

LORD ROBERTS' PLAN.

With Thirty-five Thousand Men He Will Attempt to Turn the Boer Flank at Magersfontein,

Thus Compelling Cronje to Withdraw His Forces from the Vicinity of Kimberley.

General Sir Henry Colville Selected to Command the Ninth Division—New Arrangement of Press Censorship—Kimberley in Sore Straits.

WAR SUMMARY.

(Special Despatch to the Sun.) LONDON, Feb. 13.—All but conscription and that also, if other means fail, is Great Britain's new military policy, as announced in parliament today. An army which will number little short of 600,000 men, re-armed with the most modern weapons, including huge reserves in artillery, is the force which the government declares is necessary for the defence of the empire. Such is the startling sequel to the proclamation of peace in which all the nations joined a few short months ago at the Hague. There will be few in England to say the government may, as a whole, will apply the ministerial decision as only possible, and they will meet the enormous expense of this call to arms with resignation. The century will end with military burdens resting on the old world so great that none can conjecture what will be the result in the gigantic game of armaments.

The press views the proposals on the whole with satisfaction, and where there is dissatisfaction it is because too little, rather than too much, is contemplated. Thus the Daily News (liberal) regards the government's plans as marked chiefly by the moderation, and says it does not believe the proposed permanent increase of the regular army will be held by the country to endanger converting it into a military kingdom. It concludes its comments by appealing to the patriotism of the people to ensure the success of the scheme.

The Standard (conservative) calls the proposals emergency measures that are mainly to tide over the present difficulties. It hopes they will lay the foundation for reforms of a permanent character. It urges the government to strain every nerve and to tax its resources to the utmost to replace the obsolete artillery which the volunteers carry so long been mocked.

The Chronicle (liberal) generally approves the government proposals. It thinks the net result ought to be a large addition to the available forces, with increased efficiency.

The Telegraph says the country will be satisfied with the broad principle on which the scheme is based. The Daily Mail is dissatisfied with the makeshift nature of the scheme. It says there is no radical reform or attempt to build up a sound scheme of military defence, nothing to demonstrate to Kruger and Great Britain's continental enemies that she is in deadly earnest.

A great deal of the criticism in the house of commons is directed at the absence of legislation as to how the cost of the permanent increase is to be met.

Mr. Wyndham, under secretary for war, did not deal with this question in the house of commons, and the Marquis of Lansdowne, secretary for war, did not clear up the matter in the house of lords.

The temporary portion of the scheme will, of course, be met by the supplementary issue of £12,000,000 sterling, as announced in the house last Friday, and any such emergency money will be given unhesitatingly, but the most far-seeing already predict a storm of protest against a permanent addition to the military budget.

There is meanwhile nothing new from South Africa, and it is improbable that anything will transpire just yet.

Gen. Lord Roberts has sanctioned certain new press regulations, which, according to the Standard's Modder River correspondent, will allow mailed communications to pass uncheckered. Telegrams only will be censored. The correspondent adds significantly: "During the next few days, however, very little news will be permitted to go through."

There is nothing from the Natal side except Gen. Buller's explanation of his withdrawal from Vaal Krantz. Skirmishing is reported from Rensburg, with some losses on either side, but there has been no forward movement.

Kimberley is suffering somewhat severely from the bombardment, which is damaging the residential portion of the town more than anything else. The inhabitants are probably now severely pinched for supplies. Cape Town papers of date Jan. 1, which have arrived here, report that the canned meat in Kimberley was then consumed. Three-fourths of the available meat was horseflesh, the price of which the authorities had fixed at nine pence per pound.

During December the death rate of the whites rose to sixty per 1,000, and of the blacks 133 per 1,000, as compared with 21.7 per 1,000 among the whites and 53.6 among the blacks, in 1898. The infantile death rate reached

There was a heavy bombardment yesterday, and today the fire of the Boer big gun at Kamperdam has been very trying.

PREVENTED BOER MOVEMENT.

