

REPORTED CAPTURE OF KRUGER

"Oom Paul" is Said to Have Been Taken Prisoner Six Miles From Pretoria.

THE OCCUPATION OF JOHANNESBURG

Fighting in the Streets at Germiston—Burghers Take Refuge in a Mine and Are Held by Grenadiers.

(Associated Press.)

London, May 31.—Lord Roberts reports that Johannesburg was occupied today by the British troops.

London, May 31.—Lord Roberts's latest dispatches shed a somewhat different light on the military situation. Before they were received celebrations were organized in the country towns in honor of the fall of Pretoria. In Chester a public holiday was declared, while at Dover, Portsmouth and many other places in the provinces, flags were flown and rejoicings were general.

Pretoria, however, is not just yet in the hands of the British, though there is no reason to doubt the authenticity of the report that the city has been captured. The place, and that the municipality is ready to surrender when confronted by Lord Roberts's forces.

At 9 o'clock last night the final outward movement on the Transvaal capital had apparently not commenced. All Lord Roberts's dispositions of troops appear to apply to Johannesburg, and though the British seem certain to reach Pretoria within a day or two, they will not occupy it without fighting, if the opposition of the Boers around Johannesburg is any criterion.

Gen. French's movements appear not so much an immediate advance on Pretoria as part of a plan to surround Johannesburg from which last night he was only a few miles distant.

Lord Roberts himself is at Elandstfontein, and his forces will be placed to the south, west and north of Johannesburg subsequent to the surrender of the city. These units will probably be reconcentrated while Gen. French advances from the advantageous position he already occupies. The main army converging towards the railroad following closely on his heels.

Suppose that Johannesburg surrenders at noon to-day. Pretoria should be reached by June 2nd, opposition or no opposition. Gen. Brabant's loss of 40 men is striking evidence that annexation of the Free State by no means implies its pacification.

So thoroughly is the country here imbued with the belief that Pretoria has fallen that Mr. Jos. Chamberlain, speaking this morning at a meeting of the University of Birmingham, proposed a message to the Queen congratulating her upon the capitulation of Johannesburg and Pretoria, which was sent to the afternoon papers.

London, May 31.—The Evening News of this city has received a dispatch from Pretoria to the effect that Johannesburg has been handed over to the British.

ROBERTS'S DISPATCH.

London, May 31.—The following dispatch from Lord Roberts, the British commander-in-chief in South Africa, has been received at the war office here: "Johannesburg, May 31.—2 p.m.—Her Majesty's forces are now in possession of Johannesburg and the British flag floats over the government buildings."

IS KRUGER A PRISONER?

London, May 31.—The Westminster Gazette says it is rumored that a quarter likely to be well informed that President Kruger had been captured by the British six miles beyond Pretoria.

OUTSIDE JOHANNESBURG.

London, May 31.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts under the date of Germiston, May 30th: "In answer to a flag of truce I sent to Johannesburg this morning the commandant came to see me. He begged me to defer entering the town for 24 hours as there were many armed burghers inside still."

"I agreed to this, as I am most anxious to avert the possibility of anything like a disturbance inside the town, and the hills in the neighborhood from which they will have to be cleared off beforehand." "Ruddle reports that he attacked a

large body of Boers near Senekel on May 28th. He said his casualties were not heavy.

"Brabant reports that on May 28th two of his patrols, consisting of two officers and 40 men, were cut off by the enemy and taken prisoners."

DRIVING OFF THE BOERS.

London, May 31.—The war office has received from Roberts a dispatch dated Germiston, May 30th, saying: "The brunt of the fighting yesterday fell upon Ian Hamilton's column. I have sent him, as already mentioned, work around to the west of Johannesburg in support of French's cavalry, which was directed to go North near the road leading to Pretoria.

"I had not heard from French yet, but Hamilton, in a report which has just reached me, states that at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon he found his way blocked by the enemy strongly posted on some kopjes and ridges three miles south of the Rand. They had two heavy guns and several field guns and pom-poms.

