They Lost Heavily

Buller Played Havoc With the Boers in His Last Attack.

Half the Gunners of the Bethlehem Commando Were Killed.

Roberts Reports The Casualties of the British As Very Light.

London, Aug. 27.—During Gen. Buller's recent attack, according to the Daily Mail correspondent at Lorenzo Marques, the Boers lost heavily. Half the gunners of the Bethlehem commando were killed, as well as its commandant, Vondalwig, a cousin of Herr Krupp.

"A council of war of the Boers at Machadodorp," says the correspondent, "decided against the advice of Commandant-General Botha, to return to the original plan of retiring on Lyndenburg."

Former President Steyn and Commandant Delarey are reported to have had an interview with Mr. Kruger last Saturday at Watervalonder.

Wiring from Belfast to-day, Lord Roberts says: "Our casualties on Sunday were wonderfully few, considering the heavy firing and the number of hours we were engaged.

"Buller estimates his as two killed and 24 wounded. His troops had to bivouac where they stopped after darkness fell, and accurate returns are as yet impossible.

"The casualties of the force operating north of Belfast were three killed and 34 wounded."

Berlin, Aug. 27.—A deputation of German subjects residing in the Transvaal arrived here to lodge a complaint with the German foreign office regarding alleged cruelty in treatment at Johannesburg. They assert that four hundred German subjects of both sexes were arrested there and sent to a seaport, from which port they were shipped to Flushing, where the British landed them penniless.

HIGH-HANDED OFFICIALS.

Japanese Residents of Washington Bundled Across the Line to Canada.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Aug. 27.—There has been considerable excitement in the Japanese colony of Vancouver for the past week, owing to the fact that numbers of Japanese residents of Tacoma and Seattle have been forcibly seized and shipped to Vancouver contrary to law.

According to the Immigration Act, after an immigrant has been in the United States for one year he becomes a care of the state where he resides, and cannot be deported to the country from where he came, but the Japanese now being dumped at Vancouver have not only been residents of the Sound cities for two years or more, but have never before been in Canada. Japanese Consul Shimezu, on being spoken to regarding the matter, said that he had heard of three Japanese being sent to Vancouver from the United States in an irregular manner, but had understood that they had been or were to be shipped back, so that he had nothing to say officially regarding the matter, as he considered it as ended. At the immigration office very little information could be obtained, as it was stated that the matter was not for publication as far as that office was concerned.

Three of the wrongfully deported men talked very freely, however. The names of these men are Norihadzu Morita, Kanematsu and Shikotaro Oshima. All three said they had been arrested by United States Immigration Inspector Walker, of Whatcom, at Whatcom, and after a hasty farce of an inspection, shipped to Vancouver to shift for themselves. All three men stated the places they had worked in at Seattle.

TRYING TO SETTLE.

Arbitrators For C. P. R. and Machinists Will Be Appointed.

Winnipeg, Aug. 27.—Messrs. Cross and Ord, of the C. P. R., were engaged all day with the men's committee, endeavoring to settle a number of matters in schedules prior to the appointment of arbitrators on machinists' wages. Five arbitrators are to be appointed, two by each side, the four to agree upon the fifth. The men's arbitrators will include Grand Councillor O'Connell, of the International Association of Machinists, who is expected to arrive to-morrow. Mr. A. W. Puttee, M.P., is spoken of as the other.

SIR CHARLES IN HALIFAX.

He Will Address a Public Meeting There This Evening.

Halifax, Aug. 27.—Sir Charles Tupper arrived here on Saturday evening, being met at the railway station by Mayor Hamilton and Ald. Rogers on behalf of the city, and escorted to the Halifax hotel. Sir Charles will address a patriotic concert on Tuesday evening at the public gardens. Sir Charles missed his footing on Friday night coming down-stairs, and strained the tendons of his knee, and has been ordered by his physician to keep in bed until to-morrow.

