

The President Is Hopeful

Africans Urge Kruger to Do All in His Power to Avert War.

Joint High Commission Would Provide a Way Out of the Difficulties.

Com Paul Says the Transvaal Government Accepted Great Britain's Invitation.

(Associated Press.)

Capetown, Sept. 20.—(Delayed in transmission.)—At a meeting of the Afrikaner members of parliament to-day, Mr. Neillings presented the following telegram dispatched to President Kruger: "We, Afrikaner members of parliament, thoroughly sympathize with our Afrikaner relatives in their troubles. While appreciating the concessions already made in the interests of peace, we beg to urge the expediency of doing the utmost, short of sacrificing independence, to avert the horrors of war."

While agreeing that a joint enquiry proposed by Chamberlain cannot be asked for as a matter of right, we believe such a commission would provide a way out of the difficulties, which are fast approaching a crisis, with results which might prove fatal, not only to the Transvaal and our Free State brethren, but also to the Afrikaner party of Cape Colony. In the presence of immediate danger and the momentous issues awaiting the decision of your honor, the executive and volksraad, even the risk of being misunderstood, is of minor importance.

"We beg your honor to lay these words, only dictated by a keen sense of our common interests and risks, privately before the executive and volksraad." This message, which was signed by 53 members of parliament, received the following reply from President Kruger: "I wish you and other sympathizers would notice, as you have doubtless already seen by the reply of the Imperial government, that we have, according to your desire, considered the matter, and accepted the invitation to a joint commission. Why the acceptance was delayed is shown by the dispatches published. I wish to thank you and other friends for the interest you have taken in the matter in which you aided our efforts for a peaceful and satisfactory solution. Finally, I express the hope that your work and ours will not be fruitless."

Although the removal of patients began immediately the fire was discovered, the flames gained headway so rapidly that three persons, too weak to help themselves, were still in the building when it collapsed.

HOSPITAL ON FIRE.

Building Gutted Before All Patients Could Be Rescued and Three Were Burned in the Ruins.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 21.—One woman was burned to death, and another woman and an infant were also believed to be buried in the ruins of St. Vincent's hospital, which caught fire at 2 o'clock this morning. The nurse, Mrs. Dolan, was badly injured. The building is a total loss.

HER FATHER OBJECTS.

E. C. Swift Declines to Allow His Daughter to Marry Prince Alexis of Servia.

Chicago, Sept. 21.—The Times-Herald says: "Prince Alexis Karagevich of Servia is a suitor for the hand of Miss Mabelle Swift, only child of E. C. Swift, of the house of Swift & Co. A radical objection by Mr. Swift, however, to ratifying the choice of his daughter's heart, is the danger at some future time of her being proclaimed merely a morganatic wife, in case of the elevation of Prince Alexis to the throne of Servia. He threatens to disinherit his daughter if she persists in her love for the Prince."

NEW TRANSCONTINENTAL LINE.

(Associated Press.)

New York, Sept. 21.—The Journal and Advertiser says: "While the death of Cornelius Vanderbilt may temporarily delay the consummation of the big Vanderbilt deal for the transcontinental line, it is not believed railway and financial circles will much longer be kept in the dark concerning these plans. The entrance of William Rockefeller into the directory of the New York Central, which was made possible by the death of Mr. Vanderbilt, it is believed, will further the deal."

MONTREAL MINING MARKET.

(Associated Press.)

Montreal, Sept. 21.—Stock exchange, morning board: War Eagle 321, 320; Payne 125, 121; Montreal and London 58, 52; Republic 117, 116. Sales: War Eagle 1,000 at 324, 500 at 323, 1,000 at 320; Payne 500 at 122, 500 at 127; Republic 500 at 117.

FAILURE OF BROKERS.

(Associated Press.)

Chicago, Sept. 21.—Barrett, Farnum & Co., a board of trade brokerage firm, failed to-day. Notice was posted on the exchange at 10:45 a.m., requesting that all trade with the firm be closed. The house is said to have been heavily short of wheat.

ASSISTANT GOLD COMMISSIONER.

(Special to The Times.)

Ottawa, Sept. 21.—J. A. Bell, advocate, Quebec, has been offered and accepted the position of assistant gold commissioner in the Yukon at a salary of \$4,000 per annum.

BANK OF BENGAL.

(Associated Press.)

Calcutta, Sept. 21.—The Bank of Bengal's rate of discount has been raised from 5 to 6 per cent.

Strength of the Boers.

London, Sept. 21.—The London edition of the Standard and Digger's News

of Johannesburg give but a cable dispatch to-day, purporting to be from Johannesburg, saying returns from field corners of the Transvaal and Orange Free State show 58,000 burghers are ready to take the field at short notice.

