the abiding place of the in-
apanese hordes—that all would
their way across the boundary
e work on the American
there is danger of a disap-
in this connection. The
ates immigration officers have
rm at the numbers of Japs
, and are proceeding to ex-
sures to prevent their settling
tes. Strict attention is being
to enforcement of the alien
w, and as a result some
of coolies who quite intended
n the United States may soon
upon the population of this
More than half of the little
Japs brought by the Goodwin
ording to telegraphic reports,
in this province to find work
nneries and for the canneries;
east 100 of the Milos' contribu-
going into the mines of Yale
oo. Despatches from Helena,
state that the influx of
by way of Victoria is exciting
nsideration by the labor bodies
state, and action toward re-
their entry into the United
ll be taken through representa-
Congress. The Great Northern
looked upon as the prospective
of a majority of the new ar-
d the labor organizations are
closely to see that the contract
is not evaded by this corpora-

CALIFORNIA LINERS.

Travel Begins Early—Japanese at Produce Bills of Health.

time the Colonist reaches its
ders this morning, the steamer
Yale will have arrived, and de-
her large number of passengers
Francisco for this city; while
en (going South to-night) car-
rger number of saloon passen-
n have booked on any steamer
hs past. This is accounted for
the holiday season having
early, although apparently in
The Queen also has for her
between 35 and 50 Japanese
is city, a class not especially
d by the California authorities.
ve recently adopted a new rule
gard to these people, requiring
p to produce a certificate, duly
and sealed by the United States
ere, setting forth that the bearer
and described) has been duly
and had his baggage fumigated
nounced clear of all contagious
by the quarantine officer at
Head, his certificate being filed
onsulate.

GET AWAY WEDNESDAY.

North Star Is Now Repairing mages at Turpel's Shipyard.

it was announced that the little
North Star had received no in-
r her detention by the rocks of
land, the impression meant to be
d was that she had enjoyed
tive, not complete, immunity
mage. It was not until she had
wn up on Turpel's ways Sunday
that her exact condition was
rable, and it was then found that
ll had been broken in two or
laces, her rudder had been dis-
and two ugly holes required
n, the starboard side of the
ottom having been punched al-
hrough, near the bow and aft.
were certain other minor injuries
ttended to, and it will be quite
e evening to-morrow before the
is in condition to resume her
having expended between $300
00 with Victoria ship carpenters.
has been stated—the North Star
,000 or $60,000 worth of cannery
s concealed about her, it is not
see where the merchandise has
owed away. She has very little
ccommodation, and while a very
nd serviceable little cannery ten-
not designed or fitted for service
reighter.

Narrow Escape.—The fierce succes-
squalls yesterday morning came
an ace of claiming a victim in
son of John Johnson, a fisherman
his home in one of the cabins ad-
the Victoria Machinery Depot.
d gone out in his sloop in the
of the morning and was almost
e William Head fishing, when his
raft was overturned by a particu-
rce as well as sudden gust. John-
as forced to swim for life, and
hard, burdened as he was by heavy
g. He battled valiantly with the
and chop, finally dragging himself
austed on the rocks, where he was
and conveyed to the quarantine
. there to receive every attention.
oop has not yet been picked up.

**Friend, look here! you know how weak
vous your wife is, and you know
arter's Iron Pills will relieve her.
hy not be fair about it and buy her**

The Old Four Are Nominated

Messrs Turner, Helmcken, McPhillips and Hall Selected by Conservatives.

All Pledge Themselves to Oppose the Government of Premier Martin

The Victoria Liberal-Conservative Association at a meeting held last evening nominated the four late representatives of the city in the provincial legislature to again contest the city. There was but one other nominee, Capt. Clive Phillipps-Wolley, and upon the result of the poll being announced he moved to make the nominations unanimous, a motion which was carried with the greatest enthusiasm. The candidates pledged themselves to work and vote against the government of Hon. Joseph Martin and every member thereof. The vote was as follows:

J. H. Turner	165
H. D. Helmcken	162
A. E. McPhillips	130
Richard Hall	125
Clive Phillipps-Wolley	86

When the meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. A. J. McLellan, Mr. George Jeeves introduced a resolution expressing confidence in the late representatives, and proposed that they again be nominated. This was discussed at considerable length, but it was decided to nominate the candidates singly, the motion to do this being followed by a rider pledging the candidates to oppose Hon. Joseph Martin and his government.

Mr. Belyea started the ball rolling by nominating Mr. J. H. Turner, and the other nominations following in quick succession, no speeches being made.

Just before the votes had been counted Mr. Hall was ushered in by his friends, and when the poll was announced took the platform and stated that he was quite willing to take the pledge to oppose Premier Martin and the members of his government, in and out of the house. Although he differed from the members of the association on Dominion politics, he said he felt that they could work together for the best interests of the province. He thanked those present for the confidence they had reposed in him.

