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AGAIN THE WEEK OPENS GLOOMILY FOR J. BULL

Buller's Turning Movement Has Failed and The London Times Takes a Pessimistic View of It.

Ladysmith's Relief Grows More Improbable—Perhaps it Will Be Abandoned and General White Left to His Fate.

The silence of the War Office as to the movements of the British forces after the abandonment of Spion Kop has been broken. On Saturday the air was full of reports of distressing rumors, via Berlin and Brussels, but now the story is coming out in its true light.

At 3 p.m. yesterday a despatch was posted in the War Office from General Buller giving the long-awaited explanation for the abandonment of Spion Kop. Gen. Buller's explanation is that on Jan. 23 he assented to Gen. Warren attacking Spion Kop, which was evidently the key to the position, but far more accessible from the north than south.

The story from the Boer Headquarters at Modder Spruit, Upper Tugela, dated Wednesday at midnight, says that when it was found that the British had occupied Spion Kop reinforcements were ordered to take it. The Boers found that the English had improved the position by entrenching. Between the lines of trenches was an open field, which the Boers had to rush under a heavy fire.

The War Office is silent as to General Buller's casualties, but a despatch from the Boer Head Langer, Ladysmith, dated Thursday at 5 p.m., says: "The British dead left on the battlefield yesterday numbered 1500. This number is thought in London to include the wounded."

A despatch received in London on Sunday from Pretoria, via Lorenzo Marques, says that after heavy fighting near Spion Kop 150 British prisoners were taken. The message also says "some" British Boers also lost heavily.

There are rumors in London that the Defence Committee of the Imperial Cabinet on Saturday decided to wire Gen. White at Ladysmith to surrender or to cut his way out. This proposition is openly discussed in London.

London, Jan. 28.—(4.15 p.m.) The week has opened gloomily for the British people, and the reaction is all the stronger because of the high hopes that were reposed in Gen. Buller's turning movement. Open talk is heard of the absolute necessity of abandoning Ladysmith to the original plan of an advance over the Orange River upon Bloemfontein.

Disappointment at Ladysmith. To Ladysmith the disappointment must be very bitter. A despatch from the Boer Head Langer on Tuesday, dated Jan. 24, describes the garrison as "very evidently prepared for a desperate coup in order to effect a junction with Gen. Buller's advancing army." It may be regarded as a certainty that in the confident hope of an early relief Sir George White has lately been issuing extra rations, and this fact has given rise to an exaggerated idea as to the length of time the provisions would last.

Would Take a Month Now. Even should it be decided to send Gen. Buller reinforcements, and to attempt to reach Ladysmith by a movement through the still more difficult country east of

To-day's Program. Cheslo Loftus at Shea's, 2 and 8 p.m. "Arizona" at the Grand, 8 p.m. "A Packet of Love Man" at the Princess, 2 and 8 p.m. "A Packet of Love Man" at the Princess, 8 p.m. "A Packet of Love Man" at the Princess, 8 p.m. "A Packet of Love Man" at the Princess, 8 p.m.

SPION KOP IS BROKEN AT LAST BY A MESSAGE FROM BULLER

Who Says That General Warren's Forces Have Been Withdrawn and Are Now Concentrated South of the Tugela River.

Spion Kop Was Found Difficult to Hold for Want of Water, and the Officer Who Succeeded Gen. Woodgate Decided to Abandon It—Buller Thought That a Second Attack on the Kop Was Useless, as the Enemy's Right Flank Was Too Strong—No Mention of Losses.

GENERAL BULLER'S MESSAGE.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The following is the text of Gen. Buller's despatch dated Spearman's Camp, Saturday, Jan. 27, 6.10 p.m.:

"On Jan. 20 Warren drove back the enemy and obtained possession of the southern crests of the high table land extending from the line of Acton Homes and Honger's Poort to the western Ladysmith hills.

"From then to Jan. 25 he remained in close contact with the enemy. "The enemy held a strong position on a range of small kopjes stretching from north-west to southwest to southeast across the plateau from Acton Homes thru Spion Kop to the left bank of the Tugela.

"The actual position held was perfectly tenable, but did not lend itself to an advance, as the southern slopes were so steep that Warren could not get an effective artillery position and water supply was a difficulty.

"On Jan. 23 I assented to his attacking Spion Kop, a large hill, indeed a mountain, which was evidently the key of the position, but was far more accessible from the north than south.

"On the night of Jan. 23 he attacked Spion Kop, but found it very difficult to hold, as its perimeter was too large, and water which he had been led to believe existed, in this extraordinarily dry season, was found to be very deficient.

"The crests were held all day against severe attacks and a heavy shell fire. Our men fought with great gallantry. Would especially mention the conduct of the Second Camerons and the Third King's Rifles, who supported the attack on the mountain from the steepest side, and in each case fought their way to the top, and the Second Lancashire Fusiliers and Second Middlesex, who magnificently maintained the best traditions of the British army throughout the trying day of Jan. 24 and Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry, who fought throughout the day equally well alongside of them.