KOOBESSBURG, Feb. 10, via Modder River, Feb. 10, 4 p. m.—The British buried 14 Boers yesterday who were killed in the fighting here. The expedition to this place prevented a projected Boer attack upon the British communications between here and Emslin.

THE ARMY'S HERO.

MODDER RIVER, Feb. 10, 4 p. m.—Gen. Lord Roberts visited the camp of the Highlanders this morning and made a brief speech to each battalion. He recalled their association with him in India, and declared that they had helped to make him what he is. He added that he had never made a campaign without the Highlanders, and would not be without them. He was glad that Gen. MacDermid reported well of them. He referred to an arduous march the Seaforth Highlanders had made with him, and added that the brigade would have a shorter march now. Though it would not be a walk-over, he did not have the slightest doubt of its success. The brigade gave three cheers for the commander-in-chief and another three cheers for Lady Roberts. In response to the cheering for the latter, Lord Roberts said that Lady Roberts was perhaps doing better work for them at home in helping the welfare of their wives and children.

DR. LEYDS' VISIT POSTPONED.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, explains that the contemplated visit of Dr. Leyds, the Transvaal representative, has been postponed because the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and his family are the guests of the Czar. It is said that it is certain that the visit to St. Petersburg will be made at an early date.

SOCIALISTS ROUGHLY HANDLED.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The socialists tried to hold a pro-Boer meeting at Mile End, London, last evening. A hostile crowd invaded the hall, shouting "Down with the Boers," and singing the national anthem. Henry Hyndeman, the socialist leader, and others attempted to speak, but they were roughly handled and scattered. The utmost violence prevailed, and the police were obliged to intervene and to clear the streets in the neighborhood of the hall.

THE FRENCH IDEA.

PARIS, Feb. 12.—The latest French theory in regard to the visit to San Remo, Italy, of the Rt. Hon. Sir E. J. Monson, the British ambassador, is that it was owing to the Queen's health. It is said that her majesty is suffering from depression caused by the British reverses in South Africa, and it was thought that a trip to France, in the winter, would have beneficial results. Similar reports were in circulation that the anarchists would attempt to assassinate the Queen, and for that reason Mr. Monson went personally to find out whether it would be safe for her majesty to make the trip.

WILL SAIL ON TWENTIETH.

MONTREAL, Feb. 12.—Intercolonial Railway passenger officials here today were advised to provide transportation on or about the 20th instant for Strathcona's Horse. The order incidentally mentions Tuesday, Feb. 20th, as the date of sailing of the Milwaukee from Halifax.

CANADIANS IN FAST COMPANY.

TORONTO, Feb. 12.—The Globe's correspondent with the first contingent cables his paper as follows: "BILMONT, Cape Colony, Feb. 12.—The Canadians have been brigaded with the Second Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, Second Shropshire and First Gordon Highlanders, to form the nineteenth brigade, and with the second brigade to constitute the ninth division. The first brigade of the third (Middle) battalion of Highland regiments. It is understood that Major General Smith Dorrien will command the brigade to which the Canadians are attached.

"FREDERICK HAMILTON."

The Globe adds the following note to the despatch: Major General Smith Dorrien, mentioned as likely to command the brigade to which the Canadians are attached, saw service in the Zulu war of 1879, Egyptian war in 1882-86, N. W. frontier (India) in 1897, and Khatroun (India) in 1898. He holds the distinguished service order, many medals and clasps. The brigading of the Canadians, taken in conjunction with Roberts' arrival at Modder River, undoubtedly means that the Canadians will take an important part in the active operations pending on the western border. The Cornwallis and Shropshires have been on the line of communication between Belmont and Modder River for several weeks. The Gordons have been in action at Emslin and Magersfontein.

LIEUT. McLEAN GETS A COMMISSION IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY.

