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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY SECOND YEAR.

THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1900

VOLUME XLII—NO. 42

Annexation Called For.

Loyalists in Cape Colony Ask Statement to Stop Mischievous Agitation

Cape Dutch Mission to England -- Rank Treachery by Raiding Boers.

Capetown, March 7.—A general movement is in progress among the Cape Dutch to obtain a settlement of the South African question consistent with the maintenance of the independence of the republics.

The argument would have more force if the Dutch had not risen in every district where there was reasonable chance of success, and it is certain that the whole British community and the actively loyal Dutch are opposed to any settlement short of annexation.

London, March 7.—The second edition of the Times this morning contains a despatch from Capetown which says there is a crying need for an explicit statement by the British ministry that nothing short of annexation is intended, in order to damp the mischievous agitation that is going on under the pretext of a demand for peace.

Carnarvon, Cape Colony, March 6.—A refugee who has arrived here from Kenhardt says that early on Wednesday, February 28, shots were exchanged with the rebels, who retired. Thereupon Commandant De Kokwe arrived with a flag of truce. A magistrate who went from Kenhardt to meet him was immediately made prisoner, and the rebels then poured into the town, hoisted a white flag, proclaimed the district to be Free State territory, sang the Volkslied and began commandeering. The magistrate was detained for trial at Bloemfontein. The refugees say the natives are being severely treated.

Capetown, March 7.—An official notification has been issued that the Queen's proclamation of February 22 regarding certain terms offered the rebels by Gen. Buller in the event of their surrendering, has been withdrawn. Those in arms against England may return to their farms and surrender their weapons and receiving a pass, but they are liable to be called to account later on.

The Arundel column has been largely reinforced.

An undated telegram from Colerberg says that the Australian regiment has been honored by a visit from Lord Kitchener.

STEYN'S VALOROUS PART.

Predicts Dire Events in Transvaal and Withdraws There From His Own Capital.

London, March 8.—Mr. A. G. Hales, the correspondent of the Daily News, who was captured by the Boers February 9 and released a few days ago at Bloemfontein, telegraphing from Sterkfontein Tuesday says:

"While I was a prisoner at Bloemfontein I had an interesting interview with President Steyn. He said the burghers were determined to fight to the last man, and that the struggle in the Free State will be child's play compared with what would follow in the Transvaal."

"President Steyn predicted that the capitulation of Pretoria would be preceded by events which would astonish Europe."

"He appointed a deputy president to remain at Bloemfontein during his absence at Pretoria in the interest of the Free State."

ACROSS TRANSVAAL LINE.

Flying Column From Zululand the Fore-runners of the British Invasion.

London, March 7.—A special despatch from Durban says a flying column of British troops, from Zululand, has entered the Transvaal and will be daily skirmishing with small parties of Boers. The force consists of mounted infantry, Natal scouts and artillery, all commanded by Major Pruden.

The first column crossed the border on February 26. It now occupies an entrenched position on Catzass Hill, nine miles within the Transvaal.

COLONIES AND WAR LOAN.

Timothy Healy to Move That They Should Contribute Money as Well as Men.

London, March 7.—In the House of Commons to-day, on the passing of the first reading of the loan bill of £35,000,000, Mr. Timothy Healy, Nationalist member for North Louth, gave notice that he would move an amendment at the second reading of the bill extending the measure so that all the self-governing colonies, who were so keen in contributing men, would also bear the burden of the war loan.

DRAFT FOR ROYAL CANADIANS.

Places Vacated by Casualties to Be Filled Without Delay.

Ottawa, March 5.—It is authoritatively stated that the government will at once arrange for drafting a hundred or hundred and twenty-two men, with three officers to take the places of the Canadians killed or permanently disabled in South Africa. It is intended that these men shall leave with the Strathcona Horse on the Monterey on March 15th. It is understood the men will be selected from each of the provinces as in the case of the first contingent.

Boers in Full Flight Before Roberts.

Horsemen Under French Surprised Them on the Flank and They Fled in Panic Leaving a Gun and Supplies.

Cunningly Devised Entrenchments Made of No Avail by Tactics of the Swiftly Moving British Cavalry and Horse Artillery.

Pursuit Now in Progress With Prospect That Another Army May Be Rounded Up--Roberts' Main Force Makes Advance Unopposed.

Osfontein, March 7.—Lord Roberts' forces advanced early this morning. French turned the southern part of the position of the Boers, who fled incontinently, leaving a gun, immense quantities of forage and their tents. He is in pursuit. The Boers on the north bank are also evacuating the position.

London, March 7.—(Midnight)—The war office has just published the following advice from Lord Roberts:

"Poplar Grove, March 7.—(Evening)—We had a successful day and have completely routed the enemy, who are in full retreat."

"The position which they occupied is extremely strong and cunningly arranged with a second line of entrenchments, which would have caused us heavy loss had a day attack been made."

"The turning movement was necessarily wide, owing to the nature of the ground, and the cavalry and artillery horses are much done up. The fighting was practically confined to the cavalry division, which as usual did excellent work, and Gen. French reports that the horse artillery batteries did great execution among the enemy."

"Our casualties were about 50. I regret to say that Lieut. Hewick was killed and Lieut. Bailey was severely wounded, both of them with the Launcers. Lieut. Descepsigny of the Second Life Guards was severely wounded. The remaining casualties will be telegraphed to-morrow."

"Generals Dewet and Delarey commanded the Boer forces."

The following despatch had been previously received from Lord Roberts:

"Osfontein, March 7.—(4.30 p. m.)—Our operations to-day promise to be a great success."

"The enemy occupied a position four miles north and eleven miles south of the Modder river. I placed Gen. Colville's division on the north bank, and Generals Kelly-Kenny and Tucker's divisions, with cavalry, on the south bank. The cavalry division succeeded in bearing back the enemy's flank, opening a road for the Sixth Division, which is advancing, without having been obliged to fire a shot up to the present time."

"The enemy are in full retreat towards the north and east. They are being closely followed by cavalry, horse artillery and mounted infantry, while Tucker's Seventh Division, Colville's Ninth Division and the Cavalry Brigade, under Pole-Carew, are making their way across the river at Poplar's Drift, where I propose to place my headquarters this evening."

"Our casualties will, I trust, be few, as the enemy was quite unprepared for being attacked by the flank and having their communications with Bloemfontein threatened."

"The Boers do not yet appear to appreciate the military value of the Boer position, which was able to strike so swiftly in this affair that the enemy had to abandon a gun, much forage and large quantities of camp equipment."

DECISIVE BATTLE WANTED. The Standard cautions Englishmen against rising to a height of serene contentment which the actual position does not justify and thus measure the situation: Large number of the Boers are still in the north bank, and we have a number of our own men, some of whom we want them to do is to stand again, for it is only in a real stand-up fight that we can inflict the losses which would eventually lead the defeated to sue for peace. Lord Roberts has gained a success, but it must not be regarded as a victory until we know what damage has been inflicted and what prisoners have been taken.

ORDERED TO ST. HELENA. The military authorities have decided that Gen. Cronje and the other prisoners shall be sent immediately to the island of St. Helena, there to remain until the end of the war. Lord Roberts has chosen Lord Bathurst, colonel of militia at the front, to command the party to St. Helena. It is also asserted that the cabinet resolved neither to propose nor to entertain a proposal at the present juncture for an exchange of prisoners.

A CRITIC AND PROPHECY. London, March 8.—Spencer Wilkinson in the Morning Post, says: Yesterday's events are not quite conclusive. It cannot be the Boer game to be beaten. Their only chance is to collect the bulk of their forces for a decisive battle. If they have not men or spirit to stand up to Lord Roberts, their case is hopeless. It begins to look indeed as if my original estimate of the strength of the enemy's forces—about 50,000—was not far wrong. In that case the game is up, for they must have lost 10,000 or more of the original 50,000. The escape of Lord Roberts' force is a serious matter. This is not indeed in the least disappointing. A good general is not satisfied with the retreat of his enemy. He wishes to destroy them.

NEW ATTACK ON RHODES. London Paper Says His Loyalty Depends on Its Value as a Commercial Asset.

London, March 8.—The Morning Leader says: "Of one thing we may be certain, Cecil Rhodes, who knows Africa, has made up his mind that the annexation of the republics will not bring the lasting peace which our imperialists prophesy. Rhodes is so sure this will not happen that he is prepared to set to work at once on the fortifications of Kimberley."

We are inclined to think Rhodes is preparing for a possible armed conflict with the Imperial faction, which he thought of at the time of the Boer war. The Dutch elector, whose vote is already threatened, or of the Kaffir laborer, who seems doomed to virtual slavery. This is not indeed in the least surprising. Rhodes has consistently maintained a policy of Africa for the Afrikaners, and on his lips the latter word is synonymous with annexation. He will be loyal to the English flag just so long as it continues to be a valuable commercial asset."

Cautions.—Beware of substitutes for Pain-Killer. There is nothing "just as good." Disregard for cuts, sprains and bruises. Internally for all bowel disorders. As a substitute, there is no one Pain-Killer. Perry's. 25c. and 50c.

LOGS ON THE PHILIPPINES. The Senator Has Made a Great Speech to Some Effect Not Stated.

