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IT WAS BEFORE THE DAY OF
SAPOLIO
THEY USED TO SAY "WOMAN'S WORK IS NEVER DONE."

Lord Roberts' Military Preparations Are Complete.
BOERS WITHDREW FROM WEPENER
General Brabant Back Again at Allwal North—Stormy Weather in the Free State.
LONDON, April 19.—A deluge of rain, lasting 10 days, has brought the operations in the southeastern part of the Free State almost to a standstill. The creeks have become roaring rivers, and the roads are streams of mud. A singular message, dated Bloemfontein, April 18, 10:55 A. M., and beginning, "Via Press Censor, Bloemfontein," reports an exchange of shots in the direction of De Wet's Dorp where the Boers are said to be concentrating. "After their withdrawal from Wepener." There is nothing else to indicate that the investment of Wepener has been abandoned by the Boers. Notwithstanding the rain, however, the British have made some progress, as De Wet's Dorp has been occupied by them, probably by the advance of the General Brabant's division. De Wet's Dorp is about 24 miles from Wepener. An obscure message from Allwal North, dated April 18, says that General Brabant has arrived there, but whether he returned alone or with his troops is not clear. Boer reports from Allwal North aver that 8000 or 10,000 Boers are at Wepener. Extended reports of the Bloemfontein concert for the benefit of the widows and orphans have been cable. No less than seven separate accounts have been published in London today. The concert, which was held at the Lyceum, was a grand success. Lord Roberts is ready to move, are about the only things that the censor has allowed to pass, and the correspondent who announces that Lord Roberts is ready to move does not specify the direction in which he is going. General Hunter, from Natal, commanding the newly formed division, arrived at Bloemfontein yesterday (Thursday), and left immediately after conferring with Lord Roberts. To what point he proceeded is not mentioned, but it is understood that he will operate west of Bloemfontein.

VIOLATION OF FAITH.
Consul Hay Reports the Action of the Chicago Ambulance Corps.
WASHINGTON, April 19.—United States Consul Hay, at Pretoria, has notified the State Department by cable of the reported action of the members of the Chicago ambulance corps, in taking up arms in the Boer army instead of confining with the hospital corps, to which they had pledged themselves upon leaving the United States. Apparently the Portuguese authorities at Lourenco Marques had doubts as to the actual neutrality of the men, for the party was detained many days at the port before they were allowed to proceed over the railroad to Pretoria. The dispatches state that a letter from Miss Barton turned the tide in their favor. Miss Barton was said to have declared that certain members of the party were known to her, and she believed they were going under true colors. The officials here say nothing can be done by them to prevent such violations of faith as are reported from South Africa. The men did not go out with arms, and did not do anything to bring themselves under suspicion. The unknown men pass through Lourenco Marques, and it would appear that unless the British Government can induce the Portuguese to take a different view of their obligations, Portuguese South Africa will remain an open doorway for recruits entering the Transvaal.

FREE STATE BOERS QUIET.
Both Sides Steadily Prepare for the Coming Struggle.
LONDON, April 19.—The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, telegraphing Thursday, says: "The Boers in the immediate neighborhood are quiet, but both sides are steadily preparing for the coming struggle. Lord Roberts is now ready. A dispatch to the Morning Post from Kimberley, dated Wednesday, says: "Lord Methuen has issued a proclamation forbidding civilians to carry arms without military permits, and ordering rebels to surrender all serviceable modern arms by May 8. At present the military here are mainly occupied in collecting arms and arresting rebels, but everything points to an early resumption of activity." The Londoneer correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, in a dispatch dated April 18, says: "The news of the nature of the dispatch of Lord Roberts to the War Office regarding the Spion Kop operations has created much comment locally, but no regulations are yet mentioned."

