

# IMPORTANT FOREIGN AFFAIRS

## THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT CENSURED FOR SELECT- ING WHITE.

Personal Favoritism and Not Experience Said to Have Dictated the Choice—Japan, Apparently, Will Control China and Frustrate Russia.

On Saturday the London correspondent of the New York Evening Post cabled as follows:

Anxiety is a mild word to apply to the condition of mind in which the British Ministry, and especially the war office, await each day's news from South Africa. Their warmest friends are only prevented by patriotic motives from expressing dismay at the folly of the strategy which is directly responsible for the terrible waste of life in Natal. General Buller, it is now evident, was chosen largely on the ground of personal favoritism and sympathy with a man who had never had a chance, rather than because he was the best man for the position. The Glencoe and Ladysmith routes were chosen on local knowledge. In their anxiety to avoid even the appearance of provocation while negotiations were proceeding, the ministry deliberately refused Natal's appeals for adequate defense, and when an inadequate defense force was sent, time and many lives were thrown away in pushing armed troops up into northern Natal only to withdraw them at the first touch of the enemy.

Such bitter complaints fill the minds of Englishmen, and it is no exaggeration to say that nothing short of a brilliant success by Gen. Buller or Gen. Buller can save the ministry from an outburst of indignation which might have serious political consequences. The general election is inevitably approaching, and each week sees some development of the signs which I chronicled last week of the collision among the Liberal following Lord Rosebery's lead.

The report of the Philippine commission is greeted here with undignified satisfaction. The ministerial papers especially speak of it as welcome and inevitable. Ministers themselves say that with America firmly established in the far east, England's policy of an "open door" and equal opportunities for all becomes far more easily obtainable by diplomatic means.

Significant news as to Japan's attitude has also reached London by mail this week from sources in northern China generally regarded as well informed. Says one British authority in China: "It is difficult to say what Japanese policy is working most with the Chinese in Port Arthur, fear of the plague or war, but I think the latter. They are clearing out in schools, because they are afraid of Russian and Japanese men make noise shoot. No wonder they stay this side. Private servants even are deserting their posts, and their reason for their desertion. I do not think we shall find Japan waiting till the spring, as some predict. A Russian admitted only last week that he feared Japan was on the move, and that Russian officers felt pretty blue about it, as they have but half-trained Siberian troops. A report was received last week that Japan was mobilizing 200,000 men on the Russian frontier. This is absurd. The only thing the Japanese are doing is to move troops into Korea by the thousand, disguised as coolies, and to allow this, the regulation regarding Japanese emigration into Korea was withdrawn recently in the most natural way possible. Thus we may expect something soon."

Undoubtedly Japanese interests are increasing at a great rate in China. The German instructors of the victory's troops have received notice to quit their places, which are to be filled by Japanese officers. The idea, indeed, gains ground among the British in China, the reorganization of the Yangtze valley, which England and Italy are fighting, may soon fall into the hands of the audacious Japanese.

Nigeria definitely passes under the control of the imperial authorities on the first of January. Col. Lugard and his personal staff leave Liverpool on the 24 of December, so that the governor-general of Northern Nigeria may be on the spot to take the reins of government in the administration from the representatives of the Niger Company. In conjunction with the colonial office and the treasury, Col. Lugard has spent the last 12 months in drafting ordinances and settling the details of the future government of Northern Nigeria. He takes over a large number of officers of the Chartered Company, thus easing the working of the new administrative machinery.