Mr. Turner, in a short speech thanking the association for the nomination, said his platform would be practically the same as the one on which he had stood on previous occasions. The first thing to do was to regain for the province the credit which it had lost during the last two years. When this was done the government would be in a position to carry out many needed works, developing the province and giving work to those in need of it. In doing this the farming as well as the mining industry would have to be remembered, railways and wagon roads being constructed and detailed surveys made of the isolated districts. It was hardly necessary for him to say that he was opposed to Premier Martin. He had been seen by Mr. Martin on several occasions, and had told that gentleman that he was an admirer of his policy. There were certainly some good things in his platform, but, like the good things in other platforms, they had been taken from the policy enunciated and worked out by the party that was in power for so many years in the province. He felt sure that with the assistance of those present the old four would be re-elected.

Mr. Helmcken thanked the meeting for nominating him and assured them that he was as strongly opposed to Premier Martin and his party as ever he was.

Mr. McPhillips likewise expressed his gratitude to the meeting, and asked all to put their shoulders to the wheel to secure better government for the province. He had never had any confidence in Mr. Martin, and his trust had not been strengthened by the men the Premier had gathered around him.

Capt. Wolley, while he had not been elected, was nevertheless grateful for the number of votes he had received, and promised the meeting that he would work just as hard as ever to secure the election of those chosen. He had been strongly in favor of party lines, but hoped to set an example to those who thought like he did by working for Mr. Hall.

On motion of Mr. Helmcken, Mr. A. J. McLellan was appointed permanent chairman, and he immediately called a meeting for to-morrow evening for organization purposes.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and cheers for the Queen brought the meeting to an end.

* * *

It is understood that Dr. Lewis Hall will be the Martin candidate in Cowichan, with the offer of a cabinet position to help him out. Mr. C. H. Dickie and Major Mutter have announced themselves as oppositionists.

Mr. Joseph Hunter will contest Cariboo in the opposition interests.

St. George's Day.—All the flagstaffs at the public schools were adorned with the Union Jack yesterday in honor of St. George's Day, and there was a liberal display of bunting generally throughout the city.

STRUCK IT RICH.

John Hyland Will Bring a Hundred Thousand From Hunker Creek.

John Hyland, jr., of this city and Telegraph Creek, has struck it rich on Hunker Creek, Klondike, where he now is, and it is said by those competent to judge that his share of the profits this season will be $100,000. At the time of the Klondike excitement Mr. Hyland went north and secured claim 18 on Hunker. Last fall Messrs. J. McQuade and J. McCrimmon took a lay on it and they at last accounts were taking out $100 to the bucket. Both are experienced miners, formerly in Cassiar, and they will make the most of the claim. The news is vouched for by Jack Martin, an old Cassiar miner who returned a few days ago from Dawson.

APIOL & STEEL PILLS for Ladies.
A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES
Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochia, Pennyroyal, &c.
Order of all Chemists, or post free for $1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LTD., Victoria, B.C.
Martin, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

Programme for the Spring Meeting Throughout the Province.

The programme for the spring meeting of the farmers' institutes as arranged by the superintendent, Mr. J. R. Anderson, follows:

Tuesday, May 1, Cedar; Wednesday, May 2, Comox; Thursday, May 3, Courtenay; Friday, May 4, Parksville; Saturday, May 5, Alberni. Speaker, Mr. A. M. Stevens, Ellensburg, Wash. Subject, "The Dairy Cows."

Monday, May 7, Richmond; Tuesday, May 8, Central Park; Wednesday, May 9, Surrey; Thursday, May 10, Langley; Friday, May 11, Abbotsford; Monday, May 14, Ladners; Tuesday, May 15, Coquitlam. Speaker, Mr. H. L. Blanchard, Hadlock, Wash. Subjects, Root Crops, Poultry, Feeding and Management of Dairy Herd, Management of Crops on Dairy Farm.

Friday, May 18, Metchosin; Saturday, May 19, Duncan; Monday, May 21, Saanich; Tuesday, May 22, Salt Spring; Wednesday, May 23, Nanaimo. Speaker, Dr. James Withycombe, vice-director Oregon Agricultural college, Corvallis, Oregon. Subjects, Sheep as a Factor in Farm Economy, Silage Ensilage, the Dairy Cow and Her Environment, Swine Husbandry, Rotation of Crops and Advantage Thereof.

Saturday, May 26, Chilliwack; Monday, May 27, Agassiz; Tuesday, May 29, Mission. Speaker, Mr. D. A. Brodie, superintendent Puyallup experiment station, Washington. Subjects not arranged.

Thursday, May 31, Salmon Arm; Friday, June 1, Armstrong; Monday, June 4, Kelowna. Speakers and subjects not yet arranged.

ST. GEORGE DULY HONORED.

Concert and Dance by Amalgamated Societies in Honor of England's Patron Saint.

Yesterday saw flags flying proudly from almost every prominent building in Victoria, while men and women everywhere wore roses and rose and laurel leaves in honor of the anniversary of Albion's patron saint. St. George's Day is usually celebrated with a modesty characteristic of the greatest nation under the never-setting sun, but this year it was a slight exception.

