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TWENTY-FIRST YEAR | EIGHT PAGES—THURSDAY MORNING JULY 26 1900—EIGHT PAGES | ONE CENT

CHINESE WHO CONTROL WIRES TO PEKIN ARE ALL LIARS.

There is No Doubt Now That the Ministers and Their Families Are All Dead—Sir Robert Hart Died on July 2.

Stories Given to the Consuls at Shanghai by Sheng Were Only Intended to Give the Chinese Time to Prepare for War With the European Nations—The Retribution to Come Should Be Terrible—Yankees Are Suckers.

London, July 26, 4 a.m.—Mr. Conger's letter, the substance of which has been transmitted to the United States Secretary of the Navy, thru Capt. Thomas of the United States cruiser Brooklyn, has increased the belief in London that there is no hope for the foreign legations in Pekin and that the elaborate fabric of despatches which the Chinese are building to persuade the civilized world that the Ministers are still alive is only intended to enable them to gain time to complete preparations for warfare.

Most of Them Were Dead.

The Shanghai correspondent of The Daily Mail asserts that a Chinaman, who was employed at the British legation as a writer and interpreter, has escaped from Pekin to New Chwang and that he declares that at the time he left Pekin most of the members of the legations were dead and thousands of others were hopeless. He says that Sir Robert Hart, director of Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, died on July 2.

Even Chinese Admit It.

The correspondent goes on to say: "No other dates are given in the message from New Chwang. The leading Chinese newspapers here published yesterday a despatch declaring that it was all over with the members of the legations.

Only a Few Left on July 9.

The president of a minor board at Pekin wrote to a relative in Shanghai under date of July 9, saying:

"The foreign legations are still uncaptured, but owing to the daily fighting it is reported that only about 300 persons are left alive in the legations, and, if there is any delay in the arrival of the relief force, I fear that none will be left to receive it."

This letter is regarded in Shanghai as authentic. Strange enough, it says nothing of any assistance to the legations by Prince Ching or Gen. Yung Lu.

What Chinese Are Doing.

While these brief sidelights as to the fate of the Europeans leave little ground for hope, Shanghai sends a batch of reports indicative of preparations for hostilities on the part of the Chinese. It is alleged that Yangtse viceroys have sent deputies to Shanghai to inquire as to the prospect of raising a foreign loan, ostensibly to pursue military operations against the Boxers, whose movements are extending rapidly southward with constantly growing strength and have reached a point where the provinces of Shantung, Honan and Shansi meet, leaving behind it a trail of burned missions and murdered Christians.

Will Oppose Foreign Advance.

Simultaneously there is a movement northward of southern Chinese troops, to join the main army gathered to oppose the foreign advance on Pekin. The strength of this principal force is now estimated at 300,000 men.

Chinese Are Preparing.

It is believed that another two or three weeks must elapse before the Chinese preparations are completed. It is reported that 3000 Chinese troops and more guns are being sent to reinforce the garrison of the Kiangyin forts, commanding the entrance to the Yangtseklang, 90 miles east of Nankin.

Hankow Guns Destroyed.

Changtung, Viceroy of Wuchang, on the Yangtseklang, telegraphs that he is apprehensive that he will not be able to restrain his troops for more than another ten days. He says he has thrown the breech blocks of the guns commanding Hankow into the river.

Li Hung Chang's Work.

These signs of unrest in the southern provinces are coincident with Li Hung Chang's presence in Shanghai. They are supposed to be the beginning of a general declaration against foreigners. In this connection the Canton correspondent of The Daily Telegraph, wiring Tuesday, sends the following important news:

"Viceroy Tak Su to-day published the following mandate:

"An important Imperial decree was issued on the 23rd day of the sixth moon. It says: We have lost Tien Tsin and great precautions are taken in Pekin. No peace can be obtained without going thru a war. In the time of Chung an agreement was made that no murder can be inflicted upon Ministers from abroad. It is a month since the Minister of Germany was assassinated by Boxers and strict orders have been given for the arrest of the murderers. We are trying our utmost to preserve the lives of the other Ministers and they are still in Pekin. We fear that the Viceroys and Governors may misunderstand the intention of the decree, relying upon the safety of these Ministers as a ground for making peace and taking no heed whatever to prepare for attack and defence. The neglect to fortify the districts under the jurisdiction will bring endless calamity. Viceroys and Governors are to pay all attention to and to urge on preparations for coast attack and defence; and they are to take the consequences in case of any territory being lost entirely thru their delay and mismanagement.

