

How the Boers are Coming into Their Own Again



The Wife who Aided Botha in War and Peace



Gen. Louis Botha Prime Minister of the Transvaal

Botha's Selection as Premier Proves a Triumph for Transvaal People

THE scene was Guildhall, London; the occasion, a banquet given to the premiers of British colonies, who had come to the city to attend the important colonial conference. Before the door stood trumpeters, who, with fanfares, proclaimed the arrival of the statesmen.

Cordons of police lined the streets. Gray-headed and gray-bearded diplomats alighted from carriages. They were resplendent in court dress. When the statesmen arrived the announcers proclaimed their names.

"General Botha!"
At this announcement there were salvos of applause. A tall, heavily built, kindly faced, dark-complexioned man stepped lightly into the room. He was visibly affected by the demonstration. Other premiers followed the new head of the Transvaal.

After an address of welcome by the recorder of the city, Sir Joseph Dimsdale, city chamberlain, ascended the dais, and, offering his hand in turn to each premier, handed each a gold casket. Moulded in the form of a globe, and surmounted by a figure of Britannia, each casket contained a parchment giving the freedom of the city.

At this moment a small man in uniform stepped across the room. His was the rugged face of a man of many battles. His breast was covered with medals and decorations. Some one whispered his name—"Lord Roberts!"

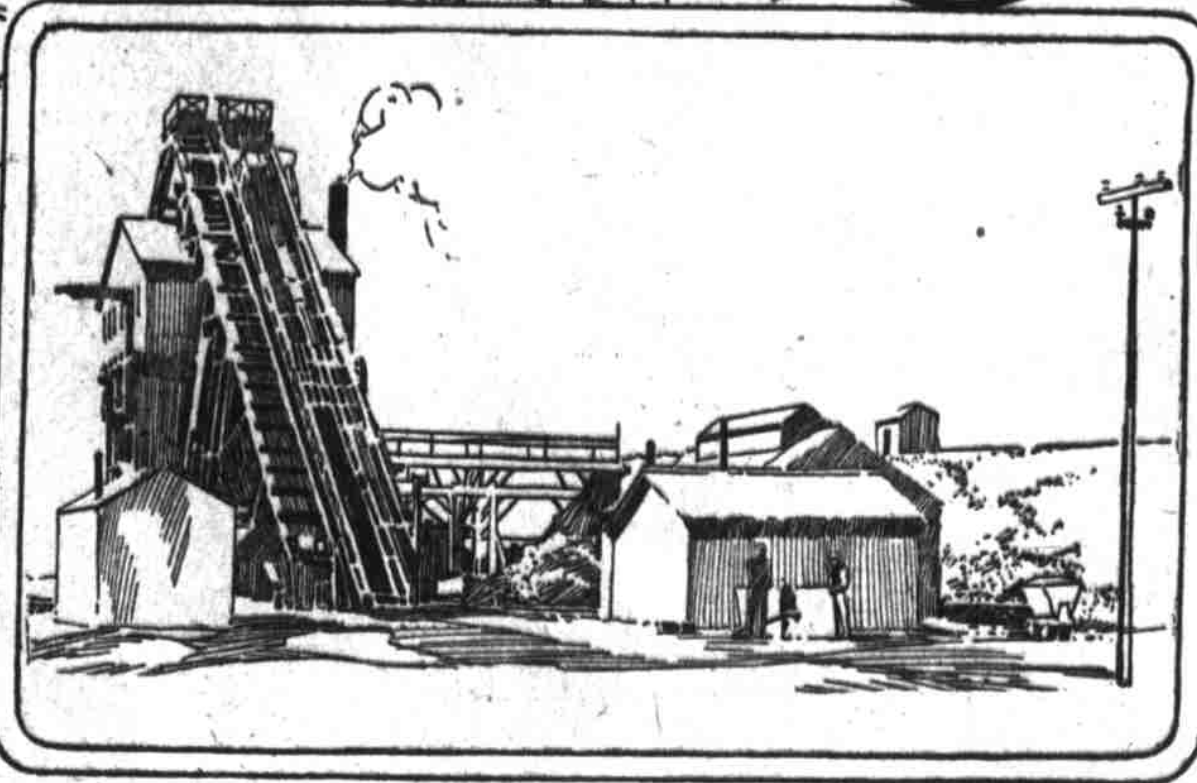
The Boer heard it and turned. The two looked at one another, recognition lighting their eyes—the militant English general, successful campaigner of the veldt; Botha, head of the Boer forces that went down to defeat. Joy shone in the eyes of each; impulsively they clasped hands, unable to utter a word. The two old foes met as friends.