In the evening the amalgamated Sons and Daughters of St. George gathered in the A. O. U. W. hall for their annual reunion. Some three hundred ladies, gentlemen and children were in attendance, and President G. H. Allan of the men's lodge acted as master of ceremonies, the committee including Messrs. Mulcahy, Greenhalg and Penketh, with Messrs. George Penketh, Heald, Hallam, Jeeves, Parsons, Price, Rivers and Charlesworth.

The annual banquet of the united orders was served by the ladies, the tables being set in the form of an immense St. George's cross, and tastefully decorated with ferns and flowers, the symbolic rose being everywhere in evidence, while the spread was fit for any king. Games for the younger folk followed; and then a programme in connection with which songs were contributed by Miss Penketh, Mr. George Penketh, Mr. Percy Richardson, Mr. Allan and Master Leonard Lucas, several of the gentlemen also giving short addresses fervent with patriotism.

Dancing to the excellent music of the Shelby-Davis orchestra concluded the agreeable anniversary proceedings.

DANUBE HOME AGAIN.

Brought Few Passengers and Little News From the Gateway of the North.

Leaving Skagway coincidently with the City of Seattle and the Dirigo on the 18th instant, the C.P.N. Co.'s steamer Danube, Captain H. R. Foot, returned to port at 6 o'clock last evening, with about ten passengers and little if any freight. Two or three of her passengers purpose closing out their interests as quickly as possible and striking for the new goldfields, 120 miles to the north of Nome, where $30 to the pan is reported to be the average richness of the dirt. The discoverer of this new El Dorado is Al. Morenci, who, after a year's prospecting 100 miles east of Nome City found fabulously rich ground on a tributary of Ophir Creek. Some of the claims there and on Shovel Creek are now held for a million dollars. At Skagway Messrs. Armour & Co. have decided to erect storage warehouses and enter into active competition for the meat business of the North. A large cannery, to be erected by the Chilkoot Packing Company near Haines, is also another addition to the industries of the place; it is backed by Aberdeen, Washington, capitalists, with Robert Forbes as president, and will have a capacity of 13,000 cases. Atlin folk coming in by the Danube say that the new ruling by Hon. Smith Curtis, with reference to alien workers in the mines, "affords no relief for the individual miners; but is merely an attempt to beat the devil round the bush for the benefit of American mining companies."

MADE A GREAT PAPER.

From the Nelson Economist.

Mr. W. H. Ellis, for fourteen years manager of the Victoria Colonist, has resigned that position and will probably embark in some other enterprise in the near future. There are very few men in Canada better qualified for the position of manager of a newspaper than Mr. Ellis. He knows the business from top to bottom, and under his direction the Colonist grew from a very crude publication indeed to one of the neatest and most influential papers in the West. Mr. Ellis' many friends on the provincial press will wish him success in whatever enterprise he may engage.

THE FOOTBALL OFFER.

Sir: I noticed in your paper Saturday a letter sent to the committee of sports for the 24th by Mr. Schwengers, regarding football. As the Kamloops team are willing to come, and only ask the small sum of one hundred dollars, about one-third of their expenses, and as there has not been any football on the 24th for, I think, a period of five years, when a team from Washington played at Beacon Hill, and was watched with great interest by hundreds of spectators, and as the teams are willing to play on any ground, and at any time, the committee may select, it comes to show the great desire they have to take part in the celebration for the satisfaction of lovers of football, and as far as I can learn the Inland team is very strong and our city team is as strong as it has been for years (if not stronger) it is sure to be a close and exciting game, which will prove a great success to the celebration. I hope the committee will decide on this game.

FOOTBALL.

RAILWAY SUBSIDIES.

Toronto, April 24.—The Ontario government to-night brought down resolutions to aid in the construction of railways. Premier Ross introduced a bill granting a land subsidy to the Algoma Central railway, which F. H. Clergue and his associates have undertaken to build. The grant it is understood is 7,400 acres per mile.

The Martinite Candidates

Messrs. Brown and Beckwith Will Be Running Mates of Ministers.

Four Selected at a Little Convention Held Last Evening.

The supporters of the Martin administration held a quiet little convention last evening and nominated four candidates to contest the city at the approaching election. The candidates selected are:

Hon. Joseph Martin, Q. C.
Hon. J. S. Yates.
Mr. J. G. Brown.
Ald. J. L. Beckwith.

Mr. S. Perry Mills occupied the chair, and there were something less than a hundred persons present. There were other names mentioned, but the above were the almost unanimous choice of the meeting.

Mr. Martin, it is understood, will also run in Vancouver.

The acceptance by Ald. Beckwith of a nomination as a Martin candidate will cause considerable surprise, although his name has been mentioned in connection with it during the last few days. Heretofore he has been looked upon as a Conservative.

