

BELGIUM DEPUTES VETO UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE

Amendment to Constitution Rejected.

Rioting Renewed by Various Bands of Socialists.

A Number of Persons Killed or Wounded— Terrible Ravages of Disease in Russia—Talk of Steam- ship Combine.

Brussels, April 19.—The Chamber of Representatives yesterday, by 84 to 64 votes, rejected the proposal to revise the Belgian constitution so as to provide for universal suffrage.

M. Smeets, Socialist, accused the government of being anxious to let loose 60,000 soldiers against their brethren, but, he added, they would be unable to exterminate socialism and enough Socialists would remain to continue the struggle. As the government was not willing to counsel the King to do his duty, nothing was left but for the Socialists to address his majesty directly and plead for his intervention. If he but said the word peace would be reestablished. After other speeches the vote was taken.

Great excitement followed the vote in the chamber. The Socialists held a meeting in the Maison du Peuple, at which M. Vandervelde, the leader of the Socialist movement in Belgium, urged his hearers to be calm. He said that he hoped King Leopold would still intervene. The meeting adopted a resolution to continue the strike and dispersed without disorder.

RIOT AT LOUVAIN.

A serious riot has occurred at Louvain, near Brussels. The Socialists held a demonstration in front of the residence of M. Sclaters, the president of the Chamber of Deputies. When the police attempted to disperse them they were received with a shower of stones. The civic guard then fired on the mob. A similar riot occurred in another part of Louvain and altogether five persons were killed and five wounded. Some of the members carried the dead and wounded to the Maison des Proletariats.

Another riot is reported to have occurred at Bruges, in Flanders. Here the police charged the Socialists with drawn swords and ten of the latter were wounded. The rioting at Louvain began at about half-past seven in the evening. A band of Socialists paraded the streets of the town, smashing windows with bolts and rivets. They broke through the police cordon in the Rue Trillemont. The civic guards stationed in the Place St. Antoine ultimately became hard pressed by the rioters and a volley. The guard fired a second volley in front of the Catholic Club. It is reported that twelve policemen were wounded. In some quarters the number of wounded policemen is placed at twenty, and several are said to have been mortally injured. All the streets of Louvain are barred, and

the maintenance of order has been assumed by the military.

DISTRESS IN RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, April 19.—Scurvy and typhoid fever are devastating the peasantry throughout the whole of the Altai region, formerly the chief granary of Siberia. The starving people there have consumed even the last remnants of their seed grain, and no spring crops have been sown. Many houses have been unhatched to save the lives of horses and cattle. The czar contributed 200,000 roubles to the relief fund, and has remitted the taxes of the sufferers.

GREAT SHIPPING COMBINE.

London, April 19.—The Daily Telegraph announces this morning that prolonged negotiations have resulted in a new combine among the steamship lines, involving no change of flags and little change in management. The lines involved are the White Star, the Cunard, the Leyland and the Atlantic Transport, the American and the Red Star Lines. The joint control of these amalgamated companies, says the Daily Telegraph, will be practically in the hands of the same men who guide their separate destinies, the intention being to reduce working expenses, to avoid ruinous competition and to secure harmonious working relations with the great American railroads. The Times confirms the Daily Telegraph's announcement of the formation of a shipping combination. The Times adds that Mr. Pirie, of Harland & Wolff, and J. Pierpont Morgan have been the principal agents of the affair and notes that the Cunard and Allan lines maintain their independent positions.

THE DUTY ON WHEAT.

A dispatch from Melbourne to the London Times says the new wheat duties are accepted complacently. Some protectionists urge that the time is opportune to secure preferential terms for Australian wheat, but it is not likely such a proposal will be made, because the loss arising from the withdrawal of the most favored nation treatment would be greater than the benefit likely to follow British preferential treatment.

FLYING MACHINE SWINDLER.

Herman Ganswindt, whose so-called flying machine has attracted wide attention in Europe and abroad, has been arrested for protracted deception, forgery and guilting the public into subscribing for shares of an aeroplane company. He obtained money, in small sums, from hundreds of persons. Ganswindt recently flooded the papers with immense advertisements of flying machines, containing the endorsements of clergymen and other persons inexperienced in business, from all parts of Germany. It transpired that some of the names were forged, including the name of Duke Ernest Guntner, of Schleswig-Holstein, Emperor William's brother-in-law.

CHINESE REBELLION CHIPPLES TRADE.

