

THE CITY COUNCIL

A Lengthy Session Held Last Evening at the City Hall.

PLANS ORDERED FOR FIRE HALL

An Isolation Hospital to be Built in the East End Park By-Laws Read a Second and Third Time—The Lending Library and Other Grants Refused.

At the regular weekly meeting of the city council last evening, His Worship the mayor, and all the members of the council were present with the exception of Alderman Clute.

The secretary of the board of trade wrote, asking for a continuance of the grant of \$50 per month, made by the last year's council, for the purpose of advertising in the British Columbia Mining Review of London.

Ald. McKee thought the money could be put to much better use; at present it was as good as thrown away. The mayor, had explained the action of last year's council, the request was referred to the finance committee, on motion of Ald. Dean.

Mr. C. St. L. Mackintosh wrote, asking the council to replace the water pipe on South Washington street, which was broken in making the new grade. It appears that the pipe in question is a private one, and the mayor explained that he had gone into the question, and had Mr. Fellows present to state what the city's position was in the matter. The whole matter was finally referred to the fire and light committee.

W. H. Falding, the city auditor, certified to the correctness of the city's accounts to the 18th inst, and Mr. McQueen, the city clerk, added a statement of the city's finances, showing:

General account—
Balance in bank.....\$15,054.95
Cash on hand.....130.04

Total.....\$15,184.99

Waterworks account—
Bal. in bank and cash on hand.....\$10,945.90

The request of the Cameron construction company for a settlement of the long-standing account of the company in connection with the removal of the bluff on West Columbia avenue, was referred to a joint conference of the board of works and finance committee, the mayor expressing a strong desire to have the matter settled.

A duly signed petition of sundry ratepayers, asking that a bylaw be submitted for the purchase of lots 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, in block 17, Railway addition, for fire hall purposes, was put in. The amount necessary to be represented being \$167,730 the petitioners representing \$265,000.

The report of the health and relief committee states: "In view of the fact that smallpox is now epidemic in Spokane and other districts south of the city of Rossland, the health and relief committee have thought it advisable to make preparation to detain and isolate any cases of the disease which might be discovered in the city. The committee visited the buildings of the Commander mine, and also looked over the Valley House and other buildings, but eventually came to the conclusion that the city had better erect their own building on their own lands, and a site has been selected on an available place in the city park. The building will cost about \$550, and in case it is not used as an isolated hospital, it can be used as a caretaker's house for the park." The recommendation of the committee was adopted on motion of Ald. Mackenzie.

Ald. Hamilton moved the adoption of the finance committee's report, recommending the payment of sundry small accounts, and the motion carried.

The report of the fire, water and light committee was adopted. The streets pay rolls for \$225.80, \$112.20, \$133.80 and a payment to Hunter Bros of \$240.26, being the chief items in the report.

The board of works, besides recommending payment of sundry accounts, advised that the police be instructed to keep all streets and alleys clear from obstructions, and to notify persons having obstructions on streets and alleys at present, to remove same.

A bylaw to purchase lots 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, block 17, for fire hall purposes, and one to provide debentures for the payment of same, were read a first time. A motion to exercise the option on the lots in question; held by the city, carried. The purchase money will, in the first instance, be paid out of the general account and later, when the bylaw is formally carried, the purchase money can be obtained from the sale of the debentures, thus saving a good deal of valuable time.

The bylaw to provide for the regulation of the Columbia cemetery was gone over, clause by clause, in committee of the whole, with Ald. Hamilton in the chair, and some unimportant amendments were made. The bylaw was then reported to the council and passed its second reading.

Ald. Hamilton, seconded by Ald. Mackenzie, moved that the fire, water and light committee be authorized to instruct Architect Honeyman to submit plans for a fire station and library and weigh scales houses for the consideration of the council, the architect to confer with the committee in preparing the plans. Ald. Dean objected to passing a grant to the promoters of the lending library and free reading rooms, and instead, got a motion adopted asking the promoters upon what terms they would dispose of the books, etc., to the city.

Ald. Dean asked that the question of properly protecting the railway crossing at St. Paul street should stand over for the present, as he desired to confer with Mr. Gutches in the matter. The same alderman also asked that the chief of police be instructed to prevent the children from using the city sidewalks for sliding purposes, particularly on St. Paul, Lincoln and Washington streets. The alderman said the matter had become a dangerous nuisance and should be stopped. The children should be made to use the roadway. The sidewalks were slippery enough as it is, and the chief should see that the matter was attended to at once.