A vanquished general before, Botha now met Roberts as a successful statesman, his victory the result of a battle of ballots instead of bullets, yet a loyal supporter of the British throne.
In his new position as premier, General Botha typified one of the most remarkable changes of circumstance that the political world has ever witnessed. Beaten, discouraged only a short time ago, the Boers, through Botha's elevation to the premiership, their control of the Transvaal Parliament and the constitution granted them by Great Britain, have come into their own again. Once more they are masters of the Transvaal.

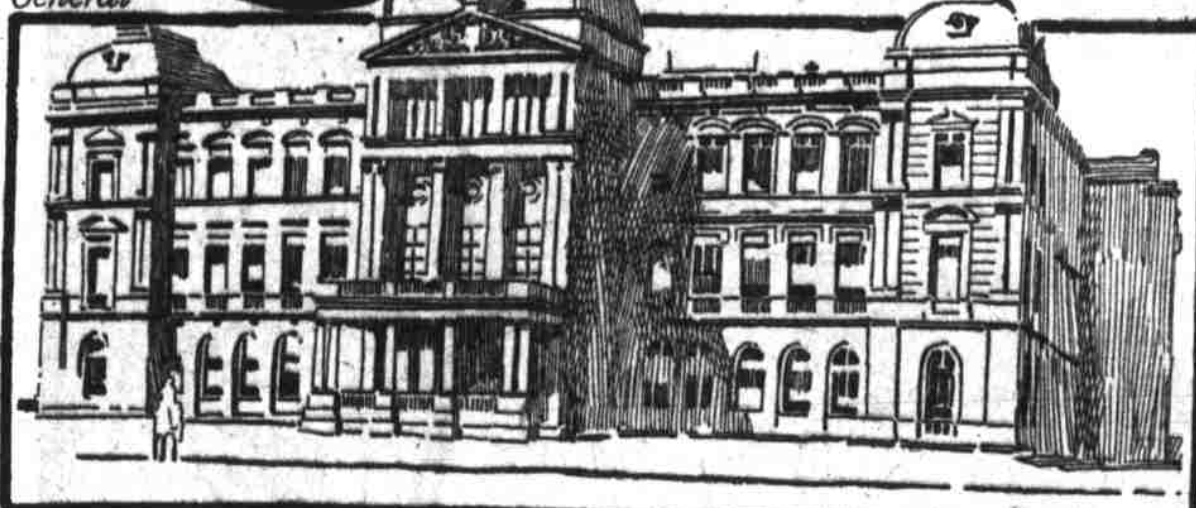
In all history there is no parallel to the change of conditions in the Transvaal. Less than five years after the war ended and the Treaty of Vereeniging was signed, General Botha was chosen as prime minister of his people, the head of a free and self-governing British colony.
The Transvaal now virtually governs itself. The victory of the Boers at the recent election was evidence of the power of a purposeful and determined conviction on the part of a people. Determined to rule themselves, despite defeat, the Boers succeeded. Determined to develop their own resources, to bring prosperity and wealth to their country, they have striven to overcome the old feeling of hatred and resentment toward England. Both parties are working for the best interests of the colony, but the Boer has again won virtual independence.
The colonial conference opened in London April 15. Of all the visiting premiers, Botha was the youngest,



Botha as a Boer General



Transvaal Gold Mine. Chief Cause of the Trouble



New Parliament House at Pretoria.

the newest. He was the most popular. In the city, where six years before his name was known only as that of an implacable foe, he was greeted with cheers whenever he appeared in public, was entertained and feted.
London hailed him as a political lion. He was the object of wild, overwhelming enthusiasm. Members of the nobility, as well as the populace, vied in paying him honor.
In his welcome to the premiers, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the English prime minister, said: "I wish to extend a special greeting to General Botha—the Benjamin of the Brotherhood, if I may use the phrase—the first prime minister of the Transvaal, whose presence in our councils I am sure you will welcome as cordially as do his Majesty's government."

