Alaskan Dispute

May Be Dropped by the Commission -- The Great Johannesburg Plot a Fizzle--Still a Transvaal Crisis Seems Imminent.

Anniversary of Gladstone's Death Commemorated -Conscription in England Advocated-Fierce Struggle Going on in the Anglican Church-Startling Statement Made by Dean Farrar-German Conservatives Take Little Stock in the Peace Conference.

move this.

Anglo-American-Canadian commission is naturally regarded here as a matter of great importance and the various rumors and reports on the subject attract much attention. A dispatch from Washington to the effect that the resumption of the commission's labor depends upon the settlement of the Alaskan boundary dispute has been prominently published in this city, and a representative of the Associated Press made inquiries at the center of the negotiations to London. From an unimpeachable authority he obtained the following statement:

"The thorny nature of the Alaskan question makes it probable that on the resumption of the sittings of the commission it will be withdrawn from discussion to be taken up later, should circumstances be favorable. DROPPED OUT.

"The Alaskan question, in fact, has practically been dropped out of the discussions, and the statement that its discussion and settlement will be made the sine qua non of the resumption of the sittings of the commission is inaccurate."

The representative of the Associated Press was assured that the matter was being discussed in the most conciliat-ory spirit on both sides. The newspapers here express regret at the fact that the Alaskan dispute has grown more acute at a time when the relations between the two countries are so cordial and the news that the conference will probably be resumed in the

autumn has given satisfaction.

The Globe, commenting upon the dispatch of American troops to Alaska,

"Pending the meeting of the conference, the first step to be taken after the preliminaries are settled, will be to arrange a modus vivendi, and no time must be lost in doing so if the situation is not to be lamentably complicated by a conflict which will make the final settlement more difficult than ever."

SHORTER WAY OF SETTLEMENT. A correspondent cables: From the negotiations new in progress in London, there are signs that the question of the Alaskan boundary may be taken out of the hands of the commistled directly between London and Washington. This would greatly facilitate the work of the commission, and enable it to meet again with greater prospects of success in disposing of other questions in which Canada is greatly interested. If Canade has the veto power over it, then the American embassy is at the wrong capital. Instead of taking part in the social galety of London, it should be delegated to Ottawa, as the real working center of Anglo-American diplomacy.

ARBITRATION.

Still another correspondent says: Ambassador Choate and Lord Salisbury have reached the agreement that the Alaskan boundary question should be settled by arbitration. This decision has been cabled to the state department, practically approved by it, and the president's approval, expected today, is all that is required to set this question on a fair road to permanent adjustment. The situation has been acute during the last few

THAT BOGUS PLOT

The great Johannesburg plot against the Transvaal is classed as having fizzled out like a damp firecracker. It is claimed that the Boer organs first tried to magnify the affair into another Jameson raid, but now have abandoned the attempt in despair. It is further asserted that the men arrested comprised a couple of Boer agents, who, some people claim, probably engineer- is no distinct mode of knowing where ed the whole scheme. The remainder of the prisoners are described as a set of "honest but drunken wastrels," whose intention was only to prepare for the defense of the town against possible Boer violence in case of war. The police are believed to be responsible for the discovery of the conspiring too shrewd not to see a fiasco.

An interesting sight into Boer meof the barmaids at Johannesburg receive handsome rewards for spying upon customers.

MUCH EXPECTED FROM BRITAIN. Much importance is attached to the coming meeting between Sir Alfred Milner, the British high commissioner of South Africa and governor of Cape Colony, and President Kruger, at Bloemfontein, capital of the Orange Free State. There is general anticipa-tion that Sir Alfred Milner has been instructed by Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, to put again in a more serious form." forth certain demands in the shape of concessions to the outlanders, in a form practically amounting to an ultimatum and that the Boers will be required to accept and carry out the British demands within a specified time, or the Transvaal will be occupied by British

Outlanders who have just returned from the Transvaal are strongly of the opinion that President Kruger will now give in if Great Britain takes the bull by the horns. They add that the Boers will arm, and that there will be a rattle of swords and scabbards, but that they will finally yield without blood-

A SMALL AFFAIR.

