

That Was the First Topic in the House at Ottawa Yesterday and It Was Supported All Round.

Mr. Casey Brought the Measure Forward in a Pointed Speech and Was Backed by Grit and Tory Members From Both East and West—Telegraph Companies Had No Friends.

Ottawa, March 12.—(Special.)—The East and the West met today in the House on one plank of the World's platform, namely, State ownership of telegraph lines. Mr. Casey introduced a bill entitled "An Act for the establishment of a Government system of telegraphs."

By interesting statistics he showed that the nationalization of telegraphs in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand resulted in increased convenience and business and a large reduction in rates.

Canada was a good country to introduce the nationalization of telegraphs, as the Government owned submarine cables, telegraph lines, along the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in the Northwest Territories, and one line of 200 miles from Vancouver to the Yukon was to be opened up this year.

It is somewhat irregular to discuss a bill on its first reading, but the leader of the Government invited discussion by their opponents, so Mr. McMillan (P.E.I.) took the floor.

The corollary of members from the west, Messrs. Richardson, McInnes, Oliver, Douglas, Maxwell, et al., loudly applauded the speech of Mr. McMillan and those of Mr. Martin (P.E.I.), who second his protest.

Mr. Laurier admitted the grievances complained of in Prince Edward Island, recounted his efforts, not yet completed, to remedy them. These evils were the necessary concomitant of monopolies, to which he was no friend.

Ontario Subscribes for \$3,500,000, While the Bank of Montreal Alone Wants to Subscribe for \$5,000,000—A Fine Service.

While the people of Great Britain, continental Europe and the United States are reaching out for portions of the new British war loan, Canada does not lag behind.

One firm of Toronto brokers called last evening for an allotment of \$200,000, while several of our banking institutions and insurance companies also sent in subscriptions for various sums.

Bank of Montreal, a Million. Montreal, March 12.—(Special.)—Canada is prepared to take a liberal slice of the British war loan.

ROBERTS HAS AGAIN OUTWITTED THE BOERS

British Advanced Along Kaal Spruit, But Boers Were Entrenched Along the Modder River.

Bloemfontein Ought to Be Reached To-morrow—Boers Are Fleeing From Their Farms—More Talk About Peace Negotiations.

Robert's victory, Orange Free State, Monday evening, March 12.—The British force which, since the fighting at Pretoria, have been marching rapidly hither, have turned the Boer position. Our cavalry are ahead.

Boers Are 12,000 Strong. The Boers were reported this morning about 12,000 strong, with 18 guns in position on a range of kopjes, commanding the direct road to Bloemfontein, which is distant 15 miles.

Only 12 Miles Away Now. London, March 12.—The Daily News has the following despatch, dated Sunday evening, March 12, from Venter's Vie: "We left Aasvogel this morning, preceded by cavalry, and marched here a distance of about 15 miles."

All in the Main Advance. All the divisions have now joined the main advance. Lord Roberts' headquarters are at Groenowald's farm. You will remember that the 'reform prisoners' were tried before Judge Gregoravik.

Outwitted the Boers Again. By advancing along Kaal Spruit, Lord Roberts has again outwitted the Boers, who had entrenched themselves along the Modder, thinking that our route would be in that direction.

Boer Farmers Fled. We found most of the farms along our line of march deserted, with white flags flying over the houses. All the belongings worth removal had been taken away, and there were evidences that the occupants left in a great hurry.

GERMANY KEEPS OUT OF IT. Intense the Transvaal That She is in No Way Concerned in the Conflict.

Durban, Monday, March 12.—The Transvaal having appealed to Germany for mediation, the German Government has replied that she declines to interfere, as she is in no way concerned in the conflict.

THE BOERS GET NO REST. Lord Roberts' Forces Are Upon Them. The Premier, Mr. Kruger, has been told that the Boers are not getting any rest.

GEN. CRONJE IS SATISFIED With His Surroundings and the Treatment Received at the Hands of the British.

Cape Town, March 12.—James G. Egan, United States Consul-General here, has paid a visit to Gen. Cronje, the latter's request, on board the British cruiser Doris.

