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MAFEKING'S FATE YET UNSETTLED

British Relief Column Reported Within 32 Miles Tuesday.

NEWS ANXIOUSLY AWAITED

Butler Forcing His Way into the Transvaal, Where He Will Join in Roberts' Advance—Rundie, Sweeping the North-east Free State, Captures Many.

LONDON, May 17.—The British relief column fought the Boers at Kraaipan, 32 miles south of Mafeking, Tuesday, according to a telegram received Wednesday at Lourenco Marques from Mafeking, 160 miles north of Mafeking. This intelligence is accepted here with some reserve because it is difficult to understand how news could have been so quickly put on the wire from a place 122 miles from the scene of the engagement. A correspondent of the Morning Post, presumably John Stuart, is reported to have been captured by the Boers at Kraaipan.

The British public is keeping expectant of the announcement that Mafeking has been relieved. In army circles the opinion seems to prevail that this has already been accomplished, although two hours after midnight the war office asserted that news of the relief had not been received. The steadfast courage of the hunger-bitten garrison has produced a deep impression and the news of its succor is awaited with more anxiety than has been felt regarding any other event of the war.

Lord Roberts continues passive at Kroonstad. His cavalry are stretching like a semi-circle across many miles in length, without lapping the flanks. General French's cavalry had one lively fight after crossing the Zand river. A mixed squadron took a kopje and dismounted. The Boers suddenly fired from a concealed position, killing many horses and stampeding the rest. The Boers then advanced in overwhelming numbers and drove the squadron off, capturing some. The Boers robbed the dead and looted their saddles. A small brigade of cavalry drove them off.

Farther north the Hussars charged the Boers, killing and wounding many of the stragglers with sabres and pistols. Lord Roberts' infantry marched 120 miles in seven days. General Buller is moving towards New Castle. He appears to be using 25,000 men against 5,000 or 6,000.

His operations will almost certainly result in his forcing his way into the Transvaal, possibly in time to co-operate with Lord Roberts' advance. Although General Buller is now 352 miles from Johannesburg or twenty-five days' march.

General Rundie is sweeping through the northeast of the Free State. The Boers are dissolving before him and some are surrendering. Their main force is assembled between Ficksburg and Winburg, but it is without close organization.

Today's installment of the war story from every part of the war field is, therefore, seemingly a narrative of British successes, but with the Boers preparing for the last desperate fight farther in the interior and with Boer guerrilla parties looting houses and stores in the northwest section of Cape Colony, it is not all roses for the British.

THABANCHU, Tuesday, May 15.—The British force advanced this morning twenty miles to the north and west and took possession of Maunquing's Nek.

LONDON, May 16.—The war office has posted the following dispatch from General Buller, dated Dundee, May 15:

"We occupied Glencoe yesterday and the Transvaalers have now evacuated Biggarsburg. The Free States on the Drakensburg are much reduced in numbers. The Pretoria, Carolina and Lydenburg commandos trekked north from Hlatikulu on the 13th and 14th of May with eleven guns. Eleven guns were entrained at Glencoe. The last train with ambulance left there at dawn May 15th. The result has been largely produced by the action of the Fifth division, which, during the last few days,

has done a great deal of very hard work in the way of marching, mountain-climbing and road-making. Trains are now running to Wessels' Nek station.

LONDON, May 16.—The most important development in today's war news is a statement cabled from Cape Town announcing that the Boer delegates had advised the Transvaalers to surrender if defeated at the Vaal. This remarkable announcement is vouched for on good authority, and evidently obtains more credence in Cape Town than would a mere rumor.

The occupation of Glencoe was merely a logical sequence of General Buller's advance and the Boers' retreating movement. As usual the Boers are reported to be flying, but also, as usual, the accounts add that their transport and guns were removed in safety, which in itself is a contradiction of any statement that the Boers were panic-stricken.

About 1,100 more troops have arrived at Biera, Portuguese, East Africa. Among them is Lord Dunraven, who accompanies the Dunraven sharpshooters as a supernumerary captain on the battalion staff.

