

The Elections In Britain

Contest is Heated and Leaders Are Very Busy Speech Making.

Herbert Gladstone Hints That Premier Will Retire After the Contest.

London, Sept. 26.—Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, has arranged to deliver 11 speeches in 15 days in the parliamentary election campaign. All the leaders on both sides are under heavy engagements. At present there is a slackening of confidence on the government side and a revival of hope on the Liberal and Radical side that the result at any rate will not be quite a walk-over for the Conservatives.

Mr. Goeben is said to be fully resolved to relinquish his post at the admiralty, but he announces this morning, through the Daily Mail, that his retirement is in no way due to any differences with his colleagues, with whom, he says, he has not ceased to be in entire accord.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone, speaking last evening at Leeds, hints that Lord Salisbury would retire after the elections and that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach would relinquish the chancellorship of the exchequer.

Other speeches yesterday were made by Mr. Chamberlain at Oldham, Mr. Salford at Manchester, Sir Vernon Harcourt at Ebervale, and Mr. Widdam, parliamentary under-secretary of state for war, at Dover.

Mr. Chamberlain, attacking the so-called Liberal-Imperialists, said that not a single one of them, from Lord Rosebery downward, has ever shown any desire to help the government, or to show Kruger that the country was united in its demands. He asserted solemnly that there were people in England upon whom the guilt of the war fell as heavily as upon Kruger.

Mr. Widdam referred to the fact that the government was spending £7,000,000 on coast defenses, which would take two years to complete, and said it would be dangerous to return the Liberal to power, as they had always neglected such work. The Northampton Liberals have invited Mr. Chamberlain to stand for re-election.

SALISBURY'S ANSWER.

Reported That He Declines to Agree to Terms of German Note.

London, Sept. 25.—According to a despatch received here from Berlin, the Russian and Japanese replied to Germany's proposal yesterday. It is asserted that Russia's reply in principle while Japan's answer is an "emphatic approval."

Lord Salisbury has replied to the German note in terms that will be understood by the British press. He has communicated verbally to the German ambassador here during a long interview after the manner of the late Mr. Chamberlain, who has exclusive information regarding Lord Salisbury's decision. It will probably not be officially given out in England until the note shall have been passed on paper and transmitted to Berlin, which may be tomorrow or later.

Official circles here were inclined to believe that His Lordship would agree with Germany. Instead of doing so, he used almost exactly the same terms as Washington's refusal was couched, and this, said a high official to a representative of the Associated Press, "is all the more surprising considering that the Washington officials had not the slightest inkling of what England's attitude would be."

Shanghai, Sept. 25.—It is reported from Chinese sources that the Dowager Empress has issued a secret edict commending Li Hung Chang to raise an army and recapture Pekin.

Tian Tsin, Sept. 25.—Taku, Sept. 24.—Li Hung Chang will proceed to Pekin in a few days. He remains under close Russian guard, and access to him is difficult.

In the course of a conversation with a representative of the Associated Press, Li Hung Chang said he did not believe that an early settlement of the difficulties was possible, because of the number of nations to be treated with. He thought the attack upon the Pei Tang forts had not complicated the situation.

Hongkong, Sept. 25.—Advices from Canton say that a boat-load of Chinese Christian women at Kum Ohuk, on West river, was freed upon, and that the women were taken ashore and butchered in cold blood. Native Christians are flocking to Canton from the surrounding country. Canton itself is quiet. The native town is full of bad characters anxious to create trouble, but they lack leaders to lead them.

Toronto, Sept. 25.—Letters received at the Methodist mission house here from the missionaries in China state that all have now reached Shanghai in safety. Some are returning to Canada on furlough, and others are awaiting instructions to return to their posts.

New York, Sept. 25.—A telegram from the convent of the Holy Soul in Shanghai has been received, to the effect that 45,000 native Catholics have been massacred in different parts of the Chinese empire.

THE HABIT OF SAVING.

A Good Method of Cultivating Carefulness Among Children.

From Winnipeg Telegram.