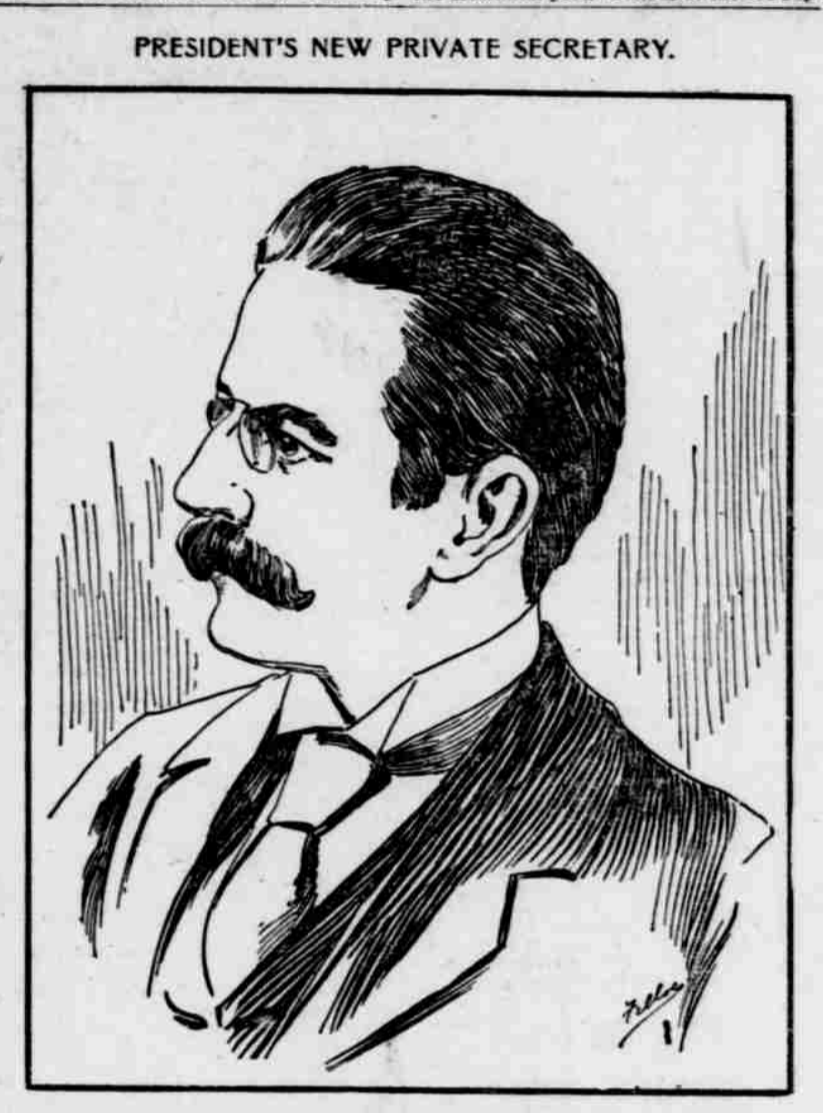
Wilhelmina Received Peace Boers.
THE HAGUE, April 19.—The Boer peace commissioners, headed by Dr. Leyds, appeared before an audience with Queen Wilhelmina this afternoon, lasting a quarter of an hour. The delegates apparently were much gratified by the stability of Her Majesty. Subsequently they were received in private audience by the Queen's mother.

NEW DIAMOND BEDS.
De Beers Company Will Not Work Them, to Prevent Overproduction.
BERLIN, April 19.—The Deutsche Colonial Zeitung publishes a telegram from President Fassard, the well-known German Colonialist, to the effect that the De Beers Mining Company has secured a controlling interest in the properties of the Southwest African Company, on whose soil, near Gibson, Great Namaquala, diamond blue clay beds have been found. Dr. Passard also asserts that the De Beers Company will, if possible, prevent the working of these new mines, fearing competition and a fall in price. He calls upon the German members of the company to tell the full truth regarding the matter, as there is a prospect of grave injury to the interests of the German colony in South Africa.

SPANISH CABINET CRISIS.
Resignation of the Ministerial Council.
MADRID, April 19.—On account of dissensions among its members, the ministerial council has been displaced by a new one. The new council is as follows: President of the Council and Minister of Marine, Senor Silveira; Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marquis Campo; Minister of Finance, Marquis Villaverde; Minister of Justice, Marquis Vadillo; Minister of the

BRYAN'S HEALTH.
He Says He Never Felt Better in His Life.
ST. LOUIS, April 19.—The following dispatch was received this afternoon from Austin, Tex.: "To the Editor of the Post-Dispatch: You may state for me that the stories that I am in ill health are untrue. I have never felt better in my life. I spent the night at the University Auditorium, and next Saturday at Yeargin's Grove, this county, and next Tuesday at Wichita, Kan."
W. J. BRYAN.