"Europeans here understand thoroly the last part of the edict, which means that the Viceroys and Governors are commanded by the Empress Dowager to prepare for a Chinese war against the allied powers. Viceroy Tak Su is bitterly anti-foreign, and he is increasing his army and armaments, military and marine. He has lodged an objection thru the prefect of Kwang Chow to four small gunboats, two French, one American and one British, that are here to safeguard the lives of foreigners, and he asks that they be moved beyond the Bogue forts.

When the Powers Get the News.

"His plans will be unmasked shortly, after the allied powers ascertain definitely the facts concerning the massacre at Pekin. Chinese gunboats infest the channels at the back of the Shameen, and 18 Chinese gunboats lie awaiting orders at the Imperial Government wharves. Cantonese are daily becoming more hostile, and the situation is critical. Business is almost at a standstill, and leprosy and plague claim fresh victims daily. Native Christians assert that the notorious Black Flag chief, Lao, who inflicted reverses on the French in the Tonquin war, now refuses to obey Li Hung Chang's command to go north and fight the Boxers. His soldiers are here, and compose the crews of the gunboats in the Shameen."

Li Hung Chang is With Liu.

According to the Shanghai correspondent of The Times, Li Hung Chang is residing at the residence of Liu, who was the envoy of the Empress Dowager in the secret mission to Japan. He has received secret instructions to remain at Shanghai and to endeavor to open negotiations with a view of preventing the European advance.

Wrangling Among the Powers.

With this accumulation of evidence of an impending big struggle, comes also the news of disagreements between the powers and the foreign commanders, which threaten to hamper united action and to encourage Chinese resistance. A conference of the admirals at Taku, called to settle the question regarding the management of the restored railway, decided in favor of Russian control, only the British and American admirals dissenting.

The Tien Tsin correspondent of The Daily Mail insists upon the necessity of a single leader, and of a general headquarters, with an intelligence office.

Nothing Reliable From Manchuria.

There appears to be a difficulty, owing to the Russian censorship, to get an accurate idea of the situation in Manchuria. There are rumors that the situation is more serious than it is officially represented to be, and that the Russians have been driven back, while trying to save the southern portion of the Eastern Railway.

Chinese Have Burned Lavoang.

The Chinese have burned Lavoang to prevent Russian concentration there, and are now trying to smash communication between Port Arthur and New Chwang. The critical situation has forced the Russians to withdraw a number of troops from Tien Tsin, while 3000 troops have been sent from Port Arthur.

It is reported that an entire army corps is being mobilized at Odessa for transportation to Taku by the volunteer fleet.

It is reported from New Chwang that the Russians are concentrating forces at a point 15 miles east of that fort, and are awaiting reinforcements before advancing on Moukden, Manchuria. The Boxers have wrecked the bridges of the Shanhai Kwan and Kinchau section of the railway.

Admiral Seymour and Gen. Sir Alfred Gazalee are consulting at Wei Hai Wei.

CONGER MESSAGE DOCTORED.

The Washington Government at Last Begins to See the Chinese Perfidy.

Washington, July 25.—The receipt at Tien Tsin of an undoubtedly genuine and autographic message from Minister Conger has done nothing to dissipate the doubt as to the situation at Pekin. The message, which was forwarded by the naval officers at Tien Tsin, Taku and Che Foo, has indeed served only to deepen the darkest and saddest mystery of the century. The official conclusion remains unchanged, of course, but it is admitted that a careful scrutiny of the autograph message in comparison with the famous cipher message from Minister Conger admits of the belief that the two messages were indited by Minister Conger at about the same time.

Relief Must Be Quick.

The situation at the British Legation is represented to be the same in each case, and, as Mr. Conger declares that relief must come quickly, if at all, there is room for the supposition that conditions could not long have remained unchanged in such a crisis.

Admit It Was Redated.

The assumption that this reasoning is correct involves the further conclusion that Mr. Conger's cipher message, if genuine, was re-dated as of the 18th of July, two weeks later than the date of actual writing, and, of course, if re-dated at all, that was done by Chinese officials. On the other hand, and in support of the State Department's position, came a message today from another of the great Chinese, Viceroy Tak at Canton, he who took charge after Li Hung Chang's departure.

A Pessimistic View.

This also affirmed solemnly the safety of the legationers, and, coming from so many different sources and from such important Chinese officials, these despatches do claim attention. A pessimistic view of them, however, attributes to all a common origin, namely, some one high Chinese personage at Pekin. It is noted that Tak's assurance brings the Ministers one day further towards ultimate rescue than have any preceding messages. The fact that it allows only three days to cover the transmission over the great distance between Pekin and Canton has attracted attention here, and appears to demand explanation, if the message is to be accepted as genuinely of Pekin origin.

Chances Are Slim.