Montreal, Aug. 27.—Premier Marchand is quite ill and will be unable to give any attention to public affairs for some time to come.

VANCOUVER NEWS.

Hung a Boy by His Thumbs—A Life-Saver—Socialist Candidate.

From Our Own Correspondent.

A white boy stole two bottles of pop from M. Kawatchi, a Japanese huckster. Kawatchi caught the boy and, taking him to a barn, tied him up to a beam by his thumbs. The boy's screams drew the neighbors' attention to the cruel act and the police have Kawathci in their toils.

Joe Fortes, swimming instructor at English Bay, has saved four more lives this year, a man and woman from an overturned boat and two children. This makes 13 lives to Joe's credit, and no medal from the Humane Society as yet adorns his breast.

W. MacLain, the socialist, intends to be a candidate for the House of Commons in Westminster district.

FITZ WILL RETIRE.

He Fails to Secure a Fight With Jeffries For Friday Night.

New York, Aug. 27.—After an ineffectual attempt to get on a match for the heavyweight championship with Jeffries to take place before the Horton law expires, at midnight next Friday, Robert Fitzsimmons said to-night: "I am through. I will retire from the ring and not claim the championship from Jeffries. I am ready and on edge to meet him next Friday night."

MILITARY VISITORS.

U. S. Veterans Receive a Hearty Welcome at Montreal.

Montreal, Aug. 27.—Eighty members of the Amoskeag Veterans, of Manchester, N.H., and the Continentals, of Worcester, Mass., arrived in the city this evening. They were met at the station by the Royal Scots and their pipers and a number of local military men and escorted to the Windsor. To-morrow they inspect the city, shoot the Lachine rapids and leave in the evening for Quebec.

Roumania Is Likely to Fight

Tension Between That Country and Bulgaria Is Getting Worse.

Meetings Are Being Held and a Very Warlike Tone Prevails.

London, Aug. 28.—Referring to the tension between Roumania and Bulgaria, recently accentuated by the unsatisfactory character of the reply of the Sofia government to the Roumanian for the suppression of the Macedonia revolutionary committee, which has its headquarters at the Bulgarian capital, the Bucharest correspondent of the Daily Mail, wiring yesterday, says: "The outlook becomes more and more serious. The opinion of the general public here is that Bulgaria must be taught a lesson by arms if necessary. Many public meetings were held yesterday (Sunday) throughout Roumania. All were characterized by a very warlike tone. The expulsion of Bulgarians from Roumania continues."

A MISSOURI STORM.

Sedalia Suffers Damage From a Wind and Rain Storm.

Sedalia, Aug. 27.—A storm bordering on a tornado struck the city this afternoon. Three brick buildings on Main street were blown down. Thousands of trees were broken and torn up by the roots, street car traffic was suspended and telegraphic and telephonic communication was interrupted. There was a terrible fall of rain and the water in the streets raised to the door steps of the residences. No loss of life is reported.

Longest in Canada.—The talent for the Savoy at Dawson arrived on August 10. The Yukon Sun says, in discussing the arrival: "The Jackson & O'Brien circuit is the longest in Canada. They have houses at Victoria, Vancouver, White Horse and Dawson, and wherever they show do the business of the town. Having so many houses, they can sign their people for a longer run than other houses can, and as a result they have a pick of vaudeville talent. Charley Friedman, for years manager of the Victoria Savoy, will be the Dawson manager, and his experience assures the success of the enterprise from a standpoint of management." Later advices say that the Savoy had been running for a week to crowded houses, it now being the only theatre in Dawson.

CONTRACT FOR MAIL CARRIAGE

Canadian Development Company Secures It From U. S. Government.

Washington, Aug. 27.—The post office department has given a contract to the Canadian Development Company to carry letter mail from Skagway to St. Michael and Nome from December 1 next to March 31. The route will be via Dawson, Canada; Forty-Mile, Canada; Eagle, Alaska; Star, Circle City, Rampart, Tanana, Koyukuk, Nulata and Eaton, Alaska, a distance of 1,604 miles each way, with a branch from Eaton to Nome, 240 miles each way.

