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The Boer in Flight From Kimberley

French's Cavalry Comes Into Touch With the British Outposts and Proceeds North to Cut Off the Enemy's Retreat.

Burginers Also Deserting the Trenches at Magersfontein and Roberts' Forces bent Upon Capture of the Fugitives.

Shell Fire Punishes Boers Escaping From Jacobsdal—Infantry Brigade in Hot Pursuit of Large Convoy Making for Bloemfontein.

London, Feb. 16.—The war office publishes these messages from Lord Roberts: "Jacobsdal, Feb. 15.—French, with a force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry, reached Kimberley this evening, Thursday."

"I have completely dispersed the enemy from the southern side of Kimberley from Alexander's Fontein to Oliphant's Fontein, and am now going to occupy their ground. Have captured enemy's lager and stores depot, supplies and supplies of ammunition. Casualties about twenty of all ranks, wounded.

"Kimberley cheerful and well."

"Jacobsdal, Feb. 16, 7.45 p.m.—Much gratified on arriving here to find admirable hospital arrangements made by German ambulance corps under Doctors Kaestner and Hildebrand, who, with their staff, have shown great kindness to our wounded men as they have to the Boer wounded. Some of our wounded men have been here since December."

"Jacobsdal, Feb. 16.—I have good reason to believe that Magersfontein trenches have been abandoned and that the Boers are trying to escape. General French is scouring the country north of Kimberley. One of General Kelly-Kenny's brigades of infantry is in pursuit of a large Boer convoy moving towards Bloemfontein."

Modder River, Feb. 16.—The Sixth Division left Waterfall Drift early yesterday morning and marched here, going to hold the crossings of Modder River and leave General French free to move on after arriving here the mounted infantry visited Jacobsdal and found it full of women and children with four of our wounded men doing well.

"On the way back the mounted infantry were attacked and nine men were wounded. Col. Henry and Major Hazlett and ten men were missing. Both officers were subsequently found at Jacobsdal slightly wounded.

"The cavalry division is moving in a northerly direction and has apparently already reduced the pressure on Kimberley, as Katerberg reports that the enemy has abandoned Alexander's fontein and that he has occupied it. French has advanced as far as Abundant and is being held by mounted infantry."

"The war office points out that the word 'here' in the above despatch means some point of Modder River other than the Modder River station."

THE HIDE TO KIMBERLEY. Riet River, Orange Free State, Feb. 15.—General French, in command of the cavalry division and a strong force of horse artillery, left Modder River on Sunday morning for Hanham, 12 miles east of Enslin, where the whole division concentrated. The next day he made a rapid march to

Volunteers formed the advance guard, the South Wales Borderers were placed in the centre, and the North Staffords on the right. These latter were first in Jacobsdal. They cleared out the Boers opposing them after a gallant charge with their bayonets.

"The 75th battery shelled outposts of the town. The enemy retired towards Magersfontein, where Gen. Cronje's forces were entrenched. Col. Henry and Major Hazlett were wounded and captured in the action on Tuesday. The Boers evacuated Jacobsdal and quite a heavy column of the British, who had been wounded in a previous engagement.

While the Canadians' part of the Ninth Division was protecting the right flank of the troops operating for the capture of Jacobsdal a rear guard composed of troops from the Ninth Division attacked Waterfall Drift. They were acting as an escort to the British supply column and quite a heavy engagement ensued.

"General French with his cavalry, after the capture of Jacobsdal, pushed on towards Kimberley. "In the advance from Wedgefontein, several Canadians fell out on the march and the members of the hospital corps were their names are Private James Drake, formerly of the 63rd Halifax Rifles; Private M. Munnis, formerly of the 63rd; formerly of the 62nd Princess Louise Fusiliers, of St. John, all of "D" Company, of the 26th Middlesex Light Infantry, of B. Company, Private G. E. Corbould, formerly of 5th Regiment, Canadian Artillery, "A" Company.

THUGS EXTRADITED. Montreal, Feb. 16.—Morel and Robert, the two men arrested here for shooting and wounding two Seranton policemen were today committed for extradition. Seranton officers are here, and the men will return with them at the expiration of the fifteen days delay.

JOY AT KIMBERLEY'S RELIEF.

Toronto's Mayor Congratulates Lansdowne—Volunteers for Africa Hear News at Montreal.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—Kimberley is relieved by the words which greeted the Toronto detachment of the Canadian Mounted Rifles as the special train containing them pulled into Bonaventure station this morning shortly after 9 o'clock. The announcement spread like wild-fire through the cars, and a scene of indescribable enthusiasm followed.

The detachment consisted of nine officers and 156 men and 162 horses. They left Toronto at 8 o'clock last night, and at 8 o'clock this morning arrived at Cornwall, where they had breakfast. At St. Henri the horse cars were detached from the special and taken to St. Ky's station yards at Point St. Charles. The passenger coaches were subsequently brought into Bonaventure station, where the men were transferred to Intercolonial cars, in which they proceeded on the way to Halifax.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—The news of the relief of Kimberley was received here with the greatest enthusiasm. Flags were hoisted on all public buildings and on many private ones in the business quarters. Mayor McDonald, on behalf of the citizens, sent a telegram of congratulations to Lord Lansdowne, Imperial secretary of state for war.

INDIAN TROOPS FOR AFRICA. Probability of Objection to Their Use in Boer War Being Overcome.

