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NO. 37.

WOODSTOCK DID WELL LAST NIGHT FOR HER SOLDIERS FROM THE FRONT.

They Were Banqueted in the Opera House and Presented Each With a Watch--Representative Gathering--Speech by Hon. H. A. McKeown.

Woodstock, N. B., Jan. 17--(Special)--A banquet was given last night in the Opera House in Graham's Open House, to the returned soldiers of "E" Battery, at which the presentation of watches to each of the boys took place. A large number of invitations had been sent out by the reception committee. Among those who were here from outside places are Surgeon General Dano, Hon. H. A. McKeown, Hon. A. H. Hill, speaker of the New Brunswick legislature, and Senator Baird. Previous to the banquet a service was held in St. Luke's church, at which Ven. Archdeacon Neale preached an appropriate sermon to the soldiers and large congregation, taking as his text Psalm 134: "We have thought of thy loving kindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple."

The Opera House was beautifully decorated with flags and bunting and a picture of Queen Victoria hung over the entrance to the stage, while pictures of the generals who took part in the war hung on the front of the balcony. About 150 guests sat down to dinner. C. J. Tabor, proprietor of the Casino, had charge of the tables, which were arranged in the form of a horseshoe and looked very pretty. His worship Mayor Murphy occupied the chair, while next to him sat the guests of honor. The following toasts were proposed and duly honored: The Queen, by Mayor Murphy; Our Contingent, by Rev. E. W. Greig; The Dominion Parliament, by J. C. Harley and Senator Baird; The United States of America, by William Dobbie; Provincial Government, by H. P. Baird; Surgeon General Dano and Speaker Hill; The Provincial Legislature, by W. S. Fleming; The County of Carleton, by Charles Appley, Warden Cronkite and Frank Shaw; The Town of Woodstock, by Mayor Murphy and J. T. Allan Dobbie; The Clergy, by T. C. L. Ketchum, Rev. J. C. Clarke and Rev. W. S. Martin; Our Country, by Mayor Murphy; The Dominion Parliament, by W. S. Fleming; The Ladies, by E. B. Orvell, J. Sheen, Hon. Mr. Dano and Speaker Hill. Warden G. L. Cronkite presented the watches to the returned soldiers amidst much enthusiasm. Many ladies occupied seats in the gallery. A most elaborate menu card suitable to the occasion was presented to each of the guests. The speech of the evening was that of Hon. H. A. McKeown, in responding to Our Contingent. Mr. McKeown was received with applause and observed on opening that the presence of so many ladies added to the interest of the evening which had been lacking in the previous banquet which he had attended for the purpose of welcoming our soldiers home from the war. As representing the provincial government he could not but feel proud of the circumstance of this Province's participation in the South African war, and as a citizen of this Province he took great satisfaction at the fact that our own youths, born in this land, and who had grown to manhood's estate among us, had proved that in this position of the empire there were hearts as brave and arms as strong as in any country over which our flag floated tonight. (Applause.) It should be remembered that the British nation was engaged in a task to which all the great nations of the world had proved unequal. Other nations in days gone by had sought by colonization to strengthen their empire, but the invincible record of their history has been that after a certain point of development was reached these nations collapsed under the weight of their task, and separation and disintegration marked the failure of their work. But it seems to have been intrusted to our people by strong Providence to sustain it by the genius and strength of an unflagging devotion to justice and right which are the only secure foundation stones for our national temple to rest upon. (Applause.) And in the task of carrying forward our flag to conquest for the first time Canada has participated.

LORD ROBERTS HAS ISSUED A STRONG APPEAL FOR YEOMANRY.

Hopeful View is Held of the South African Situation--Kitchener Supposed to Be Gathering His Strength for a Crushing Stroke by Tactics Which Led to Cronje's Surrender at Paardeberg.

