

THE NATIONS OF EUROPE WATCHING GREAT BRITAIN

Her Contest With the Afrikanders Will Gauge Her Military Strength.

PREPARATIONS ON A GIGANTIC SCALE

A Special Train for 'Atkins' When the Band Begins to Play --The Admiralty Also on Trial--Trouble With Transports.

LONDON, Oct. 14.—All Europe is watching Great Britain at this crucial moment in her military affairs. Foreign statesmen and military experts regard the result of the war with the Boers as a foregone conclusion. What they scan with such anxious interest is England's tremendous preparations for the contest. By the result of these efforts will her strength be gauged. In assembling an army twice as large as that which she sent to Crimea and considerably greater than Wellington's force at Waterloo, England is offering an illustration for the first time in many decades, of her ability to fight on land.

Although her naval strength has often been demonstrated to advantage, it has still been a matter of doubt whether her military arm would compare favorably with that of continental nations, and in the throes of such a test she has been engaged this week day and night.

Gangs of men are working incessantly at the ports that dot England's shores, transforming liners into troopships. Largely augmented forces are turning out ammunition and ordnance stores. Some idea of the activity in this direction can be gained from the fact that three million rounds of ammunition for small arms left Woolwich last week.

Although the manufacturers of the favorite new bullet "Mark five" has been retarded by an outbreak of poisoning among the employes, this department is working day and night. Tons of scrap zinc are being shipped to make gas for the war balloons, which are being taken out on a more extensive scale and with a more complete equipment than ever before.

Meanwhile the men for whom these implements of war are being made are pouring out of barracks to the ports, standing by to embark, drilling and practicing at targets every spare hour. The reserves are pouring into Aldershot in unheralded batches and re-shouldering their rifles as if the transformation from civil to military life were an every day occurrence.

The huge mobilization at Aldershot is now in charge of Major General Thomas Kelley-Kenny, inspector general of auxiliary forces and recruiting, who has succeeded General Sir Redvers Buller. All the work is new. It is the first time that anything of the kind has been attempted since the short service system went into effect. A visit to Aldershot produces the impression that everything is going like clock work, but it is too early yet to express a definite opinion regarding the British mobilization. For the reserves themselves, who are obliged to leave their wives and families on a piteous pittance from the government, much public sympathy has been aroused, exemplifying the truth of Rudyard Kipling's jeer "A special train for 'Atkins' when the band begins to play."

A number of reserves who have not been called out have asked to be allowed to serve in South Africa and a similar spirit of spontaneous, practical patriotism is seen on all sides. Sir Redvers Buller's forces include the flower of the English nobility. The excellent Boer marksmanship, combined with the fact that it is an unwritten rule in the British army that officers must always stand under fire, even though the men are lying down, makes mourning probable in many a noble British home.

The admiralty is perhaps more on trial than the army, especially as it is well known that General Lord Garnet Wolseley, commander in chief does not approve a system which gives the navy such far reaching power in transport-

ing troops. In 1885, Great Britain despatched 15,000 troops in three weeks to Alexandria, Egypt, a feat that elicited the intense admiration of Count Von Moltke, but the task of shipping more than 52,000 men has not been paralleled in the history of England. Already the two branches of the service are beginning to blame each other for various delays but it is scarcely apparent that there has yet been any serious lack of facilities. The ship brokers have undoubtedly worked something like a corner on the admiralty, as they did during the Hispano-American war, and the recent breakdown of two transports is still the cause of considerable abuse of the admiralty.

The Associated Press understands that these two vessels were repeatedly offered to the United States during the war with Spain, but that owing to the astuteness of the American naval representative, they were never purchased. The most remarkable point in connection with the transport arrangements is that about 50 ships can be taken into the government service without materially disturbing the shipping trade.

The weakest point in the whole mobilization seems to be the army service corps, corresponding to the United States commissary. The various stations have been granted to obtain the necessary officers and men, yet many line officers assure the Associated Press that the arrangements are gravely inadequate for such a corps. In this connection, the Navy and Military Record says:

"It is quite clear that if England had to provide a second or third army corps for foreign service, these, or either of them, would have to go without a full equipment. That this unpleasant discovery will form the subject of inquiry in parliament goes without saying."

The new battleship Bulwark will be launched on October 18. She will have been under construction less than seven months. This will create a launching time record and a weight record for time under construction, her displacement being 15,990 tons.

The admiralty is experimenting with a new wireless telegraphy invention, the contrivance of W. H. Sullivan, which includes a device for determining distances between ships. There is considerable speculation as to whether Signor Marconi will be able to induce the United States to adopt his system.

The Associated Press is authorized to deny reports printed here, under a New York date, that the three powers concerned in Samoa are at loggerheads over the claims of British subjects for damages during the bombardment.