Steyn's Answer Unsatisfactory.

London, Sept. 21.—The speech of Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt, former Liberal leader, to his constituents at New Tredegar last night, and the message of the Cape town Afrikaner members to President Kruger have proved "red rags" to the "war at any price" party.

Cape papers declare the action of the members of parliament amounts almost to treason, and the same terms are applied to Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt's remarks by English anti-Boer papers. Those who claim the situation has not passed the Rubicon of pacific negotiations, see in Kruger's answer to the Afrikaners a genuine desire to avoid hostilities.

His report that he has personally petitioned Queen Victoria to avert hostilities certainly does not bear out the alarmist reports of English correspondents in South Africa, that Kruger had determined long since upon war.

Nevertheless, preparations for that eventually continue energetically on both sides. Boers are lagering and British troops are reaching Kimberley and Ladysmith, the onward march of the latter being marked by enthusiastic ovations from the scared inhabitants and hordes who are hurrying southward for safety.

The latest report of Boer activity emanates from Newcastle, Natal, saying Transvaal forces are encamped at Zandvlei and intend to raid Natal immediately if Chamberlain's reply is unsatisfactory.

The British army nursing service sails from Southampton to-morrow and Major-General French sails on Saturday. He goes to Durban, Natal, to command the cavalry brigade.

The foregoing includes all actual developments, but they help little to solve the universal question, "Will there be war?"

The answer of President Steyn of the Orange Free State to Sir Alfred Milner, British high commissioner of South Africa, is not regarded as a satisfactory explanation of the Free State's position, and by no means dissipates the increased seriousness with which the situation is regarded since first it was reported the Free State would aggressively assist the Transvaal.

For the Sake of Peace

The Marquis de Gallifet Recommended the Pardoning of Dreyfus.

Asked the President to Begin the Work of Calming the French Nation.

Max Regis Has Followed Guerin's Example and Barricaded Himself in a Villa.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, Sept. 21.—The official journal to-day published the decree granting pardon to Dreyfus.

In a report preceding the decree, the Marquis de Gallifet, minister of war, points out that Dreyfus has already undergone five years' deportation, but that, as the law does not assimilate his deportation with the five years' military confinement, the prisoner would have had to undergo ten years' detention.

The minister also calls attention to the fact that the health of the prisoner would be seriously compromised, and that he would not be able, without danger, to undergo prolonged detention. The report of the war minister concludes thus: "The government will not have met the wishes of the country, which desires pacification, if it does not hasten to efface all traces of the painful conflict. It belongs to you, M. le President, by an act of lofty humanity, to give the first pledge of the work of appeasement which opinion demands, and the good of the Republic commands."

Another Siege.

Alders, Sept. 21.—After dispersing the crowds which gathered in the vicinity of a villa just outside the town in which Max Regis, formerly mayor of Alders, and a notorious Jew baiter, had barricaded himself with a party of adherents, the police remained around the villa through the early hours of the morning. Absolute silence prevailed, but in the obscurity could be seen sentinels, placed by Max Regis, in a garden behind bushes, with guns on their shoulders.

Dreyfus at Carpentras.

Carpentras, France, Sept. 21.—Captain Dreyfus arrived here this morning and went to the house of M. Valabregue, a relative.

Order to Military Officers.

Paris, Sept. 21.—The minister of war, General the Marquis de Gallifet has addressed the following order to corps commanders: "The incident is closed, and military judges, enjoying the respect of all, have rendered their verdict with complete independence. We all, without harboring afterthought, bend to their decision, we shall, in the same manner, believe that a feeling of profound grief animated the President of the Republic."

Dreyfus Dying

A Paris Correspondent Says He Can Only Live a Few Months.

It is Believed He Has Made Arrangements to Visit America.

Paris, Sept. 20.—The following declaration from Dreyfus will be published by L'Aurore to-morrow: "The government of the republic has given me my liberty. But liberty is nothing to me without honor. From to-day I shall continue to seek reparation for the frightful judicial error of which I remain the victim. I wish France to know by a definite judgment that I am innocent. My heart will only be at rest when there remains not a single Frenchman who imputes to me that abominable crime perpetrated by another."

ALFRED DREYFUS.

Menard, clerk of the court of cassation, has been dismissed, after 31 years of service, for giving M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire, formerly chief of the civil section of that court, information hurtful to Dreyfus, which fact transpired during the revision inquiry.

Major Hartman, of the artillery, who gave testimony favorable to Dreyfus at the Rennes court-martial, has been promoted to assistant manager of the army gun factory at Puteaux.