London, Feb. 17.—It is more than probable that native Indian troops will eventually be used in South Africa. There is a strong opinion in favour of this step and it is likely it would have been taken long ago but for fear of the non-combatants' and religio-political influences.

Buller Fought All the Week

His Casualties Have Been Slight and Result of Operations Satisfactory.

Boers Moving Off to Free State—Flying Column Quietly Injuring Zululand.

London, Feb. 15, 3.50 a.m.—The war office made the usual statement at midnight that it had no news, but at about the same time despatches were received from Durban dated Saturday evening giving reports of renewed fighting on the Tugela, where the censor had stopped all telegrams.

Arrivals at Durban from the Tugela say important operations are progressing and that fighting occurred daily since the Boers evacuated Jacobsdal. In these engagements the British casualties have been comparatively light.

According to the unconfirmed reports General Buller had occupied Vaal Krantz and the Boers had retreated in the direction of the Free State.

London, Feb. 16.—A despatch from Durban reports a drawn fight between Brabant's Horse and the Boers at Dordrecht on February 16. The engagement lasted eight hours and resulted in the British loss of eight killed and four wounded. The Boer casualties are unknown. The latter had been the great object of the position, so that British uniforms showed up distinctly against the black background.

FOR THE HOSPITAL SHIP. American Lady in London Appeals to Old Friends of California and Nevada.

London, Feb. 17.—Lady Hesketh is the latest American to take an active part in the affairs of the hospital ship Maine. She has been in communication with the British Red Cross Society in regard to the formation of a committee for the Pacific Coast and has opened a subscription for a drawn fight between Brabant's Horse and the Boers at Dordrecht on February 16.

THE RETREAT FROM RENSBURG. Missing Companies of Wiltshire Regiment Were Annap When Others Marched Out.

Arundel, Feb. 16.—The retirement of the British from Rensburg was most orderly. The railway had withdrawn the stores on the previous day, and the baggage wagons left before the evacuation took place.

A part of the two companies of the Wiltshire regiment who were marching towards the Rensburg station were presumably asleep after having been on outpost duty, have since arrived. The members of the two companies have probably been taken prisoners.

Welcome at Jacobsdal

Townfolk Agreeably Surprised to Find British Troops Not Looters.

Now Receiving Them as Friends—President Steyn Betrayed His People.

Boers From Magersfontein Return to Farms in Disorganized Masses.

Jacobsdal, Feb. 17.—Lord Roberts' troops today entered this town, which has been in the possession of the British since yesterday. The utmost order prevails. Military police patrol the streets, but not a stick of furniture, not even an apple from the trees, has been taken.

A sentry is placed before each store, and the soldiers are allowed to enter and purchase what they require.

Everything is so peaceful that the inhabitants express the utmost surprise, as it had been diligently reported that the British occupation meant instant looting. Judging from the co-operation of the inhabitants, the Free State is tired of the war. It is openly said here that Steyn betrayed the people.

Since the battle of Modder River the town has not been garrisoned, but has merely been used as a postal depot. When the Boers fired on the British Wednesday the townspeople protested. Although the British shelling yesterday considerably frightened the women, the shells were only directed at a ridge beyond the town, which was entrenched.

A correspondent talked with a number of the Boer wounded, and they all acknowledged that the British movement was a masterpiece of strategy.

When informed of the relief of Kimberley they were at first incredulous but for some time in the hands of the British. The Boers are leaving Magersfontein and are returning in disorganized masses to their farms.

The invasion of the Free State has undoubtedly resulted in the disaffection of a large number of Free States.

BRABANT'S HORSE ENGAGED. Fierce Struggle at Dordrecht—Barré Grass Made Good Marks of British Uniforms.

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Warren for Parliament.

London, Feb. 17.—The parliamentary by-election yesterday in the Newark division of Nottinghamshire to replace Charles William Sydney Viscount Newark (Conservative), who had succeeded to the peerage, resulted as follows: Sir Charles Warren, Unionist, 5,162; Henry Stanger, Liberal, 2,871. At the last election Viscount Newark was unopposed.

How the Boers Tell It.

True the British Relieved Kimberley, but the Burgers Captured Some Oxen.

Pretoria, Feb. 16.—(1 p. m.)—It appears from further reports of yesterday's fighting at Jacobsdal that 2,000 British troops got through the Federal position at Modder River and relieved Kimberley. The Federals intercepted the rear guard of the British and captured great booty, many oxen and a number of prisoners.

Shelling Cronje in His Retreat.

Kelly-Kenny's Brigade Harass Fugitive Boers and Capture Their Supplies.

Kitchener Supervising the Operations—British Have Taken Many Prisoners.

London, Feb. 17.—The parliamentary correspondent of the Standard says this morning: "It is expected that Mr. Chamberlain next Tuesday will give parliament information completely disposing of the suggestion that the colonial office was in any way accessory to the Jameson raid."

A Traitor at Ladysmith.

Ladysmith, Feb. 8.—H. S. Foss, a resident of Ladysmith, has been court-martialed and sentenced to a year's imprisonment at hard labor for circulating false reports calculated to encourage the troops and for exciting soldiers to desert. Mr. Foss, who is a native of Natal, had been twice warned for asserting that the garrison was on the eve of starvation and capture.

Would Send Still More.

London Critics Think Public Feeling in Favor of Further Demolition in Africa.

London, Feb. 16.—Mr. Spencer Wilkinson, in the Morning Post, today advocates the advisability of forming twenty, eleventh and twelfth divisions and sending them to Capetown to be ready for emergencies as well as the forming and training at home as many additional battalions as possible. He says: "Lord Rosebery's speech in the House of Lords last evening probably expresses the universal feeling and the universal temper and it will do great good in arousing the country."