The bylaws regulating pawn shops and junk and second-hand stores were read a third time and passed, and the council adjourned at 10:15 o'clock.

BACK FROM THE EAST.

Mr. Edward Cronyn Gives the Reason For the Lull.

Mr. Edward Cronyn has just returned from the east, having been absent from the camp since the beginning of last December. While able to put through the mining business which took him to Montreal, Mr. Cronyn states that the market is very flat, and nothing new can be attempted with any reasonable hope of success. Scarcely any mining stocks of the west are being touched, and money is scarcely available only for rich projects which must be supported.

This condition of affairs is attributed to the late dull season in New York stocks, lasting as it had for so considerable a lapse of time, over a twelve-month. Dealing in margins on these stocks had been extremely prevalent all over Eastern Canada. The length of the dull season had drawn everybody in. When the fall at last came along it found most people holding for the rise, with the result that all the smaller fry went under, the banks holding up only the bigger men. Consternation in speculative circles reigned, and money became very tight. This had a reflex effect upon Rossland, but there is no doubt, says Mr. Cronyn, that with the end of the war, the public will be much freer with their now carefully guarded capital, and the reaction will be all the greater because of the very intensity of the present lull.

NO SMALLPOX IN THIS CITY

AMPLE PRECAUTIONS ARE TAKEN AT NORTHPORT.

Travelers by Road or Rail Stopped and Examined—The Site for Hospital Is Being Cleared.

Rumor was rife in the city yesterday afternoon, stating that the smallpox had already arrived and was masquerading as chickenpox, measles, etc. Rumor was very conservative of the truth and enquiries made among the doctors elicited a strong denial of the report. Measles and chickenpox may have possibly a distant affinity to the disease under quarantine, but they are not the disease, and the doctors state that the city need not be alarmed because a few of these lighter cases are or have been exhibited in isolated instances.

The city authorities are actively at work however, and men were employed yesterday and are working today clearing the site for the new isolation hospital in the city park. Tenders for its construction are to be in today by 4 p. m., and within four or five days, a large force of men working, the building will be ready. It will be constructed with paper and dressed lumber finish on the inside, so that it may easily be disinfected and, moreover, quickly got ready. The building provides for two wards, male and female, with room for five cots in each. Besides these two rooms and a kitchen are to be set apart for the use of the attendants upon any sick that may be sent to the hospital. Should unfortunately any case seek admission before the building is ready the authorities have already obtained a house suitable for its reception.

These are the city fathers are bestirring themselves nobly. Nor have the provincial authorities been less on the alert. Mr. Perry Wright, appointed special constable by Dr. Laban, went down to Northport yesterday to meet the incoming train from Spokane. All passengers who were unprovided with certificates from the authorities in Spokane were turned back unless they were willing to be vaccinated there and then. Dr. Armstrong of Northport, and Dr. Travis, the C. P. K. surgeon, were in attendance on the platform, and plied the latest whenever called upon.

Reggie, even down to a hand bag, was detained unless covered with a certificate from Dr. Potter, the health officer in Spokane. The car itself was fumigated with sulphur burnt upon a brazier. After arrival in Rossland, the car was again disinfected under the supervision of the station master here. The introduction of the disease by rail under such conditions as these is well nigh impossible. Nor is the wagon road from Northport unprotected. At the boundary line, the customs' officer, Mr. Patterson, stops all comers, turning all back who are unprovided with proper medical certificates covering themselves and their belongings.

Mr. L. L. Thompson, a passenger from Spokane, yesterday, detailed his experiences to a representative of the Miner. He stated that before leaving Spokane he provided himself with a certificate of going and getting himself vaccinated. After this he went to Dr. Potter, the health officer, who, after due examination and enquiry, gave him a certificate covering his grip. He then proceeded to Northport, where his baggage was fumigated together with the mails and the car, and his certificate examined and taken from him by the special constable from British Columbia, who met him at the point.

Yesterday there were about 40 passengers for Canada at Northport. Those for Nelson were met by Mr. Astley, the special constable at Waneta, and those for Rossland were taken care of by Mr. Wright. Northport has been selected as the place of examination inasmuch as the inspection taking place at that place does not involve travel less than if the stops were taken at the boundary at Sheep Creek and at Waneta. As it is the delay in Northport is under an hour altogether.

Moreover, if any citizen of Rossland, knowing the precautions taken, thinks that they are insufficient, he can gain practical immunity for himself by getting vaccinated at once. There is plenty of vaccine lymph in the city.