On the main line there are to be two round trips, leaving Skagway on the 8th and 22nd of each month; running time not to exceed 60 days each; and between Skagway and St. Michael, and also between Skagway and Nome.

Suitable relay stations will have to be provided by the contractors along the route. The department has also made a contract for carrying a letter mail on down trips from Eaton to Kotsebu Mission, a new Alaskan post office, a distance of 400 miles each way. The mails will leave Eaton on January 1, 1901, and March 1 following, 30 days' running time being allowed each way.

K. OF P.

The Supreme Lodge of the Order in Session at Detroit.

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 28.—The Masonic Temple to-day appeared transformed into a temple of Pythianism. Several largely attended gatherings of Pythians and branch orders were in progress simultaneously within the big structure. Chief of these were the opening meetings of the Supreme Lodge, K. of P., and of the Supreme Lodge of the Pythian Sisterhood. The initial meeting of the order of Rathbone Sisters was postponed. Supreme Chancellor Thomas G. Sample, of Alleghany, Pa., head of the order, presided over the Supreme Lodge meeting.

Aggressive Operations

Allies Resume the Attack and Take District West of Pekin.

The Whole Trouble of the Outbreak Thrown Upon Prince Tuan.

Japanese Landing of Troops at Amoy Is Looked at Unfavorably.

Paris, Aug. 28.—(4:25 a. m.)—A special despatch to Le Siecle from St. Petersburg says: "It is persistently rumored that the Russian government has received despatches asserting that, after a fierce battle inside Pekin, the allies retreated, losing 1,800 men, mostly Russians. It is further said that the Chinese occupy fortified positions, from which they are bombarding the allies in a murderous manner."

London, Aug. 28.—(3:50 a. m.)—The allies, resuming aggressive operations, have taken the district west of Pekin. This statement, based on Chinese authority, is cabled from Shanghai. From the same place comes the further statement that Li Hung Chang has wired the Empress Dowager at Hsian Fu, requesting the arrest of Prince Tuan and the disarmament of the Boxers, in order to give him an opening for negotiations with the powers.

The illuminations projected at Shanghai in celebration of the relief of Pekin have been abandoned, lest they should cause a native outbreak.

"Evidence has been received here," says the Shanghai correspondent of the Standard, "going to show that General Yung Lu was the real author of the anti-foreign outbreak, the Empress Dowager, Prince Tuan and the others all having been persuaded by him to take an extreme attitude, while he stood aside and awaited developments."

American refugee missionaries in Amoy, according to the Hongkong correspondent of the Daily Mail, are anxious to return to the interior, but the United States consul has forbidden them to do so, and urges them to go to the Philippines or return to America.

Shanghai advices to the Daily News say that consular opinion there looks upon Japanese action in the landing of troops at Amoy, despite the protests of the consuls, as similar to that of Russia at New Chwang, the whole indicating a tendency to the partition of the empire.

"Russian journals agree," says the Moscow correspondent of the Standard, "that it is impossible to deal with China in the spirit of revenge as suggested by Emperor William. They believe that measures less drastic can better help the ends of Russia in Manchuria. The question would be satisfactorily settled to Russian minds by the seizure of the northern provinces."

Washington, Aug. 27.—After several days' intermission in Chinese advices, the government to-day received two despatches, which bring its advices up to the most recent date. There are indications that the principal delays in the lines of communication are encountered between Tien Tsin and Pekin—a fact explainable by the newspaper advices that small bands of Boxers are operating on the line of communication of the Pekin campaign force. Just such interference with the work of the signal corps men was experienced by the United States forces in the Philippines, and by Lord Roberts' troops in the Transvaal campaign. The fact that more than a week was covered by the last interruption gives rise to the belief here that these attacks upon lines of communication by the Boxers are more favorable than was supposed to be possible after the heavy losses inflicted upon them by the international force in its advance.