OTTAWA, Feb. 12.—The dominion government has decided to send four special officers to South Africa, by the Milwaukee. They are to take the places of the officers who are now away and who will join their battalions when they reach there. For instance, one will take the place of Lt. Col. Drury, who takes command of a bat-

SPECIAL SALE of Men's, Youths' and Boys' Trousers.

If you need a pair don't hesitate. Fraser, Fraser & Co., - Foster's Corner, 40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

PARLIAMENT.

A Short and Unimportant Session, Monday Afternoon.

Mr. Tarte Admits That He Had Slandered Residents of Fox Bay, Anticosti—The Motion Paper.

OTTAWA, Feb. 9.—Sir Louis Davies introduced two bills. One provides a method of regulating pilotage matters in respect to this time. Sir Louis finds the same as the bill introduced last year, in extending the summer deckload period to steamships. The part of last year's bill which gave portwardens an authority to decide about deckloads is struck out this time. Sir Louis finds shipping men in the maritime provinces opposed to that provision.

Hon. Mr. Mulock introduced the gerrymander bill rejected by the senate last year. He explained that no change had been made in the measure, and he hoped that after another year's reflection both houses would give effect to this righteous measure. Several new men had been called to the senate since last year, and he hoped they would be able to convince their colleagues that the measure should be passed. (Great opposition laughter.)

After a short discussion the bill was read a first time.

Hon. Dr. Borden, in reply to Mr. McNeill, stated that the government had decided to offer the imperial government a garrison for Halifax in case the imperial garrison were withdrawn.

This announcement was received with cheers from both sides, and Mr. McNeill expressed his gratification that the course he had urged upon the government had been adopted. He would, however, urge on both sides that the house should now consider what further could be done to help the empire in the present grave condition of affairs. He recommended that the leaders of both sides should consult over the matter and try to arrive at something adequate to the present urgency.

Mr. Charlton refused to believe that the British empire was in danger. There was no occasion for the minister to offer the imperial government a garrison for Halifax in case the imperial garrison were withdrawn.

Mr. Davin took exception to this distinction, expressing the view that a leader who did not lead was not a leader. He pointed out that undue security and over confidence had been the greatest source of British reverses and checks in Africa. He believed this mistake would not be made again, but that the men and the resources of the empire would be used freely, and he hoped that Canada would in this mood do something worthy of her position and the patriotism of her people.

Sir Adolph Caron said that the loyalty of the French-Canadians ought not to be discussed in parliament. It was beyond question.

Replying to Col. Prior, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the dominion government would accept the offer of troops from British Columbia on the same terms as in the case of Strathcona's Horse.

Col. Prior—Does this mean that the British Columbia government is expected to pay transportation not only to Halifax but also to South Africa?

Laurier—Yes. The government had no business ready, the debate was resumed on Mr. Davin's motion in favor of the organization of rifle corps in the west.

Hon. Mr. Borden admitted that late developments had established the fact that mounted men were the troops of the future, especially in large and sparsely populated countries. The government had in view the establishment of several corps of mounted rifles in the Northwest and British Columbia. Arrangements would go on as fast as possible. He hoped that in view of this assurance Mr. Davin would withdraw his resolution.

Mr. Davin did so, whereupon Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved the adjournment of the house, though it was not yet six o'clock and a government day.

THE SENATE.

OTTAWA, Feb. 9.—The senate stands adjourned till Thursday, March 1st.

Senator Power today apologized for stating that Sir Charles Tupper's despatch from Halifax to the premier, asking him to send a second contingent to South Africa, was sent to the Montreal Star the same time as to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. He had since learned that the Star did not contain the despatch until after Sir Charles had referred to it in Yarmouth.

OTTAWA, Feb. 12.—Hon. Mr. Sifton, replying to Mr. Davin, stated that since January, 1897, 7,424 Doukhobors and 16,757 Gullifians had come into the country. The average cost to the government was \$7.48 per head for Doukhobors and \$4.80 for Gullifians.

Hon. Mr. Tarte explained that the cost of the telegraph line from Bennett to Dawson was \$346,937, or \$22 per mile.