The chances of a successful outcome of the attempt of the Chinese Government to secure an amelioration of the consequences of the Boxer uprising are much diminished by the intimation that the powers are expected to refrain from pressing the movement towards Pekin. On the contrary, the United States War Department is moving at present with greater energy than at any time since the original orders for troops to get its contingent in position for the task before it.

U. S. CODEBOOK MISSING

And It is Discussed in Connection With the Cable Sent By Conger.

Washington, July 25.—A discussion of the authenticity of the despatch from Minister Conger cabled from Pekin on the 18th inst. developed the fact to-day that several years ago a copy of the State Department cipher code disappeared and never has been recovered. These code books are numbered and receipted for when placed in the hands of those entitled to them. In the intimation was given that the missing code book had fallen into the hands of the Chinese Government. This information was calculated to inspire a doubt of the authenticity of the Conger message.

State Department officials decline to discuss the story of the theft of the code book, but they enter a denial that they ever entertained a suspicion that it had fallen into the hands of the Chinese Government.

It is known that several years ago a copy was made of the old State Department cypher, which since has been changed. A copy of this, the authorities have strong reason to believe, found its way into the possession of another Government, not the Chinese. This old code has been out of use for many years, having been replaced by one which the State Department officials regard as much better.

Just as Expected.

Washington, July 25.—It develops that one of the State Department's cipher code books has been stolen. It is thought to have fallen into the hands of the Chinese Government.

CHING PROTECTS FOREIGNERS.

It is Said the Ministers Are in His Palace Protected by 10,000 Chinese Troops.

London, July 25.—Another version of the story which reached Gen. Li, commanding the Pei Tang forts, by a runner from Pekin, who brought to him yesterday the report of anarchy in the Chinese capital, which General Li communicated to the British officer commanding at Tongu, says the British legation was being bombarded

PRINCE CHING,

Who threw in his lot with the foreigners, and is now alleged to have the members of the legations and their wives in his palace, guarded by 10,000 Chinese troops. It is now claimed that all are dead.

when the messenger left Pekin July 14. Prince Ching, this report says, was assisting the Ministers, and his palace was protected by 10,000 Chinese troops. Prince Ching, according to this report, considered himself able to cope with the situation.

Yankees Aiding the Chinese.

The Morning Post's Berlin correspondent asserts that the attitude of the United States Government on the Chinese Emperor's appeal is regarded as a decided triumph for Chinese diplomacy. The Daily News says the attitude of the Washington authorities is regarded in Berlin as a regrettable error. Similarly the London afternoon papers regret "that the President of the United States has taken a line that can hardly fail to encourage the Chinese to further duplicity," and that "this is no time for tea table talk."

Germany Believes the Story.

Berlin, July 25.—The Imperial Minister of Foreign Affairs, Count Von Bueiow, has gone to Bremerhaven to report to the Emperor.

The press of Berlin continues to support Count Von Buelow's reply to the Chinese Minister, Lu Hai Hounn, which one journal points out "is all the more welcome as it denotes complete accord with the attitude of France and Japan towards the unknown rulers at Pekin."

The National Zeitung says Germany can not consent to support China until she has atoned for the murder of Baron Von Ketteler.

The Boersen Zeitung says: "At all events Pekin will learn that the attempt to detach one or other of the powers from the coalition is a futile venture."

The feeling is growing in official circles that Ministers at Pekin are alive.

BOXERS MUST BE KILLED.

They Held Inquisitions and Slaughtered All in Sympathy With the Europeans.

Tien Tsin, July 16, via Che Foo, July 24.—Gen. Dorward, the British commander, has sent to the American commanders a letter in which he says:

"I desire to express the high appreciation of the British troops of the honor done them in serving alongside of their comrades of the American army, and of the high honor accorded me in having them under my command.

A Decent Act.

'I blame myself for the mistake made in taking their position by the Ninth Regiment, not remembering that troops fresh to the scene of action and hurried forward in the excitement of attack were likely to lose their way. Still the position they took and gallantly stuck to all day undoubtedly prevented a large body of the enemy from turning the right of the attacking line and inflicting serious loss on the French and Japanese."

Sympathy With Americans.

Gen. Dorward also expressed sympathy with the Americans in the loss of Col. Liscum, commander of the regiment, and Capt. Davis of the marine corps. He commended Lieut. Smedley Butler and Lieut. Henry Leonard of the marine corps, and Lieut. Louis Lawton of the regiment, and praised Lt.-Col. Coolidge for his skilful withdrawal of the regiment.

A Reign of Terror.

Chinamen from the walled city describe a reign of terror inaugurated by the Boxers before the city fell. The Boxers killed all Chinese who had been in the employ of Europeans, holding a daily inquisition. They decapitated even those suspected of friendship for foreigners or of adopting foreign customs. The mere wearing of narrow sleeves was deemed an offence justifying the death of the offender and the confiscation of his property.