The reports regarding a combination of France and Russia against England and the United States are ridiculed, though it can be asserted without giving any credence to any such stories, that Russia's naval credit for 1900, amounting as it does to \$1,500,000 roubles, has created considerable surprise in naval circles, where it is believed that the chief reason is the increase of Russian naval power in the far East.

Between the church conference and the preparations for war, it is hard to say whether there is more comment of the church officers or the army officials in London. The burning of incense produced an approach to rowdiness, a comparison of extreme ritualism to the "fetish worship of barbarians" causing a storm of hisses and other commotion, which had to be stopped by the lord bishop of London, Dr. Creighton. The discussion is nothing more

than the airing of different opinions, Lord Halifax voicing the sentiments of the ritualists.

The relation of the church of England to non-conformity is also taking up the attention of the congress. Fourteen bishops are in attendance, as well as nearly all the well-known churchmen. The bishop of Hereford made a violent attack upon Sunday desecration, berating the habit of holding dinner parties and of playing golf and tennis on that day. He concluded his address by exclaiming: "Let us see to it that our morals are not corrupted by the bloated bureaucracy!" The archbishop of Canterbury made special reference to the necessity of family influence in education.

The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough are not so prominent socially just now as in their custom, but they do not seem to be deterred from social functions by the death of Cornelius Vanderbilt. They have been entertaining a shooting party at Blenheim palace, and will come to town for a few days next week.

James Van Alen has rented Kirby hall, Leicestershire, for the hunting season, and it is said that he will entertain there on a large scale.

Nat Goodwin closed his London season in "An American Citizen" last evening, preparatory to sailing to the United States by the American line steamer St. Paul today. The play will remain in the provinces with an English company.

CHANCE FOR MORE SAMOA TROUBLE

TAMASESE PROCLAIMED KING

English and American Representatives Tricked Into Attending the Ceremony.

CHICAGO, Oct. 14.—A special to the Chicago Tribune from Berlin says: News comes from Apia that the natives have proclaimed Tamesese as king, despite the recent agreement of the United States, Germany and Great Britain to abolish that office.

The Cologne Gazette's Apia correspondent sends a long indictment of the consular government. He says the natives do not conceal their disrespect for the representatives of the treaty powers, relating a singular incident as an illustration. Tamesese invited the officials and the leading white citizens of Apia to a wedding feast. All went except the Germans. The American consul, Mr. Osborne, made a speech, thus giving the affair official recognition. Thereupon Tamesese's followers danced and sang impromptu songs, proclaiming Tamesese as king, announcing the destruction of the opposing natives if they resisted his authority.

When the letter was mailed, September 8, hundreds of Tamesese's and Tani's followers were gathered at Apia, preparing to swear allegiance before the eyes of the foreign consuls by presenting gifts and attending homage. The letter says a New Zealand lawyer named Carr is managing the affair.

DEWEY WITH MCKINLEY.

Albany Herald. Admiral Dewey has announced his views in no uncertain way on the Philippine question. He is in full accord with President McKinley and says so without equivocation. He also says that a vigorous policy should be pursued to put down the rebellion. On his recommendation several additional warships will be sent to the Philippines to enforce the blockade of the islands. Admiral Dewey says the administration is right, and that the United States should retain permanent control of the islands. The average citizen will believe that Dewey ought to know and will take his word for it rather than that of the copperheads who are "standing in" with the enemy in time of war.

HE DISAPPOINTED THEM.

Albany Herald. The anti-expansion press has shouted: "Wait till Dewey comes home and gives his views on the Philippine situation." Well he has done so, and he says the United States must put down the rebellion and hold the Philippines. The aunties say Aguinaldo is a George Washington, that the rebels ought not to be molested, and that the United States should let them alone in a state of anarchy. Dewey has disappointed the aunties. He is a stalwart American citizen, but what can be said of those who are encouraging an enemy with which the government is at war.

WHEAT AT PORTLAND AND SAN FRANCISCO.

Yamhill Reporter. The wheat markets of Portland and San Francisco, like the ones happy lovers we used to read about in the popular novels, seem to be "drifting farther and farther away from each other." Yesterday's quotations in San Francisco were upwards of 15c per 100lbs above Portland's for the same grade Walla Walla and valley wheat in Portland was 53 @ 60c per bushel, with possible 82c bluestem, which is not quoted in San Francisco. In the latter city's quotations milling wheat was 11.10 @ 11.15 per cental. This, the wheat growers of the northwest believe, is allowing the wheat exporters of Portland, with the boasted cheaper tonnage, entirely too much margin. It is just such grasping, squeezing, monopolizing methods put in vogue by the Portland wheat ring, that cause the farmer's affection for the metropolis of Oregon to wane, and make him long to be in reach of a better market at San Francisco.

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