Henry Norman cables: The news of the so-called high treason plot in the Transvaal threw political circles into something like a panic for a few hours. fair to its proper proportions. Seven of day congratulated the czar, who was

London, May 22.-The fate of the | the conspirators have been arrested. Responsible dispatches from Pretoria describe all seven as "irresponsible loafers." The belief is now general The belief is now general here that the whole plot was produced by Boer agents - provocateurs. Seeing that the Transvaal is armed to the teeth with every preparation for war, the notion that half a dozen loafers could seriously attempt to overthrow it is too ridiculous. I think the affair will have no further importance. I have frequently stated, however, that the South African situation was full of danger; and the projected meeting between President Kruger and Sir Alfred Milner does not re-

> A CRISIS LOOKED FOR. Sir Alfred is, I know, profoundly anxious to settle the Transvaal question before leaving South Africa. He the British guarantee of his personal residency, and the independence of the Transvaal in return for a reasonable franchise measure, and the abolition of monopolies and other breaches of the convention with England. President Kruger, however, is densely ignorant, superstitious and obstinate. If he refuses these concessions, the situation will instantly assume the gravest character. Secretary Chamber-

lain is determined upon the strongest measures, if necessary, while others, including Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, are opposed to war under any circumstances. The pledge of the uitlanders, tried after the Jameson raid, to refrain from political action, has expired, and in government circles a crisis is expected inside of three weeks.

ANNIVERSARY OF GLADSTONE'S DEATH.

The attempt to make the anniversary of Mr. Gladstone's death death (May 19) the occasion for a great party demonstration, similar to the Conservative Primrose Day, is not a success. The Liberal organs urged the wearing of a white bouttoniere, "the white flower of a blameless life," as it was christened by the party papers, but the idea dia not become popular, and hardly a citizen in London was seen wearing one, while even in the Liberal and Radical clubs few people adopted the idea.

The fund for a national memorial to Mr. Gladstone has been opened for nearly a year, and has secured only £30,000, instead of the minimum of £50,000, needed to carry out the proposed scheme. The anniversary of Mr. Gladstone's death Friday was poorly celebrated. The family and the villagers attended a memorial service at Hawarden Church. Canon Scott Holland officiated at the services at Mr. Gladstone's London church, St. Peter's, Windmill street, in the presence of a large congregation. In addition there were a few small meetings in provincial towns.

CONSCRIPTION IN GREAT BRIT-AIN.

Col. MacDonald, the hero of the battle of Omdurman, who has been feted since his return to England, has just declared himself strongly in favor of conscription. He said: "Conscription will come in Great Britain, though only gradually. The army cannot compete with the labor army. We must adopt a liberal conscription, not exempting rich or poor. We must have a system like Germany, which will be good for the army and good for the country."

DEAN FARRAR'S STARTLING STATEMENT.

Dean Farrar, the most popular divine in the English Church, says: "The English Church is passing through the fire of controversy and dissension, and deep division is being produced. There we are. 'A house divided' was never truer in its application than when applied to the Church of England today. A church with two such extreme parties as constitute the English Church at this moment is in a struggle for life or death. God only knows where the church will be permanently crippled. ger knew anything of the hatching of the affair, as he is looked upon as being too shrewd not to any first to inevitable end must be disestablish-An interesting sight into Boer me-thods was given in a report that most is in all conscience liberal in its scope, but when a certain section follows Rome in worship in all but recognition of the infallibility of the pope, there is surely just grounds for complaint. The ritualistic party must be prepared to make concessions before the English Church can again be united. I am hopeful that from the archbishop's court some good may result, and that more moderate clergymen may be in-fluenced by the decision of the arch-bishop, and may conform to it. Those who don't recognize it, must be de-prived of their livings. If that takes place, the question will no doubt arise