Notes from the Capital.

Mr. Tarte No Quitter—Statute to Strathcona Proposed—Suggested Bonus For Export Butter.

From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, Feb. 16.—A Buffalo deputation today urged Mr. Fisher to have a Canadian building erected for the Pan-American exhibition next year.

Sir Hilbert Tupper left for Vancouver today. He will be away a month. Lieut. Cotton, of Kingston, has been appointed to command a galling squad of Strathcona's Horse.

A movement has been started to erect a bronze statue to Strathcona here. The statue probably expresses the opinion that is going to increase the British preferential duty is incorrect.

Mr. Reed will move the parliament grant a bonus of a cent per pound on butter for export. Other cables that the authorities at Capetown have arranged to notify the colonial government of any colonial casualties.

It is stated that Mr. Tarte will leave for Paris about the middle of March. He does not want to resign his portfolio, although Broderick is slated for the position.

The debate on the appropriation to pay the contingents was continued in the Commons and further adjourned. Ottawa, Feb. 17.—Mr. Sifton leaves for England in three weeks to be absent for a considerable period. He is about to undergo treatment for deafness, which has been growing worse.

Imports last month increased \$3,750,000; exports increased \$7,500,000. Private David Moore, of London, a member of the first contingent for South Africa, has died of fever.

The staff course at Kingston to have commenced on the first of February collapsed owing to the absence of an instructor and the permanent corps officers being honored at several headquarters.

HONORS FOR KIMBERLEY. London, Feb. 17.—The Queen has promoted Gen. French to be Major-General. French, heretofore had only ranked as a colonel in the army, with the local rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Lieut.-Colonel Kekewich has been promoted to Colonel for services in the defence of Kimberley.

The well known strengthening properties of iron combined with other elements make the perfect nerve, are found in Carter's Little Liver Pills, which strengthen the nerves and body, and improve the blood and complexion.

A Brilliant Opening

Roberts' Plan to Encircle and Capture the Whole Free State Force.

Though Cronje Escaped His Army is Crippled by Loss of Stores Abandoned.

Problem Now to Clear Railway Line of Boers Threatening Communications.

London, Feb. 17.—Mr. Spencer Wilkinson, the military expert, reviewing the situation in South Africa for the Post at midnight, said: "Lord Roberts has begun his campaign by striking at the principal Boer force in the western theatre of war, that of Commandant Cronje, covering the siege of Kimberley."

"In a little over three weeks Lord Roberts has completed the organization of his forces. He then quietly massed a cavalry division, near the selected point, reaching Modder River station on Friday, February 9. He must have put his troops in motion with the least possible delay, for on Monday the action began with an attempt to turn the Boers' position by a march round his left or eastern flank."

"On Monday Gen. French's cavalry seized the passages of the Riet river, southeast of Jacobsdal, and were at once followed up by two infantry divisions. On Thursday the cavalry moved north and seized the crossings of the Modder river, the infantry following at their heels. On Thursday, when a division of infantry was on the Modder and another close behind it between the two rivers, the cavalry moved forward towards Kimberley and dispersed the besiegers from the southeastern front, and opened connection with the town."

"The same day troops from the old camp at Modder River station opened communication with Jacobsdal, which has already been taken."

"Thus Lord Roberts had a semi-circle around the Boer position at Magersfontein, from Kimberley on the north, Modder River station on the south, and possibly the line was prolonged from Modder River station to the north-west, so that Gen. French might hope by passing through Kimberley to complete the circle and thus to enable Lord Roberts to envelop and capture Cronje's force."

"The plan was brilliantly conceived and vigorously executed. The Boers had been able to evade the blow."

"When Gen. French reached Kimberley he found the Boers had evacuated the bulk of his force had moved towards Bloemfontein, apparently by the Boshof road, by a short cut, and to the north bank of the Modder. The laagers and stores abandoned on the Modder captured prove that Cronje left in haste, and one of Gen. Kelly-Kenny's brigades was last reported as pursuing and engaging the Boer rear guard."

"Gen. Kitchener is superintending the pursuit, which may be effective. Of the First and Ninth divisions no mention is made in the despatches, and the inference is that part of the design is as yet undisclosed. Possibly their function is to complete the circuit on the west. Perhaps, too, a force is making to the eastward south of Modder river, to intercept Cronje, though as the mounted Boers cover 30 miles a day, no infantry can catch them. A part of the Boer force may have retreated to the northeast towards Barkly, and will no doubt be pursued."

"There is no doubt Kimberley is relieved and that the railway will soon be re-opened. This is a success, but a more valuable result—the destruction of a part of the Boer army—has not been secured. It cannot be said under the circumstances that this is attributable to weakness in British generalship, which seems to have been exceeded."

"There are disquieting features in the news. The capture by Boers said to have come from Giesberg, a large British convoy, may diminish the mobility of the British force, and is a proof of the Boers' skill in giving the soldiers a vigorous attack on the British at Rensburg shows that the Boers mean to reply to Lord Roberts' advance by striking at his communications."

"Until the issue of the operations around Kimberley is fully known it is useless to speculate upon the next move of Lord Roberts. The fact that Kimberley has been relieved and that Cronje has had to make a hasty retreat are to the good side of the account. The opinion is widespread that the invasion of the Free State will bring the Boer army, or at least the Free State contingent, out of Natal."