John Macmillan, who was spoken of as a possible Martin candidate in the city, is going to "stump" Vancouver Island for the government. He speaks in Wellington this evening and at Alberni on Saturday evening.

Dr. Lewis Hall, another who was considered likely to get the nomination here or in Cowichan, stated last evening that he did not know that he would be a candidate anywhere.

R. Whetham has been selected by the Martinites to oppose Richard McBride in Dewdney.

STORY FROM GABERONES.

Incidents of Col. Plumer's Trying March for Relief of Mafeking.

Diary of Officer Protectorate Force.

As a preliminary step to joining hands with Colonel Baden-Powell, Colonel Plumer had decided to advance 400 men from Mochudi to the south supported by the armored trains and to occupy our old position at Crocodile Pools. Since Eliott had assumed command of the Boer forces the enemy had become considerably more active; on one or two occasions, their patrols appeared in the neighborhood of the railway line, and we found wedges in the expansion intervals of the rails. Fearing that it was the intention of the Boers to destroy some of the culverts repaired by us, we decided to lay an ambush. After one of two unsuccessful attempts to catch the burghers by lying in the bed of a spruit, we came to the conclusion that more decided steps were necessary. We had learned that it was the custom for patrols to be sent daily to Gaberones Station, and we therefore resolved to lie in ambush at the telegraph office.

Compared with the deserted sidings which are dignified by the names of stations on the Bechuanaland railway, Gaberones is a village. On the western side are several iron buildings, including the ticket and telegraph offices and a good shelter; to the east of the line is a refreshment bar and an hotel, the latter lying some 50 yards from the platform on standing northward through the station, a police barrack can be seen some 200 yards to the right of the railway. A temporary dead-end for shunting had been constructed at the commencement of hostilities and this curved away to the left into the bush.

Captain Llewellyn's plan was as follows: A small force of about 15 men under an officer to lie hidden in the telegraph and ticket offices, while the armored train, covered with branches and bushes, was to be stabled in the dead-end hidden by the thick growth of the bush veldt. On the arrival of the Boers the surprise party were to shoot through the windows and call upon the patrol to surrender. The bridge one mile to the northward of the railway was to be guarded by No. 2 armored train.

At 2:30 a.m. on the morning of January 12, we steamed into Gaberones Station as silently as possible, and, the ambush party having been posted in the corrugated iron buildings, the train retired up the dead-end. The moon was setting as we arrived and, as the faintest glimmer of dawn was unnoticeable until 4:30, the darkness was intense. Not a sound save the chirruping of the grasshoppers could be heard until 3:30, when the sentry, crouching near the armored train, saw two figures upon the main line, not 50 yards from the dead-end. The sharp challenge was scarcely out of his mouth when the men sprang to their arms, and in the next minute, three shots were exchanged between our sentry and the enemy. While the Maxim opened fire, the train steamed slowly southward to the station. Mauser bullets from right, from the left, and from the front, at ranges of less than 40 yards, flying across the trucks. We, in the telegraph office, unable to get in a shot, began to realize the unpleasant fact that we were caught in a trap. We had been expecting the patrol from the south, from the east and from the west; but this attack came from the north. As the train drew up at the platform and the ambush party crawled from their hiding places into the trucks, bright jets of flame from Mauser barrels fired from the refreshment bar on the opposite platform blazed out across the inky blackness. The Maxim rattled with a noise like the pattering of a stick drawn along area railings, while the Mausers replied with their dry little coughs—at 30 yards, remember! and at 30 yards you cannot hear the hum of bullets; the report drowns the noise. "Let them have a case shot!" said the officer, and crash went our seven-pounder! Then, as if to show how steady and cool they could be, they allowed the reverberation to die away before another Mauser coughed its bullets at us. We steamed northward to the bridge to join No. 2 train, and very slowly too, fearing the line had been mined or destroyed. It was funny in a way; none of us were hurt, but we, the biters, had been bitten. We have never been able to make out whether the enemy were aware of our ambush or not; but we are inclined to think not, because they would either have brought a sufficiently strong force to catch us or have carefully avoided the station under such circumstances; and, had they known we were in the telegraph office, they could have riddled it, for corrugated iron is about as much use as newspaper to keep out Mauser bullets. Strange to say, one of the men of No. 2 train deserted to the enemy about half an hour before the attack, but he could scarcely have had time to give information. This deserter, by way of showing how honorable a man he was, left 5s 6d, which he owed a comrade for card debts! When the sun rose, we returned to the station, where we found that about 15 or 20 horses had been tied up behind the barracks. Now, from 2:30 until the attack, I had strained my ears in listening for a sound. I must have heard the champing of bits, had horses been ridden in the vicinity, so we were driven to the conclusion that while we were lying in ambush on one platform, the Boers were sleeping on the other. I wonder if opposing forces have ever in the history of the world spent a night so close to one another. The night was so dark that the firing was inaccurate, and yet it was not wild, because our fellows were splendidly cool and steady. Nor could we help admiring the Dutchmen; they lay silent and still while hell was being let loose about them and deliberately potted at the flashes of our guns.