Washington, March 7.—The announcement that Senator Lodge would deliver a speech on the Philippine question drew to the senate every senator now in the city and to the galleries an unusually large number of auditors. Mr. Lodge is chairman of the Philippine committee and a prominent member of the committee on foreign relations and has studied the Philippines exhaustively. He was expected to present an able addition to the literature of the great problem which now confronts congress, and the American people, and neither his colleagues in the senate nor his other auditors were disappointed in his address. He was overwhelmed with congratulations from both sides of the chamber.

Cronje Goes To St Helena

Boer (Prisoners Will Be Held There Until the End of the War.

A Stand Up Fight With Roberts Would Help to Hasten the End.

London, March 8.—4 a.m.—Lord Roberts wired yesterday morning from Osfontein and in the evening from Poplar Grove, 14 miles eastward. By an exposition of the elementary principle of strategy the Boer positions 15 miles long have been flanked and their holders have been obliged to retire in confusion consequent upon hasty withdrawal. Nothing was done by Lord Roberts to disturb the symmetry, or the deadly ingenuity of the Boer trenches in front of him. He marched out infantry estimated, from the commands named, at 30,000 men, and sent 10,000 horsemen and horse artillery in a bold sweep around the Boer left, whereupon the Boer centre and right began to waver. Fifty British fell when the cavalry came into contact with the Boers.

STRENGTH OF THE FORCES. The correspondents differ as to the enemy's strength. The Daily Mail's representative thinks the Boers number something more than 40,000. The Daily News man estimates them at 10,000. As these figures come from different sources it is clear that Lord Roberts' force was overwhelmingly superior. He can scarcely have fewer than 45,000 men, much more available as the Cavalry Brigade reached him from Lord Methuen on Tuesday. Lord Methuen now commands only volunteers and the local force in Kimberley, some of whom have gone toward Mafeking.

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DR. PRICE'S CREAM Baking Powder. MADE FROM PURE HEALTHFUL GRAPE CREAM OF TARTAR. Cream of tartar is the acid of the grape, highly refined and ground to a powder. Fruit acids are among the most wholesome and important constituents of food. In grape cream of tartar is combined the most useful of leavening agents and a healthful food article. This is the material from which Dr. Price's Baking Powder is made. It is many times more expensive than materials used in many baking powders, but it makes a more efficient baking powder and adds healthfulness to the food.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO. Note.—In imitation baking powders poisonous alum is used instead of healthful cream of tartar. Alum powders seriously affect the health.

When Buller Drove Boers. Irish Badge Of Gallantry. The Queen and The People. Her Majesty Drives in State Making a Gala Day in London. Proposed Visit to Ireland Striking Instance of Devotion to Duty. To Commemorate Heroism of Her Irish Soldier's in South Africa. NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL. Cabinet Representation Evidently No Nearer—Pacific Cable Prospects Not Bright. Ottawa, March 7.—In the House of Commons to-day Col. Prior asked again if it is the intention of the government to give cabinet representation to British Columbia. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, however, declined to state the government's intention. Recruiting for the Mounted Police is to commence at all points. The Canadians wounded in South Africa are doing well. Lord Minto reviewed Strathcona's Horse to-day. The people of Exbury presented a beautiful flag. Sir Charles Tupper and Dr. Borden made excellent speeches. An interesting discussion on the Pacific cable question took place in the house to-day. Mr. Mulock read a recent message from the Australian governments showing a disposition in some of the colonies to grant concessions to the Eastern Extension Company. Mr. Mulock said the position of affairs is critical.

DR. A. W. CHASE'S 25c. CATARRH CURE... 25c. It is sent direct to the diseased parts by the Improved Blower. It is a most potent and effective remedy for Catarrh of the Bladder, Prostate, Uterus, Vagina, and all other mucous membranes. It is sold by all druggists and by the Proprietors, Dr. A. W. Chase & Co., Toronto and Buffalo.

Financing The War.

Transvaal to Contribute Largely to Its Cost But How Not Stated.

Whole Public Given Opportunity to Subscribe for the Loan Required.

The Stay-at-Homes' Chance--Miserly Foreigner Enriches the Exchequer.

London, March 5.—During the course of his address in presenting the financial budget to-day the Chancellor of the Exchequer, referring to his previously expressed opinion regarding the capacity of the Transvaal to bear a reasonable share of the expense of the war, said he still adhered to that opinion, but he was bound to say that the events of the last few months and the claims which would undoubtedly be made by the loyal colonists of Natal for compensation for losses sustained at the hands of the Boers and the enormous increase in expenditure since he last spoke, had made him feel that the capacity of the Transvaal to bear the cost of the war was a less important factor, though it will still be a more potent factor than he estimated in October last.

The statement presented by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach shows that an expenditure of £154,052,000 was provided for in the budget of 1900-1901. The exchequer account of 1899-1900 would have a surplus of upwards of £5,000,000, but that of the complementary year estimates of £28,000,000 made the expenditure exceed the revenue by £17,700,000.

From the abounding revenue of the year £5,000,000 surplus was available towards the war expenditure, leaving a remarkable testimony to the extraordinary industrial activity, and commercial prosperity of 1899, which was, he hoped, destined to be a long series of prosperous years.

The improvement was due to the style and progress of business and not to the war, which had in the meantime been a significant trade. The increase in foreign trade, both in imports and exports, was more than the previous year. There had been a remarkable increase in the receipts from the death duties, totalling £17,441,000, of which £2,271,000 was from the estate of a millionaire, including £900,000 from the estate of one man, a foreigner, who lived on fifteen shillings a day in a West End London house.

Explaining the proposed loan, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said he believed it would be a mistake to try to raise a permanent debt which the nation could not pay off at par until 1923. He thought it would be better to raise the £25,000,000 by reserving, say, in amounts not exceeding £5,000,000 for a further issue of treasury bonds, to be offered for sale by bonds or stocks. He had reason to believe it would be possible to make such an issue on very favorable terms and he hoped to do so in a way not to insure profits for the few great and wealthy persons, but bring the whole public into the war loan and enable it to be of some assistance to the country.

The Chancellor desired a resolution passed enabling him to borrow in the manner described without fettering him as to the precise terms of the issue. He did not propose to present any such resolution at present, but he would be glad to do so, before they knew the total liabilities, and especially before they knew how much could be expected from the Transvaal. He added: "We have ample means to meet what might fall on us in the way of loans, but I have shown that they are equal to their forefathers, and the great colonies have eagerly taxed themselves with money and money for the Empire. Should those who are sitting at home show themselves to be financial cowards we leave the matter in the hands of the House. They being assured they will begrudge no effort and abate from no sacrifice which the honor of the country and duty to the Empire demands."

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman said the opposition would give every facility for the passage of the necessary resolution. He complimented Sir Michael Hicks-Beach on the "straightforwardness" of his financial policy, and proposed to deal with the financial difficulties, and said he thought the government would be met in the House. Very properly, he added, a considerable proportion of the burden would fall on the shoulders of the income tax payers. Timothy Healy, Irish Nationalist, protested against Ireland having to pay anything towards the war expenses, asserting that not a penny had been expended in Ireland. Germany, the United States and Brazil all had a share except Ireland. Let the diamond stock brokers, said Mr. Healy, "those who are making money out of the war, pay the cost. Let the colonies share the burden, Canada and Australia, who are so keen for war."

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Liberal, complimented the Chancellor of the exchequer on the soundness of his financial principles, but said the country would like to know how the government intended to insure that the Transvaal would pay a large percentage of the cost of the war. He added: It is said we are fighting for liberty and freedom; that there is a prospect of millions like Mr. Beit and Mr. Rhodes having the taxation of the Transvaal at their own disposal. Of course, the government would not think of oppressing by a centralized taxation from England, and while England is being taxed, the government intends to realize on the vague, misty expectations of gentlemen who will be putting millions into their pockets as a result of the war. How are these men to be made to pay? If it is going to be free and independent taxation, I do not believe the Imperial government will get it. But if all these burdens are imposed on the British people they should take some security by getting control of the funds in South Africa.

The House this evening has adopted the government's budget proposals. The rush to clear goods from bond con-

tinued to-day, the London custom house alone taking in £480,000, sixteen times the amount of an ordinary day's clearance. On Saturday £281,000 was paid in duty. As the day progressed the officials were wholly unable to cope with the enormous business and had to requisition the police to turn back the crowds of merchants. Similar scenes were witnessed at Liverpool, Glasgow and other large towns.

STEYN MOST TO BLAME.

Free State President Stiffened Kruger to Provoke the British to Arms.

Capetown, March 5.—There are no further details of the conference of Presidents Kruger and Steyn respecting peace negotiations. Africans in London have never ceased to regard Steyn as more directly responsible than Kruger for the outbreak of the war, and they now assert that he will be the first to suggest retirement from a hopeless conflict. Steyn, in their estimation, is an ambitious schemer without Kruger's sturdy qualities and inflexibility.

Horsemen Head For Mafeking

Force Despatched From Kimberley to Make End of Boer Investment.

British Troops Make It Convenient to Pass That Way to Pretoria.

Capetown, March 5.—A strong force of British, including the Kimberley Light Horse, is marching northward from Kimberley. It is expected that the crossing of the Vaal river will be disputed at Fouries Spruit, where the railway bridge has been wrecked. London, March 5.—As an incident of the British main objective, which is at last clearly outlined as being Pretoria, the relief of Mafeking by a force from the south may be expected any day. Col. Plumer's force on the north seeming incapable of accomplishing it.