"Hamilton forthwith attacked. The right was led by the Gordons, who, after capturing one extremity of the ridge, whirled around and worked along it until after dark, clearing it of the enemy, who fought most obstinately. "The One Hundred and Fourth led on the other flank and would not be denied, but the chief share in the action, as in the casualties, fell to the Gordons, whose gallant advance excited the admiration of all.

"Hamilton is now at Florida, due west of Johannesburg, and French is a few miles further northeast. The Gordons, the cavalry, the mounted infantry and the 7th division are holding the heights of the town. The 11th division with batteries of the Royal Artillery are to the south of Johannesburg. "Hamilton speaks in the highest terms of praise of the manner in which Bruce Hamilton and Col. Spence, of the Shropshire Light Infantry, handled their men, under Smith Dorrien's direction."

FIGHTING AT GERMISTON.

Germiston, Transvaal, May 30.—Johannesburg is practically a British possession. The mines are uninjured. Nine engines, a coal train and a great quantity of rolling stock was captured. Remnants of the Boer rear guard remained behind and fought in the streets of Germiston, but they were easily cleared by the Grenadiers.

The troops have not yet occupied Johannesburg.

Gen. French is now at Landlaagte. The Guards hold Elandstfontein and Germiston.

The state entry into Johannesburg will take place to-morrow.

The Boers have gone to Pretoria. The railroad from here to the Vaal river is uninjured.

SURROUNDED BY GUARDS.

London, May 31.—A special dispatch from Germiston, a suburb of Johannesburg, occupied by Roberts, says several hundred Boers have sought refuge in a mine, where the British Grenadiers have cornered them and barred all escape.

HEIDELBERG OCCUPIED.

Capetown, May 31.—The British have occupied Heidelberg on the railroad connecting Johannesburg with the Transvaal frontier town of Volksrust, on the Natal frontier near Laing's Nek.

Celebration at Vancouver.

Vancouver, May 31.—Vancouver fairly went wild at midnight when the news of the entry to Pretoria came in. At 1 o'clock there was a crowd of a thousand people on the streets, marching behind the battalion band. A great bonfire was made in front of the court house and Mayor Garden and other prominent citizens delivered orations to a crowd that kept up an enthusiastic cheering all the time.

About 2 o'clock messengers were sent to the consulates, and from the second story windows of each official residence in the city the crowd listened to congratulatory speeches from the representatives of the different powers.

By 5 o'clock most of the more staid class of the citizens were going home, while others kept up the procession until late in the forenoon.

The schools are closed to-day, and the battalion is ordered out on special parade this evening.

Nanaimo, May 31.—Business places and mines all closed at 1 o'clock to-day

and the people are enthusiastic in celebrating the British success. The band and Boys' Brigade will turn out this evening and march at the head of a torchlight procession. The festivities will close with the burning of Kruger's effigy.

At Ottawa.

Ottawa, May 31.—The demonstration which commenced here at midnight on the receipt of the news that Pretoria had surrendered, has been kept up at intervals ever since, and arrangements are now in progress for a still further and more formal manifestation of the people's joy over what means the successful termination of the war in South Africa.

Mayor Payment has issued a proclamation declining to-morrow afternoon to be a half holiday, and calling upon all citizens to partake in the demonstration to celebrate the capture of Pretoria and the success of British arms.

This forenoon the public school cadets walked through the streets, headed by their bugle band, and the whole city was gay with flags and bunting.

Toronto's Holiday.

Toronto, May 31.—The reported surrender of Pretoria as announced in the Associated Press dispatches last night were received here and other parts of Ontario with the wildest kind of enthusiasm, citizens yelling, singing the National Anthem, mounting the tops of street cars to set off fireworks, etc.

At Owen Sound the whistles of locomotives were let loose to awaken the citizens.

To-day has been declared a civic holiday here by Mayor Macdonald in honor of the event.

Prize for Col. Gironard.

Toronto, May 30.—The Evening Telegram's London correspondent cables today that Julian Ralph, in a letter to the Daily Mail, speaks in high praise of Col. Gironard, of the Supreme Court, who is in charge of South African railways.