Canadians for Africa.

The Further Despatches Start for Halifax from Kingstons and Toronto. Kingston, Feb. 15.—"C" Battery, laden with bags and equipment, paraded the streets this afternoon, and left at 10:45 for Halifax. The streets were thronged, and thousands of people giving the soldiers a send-off. Lieut.-Col. Montzambert, D. O. C., had the men farewelled at the barracks.

The men were accompanied to the Grand Train station by the Fourteenth P. W. O. Rifles, with the band, and the train went out amid tremendous cheering.

Toronto, Feb. 15.—The various troops of the Canadian Mounted Rifles which have been waiting here several weeks for transportation have at last started east, leaving for Halifax two in each train this afternoon. There was little enthusiasm shown, repeated postponements of their departure having chilled the public. However, as the men walked from the barracks a crowd gathered on the street and as the central points were reached the cheerers were more numerous. About three thousand people gathered at the station to give them a send-off.

Martin Against Finance Minister

Charges Formulated in the House and Motion for Committee Refused.

Mr. Cotton's Explanation of the Incidents Involved—Not A Party Move.

THURSDAY, Feb. 15. The speaker having taken the chair at ten o'clock, prayers were read by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

PETITIONS. Petitions were read and received from the following: A. D. Menzies and others, residents of West Kootenay district, with respect to Sabbath observance.

Mr. Ellison, addressing himself to a question of privilege, corrected the Colonialist report of his remarks on the subject of the Premier's amendment and the Premier's amendment and the Premier's amendment.

THE BETTER LOCATED. Hon. Mr. Huggins, in the table of the hour law and its operation. This was the document he explained, that the Premier's amendment and the Premier's amendment.

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS ACT. A bill to amend the Provincial Elections Act was introduced by Mr. McPhillips and received the approval of the Premier's amendment and the Premier's amendment.

FINANCE MINISTER ON TRIAL. Mr. Joseph Martin's resolution respecting the Finance Minister was then called. The mover said:

In moving this resolution I propose as far as possible to deal with the matters which are referred to. The first matter is that "the present Minister of Finance and Agriculture and Works, while acting as secretary for the Executive Council of this province, deliberately falsified the minutes of the Executive Council."

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is not the custom, so far as I am aware, in the other provinces or in the Dominion to keep minutes of the executive council, but I understand it has always been the custom here to do so, and the present government, at any rate while I was a member of it, carried on the same practice.

The Finance Minister, when he was secretary who kept these minutes. The practice was to have the minutes written out, just the same as in the other provinces, and at the following meeting of the council to have those minutes read, and approved if found correct.

Now, this charge is that the Finance Minister, upon one occasion deliberately falsified these minutes—that is, wrote down something which was not correct. Of course, Mr. Speaker, having incorrect minutes may honestly correct them, but I do not think it is correct to make a mistake, and that the mistake, and that the mistake, and that the mistake.

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facts with regard to that matter and of course, while there is no statute which would prevent the executive council should keep minutes, while minutes are kept they are supposed to be correct and business of this nature, and it would be perfectly idle for any one minister to protest that he did not agree to a certain course if he had not agreed to it. Sometimes it happens, Mr. Speaker, naturally in a body of that kind, that a matter comes up, and it is incidental, and is not much alluded to and under such circumstances it would be very easy indeed for the one minister keeping the minutes to make a mistake as to what did occur and what had been done. But this was a very different case from that. This was an occasion when the whole afternoon, probably three or four hours, was consumed in debating and discussing this matter, and it was, unless we are to assume that the hon. gentleman could sit there all that afternoon and take part in it, and honestly believe at the end of that time that something was done that was not done at all—that I say is devoted to his residence in this province will make. The assumption must be that a gentleman of the Finance Minister's standing, and that he is a gentleman of grave importance; and a matter which was very much before the public at the time, and which he knew and which he was that the matter was adjourned, that no conclusion was arrived at; he must have been aware of all that and it is not possible that he should have been so stupid as to say that the matter was adjourned, and that he had no part in it, and that he had no part in it, and that he had no part in it.

Mr. Cotton then read the following extract from the newspaper mentioned: F. L. CARTER-COTTON. The despatches of last Monday brought the news of the election of Mr. J. F. Carter-Cotton to the parliament of British Columbia from Vancouver Island. The despatch stated that he was formerly a resident of Denver.

Mr. Carter-Cotton's life, were it all known, would be a romance of much interest. He is a man who has devoted his life in Colorado would not be the least interesting.

Sometimes about 1875 or 1876 a very gentlemanly man arrived in Fort Collins, stopping there for a visit as a part of a general tour of the west. He gave his name as Francis L. Carter-Cotton, and he was a well-known man of the northwestern city. He remained, for some time, and then he left Fort Collins for England. Later he returned under the name of Francis L. Carter-Cotton, and he was a well-known man of the northwestern city.

Mr. Carter-Cotton, who was a man of much ability and learning, at once took a leading place in the business and social world of Fort Collins. His geniality and his high character were well known to all who knew him, and he was a well-known man of the northwestern city.

Of course such a man would be accompanied by stories, of which the truth is not known. One of the most important told of Mr. Carter-Cotton was that, although apparently a man of high character and high standing in England, he became engaged at his own home in Colorado, and that he was a well-known man of the northwestern city.

