

SOUTH AFRICA.

Peace Propositions Sent In by the Boers via Holland.

Meantime Kitchener is Repeating His Old Rounding up Tactics - The Payment of Colonial Volunteers.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—A long despatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Johannesburg Monday, January 27, gives details of the military operations since Jan. 21. They are mostly unimportant, but indicative of continued activity on the part of the Boers. General Methuen's army got into trouble near Rietfontein, Western Transvaal, and lost 8 men killed, five wounded and 41 made prisoners. The prisoners have since been released. This was effected by Gen. Bruce Hamilton's pursuit of the Boers in the vicinity of Ermelo, Transvaal Colony, resulting in the dispersal of a Boer laager at Nelspan. The Boer losses were 3 men killed, 4 wounded and 94 made prisoners, including Field Cornet Devillers, Captain De Jager and 1000 men. In addition, Colonel Plummer captured 55 Boers. Lord Kitchener reports that Field Cornet Bode's command quarrelled while discussing the question of surrender. Bode and three of his followers surrendered. The other encounters have already been reported. The week's Boer losses were 31 men killed, 20 wounded, 322 made prisoners and 63 men who surrendered.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—There has been no dispute between the colonies and the war office in regard to the payment of colonial troops. Canada, Australia and New Zealand expended large amounts in behalf of the war office, and in making up the sum of the business. Australian premiers added 2 per cent commission. The war office referred the matter to the colonial office. The question was raised by Wm. H. K. Redmond, Irish nationalist, in the house of commons, this afternoon, and the war secretary, Mr. Broderick, replied that such a commission was customary for local expenditures in behalf of the imperial government, and that it would be allowed in the case of the colonies. Gerald W. Balfour, president of the Board of Trade, rather contemptuously dismissed an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne at the opening of parliament, proposed by Mr. Selous-Karr, conservative, regarding the old-time question of the food supply in war time. He said that the subject was threadbare, and that so long as the United Kingdom retained the command of the seas, it was quite sufficient to depend upon the ordinary operations of supply and demand. A system of national granaries would necessitate an outlay of £20,000,000. He added that war risks ought not to entail a rise of more than ten per cent in the price of cereals. The government saw no reason to appoint a committee of inquiry on the subject.

MONTREAL, Jan. 28.—The Board of Trade at its annual meeting today unanimously passed the following resolution: "That this board has watched with intense interest the conduct of the Boer war, forced on the empire by the insulting ultimatum of Kruger, and with remembrance of the refusal of the Netherlands to accept the terms of the peace, expresses its admiration of the patience, endurance and unparalleled clemency of our troops in the enemy's country, and the kind treatment of prisoners everywhere, and deprecates the malevolent feeling shown by a jealous continental European press, from which we had expected, if not a remembrance of past services, at least a truthful and just criticism." The Evening Telegram's London cable says: "John F. Barlow, liberal member for Frome, in the house of commons, today asked whether those colonies which have expended money at the request and on account of the war office have charged commission, and if so, at what rate per cent, and if it was the intention of the government to pay such commission?" "St. John Broderick replied that the usual commission of 3 per cent on local expenditure in connection with the

raising and equipping of contingents furnished for South Africa would be allowed to the colonies by the imperial government." LONDON, Jan. 28.—In cabling from Cape Town, the correspondent of the Daily Chronicle quotes from an address delivered by Rev. Dr. Joseph C. Hantsell of Cincinnati, missionary bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church in Africa, last Sunday. Dr. Hantsell said: "The Boers have mistakenly attempted to build up a republic based upon preference instead of principle. The Boers have made a brave resistance, and now ought to be brave enough to acknowledge defeat, and no man worthy the name of Englishman or American would not receive their surrender in a proper spirit."

Dr. Hantsell said that he believed that there would arise in Africa a settlement of Anglo-Saxon civilization, which would complete the arch of imperial federation and create a united people in South Africa like that in the United States after the civil war. LONDON, Jan. 28.—An announcement by Mr. Balfour as to peace negotiations caused a sensation in the colonies of parliament. Lord Rosebery brought about this movement on the part of the Dutch government. It is recalled that in an interview published about Christmas time, Dr. Kruger, the Dutch premier, was reported to have urged the impossibility of Holland's intervening in South Africa unless she had reason to think that both parties wished it. Consequently it is regarded as certain that the present move was inspired by the Boer delegates. The Petit Bleu of Brussels, the organ of the Krugersites, flatly denied last night that the Boer delegates had charged anyone to make peace proposals, and professed to be in entire ignorance of the Dutch communication.

