

# The Morning Astorian.

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NO. 160

## Now is the Time . . . .

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE

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## CASUALTIES AT MODDER RIVER

No Other South African News  
Given Out by the British.

## RIGID CENSORSHIP IS KEPT

All Details of the Battle Withheld  
From the Public and Boer Loss  
Significantly Omitted.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—The Meager dispatch giving a list of British casualties at Modder river and announcing the bare fact that Lord Methuen is still there, awaiting reinforcements, is supplemented only by a brief special message from Cape Town tonight stating that the Boers destroyed the bridge over the Modder river before the battle and are now concentrating at Spytfontein, where a final battle, before Kimberley is relieved, is expected to take place.

The censor has apparently stopped all press messages from the front relating to battle, which is not regarded as a favorable indication.

As to the material results of General Methuen's victories, it is not clear whether General Methuen's force crossed the Modder river or still is awaiting the rebuilding of the bridge before the artillery and cavalry can cross. It is a significant fact that Lord Methuen's cable makes no mention of the Boer loss, which, therefore, is assumed to be small.

A dispatch from Cape Town this evening says Lord Methuen's advance undoubtedly is beginning to affect the Boer strategy and probably explains the withdrawal from Modder river. While it is impossible to obtain exact statistics, it is absolutely certain that the defeated Dutch have joined the Boers in great numbers, which are still increasing.

## CASUALTIES AT MODDER

The Killed Were Seventy-three and the Wounded in the Rank and File Amount to 425

LONDON, Dec. 2.—As surmised, the British dead and wounded at the hard-fought battle of Modder river number hundreds. The war department today gave out the information that the total number of casualties was 425 and the number killed 73. The revised list of Modder river casualties, non-commissioned officers and men, is divided as follows:

Ninth lancers, 1 wounded; engineers, 2 wounded; Second Coldstreams, 10 killed, 26 wounded; Third Grenadiers, 9 killed, 2 wounded, 4 missing; Scots Guards, 10 killed, 37 wounded, 1 missing; Northumberland fusiliers, 11 killed, 21 wounded; First Northumberland, 2 wounded; Second Yorkshire, 9 killed, 14 wounded; First North Lancashire, 3 killed, 14 wounded; Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 15 killed, 35 wounded; 2 missing; First Coldstream, 20 wounded; South Africa reserve, 1 wounded; medical corps, 1 wounded.

From General Foster Walker's dispatch it is proved that all reports of Methuen's advance after the battle of Modder river were premature, though, with the railroad working, he should not be long in constructing temporary bridges. His enforced delay doubtless will be of considerable service in giving his hard-pushed column needed rest, and in allowing the arrival of reinforcements which he must be sorely in need of, after three such fights, placing his men out of less than 7000.

## WEEK'S NEWS IN LONDON.

English and French Papers Carrying on a Violent Controversy.

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LONDON, Dec. 2.—The utterances of cabinet ministers and others on the subject of the suggested Anglo-Saxon-Teutonic alliance have distracted public attention to some degree from the list of casualties that marks British progress in South Africa. But the glowing insinuations of triumphs of British diplomacy can not stem the growing tide of private sorrow that manifests itself with the ever increasing prevalence of crops and the absence, through mourning, of many prominent families from social festivities. As Ambassador Choate said at the American Thanksgiving banquet Thursday, there is scarcely an English family of his acquaintance without relatives already either killed or wounded in the war.

Yet the press has taken kindly to this new topic, though the more conservative papers, such as the Times, point out that a sympathetic alliance with the United States is an easy matter compared with one with Germany on account of difference of race and language. While it is not actually so stated, the palpable distinction has evidently occurred to the writers on this

topic that the United States is far more fitted, from racial and other conditions, to ally herself with Germany than is Great Britain, the development of which, judging from popular opinion, would be decidedly unsatisfactory to Great Britain at present unless she managed in some way to become a party to the new driftland.

The bitter controversy between the British and French press is not without its amusing features. All manner of French men and French women, resident in England, from ladies' maids to authors and abbess, have kept the correspondence column of the English papers full of disavowals of the attacks on the queen, which have marked some of the Paris papers, while the French papers themselves take little pains to conceal their satisfaction over the irritation they have created, though the better class of people discontinue the vulgarities of the criticism.

The English papers have violently assailed every anti-Dreyfusard in France, but they can not conceive the justice of it-for-at argument when the queen's personality is involved. A duel just fought in Paris between M. Jules Huret, of the Figaro, and M. Viau, of the Libre Parole, sprang partly out of the controversy. M. Huret has been in England sending over English articles to his paper and was denounced by M. Viau, who accepted the challenge and paid for his criticisms with a wound in the arm which has paralyzed two of his fingers.

Charles Dani, the cyclist, whose fame up to the present has been based on his defeating Arthur Zimmerman at Florence, has been engaged as the leading tenor of the Lyric theatre, Milan. Two Irish magistrates were deprived this week by Lord Ashbourne, the lord chancellor of Ireland, of their offices on account of anti-British comments on the Boer war. The proceeding is most unusual, especially as one of the delinquents was a nobleman, Lord Emily, who, speaking to some laborers at Limerick, inferred that Great Britain might have another Ladysmith in Ireland.

