

Mafeking Relief Column

A Strong Force of Mounted Troops Passed Barkley West on Monday.

Preparations Are Nearly Complete for the Advance from Bloemfontein.

Roberts Drives the Boers From Kopjes South of Brandfort.

(Associated Press.)

London, March 30.—The reports that Lord Roberts will remain at Bloemfontein another month are probably for Boer consumption, and the recent movement of troops and other indications point to preparations being well advanced for a forward movement.

Boers Again Shell Mafeking. The fact that the Boer telegrams announcing the bombardment of Mafeking on Monday and Tuesday do not claim any success, is accepted as proof that they met with none, and hopes are entertained that it may prove to have been a final effort to reduce the place before raising the siege.

The Relief Force.

It is now suggested that the apparent inactivity of the British at Warrentown is merely designed to impress the Boers with the notion that they are checking the Mafeking relief column, which in reality is advancing in a western tour. Color is lent to this view by the announcement that a column of three thousand mounted troops, commanded by Col. Drummond, and accompanied by the government's heavy artillery, and several wagons of ammunition passed Barkley West on March 28th on an extensive march, the objective of which is a strict secret.

Information Refused.

In the House of Commons to-day, the parliamentary secretary of the war office, Mr. George Wyndham, was asked whether an expedition was on its way to the relief of Mafeking. He replied that the government was not prepared to discuss grounds, from giving any indications of Lord Roberts's plans.

DRIVEN FROM KOPIES.

London, March 30.—9:20 p. m.—The war office has issued the following from Lord Roberts to the secretary of war:

"Bloemfontein, March 30.—2:25 p. m.—Owing to the activity of the enemy on our immediate front, and their hostile action towards the burghers who surrendered under the terms of my proclamation, I found it necessary to drive them from some kopjes they had occupied near the Kamee siding station, a few miles south of Brandfort."

"The operation was successfully carried out by the seventh (Trucker's) division, assisted by the first and third cavalry brigades, under French, and Le Gallie's regiments of mounted infantry."

"The enemy retreated to Brandfort, and our troops now hold the kopjes. Our casualties were: Scottish Borderers—Killed, Captain Goring; wounded, Captains Sellar, Luard, Peobles, Curgenven and Edwards, Lieuts. Coulson and French, and about 100 rank and file."

FROM THE BOERS.

Pretoria, March 29.—A dispatch from Fourteen Streets, north of Warrentown, Cape Colony, says the Boers on March 28th, opened a bombardment on the British camp there, and that the British replied feebly and evacuated the place during the night.

CANADA AND SETTLEMENT.

Ottawa, March 30.—It is understood that the Dominion government will offer no representations to the British government in regard to South African settlement.

The Canadian government, it is said, will take the course that Lord Salisbury and his administration know their own business, and are fully alive to the necessity of such a settlement as will make it final as well as satisfactory. There must not be any repetition of what occurred before hostilities broke out. There is nothing to prevent individual ministers expressing an opinion on the matter, but it is stated that the government does not think it necessary to offer any advice, officially, on the subject.

This idea is borne out by what Hon. David Mills said in the Senate last night.

JOUBERT'S FUNERAL.

New York, March 20.—A dispatch to the Herald from Pretoria says that Gen. Joubert's funeral took place there yesterday. He will be buried to-day at Rustfontein, in his private mausoleum, with military honors. The captured British officers at Pretoria sent a floral tribute.

London, March 30.—Queen Victoria has cabled Lord Roberts asking him to

convey to Mrs. Joubert, widow of Gen. Joubert, her sympathy at the loss of her husband, and to tell her that the British people always regarded the dead general as a gallant soldier and honorable fellow man.

To Join Lord Roberts.

Ottawa, March 30.—Andrew Holland, of this city, has received the following cipher cable from his son Eddie, who sailed with the second Canadian contingent on the Milwankee, which arrived at Capetown last week. "Capetown, March 29.—Hollands, Ottawa. Bloemfontein." Deciphered by private code arranged before young Holland left Ottawa, it means: "We are ordered to join Roberts's forces at Bloemfontein immediately. Ottawa boys well."

Wounded Doing Well.

Toronto, March 30.—The Evening Telegram's London correspondent says all the Canadians in Netley hospital are doing well, except Private Weir, of Toronto, whose case has developed into fever. The correspondent says none of the Canadians at present in this hospital were wounded in any engagements in South Africa, but are suffering from illness contracted while in that country.

