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ELECTORS OF COWICHAN

MEN:-

neet. I again offer myself as a

for the Legislative Assembly of

Cowichan at the coming election.

district of Cowichan, for which dis-

ing with Albert, I had a seat in

slature for four years. The ex-

then gained, I am prepared to

of for the benefit of Cowichan

province generally.

as to the various questions

the province will be explained to

as the greatest good to the great-

and government by the people

are the honor to be gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. M. MUTTER.

FORTY SECOND YEAR

He Lies Like Kruger

The Boer Delegate Pretends the Flag Outrages Are Not Facts.

The British Mistake White Jacks and Faded Battle Flags.

He Does Not Explain How the British Soldiers Are Murdered.

New York, May 16.—Mr. Wessels, one of the convays, in discussing the abuse of the white flag by his countrymen, in-

timated that the reported abuse took place largely in the minds of the English correspondents. He cited two instances, however, showing that these statements had some foundation in fact, due entirely to a curious error. Speaking of the white flag incident near Kimberley, in which a party of Boers were accused of deliberately firing upon a party of British after the Boers had hoisted the white flag, he said that a white jacket was mistaken for a flag. The jacket was worn by a clergyman who rushed to the front, and his jacket was mistaken by the British for a flag of truce.

"Very often," Mr. Wessels said, "the flag of the Orange Free State is mistaken for a white flag. The colors are orange and white, and after the flag has been through a few storms the orange fades, leaving the white field. This doubt is what the English have taken for a flag of truce."

Washington, May 16.—Representative Sulzer, of New York, chairman of the committee to receive the Boer delegates in Washington to-day, received a telegram from Messrs. Fischer, Wessels and Wolmarans stating that they could not leave New York until they had secured a committee consisting of United States senators, three representatives and a number of prominent citizens would go to New York to escort the delegates here. Mr. Sulzer says the stay of the delegates will be made the occasion of a notable demonstration.

Washington, May 16.—The afternoon papers here pay particular attention to the reception of the Boer delegates in New York. The Ball Mail Gazette dubs the delegates "the Boer aristocracy," and the Evening Standard says: "The proceedings certainly show a readiness to greet Britain, but no deeds will be forthcoming to prove the sympathy of the United States. Had American statesmen shown any hesitation, Kruger's offer to treat them with a protectorate would have finally settled the matter."

ALASKA CODE. Amusing Tactics by the Democrats to Secure a Point.

Washington, May 16.—The house to-day went into committee on the whole for the consideration of the Alaskan Code Bill, all efforts to reach an agreement about the length of the general debate having failed. The committee room of the house debate with general leave to print, and declined to allow the first reading of the bill to be dispensed with in order to have a lever to force acquiescence in their request. The bill contains 600 pages, and the reading would require three days. The clerk insisted upon the reading and the leaders tried to adjust their differences. After the reading had proceeded for some time the committee rose to give the house an opportunity to come to an agreement as to the length of the debate, but Mr. Payne of New York, the Republican floor leader, declined to agree to any proposition containing general leave to print, and the negotiations again failed. Thereupon Warren of Colorado, who was in charge of the bill, moved that the house go back into committee of the whole, but the motion was sustained, and the house resumed the consideration of the senate bill to incorporate the American national red cross which was pending when the house adjourned yesterday.

A HOT TIME. Rebels Within Three Days' March of Panama.

Kingston, Jamaica, May 16.—Advised received to-day by the British steamer Darion, Capt. Maylo from Colombia, say that the insurgents on May 12 were within three days' march of Panama. Thirty-seven men and a calaboose were taken from the country, and placed on board a vessel bound for Jamaica, arriving on the island to-day. A United States warship arrived at Colon on Monday. The people there have been much excited. No one is allowed on the streets after dark. Capt. Maylo says that the rebels of the Associated Press that Carthage had fallen into the hands of the insurgents.

The customs contribution at Colon has been raised 25 per cent., causing much dissatisfaction among the merchants. The heavy rains have fallen here recently have averted the expected water famine.

KRUGER IS ANXIOUS. Tries to Bolster Up His Envoys With a Pious Cable.

New York, May 16.—Charles E. Pierce, the consul-general of the Orange Free State, has received the following from Pretoria: "Messrs. Wessels, Fischer and Wolmarans: May justice and righteousness be with you. (Signed) Kruger."

A slight fire at the Quebec parliament buildings yesterday did damage to the extent of \$100.

Opposition Slashing Attack

Government Scored For Refusing an Enquiry on West Huron Frauds.

Fisher Says Dominion Will Not Pay For Darcy Island Lepers.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 16.—The debate on the Brockville, West Huron, election frauds was continued to-day, the opposition making a slashing attack upon the government for refusing to grant an inquiry.

Col. Prior was informed that there were 19 lepers at the Transvaal barracks. Of these 14 are from New Brunswick, 1 from Prince Edward Island, 2 from Manitoba and 3 from Nova Scotia.

Hon. Sidney Fisher added that the government had never been requested to remove the lepers from the barracks. The government had refused to assume the cost of maintenance of the British Columbia lepers, because such patients were legally a charge upon the province.