LONDON, May 16.—The war office posts the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, under date of Kroonstad, May 15:

"Two officers and six men of Prince Alfred's guards, while out foraging yesterday a few miles from Kroonstad, visited a farm flying a white flag, the owner of which surrendered himself with arms and ammunition. They then approached another farm, also flying a white flag. When within 40 yards of the enclosure, they were fired upon by fifteen or sixteen Boers concealed behind the farm wall.

LONDON, May 16.—10:30 A. M.—The war office has posted the following dispatch from General Buller, dated Dundee, May 16: "We occupied Glencoe yesterday; the Transvaalers have now evacuated Biggarsburg. The Free States on the Drakensburg are much reduced in numbers. The Pretoria commandos trekked north from Hlatikulu on the 13th and 14th of May. Eleven guns were entrained at Glencoe.

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SULZER AGAIN BOBS UP.

He Is Preparing a Grand Reception for the Boer Delegates in Which He Will Be the Central Figure.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Representative Sulzer (dem.) of New York, chairman of the committee to receive the Boer delegates in Washington, today received a telegram from Messrs. Fischer, Wessels and Wolmarins, stating that they could not leave New York before Friday. Sulzer then announced his program as follows:

Thursday night a committee of three United States senators, three representatives and a committee of prominent citizens will go to New York to escort the delegates here. Friday night an informal reception will be held at the hotel and Saturday morning the Boer delegates will call on the president. Sunday night there will be a meeting at the Grand opera house, when the delegates will speak and there will be addresses also by senators and representatives. Sulzer says the stay of the delegates will be made the occasion of a notable demonstration.

NAME FULL TICKET.

Missouri Republicans Hold Their State Convention at Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 16.—The republican state convention of Missouri today, in continuous session lasting from 9:45 a. m. to 4:45 p. m., named delegates-at-large, alternates-at-large and presidential electors to Philadelphia, and selected a full set of state officers. The nomination for governor and lieutenant-governor were by acclamation and there were but slight contests for the other state offices. The ticket is as follows:

Governor, Joseph Flory, of St. Louis; lieutenant governor, E. F. Allen, of Kansas City; secretary of state, E. L. Porterfield, of Springfield; treasurer, W. E. Fleming, of Webster Grove; auditor, Alf Bloembaum, of St. Charles; attorney-general, Samuel O'Fallon, of Oregon; railway and warehouse commissioner, C. C. Crouse, of Pierce City.

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SENATOR CLARK'S COUP ON DALY

Much Comment in Washington, But No Definite Opinion.

GOVERNOR SMITH FURIOUS

He Denounces the Action of Lieutenant-Governor Spriggs as "Shameful, Disgraceful and Humiliating," and Clark as a "Convicted Perjuror," Etc.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—While there is much discussion among senators over the status of Senator Clark, of Montana, there has not been sufficient crystallization of sentiment to justify a conclusion as to what the final result may be.

The present purpose is to move a reference of the senator's credentials, when they are presented, to the senate elections committee. Indications at present are that this reference will be opposed by some of Clark's friends, who take the position that if this disposition be made of the credentials it would be for the purpose of so delaying a report as to prevent action on the case during the present sitting of congress and thus practically prevent Clark's resuming his seat at all, as a new legislature will be convened in Montana next January, a month after the next session of congress convenes.

It is thought by some senators that Governor Smith will have a presentation of the facts to make which it will be necessary to consider. Chandler called up the resolution declaring that Clark, of Montana, was not entitled to a seat in the senate, and asked that it be postponed until Saturday next at 1 o'clock, "in order," said Chandler, "that the committee on privileges and elections may consider what action shall be taken." The request was agreed to.

OGDEN, Utah, May 16.—Governor Robert B. Smith, of Montana, was in Ogden today, en route to Helena. Relative to the appointment of Senator Clark to the United States senate by Lieutenant Governor Spriggs, he spoke in very vigorous terms of what he termed "contemptible trickery."

He said: "This man Clark has been convicted by the United States senate of perjury, bribery and fraud and it is an insult to the senate to send him back to that body. It is a disgrace, shame and humiliation upon the people of Montana, and the senate should adopt a resolution and show him that they do not want him there, as he can take a hint in no other way."

