

The War in South Africa.

Lord Roberts at Modder River—600,000 Men required for the Defence of the Empire.

London, Feb. 10.—Lord Roberts' campaign remains an unbroken success. He has gone to the front with Lord Kitchener and the foreign military attaches have started from Cape Town to join him there, but nobody outside of the military circles of the war office knows what the front is.

His chief press comant yesterday issued news, and in future all wireless communications are to go unbroken. Only telegrams will be used, for the first few days there will be no telegrams, but after that there will be more freedom. This says and means that the front is not to be interpreted to mean that something is about to happen.

Kimberly, twenty miles away from the Modder River position, is in a very strong position. It has a population of 14,000 whites and 128 blacks per thousand. The infantile death rate was 97 per thousand among the blacks. It is a very healthy place.

This fruitful state of things in December cannot be improved much, if at all, since the fighting power of the garrison must have been greatly diminished. The Boers have been increased, and there is a constant danger of the town falling into the very hands of Lord Roberts. It is believed in circles close to the war office that he will move on once South Africa has been approached within a thousand yards of the Boer intrenchments at Magersfontein. They have found these strong, and ascertained that they are used as a base for operations.

In Natal the Boer commandos and several of the Tugela valley farms and several of the farms in the Tugela valley have been taken by three gunners advancing through Zululand towards the Boer intrenchments. The war office is making preparations to send the stream of troops from South Africa. Four large steamers have been chartered. Japan agrees to let the Armstrong tractor to England for use in the Boer camps that were built for her, consisting of walls for the execution of her order.

Expenses of Contingents.

Ottawa, Feb. 8.—The Hon. Mr. Fielding last night gave notice in the House of Commons that he will next Friday move that the House go into committee on the whole and consider the following resolution with respect to the expenses of contingents to South Africa: That the House do resolve that the expenses of contingents to South Africa be paid out of the public moneys.

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide that from and out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada there shall and out of the consolidated revenue fund of the Dominion of Newfoundland there shall be paid the expenses of contingents to South Africa.

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The following meetings have been arranged in the interest of Sunday school work in Antipolo City, at which the Provincial Secretary will speak on the subject of the proposed Nicaragua canal. The meeting will be held at the residence of Mr. J. W. Crowe.

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