Lord Ashbourne asked for an explanation, but Lord Emily haughtily refused, whereupon he was removed. Lord Emily is prominent in Ireland, both socially and politically, and an ardent Boer ruler.

The only other instance on record is when Mr. Gladstone, years ago, deprived Lord Rossmore of a legacy for similar utterances.

General Kitchener has decided to open the Waly-Halfa-Khartoum railroad December 4, with a weekly service of trains. Tickets are now being issued to the second catamaran and Khartoum, where a tourist hotel is being erected.

The hearing of the investigation of the concern with which Lord Mayor Newton is mixed up has, so far, brought out nothing startling against London's chief magistrate. A promoter testified that checks were sent to various financial and other editors to obtain favorable notices of the company but his testimony has been publicly contradicted by the papers published.

The new Austrian budget provides for a consular general in Chicago. The Society of American Women will give a musical and theatrical entertainment Dec. 4, in aid of the hospital ship Maine. Those heretofore prominent in the movement are expected to be present though it has been decided not to repeat the features which distinguished Mrs. James Brown Potter's entertainment.

Many members of this society, which was asked by the originators of the Maine idea to help them, are considerably chagrined at the fact that their efforts were interpreted in such a partial spirit. Many of them at first thinking the hospital ship would indicate a more desire to alleviate the sufferings on both sides instead of being taken to mean a warm support of Great Britain, as has been done.

Representatives of 80,000 cotton and cloth workers have appealed to the home society, declaring they will go out on a strike unless the provisions of the law regulating the sanitary conditions of factories are not enforced. They specified unhealthful violations of the law committed by manufacturers. A vigorous prosecution was promised and, as the men apparently made reasonable demands it is not likely the threatened strike will occur.

## THE RIGHT WAY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—The high duty on wooden manufactured goods has had the result of determining several German millowners who have customers in the United States to establish manufacturing branches in this country.

## JOHN I. BLAIR DEAD.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Word has just been received here that John I. Blair, of Blairtown, N. J., a millionaire many times over, and one of the oldest railroad builders and owners in the country, died at 7 o'clock this (Saturday) morning.

## ARE NOW READY FOR BUSINESS

Both Parties' House Caucuses Select Leaders for Session.

## HENDERSON VS. RICHARDSON

No Contest for Rep. Speaker, but Democrats Have a "Time"—Casson to be Sergeant at Arms.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The caucus of the republican members of the house tonight was a cut and dried affair. The selection of a candidate for speaker by the party in power is usually a very animated affair, but months ago all other candidates who entered the field after the retirement of Speaker Reed abandoned the contest, leaving General David B. Henderson, of Iowa, the unopposed candidate. His nomination was therefore a foregone conclusion and he was nominated by acclamation. All officers of the last house, except Colonel Russell, the sergeant-at-arms, were renominated without opposition.

Colonel Russell was not a candidate for reelection and Colonel Henry A. Casson, of Wisconsin, was nominated in his stead. The caucus was presided over by General Grosvenor, of Ohio, who was re-elected chairman of the caucus. Ludenlager, of New Jersey, was re-elected secretary. After his nomination, General Henderson addressed the caucus. He said:

"Economy must be our watchword; care in the expenditures of the peoples' money. At the same time let us be large enough in our intellect to grasp the situation which presents our growing country with the opening and expanding conditions which demand our careful and patriotic consideration. We are going to be met by a well organized and able minority, led by accomplished leaders. This involves the necessity for republicans to touch elbows in the work before us."

Payne, of New York, called attention to the narrow majority in the house and the necessity of having all the republicans present throughout the session. He offered a resolution which was adopted, that no leaves be granted except for urgent causes.

Daniell, of Pennsylvania, offered a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the caucus that the rule of the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth congress (the Reed rules) should be adopted by the incoming house.

After some debate the resolution was adopted.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The Democrats of the house of representatives at their caucus today selected Jas. D. Richardson, of Tennessee, as their candidate for speaker, after a spirited contest which lasted through six ballots. This carried with it the democrat leadership of the floor.

Richardson has served 14 years in the house and is the oldest democrat member in point of service except McRae, of Arkansas. The candidates against Richardson were Representatives Dearmond, of Missouri; Bankhead, of Alabama and Sulzer, of New York.

The caucus also selected the following democrats to fill the four positions allowed the minority party in the house. Special employe, Colonel Isaac H. Hill, of Ohio; special messengers, Ewing T. Bland, of Missouri; son of the late Representative Bland, of Missouri and Felton B. Knight, of Georgia; special page, James English, of California. A resolution was adopted insuring Richardson to confer with Speaker Henderson and request a larger democratic representation on the committee. In the last congress, the minority were allowed six men on each committee. Roberts, of Utah, was present and participated in the caucus. He voted for Richardson for speaker.

## THE NEWS IN BERLIN.

Scheme for a Big Navy Meeting With Public Approval—Our National Humiliations.