Rev. Mr. Landis, an American missionary, who has arrived at Hong Kong from Nan Ning, Province of Kwang Si, confirms the reports of the seriousness of the rebellion in the southern provinces of China. He says all trade between Nan Ning is paralyzed. The stores there are packed with goods stopped on their way to the interior. The total rebel force numbers about 10,000 well-armed men. The country around Nan Ning is smoldering with discontent arising from the oppression

of the prefect of that district. The rebels are friendly towards foreigners and Christians, and allow the imperial post to penetrate into the interior districts and deliver mail to foreigners.

Canton, April 19.—The rebels are besieging Nanking (an important city in the Province of Kwang Si), and it is reported that the place has already fallen. The telegraph wires beyond Wu Chow (between Canton and Nanking) have been cut.

QUEEN WILHELMINA'S ILLNESS.

The Hague, April 19.—The gates of Castle Loo have been placarded with a notification reading: "Typhoid fever within." This is in compliance with the Dutch law.

The question of establishing a regency is being earnestly considered by the Netherlands Government, and in view of the possibility of long illness of the queen, the states general may be summoned in a joint session at an early date to take action in the matter.

7 p.m.—Queen Wilhelmina's fever has not abated, but the condition of the royal patient is said to be satisfactory. The queen is visited by her doctors three times a day. She is supposed to have contracted her illness as the result of a chill.

London, April 19.—Cabling from Rotterdam, the correspondent there of the Daily Chronicle says he learns that the queen mother will decline the regency, because she wishes to nurse her daughter, and that the govern-

ment will propose that Prince Henry become regent for six months.

The Hague, April 19.—A bulletin issued this morning from Castle Loo announces that Queen Wilhelmina had a fairly quiet night; that the disease (typhoid fever) is following its normal course, and that no complications have supervened, although her majesty's strength is diminishing slightly in proportion to the duration of her illness.

There is general gloom over the condition of Queen Wilhelmina, cables the London correspondent of the New York Tribune. The heir presumptive to the throne is a German prince of the Orange blood, but the succession is undetermined. The Dutch constitution provides that, in default of a legal heir the sovereign and states general shall designate a successor. This has not been done, and the states general will exercise the right of selection in case of the queen's death.

CABLE NOTES.

Diplomatic relations between France and Venezuela, which were broken in 1895, have been resumed.

The International Banking Company of the United States will shortly begin operations in London, with an office at Bishopsgate station.

ARRIVAL OF THE GENERAL.

Halifax, N. S., April 18.—Major-General Sir Charles Parsons, the new commander of the British troops in Canada, arrived here this afternoon on the royal mail steamer from Liverpool.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Simcoe, Ont., April 19.—Daniel B. Palmerston, of the firm of Palmerston & Madden, died here last night. Mr. Palmerston was one of Norfolk's leading men, having for years past been prominently identified with the affairs of the country.

THE SPION KOP AFFAIR.

The London Times, in an editorial article on the Spion Kop dispatches, says that the single redeeming feature of the battle was the splendid conduct of the troops, but that from every point of view the story of Spion Kop and the behavior of the principal actors must remain painful reading to Englishmen.

BAD FOR BULLER.

The Times declares that the dispatches contain crushing condemnation of Buller's behavior as commander, out of his own mouth. They show that if the ministers had acted weakly in first publishing an incomplete version of the story, they have now shown a desire to spare Buller's reputation.

FIRST CREMATION IN CANADA.

Montreal, Que., April 18.—The first cremation in Canada is taking place this afternoon at Mount Royal cemetery, it having been decided to cremate the remains of the late ex-Senator A. W. Orlivie. The new crematory presented to the cemetery by Sir W. C. Macdonald is being used for the first time.

A New York dispatch says: J. P. Morgan & Co. and Baring, Magoun & Co. announce that \$5,000,000 of British consols, purchased jointly by them for sale in America, have been oversubscribed fully ten times.

THE FOURTH IS FILLING FAST.

Half of the Necessary Number
Secured.

Arrival of General Parsons, the New
Commander of British Troops
in Canada.

Ottawa, April 18.—Advices to the militia department indicate that up to this evening about 700, or more than half the number required for the third and fourth regiments of the fourth contingent have been tested and enrolled.

It has not yet been decided who shall command the Sixth Regiment. Toronto, April 18.—At the completion of today's recruiting 170 men had been examined by the doctor and 110 have been accepted. Today 37 men were accepted, and the cases of 14 will come up for further consideration. No more men will be chosen until Monday.

