

NOTION
Books, Periodicals, Magazines, Etc.,
Are Not to be Taken From The
Library without permission
and the Librarian of such books
will be liable to prosecution.

The Morning Astorian.

VOL. L.

ASTORIA, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1900.

NO. 246



The Drain

upon your purse will amount to very little if you have us do your repairing and plumbing of all kinds. We are always reasonable in our charges, prompt and obliging in service, and our work cannot be excelled in plumbing, gas or steam fitting. How is your old plumbing wearing—let us know.

ECLIPSE HARDWARE CO.

..The Empire and.. Mikado Separators

NONE BETTER

CALL ON...

FOARD & STOKES CO.
AGENTS, Astoria, Ore.

and be convinced that when you get an Empire or a Mikado that you will get the best separator manufactured. Investigate before you buy elsewhere.



EASTER...

Cards and Booklets
Bibles, Prayer Books
Devotional
and Religious Books

GRIFFIN & REED

"Acme" Health Coffee

And a full line of

Ralston's Whole Wheat Flour
and Health Goods...

Golden Pheasant and Corvallis Flour
Are guaranteed to please. WE ARE AGENTS

A fine line of Table Syrups, Relishes and Sauces just in.

Ross, Higgins & Co.

CLATSOP MILL CO.

ASTORIA, ORE.

**Flr, Spruce
and Cedar Lumber**

**Boxes, Sash and Doors,
Shingles and Mouldings**

W. F. SCHEIBE, Manufacturer of the Always Reliable

A full line of Pipes, Tobacco,
and Smokers' Articles.
474 Commercial St.

"La Belle Astoria" Cigar
Scheibe's Opera Star
Scheibe's Special
And Other Brands

C. J. TRENCHARD,

Commission, Brokerage,
Insurance and Shipping.

Custom House Broker.
* * ASTORIA, OREGON
Agent W. F. & Co., and Pacific Express Co's.

BOER REPORTS NOT BELIEVED

Roberts Has Sent No Account of
Any Fresh Disaster.

MUCH UNEASINESS IS FELT

Lord Methuen Engaged in Carrying Out An
Important but Dangerous Maneuver
Which May Cost Heavy Loss
to His Command.

LONDON, April 11.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Brandfort, dated Sunday, says:

Yesterday General Dewet inflicted a third defeat on the British within the week at Merkatfontein, killing and wounding six hundred.

He captured 300 men with 12 wagons, losing only five Boers killed and nine wounded.

LONDON, April 11, 5 a. m.—But for the fact that the war office has issued no news from Lord Roberts during the last three days, there would be little disposition to place any credence in the Boer reports of another British disaster. The unexpected rallying of the Free State commandoes, however, leaves the public in a nervous condition, fearing everything.

Dispatches from Pretoria as late as Monday, did not mention any further Boer victory. On the contrary, they said all the commandoes were quiet, and as Lord Roberts had hitherto never failed promptly to report misadventures as well as successes, or to allow newspaper correspondents to report them, until some confirmation is received, there is justification for regarding the Merkatfontein rumor as only an exaggerated account of the Reddersburg affair. At the same time the Boer reports have so often proved correct that the greatest anxiety will be felt.

The Boer reports seem to indicate that Lord Methuen is advancing from Boshof toward Hoopstad. It is a bold and apparently dangerous move, since, although it turns the right flank of the Boer position at Brandfort, it puts Lord Methuen's force between whatever garrison there may be at Bloemfontein in the Transvaal and the Brandfort force.

The Boer peace commissioners at Napier do not conceal the fact that they have no hope of obtaining peace with independence for the republics, but they will endeavor to save their amour propre or to secure a truce for further negotiations.

Fischer says the present Boer strength at the front is 28,000.

BRITISH DEFEAT CONFIRMED.
Fifteen Hundred Men Lost in Killed, Wounded and Captured at Brandfort.

LONDON, April 11.—The Daily News has the following dispatch from Pretoria, dated Monday, by way of Delagoa bay:

"Is it officially announced that a battle has been fought south of Brandfort, in which 600 British troops were killed and wounded and nine hundred taken prisoners."

"Lord Roberts is declared to be finding great difficulty owing to the scarcity of water."

THE BOERS STILL ACTIVE.
Roberts Making Ineffectual Efforts to Cut Out the Free State Raiders.

LONDON, April 10.—The Boer attack on General Brabant's force at Wepener was resumed at dawn today. The enemy's attack on two or three sides on Monday lasted until 2:30 in the afternoon, when firing ceased and it was believed the enemy had been beaten off, but it was announced this morning from Allwal North, that fighting had again been begun.