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matter to allege against anyone. But that is not the allegation here. It is the allegation of having got into financial difficulties, the honorable gentleman, instead of taking the course which I have indicated—of the course which an honest man would have taken under the circumstances—the honorable gentleman ran away and went to foreign countries. Now, I have here a newspaper published in the city of Denver, in the state of Colorado, in the month of January, 1894, purporting to give an account of the honorable gentleman's transactions with regard to the matter now alluded to.

Mr. Martin then read the following extract from the newspaper mentioned: F. L. CARTER-COTTON. The despatches of last Monday brought the news of the election of Mr. J. F. Carter-Cotton to the parliament of British Columbia from Vancouver Island. The despatch stated that he was formerly a resident of Denver.

Mr. Carter-Cotton's life, were it all known, would be a romance of much interest. He is a man who has devoted his life in Colorado would not be the least interesting.

Sometimes about 1875 or 1876 a very gentlemanly man arrived in Fort Collins, stopping there for a visit as a part of a general tour of the west. He gave his name as Francis L. Carter-Cotton, and he was a well-known man of the northwestern city. He remained, for some time, and then he left Fort Collins for England. Later he returned under the name of Francis L. Carter-Cotton, and he was a well-known man of the northwestern city.

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CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES

Advertisement for WELER BROS., Victoria, B. C. listing various items like Axminster, Wiltons, Brussels, Riche Velvets, Tapestry, 370 pieces Carpets, 324 Rugs, 214 Art Squares. Includes a small illustration of a woman and child.

WELER BROS., Victoria, B. C.

UP-TO-DATE GOODS IN EVERY LINE. We show 10 patterns to any other stores one.

Speaker, to this house. Let us know if that can be done. Hon. Mr. Cotton—I say, sir, Mr. Martin—I want to appeal, Mr. Speaker, from your ruling.

Mr. Martin—What is the charge of perjury? Mr. Martin—He said that I had broken my oath of office. Breaking an oath is perjury; that is a crime for which a person can be sent to jail.

Mr. Eberts—Hear, hear. Mr. Martin—Now if that is to be allowed, after your attention has been called to it, I wish to appeal from your ruling. I am not asking you to reconsider your judgment; I want to appeal to the house to let us know whether that can be done.

Mr. Eberts—I leave it to the house to decide. Shall the chair be sustained? Hon. Mr. Henderson—We might as well understand that the ruling is what the appeal is. As the hon. member of Vancouver puts it, he puts it in this way, that the hon. member here with perjury is charging him with a crime and should not be permitted in this house. Well, putting it that way, I understand the Finance Minister putting it in that way, I would say that perhaps parliamentary. The Minister of Finance was asked to speak on that question when the hon. member insisted on the matter being taken. We might just as well understand where we are. I do not wish to excite this discussion, which perjury is, and which is a crime; I do not wish to throw any oil upon these flames; but if an appeal is to be made we should have the facts before us.

Hon. Mr. Cotton—I will put it in another way. If the language was unparliamentary, I will withdraw it and I will not say anything more. Hon. Mr. Martin—I have asked an appeal, sir, and I am not asking you to reconsider your decision. Now I want to know whether that decision has been correct or not. I am not asking you to reconsider your decision, but I am asking you to let me know whether that decision is correct or not.

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do this, and although at that time, owing to an impression that prevailed in Vancouver, it was not an easy thing to do, it succeeded in interesting certain parties and got them to advance a large sum of money on certain conditions. One of these conditions was that I should not divulge the fact that they were interested in this enterprise. Well, after a lapse of time—I think it was in 1894—Mr. Gordon returned to Vancouver. Things were not very bright at that time, investments could not

The Colonist.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1900.

WHAT IS UP?

The adjournment of the house until Monday, without any reason being assigned, would be understood in any other province than British Columbia to mean that a crisis had been reached...

TIME FOR A CHANGE.

"The government will be defeated next week, and after that the deluge," remarked a prominent member of the opposition yesterday, and when he was asked if he did not think a nice little political deluge would be a good thing just now for British Columbia, he assented most heartily.

We desire once more, on the eve of a political crisis, the result of which no man can foresee, to place on record our high appreciation of the effort made by Mr. Turner and his colleagues when in office to deal with the great problem of provincial development.

Another course is to ask the Lieutenant-Governor for a dissolution of the house. We are unable to see any reason why His Honor should concede such a request, if it is made.

REDISTRIBUTION.

It is evident that redistribution is a rock upon which political parties may be badly split. We observe that the Times think the legislature is too large numerically, but we do not believe its political associates will subscribe to this view.

It is time for a change. It is time to have done with temporizing, with scheming for a particular vote, with the arts of the political trickster-time for the adoption of policies because they are right, not because they suit some particular individual or are favored by some particular set of demagogues.

THE WAR.

Gordon B. Corbould, who is represented as missing from the British Columbia company in South Africa, is son of Gordon E. Corbould, barrister-at-law and police magistrate of New Westminster, and was a student-at-law before volunteering for service at the front.

The operations, which have resulted in the relief of Kimberley and the retreat of Cronje's army, will be recognized as brilliant in plan and admirable in execution. Our despatches give an excellent account of the movement, and nothing need be added here, except to say that what appears to be the complete demoralization of the Western Boer army must be fruitful of important results.

Kimberley was invested by the Boers on Saturday, October 14, just four days after Kruger issued his ultimatum. It was relieved on Thursday, February 15. Thus the period of investment was 124 days. On October 17 the armored train drove back the enemy for some distance, and a similar success was scored on the 21st. On October 24 Col. Scott-Turner defeated the enemy near the town. On November 28 Col. Scott-Turner led a successful sortie from Kimberley, driving back the enemy, who were getting uncomfortably near, but paid the forfeit of his own life for his courage.

