

FOR... Brand... Milk... Country, and its... The Snow... Ranby Rubber... like Iron... 4.50... FINISH... GUARANTEED... 4.50... D... nson Street.

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

SENTENCES COMMUTED.

Kruger Has Not Yet Decided on the Punishment of the Johannesburgers.

Barney Barnato Closing Out All His Mining Interests in the Transvaal.

London, April 29.—Secretary Chamberlain has received the following dispatch, dated to-day, from Pretoria, from Sir J. A. Weyitt, British agent there: "Leyds (Dr. W. J. Leyds, secretary of state for the Transvaal) just told me the sentence of death had been taken off four prisoners, Hammond, Rhodes, Farrar and Phillips. It is undecided what punishment will be substituted. The executive council are now engaged considering the sentence of all the prisoners."

The Times says in an article on the judgment of the Pretoria court: "The sentences were a complete surprise, but were regarded with equanimity solely because it was perceived that they could not be executed. This applied with equal force to the monstrous penalties against the other prisoners (those sentenced to death). We rely on President Kruger's common sense. To execute those sentences would be a crime from which we believe Kruger would shrink. It would be an egregious political blunder. It is hardly necessary to discuss the certain consequences of the execution of the sentences. Putting the reform leaders to death would kindle a bloody feud between the English and the Transvaal Boers. No sober politician can doubt the ultimate issue of a conflict between Great Britain and the Transvaal, whatever its alliances."

A dispatch from Pretoria to the Times gives the text of statements signed by Messrs. Hammond, Phillips, Farrar and Col. Rhodes, which were presented to the court at Pretoria on Monday. The chief points of which have already been cabled to the Associated Press. The principal new features in the statements are that of learning Jameson's intention to come and assist in Johannesburg two delegates of the Transvaal executive council gave the reform committee a virtual promise that their grievances should be redressed; that the reformers offered to guarantee with the reformers that if Jameson were allowed to enter Johannesburg unopposed he should leave again peacefully as soon as possible.

The Times this morning has a letter from Pretoria which describes the intrigues which the correspondent says were intended to prevent liberal-minded judges from presiding at the trial of the Reformers. The letter says that there has been an extensive German immigration of men well fitted to supply a corps of highly trained soldiers at the shortest notice, and who are at the same time fitted for useful trades. There is no doubt," the letter continues, "that the largely increasing German immigration, Warlike preparations do not abate. Fifty visits of prominent Boers to the colonies and to the Orange Free State, secret gatherings to meet them, and warm meetings between the leading commanders of the Natal border, all create anxiety."

On Saturday, April 29.—After the death sentences had been passed upon Lionel Phillips, president of the chamber of mines, Johannesburg; George Farrar, proprietor and publisher of the Country Life, Johannesburg; Colonel Francis Rhodes, brother of Cecil Rhodes, formerly premier of Cape Colony, and John Hayes Hammond, the American engineer, manager of De Beers mines, Johannesburg, and even at Pretoria, and caused the greatest excitement everywhere, even though it was generally understood that the four men sentenced to death would not be executed. The telegraph wires throughout the colony and the Transvaal were blocked with messages to and from Pretoria, business was at a standstill everywhere, and every man had a "what next?" expression on his face. The attitude of the British population was one of angry resentment; the Boers were sullenly defiant.

A message from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, was communicated to President Kruger last evening by Sir J. A. Dewitt, British agent at Pretoria. It was evident to all that he felt the gravity of the situation most acutely. Later last night a rumor obtained circulation that the President was carefully going over the records of the trial and consulting with the legal authorities of Pretoria, with the result that he had decided to commute the death sentences to a heavy fine and long terms of imprisonment. The President in exercising clemency only followed the course which he was expected to adopt under the circumstances, but his impulse in this matter appears to have been dictated by a sense of justice, and not from any fear of the consequences which might follow the execution of the prisoners.

Indeed it is stated upon high authority that he had decided some days ago upon the step just taken, and that the firm stand he took in his letter declining Mr. Chamberlain's invitation to visit

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PARSON BROWN.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 29.—Both the Brown and anti-Brown factions in the First Congregational church have been counting noses and preparing stakes. There was as much activity on the eve of to-day's meeting as there is just before a municipal election, and it is of the same kind, too. Great efforts are being made to rouse the voter. The most passionate appeals are being made to him to exercise his franchise and save the day.