The militia department has decided to withdraw the balance of the Yukon garrison as it is navigated by the ice. The course was strongly urged by the opposition last year. The arms will not be brought out, but will be left in charge of the Mounted Police.

UNDER VALUATION. Montreal Dry Goods Firm Has to Pay a Large Sum to the Crown.

Montreal, May 16.—The case of the Crown against the wholesale drygoods firm of Fitzgibbon, Scharfstein & Co. came to a sudden end this morning in the exchequer court. The defendants agreed to pay the Crown \$29,000 and the costs of the case. The firm was sued by the Crown for \$14,000 for customs undervaluation. The importers had evidence of a man named Kanengesser showed that the firm had a branch house in Berlin, which was in the habit of importing goods to the Montreal house at less than their actual trade value. Kanengesser was employed by the Berlin house, and when he was dismissed informed the Canadian customs, who given a safe conduct and promised one-third all the monies recovered from the firm.

LABOR CANDIDATES. Two Chosen in Vancouver For the Coming Provincial Elections.

Vancouver, May 16.—Fred Williams, tailor and financial secretary of the Trades and Labor Council, and J. Dixon, president of the Trades and Labor Council, were chosen at a labor convention held to-night as straight labor candidates for Vancouver in the coming provincial elections. Ralph Smith provided, the meeting was held at the Trades and Labor Council, J. Dixon, H. Cowan.

On the first ballot Williams got 71 votes, which being a majority of all cast, he was elected.

The remaining nominees were then subjected to a second ballot. Dixon was elected by a vote of 68. The choice of the convention was made unanimous.

THE CONGO TROUBLE. Stanley Says That Germany and Belgium Must Have Recourse to Mediation.

London, May 16.—Sir Henry Morton Stanley, the celebrated African explorer, who was at one time governor of the Congo, pointed out in an interview in a London paper, that should a rupture occur between Germany and Belgium over the Congo territory, the Berlin act of the Congo treaties that the signatory powers, before appealing to arms, shall have recourse to the mediation of one or several friendly powers.

Sleepless Nights, caused by a persistent cough, are cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

Buller Has Taken Glencoe

Official News of His Success Has Been Received in London.

Boers Evacuate the Biggarsberg and Trek to the Northward.

London, May 16.—It is officially announced that Glencoe was occupied yesterday, and that the Boers have evacuated the Biggarsberg.

The war office posts the following despatch from Buller: "Dundee, May 16: We occupied Glencoe yesterday. The Transvaals have now evacuated the Biggarsberg."

The Free Staters on the Drakenberg are much reduced in numbers. The Carolina, Lydenberg and Pretoria commands trekked north from Hlatikulu on 18th and 14th May. Eleven guns were captured at Glencoe. The last train with ambulances left there at dawn on May 15.

The result has been largely produced by the action of the fifth division which, during the last few days, has done a good deal of hard work marching, mounting, climbing and road making.

"Trains are now running to Wessels' Nek station."

THE WHITE FLAG. Boers Again Under Its Sheltering Folds Commit Murder.

London, May 16.—The war office posts the following from Lord Roberts, under the date of Kroonstad, May 15: "Two officers and six men of Prince Alfred's Guards, while out foraging yesterday a few miles from Kroonstad, visited a farm lying within forty yards of the enclosure they were fired upon by 15 or 16 Boers concealed behind the farm wall. Two of the men were killed, Lieut. P. B. Walton was wounded, Lieut. W. B. Evertson and two non-commissioned officers were taken prisoners. The owner of the farm states that the Boers threatened to shoot him when he protested against their making an improper use of his white flag."

"HER ANCIENT ALLY." Portuguese Governor at Beira Says Nice Things of Britain.

London, May 16.—About 1,100 more troops have arrived at Beira, Portuguese East Africa. Among them is Lord Durney, who accompanied the Danvers sharpshooters as a supernumerary captain of the battalion staff. The governor of Beira, during a speech at a dinner to the Yeomanry, said: "Friends as we have always been of England, we never could have realized the magnificent unity of the Anglo-Saxon race which is the object lesson. Realizing this, Portugal not only congratulates her ancient ally, but rejoices with it, as the strengthening of a friend is the strengthening of ourselves."

ROBERTS' ADVANCE. German Opinion Is That It Will Be Slow and Tedious.

Berlin, May 16.—The German papers, commenting to-day on the military situation in South Africa, express the opinion that the Boers intend to hold Van Rensburg Pass against Lord Roberts, with a view of keeping the British from reaching the sea shore. The Deutsche Tageszeitung predicts that the advance of Lord Roberts northward will be rendered tedious and dangerous by the destruction of bridges and by sudden attacks on the British in favorable locations.

RIFLE CLUBS. British Rifle Association Asked to Draft a Plan of Formation.

London, May 16.—The war office has asked the Rifle Association to draft a plan for national rifle clubs as advocated by Lord Salisbury in his recent speech.

UNIONIST ALLIANCE. Mr. Chamberlain Claims That It Has Saved the Integrity of the Empire.