The important despatch of the day was one from Conger relative to the military situation in Pekin. Unfortunately it lacked a date, the minister not having yet received the department's instructions to include the date in the body of his despatches. The department undertook to correct this omission, but finally concluded from international evidence that Mr. Conger's message was later than the official emanation from the Chinese capital, the message was allowed publicity for what it was worth. Conger's reference to the arrival of 2,000 fresh German troops caused some surprise, no one having watched the movements of the German contingent which was now arriving regularly in China and consequently may be expected soon to equal in strength the military contingents of any of the European powers represented. A statement in Conger's despatch is that respecting the appearance in Pekin of some of the members of the Tsung Li Yamen. A natural construction to be given to this statement is that these ministers wish to undertake to represent the Chinese government formally in negotiations with the powers. It has been found impossible up to this moment, according to Conger's statement, to meet any representative of the Chinese in Pekin who was competent to open negotiations. With some person or persons to deal with, it may be possible for the powers to come to a settlement with the Chinese government. They could not withdraw their troops without arranging for indemnity for the heavy costs they have been put to. Therefore, as conveying a hope that in the persons of these members of the Tsung Li Yamen there may be found some authorized representative of the Chinese government competent to make engagements on these points. Another event of the day was the order despatching the U. S. S. Castine from Shanghai to Amoy, a distance of 400 miles. The little gunboat should make the run in two days, under favorable conditions. The consul at Amoy agreeing with the representations of the business interests, it was decided to be proper to send a gunboat to Amoy, not because of any apprehension as to Japan's aspirations, but to prevent rioting at this dangerous point.

The first direct word from General Chaffee since August 18 came to-day in the form of a cablegram, dated at Taku, reporting the action of the Sixth Cavalry with the enemy near Tien Tsin on the 19th. Gen. Chaffee's belated report of an engagement previously reported by Remey is cabled from Taku, August 20, in which he says: "On the morning of the 19th the Sixth Cavalry and about 400 English and Japanese dispersed 1,000 Boxers outside Tien Tsin. One hundred Chinese were killed and five Americans wounded."

Up-to-Date Styles at

WEILER BROS.

Our first consignment of Fall Goods in the Upholstering, Drapery and Curtain line are now on sale, and we can only say that for coloring, artistic effect and value we have surpassed ourselves in these last purchasings.

Latest Novelties From

Paris, Berlin, London.

WEILER BROS.' VICTORIA, B.C.

U. S. S. ALABAMA.

Trial Run of a New Battleship Proves Successful.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 28.—The new United States battleship Alabama, built by the Cramps, of Philadelphia, made an average of 17 knots on her official speed test to-day on a 32-knot course off Bone Island.

Money for Improvements

Fifty Thousand Dollars Will Be Spent to Improve Yukon Navigation.

A Lumber Combine to Raise the Price of Timber in the Yukon.

The Yukon Sun of August 11 says: "Yesterday the good news came to Commissioner Ogilvie that the $70,000 spent on the Ridge road last season by the Yukon council had been voted in refund, and that amount is now available for work on other roads, trails and bridges to the mines, included in which will undoubtedly be a bridge over the Klondike at Klondike City.

"Superintendent J. B. Tache is now on his way to Dawson with $50,000 given him by the government to expend upon the waterways between Dawson and White Horse. From the work he did last winter, it is a certainty that the route between Dawson and White Horse will be easy to navigate.

"The Yukon council has in the annual appropriations provided for $60,000 for improvement of roads and trails, which, together with the $70,000 refund, puts plenty of money in the hands of the authorities to enable them to give the miners some of the improvements that will make it possible to travel between camp and town with less inconvenience and danger. Engineers are out surveying the Ridge road down Dominion to Gold Run, and down Gold Run as a creek road, and work thereon will be begun at once. Other improvements are being considered, and now that money to pay for the work is on hand, improvements will be made at a rapid rate."