The Hague correspondent of the Daily Mail declares that he has ascertained that Dr. Leyds inspired the Dutch foreign secretary, who was further advised by Prof. Asser, the international jurist, and adds that Dr. Leyds, the European representative of the Transvaal, is apparently attempting to draw Mr. Chamberlain, the British colonial secretary, to disclose the terms conditional upon the waiving of independence. The Daily News this morning claims credit for the initiation of the peace movement, and in referring to this matter editorially, draws the inference that the government has already replied, and has rejected the Dutch overtures as unworkable, and other overtures as unworkable. Mr. Balfour would not have been in a position to promise the papers on the subject, this promise showing that no further negotiations were afoot. This was the impression in the colonies as a result of the announcement of the government and other official statements in government organs this morning declare that the outlook for peace is not hopeful. The Berlin correspondent of the Daily News says that he understands that Holland had consulted and secured the approval of the European powers before approaching Great Britain.

OTTAWA, Jan. 28.—The Governor General was notified today that Lieut. T. R. Atwater, Privates R. J. Stober and F. N. McLaughlin are dangerously ill of enteric fever at Heidelberg. Atwater's next of kin is Mrs. Stober of Scarborough, Ontario, and McLaughlin is Mrs. D. E. McLaughlin of Tiverton, Ont. LONDON, Jan. 28.—In the course of today's debate in the house of commons, A. J. Balfour, the government leader, intimated that a redistribution of seats bill "remedying the flagrant anomalies now existing," would be introduced during the sessions of the present parliament. The premier, Lord Salisbury, and the minister of foreign affairs, Lord Lansdowne, took the unusual course of visiting the house of commons this afternoon. They held private consultations with their ministerial colleagues in the committee room. The incident aroused considerable interest in the lobby, where the visit was connected with the note of the Dutch government on the subject of peace in South Africa. "WAS KNOWN AS 'THE FIRE-IRON BRAND'." LONDON, Jan. 27.—General Ben Viljoen, reported in yesterday's despatches to be captured, was known as "The Firebrand," and has been throughout the war one of the most

active leaders in the field. At the outbreak of the war he was in command of one of the three columns which invaded Natal. Viljoen was reported killed early in the war and from time to time there have been rumors of his being wounded or taken prisoner. He has, however, successfully carried on a guerilla campaign in the northeastern part of the Transvaal since the departure of the Boers was driven to the border at Komatipoort and President Kruger fled the country. Next to Generals Botha, De Wet and Delarey, he was considered the most dangerous opponent of the British.

Viljoen was born in Cape Colony, but at an early age settled in the Transvaal, where he became a policeman, and prominent in Krugersdorp, the most violently anti-British district. He conducted for a time Boer journals, and was afterwards elected a member of the Raad for the Witwatersrand, which included Johannesburg. He was made special commandant of that city before the war, and organized an Afrikaner corps. WOLYBEEK, Orange River Colony, Jan. 27.—The reasons of the blockhouses along the line of the Orange River Colony are noticeably alert owing to the proximity of Gen. DeWet. The wire entanglements are now very strong. Seven prisoners from Telfer went through here yesterday on the way to the coast. Field Cornet Bode, with three men, surrendered to Col. Lean near Kurru yesterday, bringing their horses and ammunition. It is believed that the majority of Bode's men are a proof of the uselessness of further resistance and will surrender within a short time. The Boers are hard pressed for food now owing to the fact that the Channel is closed to the sea. Twenty-five Ladysbrand burghers took the oath of allegiance on Thursday and 18 more yesterday. Heavy rains are delaying the operations of the British columns, the swollen drift making transport difficult. Commandant Viljoen, who has been on parole for nearly two years, and who has considerable influence in the Winburg district, is now raising burghers to assist the British. Viljoen is acknowledged to be the best shot in the three States prior to the war. Two Boers named Koen, who were heading a commando that was preparing to take the field against Viljoen, surrendered today. On Saturday Lord Basing encountered 150 of the Van Nickerk commando at a Kaffir kraal, 30 miles north of Ladysbrand, and killed one and captured two.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Jan. 28.—The colonial government was under great stress of mind on shore modus vivendi, which expired the 31st of last December, for the present year. Mr. Chamberlain, the British colonial secretary, telegraphed the colonial government a week ago, urging his opinion of the Boer war before revising negotiations with France respecting the Newfoundland shore. The colonial cabinet, in acquiescing to the fact that Berlin had accepted the fact that it was done, the colony's contribution towards the solution of imperial problems in South Africa. Newfoundland being unable to send men there in the face of the imperial policy, and confident that the redress of her grievances will be next undertaken. It is generally understood that this is the last time this measure will be renewed, and that it is done now only for the foregoing reason. LONDON, Jan. 30.—Mr. Hales, the correspondent of the Daily Express in Berlin, predicts that should peace eventually be in South Africa, commercial investment in that country, and the latter believes that the influence will continue so great that it will assure preferential treatment to the Germans.