London, May 16.—The Liberal Unionist Club gave a banquet this evening at Hotel Cecil, to Mr. Arthur J. Balfour, first lord of the treasury and government leader in the House of Commons. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, presided. There were 500 present, including the Duke of Devonshire, lord president of the council of ministers; the Marquis of Lansdowne, secretary of state for war, and many other members of the government and of both sides of parliament. Mr. Chamberlain, when proposing the health of Mr. Balfour, eulogized his eminent services to the country, and declared that the integrity of the Empire had been saved by the Unionist alliance. Mr. Balfour, who on rising to respond, was received with prolonged cheers, said the remarks of Mr. Chamberlain had carried his mind back over the four years' eventful years since the Unionist alliance began. There were few, he continued, who could recall that period with more heartfelt gratitude than himself, that fate had given him such colleagues to work with. The Duke of Devonshire also spoke of the value of the alliance.

GERMAN BUDGET. Providing Means to Increase the Navy.

Berlin, May 16.—The budget committee of the Reichstag concluded this evening the bill to-day, after deciding that the measure should be in force simultaneously with the amendments to the stamp law, and the customs tariff providing the means for the increased naval expenditures. The committee also decided that the 54,000,000 marks thus provided, the excess must not be covered by indirect taxation.

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It is reported that the advance guard of the force proceeding to the relief of Mafeking from the south was repulsed yesterday.

London, May 17.—Replying to a question in the House of Commons this afternoon, the parliamentary secretary of the war office, Mr. George Wyndham, said that he was not about to give any information in regard to Mafeking. He reminded the house that even if the desired relief of Mafeking had occurred, intelligence of the event would not arrive in England before two, and perhaps three days.

The latter part of Mr. Wyndham's reply is generally accepted as an intimation that the government expected the relief of Col. Baden-Powell and his garrison.

London, May 17.—The closing days of the drama at Mafeking have been marked by intensity of dramatic interest, as unexpected as it is out of proportion to the forces engaged.

It is known that the half-famished garrison was not only able to repel an attack but to inflict heavy loss in killed and prisoners, as reported in the despatch from Capetown announcing the capture of Commandant Eloff and 90 men, makes Great Britain more than ever proud of Col. Baden-Powell and his garrison.

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Weeping Like Boys

How the Boers Received the News of Cronje's Surrender.

Pretoria Women Will do the Work While Men are Fighting.

British Prisoners Will Be First to Feel Effects of Embargo on Beef.

London, May 14.—The Daily News correspondent, A. H. Hales, who was taken prisoner by the Boers and returned by them to Gen. Gatacre, sends his paper an account of how the Boers received the news of Cronje's surrender.

"Some who had escaped from Cronje's laager brought in the fatal news. The stolid looking fighting men broke down and wept like boys. Great gruff, bearded men dashed their rifles on the ground and gnarled their faces with their boots, whilst down their sun and wind tanned faces the tears poured.

Others stood leaning upon their rifles with their heads bowed and their eyes fixed on the shambles. It was as if they had loved him, he would have marched right on to the point of a British bayonet on that morning so disastrous to the Boer arms, and have gazed after him with the orange Free State fell with him.

When he laid down his arms he launched a thunderbolt into the Boer camp, which wrecked it forever.

Pretoria, May 12.—(via Lorenzo Marques).—A war bulletin has been issued here announcing that the Boers are advancing against the Federals at Helpmakaar and Londer's Nek.

The burghers this morning attacked the telegraph station at Malahoes, and a heavy rifle and cannon fire was heard before 6 o'clock to-day, and that the Boers were in flames within an hour and was totally destroyed.

A meeting of 250 Afrikaner women held yesterday it was resolved to ask the government for arms and ammunition, and to suggest that the Boers be allowed to purchase arms and ammunition.

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Looks Like Trouble Between Bald-Headed and Double-Headed Eagles.

Washington, D.C., May 14.—In view of the references to the enforcement of the Monroe doctrine by Secretary Root, Senator Lodge and other prominent men, the state department has taken steps to secure data on the subject.

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GERMANS SEIZE TERRITORY.

Turn Belgian Officer Out of Congo Free State and Burn Station.

London, May 14.—Mr. Lionel Cecil, secretary of the Congo Free State, has been notified by the London Daily Telegraph, north of Lake Tanganyika.

INDIAN FAMINE.

A Welcome Addition to the Fund for the Sufferers.

Bombay, May 14.—Mr. Louis Kloopsch, of New York, publisher of the Christian Herald, has arrived here and is starting on a tour of the famine-stricken districts.

CHOLERA NOW.

Another Horror Added to the Situation in India.

DELTA CANDIDATE CHOSEN.

John Oliver Selected to Support the Government—Martin's Stock Warning.

Vancouver, May 14.—At the convention held at Cloverdale to-day in Martin's interests, John Oliver, farmer, was chosen to stand in Mr. Martin's interest for the riding of Delta at the forthcoming election.