The schools savings bank books which are to be introduced into the public schools have been received by the secretary of the school board. The idea is to emphasize the habit of saving as an essential part of a true practical education. The regulations are as follows: Deposits will be received every Friday only at the morning sessions by the teachers of each school. The amount will be delivered to the bank on the first day of the month. The Canadian Bank-Commerce savings bank department to the credit of the several depositors.

No money can be drawn from the bank except upon a cheque duly signed by the pupil and having the approval, by signature of the parent or guardian, of the teacher's signature can be dispensed with. Deposits of \$3 and over will bear interest at 3 per cent. per annum.

It is understood that all matters affecting school savings banks the officers and teachers of the schools act only as the agents of the depositors.

IN MEMORIAM.

CAPTAIN E. C. PARKER.

Treacherously killed by the Boers in South Africa.

London, Aug. 7.—A party of Boers near Standerton, notified the English officers commanding the Waterval of their willingness to surrender. Fifteen of the Strathcona Horse were sent to accept the submission of the officer in charge. When the Strathconas approached the rendezvous a Boer extended order the Boers opened fire. A sergeant, who had raised a troop in Canada, rallied his men. During so he rode among the Boers, who demanded his surrender. "Never!" cried the sergeant, who, while snuffing his horse, was shot dead.

There being in the field to fall—
To file for Queen and meter fair,
Than tamely here the days to drag
From year to year. So came the call

From distant Africa's blood-stained soil,
Where treacherous foes had dared invade
A sister state—had dared degrade
Froned Britain's banner—dared despoil

Of freedom's rights our kindred's sons.
He heard the call—his answer clear
Of equal right and equal laws
Take me out of this and I'll be there,
Take me out of this and I'll be there,
Take me out of this and I'll be there.

His trove had rallied, brave and keen
To fight the foe, to save our seas;
To ride o'er water, to score his name
If by such tolls as these our Queen

Should Emptie and should Freedom keep
For all her subjects—black or white;
Should Britain's flag and Britain's right,
And Britain's peace prevail; should deep

And broad and strong foundations lay
For all—old and new laws
For which all men might fight and pray.

And well they rode, and well they fought,
Strathconas Horse—we speak the name
With pride, for wide and far its fame
Has spread, with glories nobly bought.

Or battle tried, the foe had fled;
The day was won; a flag they raise
As sign of surrender. "Fret not
To Parker and his men—they sped

To bring the prisoners in. But, shame!
They fire as cowards would re
Upon our men; the Captain's ire
Is raised; he turns, and, deathless fame!

They call him to surrender. "No,"
He cries—Surrender! "Never," not
To such as you, O, foot host!
The bullet of a dastard foe

Speeds to his heart—his heart as beats
In bravest breast—he falls, he dies
As hero famed in story; lies
He on the dreary yeld; and meets

The fate of soldier brave. The fame
Is his; the sorrow ours; and long
His story shall be told—how strong
How true his heart, how pure his name.

—HUGH WATT, M.D.
Fort Steele, 16th Sept. 1900.

Ninth Anniversary.

The ninth anniversary of St. Paul's Freebyterian Church, Victoria West, was celebrated on Sunday by special services, both morning and evening, followed by a concert last evening.

Heavy Traffic.

Overland passenger trains arriving from the East for the past thirty days have, with few exceptions, been getting in late, oftentimes as much as five or six hours. This is due, it is believed, to heavy rains in the West, which, instead of decreasing, for the past week shows an increasing tendency. The trains are expected to be on time for some time, so far as it is concerned, the same month of 1899 in volume of business done.

THE FALL FAIRS.

This and next week will witness the holding of the annual fall fairs in many parts of the province. At many of the fairs the points of exhibition open to the public and continue the remainder of the week. The thirty-third annual exhibition will be held on Friday and Saturday at the Agricultural Hall, Saanichton. The live stock will be judged on Saturday morning. There will be a good programme of sports—some racing (open for farmers and Indian boys, log-chopping and sawing contests, bicycle racing and greasy-pole catling.

