

THE SEMI-WEEKLY NUGGET.

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CHINESE AFFAIRS

Have Exceeded the Interest in the Boer War in London.

REPORTS FROM PEKING ARE SERIOUS.

Botha Holds Against Roberts Two Days Without Losing a Man.

KRUGER WILL QUIT FOR CASH.

Mrs. W. E. Gladstone Dead—792 Officers and 12,000 Men Sent Home—B. C. Affairs.

From Wednesday's Daily.
London, June 15, via Skagway, June 20.—The situation in China is now the momentous question of the day, far exceeding in interest and dire forebodings the war with the Boers. Word has just reached here of the destruction by the Boxers of several more mission churches, and the positions of the legations at Peking are most critical.

Thirty thousand Chinese are drawn up before the gates of Peking to oppose any relief force that may arrive, their guns being trained on the American, British and Japanese legations. These legations have sent couriers to Tientsin for 2000 troops of each nationality.

At Tientsin 10,000 troops are guarding the south gate to prevent the entrance of foreign troops into Peking. All the railroad and telegraph lines

have been destroyed. The various governments having legations at Peking are sending warships laden with troops, and very serious trouble and much bloodshed are imminent.

England Feels Better.

London, June 15, via Skagway, June 20.—Confidence regarding the Boer war is being restored, but the fact that Botha was able to stand against Roberts for two days' hard fighting and then escape without the loss of either a man or gun, is taken that Britain still has a most formidable foe with which to reckon.

Pacification of the whole Transvaal country—as much of it lies far from the railroads and in almost inaccessible places—is now conceded to be a matter of months rather than of weeks. However, at the present time things are going fairly well with the British forces.

Kruger May Quit for Cash.

London, June 15, via Skagway, June 20.—A dispatch from Machadorp to the Truth says:

"Those intimately associated with Kruger assert that Botha and Delovey have each been offered £100,000 pounds to lay down their arms and Kruger expects the same offer to come to himself, Steyn and Dewit. Kruger believes these offers will be made by England on the principle that it is cheaper than to fight to a finish."

Casualties Reported.

London, June 15, via Skagway, June 20.—From records complete up to the 9th of the present month the war department reports casualties in the Boer war as follows: Twenty-three thousand six hundred and sixty-four, besides 792 officers and 12,000 men sent home.

Mrs. Gladstone Dead.

London, June 15, via Skagway, June 20.—Mrs. Gladstone, wife of the late premier, died here yesterday, aged 88 years.

Hot Time in B. C.

Victoria, June 16, via Skagway, June 20.—During the past three days the status of governmental affairs in British Columbia has been the sole topic of discussion all over the Dominion of Canada. Scores of letters have been sent to parliament at Ottawa, but the latter refuses to act without some sort of recommendation from the new provincial legislature which is soon to meet, at which time, if Lieut. Gov. McInnes does not resign, he will surely be dismissed.

Joe Martin had a recount, but it done him no good. He resigned the premiership, recommending James Dunsmuir as his successor. Dunsmuir accepted and was sworn in today. He will at once form a non-partisan cabinet.

NOW ON TRIAL.

Soggs' Case Seems Simple, but Promises to Be Long Drawn Out.

JAMES ROGERS ON THE STAND.

He Looks Well After His Long Illness.

MR. NOEL CROSS EXAMINES.

The Judge Does Not Understand Slang—Enquires About Rubber Necks.

Before 10 o'clock this morning the district court room was filled by spectators who had been drawn thither by curiosity to see and hear everything possible pertaining to the Soggs attempted murder case.

Shortly after the appointed time the judge, officers of the court and attorneys in the case, assembled in the room and the impanelling of the jury began. This was rapidly accomplished, Attorney Noel, who appeared for the defense, challenging but three of the names drawn by Clerk Macdonald.

Mr. James Wood Rogers, who was shot, and it was thought fatally at the time, was the first witness called to the stand. Mr. Rogers, considering what he has been through since the 8th of last month, looks remarkably strong and healthy, and, by his straightforward manner of answering questions and telling of the occurrences of the evening on which the shooting occurred and previous, made a very favorable impression on all within the sound of his voice, excepting possibly the prisoner in the box.