Brabant's force, numbering from 2,000 to 3,000, holds positions in a rough country. It is not known what the numerical strength of the Boers is, but whatever it may be it is being rapidly augmented. A body of 2,000 is marching towards Springfontein from

Smithfield, between Wepener and Springfontein. Events in the southeast portion of the Free State have caused the Eighth division, which had been ordered to Fourteen Streams, to be diverted to Springfontein.

The mysterious movements of troops at Bloemfontein are proceeding. Newspaper correspondents are not allowed to telegraph their destination, and the presumption is that Roberts is making a disposition of troops to cut off the Boer raiders when they try to withdraw to the northward from the pursuing British columns.

The reappearance of the Boers in the occupied country has caused a revival of the warlike feeling among the Free Staters of the Pauresmith and Philippolis districts. Federal agents are busy, getting details of the surrendered Boers, and, owing to the Irish garrisons being withdrawn from these districts, the British residents are uneasy.

Boers are reported to have ventured south of Hligarsburg, and to be posting heavy guns four miles north of Elandslag. They are also said to be fortified in the vicinity of Wesselsnek.

General Garrington has reached Cape Town and is going to Belra, Portuguese East Africa, forthwith.

The war office proposes to land at Cape Town before the end of May 30,000 horses. They will be conveyed there in 23 steamers, sailing from New Orleans, Buenos Ayres and Australian ports.

STILL IN DOUBT.

London Daily Mail Cannot Locate the Place of Last British Reverse.

LONDON, April 11.—The Daily Mail publishes the following, dated April 10, from Lourenco Marques:
"The Netherland railroad company professes to have received a telegram reporting a Boer victory near Kroonstad, the Boers capturing 300 British." The Daily Mail remarks:
"There is a Merkatfontein about five and a half miles southeast of Kroonstad, but if the report be true, this can hardly be the place."

"LIONS LED BY ASSES."

Continued Criticism of English Army Methods.

LONDON, April 10.—The Leader says:

"The reports from Boer as well as British sources of our reverses near the Bloemfontein railway are truly lamentable. They show a distinct lack of care and leading."

"Lions led by asses," was an old description of the British army but we thought we had learned something of late years in the commissioned ranks. What light does this war throw upon that possibility?"

HEAVY CANNONADING.

PRETORIA, Monday, April 9.—Heavy cannonading is reported at Fourteen Streams. The British are using the naval gun. Lord Methuen is moving in the direction of Hoopstad.

CASUALTIES AT DEWETSDORP.

PRETORIA, April 10.—The British casualties in the fight at Dewetsdorp were one hundred killed and wounded and 439 captured.

ANOTHER TEXAS DISASTER.

Town of Lebanon Wrecked by a Tornado.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 10.—It is rumored here that the town of Lebanon, in Bee county was swept by a tornado early today and is wrecked.

BUYING AMERICAN HORSES.

NEW YORK, April 10.—The Journal and Advertiser will say tomorrow: A contract to buy from 30,000 to 35,000 horses for the British government was about completed in this city yesterday.

WINTER WHEATAVERAGES HIGH

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The April report of the statistician of the department of agriculture shows an exceptionally high condition for winter wheat in the states west of the Mississippi river from the Pacific coast.

The latter averages are: Washington, 106; Oregon, 100; California, 90.

MARCUS DALY WILL SUCCEED

Clark's Scalp Dangles at His Immaculate Belt.

THE REPORT UNANIMOUS

Senate Committee Finds That Montana Legislators Received Too High a Price for Their Votes—The Senator Has Nothing to Say.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The senate committee on privileges and elections today decided by a unanimous vote to recommend an option resolution declaring that Honorable W. A. Clark, of Montana, is not entitled to occupy his seat as Senator from Montana. The decision was reached after a two-hours' sitting, at which all members of the committee were present except one. The absentee was Senator Caffery, and he wired his vote in opposition to Clark.

A ballot was not taken until all the members present had expressed themselves upon the question, some of them speaking at some length and all expressing different shades of opinion. Harris indicated the most pronounced leaning toward leniency for Clark. He did not express any doubt that there had been a lavish expenditure of money in Clark's behalf, and while conducting this course, he spoke in terms of strong condemnation of the tactics pursued by some of Clark's opponents, referring especially to Congressman Campbell and ex-Senator Whiteside. He said that whatever Clark's offenses, they were but little worse than the methods pursued by Campbell and Whiteside in their efforts to expose the senator, and he insisted that if the report was to be antagonistic to Clark, it should at the same time relate in full detail the course pursued by the two principal witnesses against him.

