

SOUTH AFRICA.

Col. Sam Hughes Flatly Contradicts London Times' Story

That Canadian Soldiers Carried Away the Two Nails of Dead Boers as Souvenirs.

LONDON, April 3.—The Morning Leader publishes the alleged story of the crimes which led to the court-martial and execution of two Australian officers in South Africa, which is just now exciting keen indignation in Australia.

The Morning Leader asserts that several officers of this particular irregular corps shot native life, rabbits, and that they are even suspected of murdering men of their own command against whom they had grudges. The incident which led to their court-martial was the cold-blooded "execution" by these officers of ten Boers who were journeying to Pietersburg with the object of surrendering. It was supposed that these Boers had £20,000 with them. Actuated by cupidity, the Australians stopped the Boers, tried them by mock court-martial, and ordered all to be shot. This was done by a squadron of the soldiers after some of the non-commissioned officers had refused to carry out the death sentence.

The officers then ransacked the Boer wagon and were disgusted upon finding that the £20,000 was in Transvaal paper money.

Continuing, the Morning Leader says a German missionary a few miles distant from the scene of the "execution" heard of the affair. Lieut. Hancock, one of the Australians concerned, fearing he would divulge his information, shot the missionary dead. This shooting eventually led to a complaint by the German consul to Lord Kitchener, who proceeded to court-martial the Australians.

OTTAWA, April 3.—In the house of commons at 3 p. m., when the orders of the day were called, Col. Sam Hughes rose to protest against and to contradict a statement made by a correspondent of the London Times, to the effect that a party of Canadians in South Africa had robbed dead Boers of their boots and carried away their toe nails for souvenirs. Col. Sam said that paragraph could only apply to the 1st Battalion, Canadian Artillery. The fact was that at Faber's Spruit the Boers took off their own boots in order that they might steal noiselessly up on the British. Col. Hughes says he was there himself and that the Canadians behaved correctly.

The total number of Canadians who have died in South Africa since the commencement of the war is 207. It would appear from the detail that the first contingent suffered a heavier loss from death than any of the other contingents. The first Canadian contingent of infantry lost 83 men from wounds and disease. The second contingent, consisting of Mounted Rifles, Dragoons and Artillery, lost 47; Strathcona Horse, 30; Canadian Scouts, 10; South African Constabulary, 45; Second Regiment Canadian Mounted Rifles, 10; Canadian Engineers, 10; and the 1st Battalion, Canadian Artillery, 207.

It is understood that the militia department will offer the services of about half a dozen dental surgeons to the imperial war office. The department has been besieged with applications from young dentists, who are anxious to get experience and serve with the British army. There is little doubt but that these men can be profitably used at the base hospitals and in the general hospitals along the line of communication.

PRETORIA, Wednesday, April 2.—Communications have passed between President Steyn and the Transvaal mission at Kroonstad, but nothing is yet known of the result. The majority of the military men and civilians here expect more from the continual pressure of the troops than from the present negotiations. It is pointed out that, once before, when hard pressed, the Transvaalers showed a desire for peace, but this was promptly overruled by President Steyn. Nothing in the present situation so far as known indicates that President Steyn is less irreconcilable than previously. Indeed, the known facts seem to point to

PARLIAMENT.

The Budget Debate Resumed Yesterday Afternoon.

OTTAWA, April 1.—In the house this afternoon the budget debate was continued by Porter, conservative, of West Hants, and Dr. Kendall, liberal, of Cape Breton. Dr. Kendall objects to retaliation against the United States, as that country might do us great injury in return. For example, the United States might shut out their hard coal from Canada by an export duty. His reply was to show that the free trade had been a great benefit to England and would not be abandoned. Dr. Kendall advocated the deepening of the St. Lawrence, the construction of the Georgian Bay canal, and was rather fervid in his praise of Tarte, Fisher and other ministers.

THE LAKE SUPERIOR

Still Repeating on the Round Reef—Wreckers Here Looking After a Job.

The steamer Lake Superior, ashore at the Round Reef, remained in about the same position last night as on the previous night. The removal of her cargo has been stopped, as it was found impossible to proceed further with that work with anything like satisfactory results. It is estimated that between 200 and 300 tons were taken out. This was chiefly dry goods. What remains in the ship is a class of goods which will not suffer materially by remaining in her, provided she is floated and taken to a berth at which she can discharge it.