"Gen. Woodgate, who was in command of the summit, having been wounded, the officer who succeeded him decided on the night of Jan. 24 to abandon the position and did so before dawn Jan. 25.

"I reached Warren's camp at 5 a.m. on Jan. 25 and decided that a second attack upon Spion Kop was useless and that the enemy's right was too strong to allow me to force it.

"Accordingly, I decided to withdraw the force to the south of the Tugela. At 6 a.m. we commenced withdrawing the train, and by 8 a.m. Jan. 28 (Sunday) Warren's force was concentrated south of the Tugela without the loss of a man or a pound of stores.

"The fact that the force could withdraw from actual touch—in some cases the lines were less than a thousand yards apart—with the enemy in the manner it did is, I think, sufficient evidence of the morale of the troops, and that we were permitted to withdraw our cumbersome ox and mule transport across the river eighty-five yards broad with 20 foot banks and a very swift current unimpeded is, I think, proof that the enemy has been taught to respect our soldiers' fighting powers."

HEAVY STORM AT SEA. Nova Scotia Coast Swept Saturday Night by a Terrific Gale—Vessels Delayed.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 28.—Incoming vessels showed marks of a heavy storm at sea with low temperature. The Nova Scotia coast was swept by a terrific gale Saturday night, and the steamers Boston and Prince George from Yarmouth were delayed in consequence.

Some Snaps in Furs at Dinwiddie. There are no Alaska seal skin nor Persian lamb garments left over from this season's sale to be cleared before stock-taking at Dinwiddie's. There are thousands of dollars worth of these choice furs, in the pelts, at Dinwiddie's, and the furs in the ordered work department on the top flat of Dinwiddie's building are still working over to keep up with the demand for finished garments.

Where Are Lyttleton and Dundonald? It is possible that General Buller has withdrawn his whole force, but it is generally assumed that Lyttleton's brigade and Lord Dundonald's cavalry and other troops are still on the north side of the Tugela. Large arrivals of troops are due at Cape Town during the week.

There has been great activity in military quarters in all parts of England since Saturday morning.

The War Office, anticipating a great crush at the opening of Parliament, has placed new restrictions upon visitors during the session.

What is Roberts Doing? The situation at other points is unchanged, but indications that Lord Roberts is preparing plans for an advance across the Orange River come in a despatch to The Daily Chronicle from Sirker's camp, dated Jan. 25, which says that Thebes, an important position near Steynsburg, on the Stormberg-Rosmead line, is now occupied by the British, who are repairing the railway and bridges. The correspondent observes that this will facilitate communication between General Gatacre and General Kelly-Kenny.

Only other news issued by the War Office during the night was a despatch from Lord Roberts, dated yesterday (Saturday), stating that the situation is unchanged, and that Gen. French reports a reconnaissance of the enemy's position on Thursday, when he found the Boers strongly posted at Pietfontein. The maps do not show any such place in the region of Gen. French's operations, and it is probable that Pietfontein, 10 miles north of Colobeng, is the place meant.

Bethune's Infantry Surprised. A special from Colenso, dated Wednesday, Jan. 24, says that Commandant Lewis Meyers' command surprised and surrounded a strong body of Gen. Bethune's Infantry, killing or wounding 23 and capturing 15.

Dr. Lamson Wounded. Head Langer, near Ladysmith, Thursday, Jan. 25 (via Lorenzo Marques, Jan. 26). It is reported here that as the result of "Long Tom's" practice on Monday, Dr. Lamson of Colobeng, is the place meant.

Continued on Page 4.

THE BOER ATTACK ON THE BRITISH MOST DESPERATE

Retaking of Spion Kop Was Only After Terrible Casualties, According to the Burgher Story

British Could Not Hold the Position, Which Was Retaken—150 British Prisoners and 1500 Casualties, the Boers Report.

Boer Headquarters, Modder Spruit, Upper Tugela, Wednesday, Jan. 24.—(Midnight.) Via Lorenzo Marques, Thursday, Jan. 25.—Some Vrheid burghers from the outposts on the highest hills of the Spion Kop group rushed into the laager saying that the Kop was lost, and that the English had taken it. Reinforcements were ordered up, but nothing could be done for some time, the hill being enveloped in thick mist.

Boers Attack the Kop. At dawn the Heidelberg and Carolina contingents, supplemented from other commands, began the ascent of the hill. Three spurrs, precipitous projections, faced the Boer positions. Up these the advance was made. The horses were left under the first terrace of rocks.

English Had Entrenched. Sealing the steep of the Boers found that the English had improved the opportunity and entrenched heavily. Between the lines of trenches was an open field which had to be rushed under a heavy fire, not only from rifles, but of Lyddite and shrapnel from field guns. Three forces ascended the three spurs co-ordinately under cover of fire from the Free State Krupps and a big Maxim.