It is confidently expected that the annual fall show at Duncan's will be a bigger success than ever this year. The "stock" of the Cowichan district were large importers of pure-bred stock, and the numbers of pedigree cattle and sheep to be exhibited are large. The utmost resources of the Cowichan Agricultural Society's pretty little show in this district will remember the large number of glow of color from end to end with every imaginable variety of fruit and vegetables. Either the catling or the sheep are so numerous as stated, or a lot of people have been lucky enough to escape their ravages for the time being. The exhibits show no signs of falling off. In the grounds there will be plenty to interest and amuse as well as furnish amusement for the young gentlemen from Victoria are expected to compete; saddle-horses and ponies will whirl round the track, and smart single and double turn-out dash past the judges. Then, too, there will be bicycle races on the busy track, and athletic sports, and other open events and good big prizes, while all the time the Fifth Regiment band will entertain the proceedings from the centre pavilion. Mention should also be made of the cheap fares provided by the E. & N. Railway Co. On Saturday next, the date of the show, visitors from Victoria may travel to Duncan's and back for \$1. The entrance fee to the grounds has been reduced to 50 cents, and thus to everyone possessing the humble dollar and a quarter is brought the opportunity of spending a very enjoyable day.

FOUR MILLS CLOSE.

Iron Workers Strike Because of Reduction in Wages.

Columbia, Pa., Sept. 24.—The four big rolling mills of the Susquehanna Iron & Steel Co. at this place are closed down today as the result of a strike which was announced that a 25 per cent. reduction in wages would go into effect to-day, and the men notified the management that they would not accept the cut. The company remained firm, and this morning not a single man reported for duty. The four mills employ about 1,500 workmen are affected.

MOORE TEXAS TROUBLES.

Rivers Rising and Threaten to Do Immense Damage in Various Districts.

Austin, Texas, Sept. 24.—Governor Ross issued an order for the evacuation of the lowlands of the Colorado river, which flows by this city, to the westward through the mountains to the northwest of here, and it is expected at this place by midnight. The warning was sent out by Governor Sawyer in the following telegram of warning:

Goldthwaite, Texas, Sept. 24.—To Governor Sawyer: "Notice to the towns of Colorado river, and have towns notify country points, that river is ten feet higher than it has been known to be in still rising rapidly. Very urgent. (Signed) Phil H. Clements, State Representative."

A telephone message was received here last night by the chief of police from Llano, says the Sanaba, 40 miles north of Llano, says that the river, which was still rising rapidly, was expected to be carried off. No news could be had from Sanaba people to-night, the wires all being down. It is feared that there has been great loss of life in the bottoms, as the rise was in the night and same without warning.

AN ARIZONA CAMEL

(From Outing.)

Down in the southwestern corner of Arizona, well away from the commoner fairs and fairs, there are some places, and certainly unvisited. From one's very feet the chalk-like foot stretches away to the far-distant sky line, its lonely monotony seldom broken by the dun-colored sage of the redish rocks. He is the wise traveler who goes well out of his way to avoid the country, yet awaits the genius who will render the crossing not comfortable but "reasonable."

The government of an earlier day made some such attempt, bringing hither about two score camels to carry the mail. The experiment failed brilliantly, and Uncle Sam joined the ranks of the unsuccessful, leaving his camels to the care of the unscrupulous and the unscrupulous in a strange land. They wandered at will through the hills that border on the waste, eating lonely prospectors, stampeding the horses of hunting parties, or, in cold-blooded devilry, devastating the fields of an isolated rancher. Now and then a pack of camels, or a single camel, is driven to find their way to the more hospitable regions that lie along the Upper Colorado.

Some even travelled over into the San Francisco valley, to live in the camel's substitute for clover. The most vindictive of the fun expenses incurred by the town was certain, for even had there been two of the quondam government beasts in the neighborhood, they would have been one should carry so ghastly a burden. It is the course of another fortnight, a skull and crossbones, and the town is a scene of desolation. The bodies of the dead were found, and later still, some arm-bones, scarce held together by shreds of dried skin. Perhaps the most curious thing about the business was that the camels were found in full career, knocking both it and its rider to the ground. The rage of the beast must have been unbounded, for the bodies were found in the ground it had by this time received, it had torn his side and died terribly.