A lumber combine has been made by the Yukon mills to raise the price of lumber. In an interview given to the Yukon Sun on August 11, Joseph Burke, of the Yukon Mill Co., said: "For weeks back we have simply been cutting each others' throats, and it has been a losing proposition for us all. Lumber was selling as low as $65 per thousand, which price simply meant ruin. Yesterday representatives of the Yukon Sawmill Co., the Ladue Co., the Canadian-Yukon Mill Co., Klondike Mill Co., and Smith & Hobbs, met and came to an agreement whereby lumber will retail in future at $85 per thousand for rough lumber, while selected stock will bring $115 and $125 per thousand. These prices went into effect yesterday. These will be the ruling rates from now on, as all the different concerns have pledged themselves to abide by these prices."

DESTITUTE MINERS.

Many Brought From Nome by a Government Vessel.

Seattle, Aug. 28.—The United States army transport Lawton arrived this evening from Nome with 220 passengers, two-thirds of whom are destitute miners, returned at the expense of the government. Rev. Sheldon Jackson, of the interior department, came down on the Lawton, bringing with him 25 Laplanders employed by the United States government in its Alaskan reindeer experiment. The Laplanders are bound for Norway. About 80 Laplanders now engaged in mining at Nome declined to leave the country.

Dr. Jackson reports that la grippe and measles have been epidemic all summer among the Eskimos, materially lessening their number. The ravages extended from the Aleutian Islands to Point Barrow. On the island of St. Lawrence, out of a population of 300, 26 Eskimos died. Many Indian children were found hovering about the dead bodies.

The revenue cutter Bear was loaded with supplies and sent to the relief of the natives.

DAIRY COMMISSIONER

Coming West to Examine Into Storage Facilities.

Winnipeg, Aug. 28.—Mr. C. A. Murray, dairy commissioner, left to-day for Vancouver to inspect the storage facilities of the produce companies in that city.

INCENDIARY FIRES.

Winnipeg Suffers Severely at the Hands of Miscreants.

Winnipeg, Aug. 28.—Fire-bugs were again at their nefarious work in Winnipeg to-night. The firemen were called out at 11:30 to quench a small conflagration raging in the north end of the city, and while at work there another blaze started on Portage avenue, and at this hour (12:30 a. m.) the following stores were destroyed: M. Conway's auction rooms, residence and warehouse; J. McLeod Halliday, commission merchants; Kepfel, repair shops; McLean, bicycle shops; McKenzie's plumbing store; Miss Bruce, millinery; the Singer Manufacturing Co.'s warehouses, and several others. The burning buildings adjoin the new Y. M. C. A. building, which is certain to be damaged. It is reported to-night that the fire-bugs have been captured.

DOMINION RIFLE MEET.

British Columbians Win Several Small Prizes on Opening Day.

Ottawa, Aug. 27.—(Special)—The Dominion rifle matches opened to-day in almost tropical weather. One of the features this year is a cup worth $500 donated by Hon. Dr. Borden, minister of militia, as a memorial of his gallant son killed in South Africa. Hayhurst, the Queen's prize man, met with a mishap, his eye being badly injured by the bursting of a ginger beer bottle.

In the tyro match to-day, Sergt. Major McDougall, of the Fifth R. C. A., won $6.00. Other British Columbia prize winners were Richardson, $5.00; Taylor, Wilson and Boult each $4.00.

The Macdougall challenge was won by Gould, of the 30th. Fleming and Bodley, of the Fifth R. C. A., won $8.00 each; Wilson and Boult, Sixth Rifles, won $5.00 each; and Little, Fifth R. C. A., $4.00.

In the Bankers' match, Richardson, Fifth R. C. A., won $5.00.

FROM CHINA.

Missionaries Escaped From the Boxers Reach San Francisco.