Police and License Commissioners.

Information was received in the city last evening that the next issue of the provincial gazette would contain the following appointments as members of the boards of police and license commissioners: Police commissioners, Mayor Goodhue, Ald. Clute, Ald. Hector McPherson, License commissioners, Mayor Goodhue, Ald. Mackenzie and Mr. W. F. Macneil.

Mr. M. E. Wilson has returned from Revelstoke.

Mr. Alex. L. Gartshore, agent of Vancouver, is stopping at the Allan.

Mr. H. W. Kent, general superintendent of the New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone company, is in the city.

THE QUARANTINE IS IN FORCE

IT IS TO BE APPLIED TO THOSE FROM INFECTED PLACES.

A Letter Received From Spokane Which Says the Disease Is Not as Bad as Represented.

There was some little excitement in this city, Tuesday, when it became known that the intention was to quarantine against Eastern Washington and Central and Western Idaho because of the smallpox epidemic which prevails. Mr. Perry Wright, who has been appointed quarantine officer, will at once enter upon his duties. The intention is to have a physician to examine incoming passengers. Dr. Sinclair on Monday received a telegram from Hon. R. E. McKeonnie, president of the legislative council at Victoria, asking for the name of a competent professional man to take charge of and examine the passengers coming up from Northport on the Spokane Falls and Northern railway. Dr. Sinclair before recommending any one wired the minister in reply, asking what remuneration would be allowed for the services required. No reply has been received to this enquiry and the doctor has submitted no name to the government as yet.

All the employees of the Red Mountain railway have received orders from the management of the line to the effect that they must be immediately vaccinated and a number of them submitted to the operation yesterday.

The following are the preliminary regulations for the prevention of the spread of smallpox into the district of West Kootenay and East Yale from the neighboring United States of Eastern Washington and Central and Western Idaho:

All passengers arriving at the boundary line from the south, over the Great Northern railway, Spokane Falls & Northern railway, Red Mountain railway and any stage line, shall be required to furnish the inspector or officer in charge of the carrying out of these regulations, with a certificate from the health officer of the city or town which he or she has last left, containing the following particulars: That he or she has not been in any place or building infected with smallpox. That he or she has not lived in any place or building which lies dangerously near any infected building or district. That no one she has been vaccinated since the 10th day of January, 1900.

In the event of any passenger bringing any baggage (hand or otherwise), or whether the same shall be forwarded by express, the following certificate shall be required from the health officer of the town or city aforesaid: That the said baggage here give full description of said baggage so that there can be no question as to identification; has not been in any place or building infected with smallpox. That the said baggage has not been stored or used in any place or building which lies dangerously near any infected building or district.

All railway companies, transportation companies and stage lines must adhere strictly to the following regulations:

All mail from local points in Eastern Washington and Central and Western Idaho, destined for points on the boundary line or north of same, must be fumigated on or before leaving the last point of call south of said line, and the master in charge of such mail must furnish the inspector or officer in charge of the carrying out of these regulations with a certificate from the health officer of such point where fumigation takes place that same have been done.

All cars must be fumigated before leaving American points, and the health officer's certificate must be furnished that such has been done.

No Indians shall be allowed to land in West Kootenay or East Yale under any conditions.

Inspectors and officers will see that the above regulations are faithfully and strictly carried out, at the same time it being incumbent upon them to facilitate rather than hinder traffic, and in all cases to render what assistance they can in their power to passengers, not inconsistent with the above regulations.

Penal Clause (section 97, Health Act, 1897) provides that: "Any person who violates any regulation of the provincial board shall, unless it is otherwise specially provided, be liable for every such offence to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, with or without costs, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the convicting court."

D. LA BAU, Medical Health Officer.

J. KIRKUP, W. J. GORPEL, Local Board of Health (outside of municipality).

Dr. Edwin Bowes yesterday received the following letter from Spokane, which is self-explanatory:

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 22, 1900. To Edwin Bowes, M. D., Rossland, B. C.

Sir: The newspaper reports of the outbreak of smallpox in Spokane have very much exaggerated the situation, particularly so from the fact that they are trying to make people believe that the health officer is doing nothing towards preventing further spread of the trouble. We wish to assure you that every effort of the board of health to suppress smallpox in Spokane is being upheld by every city official. At the present time we know of 65 cases, 43 of which are quarantined at the isolation hospital and are under my care; the balance are equally rigidly quarantined in their own homes under the care of their own physicians. It is a noticeable fact that since the miners began to come into Spokane for the winter our troubles have been suddenly increased, and yesterday I received a man into the hospital, who arrived in the city that day, and 12 days ago was in British Columbia.

