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SOUTH AFRICA.

Lord Methuen Has Been Invalided in Hospital.

NOT KNOWN HE WAS ILL.

No Further News of Peace Negotiations--British Evacuate Hoopstadt--Holland Gives Kruger 1,000,000 Florins--Statement of Colonial Aid.

London, April 12--No further news had been received regarding the reported resumption of peace negotiations in South Africa, but the fact that the censor allowed the report to pass and the fact that the government has not issued a denial are held to prove that negotiations of some sort are in progress.

The casualty list issued yesterday revealed the fact that Lord Methuen was discharged from the hospital last week, this being the first notification that he had been ill.

There is no information from South Africa beyond the fact that the British have evacuated Hoopstadt, which the Daily Mail observes, "seems to show that Lord Kitchener's force is still some 200 strong."

It is announced from Brussels that the Dutch Transvaal committee has handed to Mr. Kruger a check for 1,000,000 florins collected in Holland for the assistance of the Boers.

It appears that Mr. Kruger's entourage assert that the route from Leydsdorp to Zoutpansberg is heavily fortified and able to resist the British for a long time.

London, April 11--A news agency this afternoon publishes a despatch from Cape Town confirming a despatch of the same subject which says that General De Wet is so distracted by the hopelessness of his cause that he can truthfully be described as insane.

The federal cabinet at its first sitting today decided that it was unable to recon- sider the suggestion of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, that Boer prisoners be sent to Tasmania.

London, April 12--The war office has issued a statement showing the colonial contingents sent to South Africa up to March 12 last, and their present strength there:

Table with columns: Country, Sent, Still There. Includes Canada, New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand, etc.

This does not include the Bushmen and a composite regiment which cannot be shown separately against the colonies to which the men belong.

FRANCE AND ITALY OFFICIALLY EXCHANGE TITLE OF FRIENDS.

Proceedings at Toulon Thursday--President Loubet and Duke of Genoa Fraternalize--The Temps' Exposition of Political Meaning.

Toulon, April 11--At the festivities today the Duke of Orleans, in toasting the chief executive of France, said:

"Permit me, Mr. President, to express to you my acknowledgement of the very cordial and sympathetic welcome accorded by France to myself and to the squadron under my command. I shall retain an unalterably happy recollection of the magnificent reception. I drink to France and to her armies on land and sea, and I also desire to express my high regard for yourself personally."

Before he resumed his seat the duke, touched glasses with President Loubet and the two warmly clasped hands. President Loubet replied: "Monsieur, I am profoundly moved by the friendship you have just expressed for the French republic and its president and by the sympathy which you show for its army and navy. It is unnecessary to repeat to you what are the feelings of the French nation towards Italy. I already know them and I have described them to you. But I wish once more to assure you that we are profoundly touched by the evidence of friendship which his majesty, the King of Italy, has given to France by sending your grand squadron here. I drink to the health of King Victor Emmanuel, to the royal family, to their posterity and to the Italian fleet. I drink also to your personal health, monsieur. Just now, I noticed in your cabin the pictures of those dear to you. Permit me to associate them with yourself in the good wishes I am now expressing and to drink to the health of your entire family."

Paris, April 11--At the conclusion of the festivities at Toulon tonight President Loubet will proceed to his home at Montelima in the department of the Drome, to visit his aged mother and take a few days repose after the fatigues of the many functions of the week, which have kept him occupied from early morning until late at night.

As to the political side of the Franco-Italian demonstration, the Temps tonight says: "The words pronounced by M. Loubet and the Duke of Genoa and especially the telegrams exchanged between M. Loubet and the King of Italy stamp the proceedings at Toulon with their true diplomatic significance. France and Italy yesterday gave one another officially the title of friends, which accords so well with the fraternity of the genius and blood. This is an event which must not be distorted nor wrongly interpreted, but there is little risk of exaggeration of its importance, which, taking everything into consideration, is considerable. Both Italy and France have recently changed since the time of Bismarck and Crispi, we cannot say what fruits fraternity will bring forth, but we augur much therefrom."

While on board the Lepanto, M. Loubet discussed with the Duke of Genoa the increase and perfection of modern armaments, remarking that it would be a terrible responsibility to provoke war. The Duke of Genoa replied: "You are right, and I think such visits as these are calculated to render the relations between nations more cordial."

PROMINENT SURGEON KILLED. Was Riding Horseback in Toronto and Steed Backed Against a Train.

Toronto, April 11--(Special)--Dr. Archer J. Watson, a prominent surgeon of this city, was instantly killed today while horseback riding near Lambton Mills. He was riding along Dundas street when, at the C. P. R. crossing, his horse became frightened at a passing train. The train was running at good speed and the horse backed right into it, with the result that the rider and horse both were instantly killed. Dr. Watson was aged 42 years and unmarried.