English Went Down. The English tried to rush the Boers with the bayonet, but their infantry went down before the rifle fire as before a scythe. 150 Prisoners Taken by Boers. The Boer investing party advanced step by step until 2 p.m., when the white flag went up and 150 men in the front trenches surrendered, being sent as prisoners to the head laager.

Many Boers Shot Down. The Boer advance continued until two kopjes east of Spion Kop. Many Boers were shot, but so numerous were the burghers that the gaps filled automatically. Toward twilight they reached the summit

of the second kopje, but did not get further. The British Maxims belched flame; but a wall of firing Maxims held the English back. Their centre under this pressure gradually gave way and broke, abandoning the position.

Effect of the Abandonment. The prisoners speak highly of the bravery of the burghers, who, despising cover, stood against the skyline edges of the summit to shoot the Dublin Fusiliers, sheltered in the trenches. Fling continued for some time, and then the Fusiliers and the Light Horse, serving as infantry, threw up their arms and rushed out of the trenches. The effect of the abandonment of Spion Kop by the English can hardly be gauged as yet, but it must prove to be immense.

An unusually high proportion of Lyddite shells did not explode.

150 BRITISH WERE TAKEN. But the Boer Losses Were Heavy. Says a Despatch From Pretoria.

London, Jan. 28.—The following despatch has been received in London from Pretoria, dated Jan. 25, via Lorenzo Marques, Jan. 26: "The Government is advised that, after heavy fighting near Spion Kop, some British on the Kop being stormed, hoisted a white flag. One hundred and fifty prisoners, God be thanked, but also had to give bare and valuable lives."

"THE BRITISH DEAD 1500" According to a Despatch From Boer Head Langer at Ladysmith.

Boer Head Langer, Ladysmith, Jan. 25.—(6 p.m.)—The British dead left on the battlefield yesterday numbered 1500.

Liberal party of the province. Mr. Young's action will be a great help to the party, and it is the Liberal party of the province that will be benefited thereby.

THE RECOUNT IN WINNIPEG. It is Not Likely to Change the Result.—Provincial Finances Not in a Very Rozy Condition.

Winnipeg, Jan. 28.—(Special.)—Present indications are that the recount in the Dominion election contest will not change the result. Martin only loses 8 out of 40 votes in 128 of the rejected ballots reported on by scrutineers.

Fire last night damaged Boyd's confectionery store and Kern's piano warehouses. Provincial Treasurer Davidson is out with a statement and letter from a bank manager, showing that Manitoba's finances are not in the rosy state pictured by ex-Provincial Treasurer McMillan.

THE STRATHCONA HORSE. Will Comprise 536 Men of All Ranks and 648 Horses.

Ottawa, Jan. 28.—The Strathcona Horse will comprise three squadrons. There will be 25 officers, 36 non-commissioned and 470 of all rank, or 536 men and 648 horses.

Very Cold To-day. Meteorological Office, Toronto, Jan. 28.—(8 p.m.)—An important storm is situated off the south Atlantic coast, indicating very stormy weather for the Maritime Provinces. Depressions also cover the Northwest Territories, and the upper portion of the Lower Lake region. Temperature has risen rapidly to-day in the Territories and Manitoba, the highest pressure having been measurably transferred to the southwest States.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: Victoria, 36-42; Calgary, 4 below-44; Quebec, 26 below-16; Winnipeg, 22 below-4 below; Port Arthur, 14 below-2 below; Parry Sound, 12-28; Toronto, 14-20; Ottawa, 2-22; Montreal, 4-30; Quebec, 2 below-16; Halifax, 16-32.

Probabilities. Lower Lakes—Generally fair and decidedly cold to-day; local snow flurries; Tuesday higher temperature. Georgian Bay—Cloudy to fair, and decidedly cold; light snow falls or flurries; Tuesday higher temperature. Ottawa Valley—Cold, with some light snow falls. Upper St. Lawrence—Cold, local snow falls. Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—High west, easterly to northerly winds, cloudy, with rain or showers to-day, cloudy, with rain or snow, turning to rain. Lake Superior—Gradually rising temperature, fair to-day, light local snow falls at night. Manitoba—Cloudy to fair and milder, a few light local snow falls.

Oak Leaf Clothiers are showing a range of splendid quality blue heaver overcoats (all sizes), at twelve dollars.

STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

Jan. 27. At. From. Lake Ontario. Halifax. Liverpool. Maritime. Vancouver. Australia. Jan. 28. Ashanti. Halifax. Brisbane. Ashanti. Halifax. Brisbane. Ashanti. Halifax. Brisbane. Ashanti. Halifax. Brisbane.

Next Thursday evening the Canadian Star Musical Club will hold their first annual concert in Broadway Hall, Spadina-avenue.

MR. C. A. YOUNG IS AN HONEST POLITICIAN. Feels He Was Elected Under False Pretences and Tenders His Resignation.

HAS NO FEAR OF THE COURTS. But Greenway's Deal With the C. P. R. Was Unknown to Him Prior to Election.

WINNIPEG TRIBUNE COMMENTS. The Action of Mr. Young and Declares That Mr. Greenway Has Been False.