Troop & Son, the agents here, are in receipt of telegrams from Ottawa, stating that while the government are inclined to do everything possible for the purpose of floating the ship, the interests of Canadian concerns engaged in wrecking must be considered. No definite answer had been received up to a late hour last night from Ottawa, as to the request for the admission free of duty of pumps and other apparatus from the United States.

The representatives of wrecking concerns have begun to arrive. Yesterday Capt. Haley, of Boston, representing the Red Star Towboat Company, came here. Captain Haley went down to the ship to see if he could get there and spent most of the day, or as far as can be learned, the whole night on board. Gentlemen who talked with Capt. Haley on the Superior say he expressed the opinion that no difficulty would be experienced in floating her.

Campbell and Baisley of Halifax also visited her.

Late yesterday afternoon Messrs. McEherson and Barry of Halifax, who have been prominently in this line of business in Nova Scotia, reached here. They will have a look at the Superior today.

Wm. Riley, the Montreal insurance man, is also here in connection with the wrecking of the ship.

Men who made yesterday a careful examination of the ship, say that it looks as if there was only one hole in her bottom, that being under the engine room amidships. The reason the water appeared in the other holds was that the doors of the various compartments were open. These doors were closed yesterday at low tide, and the result went very far to indicate that this conclusion is correct.

HAMPTON NOTES.

In the probate court of Kings Co., yesterday, before Judge Gilbert, Simeon E. White, administrator, etc., of the estate of the late George Jeffrey, petitioned to pass accounts, and a citation was ordered, returnable Thursday, May 1st; L. Allison, proctor.

Fred E. Sharpe of Belleisle will be a candidate for election to the seat at the municipal election vacated by the death of the late Councillor Gilbert Crandall.

Mrs. Joshua N. Smith, wife of Dr. Smith, is seriously ill. The services of Dr. Burnett have been called in.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., April 3.—W. J. Carton, 62 years of age, said to be a wealthy merchant of Utes, N. Y., and who was being stopped at the Antlers in this city, lost control of a team which he was driving today and was thrown out of the buggy and killed.

WOODSTOCK.

Death of George Clarke From Heart Disease—Death of Miss Belle Gillett of Hartland.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., April 2.—A sad affair occurred here last night in the sudden death of George Clarke, a young man of this town, formerly of West Hants. For the past two years or so he had been employed in the Woodstock woodworking factory, the mechanical manager, with whom he boarded. James Astle, being a relative of deceased. For the past few weeks Mr. Clarke had been in poor health and had not been able to work. However no one anticipated his death. Last evening he paid a visit to the house of a friend at the lower corner, and very shortly after entering the house was taken seriously ill. Drs. Sprague and Hayward were summoned and did everything that could be done, but to no avail, and the young man soon expired. The cause of death is said to have been heart disease. This afternoon the brother of deceased arrived and will take the remains by the early train tomorrow to Newcomb, where the funeral will take place. Mr. Clarke was about 24 years of age. Since he has been in Woodstock he has made a number of friends and his untimely death is deplored.

Miss Belle Gillett, daughter of Chas. Gillett of Hartford, died yesterday afternoon at the age of a year or more from consumption.

FREDERICTON.

Projected Big Railway Roids on Provincial Treasury.

Public Accounts Committee Investigating the Hickman Hand Book Expenditure—Mont Wiley Goes to Halifax—Wedding Bells.

FREDERICTON, N. B., April 2.—In the public accounts committee today items relating to immigration were gone into. W. A. Hickman's item of \$5,500 was taken up. The auditor general explained that this account extended over a period of three years. Mr. Humphrey asked for the auditor general's authority for paying the same, and the vouchers. The auditor general said it was ordered to be paid by the government, but he had no vouchers for the same other than the drafts which had been made by Mr. Hickman and paid.

Mr. Meanson said it was only fair to know what authority Mr. Hickman had to make drafts. The auditor general said that he had explained in this connection, but he had been called home by his brother's illness.

A statement of Mr. Hickman's showing money received from the government and how expended, and the drafts accepted from Hickman were also presented. The other information will be asked for when the surveyor general returns from St. John.