Sir Hibbert and Yukon

He Makes Further Charges Against Major Walsh in the House To-day.

Commission to Be Announced on Monday—Closing Canadian Pavilions.

(Special to the Times.) Ottawa, May 31.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier stated in the House to-day that he would give the names and scope of the commission to investigate electoral corruption on Monday next. The matter was so important that he wanted the Minister of Justice to look over the commission before it was issued, and Hon. David Mills was in the principal building after the closing of the Parliament.

Sir Hibbert Tupper, on the motion to go into supply, proceeded to deal with the Yukon. He accused Major Walsh of plotting the Yukon and having taken Indians with him going into grub staking claims along with him.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Hon. J. Stuart Yates returned at noon to-day from Nanaimo, there being no minister in town this forenoon. He was in the Coal City arranging for the fight in which he is personally interested there.

To-morrow evening, Geo. Sangster, the government candidate for South Victoria, will hold a meeting at Cedar Hill.

A. Godfrey, formerly of Vancouver, was nominated at a convention held at Atlin on May 19th, as an opposition candidate in Cassiar.

All the political meetings announced for to-night are off owing to the patriotic demonstration.

Hon. J. Stuart Yates will be one of the speakers at the McKinnell meeting on Saturday evening in Nanaimo and Hon. Mr. Yates and Premier Martin will address the electors of that city on Wednesday evening next in the opera house.

ROYAL WEDDING IN JAPAN.

Yokohama, May 3, via San Francisco, May 30.—The event of the week observed with great rejoicing throughout the Empire has been the royal wedding celebrated at the capital on the 15th. The ceremony itself, to which great significance is attached as being a complete innovation upon the usual Imperial customs, took place in the Imperial sanctuary at the palace. Clothed in old-time ceremonial robes, the Prince led the grand master of ceremonies and followed by a chamberlain bearing the sacred sword, the Princess, conducted by a master of ceremonies and supported by two maids of honor, approached the Imperial shrines and made together an offering of evergreen branches. The Prince recited the marriage ritual and then partook of the sacred sake. At this moment the 13 great warships, anchored in the bay, fired the Imperial salute of 101 guns.

Among the may honors bestowed on the occasion of the Imperial wedding is the decoration of the peerage of Kaneko, who recently has the honor of being the first Japanese to receive the degree of LL. D. from Harvard University. He will now be known as Baron Kaneko. Another is that bestowed on the eminent educator, Mr. Takuyama. His wish to remain a commoner was respected by the Emperor. In lieu of a peerage the Emperor bestowed upon him a gift of 50,000 yen.

L. Diddheim, of Revelstoke, is at the Delard.

Kruger's Fall Celebrated

Victorians Again Honor the Triumph of British Arms in Africa.

A Midnight Demonstration—The Programme for This Afternoon and Evening.

Those who believed that the demonstrations in honor of the capture of Cronje, the relief of Kimberley, Lady-smith and Mafeking, and the sustained celebration of the Queen's Birthday, had exhausted the patriotic resources of Victoria's citizens, must have been undeceived last night when the news was flashed over the wires that Pretoria had fallen, that Kruger had fled, and that the war was practically over. The news reached the city about half-past eleven, but it was held an hour later before it was credited. The fire songs, to which the public has learned to look for the official notification of the receipt of good news from the front, again passed forth their welcome. "Intelligence" and "the streets" were quickly filled by citizens roused from their first sleep to celebrate another national triumph.

The demonstration which followed is best described by saying that the scenes of an enthusiasm which were displayed on Lady-smith day and when Cronje was captured were faithfully repeated. Packing cases and debris from the Chinese shacks destroyed yesterday afternoon were soon blazing merrily in bonfires on the streets, while fire crackers and bombs, the playing of bands, and the singing and cheering of the multitudes which thronged the streets made up a scene which will be memorable in the history of the city of Victoria.