Of the total number of cases, but three can be considered severe. The difficulty of the situation lies in the fact that smallpox in mild form has been the diagnosis of chicken pox, Indian itch, hives, etc. The majority of patients never take to bed.

The business of Spokane has in no wise been interfered with. We wish to assure you that every effort will be made by the city officials to stamp out the disease.

Respectfully,
M. W. POTTER, Health Officer.

CARRINGTON'S CONTINGENT

Rhodes and the Chartered Company to Put an Independent Force in the Field.

New York, Jan. 24.—The World prints the following dispatch from Belfast: "It is known here now that Cecil Rhodes and the British Chartered South African company have received permission to make war on their own account."

"The mystery surrounding Major-General Sir Frederick Carrington's release from his command in this district, accompanied by an unofficial statement that he was going to South Africa is now solved. Heretofore for reasons best known to themselves the war office officials have refused to assign General Carrington to any command in South Africa, despite his long experience with British troops in that country."

"Now it has been known that Cecil Rhodes and the Chartered company have received permission to raise, equip and put in the field a force of irregulars, and the war office has loaned General Carrington to the South African millionaires."

"No one can tell what the strength of this force will be, or where it will operate, neither will friends of General Carrington here say whether there will be a native contingent with it."

The World says: "This may be considered an equivalent to the issue of what may be called letters of marque for privateering operations to be conducted on land instead of at sea. It is in a sense a revival of the medieval system of enlisting the support of mercenaries acting in almost perfect independence of the imperial power. How this action will be viewed by the civilized people of the world remains to be seen."

From Boer Sources.

London, Jan. 24.—A dispatch from Pretoria, dated Tuesday, January 23, somewhat amplifies the dispatch of January 22, from the Boer head quarters, dated the Associated Press yesterday evening. It says: "Four or five times during the day the British replaced the wearied soldiers by fresh ones. The Boer casualties to date are one man killed and two men slightly wounded. Our men are in excellent spirits. There has been no slaughter of the British. General Botha is now in sole command. Gen. Cronje having been sent elsewhere."

The same dispatch, apparently referring to the situation at Colenso, says: "One of the large Boer Maxims was temporarily disordered, but was soon repaired. The British northern camp is in confusion. People are observed trekking in all directions."

Increased Anxiety.

London, Jan. 24.—(4:10 p. m.)—The suspense was increased by the belief that General Buller would never have published his intention to attack the Boers on Spion Kop unless satisfied that the assault would be carried out before the news could be published, and it was anticipated that the news of his success or failure would reach London in a few hours at most. The cabinet ministers called at the war office after lunch to ask for news.

STRATHCONA'S FORCE

Conditions With Which Applicants Will Have to Comply.

Ottawa, Jan. 24.—(Special.)—Recruiting for Lord Strathcona's mounted force for service in South Africa will commence in Manitoba, British Columbia and the mounted police posts in the Northwest Territories, about the first of February. Applicants must be good shots, good horsemen, unmarried and between 22 and 40 years of age. Height must not be less than five feet six inches, chest measurement not less than 34 inches. The engagements will be made under the army act for six months, with liability of extension to the year. The pay will be the same as the Mounted Police until arrival in South Africa, after that the imperial army rates.

A CANADIAN KILLED

One of Members of the First Canadian Contingent From B. C.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Word reaches here late tonight that Private J. W. Jones of the first British Columbia contingent of the Canadian force, had been killed in action at Dove's Farm. Jones was a graduate of West Point, although of Scottish birth, and was one of the best known mining men of Vancouver Island, "Black Jones" being his common title.

A ROSSLAND BOY

Bunch Mackintosh Has Entered an Application to Go to Africa.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—The application of Bunch Mackintosh, son of Ex-Governor Mackintosh, of Rossland, to be sent to the front with the British Columbia contingent, was today filed with the Provincial Secretary by Martin.

Naval Activity at Victoria

Victoria, Jan. 19.—As a result of a cipher telegram received by the naval commander at Esquimalt, messengers were sent hurriedly to summon the officers of the torpedo boat destroyer Virago. Steam was gotten up quickly, and she put to sea and is said to be patrolling the straits. Rush messengers were also sent to the fortifications.