San Francisco, Aug. 28.—More than a score of missionary women and children who escaped from China at the beginning of the Boxer outbreak arrived today on the steamer China from the Orient. All have been through thrilling experiences with the rabble of China.

WON HIS WATCH.

Belleville Man Raised the Flag Over Pretoria Jail.

Belleville, Aug. 28.—When the Belleville contingent went to Africa, Mrs. Fred. Linghamn presented them with a flag, and promised the man who raised it on Pretoria jail a gold watch. Comp. G. G. Hulme, "D" Company, late lieutenant of the Fifteenth Regiment, wins the watch.

MR. JEEVES AND COURT HOUSE

Letters Which Passed Between the Clerk of Works and Engineer.

The following correspondence is published at the request of Mr. George Jeeves:

Lands and Works Department,
Victoria, 31st July, 1900.

Victoria Court House.

Sir: I beg to inform you that the Honorable the Chief Commissioner has been pleased to appoint you clerk of works, Victoria court house alterations, of which Mr. D. Drake is the contractor.

Your salary will be at the rate of $120 per month, and you will be expected to give your entire attention to the work.

You will please report to Mr. F. M. Rattenbury, architect, for instructions.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

F. C. GAMBLE,
Public Works Engineer.

George Jeeves, Esq., 21 Second street, Victoria, B.C.

Victoria, B.C., August 21st, 1900.

The Honorable Mr. Wells, Chief Commissioner Lands & Works, City:

Dear Sir: As clerk of the works of the Victoria court house, I beg to draw your attention to the manner in which the work is conducted. The contractor is allowed to employ all the labor he wishes and put them on by day work and charge same to the government. I have no way of checking him. To-day he has a gang of Italians at work. Also I wish to draw your attention to what I consider of some importance, the very unsafe condition of the land registry office. Leading from the main entrance is one pair of glass swing doors; this offers no protection in case of fire or burglary. On the north and west side there are large plate glass windows without shutters for protection in case of fire. The ceiling of terra cotta has been reduced from what it was specified for, being reduced from 8 inches to 6 inches. The terra cotta was required to have a double rib; that used has only one. The haunches of the arch were to have been filled with concrete; spaces have only been filled, leaving it very weak. The floor on the top of same is 3 inches out of level, while not effecting the construction as far as safety goes, spoils the appearance of same. I would respectfully recommend that the swing doors be removed and walled up until such time as something suitable and safe can be arranged for, as every precaution should be taken for the proper protection of public documents.

I would suggest that an investigation by a couple of architects be made, with a view to suggesting what could be done to remedy the defects.

Yours respectfully,
GEORGE JEEVES.

Mr. Jeeves says he verbally communicated the aforegoing to Mr. Rattenbury.

Lands and Works Department,
Victoria, 24th August, 1900.

Victoria Court House.

Sir: I am instructed by the Honorable the Chief Commissioner to inform you than any communications or reports that you have to make regarding the work now being carried on on the Victoria court house by Mr. F. M. Rattenbury, architect, will not be considered, unless made through him as the architect in charge.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

F. C. GAMBLE,
Public Works Engineer.

George Jeeves, Esq., Clerk of Works, Court House, Victoria, B.C.

Victoria, B.C., August 25th, 1900.

Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, Victoria, B.C.:

Dear Sir: I beg to acknowledge receipt of a communication of the 24th instant re Victoria Court House.

I now tender my resignation as clerk of the works. My reason for so doing is that I would not care to be connected with the work and have to pass it, as I consider it to be unsatisfactory. If I should pass the work it might be injurious to me in the business which I intend to follow, of building inspector.

I am, yours respectfully,
GEORGE JEEVES.

Clearing The Country

Allied Forces Trying to Secure the Communication With Taku.

Russians and Japanese Differ as to Whether Palace Should Be Destroyed.