At Nantes.

Nantes, Sept. 20.—Alfred Dreyfus, accompanied by his brother, M. Mathieu Dreyfus, the chief of police, M. Vigour, and one policeman, arrived here from Rennes this morning. The party travelled as ordinary passengers. The train reached this station at 9:23 a.m.

The Dreyfus brothers alighted on the platform, followed by M. Vigour, who enquired if they could have a private room. A waiter replying in the affirmative, the brothers entered a room and ordered two glasses of milk, while Vigour and the policeman remained in the public bar.

Enquiry was then made concerning the Bordeaux express train, which they were informed left at 8:58 a.m. All four then entered first-class compartments, in which there were already other passengers. It was intended by them refraining from any attempt to secure privacy to avoid exciting curiosity, and this apparently succeeded. Vigour and the policeman only went as far as the first stop, Verton, whence they returned to Nantes to catch the 12:13 p.m. express for Paris.

Government Will Protect Dreyfus.

London, Sept. 20.—The Paris correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says:

Dreyfus is so ill that he can live only a few months. The government has promised to watch over and protect him, and has recommended that he live in the Riviera. It is not unlikely that he will accept the villa offered to him during the trial by the Prince of Monte Carlo.

The following dispatch from Liverpool is published in the Times: "The luggage of Dreyfus has arrived here from Havre and Folkestone, addressed to Mme. Dreyfus, and rooms have also been taken at a local hotel. The luggage is marked 'New York' and it is supposed that Dreyfus is going to America."

Sporting News.

LAWNS TENNIS.

THE TENNIS TOURNEY.

Not without reason, Champion Foulkes and his partner, A. T. Goward, are wearing smiling faces to-day, and Victorians are elated that the visit of the tennis cracks from the East was not quite a Waterloo. As was said yesterday, the visiting team, the modernized game, which excels the old as much as the modern round arm bowling on the cricket field, with its breaks and twists, excels the old time "bobbing" of a century ago. It was very soon evident that the visiting team, in every characteristic essential to success the Americans were masters of the local players, and it is therefore all the more regrettable to those who are fond of the game, that in face of that admission, they should succeed in inflicting defeat upon Davis and Goward, acknowledged experts in the double game. It was a surprise to the spectators, too, and it made up in great measure for the comparative inexperience of the other games. The local men played brilliantly, and Goward especially was rewarded with a perfect tornado of applause for the almost incredible agility he displayed in combining some of the features of handball with the game of tennis, a pile of chairs forming no obstacle sufficient to deter him from attempting a return. The visitors played a splendid game, too, showing the advantage of more thorough practice, so that the contest was keen from beginning to end, and the excitement maintained at a high pitch throughout. Davis and Goward captured the first game, 6-2, Foulkes and Goward captured the next, 6-4, and then came the battle royal, which was fought out two sets, and Foulkes and Goward the following three. The sixth went to the visitors, making three all, and so it went on until the score was six all, before either side could capture the necessary two in which success would have placed the players, displaying magnificent form and apparently untiring and ever alert, succeeded, and won the most exciting contest of the historic tourney by 8-6.

THE RING.

KID MCCOY KNOCKS OUT O'DONNELL.

New York, Sept. 20.—"Kid" McCoy had very little difficulty in getting away with Steve O'Donnell in the arena of the Broadway Athletic Club last night. O'Donnell is a clever boxer, but McCoy is equally clever. In addition, he is a fighter. The Kid has proved this on many occasions, and despite O'Donnell's advantages of height, reach and weight, McCoy went at him gradually, without taking any careless liberties, and soon had his big adversary in hand. O'Donnell never landed a good blow, while the Kid was gaining ground in each succeeding round. His foot was always getting to the face and wind, and O'Donnell was puzzled. He staggered frequently, and in the sixth round went down from a left swing. He remained down as long as allowed him, but it was all up with the big fellow. McCoy went after him with swinging lefts and rights, and soon felled him with another hard left swing, from the effects of which he was unable to recover. He was counted out in the sixth round. Steve had to be assisted to his corner by the referee, while McCoy walked to his corner smiling and without a mark.

After the men had returned to their dressing-rooms, McCoy said: "I will post \$1,000 to-morrow to meet Bob Fitzsimmons for the title of middleweight champion of the world, at 158 pounds. My money will remain up for 30 days and should Fitzsimmons ignore my defiance, I will claim his title and withdraw my money, after which I will challenge Fitzsimmons at catch weights. This ought to make him come to time, if he intends fighting anyone. If Fitzsimmons fails to defend the middleweight championship, I will claim and defend it against all comers, negroes barred, at 158 pounds."