The bands of the city strolled one after another in their efforts to swell the popular acclaim. An impromptu programme was first provided by a scratch aggregation, whose efforts to voice the general enthusiasm were highly appreciated. Following close on these, however, came the Victoria city band, which turned out in full uniform and almost full strength very shortly after the receipt of the glad tidings. Then the Fifth Regiment band, which has become an indispensable feature of these national celebrations, followed, and after serenading the newspaper offices, played in front of the United States consulate, whither Hon. A. Smith had bid them come when Pretoria fell.

Behind each of these organizations marched a motley throng of citizens, some in uniform, the majority in civvies, but all animated by a common desire to mark their delight in the achievements of British arms.

Discarded arches, banners and every kind of instrument, no matter how rude, which would contribute to the clamor, was pressed into service, and the result was an uproar which, if not altogether harmonious, was sincerely patriotic and enthusiastic. As usual the boys from the navy stood among the most mirth provoking features in the demonstration. Even Jack's capacity proved unequal in a number of instances, to the great strain upon him, and he either succumbed in a heap on the pavement, or rolled about the streets as though on his accustomed decks with a mountain high sea running. Some of them climbed to the very extremity of the lofty telephone poles, the operation evidently giving them no concern, though very trying to the nerves of the onlookers. Others improvised a bar on the curb, and here drank to the health of the "Widow," "Bobs" and all the other leaders at the front.

Occasionally a bit of horse play varied the proceedings. While dodging the "cops" about one of the bonfires, one of their number shouted "three cheers for the Queen." A sportive comrade retorted "three cheers for Kruger." "Eh! what's that Bill," responded the other, and his right landed on his companion's jaw with a sledge like impact that cleft the cheek of the other. The little incident did not interrupt the fraternal feeling of the men, however, as they rolled away arm in arm.

A number of young ladies, not to be out done in enthusiasm by their brothers and sweethearts, paraded the streets and sang "Soldiers of the Queen" and other national airs.

The general rejoicing was confined until about 3 o'clock, when the populace temporarily suspended its demonstrations and retired to rest, although the boom of a crack occasionally through the night showed that some enthusiasts were prolonging the celebration till the dawn.

With daylight came further particulars indicating that the war office had no notification of the formal occupation of the city. So confident, however, were the public that they refused to be cheated out of their celebration and the decoration of the streets and business houses went merrily on. Later in the day, when the rumor of Kruger's capture and of the occupation of Johannesburg was announced, a fresh impetus was given to the preparations for general rejoicing.

Sharply at noon the barking of big guns at Esquimalt marked the participation of the naval forces in the general rejoicing. Thursday being general leave day a large body of men were soon in the streets of the city contributing in their own effectual way to the festivities.

A half holiday was given in the navy yard, and over the inner harbor Col. McKat dismissed all parades for the day of "A" Co. B. C. R. C.

Among the officers of the Imperial forces, perhaps none took greater satisfaction out of the news than Lieut. French, R.E., who only last week joined the garrison in Victoria. Lieut. French is a son of that dashing cavalry officer who has been one of the first figures in the present war, and has established in the present campaign his right to be classed as perhaps the most successful cavalry officer in the British army to-day. French, when on his way to Esquimalt last week, had an interesting experience. The relief of Mafeking occurred while en route here and the young officer was dragged from his berth to celebrate what was believed at that time to be another achievement of his illustrious sire. Lieut. Pilcher, of the

navy, who is a nephew of Col. Pilcher, also took a more than ordinary interest in the latest development of the campaign.

The patriotic committee met this forenoon and decided to organize the patriotic forces, which up to that time had lacked intelligent direction, for both the afternoon and the evening. After some discussion the following programme of events was decided upon:

- Afternoon Proceedings. 1. Assemblage of citizens at Beacon Hill park at 3 p. m. 2. Singing of patriotic songs by the children of the public schools. 3. Band music suitable to the occasion. 4. The hoisting of the national ensign at 4 p. m., followed by a salute of field guns. 5. Bicycle parade. Prizes given for the decorated bicycles.

- Evening Proceedings. 1. Grand illumination of the city. 2. Immense bonfire on James Bay flats. 3. Setting off fireworks and electric lighting of Government street, which will be closed to traffic. 4. Montserratian exhibition at Bank of Montreal building. 5. Illuminated bicycle parade. 6. Band music in different parts of the city.