SAPPHO IS TOO LOUD.

New York Police Court Puts Veto on Olga Nethersole's Play and Wal-lack's Closes.

New York, March 5.—Wallack's Theatre remained closed to-night. Olga Nethersole, who has been playing the leading part in Sapho, Hamilton Revels, the leading man, Marcus Meyer, manager of the company, and Theodore Moss, lessee of the theatre, were each held in \$500 bail for trial in special session to-day by Magistrate Mot of the Central street police court. They were ordered to produce a play that offended public decency, the complaints being made from the office of the district attorney. The parties defended were paroled in custody of their counsel until Wednesday when they will again appear in Central street court and give bail for each.

Col. Gardiner at once gave information of the decision to Chief of Police Devery. The chief magistrate notified the authorities interested that every participant in the play would be arrested if radical changes were not made. The required changes in the play could not be made on such short notice and the house was closed for the night.

SEVEN BURNED TO DEATH.

Victims of Fire at Sailors' Lodging House in New York.

New York, March 5.—Seven lives were lost in yesterday's fire in a ship lodging house, the Garfield house, at 44, 46 and 48, New Bowery. Of five bodies at the morgue these three were identified: C. Buttie, John Clark and James. The bodies of the other two were not identified. Stephen Kearney and Martin Gallagher, have since died.

BULLER'S CASUALTIES.

London, March 5.—Gen. Buller's revised list of casualties from February 14 to February 27 gives 93 men killed, 684 wounded and 25 missing.

CAVALRY IN SKIRMISH.

While Tracking Party of Boers They Are Attacked in Rear by Another Small Body.

Ostfontein, March 5.—Gen. French yesterday evening noticed a body of Boers trekking northwest, and sent a squadron of his light horse to keep in touch with them. This morning the troops were followed by about 150 Boers, who advanced around a hill, but retired precipitately when the British shelled them. The Boers then opened a heavy fire, which Maxine and also began firing from a kopje in the centre of the position with a long-range 15-pounder. The Boers' movement was temporarily stopped.

BULLER'S AWFUL TASK.

Examination of Boer Positions Makes Work of His Force Seem Almost Superhuman.

London, March 6.—The Times publishes the following despatch from Ladysmith, dated March 2: "Until I had crossed the Tugela I did not realize the nature of the ground and the system of the Boer rifle entrenchments. Of course, the government positions were ever forced by 15,000 men, who were attacking the entrenchments. It convinces me that the British infantry is unequalled, and that the relief column accomplished an almost superhuman task."

RELY ON AFRIKANERS.

Boer Leaders Look to Rebellion in Cape Colony as Only Chance For Term.

Brussels, March 6.—The Transvaal agency here confirms the statement that President Kruger is ready to conclude peace with Great Britain on the basis of the independence of the two republics, and that otherwise the struggle will continue until the relief column. The agency believes that the Afrikaner element in Cape Colony and Natal will rebel rather than allow annexation.

Bushmen to Track Boers

Latest Call to Australia Looks to the Suppression of Guerillas.

Raiding in Northern Cape Colony Calls for the Extension of Martial Law.

Cecil Rhodes and Commander at Kimberley Disagreed as to Policy.

London, March 6, 5 a.m.—Mafeking is to be relieved as soon as the British force already on the way from Kimberley can raise the siege. This force is described as strong. The Kimberley Light Horse is mentioned as a component. In view of the fact that Kimberley Light Horse is under the control of the De Beers company Lord Roberts' visit to Kimberley probably had to do with an arrangement with Cecil Rhodes to use this company's troops.

Mr. Rhodes and Col. Kekewich have had differences of policy. It appears that the Kimberley Light Horse, which did not end with the relief of Kimberley. "What shall I do with him?" Col. Kekewich is said to have said. The president beseeched the Boers to reply, according to a story circulated at the clubs: "Put him in chains."

Fresh intelligence as to what Lord Roberts is doing has ceased again. This silence is taken to mean that something has happened about to happen. Boer raiders are uncommonly active on the northwestern section of Cape Colony, when they are stirring up the Dutch. Martial law has consequently been declared.

Mr. Chamberlain's request for 2,500 additional Italian battalions is understood to be explained by the fact that the war office requires this force for the purpose of irreconcilable Boers who, according to the intelligence department, must have been quietly collecting great quantities of ammunition and stores in the mountains of the north of the Transvaal, where they are preparing to carry on a guerrilla warfare.

UNDER MARTIAL LAW.

High Commissioner Extends Proclamation to Another Disaffected District.

Capetown, March 5.—Sir Alfred Milner issued the following proclamation: "Whereas the enemy's forces have invaded the districts of Prieska, Kenhardt, and the districts of Barkley West, and whereas many British subjects have taken up arms, and whereas it is necessary to maintain order and suppress rebellion, now, therefore, martial law is hereby proclaimed in these districts."

PASSENGERS TAKE MERRY.

Great Events of the War Arouse Enthusiasm on Atlantic Liner.

New York, March 5.—The morning papers tell of a "war incident" in the first cabin of the steamship Lucania, which arrived in port yesterday. The Lucania took a pilot of Scotland Lightship on Saturday evening. He took on board a big bundle of New York papers, telling of the capture of Cronje, relief of Ladysmith and the other victories of the British soldiers in Africa since the Lucania sailed from Liverpool. When the British passengers heard the news, they were so delighted that they grabbed the papers, devoured the news and made the passengers hear the news over the probable outcome of the war became more heated than ever and lasted far into the night in the smoking room.

Among the passengers was Sir Wernan D. Pearson, M.P. In his enthusiasm he privately told the steward to see that at breakfast next morning each first-class passenger should be supplied with champagne. When the saloon passengers heard of this, they were so delighted that they grabbed the table cloth and used it as a napkin with which to fill the glass. Dr. J. L. Egbert, of Springfield, Mass., arose and made the passenger speech of the day, in the conclusion of which he proposed the health of the Queen. The breakfast party broke up with cheers for the Queen. President McKinley and Lord Roberts.

DRIVING THEM HOME.

Boers Rapidly Vanishing From Northern Cape Colony as the British Appear in Force.

New York, March 5.—Specials from London to the morning papers thus summarize the South African war situation as gleaned from the correspondents at the front.

The Boers are in full retreat from Cape Colony to Orange River. General Clements has driven the rear guard of the Boers across Colesberg bridge, and is preparing to invade the Free State. The Boers are in force at Norval's Point.

General Brabant attacked rebels in an entrenched position near Jamestown last night. The Boers are gradually rendering their position untenable.

British reinforcements have been received. It is probable that the entire district south of the Orange River will be cleared of the enemy and pacified in the course of a few weeks.

LADYSMITH'S BRAVE STORY.

Correspondents Give to the World Pathetic Incidents of the Siege.

Durban, March 2.—The newspaper correspondents who have reached here from Ladysmith say that the enthusiasm of the garrison and inhabitants of the beleaguered town was intense when the relief column arrived. Many people left the hospital, and even the women and children went forth to greet the new comers. They are so noticeable that the latter were even more demonstrative, cheering the women and children, whom they were glad to have saved.

The correspondents believe that the garrison could have held out until April, though relations would necessarily have

CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES



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WEILER BROS., Victoria, B. C.

been reduced to a minimum. The men of the garrison will require a rest and the horses are much weakened. The correspondents pay a high tribute to the courage and heroism of the women. Never a complaint was heard from them in spite of the unrelenting period of irreconcilable Boers who, according to their endurance and courage were beyond praise.

Sad sights were often witnessed when the spare ration was being drawn. Children would pathetically seek milk for their sick mothers. The women and children were estimated at 800. Though there was much sickness arising from the horse-meat diet and absence of farinaceous foods, the epidemic period was safely passed. The garrison is suffering from typhoid fever.

Gen. Buller entered the town at noon escorted only by his staff. His bronze appearance was very striking. He said he had not entered a bed for three weeks. The Boers exchanged shots about to happen. He saw a few corpses lying around.

It is believed the Boers are retreating to Glencoe.

The correspondents eulogize Generals White and Hunter.

Roberts Sights Another Prize.

His Force Strongly Placed Holds Boers in Precarious Position.

London, March 6.—A despatch from Ostfontein, dated Saturday, March 4, says: "Lord Roberts' army now occupies a most advantageous position. The Sixth Division under Gen. Kelly-Kenny is posted on the right and holds all the kopjes for a distance of five miles south of the Modder river. The Seventh Division under General Tucker, is in the centre, immediately south of the river, and General Coetzee with the Sixth Brigade under General French is posted on the left front and the mounted infantry under Col. Ridley-Martin on the right front. The country around consists of low hills, with smaller bodies of water and isolated kopjes.

"A body of the enemy has taken up a position on one side of the latter, a flat topped hill, and has broken only by a narrow strip of the river five miles beyond General French, who today took out horse artillery and shelled them."

"Another force of 4,000 strong holds an isolated group of kopjes south of the Modder and in front of the Sixth Division. The Boers report they are using pick and shovel industriously. Military opinion is that their present position is merely screens more easily defeated."

"The Boer right consists of a high, long mountain on the northern side of the river. Apparently the space between the mountain and the river has been filled in. The Boers have covered more ground. A few days ago their left rested on the northern kopjes, which have now been extended two miles further south, while six small kopjes, which stand in the line between the centre and the river, form a bridge behind which the Boers move forward by a series of entrenchments. Their position, however, is that it can easily be turned in either direction.