London, Aug. 29.—(3:30 a.m.)—That inexplicable delay in forwarding telegrams to the capital still continues is illustrated by the fact that the latest despatch from Pekin, the telegram of the special correspondent of the Associated Press, describing the search for Boxers in the imperial park, is dated no later than August 21.

There is no confirmation from any source of the report of an advance toward the north from Pekin. On the contrary, a movement southward to clear the country and to insure free communication with Taku is apparently in progress. The powers as late as August 21 were still unable to agree as to how to deal with Pekin itself, Japanese and Russians being at variance as to whether the imperial palace should be destroyed. Nor is there any further news of the alleged detention of Li Hung Chang by the admirals. Probabilities increase that all the members of the imperial household have got safely to the interior.

A Reuter despatch, dated Pekin, August 15, sent by post to Shanghai, describes scenes of appalling destitution and wanton destruction in Legation street. All the houses of the foreigners were riddled with shells, burned or blown up. An attempt was made to mine the United States legation. A shaft was sunk from the top of the wall 15 feet and was continued as a tunnel with a sharp slope in the direction of the legation. Apparently the Chinese did not have time to finish it.

Paris, Aug. 28.—Admiral Courrejolles, the French commander-in-chief in Chinese waters, has cabled the navy department here that a council of admirals has notified the foreign legations at Pekin that it has been decided to hold Li Hung Chang on board ship until the opening of negotiations with the Chinese.

London, Aug. 28.—A special despatch from Shanghai says the Chinese officials have informed the foreign consuls that the Emperor, the Dowager Empress and Prince Tuan have arrived in the neighborhood of Tai Yuan Fu, 24 miles southwest of Pekin.

Hongkong, Aug. 28.—Gen. Cote, from the island of Formosa (Japanese territory), commands the Japanese forces occupying Amoy. Large bodies of troops have been landed and Nordenfeldt guns have been mounted commanding the city. Many Chinese are leaving. The British cruiser Isis sailed from here to-day under sealed orders. It is thought probable she is going to Amoy.

Canton is quiet. The large merchant guilds are feeding the poor in order to prevent a disturbance.

Washington, Aug. 28.—Adjutant-General Corbin has received a despatch from Chaffee, saying that he has received no despatches from Corbin since August 14. This was the date on which the allied army attacked and entered Pekin.

Many despatches have been sent by Gen. Corbin since that date and the delay in their delivery is astonishing even with the strange conditions which have existed in China. Like the Conger despatches, the one from Conger is undated. The only explanation as to this lack of dates is that despatches have been butchered, probably on the way through China.

COWICHAN CONSERVATIVES.

Over One Hundred Names Enrolled at the Association Meeting Yesterday.

Special to the Colonist.

Duncan, Aug. 28.—At a meeting of the Cowichan Liberal-Conservative Association held here to-day, over 100 members enrolled, and five delegates were elected for the Westminster convention.

SPORTING NOTES.

Westminster Yesterday Won the Third Game in Their Eastern Tour.

So far, the New Westminster lacrosse team have found the Easterners easy marks. Yesterday they defeated the Nationals, of Montreal, by 6 to 2.

The Capital Gun Club held their annual shoot on Sunday. The scores were not up to the average.

Lack of Advices

No Late News Obtainable as to the Situation in China.

Russians, Germans and Japanese Are Pushing Their Troops to Front

A Telegraph Line Has Been Completed From Pekin To Taku.

Tien Tsin, Aug. 25, via Taku, Aug. 27.—The commissary department is preparing to establish an extensive winter base at Tong Ku.

Lieut. Waldron, of the United States infantry, received a serious sniping while patrolling at Hoshiru (Ho Se Woo). The Russians, Germans and Japanese are constantly pushing troops on Pekin.

Officers who have arrived here from Pekin report that Gen. Chaffee, commanding the United States forces in China, is making all necessary preparations to maintain 15,000 men through the winter. Fifteen of the United States wounded, including the marines' wounded during the siege of the legations, have arrived here by boat from Pekin. Meyers (possibly Capt. Meyers of the United States marine corps) is suffering from typhoid fever and cannot be moved. A large batch of refugees are due here to-morrow. The United States signal corps, co-operating with those of the British, has completed the telegraph line from Pekin to Taku.