England gladly accepted the hand of South Africa, with good-will, confidence, loving regard.
"When the invitation arrived to attend this conference, my government did not hesitate to express the opinion that the invitation should be accepted at once," declared the general.
"Having been the leader of the Boer population there, and because the government has now received great privileges from the imperial government, it was a source of pleasure for me to attend the conference on behalf of the Transvaal people, and to prove by such attendance that the old Dutch population of the Transvaal would work loyally with the English population for the welfare of the Transvaal and of the whole British empire."
Thus South Africa, with no rancor in her heart,

gave her hand to England. The old scores were forgotten. And the compact was sealed by the love feast at which Botha was the hero.
England proved her good-will by granting to Botha more favors than any other premier received, even guaranteeing a Transvaal loan of \$5,000,000—a pledge of credit such as no other self-governing colony had ever received.

General Botha was accompanied to London by his daughter, Miss Helen, a fair, golden-haired girl, who became the pet of London society. If you have not already forgotten the popularity of President Roosevelt's daughter, Mrs. Longworth, before her marriage, perhaps you can imagine the popularity of Miss Botha, for in London she became known as "the Princess Alice of South Africa."

There is a pretty little sentiment about a nation being governed by women, when the feelings of the women are said to direct the actions of men. If this is true, South Africa should fare well at the hands of the British government, for London fell in love with the Boer premier's daughter. The women of London were charmed by the lovely South African Helen.

"When I was in Johannesburg three years ago," wrote William T. Stead, recently, "I told the Boers that I would return in five years or find them the most prosperous, the most contented and the most loyal of all the subjects of King Edward."
The victory of the Boers began in England about a year ago. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, leader of the pre-Boers, was swept into power by the largest majority Parliament had seen in seventy years. And this despite the fact that, not long before, Boer sympathizers in Britain had been hooted and mobbed.
Under the British Liberal government a new constitution was drafted for the Transvaal by the lord chancellor, Lord Loreburn. Winston Churchill, under secretary of state for the colonies, announced in the House of Commons last July that a constitution would be granted both to the Orange Free State and to the Transvaal.

The Boers had asked for woman suffrage; this was refused. The right to vote, however, was given to all males who had reached the age of 21 years and who had lived in the Transvaal for at least six months. One member was to be elected to the Transvaal Parliament from each district.
The importation of Chinese coolie laborers for the mines had been made possible through an ordinance passed by the late Balfour ministry. This recruiting

ceased on November 13, 1906, and with it passed away one of the chief causes of discord, as the Boers are bitterly opposed to the Chinese coolies.

BALFOUR IN ERROR

The announcement of the constitution raised a howl of protest from the Balfour party. The former prime minister arose in the House of Commons and declared that the Transvaal was not ready for self-government. To this Lord Campbell-Bannerman hotly replied that the Boer speech was unpatriotic and unworthy. The constitution was granted the Boers.

Although the Boers accepted the conditions offered by Great Britain, they did not deny that they disliked the British flag. They remembered their charges, that before that flag the homes of 500 women and 20,000 children had been burned. But the Dutch were wise; they accepted the constitution, somewhat uncertain as to the outcome, yet alive to the expediency. Their hope of national salvation lay in obtaining control of the new Transvaal Parliament.

There were three parties of importance in the contest of ballots. These were the original Boers, who formed a great party called the Het Volk; the Progressives, led by Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, whose purpose was the ascendancy of the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines, and who stood for the British capitalists; and the Nationalists, who stood for the Dutch; and the Nationalists or British-born colonists and colonials who opposed the capitalists more than they did the Boers.

Before the election the so-called Progressives loudly claimed victory. The Boers had little to say. They simply voted. More than 90 per cent of the electors in the rural districts polled. Those who stayed away from the voting places were not the Dutch; the farmers went miles to vote.

They were a vanquished people; now the change of self government was held out should they not take advantage of it? It was true their country had rapidly filled with foreigners since the war, and many Boers had gone elsewhere to settle, but they believed themselves in the majority.

The result was victory for the Boers. Of sixty-nine seats in Parliament, they secured thirty-six. The Progressives expected to secure twenty seats, but they were won by themselves, without the aid of the sympathetic Nationalists. They succeeded. With the aid of sympathizers who were elected, however, they believe they could hold a majority of about twenty-five in the Parliament.