London, March 31.—The cluster of hills, 21 miles north of Bloemfontein, which are now occupied by the head of the army of Lord Roberts, were won from the Boers after a stiff fight, in which the British lost seven officers and one hundred men. The Boers had been using these kopjes as a base for marauding bands that have been beating up the country adjacent to Bloemfontein, driving off cattle and forcing resident Free Staters into the ranks again. The enemy must have been in considerable force.

as Lord Roberts sent 8,000 infantry and 3,000 cavalry against them.

Lord Roberts's progress to Pretoria will probably consist of a series of such forward movements, in which Boer positions will be attacked by a portion of the army advancing rapidly with wheel transports, the main army coming up as the railway is repaired.

Lord Roberts is stripping the forces in the minor spheres of operation of their wagons and transport animals, in order to hasten the advance. This is understood to be the reason why he recalled Lord Methuen from Barkley West to Kimberley. Roberts had to have Methuen's transport.

The reason why a hot chase was not made after Commandant Olivier is that Lord Roberts did not wish to wear out the Cavalry Transport.

Gen. French lost 3,000 horses in the relief of Kimberley and the pursuit of Gen. Cronje. Lord Roberts has 3,000 transport cattle at Waterval Drift, and it is estimated that he has lost 3,000 other animals since the forward movement began on February 15th.

The advance beyond Bloemfontein is through a bare country, and the supply officers force an increasing difficulty in providing for a great army moving along a single line of railway, even when the latter is moving smoothly and with ample rolling stock.

The Canadian Mounted Rifles were part of the force that occupied Kamee yesterday. The rebellion throughout the northwest districts of Cape Colony is almost suppressed.

The Daily Chronicle Bloemfontein correspondent telegraphing on Thursday, says: "President Kruger's latest proclamation warns the women and children to leave Bloemfontein within five days, as he intends to bombard and destroy the city and to shoot the burghers whom he captures there. Vigorous measures have been taken by the British to harass marauding bands of Transvaalers. The latter are resorting to

Guerrilla Methods,

chiefly against Free Staters who refuse to join Kruger."

Mr. Winston Churchill, in a long dispatch from Durban, expresses regret that the Morning Post does not support his views regarding the treatment of rebels. He says he desires to give a full explanation of his views hereafter, but will not again allude to the subject in the columns of the Morning Post. He proceeds, however, to say that Sir Redvers Buller and most of the officers of distinction share his views. He protests against "the spirit of vengeance, which can only delay the attainment of peace."

The Bloemfontein correspondent of Thursday, says: "Lord Kitchener and his staff crossed the temporary bridge at Norval's Pont

last night. He had 3,000 men under his command and he left 700 at Prieska. He considers the rebellion crushed, although the fire may smoulder for some time."

London, March 31.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Koffyfontein dated Thursday March 29th, says: "Gen. Clements's flying column after a forced march of 30 miles yesterday arrived here unopposed."

HOW SAILORS FOUGHT.

London, March 30.—Dispatches from Rear-Admiral Harris, commanding the British South African squadron, reporting the proceedings of the naval brigades at Belmont, Graspan and Colenso, are published in to-night's Gazette. They throw little new light on the battles, but show that throughout the courage and determination of the naval men were beyond praise, and that their assistance to the military authorities was invaluable.

Lieut. Archibald Deas of the third-class cruiser Pilgrom, in the report of his proceedings with the four naval guns at Graspan, where he was detailed to attack two strong kopjes on either side of the railroad, relates how, after two hours' shelling, he received orders to

retire. He continues: "The Royal Artillery on the right had already moved off when I got the order, and the Boers having got our range accurately were pouring in on us such an effective shrapnel fire that I judged it to be impossible to carry out the order without leaving the guns or suffering very heavy losses. I therefore continued to fire on the Boer guns, with such effect as to put them out of action, first one and then another."

For 15 to 20 minutes at a time their shells burst with the utmost accuracy. Our guns and ammunition trolley were spattered all over with shrapnel balls, but owing to my system of making all hands lie down when the Boer guns flashed, we had only one wounded when after an hour and a half the Boers abandoned their positions."

Admiral Harris expresses great pride in the conspicuous gallantry of both the sailors and the marines.

London, March 31.—Even the details of the engagement yesterday at Kamee siding, a few miles south of Brandfort, failed to instill much interest here. It appears to have been a one-sided affair, although the Boers held the ground for three hours, when they saw the danger of a brush with the cavalry enveloping their flanks, withdrew on their main body at Brandfort which, according to Roberts, they relinquished with a view doubtless of occupying a prepared position further north.

