

GENERAL BOTHA WAS LIONIZED

South African Is the Hero of the Colonial Conference at London.

London, May 3.—General Botha is the hero, "the South African lion," of the conference of colonial premiers now assembled here. As Boer commander in the Tugela river campaign, Botha inflicted on the British army in South Africa some of its severest reverses. But his conduct was marked by a humanity and a forbearance which was the wonder of the foreign military attaches at his headquarters. Thus after the battles of Spion Kop Botha could, had he wished, almost wipe out the retreating British force, but he stayed his hand.

Now that this brave fighter has accepted British sovereignty he does so with his whole heart. So he compels admiration from all sides, and disarms the animosity of the newspapers owned by the millionaires of the Rand, which are panting to attack him.

General Botha's pretty daughter, whose mother was a Miss Ommet of New York, is a fascinating girl, and excites general admiration. It is at once a pretty compliment to her and to President Roosevelt's daughter that in resemblance of Mrs. Longworth's charming personality Miss Botha is called "the charming African Princess Alice."

Botha is the only premier who has brought an interpreter to the conference. He could not trust his knowledge of English. He and all the colonial premiers have the nicely delicate task of being friendly to both political parties without identifying themselves with either. Each party's efforts to claim them as allies are diverting. The Tories earnestly argue that the conference will be a fiasco if the members separate without perfecting some plan of preferential tariffs within the empire. But it is notorious that the colonies can offer the mother country no compensating advantage for hampering her foreign trade. The conference may do something toward securing colonial contributions to the navy, but that is about all.

It is an easy transition from Botha to Joseph Chamberlain. His family and friends know the statement that he hopes to resume public work is entirely illusory. He grew

a little stronger and in part recovered his spirits during his stay in the south of France, but he cannot walk without assistance, and he is capable of only the most casual mental exertion. No physician can certify that Mr. Chamberlain will ever be a well man, no physician has ever vouched for the bulletins concerning Mr. Chamberlain's health which have been issued.

Mrs. Chamberlain, who was Miss Endicott of Massachusetts, is showing the effects of the prolonged strain she is undergoing. Never had man a more devoted, self-sacrificing helpmeet. She spares herself nothing. Clearly her whole life is bound up in his.

YOUNGEST CRIMINAL YET.

Child of Three Years Gets a Sentence in French Town.

Paris, May 3.—Georges Tolut, aged three years, living at Neuilly, has been sentenced by default to ten days' imprisonment for assault and battery. An appeal has been lodged—not by himself, as he is obviously under age, but by his father acting as his legal guardian—and the infantile defendant will be called up again before the courts this week. The plaintiff is a full grown man, M. Winkel. How could a child of three years have assaulted him? The answer to the riddle is that plaintiff alleges that he was assaulted by a man of about his own age, named Tolut, and he took out a summons against Georges Tolut. But Georges is the baby, aged 3, and the father, whom the plaintiff really intended to prosecute, is Albert Tolut. Nevertheless, Baby Georges was sentenced by default, and the conviction stands against him. The courts for the present know of no case against any other Tolut, and accordingly the 3-year-old Tolut will have to appear in person in the dock at the hearing of the appeal, supported by his father. If the baby were not to come forward in person the appeal would fail and the conviction would be confirmed. No doubt the court will solemnly dismiss the charge against the infant, who will be set free, probably by that time screaming.

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(Signed) R. D. HUME, Owner.
F. S. DOW, Agent.
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