Early in November Gen. Lord Methuen began his advance on Kimberley. On the 23rd of the month he drove the enemy out of Belmont. Two days later he defeated them at Graspan, and on the following day captured Honingrest Kloof. On November 28 the battle of Modder River was fought when Methuen was wounded. There was no important movement on either side until December 12, when Methuen attempted to deliver a frontal blow on the Boer entrenchments at Magersfontein, and the Highlanders were surprised with heavy loss, Gen. Wauchope being among

the slain. Then followed a long rest, with several successful reconnaissances. On February 9 Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener arrived on the scene and the flanking movement began.

that this road shall be built, it is eminently desirable that articles such as that appearing in the Times should be published, and that persons able to speak from personal observation as to the resources of the island, should contribute from their stock of information to the press.

DR. McKECHNIE'S POSITION.

On page 100 of the Public Accounts submitted to the legislature at its opening, and under the head of "Travelling Expenses of Officers on Duty," there is the following item:

"R. E. McKechnie, P. of C., \$204.67."

Dr. McKechnie is President of the Executive Council and this sum is to defray his travelling expenses in that capacity. We say frankly at the outset that the President of the Executive Council ought to be paid his travelling expenses. This, however, is quite beside the question which we are to raise. The Constitution Act prescribes that a member of the legislature shall receive an indemnity of \$500 for each session and a certain sum as mileage in travelling from his home to attend the session, and it is distinctly stated that he shall receive no more than this.

It frequently happens that in preparing a return in response to an address a paper may be omitted by mistake, when this happens the error is to be corrected by the government. In the case mentioned the government simply said nothing and when the matter was called to its notice, made no reply whatever, from which no other conclusion can be drawn than that the omission was deliberate, and for the purpose of misleading the house. The letter omitted contained a promise that the Minister of Mines would be thoroughly going into at the present session of the house, but neither the speech nor any of the speakers on behalf of the government gave any indication that this pledge would be fulfilled.

One of the principles governing the conduct of parliamentary bodies is that when papers are asked for by an address or order of the house all the papers will be brought down, unless there are some valid reasons why they should not be. A statement that such reasons exist is always accepted by the house. In the present instance no such statement was made, and consequently no reason whatever has been advanced for the failure to comply with the order of the house.

At a patriotic concert given at Saanichton the sum of \$489.40 was realized for the Mansion House Fund. The expenses were \$86, leaving the handsome amount of \$403.40 to be sent forward. Compared with this, all the cities in British Columbia must be content to take a very small place indeed.

upon to refer to-day is the charge of falsification of the return of the execution of the council. Mr. Joseph Martin related the transaction in detail. Mr. Cotton categorically denied the statement, and said that he had no recollection of having said that what was done did not amount to a falsification. Mr. Henderson in so many words said that he was not prepared to ground for this charge, but he did not think it sufficient to establish an allegation of falsification.

AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION.

Mr. Higgins has given notice of a resolution for Tuesday next, which deals with a very serious matter. It recites that an address was passed asking for correspondence relating to the eight-hour law, but that an important letter written by the Minister of Mines was omitted from the return, and that the omission to be a deliberate violation of the provisions of the house, and for the purpose of censuring and condemning the government for their failure to deal with the eight-hour question.

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The Nicaragua Waterway

Estimated that United States Could Construct It Within Eight Years.

One Hundred and Fifty Million Possible Cost for Thirty Feet Depth.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Chairman Hepburn of the house of commerce on interstate, state and foreign commerce, to-day submitted the report of the committee in favor of the Hepburn bill for constructing the Nicaragua canal. The report says in part:

"If the provisions of the bill can be carried out, the United States will within a few years (from six to eight) be in full ownership and control of a waterway connecting the oceans that it can defend and that it can use in the interests of its navy and its merchant marine as wisdom may dictate."

After reviewing the several surveys the report continues:

"It is true that estimates of cost are variable, ranging as they do from less than \$40,000,000 to a possible \$145,000,000. It is, however, proper to say that the size and character of the canal estimated for is as variable as is the cost."

MR. COTTON'S DEFENCE.

We print in full Mr. Cotton's reply to the charges made against him by Mr. Martin's resolution. It is not a satisfactory reply, and Mr. Cotton ought to have followed it up by a demand for the appointment of a committee, before which he could make his statement under oath subject to cross examination. He denied the first of the charges categorically; he evaded the point of the third. Neither the house nor the country can possibly feel satisfied that Mr. Cotton has cleared himself in their eyes, although it is being shown that he has accepted the explanation. We have been very careful in this matter to charge Mr. Cotton with none of the matters referred to in the resolution, but have frequently expressed the hope that he would take an opportunity to answer them in the fullest possible way. In declining to ask for a committee to investigate these charges Mr. Cotton has been very badly advised.

The position taken by Mr. Semlin is utterly indefensible. To claim that the house may not deal with grave charges affecting the persons in the use of a cabinet minister is absurd. Mr. Semlin would have members accept the fact that a man is elected to the house as a subject of confidence of his fitness for a cabinet position, no matter what offences and what degree of dishonesty may be laid to his charge. The only matter to which we feel called

Vaccination And Smallpox.

Provincial Board of Health Issues Timely Leaflet on the Preventive.

Precautions to Prevent Introduction of Scourge from State of Washington.