Found Dead at Yarmouth. Yarmouth, April 11--(Special)--Stephen German, an iron worker, was found dead in W. A. Killian's dock this morning.

Coroner Perrin empaneled a jury and an inquest was commenced this morning, but is not yet finished. There were no marks of violence on the body and the indications point to either suicide or accidental drowning.

Deceased had been drinking heavily for several months. He was a native of Digby and was about 55 years of age. He leaves his wife and one daughter.

LA PRESSE EXPEDITION Claimed to Have Established Practicability of Winter Navigation in St. Lawrence.

Montreal, April 11--(Special)--A special from Quebec announces the return of the expedition sent by the Montreal La Presse six weeks ago to test the practicability of winter navigation in the St. Lawrence Gulf. The cruise has been the most successful one in every regard. The broken ice and floes that have so long frightened the steamships of St. Lawrence were ploughed through in every direction by La Presse boat, and such cases that ought not to be feared any longer by any vessel. It is expected that the result of the experiment, when officially reported, will date a revolution in the minds of the underwriters and steamship owners.

MINISTER OF WAR RESIGNS. Wurtenburg Official About Whom Were Some Bad Rumors.

Stuttgart, April 11--Baron Schott von Schottentzen, minister of war for Wurtenburg, concerning whom reports of resignation under pressure and of suicide pending painful disclosures were circulated last month, resigned his portfolio today.

For nine years Baron Schott von Schottentzen, who is a general of the infantry, was minister of war for Wurtenburg. Last month a woman was arrested in Stuttgart at whose fashionable residence, it was alleged, scandalous orgies had occurred. Baron Schott von Schottentzen was accused of being one of the principal participants.

U. S. Consul General Appointed. Washington, April 11--The president today made the following appointments: State--Robert P. Skinner, of Ohio, to be consul general of the U. S. at Marseilles, France.

Oliver J. D. Hughes, of Connecticut, to be consul general of the U. S. at Coburg, Germany, and Francis B. Geomer, of Ohio, to be consul of the United States at Zeitzau, Germany.

Sifton Murder Case. London, April 11--The Sifton murder trial today was traversed to the next witness. This course was adopted as the result of the absence of the material witness, Mrs. Richardson. The defence refused to go on in her absence and the crown were satisfied the witness was too ill to appear. Sifton will have spent more than a year in jail before his case is finally decided.

KILLED BY TRAIN. COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN REPORTS ON NEW YORK VICE.

Young Brakesman Met Death at Notre Dame. FELL FROM CAR TOP. Results of Investigations by Agents Reveal Alarming Conditions--Vice, They Claim, Has Protection--Remedies Suggested by Committee.

Moncton, April 11--(Special)--James Goodwin, a brakesman on the Moncton and Buctouche railway, met with an accident at Notre Dame about 5 o'clock this afternoon and it caused his death a few hours later.

The train men were setting off cars at Notre Dame siding and Goodwin, who was on top of a car, attempted to jump the gap between two cars, just as they were being uncoupled. He fell short and dropped on the track, the whole train passing over him. It appears that the unfortunate man escaped the wheels of the cars but he was badly jammed by the trucks, both legs and one arm were broken and he was otherwise so badly injured that he succumbed four hours later.

Goodwin belonged to Buctouche and had been on the Buctouche and Moncton road about a year and a half. He was about 27 years old and leaves a wife and two children.

RAILWAY DEAL ASSURED. Morgan-Hill People Will Effect the Chicago B. & Q. Transfer.

New York, April 11--The Commercial Advertiser says: "It is authoritatively stated that the Morgan-Hill interests now own enough of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy stock to insure the successful consummation of the deal by which that road will pass to the control of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern roads."

"All of the Burlington's stockholders will have an opportunity of exchanging their holdings for 21 1/2 per cent. bonds issued by the Northern Pacific and Great Northern. A large proportion of these stockholders have in the past shown a willingness to accept the Morgan-Hill offer, and as soon as Mr. Morgan cables his approval of the final details an official announcement of the terms of the deal will be issued from the office of J. P. Morgan & Co."

THE STOLEN GOLD. The Line Officials Have a Theory--Thief in Baggage Room.

Bremen, April 11--Officials of the North German Lloyd S. S. Company are satisfied that the gold recently stolen from the Kaiser Wilhelm Der Grosse was abstracted between the afternoon when the barrels containing the two million marks were placed in the strong room, and the following morning, when the passengers' baggage was stowed away, making access to the door of the specie room difficult. The officials are of the belief that the thief allowed himself to be locked up in the baggage room after the gold was deposited in the strong room and managed to take the booty ashore during the confusion of arriving passengers and the stowing away of the baggage.

OSCAR AS ARBITRATOR. Norway and Sweden's King Will Decide Samoan Claims.