"The capture of the dam and water above the recent rains having nearly filled the dams.

A despatch to the Daily News from Modder River, dated Monday, 6th, and describing the Boer position in front of Lord Roberts, says: "The Boers seem to be busy entrenching. They have mounted eight guns on high kopjes."

"None of the military experts endeavor to favour Lord Roberts' plans, but it is suggested that he is quite willing to give the Boers time to assemble all their men in order to deliver a smashing blow more effectively."

"The round robin in favor of annexation of the Transvaal and Free State which is being promoted among the supporters of the government in the House of Commons continues to receive signatures. The memorial to Mr. Balfour affirms that the time has arrived for plain speaking inside and outside of parliament, and that Lord Salisbury's words are being construed into a pledge of annexation, and Lord Roberts' proclamation into a promise of no concession in Africa."

Mr. A. G. Hales, the Daily News correspondent, who was captured by the Boers on February 9, was released at Bloemfontein and put through the lines near Sterkstroom. He telegraphed that the Boers are demoralized, but adds that they have been treating the British wounded splendidly.

It is reported here that at a recent meeting of the Free State radicals at Bloemfontein a radical difference of opinion appeared, and the majority was in favor of peace at any rate, but the minority, including the president, advocated a fight to the bitter end.

London, March 6.—A despatch from Ostfontein says that according to the Boer prisoners another important British success in the cause of President Steyn has been achieved, leaving a proclamation to be issued.

BOERS PETITIONING.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 5.—A call has been issued by the Boer sympathizers here for a mass meeting on Wednesday night to frame a petition to the United States government asking that the United States intervene in the interest of peace in the Transvaal.

KRUGER'S CRUEL CANT.

In Religion's Name Beseeching Burglars to Make Further Sacrifices in Hopeless Cause.

London, March 5.—A special to the Times from Johannesburg, dated March 4, says that persistent reports continue to prevail that the Transvaal government has opened negotiations looking to the securing of peace. On the other hand it is asserted that the Boers will make a stand at Glencoe and Laing's Nek, and that in the meantime the entrenchments at Pretoria are being extended in anticipation of a siege.

A conference between the Boer pres-

ident at Bloemfontein, which is likely to make peace overtures, those Free Staters not wishing for peace breaking into the Transvaal and helping to make a stand, which most of the British military critics now point out as constituting the most inefficient and deciding feature of the war.

London, March 7.—A despatch to the Standard from Ostfontein, dated Sunday, March 4, says: "Gen. Joubert is reported to be in supreme command of the Boer forces."

LINSEED OIL BURNED.

Chicago, March 6.—Fire entirely destroyed the building of the American Linseed Oil Co. to-day. The loss is put at \$300,000. Seventy-five men were at work when the blaze was discovered, and all escaped without serious injury.

PLANING MILL BURNED.

St. Catharines, March 5.—The large planing mill of Wilson & Co. was destroyed by fire yesterday. The loss is about \$300,000. It was insured for about half.

New Rebellion in Cape Colony

Three Thousand Rebels Now Under Arms—Church Calls for Independence.

General Rising of Dutch in Several Districts Calls for Larger British Force.

Capetown, March 6.—Nearly the whole of the Dutch population of Prieska and Kenhardt districts are in rebellion. Many of the Dutch from neighboring districts are reported to have joined them, and Lucas Steinkamp, commanding the Boers, is reported as marching on Carnarvon. It is believed that Cordenia and Victoria West will rise. It is thought that the total number of men in arms will exceed 3,000. The general opinion of loyalists is that a strong force of British will be required, as a reverse would spread the rebellion.

The Dutch church has issued a manifesto in favor of the Boer republics retaining complete independence. Colesberg, March 6.—A British advance camp is now at Orlogpoort river, several miles beyond Ackertans.

NATAL CLEAR OF THE ENEMY.

Whites Exhausted Garrison Moving to the Sea—Ladysmith in Deploable Condition.

London, March 6.—A despatch from Lord Roberts says: "General Buller reports Natal as practically clear of the enemy, and that he cannot hear of any former forces anywhere. The Boers left some ammunitions full of their sick and wounded, from which the garrison had been taken for transport services."

Surgeon Trewer cables from Ladysmith, dated Saturday, March 4, that the Boers are now in the place in a deplorable state, and there are 800 cases of typhoid fever. Lush supplies of comforts are now in the place. The Boers have left and are arriving at the Mool River camp, where the troops will remain several days, after which they will go by the south. They are emaciated and exhausted. They say the road to Colenso presents scenes that exceed anything those depicted in Dante's Inferno. Dead men and animals are lying mutilated and putrefied in the trenches formerly occupied by the Boers, and all the air with a sickening stench. In cases where hurried burial had been attempted, the rains have washed the earth away and out of the earth stink ghastly legs and arms of dead burghers.

Ladysmith, March 5.—Three regiments of cavalry, reconnoitering northwards to-day, saw a body of Boers behind Popworth Hill, after a long tussle, which were ready to leave promptly moved before the troops reached them, and the Boers blew up a covert behind them as they went.

The British passed a large body of Boers near Popworth. The Boers opened a heavy rifle fire, but the British did not press the attack and the Boer fire ceased on the British retiring.

The Boers showed many evidences of the presence of women. An auction was held on things brought from Boer camps. A bundle of grapes sold for 25 shillings, a plate of tomatoes 18 shillings, a dozen matches brought 16 shillings, a package of cigarettes 25 shillings, 50 coffee and a quarter of a pound of plug tobacco 40 shillings.

NOT ACQUIRING DELAGOA.

Official Denial of Negotiations For Securing the Boers' Back Door.

London, March 6.—In the House of Commons to-day, the parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, Mr. Brodrick, replying to questions connected with the war, said no negotiations were proceeding between Great Britain and Portugal regarding the acquisition of Delagoa Bay or any other port of Portuguese East Africa.

The Boer prisoners at Capetown, he added, totalled 627 men, exclusive of those captured at Paardeberg, on which Lord Roberts in other engagements.

GUARDING THE OZAR.

Discovery of Nihilist Plot Calls For Extra Precautions.

St. Petersburg, March 6.—The recent discovery of Russian and Polish Nihilist plots have led to renewed police precautions. On all the Russian frontier the police are exercising extreme vigilance, and are guarding the frontiers with the utmost care. The entire route of the Czar's visits to barracks, theatres and public functions is being guarded by secret police, while the guards along the Winter Palace and along the Neva Quay are particularly numerous.

A SWORD FOR KRUGER.

Berlin, March 6.—Veterans of the war of 1884 at Solingen, Prussia, will present President Kruger with a sword of honor. A movement is on foot to present a sword of honor to Major Albrecht, the German artist, who surrendered to Lord Roberts with General Cronje at Paardeberg.

Miners Entombed.

Fifty Dead Bodies Already Recovered and Many More in the Ruins.

Those Who Escaped the Falling Debris in Danger of Suffocation.

Explosion Brings Calamity to Every Home in Little Mining Town.

Fire Creek, Va., March 6.—The most disastrous disaster ever known in the New River district occurred in the Red Ash mine shortly after the miners went to work this morning. Although most heroic work by the rescuing party has been going on incessantly all day it is impossible to-night to estimate the full extent of the loss of life and property. More than 50 dead bodies have already been taken out of the mine. It is thought to-night that a least 45 miners are yet entombed in the wrecked mine.

The Red Ash mine is a large drift, and the explosion occurred near the entrance, which was thus closed by the falling slate, entombing a large number of miners. The scene of the disaster is located in this place and Thurmond, on the north branch of the Chesapeake & Ohio railway, and every assistance possible was rendered by the railway company, and by the adjoining mining towns. Relief parties from great distances arrived as soon as possible, but the disaster was so new, with a corps of experts and many workmen, has been on the ground during the day rendering all assistance possible and devoting his attention more toward relief than to an official investigation as to the cause of the disaster.

The first successful strike of the rescuers was about 10 a.m., when ten bodies were recovered. Seven of them were already dead and other three men were lying. As the miners were located at different places in the drift and the explosion caused the falling slate to block the rooms in the different parts of the mine the work of rescue met with one great obstruction after another.

The mine is one of the largest in West Virginia and was very heavily timbered in the different drifts. It was for this reason it was feared that those who had not been killed by falling debris at the time of the explosion, would be pinned by these connected timbers and surface dip from spontaneous combustion, and into the mines by engines on the surface, which were kept working after the explosion. The largest of the rescuers was about 10 a.m., when ten bodies were recovered. Seven of them were already dead and other three men were lying. As the miners were located at different places in the drift and the explosion caused the falling slate to block the rooms in the different parts of the mine the work of rescue met with one great obstruction after another.

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Entombed.

and Bodies Already Buried in Ruins.

Who Escaped the Falling Rocks in Danger of Suffocation.

Who Brings Calamity to Home in Little Mining Town.

ok Va., March 6.—The most mine explosion ever known in the river district, occurred at the mine shortly after the miners took this morning. Although the work by the rescuing party went on incessantly all day it failed to-night to estimate the full loss of life and property.