LONDON, Jan. 30.—The war office's casualty list issued tonight shows that in a hitherto unreported engagement at Alburgh, Natal, near Kofffontein, Orange River Colony, Jan. 28, Col. D. E. Dumoulin of the Sussex regiment and eight men were killed and seven men were wounded. LONDON, Jan. 30.—The report that Commandant Krizinger, who was captured by Gen. French Dec. 17, had been condemned to death is not confirmed here. It was announced from South Africa Jan. 29 that Krizinger's trial would commence this week, but nothing has since been heard of his case. LONDON, Jan. 30.—The report of the parliamentary committee appointed to investigate the charges of bribery and corruption made by Sir John B. L. Irish officers who purchased army horses in Austria-Hungary, censures Sir John for unjustifiable attacks on the integrity of the officers. At the same time, however, the committee also expressed its disapproval of the fact that the committee also expressed surprise at the fact that the government made that it took no steps to ascertain the best sources of supply in Hungary until the South African war had been in progress for six months, thereby involving the country in a loss of £115,000. (Special to the Sun.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 30.—The commission appointed by the minister of agriculture to investigate complaints made

by imperial army officials in South Africa respecting the quality of canned beef sent from the dominion, has about completed its report. The reputation of South Canadian beef is at stake in this matter. Two firms have come through the ordeal with flying colors. Of a third the goods are reported to be "fair" in quality, while of the fourth the beef is condemned as unfit for human food. Twenty cases of product of such packing houses were returned from South Africa and two or three cases of each firm's products were picked out indiscriminately. It is nearly a year since the goods were originally shipped, and while it is true that there must have been some deterioration in that time, yet the fact of the enquiry is that in shipping goods of this nature packing houses cannot be too careful if they wish to preserve the fair name of Canada.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The Brussels correspondent of the Standard declares by the fact that the duty associations did not send the usual delegates this year, consequent upon the local government withdrawing the former grants to these associations. After President Violette had delivered his annual address, speeches were delivered by Gov. McClellan and Hon. Mr. Farris. Treasurer Fawcett reported outstanding liabilities of \$40. The evening session was given up to the discussion of fruit culture. A. McNeill of Waterville, Ont., speaking on apple culture, and W. Saxby Blair, Nappan, speaking on spraying for insects and fungus. Ralph S. Eaton of Kentville, N. S., spoke upon apple growing. A movement is on foot to change the place of meeting of the association next year from Fredericton to St. John. A resolution to that effect will likely come before the convention at Wednesday's session. FREDERICTON, Jan. 28.—At this morning's session, Prof. Grisdale delivered a practical address on the rotation of crops. He was followed by S. Kenne, also of Ontario. Both speakers talked from the Ontario standpoint, exclusively, having no personal knowledge of this part of the dominion. The afternoon session was given up to a discussion upon dairying, addresses being made by Prof. J. A. Rudolph of Ottawa and J. W. Mitchell, Dominion superintendent of dairying for the maritime provinces. At the evening session addresses were given by Prof. W. J. Kennedy of Iowa agricultural college, and Prof. J. W. Robertson of Ottawa. The speakers at the evening session were Prof. Robertson, Dr. Twitchell and the superintendent of education.