Chas. Wilson and W. J. Bowser returned from a campaigning tour through the Fraser Valley on Saturday, Mr. Wilson returning on Sunday to Delta to be present to-day when a Martin candidate will be chosen for that riding at a convention to be held for the purpose.

At the Whistler meeting, Mr. Agassiz on Thursday Mr. Whitham was followed by Mr. McBride, and at the conclusion of Mr. McBride's speech some one shouted "three cheers for McBride" and walked out of the hall leaving Mr. Brown, British Columbia's Finance Minister, and Mr. Fisher, who taught the deputies how to slip ballots.

On Friday night at Mission the same thing occurred. It was reported that Mr. Whitham was followed by Mr. McBride, and at the conclusion of Mr. McBride's speech some one shouted "three cheers for McBride" and walked out of the hall leaving Mr. Brown, British Columbia's Finance Minister, and Mr. Fisher, who taught the deputies how to slip ballots.

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Buller's Bold Move

Is Wrestling British Territory Back Again From the Boer Forces.

Roberts is Concentrating His Forces at Kroonstad for an Advance.

Free Staters Propose to Make President Steyn Himself a Prisoner.

London, May 15.—(4:35 a. m.)—Gen. Buller's turning of the Biggarsberg position was effected by a bold movement. The Boers had evacuated Helpmakaar, but were making a stand Monday evening at Bleakopkop, seven miles from Dundee.

The correspondents on the spot regarded this as a rear guard action intended to cover the retreat of the army. At the same time Gen. Hildyard took Indoba, and it is reported that the Boers withdrew in disorder.

Gen. Buller, who seems to be employing his full strength, is expected to push on. His first marches were 45 miles in three days. He is thus breaking into a march of 15 miles a day, and is estimated for six months by the Transvaalers as though it were part of their taxes. His success, therefore, has political as well as military consequences.

While Lord Roberts' infantry are concentrating at Kroonstad, where they are expected to be in a few days, his horsemen have penetrated 18 miles northward. Two hundred Boers who had hidden in the river jungles near Kroonstad, and who had surrendered to the British and taken the oath of allegiance, according to a despatch from Bloemfontein to the Cape Colony dated May 10, Lord Roberts and William McDonald, members of the Free State Volksraad, demanded that the chairman should call a meeting at the war office and further resistance was suicidal, and proposed to make President Steyn a prisoner.

Nothing definite has been heard about the expected Boer advance. The Cape Colony correspondents continue to wire that relief is imminent, fixing Tuesday or Wednesday as the probable date. At the meeting of the war office are told that the news of the relief will be made public immediately upon its receipt. No word had come to hand at midnight.

BOERS DISORGANIZED.

Roberts' Masterly Movements Have Utterly Disheartened Them.

London, May 15.—(3:45 a. m.)—The latest despatch concerning General Buller's operations is that he is marching up the north bank of the Vaal with a force sufficient in co-operation with Lord Roberts to render Boer defence of the Vaal impracticable. Lord Roberts is advancing toward Ladysmith. His troops and those of General Buller are now within 450 miles of the Vaal.

The Boers are described as quite disorganized and are retreating northward. The southern portion of the Boer army is nearly every point where the English correspondents are.

Mr. Helliwell, formerly a correspondent at Mafeking, was put over the Transvaal border telegraphing from Lorenzo Marques Sunday says: "Judging from what I have heard of the Boers, the end of the war will come in a month or six weeks. Mr. Steynkamp, chairman of the second raid, who travelled with the Boers, says that the burghers would stand firm, but he feared they were too broken in spirit."

"I gathered from him that the whole available force of the Transvaal was in solid masses. Their cavalry, which was clouded up heavily by the bursting shrapnel of the British advanced, which they met with so hot a reception that they had to retire. In the meantime the British cavalry had crossed the river, moving straight north. Gen. Botha, the Standerton burghers with a battery of cannon to lead them off, and retired to the burghers gave way without cause. Upon this Philip Botha and all the others gave way. The Standerton and Bethel commands, with the Irish brigade, covered the retreat to Kroonstad. Otherwise than in the retreat from Bethel and the Vet river, the British pressed hard on the retreating burghers. All our cannon and commissariat were brought out, and, far as is known, our casualties were confined to a dozen wounded."

CHINESE HELP PERSECUTED FAMILY—Lonsborough's Strike Not Settled.

Vancouver, May 13.—A. W. Onyiah, foreign secretary of the Chinese Reform Association, has been notified by the Washington, D.C., Chinese newspaper editor whom the Chinese minister at Washington, instructed Li Hung Chang to seize and imprison because their bread winner in America was a member of an anti-Dovager Empire club, and had been given gifts of money from Chinese reformers residing in America.

The total amount runs over \$1,000 and with this money, which has been twice the purchasing power in China that it has here, the family has been able to buy their way out of prison. The Chinese reformers' strike is as far from settlement as ever. Mr. Macdonnell was to have met Mr. Trowbridge, superintendent of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company on Saturday, with the object of interceding for the "longshoremen," but he was out of the city when the time of meeting came, though Mr. Trowbridge was the appointed place to meet him. Mr. Trowbridge said in speaking of the incident, "I had a long talk with the longshoremen, but all he could do was to present to these gentlemen who had volunteered to hear his story, the facts of the case, from his standpoint, as for arbitration, it was out of the question, the point in dispute could not be arbitrated, the longshoremen were to continue to engage Seattle longshoremen as they were doing at present."

