ward's Island down the East river. Fireworks will be displayed all the way down to the Battery, where a cavalry escort will be waiting, and the pyrotechnical display continued. From Brooklyn bridge and the yacht Erin there will be electrical displays of unique and original design.

Saturday, Sept. 23, 8.30 a. m.—Admiral Dewey, accompanied by an escort of cavalry, will be driven to City Hall Park.

9 a. m.—Mayor Van Wyck will present to Admiral Dewey a loving cup on behalf of the city of New York.

10.30 a. m.—Admiral Dewey, accompanied by the mayor and committee and invited guests to the number of 350, will be driven to Claremont, where breakfast will be served on the lawn at 11.30 a. m.

1 p. m.—Land parade will start, with Admiral Dewey, Mayor Van Wyck, the committee and visiting guests in detachments, with a cavalry escort, in the lead. The order of the line of march will be: (1) United States navy; (2) United States army; (3) New York state national guard; (4) national guard of other states; (5) other uniformed bodies. The line of march will be: Down Riverside to Seventy-second street, to Broadway, to Fifty-ninth street, to Fifth avenue, to Twenty-third street, to Fourteenth street, to Washington square.

Admiral Dewey, with the mayor and committee and visitors, will leave the procession in Twenty-third street and review the line of march.

8.30 p. m.—Spoken at the Waldorf-Astoria for the sailors of the Olympia.

NEW YORK, Sept. 21.—The following letter from Adjt. Gen. Corbin has been received by Gen. Wesley Merritt, commanding the department of the east, whose headquarters are at Governor's Island: "The secretary of war instructs me to say that he desires you, on his behalf, to meet Admiral Dewey on his arrival in New York and tender to him a special welcome in behalf of the army of the United States and congratulations on his distinguished services and safe return."

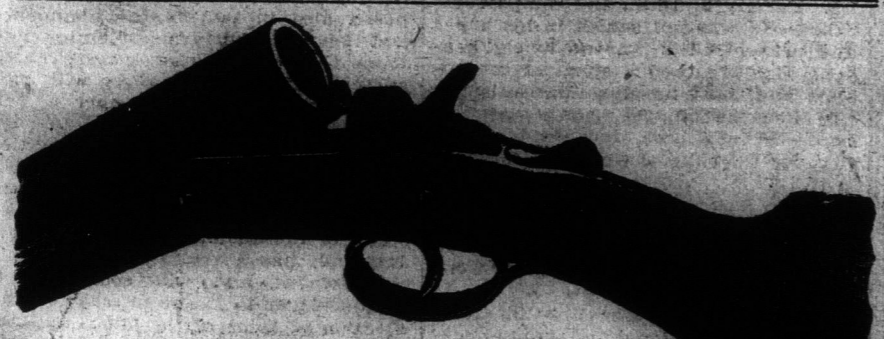
EARTHQUAKE IN MAINE.

BATH, Me., Sept. 21.—The earthquake shock which felt throughout this section of Maine today lasted only a brief time here, and was not heavy. At Barker's Island, however, the houses shook, and the shock appeared to be a severe one. Reports from Danville, Woodville, and other places state that the quake was experienced in those towns. The shock was felt about 6.30 o'clock in the morning.

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