90 dead bodies have already been counted and the number of the rescue 75 or more. It is thought that at least 45 miners perished in the wrecked mine. Ash mine is a large drift, and on occurred near the entrance, thus closed by the falling rocks a large number of miners of the disaster in the West and Thurmond, on the south the Chesapeake & Ohio railway assistance possible was the railway company and by mining towns. Belief parent distances arrived as soon as State mine inspector Black a corps of experts and many has been on the ground during undering all assistance possible in his attention more toward an official investigation as of the disaster.

A successful strike of the res about 10 a.m., when ten bodies were discovered. Seven of them were found and other three men were rescued. The bodies were found in the drift and the explosion the falling slate to block in the different parts of the work of rescue met with obstruction after another. West and was very heavily timbered and it was feared that this was one of the largest and most ferent drifts. It was for this reason that those who had been killed by falling debris at the explosion, would be pinned connected timbers and suffer suffocation. Air was pumped into the shaft by engines on the surface were kept working after the but it was feared that air pumped into the drift only a space as the coal, stone and t off all possibility of reaching the pumps and all other things in the mine were demolished everything had to be done through arrangements of the surface. The men got under headway in of rescuing they reached the in less than an hour, but thereafter difficulties after that time, when that telegrams were sent to ery, Charleston and other places, nurses and caskets, but a greater part of the day there only for the caskets. The accident occurred an hour or more would have been en in the mine. The estimates of the number of the population in this mining village is only 5000 miners and the culm piles will most every little house in the own.

EAT FROM CAPE COLONY.

British Successes with Slight Loss to Troops Engaged.

March 6.—The war office has the following despatch from herts: stein, March 6.—Gatacre occurred yesterday. The lines of north and west will now be re-al Clements is at Jonbert's sidon beyond Colobers. Duke of Marlborough, with the company of the Imperial Yeos left Capetown for Nauauere in northern Cape Colony are creter to the Orange Free State. Mission of Stormont, the Gat-railroad communication with Cle-e Colobers, for though the Boers wrecked the railroad, it is un-der that it can be quickly re-estab-lished. The entrance of British troops into the State will be greatly facilitated. Mission gained by General Brs-Dordrecht is reported to be ex-ceeding strong. According to the Boers numbers alone are to retreat from Dordrecht un-dermined. It also reports a of a white flag by the Boers. They deliberately fired at close range on a stretcher party.

British casualties during the two 30 wounded and 12 or 13 killed. The Boers losses are un-known, but the arduous fighting and fatigue, the colonials have behav-very bravely.

RATHCONA'S OFFICERS.

March 6.—The following off-icers of Lord Strathcona and Mount a corps were assigned to-day: R. Steele, of the Northwest Mounted Police, to be Lieutenant, with the same temporary rank as a captain; and Lieutenants R. A. R. A. Belcher, M. Jarvis and Snyder to be Majors.

Will Nome Be Port of Entry?

That Question Disturbing Shipping Men on Both Sides of the Line.

Amur Making Special Trip to Skagway—Movements in Marine Circles.

Determined efforts are being made by American rivals of Canadian Coast cities to induce the United States government to refrain from making Cape Nome a port of entry; and the reason to fear that their vice-pulling may be crowned with success, though it is not thought they will injure Canadian shipping concerns.

The Portland Oregonian in its issue of Saturday last published the following despatch:

Washington, March 2.—The attention called to the advertisement of Canadian steamship lines soliciting freight to be shipped to Cape Nome. This was done upon the erroneous assumption that Cape Nome would be made a sub-port of entry of the United States. The route of these shipments, it was intended, should be from Seattle to Vancouver by rail, a distance of 50 or 60 miles, thence to Cape Nome by steamer, thus evading, according to the officials, our laws, which prohibit foreign vessels from carrying goods from one port in the United States to another. The department, in view of this fact, has decided, for the present, at least, not to allow any sub-ports of entry, leaving St. Michael the nearest port to the new gold fields. The effect of this action will be to preserve the trade with Cape Nome to American vessels.

The local company operating the steamer Alpha is not at all alarmed over the foregoing, and is continuing to make preparations for the steamer's departure with cargo. A large quantity of freight shipped from Seattle is awaiting the Alpha at Skagway, and this fact is taken as conclusive proof that even the United States people themselves do not consider that the Washington government will refuse to make Cape Nome a port of entry. But even if the intention of the State for the Colonies, covering to you and to the citizens of Victoria Her Majesty's high appreciation of the loyal and dutiful sentiments expressed in your said communication. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant.

JOSEPH POPE, Under-Secretary of State, His Worship the Mayor, Victoria, B.C. (Enclosure.)

Mr. Chamberlain to Lord Minto, Downing Street, Feb. 18, 1900. Sir: Referring to your telegram of the 18th ultimo, I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch from the British consul at Victoria, British Columbia, in relation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, covering to you and to the citizens of Victoria Her Majesty's high appreciation of the loyal and dutiful sentiments expressed in your said communication. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant.

CHIEF ENGINEER CENSURED. An Officer of the Manauense Found Guilty of Drunkenness.

A despatch from San Francisco says that the British consul court of inquiry, which investigated the charges of incompetency and drunkenness against Chief Engineer McDonald, of the steamer Manauense, which passed up to Nanaimo yesterday, has found the chief engineer guilty of the charge of incompetency, but finds him guilty of drunkenness, and negligence, though not of gross character as to warrant the suspension of his position. The Manauense has just been released from the United States transport service.

TACOMA ARRIVES. Northern Pacific Liner Reached the Outer Wharf at Midnight.

Just as the steamer Manauense, recently relieved from its trip to Seattle, leaving the outer wharf for Nanaimo, where she loads coal for the Hawaiian Islands, another steamer, the Tacoma, engaged in conveying Uncle Sam's troops to the Philippines, the Tacoma, of the Northern Pacific Company's service, has just arrived at the outer wharf at midnight. She had a full cargo, two sets of mail, and a large number of passengers, including a number of British troops.

MINDERS' ASSESSMENT WORK. Order-Council to Elucidate the Meaning of the Statute.

An extra of the British Columbia Gazette issued yesterday contains the following proclamation: "Whereas there is doubt as to the true intent of section 5 of the Mineral Act, Amendment Act, 1895, and of section 36 of the Mineral Act, Amendment Act, 1895, in relation to the recording of assessment work and the payment of money, together amounting to the value of \$500, and the time or times when such records may be made before a certificate of improvements for a mineral claim may be issued. And whereas the Minister of Mines, the honorable the Minister of Mines, has deemed it expedient to refer the question to the Order-Council to Elucidate the Meaning of the Statute. And whereas the Order-Council has deemed it expedient to refer the question to the Order-Council to Elucidate the Meaning of the Statute. And whereas the Order-Council has deemed it expedient to refer the question to the Order-Council to Elucidate the Meaning of the Statute.

total amount of work done in each year since the date of record of the mineral claim, and the value thereof for each such year, also the value of the work as well as the years for which he has already received and recorded a certificate or certificates of work."

RATES ARE REDUCED. Passengers for the Boundary Country Have Something to Thank the C. P. R. For.

The Canadian Pacific railway company, in taking over the Columbia & Western extension from Robson to Greenwood, from the construction company, has made a very marked reduction on the passenger rates hitherto prevailing on that much-travelled branch. The transfer took place on the 1st inst., when the local rate from Robson to Grand Forks was reduced from \$5.35 to \$3.85, and that from Robson to Greenwood from \$10.50 to \$7.00. Rates between other points on the branch have also been brought down on a corresponding scale. The only line having a reduction been made in the passenger tariff, but freight charges as well have been cut down some twenty-five per cent.

Reply of Her Majesty.

Thanks For the Resolutions of Victorians Renewing Expressions of Loyalty.

Address From British-American League at Seattle Received.

Mayor Hayward yesterday received through Mr. Joseph Pope, under-secretary of state, the reply of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, colonial secretary to the resolution passed at the public meeting held in the Victoria theatre renewing expressions of loyalty and endorsing the government's policy in South Africa. The communications follow: Ottawa, Feb. 27, 1900.

Sir: Referring to your telegram of the 18th ultimo, I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch from the British consul at Victoria, British Columbia, in relation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, covering to you and to the citizens of Victoria Her Majesty's high appreciation of the loyal and dutiful sentiments expressed in your said communication. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant.

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LOCAL NEWS.

Lawn Tennis Club.—The adjourned annual general meeting of the Victoria Lawn Tennis Club will be held at the Drayton on Thursday next at 8:30 p.m.

An Omission.—In the published report of the list of guests at the celebrated banquet at the Dallas hotel on Thursday evening last the name of A. L. Belyea, Q.C., was inadvertently omitted.

Aged German Dead.—Frederick Gerken, a native of Germany, aged 70 years, died yesterday. His remains will be forwarded to Montreal for interment.

Five Copper Specimens.—Two splendid specimens of gold-copper quartz from the Lenora mine at Mount Sicker are on view in the show window of Mr. Gove's, the Government silk mill, and are attracting much favorable comment.

Passing Colliders.—The operator at Otter Point reported a four-masted ship in ballast in-bound yesterday. It was probably the steamer Seal, which by the settlement of the bridge suits already decided by the courts, drew from Mayor Hayward the statement that it was most important that the special loan by-law be voted on shortly should pass the people, as otherwise the sum for the bridge suits would have to be taken from the revenue and this would mean additional taxation and the wholesale cutting down of appropriations for the year.