On January 7 we were ordered to return all the Mark IV ammunition to store and to draw solid bullets instead; this was a very honorable decision, as there is no doubt that Dum-Dum bullets are against the Geneva Convention, which prohibits the use of "les balles qui s'aplatissent." Unfortunately, in Mafeking, Colonel Baden-Powell had nothing else but Mark IV ammunition left; and when peace is declared, there are sure to be vindictive accusations, in return for the "white flag incidents." With regard to the white flag hoisted at Tuli by the Boers, Captain Glyn assured me that the flag in question was red and white, which were the colors of one of the squadrons of Colonel Plumer's column. The enemy had hoisted the red and white flag with a view of inducing the British to come on.

On Sunday morning at 2 o'clock Colonel Plumer with 400 mounted and dismounted men, two mountain guns and two Maxims, marched to the Metsimassuaana river, having advanced as far as Gaberones by train; but, on arrival at the bridge by which the railway crosses the river, he decided that the position was untenable and decided to fall back on Gaberones; the column was ordered to march back the nine miles immediately, without unsaddling or resting the men; it was a weary and disheartened body of men that filed into Gaberones Station at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning. This decision of Colonel Plumer's was all the more extraordinary as some of his officers, in reconnoitering, reported that the Boers were by no means strong in numbers in their lager at Crocodile Pools, not more than 200 at most. In consequence of this alteration of plans, the armored train again undertook the somewhat dangerous work of advancing through the thick bush, feeling for the enemy and repairing the destroyed culverts. The crew of the armored train, when they saw the column with its guns retiring into Gaberones Station, volunteered to attack the enemy's lager, with the help of one mountain gun.

The march had been excellently carried out by the column; and there is no doubt that the hardships of the three months at Tuli had hardened the volunteers into a able body of men. On the afternoon of Sunday, January 14, Mr. Mallis, the railway engineer, completed a most successful piece of work in mending the bridge which had been burnt by the enemy; it may be mentioned that on the first occasion of its repair, Mr. Wallis succeeded in doing the work in nine hours; on the 14th the armored train was able to cross five hours after the gangers had started the work of mending. Mr. Wallis encouraged his native workers by addressing them in pidgin Kaffir—16 of the boys come from the Matabesi, and when "Zambesi" was called out every one of the 16 responded, hence the name of the great river became the name of the gang of boys collectively; whenever the foreman called out "Zambesi, you d——d fool!" each nigger would grin with pleasure at receiving the 16th portion of this compliment and redouble his efforts. Colonel Plumer was surprised and delighted. On examining the bridges in the first instance his idea had been that weeks must elapse before the train could help to keep open communications between Metsimasuaana and Gaberones, a distance of nine miles; and he explained that this was his reason for having declined the responsibility of holding the Metsimasuaana bridge.

A SALESMAN'S ARGUMENTS.

Though They May Be All Right He Won't Stand a Test by Algebra.

"Strange," said a talkative man in the lobby, "but four statements which I, perfectly true in detail, made a whopping big lie in the aggregate. It happened like this: I went into a jewellery store yesterday and asked to see a cheap watch. The clerk showed me a tin-clad affair at $1.50. It came in a small pasteboard box, on the lid of which I noticed the statement that it was the equal of any $5 watch in the world. 'Have you a watch at $5?' I asked. 'Yes, sir,' said the clerk, and handed me a very neat timepiece cased in oxydized steel. 'You will find that just as good as anything you can get for five times the amount,' he remarked, opening the back and showing me the works. 'It looks all right,' I said, 'but on second thoughts I believe I'd like something better.' Well here are some filled case watches,' he replied, 'that we sell with a thirty-year guarantee. The case can't be distinguished from solid gold, and the movement is fully standardized and tested for heat and cold. It is a watch we consider cheap at $25.' I pried open the back case and out dropped a little disc of paper, on which the thirty-year guarantee was printed. 'This watch is as well made in every particular, it said in preamble, 'as the average $100 chronometer.' 'What kind of a chronometer can a man get for $100?' I asked. 'The best in the world,' replied the clerk enthusiastically. 'Here is one now. You observe it's thinness and general elegance. As far as the movement is concerned, it is simply impossible to produce anything better.' 'All right,' I said, 'I'll invest on that assurance,' and I picked up the tin-clad machine and laid down $1.50. 'I have your word,' I said, 'that this is the best watch on earth.' 'No, you haven't!' he exclaimed; 'I didn't say anything of the kind!' 'Don't you claim that it is as good as any $5 watch going?' I asked, pointing to the statement on the box lid. 'Yes, but'— 'And you just assured me,' I continued, 'that the $5 watch was the equal of anything at five times the price. That get us to $25, and the filled case guarantee states specifically that the $25 watch is as well made as a $100 chronometer. Here you have it in algebra,' and I pulled out a pencil and made this simple calculation: 'A equals B, B equals C, C equals D, D equals X, therefore A equals X. See?'