The Rt. Hon. Horace Plunkett, M. P., enters upon his new duties as first vice-president of the new Irish Agricultural Board with high hopes of the success of his cooperative methods under state auspices. He says that he does not believe in the possibility of any enormous development, but many subsidiary industries might be made to prosper among a people with so much defense and artistic sense if the state now would step in, where the resources of voluntary effort have failed. It is expected that bitter disappointment will arise from the inability of the department to meet the demands made upon its carefully husbanded funds. This, say some radical journals, is only another attempt to kill home rule by kindness.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—Whatever may be the justice or otherwise of the criticism passed on General White is irrefragable that he no longer possesses the confidence of the public. He may be fully able to withstand the attacks of the superior Boer force and may be ready at any moment to execute a masterly retreat, but as long as he is cut off from communication with the outside world there will exist terrible anxiety regarding the welfare of the seven or eight thousand men of his command. The most optimistic believe that a fortnight is the minimum in which reinforcements of any potency can be pushed to Ladysmith, and then it may be too late.

As a matter of fact, granting General White possesses the qualities of fair gen-

erality, there are many reasons to believe he will be able to hold out until reinforced, even if completely surrounded. It is presumed he has employed the past weeks in strengthening his position with earthworks and trenches which, when manned by such fighters as the Gordon and Irish Fusiliers, cannot be taken without a terrible struggle. His artillery has now been reinforced by the Naval brigade, and even if it is to have a match for that of the Boers, should be able to keep the enemy from coming to close quarters. He has an abundance of stores and apparently has been favored by good weather. The military triumph of the British in a century, and it has frequently been coupled with the bitterest abuse of General White, the man held responsible for the unparalleled surrender of such a British force to such an enemy.

The only redeeming feature of the week's operations, in the opinion of the public, is the work of the Naval Brigade. The difficulties which must have been encountered in getting the guns over the country, even to the point at Ladysmith, in getting them properly mounted, can well be imagined, while by the fact that the cartridges were constructed at a wheelwright's yard at Durban by naval artificers. These guns, the British cruiser Powerful, were constructed at a wheelwright's yard at Durban by naval artificers. These guns, the British cruiser Powerful, were constructed at a wheelwright's yard at Durban by naval artificers.

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It is amusing to note how often the British correspondents report the Boers' guns knocked out of action, while the next day the same guns are reported to be peppering away merrily. This is commented upon by the weeklies and merely examples what was found to be the case during the frequent bombardments by Admiral Sampson's fleet, i. e., that it is impossible to ascertain the exact effect of heavy fire against batteries and equally hard to hit the guns themselves, though the shots may go so close that they are covered with earth and their gunners killed.

The British army corps will not commence arriving at Cape Town until November 8, and will scarcely be able to take the field until the middle of December, though it is likely that units will be badly engaged before then. It is reported that General Buller's brigade will be withdrawn to Natal without delay, probably by the end of this week.

## Winter Port Notes.

The direct London service contract has been signed by the Furness Line, and Mr. S. Schofield, agent of the company here, has received word to that effect. The first steamer will be the *Sylviana*, of 2,715 net and 4,188 gross tonnage, which will sail from London for St. John on the 17th inst. She was built last year and is 385 feet over all. The second steamer of this line to go on the route will be the *Mayflower*, also built last year. She is 2,743 net and 4,188 gross tonnage and is 385 feet over all. The third steamer will be named *Albatross*. The above-named steamers are thoroughly modern cargo steamers, built of steel, have triple expansion engines, and first-class accommodation for live stock and cargo of all descriptions.

The *Donaldson* line will have the first steamer of the winter fleet here this season, and it is expected she will be the *Albatross*. She is scheduled to sail from this port on November 23, and will be followed on December 7 by the *Anarchy*.

The berth at Sand Point have not yet been allocated by the council. The *Albatross* will have the choice of No. 2 or No. 3 berth, the *Manchester* line the one next to the former line, the *Furness* line will have No. 1 berth and the *Donaldson* line No. 4, while the *Head Line* steamers will use the C. P. R. berth. The winter business promises to be very brisk this season.

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## STEYN'S PROCLAMATION.

### CALLING UPON ORANGE FREE STATES TO TAKE UP ARMS

In Aid of the Transvaal Boers and for the Purpose of Overthrowing British Authority in South Africa—Great Britain Roundly Denounced.