You think, then, Dean Farrar, that there is a distinct Romish tendency, and that it is not simply a divergenc of views as to the scope of the prayer

book?" asked the correspondent. "Many of the extreme party," replied the dean, "have already openly avowed for Rome in all but the pope's infallibility, and make no secret that they are striving to see the Roman and English churches united. To bring about such unity the Church of England would have to sell itself body and soul, for it is well known that the Church of Rome won't swerve onemillionth part of an inch. Within the Church of England there are agencies actively working on behalf of

TAKE LITTLE STOCK IN THE

SCHEME. The opening of the peace conference at The Hague created little attention Subsequent telegrams, however, and a in Berlin. The North German Gazette, little reflection speedily reduced the af- on behalf of the government, on Thurs-

styled a "faithful friend of our em-peror," on the occasion of his birth-day. The Liberal newspapers greeted the opening of the conference with sympathetic editorial articles, but the Conservative and agrarian press was either silent or treated the matter as a bagatelle. The Vorwaerts reiterates its view that the conference is a Russian intrigue, and claims it has ground for saying that Russta at the conference will propose a reduction of the number of regular troops, which the paper characterizes as a "diabolical scheme" intended to bring about a league of the continental powers against Great Britain. either ellent or treated the matter as

THE MIDLAND CANAL SCHEME. The rejection of the Midland canal bill by the committee of the reichstag is much commented upon in the press. From inside information the correspondent of the Associated Press learns that this does not mean the defeat of the bill. The government is determined that the measure, which is the result of twenty years' deliberation, shall not fail, it being claimed that such a canal scheme is imperatively needed in view of the fact that the state railroads are about to come to an end of their carrying capacity. The Conservative plan of constructing a system of subsidiary railroads will not be adopted. The main reason that the government, and particularly the emperor, se strongly favors the canal project is that in case of war with France or Russia, or both, a network of canals from the eastern to the western frontier of Prussia would afford the best system for the conveyance of field hospitals and supplies for the ordnance department.

The Empress Eugenie is reported to be critically ill at Naples, and several members of the Bonaparte family have gone to see her.

There are good accounts of Sir Henry Irving from one who sees him daily but it is doubtful if he ever will be quite the same man again. His recent illness has sent Lyceum shares from par to one-eighth discount, which, though apparently slight, means a loss of £12 10s in each £1,000 shares of will doubtless offer President Kruger stock. Miss Irving continues to play her part in a listless and uninterested

fashion. The funeral of the Earl of Strafford, who was killed by the Cambridge express train at Potter's Bar, Hertfordshire, took place on Saturday. By the Queen's command, her equerries, Sir H. P. Ewart, Col. the Hon. H. P. Carrington, Lieut.-Col. Arthur Davidson and Major the Hon. Henry Charles Legge, attended, taking a wreath, presented by her majesty, which was sented on the coffin. The Queen's placed on the coffin. The Queen's wreath was inscribed in her own handwriting: "A mark of sincere friendship and regard for faithful and devoted

The German press and the government are much interested in the so-called anti-jingo movement started by German-Americans in the United States. The German press freely comments with satisfaction on the fact that German-Americans have exerted themselves toward the re-establishment of the former pleasant international

WINGHAM METHODISTS

Hold Their Annual District Meeting-Laymen Elected to the Conference at Windsor.

The annual sessions of the Wingham district meeting were held in the Methodist Church, Brussels, on Tues day and Wednesday of last week, Rev. David Rogers, Bluevale, chairman, in the chair; Rev. S. J. Muxworthy, financial secretary. Rev. F. J. Oaten, of Belgrave, was chosen Journal secretary, and Rev. W. M. Pomeroy, of Bethel, was elected statistical secretary. The ministerial sessions occupied the first day.

