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## he Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY SECOND YEAR.

THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST THURSDAY, MARCH 20 1900

VOLUMF XLII -- NO.48

#### Roberts' Move **Near at Hand**

Such Now the Impression But Boer Force Two Weeks' March Distant.

Free State Towns Garrisoned and Civil Government Is Being Planned.

Boer observation parties are hoverin near Bloemfontein, but Lord Roberts Boers Mourn has 130 miles to cover before reaching the great position which the Boers are

the great position which the Boers are preparing at Kroonstadt. Moving 10 miles a day is probably the best he can do with his field transports. Therefore he can hardly engage the Boers in force for two weeks.

The reconstruction of the railway behind him may even delay an invasion of the Transvaal until May.

Meanwhile all the important towns in the Free State within Lord Roberts' reach are being garrisoned. Thaba Nichu, Philoppolis, Fauresmith and Jagersfontein are thus held.

Sir Alfred Milner is touring in the disturbed newly acquired territory, investigating conditions and arranging the administration. He is understood to be getting materials for a report to Mr. Chamberlain concerning a plan of civil government.

government.

The foreign office, according to the Daily Chronicle, is a ranging with Portugal for some thousands of British troops to be landed at Beira and sent by the Rhodesia railway from Massei Kesso to Umla.

MAFEKING'S ORDEAL. News Brought Up to Few Days Ago Showing Heavy Bombar

London, March 29 .- A Pretoria despatch to the Daily Mail, dated the 28th, says: "An official despatch reports a heavy bombardment of Mafeking in progress on Monday, March 26, which was met with a spirited response."

INDIA'S STARVING MILLIONS. Colossal Expense of the Prolonged Relief-A Great Scheme

Calcutta, March 28.—The viceroy, Lord Curzon of Kedlestone, addressing the council on the budget to-day, said that nearly 5,000,000 persons were in receipt of regular relief and that the cost for the ensuing year was estimated at 225 lacs of rupees. The loss on revenue for one year had been 121 lacs of rupees. The government, he said, hound during the content of the dispute. Also though some of the younger command-line to the dispute.

LIBERAL LEADER'S VIEWS.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL. mperial Liberality and Ottawa Parsi

mony-Col. Steele's Good Luck-Gerrymander Rejected.

Ottawa, March 28.-The Senate to day threw out the gerrymander bill by 41 to 19. Dr. Borden announced that Col

Steele, although junior to Col. Otter in Canada, will be senior in South Africa, on account of holding an Imperial commission. mission.

Col. Prior was informed that the government do not know how many men volunteered for service in Africa.

The transportation problem was again

ing yesterday says: "Gen, Joubert died service. of peritonitis. The funeral will take place to-morrow (Thursday). The gov ernment is pleading with the widow to leum built on his farm. His success in the chief command will probably be Gen. Louis Botha, now commanding in says:

of rupees. The government, he said, hoped during the forthcoming year to spend 100 lacs of rupees in irrigating, but he could see no chance of cutting down the military estimates.

"There are two duties of Indian statesmanship," said the Viceroy. "One is to make these millions happy and the other is to keep them safe. For the sake of the one we must not neglect the other."

LIBERAL LEADER'S VIEWS

burg. For a few days, although in the presence of greatly superior forces, he isolated Gen. Hildyard's force and at the same time threatened Gen. Barton's camp at Mooi River. Then as British reinforcements pushed up, Joubert recrossed the Tugela without losing a prisoner, a wagon or guns.

Gen. White's estimate of him pronounced on the day before he died, as a gentleman and a brave and honorable opponent, strikes the tone of all British comment.

### Pretoria and Johannesburg

**Boers Spread Report That Mines** Will Be Sacrificed on

Being Planned.

London, March 29.—5:15 a. m.)—Lord Roberts has sent 10,000 troops to Glen, ten miles north of Bloemfontein, on the railway. This is a preliminary to the general advance.

Immense quantities of stores have now been accumulated at Bloemfontein, and Lord Roberts' infantry is seemingly about to move. An impression, which can be traced to the war office, is abroad that the advance will begin next Monday.

Being Planned.

The official report by Col. Otter on the Paardeberg fight bears out the press statements of the great bravery of the Canadian troops.

The correspondence respecting the offer of British Columbia of one hundred men for Africa was presented to the total stock of Mauser ammunition, five million rounds, was issued to the Free State burghers. The Boers are now issuing Lee-Metford cartridges, of which they originally possessed four million. The Creusote ammunition is almost exhausted. The smokeless powder which was manufactured is proving dericent in quality, and the experiment of re-charging the Mauser cartridges which they originally possessed four The band committee met this afternoon in an attempt to adjust the difficulty. of re-charging the Mauser cartridges has proved a failure owing to the ability of the Boers to make caps.

Their General

Their General

Their General

A laager for women and children is being constructed some miles out of town.

News from responsible parties confirms the report that the Boers intend to blow up the works and shafts of the principal mines on the Rand and on Crown Reef, together with the Robinson and Langlaf estates mines. Huge charges of exceptionally powerful blasting gelatine have already been placed in position with this object. This is said to be done at the instigation of Reitz with the concurrence of Kruger, but against the wishes of many influential hurghers. There are grounds for suspecting that the real motive of the threat is to induce foreign investors to bring pressure on the governments to intervene.