ATHLETICS.

A SUBURBAN GYMNASIUM.

A meeting will be held this evening in a schoolroom of St. Saviour's church, Victoria West, called by the members of the athletic club of that suburb, the special business being the discussion of plans for the erection of a gymnasium at that house, the need of which has long been experienced. The J. B. A. A. clubhouse is too far away for the convenience of the Western suburbanites, who have decided to make a special effort now to erect one for themselves. Other 15th street members of the committee were held last evening at the city hall when the following gentlemen were added: Senator Templeman, Thomas Earle, M.P., H. D. Helmecken, M.P.P., A. E. McPhillips, M.P.P., Richard Hall, M.P.P., E. C. Baker, A. C. Plummer and G. A. Kirk. The price of tickets was placed at 50c for gentlemen and 25c for ladies.

THE COMPLIMENTARY BALL.

Another Meeting of Citizens Held Last Evening—Arrangements Furthered—Sub-Committees Appointed.

The ball to be tendered by the citizens of Victoria to Rear-Admiral Beaumont and the officers of H. M. Navy, will take place in Assembly Hall, Fort street, on Friday evening, October 13th. Another meeting of the committee was held last evening at the city hall when the following gentlemen were added: Senator Templeman, Thomas Earle, M.P., H. D. Helmecken, M.P.P., A. E. McPhillips, M.P.P., Richard Hall, M.P.P., E. C. Baker, A. C. Plummer and G. A. Kirk. The price of tickets was placed at 50c for gentlemen and 25c for ladies.

THE SHAMROCK TRIALS.

New York, Sept. 19.—The Shamrock started at 11:42 to-day from Scotland lightship and sailed over a triangular course, 10 miles each way first and second leg, and 4½ miles to third leg, a course about 25½ miles, all of which was completed in 3 hours and 3 minutes. The wind was light from the southeast, varying from 5 to 10 miles an hour during the trial.

THE KENNEL.

BENCH SHOW NEXT WEEK.

Institute hall has been chosen as the scene of the big bench show to be held next week, under the auspices of the Victoria Kennel Club, entries for which closed to-day. Secretary Pfendler has been working for some time in gathering information to engineers from all parts of the province and the Coast, and it is estimated that the show will by all odds be the most successful from every point of view ever held in Victoria.

THE PONTON TRIAL.

Coburg, Sept. 20.—The prisoner Holden was the chief witness at this morning's session of the Ponton trial. Holden told the story of the affair, which was due to Roach, of the unsuccessful attempt, aided by information received from Ponton, made by Whale, Mackie, Roach and witness to rob the bank; of the introduction of Pare into the affair, and finally of the robbery, the division of the money in Ponton's room, and the burying of \$5,000 (Ponton's share) along the railway track.

A large roll of Dominion Bank bills were produced by the prosecution, which Holden identified as being of the same kind as those given Ponton. The bills, which have come into the bank in the ordinary course of business, are stained with rust and very mouldy, and the contention of the prosecution is that they were a portion of the bills buried.

Mr. Porter submitted Holden to a severe cross-examination, making him admit that he began his career of crime 27 years ago, and has been sent to prison for terms aggregating 17 years.

GOOD ENOUGH TO TAKE.

The finest quality loaf sugar is used in the manufacture of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the roots used in its preparation give it a flavor similar to that of maple syrup, making it very pleasant to take as a medicine for the cure of coughs, colds, hoarseness, croup, and whooping cough. It is unequaled by any other. It always cures, and cures quickly. For sale by Henderson Bros., Wholesale Agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

conver and Seattle. The first named is a bull dog, owned by Mr. Padmore, and said to be a perfect type of his class, while the best at Bedington tower, which has never been beaten, and is to his credit twelve first prizes with an English bench competition.

VICTORIA DEFAULTS.

The last schedule match between Victoria and New Westminster will not be played, but goes to the Royal City by default.

WINNIPEG VISITORS.

The Winnipeg Free Press received last night says:

"The Victoria lacrosse club, of this city, has definitely decided to accept the invitation of the New Westminster lacrosse club to play a series of three matches with that club in New Westminster. The list of members who will take part in the tour is not yet quite complete, but it is certain that an attempt will be made to persuade the players required to undertake the journey. Those who have already decided to go are looking forward with much eagerness to the tour, which promises to be most enjoyable, even without regard to the games, as the team will be in New Westminster during the exhibition. The matches promise to be most interesting, as the New Westminster team has a reputation at the Coast equal to that of the Victoria team here. The team will in all probability leave about the end of the present month."