Hitt Bros., the contractors for the civic fireworks on the evening of May 27th, have signified their intention of setting off a number of the same, which were designed for the celebration, but which could not be set off owing to the wind. These will be provided free by Hitt Bros. and will be discharged at 9:15 or 9:30 p.m. at Beacon Hill.

The employees at the City Hall, at the Legislature, and at the customs were given a half holiday in honor of the event. At the schools the children dispersed after singing the National Anthem and other patriotic songs.

The decorations of the city are a part, with those employed on Lady-smith Day. All the business houses, the City Hall, the police quarters, the fire department, etc., have been neatly adorned in honor of the occasion. The J.B.A.A. will again illuminate their club house to-night, and H. Dallas Helmecken will illuminate his grounds and set off fireworks. Indeed, the celebration to-night promises to eclipse anything yet seen in the city in the way of patriotic demonstrations, which, in view of the recent achievements of Victoria in that respect, is saying much.

The Mayor this afternoon dispatched the following telegram to Lord Minto: To His Excellency the Governor-General, Ottawa:

Citizens of Victoria, B. C., celebrate with unrestrained delight the surrender of Pretoria, and desire to extend to Her Majesty their profound congratulations upon the success of British arms in South Africa.

CHAS. HAYWARD, Mayor. One of the first vehicles to make its appearance this morning was a wagon from the Spring Ridge sand pits filled with workmen armed with flags, and all of enthusiasm. They drove about the principal streets of the city, singing patriotic songs, and receiving an ovation all along the line.

The political meeting which was called for the Victoria theatre to-night was adjourned until Monday evening, in order not to interfere with the events of the day.

The government meeting at Esquimalt, which was called for this evening, will also be postponed until the 8th of June.

The Indian Famine

There Has Been No Change for the Better in the General Situation.

Five and a Half Millions of People Are Now on the Relief Works.

(Associated Press.) London, May 31.—Under the date of Simla, May 3rd, the special correspondent of the Standard sends a report of the fight against the famine in India. "There has not been," he writes, "the slightest change for the better in the general situation in India during the three or four weeks which have elapsed since I last wrote. The country continues to be enshrouded in an ever deepening gloom.

In reviewing the probable future of the famine, about Christmas last, even the most despondent pessimists did not calculate on there being more than 5,000,000 people on the famine relief works by the end of April. The official figures show that there were five and a half millions, and that the tendency is for at least 100,000 a week.

In Madras, which has hitherto been regarded as outside the afflicted area, things are rapidly becoming worse. The number of people on relief works has more than doubled in the space of a fortnight. There has been a little rain but this came too late to materially benefit the crops on unirrigated lands, which are now in many places given up for lost."

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

Increase Over Those of Last May, Which Were the Largest on Record.

(Special to the Times.) Ottawa, May 31.—The customs receipts continue to increase. The returns received up to noon to-day at the department here show that the amount collected for the present month was \$2,251,183, as compared with \$1,162,657 for May, 1899, or an increase of \$98,526. In this connection it should be remembered that last year's figures were the largest on record.

CUSTOMS HOUSE DESTROYED.

(Associated Press.) Fort de France, Island of Martinique, May 31.—A fierce fire, which broke out here at nine o'clock last night, resulted in the destruction of the customs house and a number of houses in the immediate vicinity of the building where it originated.

Disputed Road Gazetted

Craigflower Road Declared to Be a Public Highway by the Government.

Drs. Hall and Nash, of This City, Appointed Dental Examiners.

The opponents of the closing of Craigflower road, which thoroughfare has been in dispute for a long time, have at last won their case. The Official Gazette, which issues to-night, will contain the formal notice by the government of the taking over of the road for public traffic. The announcement is as follows: "Notice is given that all lands which are the property of the Crown, and situated within the following boundaries, are hereby declared and set apart as a highway for the use and enjoyment of the public, viz.: Commencing at the junction of the centre line of the Craigflower road with the northern limit of the Victoria and Esquimalt road; thence in a northerly direction following the centre line of the existing carriage way on the Craigflower road to the municipal boundary of Victoria City, and having a width of 33 feet on each side of said line."