A GENERAL ELECTION IN THREE MONTHS

Dissolution Talk Fills the Air at Ottawa and There Are Indications of an Early Appeal to the Country.

Organizer Threlkeld Is Chumming With Mr. Mulock and Has Opened an Office at the Capital—Word Has Been Sent Out to Have the Vote Registered as Soon as Possible.

Ottawa, March 12.—(Special.)—Dissolution is in the air. The Opposition look for a general election within three months. The Government see a landslide all along the line, and want to get out of the way as soon as possible.

The Budget Postponed. On the top of this comes a statement made by the Hon. Mr. Fielding, that he did not know when the budget would be brought down.

A Landslide at Montreal. The defeat of the Liberals in the City Council election at Montreal to-day is looked upon as a sign of a landslide. In that election the whole force of the Government and I.C.R. was opposed to the Conservatives, but only one Liberal was elected.

SAD AND HIDEOUS SCENES AFTER BATTLE OF SPION KOP. Letter From a Young Medical Officer, Who Gives a Description of the Gory Realities of the Terrible Attempt to Relieve Ladysmith.

Ladysmith, March 12.—The gory realities of war and the horrors of the battlefield, the private letter of a young medical officer at Spion Kop, which appeared in the Daily Graphic, has been reprinted in the Daily News.

THE TRIBUNE HAS FLOPPED. The Winnipeg Tribune, the mouthpiece of the old-line Liberals in Manitoba and Ontario, has been asked to extend beyond the Province as future date.

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MAKING WELL ON MARCH 3. Mayor of Making Wires His Brother to the Effect From Bulawayo.

A THOUSAND BUSHMEN SAIL. There Was Great Enthusiasm at Melbourne When They Departed for South Africa.

"BOBS" CONGRATULATES NEWTON. Because the Queen Has Promised to Confer a Baronetcy on the Lord Mayor.

DEATHS. At the Elliott House, David Smith, 65, died at 10:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Flowers That Bloom in the Spring. Violets, lily of the valley, primrose, tulips, daffodils and all the daintiest spring flowers.

ABSOLUTE SURRENDER OF BITT'S

Kruger and Steyn Have Made Proposals to Lord Salisbury, With Conditions Attached to Them.

Information Asked For in the House of Commons and Mr. Balfour Promised It Would Soon Be Furnished—Army Estimates Provide for Pushing War at Full Pressure Six Months More.

London, March 12.—In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. J. Balfour, the First Lord of the Treasury, and Government leader, replied to a question as to whether the Government would entertain peace proposals from the South African Republic.

The Proposals Were Rejected. It was learned that the proposals made by Mr. Balfour would be presented to-morrow and would contain in every respect the proposals made by the Associated Press Friday last.

Debate of the Army Estimates. At the commencement of the debate in the House of Commons to-day on the army estimates, the Parliamentary Secretary for the War Office, Mr. George Wyndham, declared that the Government would not justify a present diminution in the provision for the further conduct of the campaign in South Africa.

PRAIRIE PROVINCE POLITICS A SHAKE-UP AMONG JUDGES. Legislature of Manitoba Will Probably Be Called About March 22.

PRIMER ON RAILWAY CHARTERS. Several Changes Are Made. J. R. O'Reilly, Q.C., of Prescott Succeeds Judge Pringle—Judge Carman Goes to Lincoln.

Blaze on the Esplanade. The Esplanade in Toronto was a scene of confusion to-day as a result of a fire which broke out at the foot of Frederick-street.

Cure in a Few Hours. Dr. Evans' Inactive Grip Cures do not grip, but are a relief in 24 hours. C. C. C. Pharmacy, 100 Yonge-street.

Metropolitan Office, Toronto, March 12.—(8 p.m.)—A fairly pleasant day, but with a strong wind from the north.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay. Southerly, shifting to northwest winds, much calmer, with light local easterly or rain before night.

Read Oak Hall's advertisement on the next page about the clearing sale of slaters and carpenters.

Quick Lunch, 311 Yonge, next World Office. Open from 12 to 2 p.m. every day or night from five to fifty cents.

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