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

A Full Blooded Indian Ordained as a Minister.

New Westminster, May 15.—Rev. W. H. Barreclough, of Victoria, gave an address on education at the Methodist conference, which was highly appreciated. The feature of the meeting was the ordination of the ministry of a full-blooded Indian by the laying on of hands. The Adis, neighboring tribes, threaten the Bekwags, who are loyal to the government.

KUMASI HOLDS OUT.

Accra, Gold Coast, May 14.—Runners who arrived here to-day report that Kumasi is still closely invested by the Ashantis, but that the garrison is holding out. The Adis, neighboring tribes, threaten the Bekwags, who are loyal to the government.

WALLPAPERS

The most Comprehensive assortment of WALL HANGINGS ever imported to the province.

Write for samples and prices. Give us an idea of what kind of a room you wish to see it on and leave the rest to us.

WELER BROS., Victoria, B. C. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

WEST HURON ELECTION.

Government Refuse to Inquire Into the Frauds.

Ottawa, May 15.—The government today flatly refused to grant an inquiry into the Brockville West Huron election cases, which must now be judged by the country. Sir Louis Davies made a lame defence of the government's action, and then Mr. Powell produced evidence of crooked work in Brockville, reading the affidavit of Proctor, the government organizer, who taught the deputies how to slip ballots. Had the election been an honest one, Peter White would be now a member of the Commons. The defeat will be resumed to-morrow.

A consignment of ova of Pacific rainbow salmon has arrived safely at Lord Strathcona's place in the Highlands. Mr. Fisher announced that the difficulties about cold storage accommodation have been adjusted.

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

Over Twenty Thousand Men Exclusive of Sick and Invalided.

London, May 16.—(4:30 a. m.)—The war office last evening issued an abstract of British casualties since the beginning of the war. This shows a total of 20,035 exclusive of sick in the field and the invalided, but including wounded sent home, who number 8,901.

CANADA ON TOP.

Louis Cyr Wins the World's Championship.

Fall River, May 15.—Louis Cyr, the Canadian champion, defeated Ronaldo, the German champion at a strength test for \$2,000 and the world's championship to-night. Cyr on the back lift raised 1,805 lbs to Ronaldo's 1,650.

THE SITUATION GROWING SERIOUS.

News From the Gold Coast is Far From Being Reassuring.

Disaffection Spreading—An Attempt to Be Made to Rush the Cordon.

Accra Gold Coast, May 15.—The situation is unchanged. It is said in official circles that the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony, Sir Frederick Mitchell-Hodgson, has announced his intention unless immediately relieved to make an attempt to rush the cordon. There are now 450 troops at Kumasi, 450 between Cape Coast and Prashu, and 500 on their way from Jebba. The disaffection is spreading among the northern tribes. Kings Takie and Cudjoe Accra have been approached by the Ashantis.

ZAND RIVER FIGHT.

A Boer Account of How Roberts Beat Them.

London, May 16.—A despatch from the Aberlaver (Boer) at Reupst dated May 10, via Groonstad, describing the Zand river fighting says: "A report was received last night that the British had crossed one of the lowest points of the Zand river, the first cannon shot proclaimed the opening of the battle. The British boats could be seen advancing in solid masses. Their cavalry, which was clouded up heavily by the bursting shrapnel of the British advanced, which they met with so hot a reception that they had to retire. In the meantime the British cavalry had crossed the river, moving straight north. Gen. Botha, the Standerton burghers with a battery of cannon to lead them off, and retired to the burghers gave way without cause. Upon this Philip Botha and all the others gave way. The Standerton and Bethel commands, with the Irish brigade, covered the retreat to Kroonstad. Otherwise than in the retreat from Bethel and the Vet river, the British pressed hard on the retreating burghers. All our cannon and commissariat were brought out, and, far as is known, our casualties were confined to a dozen wounded."

POLICE INVESTIGATION.

Vancouver Officers Suspended On a Serious Charge.

Vancouver, May 14.—There is another investigation ordered in the police force. Officers Waddell and Preston were suspended to-night and charged with a serious charge. They had taken a few prisoners. Our casualties are small. A third despatch dated from Kamp's Farm, May 15, says: "Donaldson reported that the Boers had driven the rear guard on to the main body of the enemy near Baralindin, where they occupied in force a strong position, with three powerful guns. Major Gough, with the composite regiment, manoeuvred to the right, round their left flank, and they retired. Donaldson's men retired. He was 25 miles, as the crow flies, from his previous night's bivouac, and had to march 40 miles during the day in a waterless country, most of the time riding through smoke. I think his pursuit a very fine performance. From the prisoners taken the enemy numbered over 2,000 at Helpmakaar, and being now joined by those who left Van Jonder's Pass, they must total nearly 3,000 men. We move on Dundee at mid-day. Hildyard holds the occupation of Wesel's Pass, and is reporting the Boers. The re-occupation of Dundee by the British places the coal supplies there again in their hands."

