

THE OULOOK IS DISCOURAGING

Few Signs of Progress in South African War.

RAILWAYS HELD BY ENEMY

Inhabitants in Constant Fear of Disturbances in Conquered District—Lord Methuen Most Highly Commended by Subordinate Officers.

NEW YORK, July 15.—Returning British officers do not speak hopefully of the situation in South Africa, says the Tribune's London correspondent. They assert that the railways are securely held and that there are small signs of progress in the Orange and Transvaal provinces, but that the inhabitants are in constant fear of disturbances and that the British influence there is few signs of progress.

The railway line from Johannesburg to Lings Nek is still menaced and the Dutch section along the South Orange river is ravaged by guerrillas, and broad districts of the Transvaal and the Orange River colony are only kept quiet by being emptied of their population through repeated marches of strong columns.

In Cape Colony Schepers is giving to General French considerable trouble. The feeling in England is far more bitter against Mr. Steyn, who has just narrowly escaped capture by Broadwood's column, than against Mr. Kruger, the former being regarded as interfering in a quarrel not concerning him and, apart from the impression which his being made prisoner would undoubtedly have made in the Orange River colony, his escape will cause great disappointment. Lord Kitchener's dispatches, by referring to Mr. Steyn's brother as among those captured, rather indicates that the other prisoners are of small importance.

Of the generals in South Africa, Lord Methuen is the most highly commended by the officers serving under him. He is described as one of the most energetic and resourceful generals at the front. Instead of complaining of the harsh criticism to which he was subject, he has remained in the service and displayed untiring industry and gallantry.

PARIS EXPOSITION AFFAIRS

Work of Issuing Medals and Diplomas Nearing Completion.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.) PARIS, July 15.—Mr. Benjamin D. Woodard, assistant commissioner general of the Paris Exposition of 1900 in the presence of the commission's architect and contractors handed over to the official of the French Exposition administration on July 15 the different building sites of the Champ de Mars on which the United States Commission had erected annex buildings for the department of agriculture, merchant marine and factory and fisheries. There remains now to effect the final settlement of amounts due to contractors as well as to a score of other creditors. A few matters are still pending with various French ministries.

Some errors are yet open to correction in the final proof sheets of the awards made to American exhibitors. About fifty orders for special gold and silver medals are on file with the Paris mint and ready to be filled. As for the regular engraved diplomas and the accompanying bronze medals which are distributed to exhibitors receiving awards above an honorable mention, it will be a matter of several months before they can all be issued.

It is probable, however, that by the end of July the medals for the first

group under the French classification will be handed to the assistant commissioner general. The remainder will be transmitted in time to the recipients through the care of the United States embassy in Paris and the department of state in Washington.

Mr. Woodard is planning to sail for home early in August. Before his departure he will be received in farewell audience by President Loubet.

FAMINE IN RUSSIA

Lack of Rain in Eastern Provinces Will Ruin Grain Crops.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, July 15.—Large parts of the empire are again threatened with famine. The last official report which has just been published was dated June 21.—Since then not a drop of rain has fallen in the eastern provinces and it is believed the crops are now largely oxidized and in many districts.

The provinces of Samara and Saratov will probably witness a recurrence of two or three years ago and a dearth in these provinces is particularly dreaded on account of the ignorance and helplessness of the Bashkirs and Tatars who make up considerable part of the population there.

The newspaper Volgar states that from all sides reports are coming that both winter and summer grain are beyond hopes of salvation, even should there be ample rains and no hay at all will be harvested. Since early June the temperature has been hot and no rain has fallen. The fields are burned and brown and the feeding of cattle and horses has already begun to be a problem. The same kind of reports are coming from the Province of Kazan. The Volga provinces have already been visited by two severe famines during the last ten years and the population has lost whatever power it once possessed to withstand famine.

DEVELOPE TORPEDO BOATS

Naval Officer Assigned to Train Men in Handling Them.

NEW YORK, July 15.—Lieutenant Lloyd H. Chandler has received orders to proceed to Newport and assume command of the torpedo boat Bailey, says a Washington dispatch to the Herald. These orders carry with them the duty of training officers and men in handling torpedo boats and in fitting them to so operate the vessels under their command that they can serve as fitting auxiliaries of squadrons of armor clads. This ability is of special importance in view of the increased range of torpedo boats work consequent upon the reports from France of the highly successful operations of the submarine boat, Guesar Zede. Lieutenant Chandler has devoted himself especially to matters affecting torpedo boat construction and maneuvers and is particularly qualified to instruct officers and men in this branch of their duty.