The witness was asked by Crown Prosecutor Wade to tell of the occurrences of the 8th of last May. After being shown a plan of the ground, dumps and immediate surroundings of claim No. 34 on Gold Run creek, and stating what has already been reported in the Nugget of the place and circumstances leading up to the shooting, the witness said:

"I asked Soggs what he was doing there, and to the best of my recollection, he did not answer me.

"I then asked him, 'Are you afraid these men will steal this gold? I think the best thing you can do is to rush on.' This I repeated twice.

"Rogers, don't you strike me."

"I laughed and crossed the sluice boxes to where he was. I smiled and said, 'No, Soggs, I will not strike you; I think you ought to take a bath. I had better pick you up and throw you in the creek.'

"As I said that he jumped across to the other side of the sluice boxes and said, 'I'm fixed for you now,' and then I saw the flash of the gun. When he pointed the gun at me the expression on his face was that of a fiend. His face turned livid, and his eyes were green. I turned my head as he fired and he missed.

"I bent down so as to receive the other bullets lengthwise of my body." Attorney Wade—"You succeeded in getting all three of them?"

"Yes, I got them all."

Then the witness produced from his coat pocket the bullet, slightly flattened at one end, taken from his shoulder. The ball that entered his back on the right of the spine and came out through the left breast was already in the possession of the court as an exhibit for the Queen.

Then the tail of the witness' coat was lifted and a hole in the backskin trousers, just below the waistband, where the third bullet entered his body, was displayed to the jury. This bullet still remains in the witness' body, as he explained, on the left side near the

front, where it constantly causes much pain.

After the last shot had been fired witness walked back to his cabin unassisted. Soggs followed about a rod, where witness saw him standing in company with Bergman, with the pistol still in his hand.

"This is when I thought I was going to get the fifth bullet."

Prosecutor Wade—"Why?"

"I was wondering where it was, knowing there had been but four shots fired."

Prosecutor Wade—"What did you mean when you spoke of throwing the prisoner in the creek?"

"I thought he would be a better man if he got a little the worst of it."

"Did you intend to do it?"

"I presume if I had got hold of him I should have done so."

At this point witness W. H. Lang was called to the stand to identify the revolver used by Soggs, and Mr. Rogers was temporarily excused.

The revolver was brought in tied up and sealed in a "poke." Corporal Frank Smith of the N. W. M. P., identified the poke and seal, and Mr. Lang identified the revolver, a hammerless Smith & Wesson, as the one he had taken from Soggs' pocket on the evening after the shooting.

Judge Dugas then took the gun in hand and created some amusement by his futile attempts to open it. After this had been accomplished and four empty shells and one loaded one removed, Mr. Rogers was recalled, but could not identify the revolver.

Then Mr. Noel for the defense took the witness in hand, and went back to a time early in last winter when, witness as a layman on Nos. 9 and 11 on claim No. 34, owned by Soggs, Cabill and Ellis, had been chairman of a committee of the whole to get Soggs, who then represented the firm as manager, to relinquish all claim to a flume built by the various laymen. This Soggs had done at one of the earlier meetings of the committee, but had afterwards repudiated his action and claimed the flume as a part of improvements. According to Rogers' testimony, he (Soggs) had agreed to buy said flume at \$1500. The idea of Mr. Noel's questioning of the witness was evidently to bring out the fact that witness had, for a long time previous to the culmination of the affair, borne malice towards the prisoner and had thought to precipitate a quarrel.

He asked the witness if, when he had addressed the prisoner on the evening of the shooting, he had asked him what he was "rubber-necking there for."

Judge Dugas at this point seemed to want some information as to the meaning of the expression rubber-necking. There being no encyclopedic bearing on the subject, the judge had to draw his own inference from the titter of spectators and the meagre, though pointed explanation offered by Mr. Wade, who called attention to the overflow of on-lookers who had their heads in at the open window. "They," he said, "indicating them," are rubber-necking."

"You are a very strong man, I suppose," said Attorney Noel, addressing the witness.

"I was, before this shooting, a strong man."

"You are what we call a bully."

"No, I'm the best natured man in the world."

"That is why you wanted to throw Soggs in the creek, I suppose."