Washington, April 11--King Oscar of Norway and Sweden has accepted the post of arbitrator on the Samoan claims of the United States, Great Britain and Germany. The German case has been made up and the United States case is about completed. The British claims probably are in Stockholm by this time.

King Oscar will have general charge, not only of the determination of the important determination of what claims arise as a necessary result of the military operations during the last uprising in Samoa.

TO LIVE AT FROGMORE. London World Says King Edward Will Reside There.

London, April 11--The World says King Edward will make Frogmore his weekend residence during May, June and July. This place is an ideal residence during the hot weather. The grounds are heavily wooded and an aviary built by the Prince Consort, adjoins a large, pleasant room with an immense bay window looking on the terrace.

BAD TRAIN SMASHUP. Head-on Collision of Freights on Sydney and Louisburg Road.

Sydney, C. B., April 11--(Special)--There was a bad smashup on the Sydney and Louisburg railway today near Taledonia. Two freight trains collided head-on. The engines, which were large ones, are now lying in a heap, a mass of tangled iron and a number of cars were smashed. Drivers and firemen jumped and escaped with slight injuries.

ONE DEAD, TWO MAY DIE. Mexican Colonel Goes to Prison for Fifteen Years and is Fined \$1600.

Austin, Tex., April 11--A despatch from Monterey, Mex., says: Colonel Maizero, one of the most prominent officers of the Mexican army, who has many years stationed with his regiment on the Rio Grande frontier, has been sentenced by a court martial to 15 years' imprisonment, a fine of \$1,600 and inability to hold military office in the future, for criminal cruelty and abuse of the private soldiers of his regiment.

Lieutenant Colonel Quiller and Captain Owen Smith, both of the same regiment were tried for similar offences and each sentenced to three years' imprisonment and deprivation of military titles and decorated from entering the military service of Mexico until a period of ten years has elapsed.

FOR CRUELTY TO TROOPS. Kaiser Presided at Ceremony at Potsdam Yesterday.

Potsdam, April 11--Emperor William at noon today unveiled the equestrian statue erected here in honor of Emperor William I. The emperor was on horseback and wore the uniform of a German field marshal. Baron von Manteuffel, president of the Brandenburg Diet, delivered an oration, and later, Emperor William and the empress reviewed a parade of the troops.

At luncheon the emperor said that unveiling of the statue touched chords which moved him to call for cheers for the Mark of Brandenburg and for the men of the Mark.

A GAMBLING SCANDAL. Shoppers Caught Cheating at Cards Aboard an Atlantic Steamer.

Liverpool, April 11--A gambling scandal occurred on the steamer Teutonic which arrived here from New York this morning. Two first cabin passengers were caught cheating at poker. They secured considerably over £200 but were obliged to make restitution. The same men were discovered swindling in the pools of the ship's daily run and were forced to give back a check for £50 which they had gained in this manner. Upon the Teutonic's arrival at Liverpool the swindlers were allowed to proceed with a warning.

DECISION MONDAY. Lawyer Patrick's Case Now With Judge Jerome.

FORGERY TAKEN UP. On This Charge Against Patrick, Short, and Meyers, Examination Was Waived by Prisoners--Two Were Bailed at \$10,000 Each, But Patrick is Held.

New York, April 11--In the Patrick commitment proceeding today Lawyer Moore preface his argument in behalf of Patrick by asking Justice Jerome to discharge the accused lawyer from custody on four grounds. The purport of these was that the prosecuting attorneys had failed to establish the fact that a crime had been committed; that, if a murder had been perpetrated, the people had utterly failed to connect Patrick with it; and that there was not sufficient corroboration of the statements made by the valet, Jones, who, Moore said, was a self-confessed murderer, a liar and possibly a perjurer.

Mr. Moore contends that there was an absence of material facts in the evidence which would tend to connect Patrick with the killing of Rice in corroboration of Jones.

As to the question as to conspiracy, he said the testimony of a co-conspirator was not sufficient to hold the accused. Justice Jerome then announced that he would reserve his decision in the case until he could read over the testimony and the legal authorities in regard to it. Justice Jerome said that he was going out of town this Saturday and Sunday and would render a decision as to the disposition of the case against Patrick some time on Monday next.

The charges of forgery against Patrick, Short and Meyers were taken up at the request of Assistant District Attorneys Garvin and Osborne. Lawyer Moore asked for a few minutes' delay, during which he had an earnest conversation with the prisoners. He then announced to the court that they had agreed to waive examination and Justice Jerome ordered new commitment papers to be made out for each of them. In the case of Meyers and Short, Justice Jerome committed them to the Tombs prison to wait the action of the grand jury and fixed bail at \$10,000 each. In Patrick's case, on the charge of forgery, Justice Jerome said that bail in his case could be applied for later on in the court of general session as he stands under a serious charge.

It rests with Justice Jerome whether or not Patrick will be held for the grand jury. Meanwhile Patrick will stay in the Tombs.