America Or Russia

The Boer Envoys Place Both Countries in the Same Category.

Mr Fischer's Speech When Welcomed in New York Yesterday Afternoon.

He Thinks That Despotism and a Republic are the Same.

New York, May 15.—The peace envoys from South Africa to the United States, Messrs. Abraham Fischer, J. M. A. Wolmarans and C. H. Wesels, arrived here on the steamship Maasdam today. They were met by a committee which went down the bay to greet them, and later they were greeted by a body of Boer sympathizers. The Mayor of Hoboken extended a welcome to them. Which the committee boarded the Maasdam down the bay, former Judge Van Hossen delivered an address of welcome to the envoys.

Mr. Fischer responded as follows: "I thank you most heartily for this welcome which you have just extended to us. The warmth of a welcome does not lie in the length of the words you say, but in deeds. We believe the American people will also extend to us a hearty welcome. For ours is a cause that is dear to their hearts. We are fighting for our country. As soon as they come to understand our case they will, I believe, echo the welcome you have just given us."

The envoys were eager to hear the latest news from the war. When told of the reverse to their arms and the advance made by Roberts they shrugged their shoulders. "Such news," said Mr. Fischer, "does not disconcert us in the least. We read these despatches between the lines, but what difference does one or a dozen reverses make to us? We never intend to cease fighting until we have gained what we are fighting for—our independence."

The delegates were reticent concerning their plans. "We cannot say anything which may hinder our cause," said Mr. Fischer. "We should like to have the government arbitrate with England, and undoubtedly we shall go to Washington and try to have an audience with President McKinley. If we cannot induce the government to do what we like, we shall try to arouse the people so that they will compel the government to recognize us in that way."

When asked as to the truth of the reports that some of the old Cross men were fighting in the Boer army, Mr. Fischer said: "Of this I know nothing, though some may have joined our forces when they knew the truth. Some attaches who have gone down there to see us might have, when they saw us fight and knew the reasons for our cause, joined us. 'Give us guns, for we want to fight with you.'"

Mr. Fischer said their future plans were still undecided, and that they would be largely guided by events as they happened. As it is, the reception committee have received the envoys at the delegates from the mayors of sixty towns and cities in the United States, and it is probable that they will visit many places before sailing again for the Continent.

According to the Evening World, Mr. Fischer made this after the meeting: "Our intention now is to apply to the government for aid. Failing in that, we shall appeal to the people. That they give us practical aid, I bear an official message to President McKinley, but I cannot speak of it before it is delivered. We will visit Washington and present our business. We are entrusted with the greatest authority, and anything we may do will be upheld by the South African people. I cannot speak of our American protectorate. If we are unsuccessful in securing mediation or other intervention, we are sure that our contingents will do what we shall try. The subject of a protectorate has been much discussed in Pretoria. If we fall in the United States, I cannot give you any practical aid. If America should take action, she would be upheld by the powers of Europe. But we will not accept of a protectorate. We would rather have American aid than help from any other country. As a friend we think that more than we could have. We have bloodshed, but we will have independence. Surely there is some way to secure peace with no loss of prestige to England or independence to us."

At the Hotel Manhattan to-night the envoys were received by the general committee. Killian, Evans, Rensselaer and Edward Lauterbach delivered the principal addresses of welcome. During the course of his speech Mr. Lauterbach attacked the Irish race. He accused them of doing nothing in their home country for the assistance of the Boers, and caused several protests to come up from the rear of the room. For a moment it looked as though there might be trouble, but a few of the cooler heads in the crowd dominated, and Mr. Lauterbach continued his speech uninterrupted. Mr. Fischer also spoke.

ANDREW FISHER DEAD.

He Was a Member of the Ontario Legislature For North Renfrew.

Pembroke, May 15.—Andrew White, M. P. for North Renfrew, and brother of John F. White, ex-M. P., died at his home here this morning, elected after Henry Barr, Liberal, at the last contest by a majority of 153.

CHECKMATE.

General Ruddle Hit the Smart For the Boers—Many Prisoners Taken.

Drands Drift, May 13.—Gen. Ruddle has completely checkmated the attempt of the Boers to come south again, and the enemy are retiring before the persistent advance of the British.

Many have been captured or are surrendering. There were 150 of these yesterday and today. Among them was President Steyn's brother. The Ladysmith district is clear of Boers. They have evacuated McQuatting's Nek and are now near Lindley.

Storming Mafeking.

General Synman Attempted to Rush the Works on Saturday Week.

Kaffir Location Was Seized and Fighting Was at Close Quarters.

Fate of the Town in Doubt but Relief Column is Near.