HEGIRA FROM JAPAN
How Islands Are Scoured for Steerage Passengers.
PROMISED JOBS AND GOOD PAY
10,000 Already Booked for Pacific Coast of America and Twice as Many More May Come.
TACOMA, April 19.—According to an officer of the Northern Pacific steamship



PRESIDENT'S NEW PRIVATE SECRETARY.
George Bruce Cortelyou, of New York, has been appointed to the position of secretary to the President, in place of John Addison Porter, who has been compelled to resign, owing to persistent ill health. Mr. Porter has not been a well man for more than a year, and although he retained his post, much of his work has been done by Mr. Cortelyou, who held the position of assistant. The new secretary is 28 years old, and is a son of one of the oldest and most prominent families of New York. He has held political places almost continuously since 1888. In that year he was in the Appraiser's office at New York, and since 1890 he has been connected with the Postoffice Department. In 1896 he was made private secretary to the President, and two years ago was given the place he now holds. He is a graduate of the Georgetown and Columbia Law Schools. Mr. Cortelyou will assume his new and important duties on May 1.

STAMP TAX NUISANCE.
Petition for Abolition on Express and Other Shipments.
WASHINGTON, April 19.—Chairman Payne, of the House committee on ways and means, today received a memorial from the Merchants' Association of New York which will be presented to the committee tomorrow. It is an appeal for the abolition of the stamp taxes on express shipments, railroad and steamship shipments, and telegrams. The petitioners state they represent 1400 business firms in New York City, giving employment to several hundred thousand wage-earners, and an average of several thousand cars of business firms distributed throughout the United States. The memorial complains at considerable length of the "oppressive charges" exacted by express companies, specifying of them in strong terms as "monopolies of quasi-public function, beyond the reach of competition or the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to which other common carriers are subjected." It stated that charges exacted by the express companies are ruinous to certain classes of mercantile business, and that to this the express companies add the stamp tax, placing it on the shipper with the sanction of the Supreme Court. In this connection the petition says: "The express charges upon shipments in some cases equal the value of the goods. In an average of several thousand cars collected by the association, the express charges were more than the profit upon the article shipped, and were found to average in the classes of goods most frequently shipped by express from 5 per cent to 10 per cent of the value. Our investigations have shown wide discriminations in the charges imposed, favored classes of shippers who are permitted to escape more than other classes, cumulative charges differing charges for identical services, and other variations, the effect of which is destructive." The petitioners, in conclusion, ask that the stamp tax on express shipments be either abolished or removed from the shipper and placed in a lump sum on the express companies, and they further request the abolition of the stamp tax on railroad and steamship shipments and on telegrams.

PHILIPPINE TARIFF.
Duties on American Canned Goods, Preserves, Etc., May Be Reduced.
WASHINGTON, April 19.—The War Department has taken up the question of reducing the tariff on American canned goods, preserves, etc., going to the Philippines. The matter was brought to the attention of the Department by Representative Needham, of California, who represents one of the great fruit districts. He pointed out that American canned goods, tomatoes, peaches, apricots, etc., were practically barred from the Philippines because of the military regulations continuing the old Spanish prohibitory rates against these goods. As the Pacific Coast offers specially favorable shipping facilities for such goods, Mr. Needham urged that the rates be reduced to a point permitting American canned goods to find a market in the archipelago. He has received a letter from Assistant Secretary Melkielehn, who has charge of the customs branch, saying the matter has been taken up for careful consideration with a view to determining whether a reduction can be made, and Mr. Needham has reason to believe that his efforts will prove successful.

IMMIGRATION AGENT WALKER HAS NOT COMPLETED EXAMINATION OF THE JAPANESE WHO CAME OVER ON THE GOODWIN, BUT SO FAR HAS REJECTED 18, BECAUSE THEY COULD GIVE NO SATISFACTORY REASON FOR COMING HERE.
Another Shipment of Japanese.
VICTORIA, B. C., April 19.—Steamer Milos, which, with 954 Japanese immigrants, arrived here this morning, is still hampered with her passengers, an irregularity in her papers and a declaration that she has more passengers than the law allows a ship of her size to carry, and in trouble with the customs officials. It was thought possible today that she would be sent back to Japan, but the Captain hopes, through the German Consulate, to adjust the difficulty tomorrow. The rumor that the Milos on the voyage had passed the wreck of some large sailing craft in mid-ocean is absolutely denied by her master. The steamer Milos, arriving from Australia and Honolulu, reports the bubonic plague sailing in Sydney and abating in the Hawaiian port. Serious strikes of Japanese contract laborers are occasioning much uneasiness in the vicinity of Honolulu.

Mercer Will Report Portland Bill in a Few Days.
ALSO BOISE BUILDING BILL
Silver Democrats Bitter Against Cleveland for His Brooklyn Letter
—Bryan Said to Be Run Down.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Chairman Mercer, of the House committee on public buildings said today that he intended to report in a very few days Representative Moody's bill for an appropriation for increasing the size of the Postoffice building at Portland. He also gave a strong intimation that the bill for a public building at Boise might also be reported.