HIS FACE ON FIRE

But Dr. Agnew's Ointment Quenches and Heals.

S. E. Buchanan, of the Soldiers' National Home, Grant Co., Idaho, writes: "I have been troubled severely with acute eczema on the face and head. I cured it with one box of Dr. Agnew's Ointment. It just took one application to stop the itching and burning sensations. I think it a marvelous cure." 33 cents. Sold by Goodhue Bros.

The Price of Metals.

New York, Jan. 24.—Lead, steady; exchange, \$1.70; bullion, \$4.45.

FIGHTING ALL ALONG THE LINE

Apparently a Deadlock, But the Arrival of Heavy Reinforcements Will Overcome the Equilibrium—British Losses to Date—The Struggle Around Spion Kop a Deadly One—British Papers Guessing.

London, Jan. 25—4:15 a. m.—The assemblage in Pall Mall outside the war office and those privileged to wait in the lobby reluctantly dispersed at midnight after the final word that nothing more would be announced. The morning papers went to press with conjectures and forecasts of all sorts, striving to guess out something from Spion Kop. Topographic maps show that Spion Kop is the highest part of a rocky plateau. Eastward for 8 miles are the Boer positions along the Tugela. Northwestward from Spion Kop the plateau runs gradually up to a great spur of the Drakensberg. General Buller's infantry, to reach the summit of Spion Kop, must cross a natural glacis three-quarters of a mile wide and climb 500 feet up a steep slope.

Nobody seems to know, not even the war office, what Lord Roberts has done with his large reinforcements, six thousand troops awaited his arrival at Cape Town and since then 8,000 others have reached there. Military critics are all hoping that a good share of these 12,000 have gone to help General Buller and they argue that a few days wait may make him strong enough to overcome the deadlock. There are 10,000 troops at sea and they have weight on the British side in expected to destroy the equilibrium now existing on every field of operations. The British casualties to date are: killed, wounded and captured according to General Buller's last list, total 8,218 men.

MORLEY'S BITTER SPEECH

Assails the "Policy Which Led to Hostilities"—Foreign Interference.

London, Jan. 24.—Mr. John Morley, addressing his constituents this evening at Oxford, made but little reference to the present aspect of the war in South Africa, confining himself chiefly to a renewal of his indictment of the "policy which led to hostilities." He ridiculed the notion that a few Boer successes entitled the Transvaal to be described as a first class military power, and declared that the facts of the Boers sending the ultimatum no more disposed of all the other questions than the defiance of the American colonists in throwing the tea into Boston harbor disposed of all the questions of the war of American independence.

"It is quite certain," continued Mr. Morley, "that had the government appreciated the temper of the Transvaal people and foreseen what was coming—what we all know in these black, gloomy days—there would have been no war. It is dreadful, out true, that a want of foresight and decent information led the government to stumble into war in the dark. Lord Salisbury's menacing speech of July 29th, if applied to a great power, could only have meant war. It was absurd, if the government really believed in a Dutch conspiracy, to spend time in negotiations regarding the franchise. The conspiracy was an afterthought of the government, conjured up to mask a hideous and ghastly blunder."

In conclusion, Mr. Morley declined to commit himself as to what would happen in the future but he warned his hearers not to be duped by the idea that the Boers after defeat would settle down quietly, with reference to the point at which the conflict would come to an end. Mr. Morley observed: "Something depends on a chance which I hope is remote, but is certainly not invisible, of our being called on to meet dangers in other quarters."

WARREN'S FORCE

Fighting All Day—Boers Cling Desperately to Their Works—British Losses.

London, Jan. 24.—The Daily Telegraph publishes the following dispatch from Spearman's Camp, dated January 23, 9:30 p. m.: "On Monday Sir Charles Warren's force cannonaded and fuziled the Boer position west of Spion Kop, near the Acton Holmes road. A lyditte battery co-operated with the other batteries and Maxims. Certainly the fire was effective, causing the enemy serious losses. The Boers, however, clung desperately to their works, from which they are only being very slowly driven. Today the enemy fired their guns often, using also the captured 15-pounders with shrapnel. Our casualties today were less even than those of yesterday."

"Fighting began about 6 o'clock in the morning and continued till dusk but there has been nothing like a regular engagement. The naval big guns assisted from Potgieter's Drift in shelling the Boer positions."

THE THUNDERER

Comment on Count Von Buelow's Speech—The Rights of Neutrals.