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Spying Out the Land

Three Arrivals From Wales Who Are Looking for a Field for Immigration.

Interviewing the Provincial Executive—Well Pleased With the Prospect.

Among the arrivals at the Driard Hotel last evening were three gentlemen who have come out to Canada from Wales for the special purpose of learning what inducements exist in the Dominion for the people of the Principality who are looking across the ocean for a new home. The trio consists of Mr. W. J. Rees, J.P., ex-mayor of Swansea, Wales; Mr. Llewellyn Williams, M.A., barrister of the Temple, London; and Mr. W. H. Griffith, the Canadian government representative at Cardiff. Mr. David Lloyd George, M.P., accompanied the party from England, but returned Canada after his arrival in the East.

It would have been a pleasure to have met Mr. George, for he is one of the leaders of the Welsh Nonconformist party, and is a notable figure in the Radical party in the House of Commons, where his specialty is committee fighting, in which he is skilful, resourceful and persistent. His political career began while he was still a schoolboy; the school which he attended was under church auspices, and certain declarations were exacted which were tantamount to Nonconformist. Young Lloyd George headed a revolt which proved successful. He became a solicitor when 21 years of age, and has been an M.P. for nine years, although he is only 36 years of age.

Great excitement, concern and controversy were recently aroused by statements which appeared in the provincial press of South Wales with respect to Canada as a field for immigration for the Welsh people. So keen was the interest felt in this question that the gentlemen just named were appointed to come to the Dominion to inquire for themselves and present an impartial report with respect to the suitability of Canada, particularly the Canadian Northwest, for homes for Welsh immigrants. The appointment of the delegates was the outcome of a correspondence which appeared in the Cardiff daily papers about the middle of August.

When interviewed in the East Mr. Lloyd George said that at present the great bulk of Welsh emigration is to the United States. There is a strong feeling growing up that it would be better in every way to turn emigration in the way of British colonies, and the deputation has been seeking knowledge of Canada to carry back to their countrymen.

On their return both on the platform and in the press they will tell their people all about Canada and its great agricultural possibilities. Mr. Lloyd George believes that it is a feasible scheme to secure say 100,000 acres of good land upon which 500 people could be settled, and given a start by friends who would provide a certain amount of capital to assist them over the first year's operations. The delegates are much impressed with the country and are simply amazed at the distance.

The cause of the proposed movement of Welsh people to Canada is lack of farming land at home. The agricultural population is increasing with such rapidity as to make it impossible for the Welsh who are growing up in another town farms. Most of the agricultural industry is carried on the tenant farming system, and although the farmers have no lack of money they find it impossible for them to buy land on which their sons may start in business. According to Mr. Williams there are a dozen bidders for every farm that comes into the market as a free-hold property. There is also a possibility that the members of the Welsh colony in Patagonia may also be brought to Canada. The government of the Argentine Republic now exercises sway over Patagonia, where the Welsh colony was formed thirty odd years ago, when Patagonia was a kind of a no-man's-land. Some years ago the Argentine government announced that the settlers must accept Argentine titles to their land or leave the country. The settlers complied, whereupon the Argentinians published a law compelling the Welsh to serve in the army and consent to Spanish being taught in their schools. The Welshmen objected, and Messrs. Jones, Rowland Phillips and Llewellyn A. P. Jones, representing the Welsh colony, were interviewed by Lord Salisbury with a view to his exercising his influence with the Argentine government toward obtaining mitigation of the conditions under which the colonists will have to live. Perhaps the whole question will be solved by the colony immigrating to the Dominion.

The principal object of the visit of Messrs. Williams and Rees is to interview the members of the provincial government relative to the possibility of encouragement being offered to immigrants from Wales to British Columbia. They have not had time to thoroughly inspect the country through which they have passed, although they were much impressed by the wonderful agricultural development in Manitoba. On their return journey the visitors will take more time to visit the likely districts, and judging from their expressions to-day, it is quite likely the report they make on their return to the Principality will be of a nature calculated to turn the tide of immigration from Wales to the Dominion.

Mr. Porter submitted Holden to a severe cross-examination, making him admit that he began his career of crime 27 years ago, and has been sent to prison for terms aggregating 17 years.

The Sultans' wedding present to the Princess Juita of Mecklenburg, on her marriage to the Crown Prince of Montenegro, was a handsome diamond ornament in the shape of a crescent. He also presented the bridegroom with a pair of beautiful Arab thoroughbreds. The newly wedded pair have been the recipients of some other valuable presents, notably those given by the Russian Imperial family.