Winnipeg, April 18.—Already upwards of 100 applicants have sent their names as volunteers to Maj. Gardiner for the fourth contingent with Africa. Recruiting will commence on April 24. The number to be taken from Winnipeg is unknown.

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PEACE TERMS NOT YET PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED

Impression That War Will
Cease June 1

Leaders Will Have to Submit to
Burgers' Verdict.

Boers Have Made Overtures Spontaneously—They Are Evidently
in Earnest.

London, April 19.—The ministerial announcement concerning the peace negotiation situation in South Africa is regarded in both houses as tantamount to the early cessation of hostilities. The general inference is that the Boer leaders have reached an understanding regarding the terms which they have accepted, and think worth while submitting to their countrymen as the basis of terms of peace.

Some disappointment is expressed in parliament that the Boer leaders did not feel justified in making terms without incurring the risk of consulting with the less responsible element. This view, however, overlooks the thoroughly democratic nature of the Boer Government, which prevents Schalk Burger and his colleagues from formally surrendering Boer independence without the consent of the burghers.

UNAVOWED ARMISTICE.

It is generally felt in parliamentary circles that, although an armistice was refused, the permission given the delegates to consult with representatives of the commandos must imply a formal, unavowed armistice. Satisfaction is expressed in the lobbies of parliament that neither Mr. Kruger nor Mr. Leyds were apparently consulted in the present negotiations.

PRESS COMMENT.

The principal editorial in each of the London morning papers is devoted to a discussion of the possibility of peace. Each paper dwells upon the two points that the Boers made overtures spontaneously, and that the British have evidently shown no signs of abandoning their policy as already laid down, yet the interchange of opinion has not ended in a break-down, as was previously the case when Gen. Botha and Lord Kitchener met.

Hence the Times concludes that the Boer delegates have recognized the necessity for bringing the hopeless struggle to a conclusion, and that they have satisfied Gen. Kitchener that they are least in earnest.

EXPECT PEACE IN JUNE.

Another dispatch says: Mr. Balfour's statement confirmed the general impression that peace would be made about the first of June, that Mr. Chamberlain had shown firmness in resisting the demand for an armistice, and that the ministers had supported him. Military operations will be conducted without reference to the conferences which are now being held between the Boer leaders and burghers. This policy may not be pleasing to the pro-Boers, but it is heartily commended by the press.

SAGACIOUS AN REASONABLE.

While the prolongation of the war for a month disappoints sensational journals, which have been inventing terms of peace and arranging conditions for immediate surrender, there is a feeling of genuine relief that firmness has been displayed by the government. The comment is a natural one that a peace made too easily might not be permanent, and that the burghers will be more likely to be reconciled when they have been fully consulted by their general.

TERMS OFFERED.

Mr. Balfour was silent respecting terms offered by Lord Kitchener and Lord Milner. These must have been definite or the Boer leaders would not have dispersed to consult their commandos. While the press is on guard against over-confidence, there is general agreement that the Boer chiefs felt assured that their followers would favor a settlement, and that the continued pressure of military operations will not tend to excite irritation and resistance.

CONSOLS ADVANCE.

There was tremendous excitement on the stock exchange yesterday in anticipation of a definite announcement of peace, and consols and the war loan jumped up one per cent. No official information has yet been received as

to the amount of subscription for the new issue, but the general estimate is that it had been applied for about fifteen times over.

CLAPNET OF SIXTY-FOUR BOERS.

Klerksdorp, Transvaal Colony, April 18.—General Jan Smuts and a further drive has captured sixty-four Boers.

AT BOTH'S PASS.

Ottawa, April 19.—Trooper T. G. Owen, of the second C. M. R., writing from Kitchener's Kopje, under date of March 10, stated that about one hundred of the Boers participated in an important fight at Both's Pass, but no one had been hurt. It was expected that the troop would join Kitchener's force.

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The Times declares that the dispatches contain crushing condemnation of Buller's behavior as commander, out of his own mouth. They show that if the ministers had acted weakly in first publishing an incomplete version of the story, they have now shown a desire to spare Buller's reputation. The papers now published in reply to Buller's offensive challenge, says the Times, fully justify the most severe strictures passed at Mount Royal cemetery by Roberts, and leave a strong suspicion among the public as to what that leadership must have been.

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