London, May 16, (4:30 a. m.)—"Food will last until about June 1" is the latest official word from Col. Baden-Powell, the British commander at Mafeking, sent to Lord Roberts under date of May 7. Five days later, the Boers attempted to storm the town and it is possible that they succeeded, although nothing is known of the attack or of its results except through Pretoria sources, which have no countenance here. The British relief column is due there now. Two days ago General Synman was having difficulty in keeping the Boers together owing to the approach of the British and when the last Associated Press despatch left Mafeking on May 7, the Boers had killed on the previous day, one of the horse guards and captured several of Col. Baden-Powell's few remaining horses. Major P. N. Bailey has sent to the Morning Post from Mafeking under date of May 7, this message: "This morning the Boers attacked us. Result as usual. There is an aching void here. Pass the loaf!"

The Boers using artillery attacked the town of Saturday night on the Kaffir location was in flames, some say as the result of the fight, others as the result of treachery. Fighting at the relief column gave orders to General Synman to storm the place. As soon as the location was seized, the Boers tried to surround the town at close range. By an adroit move the garrison, despite its attenuated numbers, succeeded in driving the party of Boers, who had captured the Kaffir location. Severe fighting followed, but according to the latest reports, the Boers held the location in which they are probably surrounded. The truth is, I believe, that the Pretoria authorities knew the progress of the relief column gave orders to General Synman to storm the place. As soon as the location was seized, the Boers tried to surround the town at close range. By an adroit move the garrison, despite its attenuated numbers, succeeded in driving the party of Boers, who had captured the Kaffir location. 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Town in Doubt but of Column Is Near.

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REYN'S THREATS. Sooner Destroy the Country than Have It British.

May 15.—Lord Roberts con- tinues to the discussion going on as to when the war will end. A telegram dated Monday, through a correspondent who the direct inquiry: "I regret not give any reply to your is it impossible at present to en the campaign may end."

of the other side is reported. Sooner than leave this fall into the hands of the British destroy our houses and "desert." The relations between and the Portuguese appear- ing. The Portuguese consul according to reports from and outland has nearly destroyed-fulness of Delagoa Bay to the

quinea Macaco, Governor-Gan- tanguene East Africa, is being at Beira and the British of are passing through as show- courties. The Lisbon cabinet to count on British protect- of Boer aggression.

OUR NEW COLONY. Permitted With Part of the Orange State.

May 15.—The Queen to-day in- cumbent permitting the South African colonies and one of the Orange Free State, by the British forces.

RS. BARKER DEAD. In Bermuda. May 15.—Mrs. Barker, wife of the Governor of Barbados, died at night of pneumonia, after a

WARM RECEPTION. ers Did Not Think the Show Hot Enough.

eg. May 15.—A small mob stone- vate car of a travelling light- troupe here after the perform- ing. The show was adver- the "hottest on earth," but fall- up to the expectations of the ment. Further trouble was ex- night, but the crowd was over- the presence of a large number men who gave the members of any protection.

The Relief Of Ladysmith

One of Royal Engineers Tells of Difficult Tasks Buller Had.

Bridge Builders Constantly Shelled by the Boers With Few Losses.

Mr. W. P. Allen, city engineer, has received an interesting letter from his son John, serving with the Royal Engineers of Gen. Buller's army in Natal. It is dated Ladysmith, April 14, and refers to the relief of that town. The letter follows:

Dear Father: I now take the pleasure of giving you a few details of my experience in South Africa.

Having received orders for service, we left the Old Country on November 4. Calling at Capetown for orders, I had the pleasure of meeting my brother and his wife. That was our first meeting for over six years.

Proceeding we arrived, after a most enjoyable passage, at Durban on November 28th, and thence to the Natal base of operations at Pietermaritzburg.

Our reverse at Colenso was a severe one, though whatever may have been our opinions at home, we at least felt that Buller's task had been one almost impossible to accomplish.

The Boers, who were naturally so well entrenched and being protected in front by the Tugela, a river flowing at the rate of about six miles an hour and varying from 300 to 500 feet in width.

Our attack had to be made over an open plain abated, and the Boers were not far from our losses were not heavy.

Such was my first experience of war, and it was anything but inspiring. I was retired after the battle to Pietermaritzburg, where we were encamped and awaited reinforcements. Our next move was to the Springfield, across the Little Tugela, to Trenchards Drift. We succeeded in crossing the river, and our troops, however, found the Boers in strength about two miles north of the river, their left resting on an almost inaccessible hill, known as Spion Kop, and occupying a range of hills stretching to their right rear for several miles.

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SIR WILFRID LAURIER. Stated That He Will Run in Provencher, Manitoba.

It is stated, says the Montreal Gazette, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, of Provencher, Man., has received important news from friends in his constituency. It is said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, while remaining in his division of Quebec East, will also accept the Liberal candidature in Provencher, against Mr. Lariviere. It has been repeatedly declared that the Manitoba school question has not been settled to the satisfaction of the Roman Catholic minority, and it is now said that the Prime Minister will take this occasion of testing the matter once and for all. If Sir Wilfrid should be able to secure election in the most pronounced French and Catholic constituency in the province of Manitoba, his friends say that he will be truly in a position to say that the Liberal government has settled the school question wisely and well, and that the settlement has been approved of by French-speaking Canadians in general. Mr. Lariviere, the present M. P. for the division, who was elected by a very large majority at the last election, declares that he is by no means alarmed even if he is re-elected an antagonist as Sir Wilfrid Laurier should attempt to contest the seat in Provencher. Mr. Lariviere has a majority of several hundred in June, 1896, and he believes he can easily defeat the Prime Minister.