London, Jan. 18--Lord Roberts, who was entertained privately at dinner last evening by the United Service Club, the guests including the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duke of Cambridge and some 300 officers, has issued from the war office a stirring appeal to the country for a prompt response to the call for 5,000 yeomanry, whose past service in South Africa he highly commends to the gratitude of the nation. The authorities continue to hold a hopeful view regarding the South African situation, but they seem to recognize that vigorous measures are necessary. The proclamation of martial law throughout almost the whole of Cape Colony, Lord Kitchener's strong measures against the population of the republics, the placing on reduced rations of the wives of men on command, and similar measures, go to show that there is still heavy work ahead. British offensive operations have ceased for the present. It is supposed that Lord Kitchener is collecting his strength for a final effort to crush or to capture the command and by a repetition of tactics which caused the surrender of General Cronje and General Prinsloo. It is alleged that the Boers who are concentrating at Carolina and Ermelo are preparing to descend Natal. The casualty list issued yesterday shows that the Boers have released 297 British who were captured at Helvetia and Belfast. The Boers have not yet been allowed to transpire. It is asserted that more heavy naval guns will be landed at the Cape. Information as to the doings of the invaders is hard to obtain; but it is clear that they are getting very little help from the Dutch. Twice they attempted to capture Barkly East, but both times they were repulsed. For three days they occupied Sutherland, but they cleared out on Wednesday, January 17, and are reported operating in various parts of the Ceres district. Apparently the invaders abandoned the idea of attacking Cawilliam on finding the town well defended. A command of 1,000 men has been active in the Richmond district, but there the Boers have secured only 100 Dutch recruits. London, Jan. 17--The "stop the war" committee today passed the following resolution: "Orders which a British officer reports he personally received, reveal the adoption by Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener of a policy having for its aim the extermination of a heroic nationality by starving women and children and the deliberate massacre of unarmed prisoners."

The latter clause alludes to General Kitchener's alleged secret order to General Buller's pursuers to take no prisoners. Copies of letters from an unnamed British officer, containing these and other charges, will be sent by the committee to Lord Salisbury, Lord Roberts and others. Boer families and their stock are being systematically brought into concentration camps from all over the country. They are kept in camps and fed. Those who surrendered voluntarily are supplied with full rations and those whose husbands are laid down in the field are provided for on a reduced scale, which is raised when the husband surrenders, to a full allowance. Every opportunity is offered to the refugees to work for pay and special privileges. Prominent burghers who have surrendered are allowed to visit the camps in order to ascertain the facts as to the treatment.

Colville's Column Attacked. Sturminster, Wednesday, Jan. 16--Colville's mobile column, marching from New Denmark to Vlakfontein, was attacked by 1,000 Boers divided into two forces. One force made a determined attempt on the laager and the other on the cavalry constituting the rear guard. The cavalry were compelled to retire until protected by four companies of rifles. The Boers then made a charge with bayonets. The Boers then made a speedy retreat, leaving several dead and wounded from the heavy British fire. Eventually both attacks were repulsed, the Boers losing heavily. The British were not able to pursue the Boers, owing to the necessity of protecting their baggage. Their casualties were one killed and 15 wounded.

COUNSEL IN BOSSCHETER CASE APPEALED TO THE JURY THURSDAY.

Defence Claims That No Case Was Made Out--That the Men Had Done All They Could to Revive the Girl--The Jury Will Have the Case Today.