The two senators also expressed some doubt as to the jurisdiction of the conclusion drawn by the majority of the committee that Clark's candidacy for the senate began in August, 1898, when he returned from Butte to New York. The effect of this conclusion was to charge up the entire \$139,000 which Clark confessed to have expended, to his campaign for the senate, while the contention which was made in Clark's behalf was that he did not become a candidate until after the state election, thus eliminating from the campaign in his individual behalf the amount spent in the general contest. McComas was among the senators who expressed himself as convinced that the senatorial seat was in view from the beginning. McComas, however, united with other senators in condemning the methods pursued in prosecuting the case.

The consensus of opinion of the committee appeared unfavorable to accepting any one special feature against Clark as the basis for a report against him, the general opinion being that it was the cumulative character of the testimony that should be considered rather than any special detail. Harris raised the point in Clark's behalf that the cumulative effect of the testimony could not properly be considered, but he was overruled in his position. If prominence was given to any one line of testimony more than to another, it was dealing with transactions apparently of a regular business nature between Clark or his agents and members of the legislature.

The purchase of property from Senator Warren and Representative McLaughlin and the money tendered Representative Wood to lift a mortgage from his ranch, were considered as bearing directly on the case. Of these matters, the Wood case received special attention. Payment of money to Representative Day after Clark's election also had weight. The opinion was expressed that no one of these facts was a sufficient basis for an adverse report, but all agreed that all the facts, many of them admitted, together with other occurrences connected with the campaign, were sufficient to justify a positive position against the senator continuing to hold his place.

The fact that Clark and his representatives had failed to make their reports to the state authorities of Montana as required by the state law was also urged against him in the discussion in the committee, as was the fact that he and his representatives had destroyed all their vouchers, showing where money had been used and to whom paid. When attention was called to the fact that this course was usual with the campaign managers, the statement was met with the contention that while the plan might be more commonly adopted than it should be, still there could be no reasonable excuse for it after the Whiteside exposure. It was then known there would be a contest and the argument was made that every scrap of paper bearing upon the election should have

been preserved after this development in the case.

Chandler and Turley were directed to prepare the report. It is expected to be presented at an early hour today.

Clark was at the capitol when the announcement of the action of the committee was made known. He was surprised at the result, but refused to make a statement until after consultation with his friends and attorneys.

The senator bore himself with his usual composure. His face appeared somewhat flushed, but his voice was calm and his manner collected, and he discussed other business affairs as if nothing had transpired. He was asked if there was any truth in the report that he had decided to resign, and he replied as he did to all other questions bearing upon the case: "I can't at present answer any questions bearing on the report of the committee on elections."

Senator Faulkner, counsel for Clark, was summoned to the capitol immediately after the verdict of the committee was announced, and had a long consultation with his client over the situation.

After agreeing to vote on the Quay case April 24, the senate devoted the remainder of the session to eulogies of the late Representative Bland, of Missouri.

CLARK HAS NOTHING TO SAY.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Senator Clark of Montana will make no statement at this time concerning the report of the senate committee on privileges and elections to declare his seat vacant.

It is not believed that Senator Clark contemplates resigning his seat at this time.

AGRICULTURAL BILL PASSED.

Corliss Amendment to Distribute Free Dinner Pails to Workingmen Defeated.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The house devoted the day to the agricultural bill, passing it substantially as reported. An animated discussion arose over a series of amendments offered by Corliss of Michigan, restricting the distribution of seeds and free vaccine. Corliss maintained that this government distribution invaded the field of private enterprise. His various amendments failed.

An amendment by Latimer of South Carolina was adopted, increasing the supply of "Farmers' Bulletins," issued by the agricultural department and distributed by members of congress.

Corliss, of Michigan, offered an amendment to the provision for the free distribution of seeds providing that "dinner pails for laboring people" be included in this distribution. He said there was as much reason to give dinner pails to one class as to give seeds to another class. The amendment was defeated.

TONGUE RENOMINATED.

Resolutions Adopted Endorsing the Gold Standard and the Administration of McKinley.

McMINVILLE, Or., April 10.—The republican convention of the First congressional district today renominated Thomas H. Tongue for congressman on the first ballot. The vote was as follows:

Tongue, 92.
Gatch, 27.
Hewitt, 14.
Brownell, 17.
Carter, 11.