The board of aldermen transacted a considerable quantity of business at yesterday evening's session in an expeditionary fashion, though none of the matters dealt with were of great importance. The report of the finance committee, recommending the appropriation of \$130,000 for the settlement of the bridge suits already decided by the courts, drew from Mayor Hayward the statement that it was most important that the special loan by-law be voted on shortly should pass the people, as otherwise the sum for the bridge suits would have to be taken from the revenue and this would mean additional taxation and the wholesale cutting down of appropriations for the year.

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Must Vote For Loan By-Law.

Mayor Hayward at the Council Meeting Points Out Necessity of Such Action.

Rock Bay Bridge Dispute Still Alive—Other Municipal Business.

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Mr. Brown Refused.

Offer of Premiership on Condition of Making Mr. Martin a Colleague.

Vancouver Movement to Unite Federal Parties to Rescue the Province.

From our own Correspondent.

Vancouver, March 5.—A delegation from the executive of the Liberal Association, who have declared for West-... yesterday, urged to West-... to accept a position in the Martin cabinet. Mr. Brown refused, and said he had refused a similar request made by Lieutenant-Governor McInnes, who also asked him if he called upon Mr. Brown to form a cabinet would he accept Mr. Joseph Martin as Attorney-General. He had answered that he would not.

Must Help Themselves

Ottawa Cannot Act Until People Pronounce on Lieutenant-Governor's Choice.

Col. Prior Invites Attention to Violation of Constitutional Practice.

Ottawa, March 5.—The house was engaged all day discussing the political situation in British Columbia, which was pointed out as such as to shake the confidence of the people in constitutional government.

MR. MARTIN'S STATEMENT.

Premier Counting on Vancouver Liberals but Not Appealing on Party Lines.

The following is from the Victoria Daily Times of yesterday:

Premier Martin, in an interview granted to a representative of the Times this morning took occasion to point out several statements in the review of the political situation in last night's issue, with which he could not agree.

"Your reporter did not correctly understand what I said to him yesterday with reference to Vancouver Liberals. I certainly did not state that the meeting over there taboos the question of party lines. What I stated was that the Liberal executive had endorsed me without any reference to the question whether I favored party lines or not, and that they stood by the opposition party in the general election of 1898."

"There is a great deal of fault with some other statements contained in your article entitled 'Political Situation.' It is stated there that the attendance at the Vancouver Liberal meeting was not large and that many of the most prominent men of the party were absent."

"The meeting was not an executive and as the occasion was important the executive called in other leading Liberals to assist them. There were persons present, and I do not think that it would be possible to get a more representative meeting of Vancouver Liberals."

"Your article states that it was decided to recommend my acceptance as provincial Liberal leader. No such thing was done, as is pointed out by you, and the resolution, which was passed, and which was printed in your article, and which was as follows:

"That we, the members of the executive of the Liberal Association of Vancouver, and other Liberals, hereby endorse the policy of the late Premier, Mr. Martin, Premier of the province of British Columbia, as enunciated by him at this meeting, and we pledge ourselves to accord him our support."

"This resolution, it is stated in your article, was opposed by an influential minority, including Mr. E. P. Davis, Q.C., Col. Warren and Mr. Wm. McCraney. In addition to these three gentlemen the resolution was opposed by J. H. Senkler and Walter C. Nichol."

"Mr. E. P. Davis opposes me because I do not agree with the legislation passed by the Parliament in the session of 1898. He is equally opposed to all the members of the late government who were a party to the legislation. He informed the meeting of this fact and naturally it was not considered that his opposition meant anything whatever, as he has left the party which ran in opposition in 1898, and which was very much pleased with the legislation of the session of 1898."

"Col. Warren asked me one or two questions, but further than that gave no reasons for opposing me."

"Mr. Wm. McCraney is the late Attorney-General's father-in-law."

"Mr. J. H. Senkler, although voting against the resolution, did not speak at the meeting."

"Mr. Walter C. Nichol is the editor of the Province and his personal feeling against me is well known. He also did not speak at the meeting."

"In fact the only audible opposition to my endorsement came from Mr. Davis, who used all his ability and eloquence to turn the meeting against me, but without the slightest effect. It is of course well known in addition that Mr. Davis is the solicitor for the Vancouver and Victoria Railway, and that it is not surprising to understand they are very unfavorable to my railroad policy."

"Two other gentlemen, Messrs. Gilchrist and Fraser, were in favor of opposing the resolution until the association as a whole could be called together, and it was decided to call the association for Friday evening next for the purpose of confirming the resolution."

"The following resolution was also passed by the meeting without a single dissentient vote, Mr. Davis making no protest whatever:

"That this meeting hereby records its emphatic protest against the unseemly behavior of the people's representatives in the provincial legislature towards His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on the occasion of the prorogation of the house of assembly, and expresses its sympathy with His Honor and the belief that he acted in the trying circumstances in a faithful and strictly constitutional manner and for the best interests of the province."

"I see it stated in the Colonist this morning that the Province has denounced the said meeting, and contends that it was packed in my interest. This is a direct insult to the Liberals in Vancouver, which they will know how to deal with."

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Lieut.-Governor's Official Life Hangs on Mr. Martin's Success at the Polls.

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Agitating The Liberals.

Mr. Martin's Leadership Makes Cleavage in Party at Vancouver.

"Illegal and Disgraceful" Says the Province While World Endorses Premier.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, March 5.—The Province editorially condemns the Liberal movement to endorse Hon. Joseph Martin. He says that the "Martin" campaign has begun in treachery and dishonesty, that Mr. Martin is not backed by the Liberals of Vancouver; that Saturday's meeting was a put-up job, designed by the executive committee of the Liberal Association and some of their friends of the Deadman's Island committee. The meeting was packed with invited guests and outsiders, and boys not on the voters' list. The passing of the resolution endorsing Mr. Martin's platform, according to the Hon. J. W. H. Higgins, cannot be tolerated for one moment this abominable conduct they are dead to every sense of British fair play and British decency.

Must Help Themselves

Ottawa Cannot Act Until People Pronounce on Lieutenant-Governor's Choice.

Col. Prior Invites Attention to Violation of Constitutional Practice.

Ottawa, March 5.—The house was engaged all day discussing the political situation in British Columbia, which was pointed out as such as to shake the confidence of the people in constitutional government.

MR. MARTIN'S STATEMENT.

Premier Counting on Vancouver Liberals but Not Appealing on Party Lines.

The following is from the Victoria Daily Times of yesterday:

Premier Martin, in an interview granted to a representative of the Times this morning took occasion to point out several statements in the review of the political situation in last night's issue, with which he could not agree.

"Your reporter did not correctly understand what I said to him yesterday with reference to Vancouver Liberals. I certainly did not state that the meeting over there taboos the question of party lines. What I stated was that the Liberal executive had endorsed me without any reference to the question whether I favored party lines or not, and that they stood by the opposition party in the general election of 1898."

"There is a great deal of fault with some other statements contained in your article entitled 'Political Situation.' It is stated there that the attendance at the Vancouver Liberal meeting was not large and that many of the most prominent men of the party were absent."

"The meeting was not an executive and as the occasion was important the executive called in other leading Liberals to assist them. There were persons present, and I do not think that it would be possible to get a more representative meeting of Vancouver Liberals."

"Your article states that it was decided to recommend my acceptance as provincial Liberal leader. No such thing was done, as is pointed out by you, and the resolution, which was passed, and which was printed in your article, and which was as follows:

"That we, the members of the executive of the Liberal Association of Vancouver, and other Liberals, hereby endorse the policy of the late Premier, Mr. Martin, Premier of the province of British Columbia, as enunciated by him at this meeting, and we pledge ourselves to accord him our support."

"This resolution, it is stated in your article, was opposed by an influential minority, including Mr. E. P. Davis, Q.C., Col. Warren and Mr. Wm. McCraney. In addition to these three gentlemen the resolution was opposed by J. H. Senkler and Walter C. Nichol."

"Mr. E. P. Davis opposes me because I do not agree with the legislation passed by the Parliament in the session of 1898. He is equally opposed to all the members of the late government who were a party to the legislation. He informed the meeting of this fact and naturally it was not considered that his opposition meant anything whatever, as he has left the party which ran in opposition in 1898, and which was very much pleased with the legislation of the session of 1898."

"Col. Warren asked me one or two questions, but further than that gave no reasons for opposing me."

"Mr. Wm. McCraney is the late Attorney-General's father-in-law."

"Mr. J. H. Senkler, although voting against the resolution, did not speak at the meeting."

"Mr. Walter C. Nichol is the editor of the Province and his personal feeling against me is well known. He also did not speak at the meeting."

"In fact the only audible opposition to my endorsement came from Mr. Davis, who used all his ability and eloquence to turn the meeting against me, but without the slightest effect. It is of course well known in addition that Mr. Davis is the solicitor for the Vancouver and Victoria Railway, and that it is not surprising to understand they are very unfavorable to my railroad policy."

"Two other gentlemen, Messrs. Gilchrist and Fraser, were in favor of opposing the resolution until the association as a whole could be called together, and it was decided to call the association for Friday evening next for the purpose of confirming the resolution."

"The following resolution was also passed by the meeting without a single dissentient vote, Mr. Davis making no protest whatever:

"That this meeting hereby records its emphatic protest against the unseemly behavior of the people's representatives in the provincial legislature towards His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on the occasion of the prorogation of the house of assembly, and expresses its sympathy with His Honor and the belief that he acted in the trying circumstances in a faithful and strictly constitutional manner and for the best interests of the province."