The following companies are incorporated: Imperial Automatic Vending Machines Co., of Victoria; capital, \$250,000. Atlin Transportation Company of Victoria; capital, \$20,000. Bear Creek Mining Co. of Rossland; capital, \$1,500,000. Valparaiso Gold Mining Co. of Kaslo; capital, \$100,000.

The following extra provincial companies are registered: Grubbell Island Copper Co. of Fairhaven, Wash.; capital, \$100,000; local office Victoria, with G. A. Kelly attorney. Answorth Mining & Smelting Co. of Seattle; capital, \$1,000,000; local office Answorth; J. W. Smith attorney. Chappan Consolidated Mining Co. of England; capital, \$75,000; local office Nelson; agent, John M. Williams.

In accordance with the request of the Department of Indian affairs a strip of land on the long arm of the Kootenay river, in the district of New Westminster, and formerly used by the Indians for camping purposes, has been added to the Musqueam and Langley Indian reserves on township 38.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments: To be justices of the peace within and for the counties of Victoria, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Westminster, Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay:

Richard Strong Sargent and Edward Courtney Stephenson, of Hazelton. George Henry Bailey, of Kitimat. The Rev. James B. McCullagh, of Alvanah, Nass River. Edward Dallock Webster, of Fairview. Geo. Herbert Thompson, of Vancouver, to be a notary public for the Mainland of British Columbia.

Donald C. Kurtz, of Kaslo, deputy mining recorder, to be acting assessor and collector, acting collector of revenue tax and acting registrar of the County Court of Kootenay, holden at Kaslo, vice John Keen, resigned.

Alexander D. McIntyre, of Kamloops, to be official administrator for the county of Yale, and judge of the Court of Revision and Appeal, for the North and West Ridings of the Yale electoral districts, vice F. J. Fulton, resigned. Thomas McNaught, of Golden, to be returning officer for the North Riding of the East Kootenay electoral district, vice C. E. Hamilton.

Lewis Hall, D.D.S., and Richard Nash, D.D.S., of the city of Victoria, to be members of the board of dental examiners for the province of British Columbia, vice A. C. West and W. J. Curry, resigned. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to appoint the undermentioned persons to be district registrars of the registry of the Supreme Court set opposite their respective names, namely:

James Ferguson Armstrong, Fort Steele registry. Donald C. Kurtz, Kaslo registry. Henry Noble Coursier, Revelstoke registry.

Such appointments to take effect on the 25th day of June, 1900. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to accept the resignation of Mr. Thomas Kingsburg McQueen, of Ymir, of the office of justice of the peace.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to establish at the town of Fort Steele a registry of the Supreme Court, to be known as the Fort Steele registry. Such registry to be established on the 25th day of June, 1900. Similar offices have been established at Kaslo and Revelstoke.

HALF CRAZY WITH PILES.

Mr. Isaac Foster, Esq. View, Norfolk Co., Ontario, writes: "I was troubled with itching piles for about two years and could not sleep at night. In fact I was half crazy from the terrible itching. Reading about Dr. Chase's Ointment I purchased a box. After the second application I experienced relief, and one box cured me thoroughly and permanently, and that was two years ago. Dr. Chase's Ointment of cents a box, all dealers.

Large views, high hopes, and unselfish aims dissipate a whole army of petty trials, annoyances, and irritations, and even greatly reduce real anxieties and sorrows."

A Manila dispatch says Major Macks Van, of the 22d regiment, has arrived at Aparri from Benguet, after the hardest of mountain travelling. The men were exhausted and ragged, having followed persistently on the supposed Aguinaldo trail. They had several encounters with the rebels, but found no signs of Aguinaldo.

Doan's Cotton Root Compound

Is successfully used monthly by over 100,000 persons. It is a powerful purgative and is the best remedy for constipation. It is made of pure cotton root and is entirely free from any harmful ingredients. It is sold in boxes of 10 and 25 cents. It is the only remedy of its kind that is sold in all the drug stores and retail druggists.