Mr. Humphrey said the hand book was not of the same order which inspected it. The provincial secretary said he understood Mr. Dunn inspected the book before it was printed. Mr. Humphrey said if the province had such a book printed it should be done in such a manner as would be creditable to the province. A good deal of money was expended on the book and it was not a credit to the province.

In regard to the lunatic asylum accounts, a letter was read from Mr. Brown, who had been furnished a statement of the paying patients after he had submitted the matter to the commissioners. Mr. Humphrey said he would like to have a statement to show what had been done. Mr. Quinton was present, but no question arose which required an explanation from him and he was dismissed. The committee thanked him for his attention and for the manner in which he furnished the information, and he in turn thanked the committee for their consideration.

Several city bills, including the St. John library bill, were before the municipal committee. No important amendments were made.

Mabel A. second daughter of Prof. John Brittain of the Normal School, was married at noon to Rev. Frank H. Bigelow, Anglican, of Natick, Mass. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Canon Roberts at St. Ann's church. After luncheon at the home of the bride the couple left by the C. E. R. for their future home at Natick.

Mont. M. Wiley, teller of the Royal Bank of Canada here, and a very popular young man was ordered today to report at the head office in Halifax, and leaves on the evening train. It is presumed he is to enter the head office.

Great quantities of ice and logs are running today. The water came up four inches last night.

The council of the Board of Trade tonight, after hearing Geo. W. Allen, M. P. for York, on the scheme for government guarantee bonds of the Canada Eastern Railway, passed a resolution favoring the project. Thomas Malcolm of Edmundston has been here several days and it is understood purposes asking the legislature for assistance to the Restigouche and Western Railway, similar to that now talked of in connection with the Canada Eastern. Gilmore Brown has a project of building a railway from Chipman, Queens Co., to Kent Junction, 40 miles, and wants a provincial subsidy of \$2,000 per mile for the proposed line.

SALT LAKE, Utah, April 3.—A bad freight wreck is reported to have occurred in the Sierra on the Southern Pacific railroad. Two freight trains came together in the canon, which is on the western slope of the Sierra, and the freight piled up so badly that traffic probably will be stopped for 24 hours. Several members of the train crew are reported killed or injured.

BENNETT REMANDED

Until the 11th Inst to Enable the Crown

To Take up the Case on its Merits—B. L. E. Tweedie's Charges Against the Star's Hampton Reporter Turned Down.

(From the Sun's Own Correspondent.) HAMPTON, Kings Co., April 3.—This morning Robert W. Bennett was brought before Magistrate J. W. Smith on remand from last Saturday. B. L. E. Tweedie, K. C., appeared for the prisoner and Philip Palmer for the complainant. There were also two witnesses present of those subpoenaed, namely, Mrs. Bennett, mother of complainant, and Harry Dempster, a young man who was present in Bennett's house at or immediately before the alleged commission of the offence charged.

Before the opening of the case Mr. Tweedie read from the St. John Daily Sun of Tuesday, April 2nd, what he regarded as a very wrong and injurious statement to his client. It was the boast of every British subject that his country's laws declare every man innocent until proved to be guilty, but in this paper the case is forejudged and charges made of spiriting away the complainant and providing funds for her conveyance to some other place, together with a sister, who is said to be prepared to make other charges against his client. He denied this either he or the prisoner had anything to do with the movements of these persons, and asked the magistrate to ensure the reporter and caution him to his report of the present proceedings. If this were not done he would ask to have the court cleared of all persons except those immediately interested in the examination.

Philip Palmer replied that he saw nothing in the reports of the press to complain of, but that on the contrary the statements were mild and reticent in view of all the facts which had come under his knowledge. The complainant had undoubtedly been spirited off, but he did not charge either the prisoner or his attorney with that offence. However, the circumstances had become so changed that although he had two witnesses present who he intended to examine, he felt it his duty to remit the case at its present stage to the crown officers, and to assume the position of an important witness for the prosecution. He therefore asked that the prisoner be remanded to jail until Friday week, April 11th.

Magistrate Smith said that the matter referred to in the paper complained of were public property. In so far as the reports of the proceedings were concerned, they were a faithful record of what actually occurred. As to the statements in the paper, he was satisfied within his own knowledge, the statements having been made personally to him when the information was laid. He therefore had no word of censure to say to the reporter or the editors of the paper.