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MORAL WAIVE.

Gambling and Dance Halls to Be Suppressed in Dawson.

Commissioner Ogilvie of the Yukon Council has received the following letter from Hon. Clifford Sifton, minister of the interior:

"Dear Sir—I have read a good many complaints, most of them of private character, in regard to the fact that women of bad repute are permitted to be employed in bar rooms and drinking places, where they are used for the purpose of deceiving people into such places and in regard to the lack of effort in suppressing gambling; it is also charged that the fact of doing gamblers is indirectly a license to them to continue their operations. I have not members of the council and the commanding officer of the mounted police should have been able to decide on what ought to have been done, but from information which I have received, it seems to me that a considerable increase in stringency is required. I see no reason why what is known as dancing halls, but which are in reality as I understand it, bar rooms, should be summarily suppressed. This same remark applies to the systematic and open gambling dens, and I desire, therefore, that you take the necessary steps to carry out these views without delay."

"I am sending a copy of this letter to the commanding officer of the mounted police, with whom, no doubt, you will require to consult, but who will be directly charged with the carrying out of the above instructions. It would be just as well for you, after the receipt of this letter, to make a resolution has been arrived at on the above lines, so that the people generally will understand what is going to be done and govern themselves accordingly."

"Yours truly,
CLIFFORD SIFTON,
Minister of the Interior."

The Dawson officials say that no immediate action will be taken in the matter, but that the proprietors will be warned that they will be expected to close out their business by the middle of next week, unless other and mandatory orders are received.

THE CONNOBRS SCHEME

Work on the Big Grain Elevator to Start Next Week at Montreal.

Montreal, Sept. 25.—The harbor commissioners received a letter to-day from W. J. Connors, stating that his syndicate would begin work upon the elevator scheme at this port, and that the work would be pressed to completion as soon as possible.

CEMENT WORKS DESTROYED.

Valuable Plant at Tweed Burned and Lost Its Heavy.

Tweed, Ont., Sept. 25.—The works of the Caledonia Portland Cement Co., near here, were destroyed by fire this morning, only the stone kiln house remaining. The machinery destroyed was of a very expensive kind and the loss is about \$90,000. The capacity of the plant was 500 barrels daily, and the works employ 100 men. The works will be re-built at once.

SCHOOL AGAIN.

What blissful peace the city holds,
And thankful mothers say,
Once more that school safety holds
Each little flock away.

To bring cars so anxious looks
Curs now; there's coming danger.
Those darling boys with lunch and books
Have gone to school again.

No Indian war-whoops pierce the air,
No tortured shrieks have led
Some child to a sudden death
By the hand of a madman's care.

Ring in, ye blessed bells of nine,
A reign of quiet, then
These noisy boys with sign and whine
Have gone to school again.

The neighborhood cat bark in the sun,
A feathered chorus sings
"B'rs, aren't you glad that school's begun
For boys with deadly slings?"

But at my door lies Rover, dumb
With grief beyond my ken,
His master, nay, his friend and chum
Has gone to school again.

Trapeze and bars deserted wait
That busy hand-to-foot corps,
The swinging, scurrying, squealing freight
These rings and ropes upon,
Sis silent, (aged you might believe)
Within some private pen.

Those athletes, meekly, (though they grieve),
Have gone to school again.

Young eyes that smiled at sun and sky,
Frown hard at black and white,
As hours like days go lagging by,
While four walls spoil delight
Of outdoor fun, of merry noise
Of glad vacation, when
Life's happiest creatures were these boys
Just gone to school again.

SINCE MAJOWED THE CLUB.

My man has joined some women's clubs,
I ain't doin' a thing,
But havin' just the bulleest time I've ever had, by jing.

I go out every day and play all around the neighborhood,
An' no one tells me when I start, "Remember, now, be good."

I feel like it, I believe, an' if I don't, I'm tough,
An' when the other kids get gay, I give their ears a cut.

For I'm the whole thing 'round here now, an' I ain't no cheap dub,
Since my man went down town one day an' joined a woman's club.