Bryanites Bitter Against Cleveland.
The Bryanites are raging today over the letter of Cleveland, and now are more bitter against him than ever, because he cannot be brought into line in favor of Bryan and the Chicago platform. All the about possible was heaped upon him today whenever any of the silver wing of the party was approached.

A Stampede for Roosevelt.
It is declared to be the intention of the Administration and the Platt machine of New York to stampede the Philadelphia convention for Theodore Roosevelt for Vice-President, in spite of his declaration. The scheme is said to be to prevent the election of instructed delegates anywhere, and to force the nomination of Roosevelt in such a way that he will take it as a command from his party and cannot refuse.

Bryan Breaking Down.
Reports have reached Washington that Bryan is utterly worn out by the account of the hard campaign he is making for re-nomination, and some men who have knowledge of his condition say that he will not be able to continue the vigorous campaign that he has been making for the past six months.

Timber on Public Lands.
Representative Lacey, of Iowa, chairman of the public lands committee, acting upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior, has introduced a bill authorizing and regulating the sale and use of timber on the unappropriated and unreserved public lands. This bill provides that the timber on the public lands of the United States and territories and Alaska, not reserved or appropriated, shall be disposed of in a legitimate manner to supply the necessities of those dependent upon the public lands in settling and developing the country. This timber is to be disposed of under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, who is to have an eye properly to protecting all the supplies and disposing of the timber at its appraised value. Timber procured under this act is to be used in the state or territory where cut, and proper precautions are to be taken to prevent damage to the forests through neglect or evil intention on the part of miners, prospectors and others availing themselves of the privileges of the bill. Mr. Lacey intended to bring this bill before the committee at an early day, and hopes to secure a favorable report. If such a report is made, the bill will undoubtedly be put through the House before the close of the present session, and probably in time to get it through the Senate, if that body is disposed to favor such legislation.

Cullom and His Tariff Vote.
Mason, who enjoys a seat in the United States Senate by virtue of the suffrage of the Illinois Legislature, is credited with the remark that his colleague, Cullom, will be likely to be defeated on account of his vote on the Puerto Rico bill. On some such occasion Cullom has expressed the prospects of Senator Shelby M. Cullom to succeed himself. It was generally supposed that the protectionists were going to get Mason, as the bill would load and long in opposition to nearly everything, and then vote for it, but the politician in him was too much, and he remained on the popular side to the end, probably the hope of recuperating himself in return for the opposition which he has manifested to the Philippines and other interests of the Administration. Cullom does not believe in the Puerto Rican tariff. In fact, he offered a free-trade amendment to the bill long before it came over from the House. He also insisted upon free trade with Hawaii when that bill was under consideration, and he had charge of it. Of course nobody can say that there should be any difference between Puerto Rico and Hawaii, and Cullom will have a hard time to convince the people that his change was due to anything else than influence. Cullom has a hard fight on his hands to succeed himself, especially with a man like the present Governor, Tanner, against him.

WESTERN GOVERNORS.
Protest Against the Leasing of Public Arid Lands.
SALT LAKE, April 19.—Governor Lee, of South Dakota, and Governor Poyner, arrived today and took part in the proceedings of the Governors of Western states, who have met to discuss subjects of interest to this section. After a general discussion, the committee appointed to formulate resolutions against the leasing of public arid lands by the General Government and demanding the cessation of such lands to the several states should any change in the present system be made, reported the following, which were adopted: "Resolved, That the people of the states here represented are opposed absolutely to any legislation or any action of any kind looking to, or having for its object, the leasing of the public arid lands of the United States by the General Government or any agency thereof. "Resolved, second, That the present laws providing for the control, management and disposal of the public arid lands of the United States are best adapted to the needs and requirements of the country, and conducive to the settlement and occupancy thereof by bona fide settlers. "Resolved, third, That if it shall be found that the present laws affecting the arid lands are not satisfactory to the Congress of the United States, then in favor of a cessation of the arid lands to the several states wherein they are situated under such terms and conditions as will guarantee the benefits of the free homestead laws to the people of the United States, and that will prevent said lands either by fee simple title, or by the leasing thereof from passing into the possession or control of large companies, syndicates, corporations or wealthy individuals in large quantities, to the exclusion of others, and under such condition that the several states may have the income arising from said lands to be devoted to the reclamation and improvement thereof for settlement by bona fide citizens." Governor Lee, of South Dakota, was the only one who opposed the resolution. His opposition was simply because he believed that the demand for cession to the states should be put first. A form of letters to be sent out to other Governors was adopted.