Mr. Tweedie at once asked that the reporter and all other persons be excluded from the court, save the parties personally concerned.

The magistrate said that was a matter to be decided, and at present he saw no reason why the request should be complied with.

Mr. Tweedie then took the position that nothing had been produced before the court to show that the prosecuting attorney had taken any steps to have the case proceeded with, such as subpoenaing witnesses and hearing their evidence, nor was any affidavit offered as a ground for a further remand.

Mr. Palmer said all had been done that was necessary, but he was not called on to prove at this stage. He had shown reasonable grounds for his demand for a remand.

Mr. Tweedie intimated that Mr. Palmer seemed to be "running" the court, to which Magistrate Smith replied that he did not propose that Tweedie, Palmer or anybody else should "run" any court over which he presided. He cautioned the attorney not to repeat any such insinuation or he would deal with it in another manner.

The magistrate remanded the prisoner to jail until Friday at 10 a. m.

LORD DUNDONALD

Of Ladysmith Fame Will Assume Command of the Canadian Militia.

MONTREAL, April 3.—The Star's London cable says: I have authority to state that Lord Dundonald of Ladysmith fame will assume command of the Canadian militia at the termination of General O'Grady-Haly's term of office. Lord Dundonald is now at Ascot awaiting the gazeteting of his appointment. In view of Lord Dundonald's selection, I have turned up recent expressions of his views. He has a tremendous belief in the citizen-soldier as an increasingly important element in the defence of the empire, the state providing freely everything to secure his efficiency. He points to his experiences in Natal in the dark days of 1899-1900 as proof of the splendid work in the field of citizen-soldiers were capable of doing when formed into regiments under good regimental officers. He says that on the true recognition of the citizen-soldier depends the solution of one of the gravest political problems before our race. He dwells on the paramount importance of good shooting to make the empire safe. Such are the changed conditions of warfare, we must be a match for an enemy at a thousand yards or more away. This is only to be attained by constant practice at rifle shooting.

CLARKE-BLAIR

Marriage at Ottawa Yesterday of Miss Marlow Blair.

OTTAWA, April 2.—The marriage of Miss Marlow Blair, eldest daughter of Hon. A. G. Blair, to C. Walter Clarke of St. John, N. B., took place at two o'clock this afternoon in St. Andrew's Church. The edifice was beautifully decorated with white and yellow flowers, daisies, white lilies and daffodils being lavishly used. Rev. D. H. Ferguson officiated. There were about fifty people invited to witness the ceremony. The bride, who was given away by her father, was gowned in white crepe de chine, with heavy pearl trimmings and veil of lace. She carried a bouquet of white roses. She was attended by her sister, Miss Arnes Blair, as bridesmaid, the latter's gown being of white-velvet, with touches of black. A black hat completed the costume, and violets were carried. The best man was Rev. C. D. Schofield of Hampton, N. B. At the reception following the ceremony, Mrs. Blair wore dotted voile, trimmed with Irish lace, Miss Randolph wearing black over white; Miss Audrey Blair was in black and white, Mrs. Susan Thompson of Chicago was among the guests staying in the house. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke left on the four o'clock train for New York. The bride's going-away gown was of black strapless with silk and velvet and trimmed with steel passementerie. The last she wore was of black.

Among the presents received was a silver jewel casket, the gift of their excellencies the Governor General and Countess of Minto.

Among the invited guests were Lord and Lady Minto, ministers of the crown and their wives, Sir Louis and Lady Davies, Mr. and Mrs. A. George Blair of St. John, Lady Ritchie, the Misses Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Randolph, Fredericton, Sir O. C. and Miss Mowat, Mr. and Mrs. George McAvity, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thompson and the Misses Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Clarke, Rev. Chas. D. Schofield, Miss Margaret Patton, Miss Keaton, Miss Chappell, Smith, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Piddington, Dr. and Mrs. Stewart Skinner, Alex. McMillan, James G. Harrison, St. John, N. B.; Hon. Fred Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Whitehead, Miss Myra Sherman, Mr. and Mrs. Slipp, Fredericton, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Litchman, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Brewin, London, England; Rev. F. H. Brewin, Brighton.