SAN FRANCISCO, May 16.—The Examiner prints an interview from Wadsworth, Nev., with Governor Smith, of Montana, who is en route from California to Helena, Mont., in which the governor is quoted as follows, concerning the resignation and reappointment of Senator Clark:

"I came to California on business," the governor said, "and never thought that such a scheme would be hatched during my absence from my executive duties, or I would never have left the chair in the power of the lieutenant-governor. The trouble is the cause of my early return, and I pray to God that I may reach Helena in time to prevent its consummation.

"There is no way of preventing this act, as the lieutenant-governor is vested with the same rights as the governor during the latter's absence. I knew that Spriggs was favorable to Clark, but did not think he would be guilty of such an act in the face of the fact that not 25 per cent of the Montana people are favorable to Clark as their representative in the halls of congress. If the appointment is made before I reach Helena, I will have to accept the inevitable."

DALY'S RICH ASSOCIATES.

ANACONDA, Mont., May 16.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company was held today. The following were elected trustees for the ensuing year: Marcus Daly, H. H. Rogers, William Rockefeller, Albert C. Burrage, Wm. L. Bull, Wm. C. Rockefeller, E. C. Bogert.

JAPANESE IMMIGRATION.

Supt. Powderly Says It Is Encouraged by Societies in Japan.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Secretary Gage in response to an inquiry from the house of representatives as to the extent of the influx of Japanese, has submitted a letter from Immigration Commissioner Powderly, stating that the arrivals for the nine months ending March 31 last, were 4,427. Mr. Powderly says the extent of Japanese construction work in the western states and territories satisfies the bureau that many Japanese are coming across the Canadian border, there being no law which permits adequate inspection or the keeping of record of this entry.

While it can only be conjectured as to what this immigration will amount to

in the future, Mr. Powderly says the steady increase of arrivals and the rumors coming through officials on the Pacific coast indicate a large increase in such immigration. The commissioner sets forth the difficulties of checking the coming of the Orientals and says that the report of an inspector who visited Japan states that persons high in political and social life are connected with the immigration societies.

Mr. Powderly also states his belief that the traffic is being encouraged from this country by those seeking cheap labor.

PENSION FOR MRS. LAWTON.

The Brave General's Widow Granted \$100 Per Month by Congress.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The house accomplished little today besides passing the senate bill to incorporate the American National Red Cross Association.

A discussion of the administration of affairs in Cuba by the agents of the United States, occupied the attention of the senate during the greater part of today's session. Bacon (dem.) of Georgia addressed the senate at length on his resolution directing the committee on relations with Cuba to make an investigation of the conduct of the financial affairs of the island.

The following bills were passed:

Granting a pension of \$100 a month to the widow of General Lawton; to ratify an agreement with the Indians of the Crow reservation in Montana; providing that where an unmarried woman has settled on a tract of and is married before making entry, her rights shall not be forfeited by her marriage; a bill providing that all honorably-discharged soldiers or marines who saw service in the civil war, in the Spanish war, or in the Philippine war, shall be given preference in civil service appointments, age or loss of limbs not being regarded as disqualifications.

WILL BE RETAINED.

Decision to Recall Part of the Asiatic Fleet Has Been Reconsidered.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—At the instance of Rear-Admiral Remy, in command of the naval forces on the Asiatic station, the navy department has reconsidered its decision to recall to the United States the gunboats Concord and Bennington. Secretary Long says that there is no special significance to be attached to this action, and that he presumes that because of their light draft the boats are wanted to guard against the importation of arms into the Philippines and to assist in military operations during the approaching rainy season.

WASNT THIS ALREADY SETTLED.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The senate committee on interoceanic canals, through its chairman, Senator Morgan, today presented its written report on the Nicaragua canal bill. The committee takes a strong position against the proposition to build the canal via the Panama route and favors the Nicaragua route.

DEWEY HOME AGAIN.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Admiral and Mrs. Dewey returned to Washington this afternoon.

KANSAS REPUBLICANS.

Nominated a Full State Ticket at Topeka Yesterday.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 15.—The republican state convention met here today and nominated the following-named candidates:

For governor, W. E. Stanley, of Sedgewick county; lieutenant-governor, H. E. Richter, of Morris county; associate justice, W. A. Johnson, of Ottawa; secretary of state, George A. Clark, of Geary; for treasurer, Frank Grimes, of Wichita; auditor, George E. Cole, of Crawford county; attorney-general, A. A. Goddard, of Shawnee county; superintendent of public instruction, Frank Nelson, of McPherson; insurance commissioner, W. V. Church, of Marion county; congressman-at-large, Charles F. Scott, of Allen county.