Hon. Mr. Fisher said that the Essex-brook campaign literature was not printed in the government bureau, but that some of them were franked by clerks in the public office.

Hon. Mr. Fladging told Mr. Martin of P. E. I. that the government of Newfoundland had made a proposal for reciprocity with Canada, but that the Canadian government was considering the whole question of reciprocity with other colonies.

Mr. Taylor put his question concerning a demand made on the minister by the Montreal Methodist conference for an apology and retraction of Mr. Tarte's statement that the residents of Fox Bay, Anticosti, were professional wreckers and thieves.

Hon. Mr. Tarte replied that the misunderstanding had been cleared up. He had ascertained that he had unwittingly done an injustice to the Fox Bay settlers and had written to that effect to the representative of these people.

A number of unopposed motions for returns were carried, and after a short discussion the house endorsed a proposition of Mr. Davin concerning the half breed claims.

Other motions were passed over on account of the absence of the ministers concerned in them, and the house adjourned at 5.30 p. m.

Before adjournment Sir Charles Tupper enquired whether the government could give any additional information concerning the Nioarasug canal treaty.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier said he could explain nothing now, and did not think he could say anything until the United States senate had disposed of the treaty.

Mr. McNeill will ask from what electoral districts in New Brunswick have the original lists of 1899 been received at Ottawa, and whether such lists are being printed. He also will ask about the dates when lobster fishing will begin in the various districts this year.

HALIFAX.

Str. Lake Superior Made a Good Run—A Military Precedent—Miners Demand an Increase in Wages.

HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 12.—The Elder Dempster steamer Lake Superior arrived this morning and sailed for St. John at four o'clock in the afternoon. The steamer made a fine run, a little over eight days from Montreal, had good weather on the entire voyage, which is about the first experience of this kind this winter.

The Lake Superior brought as saloon passengers Miss Alice Wilson, Miss Ruth Wilson, Mrs. Lucy Hebble, S. David John, Mr. J. H. McKenna, with seven intermediate and 154 steerage. The steerage passengers are chiefly Russians and German. The majority of them are bound for the western states.

The steamer Manchester importer arrived at midnight.

Yesterday is said to be the first time that a band was brigaded in order to play soldiers to church to attend other than a Church of England service. The 68th band is ordered to play the Baptists, Presbyterians and Methodists to a Baptist church. Although the same band played the men to church the preceding Sunday, yet the band was not brigaded in accordance with militia orders.

Another Halifax man has been enrolled in the Canadian Mounted Rifles, Harry Vizard, son of the former naval stockbroker at H. M. Jockey, was enrolled on Saturday as a trooper, and will leave on the transport Milwaukee.

The Provincial Workmen's Association, the union to which the coal miners of the province belong, announces that an advance in pay will be demanded from the mining companies on March 20th. They will notify the managers of the mines that an advance of five cents per ton is asked on all coal raised, and that ten per cent be added in the pay of men engaged about the mines at other work than actual coal cutting. An answer will be required on March 20th, the new rates to go into effect on May 1st. The miners say that coal prices have advanced and that they should share in what is going.

Mr. Youngling (going out)—John, do you suppose you can hear the baby from where you are if he wakes up and cries? John (who is reading the newspaper)—I don't; I hope not.

In order to introduce our Assorted Steel Pens we are giving away Watches and Chains, Rings, Bracelets, Autographs, Jack Knives, Fountain Pens, Cameras, Chairs, Mirrors, Rifles, Clocks, Suits, Slides and numerous other beautiful premiums. Ladies, boys and girls send your full name and address, and we will mail you (12) packages of our Assorted Steel Pens, to sell among your neighbors and friends at 10c per package. When sold remit us amount of the \$1.30, and we will forward premium you select from our mammoth catalogue, which we mail you with goods. Send today. Address STANDARD WATCH AND NOVELTY CO. P. O. Box 63 F. St. John, N. B.