There was a loud cry of dismay from the British capitalist Progressives. The mining industry would be ruined, they claimed; the Chinese, who had come from the country, they knew that the Boers felt bitterly toward the men who had so arrogantly conducted the great mining operations in the Transvaal, thinking more of the money to be made than of the rights of the people of that country.

Botha became premier of the new government and at once demonstrated the wisdom of the Boer policy. The council of state in the field. He knew that only a few skillful moves remained to be made, and the Boers would once more have come into their own.

CHOOSE ABLE ASSISTANTS

As colonial secretary he appointed General J. C. Smuts, a man of great ability, who had been Kruger's attorney general, and organizer of the Boer army. He selected as attorney general, Jacob de Villiers, a former attorney general of the Orange Free State; for minister of public works, Edward Solomon, leader of the Nationalists, and for treasurer, Mr. E. J. Botha, who was an Englishman.

In a message to the British nation Botha said: "At your signing of the treaty of peace, I the solemnly accepted what is so dear to your king and your flag. They are now our king and our flag."
In reply to the charges that the new Ministry would act in favor of the mine owners, he declared:
"As I protected the mines during the war, so I shall see that they are not injured now. We simply object to the men running the mines also running the country. The talk of wholesale Chinese repatriation regardless of consequences is nonsense. I say emphatically that nothing is to be done to increase the mines so far as unutilized labor is concerned."

That England has confidence in Botha's pledges, in his ability to steer the new ship of state to a harbor of prosperity and contentment, was manifested on his recent visit to London.
The Boer War lasted two years, seven months and nineteen days. And during the war no one distinguished himself by such heroism and ability as General Botha. When the war began in October, 1899, Botha was practically unknown. He was a prosperous farmer living near Pretoria. He was the first to take arms against the British, and during the early part of the war distinguished himself by fighting along the Tugela river.

While the British forces contended with General Cronje at Mafeking in January, 1900, General Botha and General De Wet both valiantly sought to go to General Buller, but were beaten back by the British. General Buller died at Pretoria on March 27, and Botha was elected chief of the Boer army.

The present representative of the king of England in the Transvaal then became the terror of the British. He harassed the army in every possible way. By his guerrilla warfare General De Wet kept the British on the qui vive. General Botha showed the characteristics of a great general in his command of the entire force.
Upon his arrival at Cape Town in January, 1900, General Botha organized an army of 120,000 men, which was to sweep north in a mighty column, devastating all before it. While the army was being organized there occurred the battle of Spion Kop, where 600 Englishmen fell on the field. Under Botha the burghers fought their hardest battle.

For two months General Botha guarded a front of thirty miles with only 2000 men. To do this he had to change position every night, and drag heavy cannon from place to place. He showed his mettle as a commander.
Although he fought valiantly it was known that Botha longed for peace. Yet when the terms of Joseph Chamberlain were made in March, 1901, he promptly rejected them.

No less patriotic than General Botha is his wife. When he fought during the war, she was a constant inspiration to her warrior husband. Mrs. Botha is an Irish woman, a descendant of the ill-fated Robert Emmet.
Just as she sympathized with her husband's people during the war, so she has entered into the spirit of reconstruction of the Transvaal.

During the war she often ordered her carriage and drove near the scene of a battle, where, with clenched hands and tense face, she prayed that the Boers would win.
Her prayers were not in vain. The Boers have won finally. But in another way than was anticipated.
The terms of surrender were favorable to the Boers. No tax was imposed upon the Transvaal for the cost of the war, while a sum of \$2,000,000 was to be provided by the British government for retooling the Boer farms.
Sentiment in England gradually changed; the tactics of Lord Milner, representing the British crown in South Africa, were denounced, and a kindly feeling manifested itself toward the vanquished people. Through the constitution the Boers were enabled to have their own ministers; they are promised entire independence.
Persons who have visited South Africa recently say the farms which were devastated during the war are retaining their former prosperity; that an era of "good times" is evidently before the Boers. They are greatly rejoiced that once more they have the management of their own affairs in their own hands, and that their government headed by their own Louis Botha.