London, Jan. 25.—The Times, in a special article, discussing the recent speech of Count Von Buelow, the German foreign secretary, with regard to a settlement internationally as to what constituted contraband and what are the rights of neutrals, says: "We do not doubt that overtures for a full discussion of the subject, if made in a friendly spirit and on broad grounds of public interest, would be frank and promptly accepted by the British government. What better work could be found for the tribunal created by the Hague conference than the work of settling the question of damages for seizures?"

Last of Seized Vessels.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—The German bark Hans Wagner, stopped on December 19th in South African waters by the British gunboat Fearless and ordered to go to Port Elizabeth.

Elizabeth to unload, after leaving the contraband specified by the British authorities, has proceeded on her way to Delagoa Bay, being the last of the seized German vessels to be released.

DYNAMITE THE MINES

Boer Rabble Determined on Revenge—Retreat of Enemy Must Be Cut Off.

London, Jan. 25.—The correspondent of the Times at Lorenzo Marques, telegraphing yesterday and dealing with "the lawlessness of the low class of Boers, who are getting beyond the control of the government and the better class of officials, who are honestly desirous of protecting life and property," says: "My informants are convinced that the only way to save the Rand from the fury of the rabble is to cut off the retreat of the Boers in the direction of Johannesburg. The hot blood among the Boers are convinced that the war is due to the capitalists, and that the only revenge possible is to dynamite the mines."

AFRIKANDER BUND

Waiting For an Opportunity to Start a Violent Peace Agitation.

London, January 25.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Times, telegraphing on Tuesday says: "The Bundites are preparing to seize the first decisive British victory, or the invasion of the republican territory, as the signal for a violent peace agitation. They will accompany their appeal to magnanimity by covertly hinting that they are unable to restrain the Dutch colonists from rising."

AT SPEARMAN'S CAMP

Boers Forced to Retire—British Advance Continued Slowly.

Spearman's Camp, Tuesday, Jan. 23.—(9:30 p. m.)—The British field artillery and howitzers shelled the enemy posted on the crest of the ridge this morning. The infantry, under excellent cover, kept up an effective rifle fire at the Boers, who resigned a kopje, of which the British took possession. When retiring, the enemy sheltered themselves by a stone wall on the slope of the kopje, which they held for hours.

This afternoon they ran across the ravine. The British artillery poured shrapnel and lyditte into them, and the infantry took the stone wall. The British casualty list was small.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT

Position at Spearman's Camp Remains Unchanged—Fighting All Day.

London, Jan. 24.—A dispatch to the Times from Spearman's Camp, dated Tuesday, January 23, 9:30 p. m., says: "The Boers today had severe rain, and are prepared to fight almost incessantly, having entrenched their ridge, which stretches in an almost unbroken line from the Drakensberg, many miles away. Firing continued through the day. We have not advanced any further, but have thrown up entrenchments during the night, from behind which the musketry duel continues from exactly the same position as yesterday."

AT MODDER RIVER

Boer Camp Becoming Unbearable—Health of British Camp Good.

London, Jan. 25.—A correspondent of the Times at Modder river, telegraphing Tuesday, says: "The reports of deserters agree that the situation of the Boers at Magerfontein is becoming unbearable, because the camp is unsanitary, enteric is spreading and vegetables are wanted. On the other hand, the health of the British camp is satisfactory, although the ground has been exhausted by the long encampment, and the trees have been cut down by insect pests and dust storms."

No Further News.

London, Jan. 25.—(12:30 a. m.)—Shortly after 12 o'clock the war office announced that nothing further in the way of dispatches would be given out during the night.

The Disabled Osborne

8 John's, Nfld., Jan. 24.—The British steamer Osborne, Captain Rotte, from London, 18 days for Philadelphia in ballast has arrived here with machinery disabled and short of coal. She met with a succession of gales while crossing the Atlantic. She will be here some days repairing.

Tension in London.

London, Jan. 24.—(2:45 p. m.)—The extreme tension caused by what may justly be termed the most anxious pause since the war began, had not been relieved up to the time of writing by anything save the daily stock exchange rumor, which happened to be started today by the bulls, who assert that General Warren has captured Spion Kop. Anxiety in regard to the next news is visible on all sides. The war office was besieged at an early hour this morning, and the clubs and other resorts liable to receive early news, have been crowded with eager inquirers. It is generally recognized that the Boer position, if ever taken, can only be captured at tremendous cost.

Mr. D. A. Holbrook, mining man of Greenwood, is in the city on a business visit.