Washington, Aug. 28.—After the cabinet meeting to-day it was announced that the government was in a waiting attitude regarding the Chinese situation. The lack of late advices from Pekin and the failure of the powers to show their hands as to the future policy, makes it necessary for this government to await developments. The administration considers it of the greatest importance that in the negotiations for the settlement of the Chinese difficulties all the powers should act in unison and harmoniously, and its efforts are being directed to that end. The powers, however, are slow to declare themselves. Several replies have been received to the instructions sent to the United States ambassadors and ministers last week, asking them to sound the governments to which they are accredited, on two propositions. First, the willingness of the governments to accept the sufficiency of Li Hung Chang's credentials to treat with the powers for a settlement, and, second, to ascertain if possible what the future policy of each power is to be. Regarding the latter inquiry, the replies thus far have developed nothing. The powers appear to be watching each other without definite or decided purpose as yet of their own. With regard to the first inquiry, Great Britain and Russia are agreed that Earl Li's credentials are sufficient. Germany, however, takes a firm stand against the sufficiency of his credentials, and is the only power as yet which has returned a flat-footed dissent. The attitude of the United States is that his credentials appear authentic. They were promulgated by what appeared to be a genuine imperial edict, duly transmitted through the accredited Chinese minister, Mr. Wu, and the United States is willing to accept them at their face value, at least for the present. The administration, from the advices the Chinese receive, do not credit the rumors that Russia, Japan and Germany intend to declare war against China. It is willing to accept all disclaimers of ulterior purpose on the part of the powers. Just what would be done in case some of the powers began war for the purpose of territorial aggrandisement, is not known, and the administration is not disposed to cross that bridge until it reaches it. But a member of the cabinet stated to-day that if any of the European powers entered into such a programme, it probably would be reminded by the United States that it had agreed to the "open door" policy, by which all the powers are to be placed upon an equal footing, and that if they were acquired under the agreement, we would be entitled to the same privileges in the matter of trade, etc., as the conqueror.

The President and the cabinet are as much in the dark regarding the date of the despatches of Minister Conger and General Chaffee as is the general public. They can find no explanation of the fact that they have come through without Pekin dates, except that they evidently were sent by courier to Taku, and that cablegrams are relayed eighteen times after leaving the latter point. They may have been sent from Taku without a Pekin date, or they may have lost the date en route. Internal evidence was found in late despatches received from them that tended to demonstrate that some persons had been purposely delaying the messages coming from Pekin and Tien Tsin to Washington. It also is suspected that our messages may have been injuriously tampered with.

The cabinet came to the conclusion that if any Chinese persons have interfered with the despatches, the interference must have occurred on wires between Chee Foo and Shanghai, as it was determined to re-open direct communication by means of a war vessel. Either the New Orleans or the Princeton, now at Shanghai, will be sent at once to Chee Foo, where a military cable system begins free from Chinese interference. The administration has nothing tending to confirm the alarmist rumors regarding the situation at Pekin. Admiral Remey reports nothing disquieting, and it is assumed that if there was any prospect of the allies being attacked and hemmed in he would be in a position to hear of it and would promptly report it to Washington.

Berlin, Aug. 28.—Liberal papers are sharply discussing what they describe as the "illegality of the recent re-organization of the army incidental to the China expedition."

TORONTO EXHIBITION.

The Big Annual Fair Opened by Premier Ross.

Toronto, Aug. 28.—Toronto's twenty-second industrial exhibition was opened this afternoon with customary ceremonies by Premier Ross. An address was presented to him from the directors, and in reply he dwelt at some length on the prosperity of the country at the present time and the possibility of greater scope in the cultivation of the British market.