"But he couldn't see it. He stuck out firmly that each of the four assertions was gospel truth, but he wouldn't stand for their logical conclusion. I told him he ought to be arrested for asking $100 for a watch, which I could prove by his own admissions was no better than one valued at $1.50. That tangled his brains in a hard knot, and I escaped while he was still dazed."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

"That man, said Sherlock Holmes, jr., "lives in the suburbs and moved there six days ago." "But he isn't carrying any bundles," said the great detective's companion, "and I don't see that he has any burdock bunches on his whiskers." "No, he hasn't any bundles, and, there is not the wild-hunted look in his eyes that is characteristic of the man who is used to just missing the train. Still, he will have been a commuter a week to-morrow." "But how do you know that he is a suburban resident, and that he has been such just six days?" "Look at his shoes. An experienced observer can tell the days of the week on them by the layers of mud just as an expert can tell the age of a tree by the rings in the grain."

Problems of South Africa.

Reasons Advanced For Long Period of Military Rule in Conquered Republics.

Treaty Out of the Question With People So Notorious For Treachery.

By Frances MacNab: Author of "On Veldt and Farm, "British Columbia for Settlers," etc.

The dissenters from what is termed "the premature" consideration of the settlement which will follow after the war should reflect upon the want of foresight which is usually the distinguishing feature in our diplomacy. They should remember that the settlement will have to be taken in hand immediately at the close of the war. To delay it while the public at home or in the colonies are considering what form it should assume, would be to double the losses and treble the risks both commercially and politically. It is the old African policy of "wacht een beetje," which has already cost us dearly, coupled with the Little Englander's timorous dread of treading upon Dutch susceptibilities, which has mischievously hampered us hitherto. Moreover, of this we may be sure—that the subject has exercised Dutch minds ever since it dawned on them that a rush through Natal was not to be the rapid success of their fond dreams.

THE AFRIKANDER BOND.

The determination of Great Britain to prosecute the war has made its impression upon the Bond leaders at the Cape, so that whatever they may have expected in the first instance from a humiliating "climb down" on the part of Great Britain, has now faded into a hope that they may escape implications themselves, and be free at the same time to make the best terms they can for their friends in the republics. A people which has invented and known how to work a caucus like the Afrikander Bond, and has had the astuteness to lay hold of the agency of the press, is not likely to be without resources at the critical moment, when all that Great Britain has fought and bled for may be so easily wrested from her by a single ambiguous phrase scribbled on a piece of paper.

NO TREATY.

No treaty of any description should be made with the Dutch, for even though we conquer them we cannot hope for their immediate transformation, or eradicate by a well-fought field the hereditary and inherent treachery of the Dutch nature. We have had abundant proofs of the readiness with which they will make promises that they have no intention of keeping, and their propensity for lying low till the critical moment for springing arrives. To imagine that any terms or any treaty which could be devised would nurture in them a sense of honor would be tantamount in futility to wasting soap upon the Ethiopian. The old cry that the Dutch are sprung of the same race as ourselves takes no account of intervening history, and its mixture of Kaffir and Hottentot blood in Afrikander veins. The situation must be grasped as it is—not as Boer partisans would have us believe it to be. The best must be made of a case which rests upon investigated facts, and not upon representations. To confide in the loyalty of the Dutch—which the Radical press of this country has been so ready to do—so far as to place the powerful weapon of the franchise within their reach, calls for the very gravest deliberation. Upon enquiry we shall find that the Boers have never been loyal even to each other, unless the immediate object of plunder was directly before their eyes. It is the chance of plundering their "brothers" in the colonies which has encouraged them to fight the Roinek. The colonial Boers, who were to have risen to the assistance of those across the Vaal, have not done so out of fear that their doing so would result in loss and trouble to themselves. Do not let us be misled hereafter by having their motives for deserting the Free Staters and Transvaalers brought forward as a proof of their loyalty. They are twice over disloyal by their promise to rise and by their failure to do so.

THE CONSIDERATION BEFORE US.

We may fully expect to hear attention loudly called to Lord Salisbury's speech, in which he stated that we were not fighting for territory, and on this ground a claim for the restoration of the republics will be put in. But since Lord Salisbury spoke we have been brought face to face with colossal armaments of modern warfare, supplemented by European mercenaries, which render explicable the bald impudence and shuffling conduct of President Kruger's negotiations, and, lastly, with Mr. Reitz's manifesto to the Afrikanders of Cape Colony. The consideration before us is briefly this—that the people included in the two republics were granted by us the utmost limit of local autonomy, with the result that the governments entered into a compact to shatter the British Empire. Once this state of affairs is thoroughly exposed, as a gunpowder plot of the largest magnitude, as a preconcerted plan laboriously worked out from the time that the Transvaal saw its way to obtaining funds, the whole case for allowing Dutch autonomy in the republics ceases to exist forever.