George A. Steel, of Clatsamas, and J. B. David, of Yamhill, were elected delegates to the national convention, and were instructed to vote for the renomination of President McKinley. Resolutions were also passed endorsing the gold standard and the administration of President McKinley.

W. T. Harris of Lane county was elected chairman of the congressional committee.

KENTUCKY REPUBLICANS.

Call Issued for a State Convention, at Which Taylor Will Be Elected Delegate to Philadelphia.

LOUISVILLE, April 10.—The republican state central committee today issued a call for the state convention to meet here on May 1. It is practically settled that Governor Taylor, ex-Governor Bradley, Senator Deboe and Wm. A. Gaines (colored) will be delegates at large to the Philadelphia convention. If, meanwhile, the republicans are defeated before the supreme court in the contest for state officers they will renominate Governor Taylor for the November elections.

NO EVIDENCE FOUND.

Consul Hay Reports That the Consulate Files Do Not Substantiate Macrum's Charges.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—United States Consul Hay at Pretoria, has responded to an inquiry addressed to him by the state department respecting Consul Macrum's charge that the official mail of the consulate was tampered with. Hay reports that after a careful search he has failed to find in the files of the consulate the slightest evidence to support the statement.

PORTO RICO VOTE WILL BE CLOSE

Republican Majority of Three.
Only Is Assured.

THE LEADERS ARE ANXIOUS

Democrats Straining Every Nerve to Prevent Concurrence—Eight Republicans Are Against the Bill—The Date Not Yet Fixed.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—A meeting of the rules committee has been called for 11 o'clock tomorrow morning when the question of a special rule fixing the time and duration of the debate on the Puerto Rico bill in the house will be determined. If two hours on each side is allowed, the vote will come late in the day.

As to the final result of the vote there continues to be much doubt and a little anxiety on the republican side, owing to the extremely narrow margin between the two sides.

Long, the republican "whip," said: "There is too much doubt to venture a prediction. The situation is summed up thus:

"The republican majority in the house is 19; there are 4 republicans against the bill; that leaves a majority of only 3. It is a narrow margin."

Representative Underwood, the democratic "whip," said: "We will have every man present except two; they are in bed. There will be no democratic votes for the bill. This will make the vote close and we hope to prevent concurrence."

THE GOVERNMENT SURPLUS.

Secretary Gage Estimates It Will Be \$79,000,000 by June 30.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—In response to a resolution of the house of representatives, secretary of the treasury Gage has submitted figures showing the receipts and expenditures of the government and also the surplus created.

The secretary estimates that the surplus at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30 next will be \$79,000,000, and at the end of June 30, 1901, it will be \$82,000,000.

DEWEY HAS PULLED OFF.

This Time He Has Taken His Orders From Brother-in-Law McLean.

NEW YORK, April 10.—A Washington special to the Evening World says: It is asserted this afternoon, on what seems to good authority, that Admiral Dewey has decided to withdraw as a candidate for the presidency, and that within a few days he will formally announce his decision. His brother-in-law, John R. McLean, is alleged to be responsible for this latest move.

Within 48 hours, Dewey has been in consultation with democratic leaders and others antagonistic to President McKinley, and the opinions they expressed, together with the unfavorable views by the newspapers, decided him, it is asserted, to withdraw from the contest.

STILL A CANDIDATE.

Dewey Says the Report That He Has Withdrawn From the Race Is False.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Admiral Dewey said tonight that the report published in a New York afternoon newspaper to the effect that he intended to withdraw his candidacy for the presidency was all a mistake, that he had never given any one whatever any such information.

JONES ON DEWEY.

Chairman Democratic National Committee Says the Admiral's Candidacy Will Cut No Figure.

NEW YORK, April 10.—Senator Jas. K. Jones, of Arkansas, chairman of the democratic national committee, tonight said:

"The expressed purpose of Admiral Dewey to run for president had not unduly excited him or any other democrats. In fact, he thought the Dewey boom would be short lived and that under no circumstances could it interfere with Bryan's candidacy. "It is my belief that Bryan will be nominated on the first ballot."

CRONJE AT ST. HELENA.

ISLAND OF ST. HELENA, April 9.—The Niobe and Milwaukee have arrived here with the Boer prisoners. The governor has been notified of the desire of the authorities that the prisoners shall be treated with every courtesy and consideration.

Special for this Week Only

IRON BEDSTEADS, \$3.15
Oak Clobber Seat Arm Rockers, \$1.75

CHARLES HEILBORN & SON

891-895 COMMERCIAL STREET