NEW YORK, Nov. 6.—The consul general of the Orange Free State in this city, gave out today the full text of President Steyn's proclamation calling on the Orange Free State Boers to support the Transvaal. The proclamation reads in part as follows:

"Burgers of the Orange Free State: 'The time which we had so much desired to avoid, the moment when we as a nation are compelled with arms to oppose injustice and shameless violence, is at hand. Our sister republic to the north of the Vaal river is about to be attacked by an unscrupulous enemy, who for many years has prepared himself and sought pretexts for the violence of which he is now guilty; whose purpose it is to destroy the existence of the Orange Free State.'"

"With our sister republic we are not only bound by ties of blood, of sympathy and of common interest, but also by a formal treaty which has been necessitated by circumstances. This treaty demands of us that we must assist her in the past have made us have had too much reason to expect. We therefore cannot passively look on while justice is done her and while also our dear country's freedom is endangered but are called on to resist, fighting the dramatic and opportune arrival of these guns has caused the navy's praises to be loudly sung, though these are coupled with admiration for General White's generous acknowledgment of the help from the other arm."

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## BOSTON LETTER.

### WHAT THE PEOPLE OF THE HUB ARE DOING AND TALKING OF.

The Sympathies of the Americans Are With Great Britain in the Transvaal War—Greater Interest in This Than in the American War.

Boston, Nov. 2.—The Anglo-Saxon people are making history fast, judging by the events of the past few weeks. What with the war in South Africa and the Philippines there is enough to agitate the public mind for some time to come. Curious it is to watch the crowd that daily stand in front of the bulletin boards, eager for news and more curious still to listen to the wordy debates which sometimes take place as to the respective merits of the combatants, and to the credit of the native Yankee.

There will be considerable modification regulations this winter regarding the taking of sealskin acquies into the United States by Canadian owners. There was much inconvenience and annoyance caused by this last year, leading several from St. John who were on a visit to the United States and had their sealskin sashes seized at the border. It is now understood that the treasury board of the United States has completed arrangements under which owner of seal skin garments will be allowed to take them into the states somewhat under the same plan as has been employed regarding bicycles. A 90 day permit will be issued and the owner's bonds for the return of the garment taken. Full particulars are not yet known.

Another Allan Steamship Gone. The Turanian, Reported to be Ashore on the West Irish Coast.

Toronto, Ont., Nov. 7.—The Telegram's special cable from London says: Tidings have reached here that the Allan line steamship Turanian is ashore on Blinnish reef, off County Mayo, West Coast of Ireland. She had touched some of her cargo of live stock, but was bumping heavily and making water in all her holds. Crew and passengers, it is reported, are all safe. She did not carry any passengers.

Longshore Strike in New York.

New York, Nov. 6.—A committee of the striking longshoremen called on Captain Hall of the Maine Steamship Company today and said they were willing to compromise. Captain Hall took their proposition under consideration. Said he: "When the steamship Horatio Hall came in last night some outsiders on the piers saw some of her cargo of live stock, but was bumping heavily and making water in all her holds. Crew and passengers, it is reported, are all safe. She did not carry any passengers."

Only One Contest.

Bethel, Nov. 1.—At the South Bethel provincial nominations today Hon. Frank E. Leitch, recently appointed Minister of Public Works of the Ontario government, was nominated by the Liberals, and A. McGarry by the Conservatives.

Estherhazy Sentenced to Imprisonment.

Paris, Nov. 6.—Major Count Esterhazy, the reputed author of the bordereaux which brought about the conviction of Captain Alfred Dreyfus on the charge of treason, was sentenced today by default on his cousin Christian's charge of swindling, to three years imprisonment and to a fine of fifty francs. He was also ordered to refund the 35 francs claimed by Christian.

Prominent Churchman Returns.