"I see it stated in the Colonist this morning that the Province has denounced the said meeting, and contends that it was packed in my interest. This is a direct insult to the Liberals in Vancouver, which they will know how to deal with."

POINTNER FROM OTTAWA.

Lieut.-Governor's Official Life Hangs on Mr. Martin's Success at the Polls.

From Our Own Correspondent.

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Letters to the Editor.

THERE SHOULD BE AN IMMEDIATE DISSOLUTION.

Mr. Martin has started to several persons that he will advise the Lieutenant-Governor to dissolve the legislature and call on the new elections until after the revision of the voters' rolls. The courts of justice will not take place. This would bring us to the 12th of June, and the writs (with the exception of that for Danforth) would probably be made returnable on the 1st of July. The house would meet about the last week in July for despatch of business. Even supposing the government to be sustained the 1st of September would be here before the expenditure of a single dollar on public works could be authorized. But should the government be defeated—the 1st of October will have come and gone before a road could be made, a bridge built or a line of mischievous legislation repealed.

would draw the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor to the above facts and respectfully urge him to insist upon an immediate dissolution of the legislature. In any event the interests of the country may not suffer as they undoubtedly will should Mr. Martin's advice be accepted.

D. W. HIGGINS.

N.B.—If the house cannot be legally convened (as some assert) until the Cassiar writs shall have been returned, the legislature cannot be called together before September 1st.

NOT A CANDIDATE.

Sir—I see that in your issue of March 4 you have been good enough to mention me as a candidate for political honors in Esquimalt district.

Your source of information are of course beyond me, but you will allow me to say that such an idea has not yet entered my head.

I have frequently been approached by individuals of the name of Macpherson for different districts, but my answer has always been what it is to you now.

It has been in this country for about twelve years, and my best to do is to advertise it with my pen and to work for it in every way in my power, but I have not sought for any political honors until a number of my fellow citizens of British Columbia ask me to represent them.

Then I shall be proud to do so, but sir, not as the nominee of any newspaper, nor as the tool of any politician, and not as the headman of any professional politician.

If I ever run it will be as a man chosen by the people only, to work for the interests of the province, and to stand upon me, but pledged on my personal honor to be coerced by no one, bought by no one, and led only by my own conscience, which is right until my views differ from those who elect me, when we shall part company.

Until British Columbia wants a man holding these views I shall be quite content to stay where I am, and to be the end of the chapter.

OLIVE PHILLIPS-WOLLEY.

Victoria, March 5, 1900.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S "CHIVALRY."

Sir—I have read His Honor's letter of dissent and I am glad to see that the first is a well written paper; and but for the fact that it deals with matters which are not his to deal with, and that the member in the interest of labor—but there is no confirmation of this report as yet.

It is not reasonable that Mr. Smith would so quickly forget his energetic denunciation of Mr. Martin in the lobby after the passing of his cabinet resolution in connection with the redistribution bill passed the house.

Organization for the forthcoming election is a matter of the order of the hour. The local members of the old opposition had a conference yesterday afternoon at the residence of Mr. Smith, and a considerable amount of business was transacted, but of a nature not to call for publication at the present time.

The members of the new government, now to be known as the Cotton Provincial Party, are to assemble in convention at the Royal City on Monday next, and their opponents are declared equally opposed to the introduction of federal lines, and to the introduction of the new government.

The opinion is generally held that Mr. Martin's cabinet would be well advised to accept the new government, and to accept as nothing more than a coincidence.

In Victoria there has been a suggestion that Mr. Martin should be advised to accept the new government, and to accept as nothing more than a coincidence.

Mr. Sangster is freely mentioned in connection with the cabinet in South Victoria, where it is supposed Mr. Yates also endeavor to find a seat for the Phillips. Mr. Yates is expected to make an appearance in Esquimalt. Up in West Yale there is a report that Mr. Semlin has retired from politics and allow Mr. Bennett to run. Mr. Semlin is expected to make an appearance in Esquimalt. Up in West Yale there is a report that Mr. Semlin has retired from politics and allow Mr. Bennett to run.

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Government of British Columbia Still Consists of But Three Members.

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Most of the members of the legislature have left for home to prepare for the election.

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He's Got a Bite

POMMERY

DOMINION TOBACCO CO., MONTREAL.

COFFEES DISCRIMINATING BUYERS SPICES

COFFEES PURE SPICES and PURE BAKING POWDER.

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Malt Hops

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Affairs of The Orient.

Captain of Brooklyn Declares Revolution in Philippines a Thing of the Past.

Japan's Part in Recent Chinese Court Intrigue—Strength of Reformists Shown.

Russian Aggression Stirs Japan—Coming Marriage of the Prince Imperial.

Although Oriental travel is virtually dead at the present season, and but twenty-six first class passengers arrived by the Empress of China yesterday evening, these twenty-six, and the files of Chinese and Japanese papers borne by the steamship give a larger and more interesting budget of Oriental happenings than has been brought in brief news items from the busy East.

In brief the news may be catalogued as follows: Capt. Jewell, U. S. N., commanding the flagship Brooklyn, who is on his way from Manila to Washington, describes the war with the insurgent Filipinos as practically ended, the forces of Aguinaldo having been dispersed, and the revolutionary General being a fugitive without following in the mountains.

The Chinese Emperor has been officially restored to life—that is, a proclamation has been issued from Peking denying its predecessor which announced Kwang Hsu's suicide—and the reform party is endeavoring to get restoration to power, having at last commanded recognition of its existence.

In the same connection, the ex-prime minister, Wang Yu-wei, has been telegraphed from Singapore, where he is the guest of the king, that he can place an army of 20,000 men at his disposal at any time on behalf of the deposed monarch.

Great excitement prevails in Yokohama in consequence of a more than usually threatening eruption of Asama volcano, 70 miles distant from Yokohama, the belching of lava from its crater having commenced on February 23—and the summer homes of the American and European colony of Yokohama being in danger with all customary avenues of communication cut off.

The congregation of Russian warships in the harbor of Nagasaki has alarmed Japanese officialdom and caused the promulgation of a law prohibiting foreign warships from the number of more than two from visiting any Japanese port in company.

Opinions differ as to the nearness of the eruption of Mt. Katsuma and the czar, but each nation is making increased preparation. The Religious Freedom bill, aiming to give effect to the provision of the Japanese constitution granting equality to all religions, has been drafted through efforts in drafting and the systematic opposition of the conservative wing of the Buddhist church, which objects to the abolition of Buddhism as the state religion.

The United States battleship Oregon has arrived at Yokohama for a fortnight's vacation, this being in accordance with Admiral Dewey's plan for preserving the health of the crew while on duty in hot countries.

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THE REFORM PARTY HAPPY. Believe They Have Achieved Their First Victory Over the Empress and Corrupt Aristocracy.

ago the news was given out from Peking that Empress Dowager had committed suicide by poison. The Empress Dowager promptly following this proclamation by throwing a plant child-follower of her own. So great a storm of indignation, however, was aroused throughout the Empire, and so well-organized party that a second decree was hastily issued, declaring the poisoning of the Empress not to have occurred—the publication being termed a "hoax"—and the resurrection of "the child of the sun and moon" being followed by a further extreme concession to the reformists.

JAPAN INTERVENTION. A New Chapter in the Fantastic Volume of Chinese Political Intrigue.

It has since leaked out that although Kwang Hsu is personally safe now, his killing was fully contemplated, and the order had been given by the Empress Dowager that he should be strangled. It was indeed on the point of execution when he was captured in endeavoring to escape by way of a British port, in company of his former prime minister and friend, Kang Yu-wei. The Empress's second decree was the result of a plot by Kwang Hsu had voluntarily abdicated, leaving her to nominate his successor. She ignored the claims of the heirs apparent and prospective, as well as the natural heir, and selected the six-year old son of Prince Tuan, the second son of the Empress Dowager's fifth brother. This violation of hereditary right aroused strong opposition, protests coming from the other foreign ministers, and threats being freely made that if continued in the dynasty were thus shattered, armed resistance would be made.

COKEY'S ARMY DEPLICATED. Disaffected Articulturists Frustrated in a March to Tokyo.

A movement very similar to that of Coxey's army in its march to Washington has just been broken up in a national police, some 4,000 peasants who had been destroyed by the operation of the copper deposits in a descent upon Tokyo to present their grievances at the foot of the throne. They were stopped at Tatsuzama river, where a battle with the police occurred, the suffering agriculturists being overcome.

VICTORY FOR THE PRIESTS. Government of Japan Defeated on a Bill Emphasizing Freedom of Religious Belief.

The famous religious freedom measure, to terminate Buddhist as the state religion of Japan, was defeated in the lower house largely it is said through technical defects, the vote being 121 to 100. The tattered priests of the old religion, who had organized and directed the opposition, filled the stranger's galleries, interrupted the champions of the bill throughout the session, and so loudly voiced their satisfaction at the measure's defeat that they were removed by the sergeant-at-arms.

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been announced on February 11, the anniversary of the accession of the first Japanese Emperor, 2,660 years ago. The bride is a direct descendant of the House of Kamatari, the oldest and noblest family of Japan, which has given queen after queen to the emperor since 645 but seven years, a graduate of the Perseus school, and will be the first Empress to wear so-called European garb and follow the Japanese custom rather than those of her own. Upwards of a million yen are to be spent on the elaborate wedding, which will be solemnized in the main hall of the palace; immense fetes will be given; and hundreds of long-term prisoners will be pardoned.