New York, Jan. 17--For the entire session today the opposing counsel in the Jennie Bosscheter murder trial at Paterson, N. J., today, appealed to the jury. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Ralph Shaw began the summing up for the state. Mr. Shaw, in his summing up, claimed that the state had proved its case and that its every contention had been sustained. He denounced the accused who, he said, had taken the girl out to do her to death like a dog. He asked that the jury render such a verdict as the law and evidence demanded, one of guilty in the highest degree. Then ex-Judge Francis Scott led in the summing up for the defence. He was followed by Olay Counsel Michael Dunn. Their addresses were very similar. They declared that no case had been made out. They ridiculed the expert testimony and branded the hackman, Schuitdorpe, as a man of the lowest type and of the basest motives. Ex-Judge Hoffman will conclude for the defence tomorrow and Prosecuting Attorney Emley will then conclude for the state. It is probable that Judge Dixon will give the case to the jury in the latter part of the afternoon. Mr. Dunn, in his defence, said: "No statements by Campbell or Death to officers given in the absence of McAlister, can be used against the defendants and these statements are not in the case. The testimony of the brother and sister of Jennie show that she had no arrangement to meet the three men, those defendants, when she left home that night. "After Campbell and Jennie reached Sael's saloon, McAlister came. Campbell had no money and his borrowing from Death shows Campbell was not out on any kind of plot or conspiracy. When Kerr engaged the hack he said he wanted it for a party of four. By this he meant McAlister and himself and the two young women were to meet that night on the bridge, and not for the party of five, including Jennie Bosscheter. If they intended to ravish the girl it would not have been necessary for them to drive for miles. They took that long drive to give her air."

Mr. Dunn pointed out that the state had but one witness to say the girl was criminally assaulted, while the defence had six witnesses to say she was not. "This," he said, "was the whole point." He claimed that Jennie Bosscheter did not die of poison. Mr. Dunn denied that any motive could be shown. "The men," he said, "had not acted as criminals and no criminal act had been shown by the state. The men had simply done everything possible to revive this girl. "After dwelling on the standing and age of the prisoners, Mr. Dunn made a plea for mercy and not vengeance, and a calm consideration of the consequences of the verdict instead of yielding to the sway of passion. When Mr. Dunn closed, Mr. Hoffman asked that the court adjourn so that he would not have to begin his address before morning. This was agreed to. He will be followed by Mr. Emley, with his closing arguments, which he is expected to present the case will reach the jury in the mid-afternoon.

WELCOMED AT CHATHAM.

A Home-Coming Soldier from the Front Warmly Received. Chatham, N. B., Jan. 17--(Special)--Mr. Stanley Morrison, of the second contingent, arrived home last night. He was met at the station by a number of friends and the Citizens band. Flags were in evidence and an evergreen arch erected opposite Colonel McCulley's had "Welcome Home" in large letters, and was lighted with Chinese lanterns. John McCulley, who is ill in the Halifax hospital, is expected in about two weeks, being received will be held for him and Morrison.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.

Lieut. Cockburn Learns He Has Been Recommended for the Honor--Captain Weeks in England. Toronto, Jan. 17--(Special)--The Telegram's special correspondent from Southampton says: "Lieut. H. Z. C. Cockburn, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, reached here on the steamer Galatia from Cape Town today. He is in splendid fettle. Your correspondent was the first to convey to Lieut. Cockburn the news that he had been recommended for the Victoria Cross. He was greatly excited. Captain Weeks, who was with the first Canadian contingent, but who remained in Africa on special service, was also on board. He is in good health."

A LONG WAY OFF.

Chinese Negotiations Will Consume Some Months. Washington, Jan. 17--So far as the state department can influence the negotiations now about to begin at Pekin between the ministers and the Chinese plenipotentiaries, on the basis of the agreement just signed, it will seek to clear the way of all minor matters, and of points upon which the allies before undertaking the solution of the more difficult problems involved in the settlement of the questions of indemnities, guarantees and commercial treaties. It is fully expected that the Chinese plenipotentiaries will offer opposition at almost every point, in order to secure more favorable terms. It is believed here that if the powers preserve a united front in opposition to any change of the conditions laid down in the agreement and notify the Chinese that no changes are to be permitted, and that the points are not even subject to discussion, the war soon will be cleared for the consideration of the other topics upon which it is feared the powers themselves will find great difficulty in coming to an agreement. Still, if it should come to pass that agreement is impossible, upon the important matter of commercial treaties, there is no disagreement whatever between the allies before undertaking the solution of the more difficult problems involved in the settlement of the questions of indemnities, guarantees and commercial treaties. It is fully expected that the Chinese plenipotentiaries will offer opposition at almost every point, in order to secure more favorable terms. 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