Moving Camp.

There will be a general shifting of camps on the part of the British, a new position being made the base of a further advance as soon as the railroad is repaired.

Steyn's Threat.

From Capetown it is reported that President Steyn has gone to Pretoria after issuing an order that all British burghers refusing to join the Boer army shall be shot. The Boers, however, are notoriously unreliable. The news from elsewhere is meagre, though the last reports from Natal indicate the speedy clashing of the opposing armies.

KITCHENER AND ROBERTS.

New York, March 31.—A batch of mail received to-day from London contains the following: "I had always wished," writes the hero of the Sudan to a correspondent, "to serve under Roberts and I am thankful to have had this opportunity. He is a tower of strength. Such praise from Kitchener, shows not only that he is above all petty jealousies, but settles definitely the rumors that Roberts was only a figurehead. That a man near 70 years of age could do all that Roberts has done in South Africa in the way of mental and physical labor never ceases

to be a theme of praise and wonder in England."

LEAVING BRANDFORT.

London, March 31.—The war office has posted the following dispatch from Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, March 30th, evening:

"Reports point to the enemy leaving Brandfort and proceeding in a northerly direction. The casualties in yesterday's engagement were more numerous than at first reported; officers killed, two; wounded, eight; rank and file, killed ten (?), wounded 150, missing 3."

THE ATTACK ON BOERS.

Bloemfontein, March 30.—The attack on the Boers holding the kopjes near the Kamee siding station, a few miles south of Brandfort, was made by Ducker's seventh division, with the co-operation of French's cavalry. The attacking troops included a large force of Australians, Col. Knight, with 400 New South Wales mounted infantry, being included in Le Gallie's brigade, which attacked the right flank.

A long chain of kopjes was held by the Boers, and there was severe fighting all along the line of attack. The approach was very steep, like a fortress, and the troops were unable to make headway until the infantry made an attack on the front.

The cavalry went around the right flank of the Boers and

Used Their Vickers-Maxim

freely. An army hospital was established in a cottage under shelter of a large kopje.

The Boer shells came right over the kopje and landed near the hospital, which it was found necessary to evacuate.

The Boers slowly retreated upon Brandfort, taking their dead and wounded with them. Meanwhile the cavalry, including the Australian Horse and Sydney Lancers, under Captain Cox, brigaded with Porter's brigade. The Cambridges, Scots Greys, and the Inniskillines received a severe shell fire. The Boers had marked the range, as when the troops advanced the enemy's fire was less accurate.

The Colonials displayed great coolness under fire. Many horses were killed. The Boers fled, and our troops pushed forward, and now

Hold an Excellent Position

upon the large kopjes recently held by the Boers.

The farmers are in the larger fighting leaving the women and children upon the farms, which they are confident the English will not touch.

Many of these farmers would surrender the farms but for the fear that the Jo-

hanneburg police would attack the farms in revenge for their so doing.

The Boers are known to hold Brandfort in some strength. Reinforcements are afraid to move to their support, and are content with holding their position which is threatened by cavalry. We have now secured a fine natural position, facing the huge plain before Brandfort.

Rudyard Kipling was present during the fight.

BOERS REPORT A FIGHT.

Kroonstadt, Orange Free State, March 30.—General Senite to-day engaged the British at Matelkop, south of Brandfort, and held them at bay for six hours.

The burghers fought well. The casualties are unknown.

The Free State read will assemble at Kroonstadt on April 2nd.

KRUGER'S GRIEF.

New York, March 29.—In describing the funeral of Gen. Joubert, a dispatch to the Herald from Pretoria says: The aged President, as he delivered an address of farewell over the body, was bowed in grief. Before the funeral train left President Kruger broke down completely, sobbing out again and again that his right hand was gone, and asking why should he alone be spared to live and see the old brigade of men this brother had created, the brigade that had fought for the country's liberty, taken one after another from the people. "Gen. Joubert's death, said the President, "is an irretrievable loss. His life and deeds, they are the history of the republic." President Kruger said it had been the general's desire to see Gen. Louis Botha elected in his place.

Col. Gough Dead.

London, March 31.—Lord Roberts reports the death at Norval's Pont on Wednesday, March 28th, of Col. the Hon. George Hugh Gough, C. B.