HALIFAX STRIKERS FIRM

HALIFAX, N. S., April 2.—The strike of the longshoremen is on as tight as ever. Nothing is being done tonight on three steamers at the I. C. R. pier, and when the Silvia, bound for New York, came in from Newfoundland tonight, only four non-union men turned up to look after her. The Allan liner Sardinian still has in her hold 75 tons of the 300 to be landed here, but she has not been called today for Boston, but will not be able to get away till tomorrow night at the earliest. Her crew is worked all day in place of the striking longshoremen. The Trades and Labor Council met tonight to discuss sympathetic measures, but nothing was given out of what was done. A representative of the International Longshoremen's Association is expected here tomorrow. Meanwhile the strikers and the steamship men both express confidence in the outcome. The employers talk of bringing men from Boston and the strikers say they feel sure that no sufficient number of non-union men to do the work can be obtained in this city or outside of it.

The demands of the strikers are as follows: (1) That none but union men be employed, when available; (2) That the day scale of wages be 25c. per hour; (3) That the day begin at 7 a. m. and end at 6 p. m.; (4) That the night scale of wages be 30c. per hour; (5) That the night begin at 7 p. m. and end at 7 a. m.; (6) That 50c. per hour be paid from 7 p. m. Saturday until 7 a. m. Monday; (7) That work on stranded or wrecked vessels be 25c. per hour. All time to court from the time the men leave the wharf until return to same, board included; (8) That when men are ordered out to work between 7 p. m. and 7 a. m., all time shall count as regular hours; (9) That meal hours be 7 to 8 a. m., 12 to 1, noon; 6 to 7 p. m., 12 to 1, midnight; (10) That all meal hours be double time; and all succeeding hours, until sent home; (11) That we recognize the following as holidays of the year: 21st June, Thanksgiving; Christmas Day and Labour Day; (12) That double time be paid from 7 p. m. of the eve of a holiday, until 7 a. m. after holiday.

The agents of the steamships, lines all express themselves as being able to get along without conceding to the men's demands, as they say freight rates never so poor as at present.

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Mr. Longley, assured them that they would sign if they to amend the bill, and the her of mines in his address was not a question whether it was good or bad, it was if the existence of the gov- This was a practical admis- the contract could not be its merits. In this exigency, want a fair railway com- a fair price have their to the legislative coun- the government has hope to abolish), with the be- will justify their continued by giving a proof of being (stand party pressure and and wiles of Mackenzie and

MASSACHUSETTS MURDERERS. (Portland Press.) Toppin, the Massachusetts was accused of committing five murders by means of poison. He was reported, being admitted in an insane asylum. The experts in the insanity of the crime. The jury found him guilty. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. The case was a sensational one. The public was interested in the details of the trial. The defense argued that the defendant was insane at the time of the crime. The prosecution argued that he was sane. The jury believed the prosecution. The case was a landmark one in the history of Massachusetts law.

DEATHS. Central Norton, of March 21, second daughter of James T. and M. A. Allaby, aged 19 years and this city at the residence of Mr. T. A. Rankine, Janet, aged 67 of the late Eliza Broad. On Sunday evening, March 30th, after a lingering illness, Mrs. Peaty, in the 70th year of her

At this city, at 111 Paradise Row, 23, Augusta J., second daughter of James and Louise A. Harris. Her late residence, No. 76 St. St. John West, or March 27, a lingering illness, Margaret, wife of James E. S. Barre, aged 77 months, leaving a husband of 7 months. In this city, March 27, at the of his son-in-law J. K. Macdonald street, Michael McCuskey, 1 year of his age. In this city, March 28th, after a illness, W. Hedley Pitt, in the 32nd year of his age, leaving a wife and two mourn the loss of a loving husband. In this city, March 28th, after a illness, W. Hedley Pitt, in the 32nd year of his age, leaving a wife and two mourn the loss of a loving husband. In St. John, N. B., March 28, A., widow of the late Rev. D. G.

On Friday at 11 a. m., Mrs. Gordon, in the 72nd year of her age, a husband, three sons and one daughter. At the home for the aged, being, March 31, Mary Lydia daughter of the late Zaimon

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