FREDERICTON, Jan. 30.—The Farmers and Dairymen's Association this morning elected officers as follows: President, Gen. E. Fisher; recording sec., Henry Wilmet; cor. sec., H. H. Hubbard; treasurer, Elms M. Fawcett. County vice-presidents—St. John, B. V. Millidge; Kings, H. H. Molloy; Queens, H. H. Molloy; Sunbury, Herbert H. Smith; York, Daniel McMillan; Carleton, C. L. Smith; Victoria, A. P. Hanson; Madawaska, Donat Daigle; Northumberland, A. E. Dickson; Kent, D. Lessey; Westmorland, Frank Trueman; Albert, J. W. Steeves, Jr.; Charlotte, George Mowatt; Gloucester, David Richards; Restigouche, John Davidson. At last night's meeting of the local government Attorney General Fuesley drew attention to the fact that some of the smaller branch railways in the province close their lines during part if not all the winter. He expressed the opinion that such action was contrary to the terms of the act under which the railway companies got provincial and federal subsidies. On the recommendation of the executive the attorney general will direct the attention of this matter and inform them that they may keep their lines open in winter as well as summer. A rifle club has been organized at Marysville under the name of the Marysville Rifle Club. The new club has seven for members, and started with the following officers: Captain, J. Libbey; 1st lieutenant, Chas. McLean; 2nd lieutenant, J. Walter Reed; executive committee, F. M. Merritt, F. L. Robinson, Bert Fullerton, Chas. Clayton and Walter Walker. Chas. Lister, son of John Lister of this city, and formerly clerk at Chestnut's drug store, was married at Boston yesterday to Miss Helen Wetmore of that city. Color Sergeant W. J. Regan, 68th Regt., Wolfville, N. S., arrived here this morning to take a special course at the military school to qualify for lieutenant. Sergt. Regan was a member of H company of the 68th, and served with whom he served up to Paardeberg. In the first day of fatal fighting there he was severely wounded by an explosive bullet in the arm and later, when being carried from the field, by a musket ball in the leg. After recovering from the wounds he contracted enteric fever, with which he was invalided to England and afterwards home. FREDERICTON, Jan. 28.—This evening's Cleanse government organ, says: "At a meeting of the local gov-

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SKATES! Starr Mic-Mac, Starr Hockey, Starr Chebucto, Whelpley's Long Reach, Starr Acme, Starr Ladies Beaver, Starr Skeleton Tubulars. If your dealer cannot supply you write us direct. W. H. THORNE & CO. LTD. ST. JOHN, N. B.

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the barracks of the First boys, Queen Victoria's archway of evergreen erected in front of the barracks, and the re-drawn up in parade order, led the British anthem, his regiment had marched down the Prince of Wales, headed by the British Ambassador, Sir F. C. Lascelles, and Prince Albert and Prince

ST. STEPHEN. Mayor Murchie Triumphantly Re-elected for Another Term. ST. STEPHEN, N. B., Jan. 23.—St. Stephen held its annual town election today and Mayor Murchie, the old board received a splendid endorsement from the hands of the people. Dr. Thos. I. Byrne, a rising young physician and prominent liberal, was nominated for the mayor's chair, and also for councillor in Queens ward and in Kings ward, though he made his fight for the mayor's chair. The voting resulted in Mayor Murchie being returned by a total vote of 383 to 80. Queens ward—For Mayor, Murchie, 111; Byrne, 36. For councillors, J. E. Stewart, 148; W. S. Stevens, 136; S. E. Mills, 31; Dr. Byrne, 27. For assessor: La A. Mills, 119; Jos. McVay, 62. Kings ward—For Mayor, Murchie, 124; Byrne, 36. For councillors, J. E. Nesbit, 136; Jos. E. McCune, 117; Dr. Byrne, 1. For assessor: T. K. McGeachy, 85; L. M. Robinson, 68. Dukes ward—For Mayor: Murchie, 91; Byrne, 17. For councillors: W. A. Dinsmore and J. L. Haley, unopposed. For assessor: A. D. Taylor, unopposed. Councillor Nesbit is the only new man at the board, replacing Coun. J. P. Wry, who declined nomination.

FOSTER ON IMPERIALISM. TORONTO, Jan. 23.—Hon. Geo. E. Foster delivered an address on Imperialism last night. The best future, he held, for Canada was national life in conjunction with the old country that gave her life. Some people seemed afraid of the word imperialism, but there was no reason why under free imperialism Canada should not hold all her present power and at the same time be a closer component and integral part of the British Empire around the world. There were two great reasons why imperialism was growing in power within and pressure from without. The power from within was the strong loyal feeling to institutions, form of government and general lines of progress and civilization typified by the mother country. The outward pressure was the hostile sentiment of almost every country in the world as regarded Great Britain.

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