The provincial board of health has issued a leaflet containing information on the subject of vaccination, which is timely on account of the prevalence of smallpox at present in Spokane and other points in the state of Washington.

There never has been, in the history of medical science, any discovery made from whom so broadly successful as Jenner's discovery that vaccination is a preventive of smallpox.

Opposition to vaccination has been advanced mainly, under two heads: (1) That it causes other diseases. (2) That vaccination neither prevents nor modifies smallpox.

One of the reasons for this opinion is freely admitted. At the time of the introduction of vaccination, and until a comparatively recent time, arm to arm vaccination was chiefly practised. Careful selection was made of persons from whom to receive the vaccine, but despite the utmost care, disease, intentionally or otherwise concealed, was innocently transmitted. Although such instances were few, still they were sufficient to give foundation for a prejudice against vaccination. But modern methods have entirely removed such objections. Arm to arm vaccination is rarely practised, and is unnecessary.

The following regulations of the provincial board of health were approved by the Lieutenant-Governor and Council on the 15th February, instant:

1. All passengers arriving at the boundary line from the south must be required to furnish the inspector or officer in charge of the carrying out of these regulations with a certificate from the health officer of the city or town in which he or she has left, containing the following particulars: (a) That he or she has not been in any place or building infected with smallpox. (b) That he or she has not lived in any place or building which has been dangerously infected with smallpox. (c) That he or she has recently been successfully vaccinated.

2. If the inspector believes that a person is infected, or that his or her clothing or other effects contain infection, the inspector shall detain such person and his or her effects until the period of incubation is over, and such person and his or her effects shall be isolated and disinfected. 3. If he only suspects that any person on board, or the effects exposed to infection, has been in contact with the disease, he shall notify the medical health officer of the locality to which the person is going to meet the train or boat, and to keep the person thereafter under observation.

4. In the event of any person bringing any baggage (hand or otherwise), or whether the same shall be forwarded by express, the following certificate must be furnished from the health officer of the town or city aforesaid: (a) That the said baggage here give full description of said baggage, so that there can be no question as to identification having not been in any place or building infected with smallpox. (b) That the said baggage has not been stored or used in any place or building which has been dangerously infected with smallpox. (c) That the said baggage has not been in contact with any person who has been dangerously infected with smallpox.

5. All railway companies, transportation companies and stage lines must adhere strictly to the following regulations: (a) All mail from infected districts destined for points on the boundary line, or north of same, must be fumigated on or before leaving the last point of call south of said line, and the master in charge of such mail must furnish the inspector or officer in charge of the carrying out of these regulations with a certificate from the health officer of the locality where fumigation takes place that same has been done. (b) All cars must be fumigated before leaving American points for British Columbia points, and the health officer's certificate must be furnished that such cars have been fumigated. (c) No Indians shall be allowed to land in West Kootenay or East Yale under any conditions.

6. Whenever any household knows or suspects that any person within his household has smallpox, he shall immediately, by special messenger when possible, give notice to the medical health officer. 7. Whenever any physician knows or suspects that any person whom he is called upon to visit is infected with smallpox, he shall immediately, by special messenger when possible, give notice to the medical health officer. 8. Any physician so called shall have the purpose of isolating the infected person and his attendants and of placing the patient, attendants and all other persons residing in the same house and the house itself in quarantine, all the powers of the medical health officer, and

THE LEADING PAPER.

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COLONIST PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY VICTORIA, B. C.

unvaccinated during the epidemic in three English cities: Sheffield Vac. Unvac. 8.5 67.6 Leicester 2.5 35.8 Gloucester 2.5 46.3

C. J. FAGAN, Provincial Board of Health, Victoria, February 12, 1900.

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9. The medical health officer of every district, or any of his medical assistants, having received information of a suspected case of smallpox, shall immediately enquire into the case, either by consultation with the attending physician or by his own personal observation, or by the characteristic symptoms are not sufficiently developed at the time of investigation, the medical health officer shall keep the case under his personal observation at the special suspicion or elsewhere, until the true nature of the disease is ascertained. If the time has arrived when, in the opinion of the medical health officer, all cases of suspicion or danger is past, the suspected person shall be isolated and otherwise dealt with in the same manner as prescribed for a case of smallpox. If the medical health officer has reason to believe that a person who has been in contact with the infected patient, shall also be kept under observation. And any person who has been in contact with a suspected person shall be immediately vaccinated with the most active vaccine matter procurable.

13. The action to be taken in the event of a case of smallpox being discovered is shortly as follows: (a) Detention, disinfection, isolation of persons affected or exposed to infection; (b) disinfection of car or boat; (c) vaccination of all persons who have been exposed to contagion or suspected of conveying contagion; (d) the treatment of a suspect of any person who refuses to be vaccinated; (e) notification of the local board of health officers at places of destination; (f) notification of secretary of provincial board.

14. It shall be incumbent upon local boards of health to arrange suitable times and places for vaccination and to give public notice thereof. 15. It is now deemed necessary, and is hereby ordered, that teachers in public schools and high schools, colleges and universities, shall require a certificate of successful vaccination from each child attending at such school or college, or a certificate that such child is at that present time insusceptible to vaccination. The certificate shall be presented on demand to the teacher or other proper authority.

16. Provides that any person who violates any regulation of the provincial board shall, unless it is otherwise specially provided, be liable for every such offence to a fine not exceeding \$100, with or without costs, or to imprisonment not exceeding six months, or to both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the convicting court. 17. The smallpox regulations adopted in 1896 are now in force.