It is now believed that the regular troops and the Boxers are hostile to one another, the troops being enraged because the Boxers drew them into a disastrous fight.

NO RELIABLE NEWS FROM PEKIN.

Allies at Tien Tsin Are Still in the Dark—All Stories Are Contradictory.

Tien Tsin, Friday, July 20.—Chinese coming in from the country report that the Chinese soldiers are killing the Boxers wherever the latter are seen, giving as a reason that the Boxers deceived them into embarking on a hopeless struggle. An intelligent Chinaman said he regarded this as a sign of widespreading dissension. It was only a matter of a short time, he declared, before the same state would exist in Pekin. Then he thought Yung Lu, commander-in-chief of the Chinese forces, and Prince Ching would be able to regain sufficient influence to make peace, especially if the foreigners in the capital were safe. This appears to represent the general native opinion here as far as it is possible to ascertain it.

No Reliable News From Pekin.

In the meantime reliable news as to events in Pekin, and whether the foreigners are alive, is entirely lacking, or is only obtainable from Chinese sources, and this is most meagre and contradictory.

It is now thought that the forward movement of the allies will probably take place earlier than was at first intended, possibly by the end of this month. But nothing definite will be decided before the arrival of General Sir Alfred Gaselee, commanding the Indian contingent.

A Runner From Pekin.

A runner who arrived from Pekin yesterday reports that the foreigners were safe on July 10 and that there had been considerable fighting between the Boxers and soldiers inside the city.

Another Message From Conger.

Washington, July 25.—The following cablegram has been received at the Navy Department:

Che Foo, July 24.—Navigation Bureau, Washington:

Written message signed Conger, dated July 4, received Tien Tsin 21st, says: "Been besieged two weeks British legation. Grave danger general massacre by Chinese soldiers, who are shelling legation daily. Relief soon if at all. City without government except by Chinese army. Determined massacre all foreigners Pekin. Entry relief forces into city probably be hotly contested. (Signed) Thomas."

The message comes from Capt. Charles M. Thomas, commander of the Brooklyn.

CATERING TO FRANCE NOW.

Kwang Su Writes an Appeal to the President of the French Republic for Good Will.

Paris, July 25.—The Emperor of China has sent to President Loubet the following letter, transmitted by telegraph by the Governor of Shantung, July 19:

"China has for several years been linked in friendship with your honorable country. All affairs concerning our relations on the frontiers of Quang Si and Funnan have been discussed and settled by the way of conciliation. There exists no grievances between us. Recently the population and the Christians found themselves in hostility, and rebellious persons have profited by the opportunity to indulge in depredations, with the result that foreign nations have suspected the court of showing partiality towards the people and of jealousy towards the Christians. Subsequently the attack upon and taking of the forts at Taku took place,

Continued on Page 8.

$1—Regular and only price for world-famed Shannon files. The Office Specialty Mfg. Co., Limited, 77 Bay St., Toronto—One Dollar—don't forget.

To-Day's Program.

Excursion of Veterans of '66 Association, to Brock's Monument, by Niagara Navigation Co. boats.

British Canadian band concert, at Riverdale Park, 8 to 10.

Public School Board, 7.45 p.m.

Trades and Labor Council, 8 p.m.

Military Tattoo at Hanlan's Point, 8.30.

Munro Park, vaudeville, afternoon and evening.

Baseball, Hartford v. Toronto, Hanlan's Point, 3.30 p.m.

Cook's Turkish Baths—204 King W.

RELIABLE REPORT ABOUT CROPS IN THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST.

Mr. S. A. McGaw of the Dominion Elevator Company Says There Will Be Only About Half An Average, But There Is No Likelihood of Suffering.

Montreal, July 25.—(Special.)—"I have been in Manitoba for 18 years, and I do not see anything in the present crop shortage to make me lose faith in the province."

This is the way Mr. S. A. McGaw, secretary and treasurer of the Dominion Elevator Co., puts it. He says the wheat crop of Manitoba and the Territories will probably be a little short of fifteen million bushels, against thirty-four million last year. The fact of the increased acreage, both in the province and the Territories, will help them out a great deal, and, altho merchants may have to carry over some of their country accounts, there will be no suffering. Altho the rains were too late for the wheat, Mr. McGaw says they were productive of great good to the feed, and as Manitoba is raising a great deal of stock, and prices being good, the average will be pretty good. In 1899, the average yield was 12½ bushels per acre, in 1890 it was 21 bushels and in 1895 28 bushels, while this year he says there are in Manitoba and the Territories about 2,200,000 acres under wheat, which, at seven bushels per acre, would give a total yield of fifteen million bushels.