Another approaching event that is expected to have arrived the day subsequent to the Empress's sailing, and for whom the Shiba palace had been set aside at Tokyo.

OPENED TO FOREIGNERS. Material Alterations in Japan's Mining Law Give a New Field to Investors.

Japan's mining law has been so amended that the privilege of working mines be allowed to foreigners in consideration of the measure by the Diet, and peers, Viscount Tanaka, the ultra-conservative of the opposition, proposed the amendment. The amendment, he declared, meant practically handing over to foreigners the control of the mineral resources of Japan. The passage of this legislation has already produced a rush of American and British capital, and will give the way for the foreign ownership of the great fields of working of the great oil fields of Japan.

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STORIES OF THE WAR.

How Lord Salisbury's Son Saved Marfe—Uncanny Nature of African Fighting.

Marquis De Fontenay in St. Louis Globe. Lord Edward Cecil, son of Lord Salisbury, who was killed at the battle of Omdurman, was saved by his son, Lord Marfe, who was with him at the battle.

OUR MOTTO—QUALITY FIRE. NEW FLOWERS, VEGETABLES and SEED GRAINS for 1900.

Three Great Grains. "LIGOW" OATS—These wonderful new White Oats yielded at Indian Head Experimental Farm, 92 bus. 34 lbs., and at the Brandon Farm, 100 bus. 20 lbs. to the acre. Price, white stocks last, \$2.00 per bushel.

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THE BATTLE. The heavens resound with the thunder that rolls from a hundred guns. And the earth is riven asunder.

A PATRIOTIC HERBROW. The Jewish Times of Montreal in its issue of February 16 reproduces in the Jewish Chronicle an appreciative article on Mr. Alfred Moseley.

A PECULIAR EXPLOSION. A very peculiar explosion occurred last year on board a German warship under construction. One of the steam cylinders burst, the cover was blown off, and one of the men was killed.

TEST THE URINE. It tells the state of the Kidneys—To make the Kidneys healthy use Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

THE QUEEN THAT IS TO BE. Preparations on an Elaborate Scale for the Marriage of Japan's Future Ruler.

Next to the prospect of war with Russia, Japan's chief topic of the day is the reform party in the lower house.

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Three Great Grains. "LIGOW" OATS—These wonderful new White Oats yielded at Indian Head Experimental Farm, 92 bus. 34 lbs., and at the Brandon Farm, 100 bus. 20 lbs. to the acre. Price, white stocks last, \$2.00 per bushel.

Three Vegetable Kings. "EARLY SPRING" CABBAGE—The only Extra Early Round Flat-headed Cabbage in the world. Yields one-third more than any other. Price, white stocks last, \$1.00 per bushel.

Three Wonderful Flowers. "BABY" PRIMROSE—A perpetual bloomer. Unexcelled for table, window or personal decoration. A great favorite with society ladies in large American cities. Price, plants each, 15c.

THE BATTLE. The heavens resound with the thunder that rolls from a hundred guns. And the earth is riven asunder.

A PATRIOTIC HERBROW. The Jewish Times of Montreal in its issue of February 16 reproduces in the Jewish Chronicle an appreciative article on Mr. Alfred Moseley.

A PECULIAR EXPLOSION. A very peculiar explosion occurred last year on board a German warship under construction. One of the steam cylinders burst, the cover was blown off, and one of the men was killed.

TEST THE URINE. It tells the state of the Kidneys—To make the Kidneys healthy use Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

THE QUEEN THAT IS TO BE. Preparations on an Elaborate Scale for the Marriage of Japan's Future Ruler.

Next to the prospect of war with Russia, Japan's chief topic of the day is the reform party in the lower house.

THE REFORM PARTY HAPPY. Believe They Have Achieved Their First Victory Over the Empress and Corrupt Aristocracy.

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not a Bite. The most toothsome tobacco made.

EVERY. Wing Tobacco.

MONTEAL.

SPICES.

BAKING POWDER.

VICTORIA.

Hills Company.

Flour.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

Victoria.

WE WANT \$5000.00 BY MARCH 15TH TO PAY FOR OUR NEW BLOCK ON WATSON STREET.

THESE PRICES WILL GET IT FOR US

Advertisement for B. Williams & Co., 277 Watson Street. Lists clothing items like men's suits, overcoats, mackintoshes, and boys' two-piece suits with prices.

The Liberals Against Him

Provincial Executive Go on Record Against Mr. Martin as Premier. Will Not Conduct Campaign on Party Lines or Call Convention.

An Incident Showing How Nansimo Job Precipitated His Authors' Downfall.

Main body text of the article 'The Liberals Against Him', discussing the political situation and the actions of Mr. Martin.

A FRUITLESS BARGAIN.

Continuation of the article, mentioning 'Mr. J. M. Kelle' and 'Premier Martin'.

...the bill. Mr. Martin promised to support the bill into committee of the whole, the only and first stage in which a bill can be passed. This he did not do, thus violating a solemn written compact.

...of agreement made this 19th day of February, A.D. 1900, between Joseph Martin, the first named party, and Kelle and Thomas Kidd, of the second party, witnesses as follows:

1. Liquor License Act. 2. Supreme Court Bill. 3. Sundry Relief Bill. 4. Lunatic Railway Bill. 5. Vancouver and Westminster Railway Company Bill. 6. Railway Assessment Bill, and such other bills as may be introduced.

After said redistribution is assented to, the government to be allowed to ask for the bill to be referred to the committee on the bill, which took extension time from South Nansimo and put it in North Nansimo.

...the bill, after being introduced, contained changes in the Nansimo district which were not reached by the bill.

second reading of the bill on the condition that the objectionable clause would be struck out in committee. I was prepared to do that in regard to the adoption of the bill on the motion to adopt the report of the committee or on the third reading. If I had supported the bill at all I would have been bound under the agreement to support it right through.

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Letters to The Editor

AN ELECTION IMMINENT. Sir: Mr. Higgins' figures as given in your paper this morning are perfectly correct. I have been perfectly idle and aboard for me to vote for the second reading and afterwards vote against the bill on the motion to adopt the report of the committee or on the third reading.

AN IMMEDIATE DISSOLUTION. Sir: The urgent necessity that exists for dissolution of the legislature and an appeal to the people I must plead as my excuse for again reverting to the subject of the bill on the motion to adopt the report of the committee or on the third reading.

WILL NOT RUN. Mr. W. R. Robertson, the popular member for Nanaimo, with all probability will not be a candidate for the legislature. An effort is being made to have him appointed as Indian agent for Cowichan.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS. Victoria Meteorological Office. February 28 to March 6, 1900. The last day of February was decidedly stormy throughout this province due to the rapid descent of a mass of air from the north.

...the bill, after being introduced, contained changes in the Nansimo district which were not reached by the bill.

THE POLITICIANS WORRIED.

No Room for Liberals or Conservatives with Mr. Martin in the Field. From Our Own Correspondent. Vancouver, March 7.—A joint meeting of the executives of the senior and junior Liberal-Conservative associations of Vancouver has declared for party lines.

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STRANDING OF CALIFORNIAN.

Court of Inquiry Finds Master and Pilot to Certain Extent Blameworthy. Portland, Maine, March 7.—The court of inquiry which has been considering the stranding of the Allan line steamer Californian on Ram Island, near Portland harbor, two weeks ago, today made public its decision, which is to the effect that while the master committed an error of judgment it was not sufficient to justify the suspension of his certificate.

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MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Big Fire at Dauphin—Ministers Busy in Beautiful Plains. Winnipeg, March 7.—Fire at Dauphin this morning destroyed the Dauphin hotel, Newton's three houses adjoining, and Smith's harness shop. The fire started in a furnace in the hotel. The damage is placed at \$7,000, with some insurance.

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COLLEGE BOYS SUBDUED.

And in Evidence They May Be Paraded in Honor of Strathcona's Horse. Montreal, March 7.—(Special)—There are still some reports of student trouble over the relief of Lady Smith, but possibly the little misunderstanding may soon be smoothed over, for the Mayor made an announcement this morning that he had been asked by certain gentlemen connected with Laval and McGill to suggest to the principals of those universities that the students in both instances take part in the Strathcona Horse parade on Monday afternoon next.

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London in Good Humour

Queen's Visit and Success Africa Have Had Spendid Effect.

Budget Proposals Popular—War Loan At Some Premium.

Salisbury Well Sustained Heavy Burden—His Explained.

London, March 10.—A week with a budget increasing to an unprecedented extent and ended Queen stirring hundreds of the her subjects to enthusiastic demonstrations of patriotism and war scarcely said to be barren of circumstances. No suspicious premeditation has marred busy days of intense activity. The progress of Lord Roberts' more part the United Kingdom excellent terms with itself.

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They Dye for the World

DIAMOND DYES Are Imitated But Never Equalled.

For a quarter of a century Diamond Dyes have stood the severest test in millions of houses and have won a fame and popularity that has made them the world's standard home dyes.

TORONTO UNIVERSITY

Toronto, March 10.—Justices of the court of appeal, has been the subject of a letter from the succeeding Hon. William J. ... FIRE AT INDIAN ...