Each side claims that it will have from 200 to 250 votes at to-night's meeting. The Brown faction estimate the votes of the opponents at about 100, and the anti-Brown faction concede the pastor from 150 to 160 votes. Members of the anti-Brown faction say that weeks ago, on the test of a vote of confidence, the Brown faction, with the most vigorous campaigning, could not muster 120 votes. Some of those who then voted in support of the pastor are now on the other side. So that, making the most liberal allowance for recruits and additions, 150 or 160 is the outside figure that can be mustered in support of the suspended minister. On their own side, they claim to have assurances from more than 200 that they will vote for a new era with the return of a new pastor. Members of the Brown faction, on the other hand, while claiming that the estimate of their own strength is based on absolute knowledge, say their opponents, after several weeks of canvassing, have been able to secure only a scant 200 names to a petition, and that that is the high-water mark of their strength. Half of these, it is said, cannot, or will not, come to the meeting because of non-residence, sickness and other reasons. So that the vote against Dr. Brown, they figure, cannot exceed 100.

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DOMINION POLITICS.

OTTAWA, April 30.—The Premier was agreeably surprised to-day by receiving the following message by cable from the Colonial Secretary: "I desire to tender my personal and hearty congratulations on your acceptance of the office of Prime Minister of Canada. (Signed) Chamberlain."

This has been a great day of conferences among politicians and the end is not yet. Sir Charles Tupper has no announcement to make to-day, possibly he may have to-morrow both with regard to Ontario and Quebec. The personnel of the cabinet is not yet decided. Among Quebec politicians have been here for the last two or three days and others, including Commissioner of Works Nantel, arrived to-day. Hon. Mr. Ives left for Montreal this afternoon. Before his departure he was gratified by being asked by the Premier to retain his portfolio. Hugh John Macdonald, who is to be Minister of the Interior, arrived here last night at 8:30, having been on the road from Winnipeg since Sunday afternoon. Mr. Macdonald was met at the station by Hon. Dr. Montague and Lieut.-Col. J. Pennington Macpherson, his cousin, whose guest Mr. Ives is to be for the present. Speaking to your correspondent, he said he had come to Ottawa at Sir Charles Tupper's request and had an appointment with the Premier for ten o'clock to-morrow morning, and that he might be in a position to speak. He had no doubt about Winnipeg returning to its old political life. J. L. Payne, who was private secretary to Sir Mackenzie Bowell, will perform a similar duty for Sir Charles Tupper. Hon. Mr. Desjardins bade good-bye to official life to-day. Before his departure Sir Charles Tupper saw him and thanked him cordially for his services as a member of the government, and expressed the hope that he would be able to render assistance in the coming fight. Hon. E. G. Prior leaves for home on Monday.

MONTREAL, April 30.—(Special)—Sir Donald A. Smith stated to-day that the statement that he would run in Montreal West was wholly unauthorized. The discharge of his duties as High Commissioner in London would take up all the time he could give to public affairs. He will sail from New York on the Etruria on May 16. Another statement that he is going to London because he is no longer in sympathy with the Conservative party he also declared to be untrue.

KINGSTON, April 30.—Hiram Calvin, M.P. for Frontenac, positively declines to enter parliament again, on the ground that his business interests would not permit the loss of his time while at Ottawa. Toronto, April 30.—R. C. Newman, grand president of the True Blues, has accepted nomination as an independent. McCarthy candidate for West Penderbor, Hamilton, April 30.—A. T. Wood, mentioned as the probable Liberal candidate for Hamilton, and whom the Liberals relied on to capture one of the seats, will not accept nomination on account of positive medical orders.

BRANDON, April 30.—The political convention which is called to meet at Souris on May 5 will be attended by a number of McCarthyites from Brandon. Some delegates say that in all likelihood Dalton McCarthy himself will be asked to contest the Brandon riding.

WINNIPEG, April 30.—At the Conservative convention held at Broadway, N. W. T., to-day W. W. McDonald, the old member, was nominated on the first ballot as a candidate for East Assiniboia for the Dominion house. The convention was large and enthusiastic, the total vote cast aggregating 217, of which Mr. McDonald received 174 votes.

THOUSANDS HOMELESS.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Col., April 29.—A second great fire broke out this afternoon and was attended with grave loss of property and graver loss of life. At 6 p.m., the fire had burned itself out. Thousands are homeless and there is not a building left standing in the business section of the city. Only a few residences on the outskirts remain and thousands are homeless. A revised list of the dead and injured is as follows: Dead—J. Griffith Bassett, 2; John Rice, E. Evans, Geo. E. Smith, superintendent of waterworks; L. Maroney, E. Bradley, and eight others whose names are not yet learned. Cripple Creek has broken out afresh. It has extended to West Cripple Creek, and it is feared that this city will be entirely wiped out. The greatest confusion prevails here. The rule and no-baby knows what will happen before morning. The origin of the fire is unknown.

KINGSTON, April 30.—A Jew peddler named Simon, belonging to Nanapanee, fell while attempting to board a moving train and was crushed to death.