Colonel Gough had been private secretary to the commander-in-chief of the British forces, Lord Wolseley, since 1897. He was born in the county of Tipperary, Ireland, on July 25th, 1852, and was the second son of the late second Viscount Gough. He joined the 14th Hussars in 1871, passed through the staff college in 1883, commanded the mounted infantry in the Sudan campaign 1884-85, and commanded the 14th Hussars 1891-9.

Major Sam Hughes.

Kingston, March 31.—A letter has been received from Major Sam Hughes in which he says he has been placed in Col. Steele's division, which is engaged in Orange River territory in suppressing troubles among the disloyalists.

To Dredge The Harbor

Work Will Be Commenced Immediately—Dredger Coming From Nanaimo.

Dominion Customs Receipts for March the Largest on Record.

A Victorian's Appointment—Commission to Report on Claims to Land.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, March 31.—The government dredger will be set to work in Victoria harbor at once. Acting minister of public works Mulock, after hearing the representations of Senator Templeman, who supported the request of the board of trade, promised that the harbor would be dredged. Orders were sent to Nanaimo to-day to move the dredger to Victoria, and no doubt in the course of a week or two the work will be in progress. The harbor will be dredged to a uniform depth.

Appointments.

John Thomas Bethune, White Horse, Yukon Territory, has been appointed notary public for Yukon Territory. Raoul Rinfret, Montreal, Dominion Land Surveyor, has been appointed a commissioner to inquire into and report upon certain claims to lands in the Yukon.

Charles Macdonald, barrister, Chatham, Ont., has been appointed clerk of the Yukon Territories, with headquarters at Dawson City.

Customs Receipts.

The customs receipts during the month of March, which closed to-day, were \$2,847,380, as compared with \$2,363,240 for the same month last year, an increase of \$484,176. This is the largest monthly receipts in the history of Canadian customs revenue.

Notes From Vancouver

Carpenters Threaten to Go on Strike Unless Wages Are Increased.

Fish Destroyed by Fire—The New Schools By-Law—Cycle Paths.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, March 31.—It is considered by labor men in the city that there will be a large proportion of the carpenters here out on strike in a few days. There has been some difficulty all along with regard to wages being paid, and on Friday evening, at a mass meeting of the carpenters, definite action was taken. Contractors have lately been holding off the commencement of construction of buildings until they were aware of what the men intended to do. It was unanimously decided at the meeting that the minimum wage for the season must be 33½ cents per hour, with Saturday afternoons off. Some men at present get only 30 cents an hour, while the best get from 33 to 40 cents. The men say that they will go on strike if the contractors do not agree to this schedule.

Fire destroyed 750 barrels of smoked fish at the British Columbia Fish Company's warehouse on Friday evening.

The board of school trustees last night decided at a special meeting to send a letter of protest to the city council against the delay in submitting to the electors a by-law for raising \$80,000 for new schools. The council thinks that the school board is going too fast and building too many schools, in consideration of present taxation.

Kenneth J. Burns, city agent of the Great Northern railway, has received the appointment of general agent of the company at Tacoma, with supervision of the Olympia and other intermediate offices. Before coming here he was in the Victoria office of the company.

The finance committee of the city council was petitioned yesterday by the second-hand dealers of the city to have the license fee reduced from \$100 to \$10, the same as it is in other coast cities. The fees under the Chinese Wash-house by-law are to be doubled.

The council have agreed to give dollar for dollar to the amount subscribed by cyclists for the building of cycle paths. The council has no power to impose a tax on cyclists.

FAMILIES HOMELESS.

(Associated Press.)

San Francisco, March 31.—Fire early to-day destroyed the Yosemite Flour Mills, the California Candy Co., Custom Grain & Fuel Co., and several small houses, burning out four families. The loss is \$200,000.

Dr. PRICE'S

CREAM

Baking Powder

IS MOST ECONOMICAL IN PRACTICAL USE.

Greater in leavening strength, a spoonful raises more dough, or goes further.

Working uniformly and perfectly, it makes the bread and cake always light and beautiful, and there is never a waste of good flour, sugar, butter and eggs.

With finer food and a saving of money comes the saving of the health of the family, and that is the greatest economy of all.

Look at the label when you buy and make sure you get the genuine Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO. CHICAGO.

NOTE—Many mixtures, made in imitation of baking powders, are upon the market. They are sold cheap, but are dear at any price, because they contain alum, a corrosive poison.