Mr. Noel, up to the time of recess at 12:30, had utterly failed to shake the evidence of the witness' first statement.

We are selling lemons. Mohr & Wilkens.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

NEW S. S. COMPANY.

Dawson & White Horse Navigation Company Now Operating.

THREE BIG STEAMERS BOUGHT TODAY.

Will Dispatch Boats Up and Down the River.

FIRST BOAT FOR ST. MICHAEL.

The Tyrell, J. P. Light and Lightning no Longer the Property of British-American Co.

Early this morning the steamers Tyrell, J. P. Light and Lightning were turned over to the Dawson & Whitehorse Navigation Co. by Tom O'Brien, who represented the British American Corporation, who formerly operated the boats.

The Dawson & Whitehorse Navigation Company was formed within the past few days by some of the leading men in the financial circles of the city and will be backed by almost unlimited capital. All the names of the people interested are not given for publication as yet, but it is surmised that some of the big companies' managers are heavily interested.

The company will operate both up and down the river and will dispatch the Tyrell, their first boat from Dawson, to St. Michael next Monday at 9 p. m. She will leave the A. C. Co.'s dock. The Tyrell is one of the finest steamers on the river and is comparatively a new boat, being built in '98, and on the lines of the Columbian, Victorian and Canadian. She is better finished, however, than any of them and has accommodations for 200 passengers. She is a safe and commodious boat to travel in and those who intend making the down river trip are to be congratulated in having this opportunity to travel in comfort.

The J. P. Light is now on the C. D. Co.'s ways at West Dawson, and is a sister ship of the Gustin. Her registered net tonnage is 499 tons. She has a remarkable light draught for so large a boat. She will run between Dawson and Whitehorse and will be the biggest freighter on the upper river. It is expected her carrying capacity will be fully 300 tons. Her accommodations for passengers are 50 first-class and 85 second-class. She is a swift and powerful boat. The Lightning will be put on the upper river run immediately. She has remarkable speed and will make a great record this season.

There is a strong possibility that the new company will acquire more steamers when the opportunity presents itself and will operate on broad lines. J. V. Burke, manager of the Yukon saw mill, is acting as manager until the company is completely organized when a permanent manager will be named.

Ladue Co.

Has received its beautiful Calendars for 1900 and cordially invite the people of Dawson and vicinity to call and select one for their homes.

Fine Groceries

Our Stock is Still Complete

Steam Fittings.

A full line has been brought in over the ice. Special prices in quantities.

Bar Glassware

A Choice Selection

Ladue Co.

New Goods

Fresh from the factory.

BOYS' CLOTHING.

A special sale this week. They will not last much longer.

SUMMER UNDERWEAR.

Natural Light Wool, Silk Finished, at \$3 per suit.

Our sale continues of

SHOES, CLOTHING

AND

GENTS' FURNISHINGS

2nd Street, Opp. Bank of B.N.A.

"If You Bought It at Parsons It Must Be Good."

ARCTIC SAWMILL

Removed to Mouth of Hunker Creek, on Klondike River.
Sluice, Flume & Mining Lumber
Offices: At Mill, at Upper Ferry on Klondike River and at Boyle's Wharf

J. W. BOYLE

COME ON, BOYS! Goods Are Going Fast.

\$35 Suits are selling for \$22.50
\$30 Suits are selling for \$20.00
\$20 Suits are selling for \$14.50
\$7 Pants are selling for \$4.50
\$6 Hats are selling for \$3.50
\$6.50 Shoes are selling for \$4.50
Golf Hose are selling for \$1.25
Linen Collars 25c.

Entire Stock Must be Sold by July 5th.

WARD, HOUGH & CO., 111 Front St.

(LOOK FOR LARGE RED SIGN.)

TAMALES, Kapp & Street's Original.

New Goods Just Received.

4 tins for One Dollar

LOBSTERS, - - - 3 tins for One Dollar

OYSTERS, - - - 3 tins for One Dollar

Fancy Fresh Rex Hams and Bacon.

Our Gents' Furnishing Dep't

Received a New Consignment of

SUITS AND SHIRTS.

It Will Pay You to Give Us a Call.

The Ames Mercantile Co.

F. JANSEN
Res. Manager