Kingston, Nov. 7.—Most Rev. J. Travers Lewis Lord, archbishop of Ontario and metropolitan of Canada, arrived this afternoon from England, where he has been spending the greater part of the year. His health is but little improved since after attending to urgent diocesan matters his grace will return to England.

Never lay out all you can afford; for he who lays out everything he can afford lays out more than he can afford. Arab Maxim.

Hon. Harriett Phelps, travelling bag; Mrs. Biddington, double Mr. J. T. Biddington, silver tea pot; Miss Biddington, native lamp; Mr. and Mrs. A. Colebrook, carved in case; Mr. J. Stewart, dozen small knives and forks; Mrs. J. Stewart, dozen desert spoons; Mr. Donnell, Stewart, cheese; Mr. A. Stewart, cheese; Mr. F. Stewart, dozen silver-plated spoons; Mr. Duncan Stewart, breakfast cruet; Mr. J. B. Stewart, cruet; Mr. and Mrs. W. Stewart, table cloth; Mr. and Mrs. A. Stewart, plate and oak blazer box; Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, dozen large knives and forks; Miss Michie (Osborne), table cloth; Miss Cook, hand-painted toilet screen; Mr. Curry, perfume spray; Mr. and Mrs. G. Harding, set of antique vases; Miss E. Bandle, silver-down quilt; Miss E. Abraham, picture; Miss Fowles, half-dozen plated spoons; Mrs. Durham, half-dozen plated spoons.

The Mr. Biddington referred to above is identical with Mr. George Biddington, of this city.

American Elections.

New York, Nov. 7.—The election in the four counties that make up the city of New York resulted in the victory of every Democratic candidate on every county ticket, except Gray, Democratic candidate for magistrate.

New York, Nov. 8, 130 a. m.—With no possibility of change, save in two counties, the result of the election of 1900 in the city of New York shows 92 Republican seats and 69 Democratic. Louisville, Ky., Nov. 7.—General W. S. Taylor, Republican, has been elected governor.

Baltimore, Maryland, Nov. 7.—John W. Smith, Democratic, has been elected.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 7.—Returns indicate a plurality of from 30,000 to 40,000 for the Republican ticket, and the election of a majority of the legislature.

Boston, Nov. 7.—The Republicans carried Massachusetts today by 55,000 votes, and W. Murray Crane, of Dalton, will be the next governor.

Boston, Nov. 7.—The Democrats today had no difficulty in carrying the city of Boston.

STILL AFTER A NAVY.

Emperor William Feels Every Pressure to Impress Upon Germany his wish.

Berlin, Nov. 6.—The Reichsversammlung this evening says: "Learning of the formation of a branch of the navy league at Koenigsberg the Emperor wrote to the President expressing the hope that, with the aid of the navy league, the German people more and more of the necessity for a stronger fleet to protect its interests, and saying that he gave him the special pleasure to learn that the agricultural population of East Prussia, though struggling with serious difficulties, was ready to join in the whole of the navy league for the benefit of the whole fatherland was at stake."

CONSERVATIVES FIGHT.

Police Had to Assist at One of Their Meetings.

Toronto, Nov. 7.—An exciting scene took place tonight at a meeting of the Third Ward Conservative Association, called to elect officers. A dispute arose as to who should vote and Darcy Hinds, president of the Central Conservative Club, passed the lie to John Greer, a prominent member. Then the two rushed at each other and friends had to separate them. The police were called in to prevent a free fight and finally the association adjourned for a week to allow the members time to cool off.

ANOTHER WHITEHEAD RASCAL.

W. G. Dicks Held for Trial for Conspiracy and Soutting.

Grimsby, Nov. 7.—The preliminary examination of W. Dicks in connection with the conspiracy and souting case was concluded Saturday. In summing up the case the magistrate said that the evidence was not as strong against him as in the case of Feltmate and Monroe, but yet there was sufficient to connect him and he would hold him for trial in the Supreme Court. Dicks was afterwards released on bail.