Families of torpedo boats with an organized and equipped in the Atlantic coast at Narragansett Bay, Norfolk and Charleston, S. C. These points have been selected by the navy as the headquarters of the navy's torpedo boat fleet.

Two repair stations for the boats at Narragansett Bay are recommended as the headquarters of the navy's torpedo boat fleet.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 15.—The

STREWN WITH CORPSES

TERRIBLE DESTRUCTION OF LIFE IN NORTHERN JAVA.

Outburst of Volcano Kiloet—Seven Hundred Natives and Number of Europeans Perished.

TACOMA, July 15.—Oriental advisers give details of terrible destruction of human life which occurred in Java last month by a sudden and terrible outburst of the volcano Kiloet. For fifty miles around all the coffee plantations and other estates were destroyed by showers of ashes and stones, together with great quantities of lava and mud. Seven hundred natives and a number of Europeans perished.

The lava also consumed the superintendents of the estate and about twenty-five coolies. Many coffee plantations were destroyed. The country around was strewn with corpses.

Fourteen arrests have been made at Singapore in connection with the recent robbery of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank of notes amounting to nearly \$500,000. The prisoners are bank clerks and money changers and include two women.

Many thanks are being made because the Russian authorities at Port Arthur are opening all letters to and from the American and European residents there. Nothing is permitted to be sent out that contains any allusion to Russian military affairs or criticism of Russian methods.

PITCHED BATTLE BETWEEN MEXICANS AND NEGROES

Fifteen Negroes Killed and Several Wounded—Casualties Among Mexicans Are Unknown.

HERNANDEZ, Tex., July 15.—Word was received here today of a regular pitched battle between Mexicans and negroes who are working on the new Rock Island extension in New Mexico, 100 miles west of here. The trouble originated in the killing of a Mexican by a negro some weeks since.

Last week some thirty-five or forty Mexicans armed themselves with Winchester repeaters and went after the negroes. A battle took place in which fifteen negroes were killed outright and several wounded. The casualties among the Mexicans cannot be learned.

ANSON MAY RETURN

PHILADELPHIA, July 15.—The Tribune says that Captain A. C. Anson may return to a controlling position with the Chicago National League. Captain Anson when seen refused to discuss the report.

NEW MASONIC HEAD

King Edward's Son Will Be Installed as Grand Master Wednesday.

NEW YORK, July 15.—On Wednesday the Tribune's London correspondent says an impressive Masonic function will take place in England. This will be the installation of the Duke of Edinburgh as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England in connection with the king, who presided over the grand for twenty-six years.

The ceremonial will be the same as when the Prince of Wales was placed in the throne of the grand lodge by King Edward of the Province of Durham and it will be conducted at Albert Hall in the presence of 10,000 masons and other members of a past or present grand lodge.

FOR SALE

The Columbia River Packers Association has for sale two schooners and one launch. A description of the schooner follows: Schooner "Kinney"—Length 35.5 beam, 11.5; depth of hold, 12.0; Schooner "Battle"—Length 35.5 beam, 9.5; depth of hold, 11.5. Offers will be received at the office of the association, where full particulars may also be had.

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It can't help but do you good

Prepared only by E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago. The 51 bottle contains 75 times the dose.

WILL SEND GREETINGS

PRESIDENT TO HONOR LEAGUE CONVENTION.

Chief Executive Will Touch Button Which Will Sound First Note of "America."

SAN FRANCISCO, July 15.—President McKinley has sent word through Secretary Clegg that he will be pleased to extend his greetings to the members of the Epworth League on the opening of their annual convention in this city. He is also expected to touch a button which will sound the first note of "America" on the grand organ in the pavilion Tuesday evening.

The tune of the national anthem will then be taken up by a chorus of 1500 voices, and at its conclusion the message from the president will be read. At 11 o'clock Thursday morning the convention will be called to order and for three days every hour of available time will be occupied with meetings in which all branches of Christian work will be discussed.

The general exhibit of the Epworth League has been placed in charge of the missionary conference. It will be aided by many men prominent in the missionary field. Nearly 10,000 League members already arrived in this city and the railroad companies announce that over 25,000 more will reach here before Thursday morning.

Pears'

Pretty boxes and odors are used to sell such soaps as no one would touch if he saw them undisguised. Beware of a soap that depends on something outside of it.

Pears', the finest soap in the world is scented or not, as you wish; and the money is in the merchandise, not in the box.

All sorts of stores sell it, especially druggists; all sorts of people are using it.

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