It was at first thought that the crop of oats would be short, but it has turned out to be very good. There are also, he adds, splendid crops of wheat in the Red Deer Country between Calgary and Edmonton and in the vicinity of Prince Albert.

Minnesota and the Dakotas.

He says he considers the reports from Minnesota and the Dakotas, tending to the belief that the wheat crop is all right, are quite misleading. He says that the wheat crop of the three states just mentioned will not exceed 75,000,000 bushels, against 157,000,000 bushels last year, and he added that the farmers would not be so well off as their neighbors in Manitoba, because they do not do so much stock farming.

No Dollar Wheat.

Mr. McGaw concluded as follows: "But if there is a shortage in the Canadian and American Northwest it does not follow that we will have one-dollar wheat, as some might suppose. When our prices go high, England will increase her purchases in Bulgaria, the Argentine Republic and other wheat-producing countries."

ROBERTS HAS MADE A GENERAL ADVANCE FROM HIS POSITION.

Boers Were So Surrounded That They Abandoned Their Strong Position In Front of Pole Carew—Communications Restored.

London, July 25.—The War Office has received the following despatch from Lord Roberts:

"Vandermerwe Station, July 24.—We made a general advance yesterday from the position we have been holding east of Pretoria since June 12. Ian Hamilton, from the north, reached Rustfontein, seven miles north of Bronkhorst Spruit, on July 22. This so completely surrounded the enemy's line of retreat that they abandoned the strong position they had been occupying in front of Pole-Carew. Stephenson's brigade advanced yesterday, unopposed to Elands River Station. Our right was protected by the first and fourth brigades of cavalry under Gen. French, and Hutton's mounted infantry. The former crossed east of Wilge River.

Communication Restored.

"Railway and telegraphic communication was restored last night.

"In the supply train captured at Roodeval were 200 Welsh Fusiliers, most of whom had been prisoners. Dewet's force is continuing to move northeasterly. It was at Roodepoort, July 22, with Broadwood, not far behind, and Little's cavalry brigade following Broadwood.

Baden-Powell's Report.

"Baden-Powell reports as follows:

"'Magato Farm, July 22.—Cols. Grey and Lushington, with 450 men, drove 1000 Boers from a very strong position and scattered them with considerable loss. Our casualties were six killed and nineteen wounded.'"

It is not clear whether the supply train and 200 Fusiliers mentioned in the above despatch are identical with the train and 100 Cameron Highlanders, the capture of which was reported by Lord Roberts on July 22.

Now at Bronkhorst Spruit.

The following despatch from Lord Roberts has been received at the War Office:

"Bronkhorst Spruit, July 24.—We marched here to-day. This is the place where the Ninety-fourth was attacked Dec. 20, 1880. The graves of the officers and men are in fair preservation, and will be put in good order.

Hutton Had Fighting.

"The march was unopposed, but French's cavalry and Hutton's mounted infantry made a wide detour on our right and met bodies of the enemy. These were driven back, leaving several dead and wounded. A good many were also captured. Our casualties were one killed.

Captured Dewet's Wagons.

"Broadwood reports that he captured five of Dewet's wagons to-day. He was waiting at Vredefort until Little joined him."

A STRIKE AT CHAMBERLAIN.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson Moved to Strike Out His Salary, But It Was Voted Down.

London, July 25.—Discussion of the Colonial Office vote led to a spirited debate in the House of Commons to-day, in the course of which Liberals again aired most of the old charges against the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, and indulged in criticisms of the war in South Africa. Finally, Sir Wilfrid Lawson moved a reduction of Mr. Chamberlain's salary as a mark of censure of his policy.

Mr. Chamberlain's Reply.

Mr. Chamberlain, replying, welcomed the issue raised by the motion, which, he declared, meant that the war was wrong, and that, consequently, annexation of the South African republics was wrong and their independence should be restored to them. In his opinion, however, the war was just and right to us, and should not be judged by its consequences in loss of life. John Bright had defended the civil war in America as just and righteous, altho the loss of life was as thousands to units as compared with South Africa.

Mr. Chamberlain proceeded to combat the Liberal assertion that the Afrikander Bond had remained loyal and ought to be consulted with regard to the settlement. He charged the Radicals with condoning rebellion. The policy of the Government, however, was not vindictive, and, instead of subjecting the rebels to the death penalty, or imprisonment, it only proposed to disarm them politically for ten years. As regards the future, there would not be an indefinite military occupation. At the earliest moment a civil administration would be established. The Government desired to give the States at the earliest possible moment a system of self-government similar to that enjoyed by the other British colonies. He believed the hope of a reaction at home was prolonging the war. Therefore, in the interests of the country he hoped it would be made clear that the Government had substantially a united House and people behind it.