The character of the brethren was passed, the superannuated men recommended to be continued on the fund; the probationers recommended for advancement, and H. A. Graham, B.A. recommended for ordination at next conference. T. Hall comes to the districe as a supernumerary. An obituary notice, prepared by Rev. D. Rogers, bearing on the life and work of the late Rev. A. Cunningham, was read. A touching resolution was passed respecting Rev. Dr. Pascoe, who, after 46 years of active and efficient service, vas recommended to be superannuat-

WEDNESDAY'S SESSION of the district meeting was composed of both ministerial and lay brethren. The various schedules were presented and discussed. At 11 o'clock the election of members to the various conference committees took place, with the following result: Stationing committee, Rev. S. J. Allin; Sabbath school

No ingenuity of barbarism-no devilish invention of the masters of torture during the time of the Spanish inquisition ever de-

vised an agony so intense, so persistent, 50 long enduring, so nerve - harrowing as that which is suffered day after day by the women whose distinctly feminine organism is deranged or diseased. There are three most trying times in every woman's life; 1st-when girlhood blossoms into womanhood; 2d 2

-when motherhood is achieved; 3d when the capacity for motherhood ceases (the change of life.) Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was devised to make these three periods safe

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please your fancy and fit your

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committee, Rev. S. W. Muxworthy, W. H. Kerr; Epworth League committee, Rev. F. Swann, Edward Cooper; miscommittee, W. H. Kerr, J. sionary Humbertson (alternate); sustentation committee, Rev. W. W. Leech, Joseph Leech. Rev. Messrs. Brown and Stewart were appointed to convey the greetings of the district to the W. F. M. S.

convention in session. On reassembling after dinner, the following laymen were elected to attend the annual conference at Windsor: Wingham, Wm. Fessant and H. Park; Kincardine, S. Henry; Lucknow, Geo. Greer; Brussels, W. H. Kerr, B. Gerry; Teeswater, J. W. Field; Ethel, J. J Mitchell, John Cober; Fordwich, Ed Cooper; Gorrie, Jas. Leech; Wroxeter, Wm. Weir; Bluevale, Joseph Leech, R. Stewart; Ashfield, W. T. Gardiner (Lucknow); Salem, Wm. Melvin (Riversdale: Bethel, John Thompson (Pine River); Ripley, John Humbertson; Bervie, J. H. Kaake (Kinloss); F. Colwell (Bervie); Tiverton, H. O. Foster; Whitechurch, W. Wellwood (Fordyce);

Belgrave, Wm. Wray. The amount of money raised for all purposes, including salaries of ministers, connexional funds and church enterprises, is \$26,874; 290 persons were received into church membership during the year. The number of members removing to other places by letter is 165, while more than 60 have died. It was agreed to hold the fall district meeting at Bluevale and the next

May district meeting at Wingham.

Moved by Rev. J. Learoyd, seconded by Rev. R. Paul, that our thanks be tendered to the chairman for his genlal and efficient services. Carried by a

standing vote. In the evening of the first day a public meeting, in the interests of the W. F. M. S. of the district, was held, Rev. D. Rogers presiding. The first speaker was Rev. Mr. Muxworthy, of Teeswater. He was followed by Mrs. Gordon Wright, editor of the Outlook, of London, who, in a most sympathetic and well-directed heart-talk no doubt aroused a deeper interest in the work of the W. F. M. S. than was felt prior to her most interesting address. The closing address was given by Rev. J. Learoyd, of Lucknow, and was a fit-ting complement to the two other

A resolution was passed, expressing grief and disappointment at the action of the government in refusing prohibition, and calling upon the representatives to use their vote and influence in securing the utmost and most efficient prohibitory enactment possible along the lines at present indicated by the Dominion Alliance. The resolution was moved and seconded by laymen and unanimously carried.

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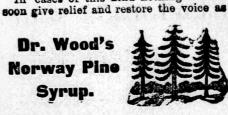
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