EQUAL RIGHTS.

There is another shibboleth which is likely to mislead many people imperfectly acquainted with the Dutch character. It is Mr. Rhodes' phrase, "Equal rights for all white men south of the Zambesi." This view may be regarded as an outpost of the old magnanimous policy which led Mr. Rhodes at one time to favor the Dutch. It takes for granted a state of things which does not exist. Nothing is so difficult to arrive at as equality. Only one measurable equality is obtainable, and that is equality in education. It matters far less what wealth, what titles, what race or color may distinguish people if only they are equal in education. In fact, given equal education, even the genius which is certain to raise one man above another loses something of its supreme advantage. To attempt by the franchise to pass a roller over the heads of so many thousands of human beings, and say thereby, "I have made you equal," would have the sole effect of crushing the heads of the tallest, and converting the others into a compact mass.

AN IGNORANT ELECTORATE.

This is just about what has taken place in Cape Colony. Those who granted responsible government to the Old Colony overlooked certain inalienable facts connected with the working of parliamentary institutions. Even in our own country government by parliament is capable of reform to such an extent that it may be always regarded as experimental. But no objection can be raised to this, so long as the education of the people proceeds at an even pace with the constitution. Fortunately for us our educational system has expanded at no less rate than our electorate; and remarkable advance has been made in the pains taken to keep the constituencies well informed upon all political questions. So marked a feature is this constant reference to the electorate, that in point of fact all the culture and knowledge of our leading statesmen are constantly being placed before the poorest toiler in the crowd. Whatever may be urged against the free press of this country, this much in its favor must be admitted—that the utmost pains is taken to report the speeches of public men faithfully, and to give every man who has anything to say a fair hearing. It is this level thinking which renders the control of parliament by a caucus impossible.

CORRUPTION.

In South Africa there is a large and probably increasing body of uneducated voters who are sons of the soil, and whom it is easy to form into a compact mass, whose support will be given to the men who can appeal to their narrow prejudices, their fears, or their cupidity. Open bribery, as it was practised in our corrupt constituencies prior to the ballot, is not the only means by which votes can be captured. There are various ways of handling the franchise well known to those who have worked elections in Cape Colony. Apart from the contrivances of electioneering agents, there are billets to be disposed of by the party which comes into power, besides others, such as scab-inspectorships and the like, which to the needy back-country Boer are prizes to be obtained by local of family influence and which the Bond has left open expressly that the class of men appointed may be depended upon to contravene the regulations of the statute. When to this is added the payment of members in the legislative assembly at a rate said to exceed by two-thirds the expenditure for their maintenance during the session, we have sufficient grounds for assuming that if parliamentary institutions were extended to the republics, the Bond, even without Kruger's assistance, would be able to suggest many ways for obtaining excellent pickings. This would result in the formation of a Boer party in the house, prepared to sell its support to the highest bidder, and a door would therefore be immediately opened for the introduction of political adventurers.

SEDITION IN THE PRESS.

If equal rights are to be granted to the Boers of the Transvaal, then Dutch as well as English will become equally the language of debate. Unfortunately few people in this country realize that the Bond returns Boer members to parliament who cannot read or understand an English sentence. They are therefore prevented from obtaining even the education which they might secure by following the speeches of educated men. Their political training is carried on by the Bond, assisted by the Bond newspaper, Ons Land. The flagrant and open treason and sedition preached and scattered broadcast by this publication, and the latitude permitted to its disloyalty, are ample proof of the true aim of the Bond and its leaders. Not only is the most acrid and vehement personal abuse levelled at Imperialists and Progressives, but any member of their own party who appears to waver in his allegiance is pilloried in its columns as only the close and intimate friend knows how. It is an implement of coercion and terror, and is used with deadly effect upon a people who are peculiarly timid of exposure. The object of the whole Dutch policy is not the enlightenment of public opinion so much as the consolidation of the Boers to oust the British. But the fact to be borne in mind is, that it was by conferring free parliamentary institutions upon Cape Colony that the country was handed over into its present state of bondage. This was the Boer reply to our magnanimity.

JOHANNESBURG TO-DAY.

Besides these grave political considerations against granting responsible government to the republics, there are problems intimately connected with Johannesburg as an industrial centre which require the business capacity of men trained in older and larger communities than any in South Africa. Johannesburg is a modern capital, and will not remain as she is, "a city set on a hill." From her will issue other towns born of her enterprise. When Kruger feared the extinction of Johannesburg with the final extraction of gold from the Rand, he argued with a peasant's foresight, which cannot penetrate beyond what it sees on the ground. Two things go to form a modern city—the first is men and the second railways. From the salubrity of its climate and its commanding position it is eminently suited as a residential city, and this it will undoubtedly become so soon as it throws off forever the trammels of Boer interference. Municipalities will in time train the men of the country to do the public work of the country, and as their numbers increase, the influence of the towns the strong guiding hand of the Imperial officials who will form the first take over the government will be withdrawn from a country old enough and strong enough to stand and walk alone.