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BERLIN, Dec. 2.—After a fortnight of preliminary skirmishing the reitachtag during the coming week will begin serious work, starting with the first reading of the budget, an important part of which will be the advance of the fight for and against the new naval bill. The whole energy of the emperor and government will be used toward making the bill a law and thus securing for Germany the second place in the world as a naval power.

No doubt the German public opinion overwhelmingly favor the bill, as the people believe with the emperor that it is absolutely necessary for Germany's continued prestige as a world power and for the extension of German trade and influence abroad.

The desirability of the United States having suitable government embassies board is again unpleasantly illustrated by the humiliating experience of Ambassador White and by the fact just revealed that Minister Harris, at

Vienna, is undergoing a worse experience. White's trouble is likely to be tided over, as it is understood the little government of Baden has offered to allow the American ambassador to continue to occupy the top flat of the building it purchased until the end of President McKinley's term.

Since Mr. Harris arrived in Vienna he has been vainly searching for a suitable house. The difficulty is the unwillingness of Austrian landlords to rent to Americans. Harris' predecessor, Bartlett Tripp, had a dispute with his landlord and the latter sued Tripp successfully. Even Vienna tradesmen are disinclined to supply anyone connected with the legation unless paid in advance. Both these incidents are causing much astonishment and talk in diplomatic circles at Vienna and Berlin, and many disparaging remarks have been made against the United States' policy in this respect.

## ARMY DOWNED THE NAVY.

Great Game Between West Point and Annapolis Witnessed by 27,000 People.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—The West Point football team defeated Annapolis on the Franklin field this afternoon in a hard fought battle by a score of 17 to 5. The soldiers won because they played better ball.

They were masters of the situation all through the game, with the exception of the last few moments of the contest, when the midgies, by a mighty effort, managed to score by a touchdown. It seemed as though every army and naval officer stationed at Washington was present.

The president's cabinet was represented by Secretary of War Root and Secretary of the Navy Long.

Between the halves of the game Secretary Long was escorted across the field and congratulated Secretary Root on the good work done by "his boys." This little incident started a great hurrah, in which the yells of the West Point and Annapolis cadets were mixed with the long loud roar of the Pennsylvania students.

## NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

Relations of England, Germany and America an Absorbing Topic of Interest in London.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London, dated Dec. 2, says:

"There is a remarkable absence of news from South Africa this morning, and as the cables are working satisfactorily it is clear that the continued ignorance of the public concerning the fight at Modder river is not the result of accident. Nothing is as yet intimated as to the probable extent of the damages received by the British troops or that inflicted on the Boers."

It was stated at the war office last night that dispatches had been received from General Buller but that they were not issued to the press. It was incidentally mentioned that the rank and file casualties at Modder river had not been received.

The embargo upon war news when the two relief columns prepared for decisive battle beyond the Tugela and Modder has enabled Mr. Chamberlain to command the attention of England. The afternoon papers took up their

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

## APOTHEOSIS OF COLONEL BRYAN

Ranked With the Martyrs of  
Filipino Independence.

## HERE ARE VOTES FOR HIM

Is Recognized as a True Son of the  
Filipino Idea—Another Free  
Shiver Territory—'Rob For Billy.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—Mail advices received from Manila give the full text of the Filipino proclamation, notable for its references to W. J. Bryan, Rizal and Aguinaldo, the substance of which was cabled and published some weeks ago. The proclamation was published at Tarlac, in the La Independencia, the official organ of Aguinaldo, Oct. 15. The proclamation says:

"In the struggle which we have sustained with the old sovereignty, the word of freedom was Rizal, and the arm which put this idea into execution was Aguinaldo."

"In the present time Bryan replaces the great martyr. There should be pictured in Filipino history, with the same glory, Rizal, Bryan and Aguinaldo, the glorious trinity of our political redemption; and for the foreigner, who has Anglo-Saxon blood in his veins to defend our cause, we ought to look upon second with the same veneration with which we regard our great martyrs and heroes."

"Bryan, American by blood, by ideas an illustrious son of the Filipinos."

"Bryan is the clasp that links and unifies two friendly people, torn by the same dissensions and deserving of the applause and admiration of the world. The American people are not hostile to the Filipinos. The people have all the time been the victims of the lust of the men in power."

## FRANK M. CHAMBERLAIN.

His Diplomacy is of the Grover Cleveland Kind.

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LONDON, Dec. 2.—Mr. Chamberlain's liking for straight flung words has not only tarred the capitals of Europe into a turmoil, but his declarations have been by no means acceptable to those in England who are responsible for the relations with the United States.

It appears that when Mr. Choate made his Thanksgiving speech he was quite ignorant that Chamberlain was speaking so definitely regarding tangible alliances and the ambassador did not intend his generalities regarding Great Britain, Germany and United States to be taken as a confirmation of the colonial secretary's outspoken remarks.

It would appear that Chamberlain only told the truth, for, in dispatches of Nov. 25th it was pointed out that negotiations were afoot for an alliance looking for a settlement of the far eastern question.

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