Mr. Balfour moved closure, which was carried, 169 ayes to 100 nays. The motion on reduction of Mr. Chamberlain's salary was then lost, 208 nays to 52 ayes.

The Colonial Office vote was agreed to.

The Opposition did not spare Mr. Chamberlain. Liberal members sharply interrupted him, and charged him with misquoting other speakers, and reminded him that the whole history of South Africa, the past seven years, had furnished substantial ground for him to be suspected in all his actions.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Liberal leader in the House of Commons, declared that Mr. Chamberlain had prostituted the occasion to the purpose of making an electioneering speech.

MERCENARIES HOLDING OUT.

The Burghers Want to Go Back and Farm, But Foreigners Are Persistent.

Bronkhorst Spruit, July 24.—The Boers having got wind of the British advance, evacuated all their positions, and are reported to be moving to the northeast towards Lydenburg, whither President Kruger is going. A portion of the Boers remain north of Bushveldt, whence they attempt to interrupt communications on this line.

The bridges here and smaller bridges to the west have been destroyed.

The British force comprises two brigades under Gen. French, and a brigade and a half under Gen. Hamilton. It is not likely that the advance upon Middleburg will be contested. The Boers remaining upon their farms state that most of the burghers are anxious to bring matters to a finish, but that the foreigners are persistent.

News of Private Edgar.

Thru the kind offices of the Absent-Minded Beggar Relief Corps (London Daily Mail Kipling Poem Fund), Mrs. J. Edgar, 32 West Gerrard-street, has received news of her son, Fred W. Edgar, who enlisted in the British army at the commencement of the war, and was subsequently sent to South Africa with his regiment. It was feared that young Edgar was dead, as no news had been received of him for six months. However, the Relief Corps announce his safe arrival in England after a very severe illness, from which he has not yet recovered. Edgar is a member of Commercial Lodge S.O.E., and an ex-member of "E" Co., Q.O.R.

Martial Law Still in Force.

Cape Town, July 25.—In the Cape Assembly yesterday the Government indignantly refused to accept a motion in favor of the repeal of martial law in Cape Colony, made by Mr. John Xavier Merriman, former Colonial Treasurer.

Mr. Rose-Innes, Attorney-General, expressed the readiness of the Government to repeal the law whenever repeal should become practicable, but said that the time had not yet arrived.

The House cheered the Government's decision.

Carrington's First Fight.

New York, July 25.—A new element has entered into the South African campaign with the receipt of news that Gen. Carrington, with his Rhodesian force, has had his first fight, attacking the Boers and carrying their position on Salouis River on Monday, after a sharp engagement. Gen. Carrington lost four killed and 19 wounded.

Wears Silver Rings.

The "Summer Girl" is the name of the latest novelty in ladies' neckwear. It is being shown in Quinn's window, 93 Yonge-street, for the first time to-day. To see it is to buy it.

Big Value.

The amount of value you get for the money invested in tobacco cannot always be estimated by the size of the package. Quality is what determines the beneficial or harmful effects of tobacco. Quantity without quality is dangerous. The quality of "Clubb's Dollar Mixture" is not surpassed. It's our great drawing card. 1-lb. tin $1, ½-lb. tin 50c, ¼-lb. package 25c, sample package 10c. A. Clubb & Sons' two stores, 49 and 97 King west.

Go with College Street Baptist Church Choir and S.S. Teachers to Niagara Falls to-morrow. Tickets for sale cor. Yonge and Front on morning of excursion.

Guaranteed Quality—Half Off the Price.

Buying a straw hat at Fairweather's (84 Yonge) means to the purchaser exclusive styles and guaranteed quality—lines made by the best makers for the high-class trade this firm caters to—this week prices are reduced from one-third to one-half—and you're promised the best straw hat value in the city at $1.

Fetherstonhaugh & Co., Patent Solicitors and experts, Bank of Commerce Building, Toronto.

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A Rock Bottom File holds papers, holds itself, and threatens to hold the public. Nothing like it under the earth—25c each. If it's a good thing we have it.—Grand & Toy, Limited, Stationers and Printers, Wellington and Jordan-streets, Toronto.

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Powerful Field Glasses,

Suitable for target practice, hunting or yachting. All high-price glasses at a big bargain. C. J. Townsend & Co.

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The original Toothache Gum, Gibbons' Ask for it. Price 10c.

BONA FIDE SETTLERS OUTBID BY RINGSTERS

Sales of Manitoba School Lands Under Mr. Sifton's Department Alleged to Have Been Crooked.

Premier Macdonald Has Had Many Complaints and Will Have an Investigation—Where Fraud Is Proved the Deeds Will Be Cancelled—Winnipeg News Notes.