How the Average Man, Plus Pulleys Equals Samson

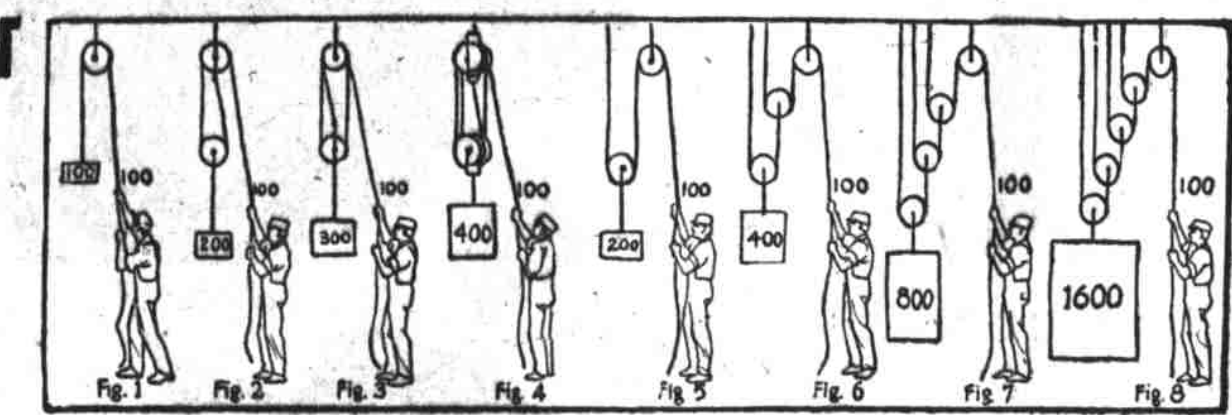
IF YOU were commanded to lift 1600 pounds when your normal lifting strength was equal to only 100 pounds, how would you go about it?
How would you increase your strength sixteen times?
It can be done easily. Have you ever studied the effectiveness of pulleys; do you know that the average man may equal a Samson simply by employing a rope and a few pulley blocks?

As early as the sixteenth century methods of augmenting power through pulleys was demonstrated. Since then this wonderful mechanical aid has proved of vast benefit to man.

THE man, then, who would rival the feats of Samson must call the humble but powerful pulley to his aid.

Of course, he can do a great deal with a lever, although he may not, as Archimedes believed could be done, loosen old Earth from her moorings. Still, for an example of gradually but powerfully augmented strength he would turn to the pulley.

Suppose that by the use of two pulleys you were able to lift 100 pounds from the floor, and you wished to lift twice the weight. Were you to take a double block and use it above one single block, you could lift 200 pounds.
By the use of two single pulleys the load is supported by only one rope; by the use of a double pulley, thus doubling the rope back on itself, its lifting power, as well as your own, is increased.
If you used two double pulleys, you could increase the lifting capacity to 400 pounds by doubling the



lines around the pulleys. In proportion to the number of ropes supporting the load you can increase the weight.
To lift 400 pounds you would merely have to double your blocks. In drawing the rope a man pulls it in an opposite direction from the movement of the weight. Were you to get above the pulleys and pull upward, the weight of the rope—however slight—would figure in the calculations.
No doubt you have often seen men lifting great loads and immense boxes by means of pulleys and wondered how it could be done.
In building, the pulley is one of the most valuable pieces of mechanism. While looking at skyscrapers have you not wondered how the great iron beams were lifted to the dizzy heights?
Here, again, the pulley has done almost incredible work.
Still another way of using pulleys is to increase the number instead of doubling the winding capacity of single blocks.
By using two pulleys you will lift, possibly, 200 pounds. If you add another single pulley, you will be

able to lift 400 pounds, or twice the weight, without extra exertion.
By the use of four single pulleys you could lift 800 pounds, and with five pulleys 1600 pounds.
Of course, the facility of lifting a heavy weight and the ease of increasing it depends upon the bearings of the pulleys. It is important that these be delicately adjusted and well oiled.
From a purely mathematical standpoint the fine elements which enter into the facility of increasing weight without the necessity of additional lifting force are numerous.
A great deal depends upon the elasticity of the rope. With a stiff rope you would find more difficulty in lifting a weight than with a flexible one.
Even the friction of the rope as it slides over the pulleys must be taken into account.
The use of pulleys was demonstrated by Sevin, a Dutch engineer and physicist, who was born in Bruges, in 1518.
After traveling about the country as a merchant Sevin was employed by the prince of Orange, and performed valuable work in military engineering. He also adopted a system of double-entry bookkeeping while employed by the prince.

A TRUE WARRIOR'S HELMETS