CHARLES J. FAGAN, Secretary Provincial Board of Health, Victoria, Feb. 12, 1900.

The Tattering Government

Capitulation to Arch Enemy Heels of Majority's Disappearance.

Military Ardor Allowed to In Stress of Struggle For Political Life.

The past has been an eventful provincial politics. First the Coalition Regulation bill brought the position of the ministry into prominence. Prentice's account of the arrest in session, with a speech the severity of the government yet worthy notice as protecting white from the competition of the coolie had acted the government in bringing down this law—but that on the

it was an example of the worst of class legislation, designed for the benefit of one class over another, the confiture of their business rivals for the real effect upon white labour, the operation of the law was to extend only be brought into active competition with white workers in other provinces, and no real benefit result therefrom for his refusal to endorse the measure was that it would undoubtedly be defeated in other provinces. The enactment of legislation the province had not authority to push was thus a body of supposedly worthy a body of supposedly men.

With Mr. Prentice's defection, the eminent during the debate, on Mr. was three times forced for saluted the Speaker's vote; while on one two occasions, when it was proposed dealing with the proposed adjournment of the debate, the unique spectacle presented of a member (Mr. Phillips) being forced to stand up and have his vote against a motion he had made.

Today was an "off" day. After a few minutes of Monday, when the of the coal mines bill and that the government hung round the speaker's rest for their nerves. Accordingly for a preliminary skirmish on Mr. Phillips' motion, the speaker's routine held the fort. In consideration of the Supreme Court an amendment by Mr. Phillips was provided, that appeal should be provided from interlocutory decisions in chambers cases, this being designed to meet the needs of the law and allow small matters of litigation to be disposed of in Kootenay without trouble and expense to the litigants. The success of the efforts of Mr. Phillips, the speaker's routine held the fort. In consideration of the Supreme Court an amendment by Mr. Phillips was provided, that appeal should be provided from interlocutory decisions in chambers cases, this being designed to meet the needs of the law and allow small matters of litigation to be disposed of in Kootenay without trouble and expense to the litigants. 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Martin Against Finance Minister

(Continued from Page Two.)

these charges as he had, it was therefore to be taken as a direct slur upon his fellow citizens of Vancouver. No good result could be secured by the house, appointing such a committee of inquiry as had been asked for, and he therefore proposed to vote against the resolution.

MR. BOOTH would have agreed entirely with the observations and conclusions of the Premier had they been applied to a private member of the house in such a case. It would have been a matter solely between the member and his constituents. With a minister of the crown, however, the case was different. The minister in a way representing the province as well as his own constituency and being responsible to the entire province as well as his constituents.

MR. HELMCKEN regarded the resolution before the house as in the nature of hitting below the belt, and therefore opposed it. He said that he was not in a position to say whether the resolution was a fair one or not, but he was sure that it was not a fair one.

Hon. Mr. Semlin rose to explain. He had not done so as it was through inadvertence. He certainly had intended to assure the house that there had been no deliberate falsification of the minutes.

MR. TURNER supported the resolution that he was moved to do so. He said that he was sure that the resolution was a fair one, and that he was sure that it was a fair one.

HON. MR. HENDERSON expressed himself as quite satisfied with Hon. Mr. Semlin's explanation, and he thought that the resolution was a fair one, and that he was sure that it was a fair one.

HON. MR. HUMD joined with his colleague in denying the charge of falsification. He was now acting as secretary of the executive, and he found occasionally in taking down the proceedings that alterations were sometimes made.

HON. MR. PHILLIPS, while he did not agree with the Premier's explanation, and of the resolution, held that it was eminently fair to say that Mr. Martin had failed to make out a case, because it was only when the committee asked for should commence his work that he properly presented his evidence.

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MR. MARTIN, closing the debate, expressed disappointment at the turn the debate had taken. He said that the government having apparently misinterpreted the resolution as one of condemnation, whereas in fact it was one of inquiry, investigation should be made.

MR. BAKER expressed regret that private matters of this kind should be introduced into the house. There had been too much of this before, and it was to be continued the character of no gentleman in this house would be made from these attacks, as members would have the privilege in the house of setting up and accusing other members.

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answer the question that all the province was asking. Hon. Mr. Semlin, replying, quite agreed that the offer of British Columbia troops had not been made as an advertising bluff.

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Losing Even The Speaker

Useful Vote of Presiding Officer No Longer Available for the Government.

Prospect of Full House and Opposition Majority At Next Division.

To call into service the somewhat expressive slang of the lobby, the Semlin-Cotton government during the week just closed has been duly measured for its coffin, and the announcement of its demise may now be looked for hourly.

Col. Baker could not agree with the interpretation that had been placed upon the telegram from Ottawa by the opposition. He held the answer of the Dominion to be in effect that if the province wished to raise a provincial contingent the expenditure of a special session of the government was sincere and ready to go ahead the power was given to do so.

MR. BOOTH said that he would like to see British Columbia send a thousand men to South Africa to aid the Mother Country, but the expense proposed required serious consideration. He questioned if \$250,000 would cover the cost of sending 400 men to Capetown, as the Dominion had paid \$150,000 for the Saniala.

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B. C. Year Book

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VINCIAL

SIMPSON.

1.-The annual public was held on January 18. The citizens were present. Dr. ...

Admitted wards, 83; In-patients-Port Simpson, 27; Lower Skeena, 4; Queen, 6; Naas, 2; Victoria, 1; ...

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