A Pretoria is being entrenched. A laager for women and children is being constructed some and children is being constructed some and children is being constructed some miles out of town.

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Lorenzo Marques, March 28.—Gen
Joubert died last night at 11:20 o'clock
He had been suffering from stomach
complaint. Pretoria is plunged in
mourning for the true patriot, gallant
general and upright and honorable
gentleman.
London, March 28.—The Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphing vestordey seves: "Gen Joubert died

intervene.

A Pretoria cable reports that prominent residents there object to a defence
of the town, and desire that President
Kruger should retire to Lydenburg. It
is alleged that the principal buildings at
Johannesburg have been undermined by
order of Kruger.

Hundreds of the younger Boers, including officers, are being arrested for
desertion. A large number of men
over 60 years of age are being commandered, although not legally liable for
service.

BRITISH LACK HORSES

fast.

A hail of bullets poured into the village. Many cattle were killed. A hotel that is used as a hospital, and over which a Red Cross flag was flying, was fired upon.

The attacking Boer force was large, but notwithstanding the enemy's heavy expenditure of big gun and rifle ammunition, only one Briton was wounded.

Would like Present Generate Payer
Would like Payer
Would like Present Generate Payer
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VANCOUVER AFFAIRS. Mr. Partridge and Atlin Copper-Building Contract-Trouble in the Band.

Vancouver, March 28 .- " Sailor Bill' Partridge, the discoverer of the big cop-Supply of Ammunition Running
Short-The Young Men
Deserting.

Deserting.

Siege.

per claims in Atlin, arrived from England to-day en route for Atlin to hand over his Lakeview claims, a mile and a half from the claims he sold to Lord Hamilton, to the Rothschild syndicate, of London, for a large sum.

Influenza is epidemic in Vancouver, a large number of citizens being confined to their beds with the ailment.

Contractor Young of Victoria is to erect a \$5,000 home for C. A. Godson on Pendrill street.

on Pendrill street.

Messrs. St. George and Perreault,
contractors for the new post office in There are some personal differences between leader Freimuth and the members of the Vancouver military band.

PETER WHITE ENDORSED.

Pembroke, Ont., March 28.—At a convention of Conservatives of North Renfrew, Hon. Peter White, ex-speaker, was nominated for the Commons.

## Liberals Riot

Call for Convention Evidently ever, decided to proceed. Only Scheme to Help Him Along.

Members Who Cannot Endorse Premier Make, Emphatic Protest.

### Mr. Macrum's

Interesting Early Suggestion of Mediation Brought Out in Their Investigation.

Ex-Consul's Charge of Violation of Mail Based on Trifling Accident.

Washington, March 28 .- Charles Mac committee to-day to tell of the alleged indignities he suffered during his incumbittee room. In opening Macrum recalled the statement he had made some time ago to the Associated Press which he said had practically embodied all he had to say. He explained that when he asked for leave of absence, he had desired to come home for private business reasons, and also because he desired to place before the United States government certain facts which he deemed it essential should be known here.

Mr. Howard, Georgia, interposed to Over Martin question the utility of the examination of Mr. Macrum. "It looks to me," he said, "like an effort to make a sensation out of nothing." The committee, how-

Mr. Macrum read the committee a message from the cable company, saying a cipher cable sent by him to the secretary of state on November 14th had been held up by the military censor until December 25th.

cember 25th.
"Did you report to the state department that your mail had been openeed?" asked Mr. Berry, of Kentucky. "I did not," retailed Mr. Macrum.

Vancouver, March 28.—The first division at the Liberal meeting held to-night to choose delegates to the Liberal convention to be held on April 5 showed there were 112 present. Col. Falkland Warren handed in a written protest against the sction of the Liberal exemagainst the action of the Liberal executive of Vancouver in calling a convention, and said no true Liberal could be bound to abide by the decision of such a convention.

The meeting was very disorderly.

BRITISH LACK HORSES

Which Explains Escape of Boer Combined to shide by the decision of such heads of correspondant of the Daily Telegraph in a convention.

The meeting was very disorderly the state of the roads and of country of the state of the roads and of country of the state of the roads and of country heads of the state of the roads and of our horses Commandant Grovellar's command of 6000 men from Colesberg-level and the state of the roads and of our horses Commandant Grovellar's command of 6000 men from Colesberg the command the command the command th

When the ballots were being counted the wildest scenes of confusion took place. The chairman, C. Woodward, refused to allow Walter Nichol to be nominated for Ward Five, although it was proved a mistake had been made in naming him for Ward One, and 30 or 40 rose to their feet and demanded justice for Nichol. The meeting finally overruled the chairman's decision.

At 11 o'clock the meeting degenerated into a rabble, everyone talking at once, and the wildest confusion reigning, while all made merry over the funny rulings of the chairman, who answered amidst laughter that the Vancouver executive was engineering the convention and delegates must do as they said or stay at home.

It is significant that the motion origin-

# Grievances.

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Used in Millions of Homes-40 Years the standard. A Pure Cream of Tartar Powder. Superior to every other known. Makes delicious cake and pastry, light, flaky biscuit,

griddle cakes - palatable and wholesome.

Note.—Avoid baking powders made from alum. They look like pure powders, and may raise the cakes, but alum is a poison and no one can eat food mixed with it without injury to health.