Winnipeg, July 25.—(Special.)—The matter of frauds in the conduct of school land sales conducted under Mr. Sifton's department at many points thruout the province is now occupying the attention of the Provincial Government, and wherever possible, where proof of fraud has been located, deeds have been cancelled. When spoken to on the subject to-day, Premier Macdonald stated that he had been informed of numerous misdoings in that connection, and had proof in many cases, as, for example, in one deal, where he knew the Government had been defrauded of $1600. He was in communication with Mr. Sifton on the matter, and intended to do his utmost in locating frauds and having wrongs righted as far as possible. He could not say yet what step the Provincial Government would take on the subject until he had learned further from the Minister of the Interior.

How the Game Was Worked.

The method of manipulation as described by Mr. Macdonald was for some of the speculators to bid land up over the heads of bona fide purchasers, and have an agreement with the auctioneer whereby no deposit was called for. The next day the purchase would be repudiated, and the land sold at an up-set price to other members of the ring. In one place one auctioneer is reported to have received $25 per parcel for every deal thus manipulated, and the department had sufficient proof of this to warrent them in cancelling the deeds which were being issued.

Manipulators have made a profit of thousands out of the sales, and everything indicates that a thoro investigation is needed, as complaints are pouring in to Premier Macdonald from every quarter.

Fire in Winnipeg.

A wooden structure on Main-street, occupied by S. Macdonald, electrician, and Robert Strange, insurance agent, was completely destroyed by fire this morning. Loss $10,000; insurance $6000.

Attack on Chinese Laundry.

An attack was made on Monday morning on a Chinese laundry in Portage la Prairie. The occupants were rather roughly handled. The matter is deeply regretted by the sober-minded residents at the Portage.

Killed By a Train.

A sad accident occurred this morning as the Imperial Limited was near Bird's Hill, by which S. Hutchings of that place lost his life. He stepped in front of the train.

Notes.

Lord and Lady Minto went west to-day.

There are 1000 Americans in the city.

SIX CIVIC BYLAWS KNOCKED HIGHER THAN GILROY'S KITE.

It Was a Direct Slap by the Freeholders at the Manner in Which Municipal Affairs Are Run in Toronto These Days.

There was not an alderman in the city who did not anticipate the defeat of all the bylaws submitted to the freeholders yesterday. But there was not one alderman in the bunch who dreamed that the ratepayers would kick the bylaws out of their way with such terrific force as the actual vote indicates. There are probably 12,000 or 13,000 freeholders in Toronto. A good big ratepayers' vote on a comparative scale with a municipal election would be in the neighborhood of 11,000. Only 1800 voters came out yesterday, but this was not as light a vote as most persons expected. The vote polled went over twenty to one against all the bylaws. There was not much attention given to distinction or detail, altho the City Hall furniture bylaw fared the worst and the Rosehill Reservoir Bylaw got the least mutilation. This showed an intelligent distinction. But it did not go far. Every ward told the same tale. Nor was there a note of variance in any subdivision of any ward. It was a general slaughter, the meaning whereof can be read by all who run, and especially by the gentlemen who intend running for municipal honors for 1901.

The following are the details of the vote:

	Rosehill Reservoir.		Sewers.		Subway.		Stables.		Shaw-st. Bridge.		City Hall.	
	For.	Ag'st.	For.	Ag'st.	For.	Ag'st.	For.	Ag'st.	For.	Ag'st.	For.	Ag'st.
Ward 1	18	185	14	130	11	142	12	141	8	146	7	146
Ward 2	40	301	21	317	23	315	24	312	19	319	20	317
Ward 3	42	311	23	329	18	332	25	327	20	332	19	333
Ward 4	33	410	25	417	19	424	16	426	16	426	11	429
Ward 5	31	320	33	318	26	325	14	337	27	325	8	341
Ward 6	33	193	31	195	35	191	20	206	20	206	14	212
Totals	197	1670	147	1715	132	1729	111	1749	110	1754	79	1778

OTTAWA CLAIMS 68,550 SOULS.

The Directory Publishers Believe That is the Population of the Capital.

Ottawa, July 25.—Charles Dionne of Ottawa, 19 years old, was reported to be drowned at Rockland to-day while bathing.

According to the Might Directory for 1900, just published, the population of Ottawa is 68,550. The number of vacant houses is given as 520, as against an average of 573 in former years. The number of vacant stores was 45, as against 95 last year.

Corner office in Lawlor Building, cor. King and Yonge Streets, to let. Apply Sidney Small.

A Good Dresser's "Benefit."

This is benefit week in the pearl and light shale light weight fedoras at Fairweather's (84 Yonge), for the firm is making a straight cut on them of 20 per cent., and they're regular goods, too, by best English and American makers—$2 to $4.