METHODIST FUND. CLERGUE COMPANY. Eight Hundred Thousand in Cash Collected. Capital Stock Increased to 20 Millions.

\$1,200,000 PROMISED. POWER TO YET ADD. Part Devoted to Local Debt, Part to Connexional Fund--The Latter Divided Yesterday Among Colleges, Sackville Institution Receiving Some.

Toronto, April 11--(Special)--The Methodist twentieth century fund committee met today, Rev. Dr. Potts presenting an approximate report. Already \$800,000 in cash has been collected out of \$1,200,000 promised; \$370,000 has been paid on local debt and \$211,535 contributed for connexional purposes.

Of the amount the greater part has been allocated by the donors. It was decided to divide the remainder among the following colleges: Alma College, St. Thomas, Ont.; Wesleyan Theological College, Sackville, N. B.; St. John's College, New Brunswick; and Wesley College, Winnipeg. As a large amount has been allocated by the donors to Victoria University, Toronto, that institution is not included in the list.

STATUE UNVEILED. Kaiser Presided at Ceremony at Potsdam Yesterday.

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CRITICALLY ILL. Mrs. H. R. Emerson Lying in a Comatose State.

Dorchester, April 11--(Special)--Mrs. H. R. Emerson, who was stricken with apoplexy on Tuesday evening, still continues in an extremely critical condition. For a brief space this morning consciousness returned, but she is now in a comatose state.

Mr. Emerson arrived home from Ottawa by this morning's express and Lieut. Emerson, Mrs. Emerson's only son, who has been taking a course at the cavalry school in Toronto, is expected here tomorrow.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES. London, April 11--At a general meeting of the North Coal-gas Company, Limited, held today Chairman Sydney Chambers announced that the directors had just made further representation to the foreign office, claiming damages for illegal action of the Venezuelan judges respecting the company's properties in that country.

CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATE. Belleville, Ont., April 11--(Special)--The Conservatives of West Hastings, in convention here today, nominated E. Gus Porter, barrister, of this city, as their candidate for the bye-election in the dominion house.

PLAGUE IN SAN FRANCISCO. Gets Fortune of \$55,000.

Washington, April 11--Two more deaths from bubonic plague in San Francisco have been reported to the hospital service. The latest report covers the period from March 3 to April 4.

BILL TO ADOPT PROVINCIAL LISTS FOR DOMINION PURPOSES.

Long Discussion on This in Dominion House Thursday--Transportation Question Discussion Next Week--Union Label Act in Senate.

Ottawa, April 11--(Special)--In the house today, at the request of Mr. Bickerdike, Montreal, the premier agreed that, on next Wednesday, an opportunity should be given for a discussion upon the transportation question.

The house went into committee upon a bill to amend the franchise act. There was a long discussion upon the first clause of the bill which adopts provincial voters' lists for dominion purposes and is as follows: "The voters' lists shall be those prepared for the several provincial divisions so established and which on the day of the date of the writ for such dominion election were in force or were last in force under the laws of that province for the purposes of provincial elections."

The law as it now stands provides the lists shall be those in force 60 days before the election. It has been found that this made it necessary to use in the last election many lists a year old. In fact it was stated that in the last election fully 90 per cent. of the lists were old ones. The bill is designed to overcome this.

Much opposition was offered to this clause by Ontario Conservatives on the ground that it would, in many cases, not permit of the lists being printed in time for use in the election. Under such circumstances it was pointed out that candidates would have to go to the expense of getting written lists from the clerk of the election and that this would be a serious objection to the bill. The speaker said the question seemed to be whether candidates should be obliged to have to face the expense of getting lists copied or should as up to date lists as possible be secured.

The clause was finally allowed to stand over. Some progress was made with the dominion election act, after which the balance of the evening was spent in supply on the agriculture estimates.

In the senate today Senator Templeman moved the trade mark and design act. This bill is very simple, being intended to give labor unions the right to adopt any article they desired. He understood that the bill had twice been passed by the commons and defeated in the senate. He was requested to ask the house to give the bill its second reading, and allow the promoters to appear before the committee and give their reasons for presenting the bill and adducing new reasons in its favor. This he asked.

Senator McMillan asked what the new arguments were. Hon. Mr. Templeman pointed out that some of the strong arguments were that the members of trades unions, which are now common in every trade, were better workmen than non-unions. They asked that they might be allowed to distinguish articles made by union labor by some label or mark. They also contended that a fair day's wage for a fair day's work was a principle that should be recognized. The bill was permissive. Marks would only be placed on goods with the consent of the owners. That was done to a certain extent now. He had seen labels on boxes of cigars. At present, however, they had no proprietary interest in the design. This they asked.

Sensors Ferguson and Powell opposed the bill and Senator Mills supported it. It got a second reading.