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THE METHODIST CONFERENCE. Resolution Praying God's Help to British Arms in South Africa.

From Our Own Correspondent. Westminister, May 14.—Rev. F. Robinson today asked for suspension for one year. The request was referred to the proper committee.

The report of committee on Sabbath observance was referred back for amendment. A long discussion was caused by Rev. J. W. Winslow moving a reconsideration of the action of conference in accepting the resignation of Rev. W. C. Moody. It was held by many that the law of the church did not provide for the resignation of ministers during the year.

It was decided that his name be dropped from the list of ministers of the conference, he having "irregularly withdrawn from work." The conference has passed the following resolution, which was carried unanimously: "Resolved, that we deplore the necessity and awful carnage of war, and mourn with the families of those bereaved by this conflict, and pray that this struggle may soon be brought to a close, with the minimum loss of life and property; yet, we sincerely pray the God of heaven to give success to the arms of British arms, believing that the native races will be vastly benefited thereby, and that the liberty will be entered into that commercial and industrial prosperity will reign for evermore, and that on every hand there shall be more room for the coming of the Kingdom of God."

As late as 11.30 on Saturday evening all was quiet about the place, and there was no sign of the presence of the fire. At 12.30 the carpenters who had been asleep in the bunk-house were aroused by the cracking of flames. Mr. Sherbourne was hastily aroused, but in an instant the hotel was a mass of fire and beyond all hope of being saved, even the most modern appliances for fire-fighting at hand.

The origin of the fire is a mystery. There had been no fire in the building for Lillooet, many of whom drove a one is at a loss to account for its destruction. The hotel was owned by the Shawanigan Lake Hotel Company, Limited, Geo. L. Courtenay being president; B. Crow Baker, F. B. Pemberton, H. M. Grahame and Otto Walker directors, and J. S. Floyd secretary-treasurer.

The loss is partially covered by insurance. The contract price of the building was \$14,000, and an insurance policy for \$11,000 was carried. But the loss will be considerable on account of the fixtures and contents. The fire was caused by a gas stove in the kitchen, which was left burning when the hotel was closed.

Mr. John Hepburn, who recently erected a new block at the corner of Cormorant and Store streets, and is erecting a three-story building on Yates street for Messrs. Pithers & Leiser, has purchased from the executors of the late DeCosmos the property at the corner of Cormorant and Government streets, including the Prince of Wales saloon and the vacant lot on Cormorant street. The property is leased, there being a frontage of 46 feet on Government street and 60 feet on Cormorant street. The property is leased, there being a frontage of 46 feet on Government street and 60 feet on Cormorant street.

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Hotel Burned At It's Birth

The Strathcons, the Handsome Shawnigan Tourist Structure, no More.

Plucky Proprietors to Commence Work of Re-Construction at Once.

At 12.30 on Sunday morning the Strathcona hotel, the summer resort structure erected on the shores of Shawanigan Lake at Shawanigan Station by the Shawanigan Lake Hotel Co., Limited, stood an emblem of the enterprise of its originators and in the front line of the tourist resorts of the province; two hours later all that remained of it were three blackened chimneys and a few smoking embers.

Five mysterious, fierce and sudden, swept the pecky structure to swift destruction before a hand could be raised to stay the work of ruin. Within a week it was intended that the hotel should have been thrown open for the reception of guests. Contractor Fred Sherbourne and his staff of workmen were engaged in putting the finishing touches to the building. Four of the 31 bedrooms and

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MARINE. Men Reported Missing From the Turpel Turn Up.

The hope expressed by the sealers who brought the news of their loss from the schooner that mate Gillan and his companions of the Sable Turpel—who were separated from that vessel by fog and storm on the 19th instant—would be picked up by some other craft, proved fortunate in the realization—when the Turpel returned to port yesterday, the missing men were safe aboard. They had been picked up by the schooner Fenwick and returned to their own vessel at first opportunity. The schooner had small luck during the season, bringing home as evidence her work in the rough weather by 81 pelts. With the usual perversity of fate, so soon as the Coast season closed, the weather moderated and the seal appeared in no numerous herds that fortunes might easily have been made had not the stern law forbid. Among the other returning schooners of yesterday were the Arietta, top-liner of the Indian fleet, with 516; the Ida Rita, with 393; the Walter L. Rich, 102; Minnie, 280; and Libbie, 193. The Ocean Belle also reported from Carmanville, inbound and with 735 skins.

Steamer Queen City returned on Sunday from the Naas and Skeena, where preparation for the season has now been completed by the canneries, and everything is arranged for a heavy pack. The Queen City's passengers down were W. Green, E. Bray, W. Westley, C. Lapierre, M. McKindle, J. Clayton, J. Gossie, and G. Robinson and John Jones. She will sail again this evening. It was a light list of passengers with

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