Edwards and Hart-Smith, Chartered Accountants, Bank of Commerce Building. George Edwards, A. Hart-Smith.

Cigars Sent Anywhere.

Wherever you go in Canada you can have a box of 25 cigars sent you from Muller's by mail. Address G. W. Muller, 9 King-street west, Toronto, and just state the kind of cigars you like, and enclose the price you wish to pay. They will come to you by return mail.

Corner office in Lawlor Building, cor. King and Yonge Streets, to let. Apply Sidney Small.

Office to Let in Lawlor Building.

Corner office in Lawlor Building, corner of King and Yonge-streets, to let. Immediately over G.T.R. office. Apply to Sidney Small, 20 Adelaide-street east.

Pember's Turkish Baths reopened after thorough renovation. 127-129 Yonge.

Monuments.

Finest work and best designs at lowest prices. The McIntosh Granite and Marble Company, 1119 and 1121 Yonge-street, Toronto (terminal Yonge-street car route). 246

Corner office in Lawlor Building, cor King and Yonge Street, to let. Apply Sidney Small.

BIRTHS.

HOWLAND—On July 25, at 312 Huron-street, Toronto, the wife of Peleg Howland, of a son.

DEATHS.

CLOSE—On Wednesday morning, at his residence, 233 Simcoe-street, Patrick George Close, in his 63rd year.

Funeral Friday, 27th inst., at 3 o'clock p.m. Private.

DANCE—On Wednesday, July 25, 1900, Sarah, relict of the late John Dance, in her 82nd year.

Funeral Friday, July 27, at 3 p.m., from her son-in-law's residence, D. H. Baker, 246 Ternaby-street.

FURNESS—At 112 Pembroke-street, the residence of her sister, on the 24th inst., Richard Furness, a native of Markethar-boro, England, and late of the G.T.R., in the 65th year of his age.

Funeral at Niagara Falls, 2 p.m., 26th.

MACINTOSH—At Gravenhurst, on Tuesday, the 24th July, Annie K. Richardson, beloved wife of Allan Macintosh of London, Ontario.

Funeral on Friday, the 27th, at 3 o'clock, from the residence of Mrs. Eleanor Macintosh, 20 Selby-street, Toronto. Interment in Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

Defy a Downpour.

Fairweather's, 84 Yonge Street, will put you in the way of it—their newest departure is the putting in of a specially selected stock of fine umbrellas—novelties in handles and the coverings and frames all warranted. You might be of an enquiring turn to-day and ask to see the special values, say from $1 to $3.50.

The Duchess De L'Epee and Her Hats.

"The Duchess de l'Epee has exchanged her head "confections" for the popular English walking hat." This is a piece of society gossip, and it means that this Parisian favorite, who was heretofore celebrated for her extraordinary taste in French head dress, has joined the ranks of the many and adopted the sensible, natty hat of the English and American ladies—a walking hat. The W. & D. Dineen Co. knew three or four years ago that public taste was coming their way, so they made arrangements to be supplied from time to time with these popular hats. The result is that they may be depended on as regards newest fashion and quality. Drop into their showrooms any time and see their exhibit of walking and golfing hats for ladies—American or English.

Comparatively Cool.

Meteorological Office, Toronto, July 25, 8 p.m.—The weather has cleared as far east as the Lower St. Lawrence, and rain is now falling in Eastern Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. In Manitoba and the Territories it is fine, and high temperatures are prevalent in Alberta and Assiniboia. The highest temperatures reported are 96 at Swift Current and 88 at Calgary.

Minimum and maximum temperatures—Victoria, 58—66; Kamloops, 62—84; Edmonton, 48—82; Prince Albert, 44—76; Qu'Appelle, 48—84; Winnipeg, 40—74; Port Arthur, 48—72; Parry Sound, 56—78; Toronto, 64—82; Ottawa, 54—78; Montreal, 66—70; Quebec, 62—76; Halifax, 62—70.

Probabilities.

Lower Lakes and Georgian Bay—Fresh northerly to westerly winds, fine and comparatively cool.

Ottawa Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Fresh northerly to westerly winds; fine and comparatively cool.

Lower St. Lawrence—Fresh westerly winds; fine and comparatively cool.

Gulf—Strong westerly and northwesterly winds; fair and cool.

Maritime Provinces—Showery at first; then clearing, with fresh west and northwest winds.

Lake Superior—Moderate winds; fine and warm.

Manitoba—Fine; becoming warmer.

Outing clothes have their innings now at Oak Hall-Clothiers, 115 King St. E. and 116 Yonge St. Summer goods are being sold at a big discount off regular prices.

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