BAD NEWS FOR BRYAN.

Western Federation of Labor Will Support Debs' Presidential Ticket.

DENVER, May 16.—The Western Federation of Labor convention this afternoon passed resolutions urging all labor organizations to unite in the support of one political party, as the only means by which laboring men may hope to secure the rights they consider their due.

No party was named, but private expression from the members show that Debs and his party hold first place with them.

ST. LOUIS STRIKE STILL ON.

ST. LOUIS, May 17.—At 12:30 this morning the executive committee of the strikers rejected the agreement arrived at between the transit company and the strikers' grievance committee. The strike is still on.

THE PHILIPPINES GROW IN VALUE

Island of Mindanao Found to Be More Important Than Luzon.

NEGLECTED BY SPANIARDS

And Never Explored by Them, It Turns Out to Be a Wonderful Empire, Capable of Being Made a Second Cuba—Complaints of the Censor.

MANILA, April 12.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The Manila editors and the correspondents of American newspapers here are hoping that the arrival of the civil commission will result in a reform of the present censorship methods. Cablegrams announcing the appointment of the commission were received by two of the newspapers but the censor forbade them to print this news. He has asserted that he suppresses only that news "inimical to the interests of the military government."

Frequent friction arose between the correspondents and the previous censor while the Schurmann commission was here over messages relating to the commission and there was some times much trouble in getting through news which the commission had given out for publication.

The editors of the local papers complain bitterly and unanimously that the censorship, as it is managed, inflicts upon them wholly needless hardships and great financial loss. The only Filipino paper which supported the American administration has suspended publication on account of the censorship and the editor of the oldest and most respectable and friendly Spanish journal announces that he intends to close his business and leave Manila because it is impossible to publish a newspaper under the restrictions imposed by the present government.

The editors argue that the publication of newspapers which support the government's policy, as all of the Manila papers do, is an enterprise that should be encouraged rather than harassed. That they pay almost prohibitive rates to secure cablegrams, that they are served by reputable and conservative press agencies and that their own financial interests lead them to instruct their correspondents not to throw away money on cablegrams which could not be published.

They argue that no correspondent could possibly foresee that such news as labor strikes or the appointment of a commission to the Philippines would be considered inimical to the interests of the government and that moreover the news which comes to them is not suppressed but merely postponed because the Philippines receive the leading newspapers from the United States and read them with the greatest care.

The Americans are just beginning to realize that in the island of Mindanao until recently merely a big blot on the map, they have a wonderful empire, potentially the most valuable of all the Philippine possessions. Although nearly as large an island as Luzon, with a much better climate and capable of being made a second Cuba in commercial value the Spaniards never really controlled nor even explored it.

They lived in deadly fear of the natives and frittered away enough lives to have made the conquest of an empire without gaining possession of more than fringe of coast towns. With two regiments, the Thirty-First, which he recently distributed among the towns on the southern and eastern coast, and the Forelleth, which he has just established in the north, General Bates acquired for the United States as much territory as Spain held, and what Spain never could get, the friendship of all the tribes which the Americans have encountered, tempered with wholesome fear.

GONE TO GERMAN FIRM.

Americans Turned Down on a Contract for a Large Electrical Plant in Yucatan.

NEW YORK, May 16.—Felipe G. Ganton, of this city, who has just returned from a visit to Yucatan, says:

"When I left New York for my trip to the south, I was all confident that American bidders on electrical and structural iron contracts in Yucatan would be the victors. I was, however, wrong, as the \$500,000 contract for the electric light plant for the city of Merida, which will be the first electric light plant in the state of Yucatan, has been secured by the Siemens-Halske Company, of Berlin, and the \$300,000 iron pier contract for Progreso has been awarded to an English Company. And why? Simply because better prices, better deliveries and better conditions all around, were accorded by the foreign firms. One thing that favored the European contractors was the fact of their supplying more complete specifications than their American competitors."