JOHANNESBURG TO-MORROW.

Commercially and politically Johannesburg is the point of highest strategic importance in the sub-continent. Whoever rules at Johannesburg rules South Africa. It is not merely as a mining centre that this, the largest city, is attracting attention; but owing to its situation mid-way between the Protectorate and the sub-tropics of Natal, and on account of the five converging railways (soon to be increased by a sixth leading, it is surmised, to Great Fish Bay Johannesburg already counts as a great distributing centre. The true inwardness of South African policy in future is a railway policy. Transport is a matter of such vital importance that on it rests the point for alliance and conference between all states including even Germany and Portugal. The suggestion that the republics should be handed over to Cape Colony as additional territory has a flavor of rebel inspiration, as such a course would leave the government of Johannesburg at the mercy of the Bond. The alternative proposal that so much of republican territory should be ceded to Natal as to include Johannesburg, would result in Natal being governed from Johannesburg, and a strong financial power, with Durban as a port, set up to wrestle with the needy, ignorant, greedy and corrupt Boer population in surrounding states. Federation under a plutocracy with an unenlightened public incapable of intelligent criticism would offer possibilities for men of boundless ambition. The principal need of South Africa is a cessation from the acute tension of political struggle, and a few years in which to think out and discuss calmly her pressing needs—education—irrigation—transport, while the boundaries of the new divisions of territory are carried out effectually and scientifically.

GOVERNMENT AFTER THE WAR.

It would be only fitting that ten years of Imperial rule should follow in the rebel territories at the termination of the present war. Such a course would impress the Boers with a sense of the military power of Britain as nothing else could do. The population is hostile and warlike, and no civil rule would actually subdue their propensities. They have to learn to pay taxes which in many cases would take the form of an annual quit rent upon their farms. Schools should be built for the education, training and maintenance of those Boer children whose fathers have been killed in the late war or who are otherwise destitute. The urgency of these points recommends a government which is not precisely crown colony, but which would treat the republics and rebel districts of Cape Colony as conquered territory, and place them in hands as firm as those which rule India and Egypt. All disputes with rival colonies or states would be obviated; and an opinion evolved, which would form a basis on which parliamentary institutions might eventually rest.

EASY BLOEMFONTEIN.

A Place Where Nobody Hurries Because There Is Nothing to Hurry For.

If Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, had been settled by Englishmen instead of by Dutchmen it might have been named Sleepy Hollow, from its position and the quietude it was to take on, instead of receiving its name from the flowing fountain. Nothing hurries in Bloemfontein, not even the sun in his course through the fiery midsummer heavens. Folk there get up early in the morning, do a little work, lay off till after midday, and quit before the middle of the afternoon is reached. There's only one highway, and on it nothing can be seen that by stretching the language to the utmost can be called hustle or bustle. The town is like an oasis in the desert. Round about the veldt is fit, dull, parched and monotonous. An undulating plateau, surrounded by low hills, the township itself is a fertile little garden, in which nearly everything flourishes with the least possible amount of trouble. Its roses are famous, so are its vegetables, and its mealies overtop those of the surrounding country by half a foot.

There are about 7,000 whites in Bloemfontein, and perhaps half that number of natives. The town is about 4,500 feet above sea level, and the climate is soft, balmy and invigorating in the extreme. It is well-known and much-used resort for those suffering from pulmonary complaints.

The clerks in the government offices are adepts at lawn tennis. The game forms the chief excitement of the town, and is played with extraordinary vigor throughout the year. On more than one occasion the South African championship, which is competed for annually in Port Elizabeth or elsewhere between teams representing the different colonies and states, has been won by a Bloemfontein player.

One hears much English in the streets. Probably it is the native language of nearly one-half of the white population. One also notices a preponderance of pure Scots Doric, for Scotsmen are in the ascendant in Bloemfontein. Many members of the volksraad are of Scottish descent, as such frequently recurring names as Fraser, MacTavish, Stuart, Macintosh and Innes abundantly testify. The talk in the parliament house is officially in Dutch, but there is a braw twang about much of it which suggests that it has been acquired on the banks of the Tweed or thereabouts.

The four-square appearance of Bloemfontein is owing to the fact that, in common with nearly all Dutch towns, it is laid out in rectangular spaces, with streets equidistant from one another, and bordered with the inevitable eucalyptus or "gum tree," which flourishes here as almost everywhere in the uplands of South Africa.

The Raadzaal, or house of Parliament, is an important edifice with some architectural pretensions. It has a domed tower, and looks like something between a gorgeous Masonic temple and a palatial music hall. It cost nearly $350,000, and was furnished by one of the most artistic and enterprising houses of London. In front of the raadzaal, which is now used as a law court, there is a fine statue of J. H. Brand, who was president of the Orange Free State from 1864 till 1888. Not very far away is a small obelisk, erected in memory of the Free State heroes