

LOOMIS IS RECALLED

Gunboat Will Carry Him From La Guayra to San Juan.

WILL TEACH VENEZUELA A LESSON

The Minister's Future Action Will Depend Altogether on His Conference With Secretary of State Hay.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Frank Loomis, United States minister to Venezuela, has been recalled, and will soon be on his way to the United States. The future of Minister Loomis depends upon the conference which will be held at the state department between Secretary Hay and himself when the minister reaches Washington. Until the secretary has had an opportunity to talk freely with Mr. Loomis as to the conditions in Venezuela, it cannot be known positively whether or not he will return to his post. Mr. Loomis has been the object of bitter attacks by some of the Venezuelan newspapers, not solely because of the asphalt controversy, but also because he was charged with making false reports to his government touching the insurrectionary government in Venezuela.

The minister did inform the state department of the conditions as he saw them, and the prospects of the revolutionary movement. The Venezuelan government could not have direct knowledge of the minister's report, but because they were followed by the appearance of three United States warships in Venezuelan waters, they came to the conclusion that the minister reported as very menacing and serious revolutionary movements which the government organs were trying their best to minimize. Therefore these papers lost no opportunity of attacking Mr. Loomis in print, and have succeeded in making his lot unpleasant.

It is only fair to state that the Venezuelan charge here asserts positively that these attacks were made by irresponsible newspapers and that the government was not behind them, and deprecated them. If Mr. Loomis confirms this view, and he cares to return to Caracas, he will be permitted to do so.

There is no present intention of sending the North Atlantic squadron to Venezuela, for, as above stated, the government cannot decide how this matter should be treated until Mr. Loomis has been personally consulted. The squadron, which is at Culebra Island, engaged in maneuvers, is about to head north in a few days. One or two of the vessels will be sent first to Kingston, Jamaica, but the stay will be temporary, and the whole squadron will soon be under way for Tomkinville.

It was decided that in the interest of a quick passage to the United States, Mr. Loomis should be carried by the Scorpion to San Juan, Porto Rico, there to take one of the regular merchant steamers for New York. The officials did not know positively when the minister would leave Venezuela, but at the navigation bureau it was stated that there was no good reason why the Scorpion should not sail to day from La Guayra, if Mr. Loomis is on hand.

PANAMA CANAL CONCESSION.

Negotiations Without Colombia's Consent Would Forfeit Charter.

NEW YORK, April 3.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: While M. Hutin, president of the French Panama canal, has been awaiting the participation of Colombia in the negotiations for the sale of the Panama canal to the United States, M. Bruna Barila, formerly an engineer of the company, who says he represents some of the stockholders, has indicated to the Isthmian canal commission that the company is willing to sell its concessions and property. Mr. Barila will leave in a few days for France. He has been in Washington for several days. M. Hutin has seen M. Barila, and the two have talked over the situation.

M. Barila has represented to Rear Admiral Walker, president of the Isthmian canal commission, that M. Hutin is to be displaced from the office of president of the French company. It is learned, however, that M. Hutin was advised only a few days ago of his re-election to the presidency, showing that he is to be retained for another year, and that a majority of the stockholders are satisfied with his policy.

M. Hutin has contended that under the terms of the concession held by the company, the grant would be subject to forfeiture from the moment negotiations began for its sale, unless such negotiations had the approval of the Colombian government. It was therefore impossible for him to submit a proposition for the sale of the concession to the United States as required by the Isthmian canal commission.

Mount Baker Road Nearly Ready.

Seattle, April 3.—P. B. Corwin, president of the Bellingham Bay & British Columbia railroad, is in the city on business connected with his road. He stated today that the road to the Mount Baker mining district will be in operation by May 1. The roadbed has been graded, steel bridges put in, and the final tracklaying is now being hastened as much as possible. Mr. Corwin is chief owner of the Black Diamond coal mines, and while in Washington will visit that property with a view to making extensive improvements preparatory to making larger shipments to meet the increased demand.

Big Timber Land Deal.

Eureka, Cal., April 3.—Two big deals in timber lands have just been consummated here, involving \$398 acres of this large transfer the Merryman Fruit Land & Lumber Company, of Michigan, secured 2500 acres, and Charles A. Smith, of Minneapolis, 1398 acres. In round numbers this last acquisition will increase the holdings of Smith and his partners to 30,000 acres, making them the largest owners of redwood timber in the world.

ULTIMATUM TO CHINA.

Russian Threat Unless Manchurian Treaty is Signed.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Information has reached here to the effect that the Russian government, being seriously perturbed by the course of China in not signing the Manchurian agreement, largely because of the protest made by the several powers, has conveyed a distinct and unmistakable intimation to China that if this course is persisted in there may be an interruption of diplomatic relations between Russia and China and a termination of the present intercourse between them. This is little short of an ultimatum that China must sign or take the consequences of a termination of her friendly relations with Russia.

To what extent the United States will take cognizance of Russia's disposition to enforce the signing of the agreement has not yet been made apparent. It appears to be the policy of the Chinese authorities to consider this as a subject which concerns the powers quite as much as it does China. The matter has become further complicated by reports reaching Washington that the Chinese authorities are divided on the course to be pursued, some of the most influential including Li Hung Chang, urging that acquiescence be given to the Russian proposals, while others insist on rejecting the agreement. The attitude of Li Hung Chang is accounted for by his well-known friendliness for Russian interests. In this case, however, there appears to be arrayed against him the strong influence of the southern viceroys, Chan Chi Tung and Lai Kun Yi, who oppose the signing of the treaty.

The reports reaching here this morning showed that the agreement had not yet been signed. Its status is most peculiar. The time within which it was to be signed expired last Tuesday, but on that day Yang Yu, the Chinese minister, fell in the St. Petersburg legation and hurt his head so that he was unable to transact business. This misfortune caused much amusement here, and some irritation in certain quarters, as it had been recognized as a timely means of avoiding a direct action on the subject.

It is not clear to what extent the Russian intimation has gone, but in any event it gives an urgency to China's course which has not been presented thus far.

MUCH MISERY IN FRANCE.

Result of Dock Strike at Marseilles—Floods Add to Distress.

PARIS, April 3.—The masters persist in their refusal to discuss a day of eight hours, which has all along been regarded by the strikers as the crucial point in the dispute. In spite of the increasing number of freight dockers now working, quantities of perishable goods are rotting on the docks. Two or three steamers are awaiting discharge.

The general strike, while it lasted, and the continued suspension of work, has done enormous injury to the commerce and industry of Marseilles. The calculations show an industrial loss of some 25,000,000 francs while the men have lost 2,000,000 francs in wages. A curious illustration of the bitterness which the strike has engendered between the men and masters is seen in the fact that the strikers instructed their delegates to give formal notification to the minister of finance of frauds in the oil seed trade, pointing out that oil seeds were imported in bags, which the custom officers have not been in the habit of opening, with the result that articles subject to a much higher import duty are smuggled in. The commerce of Marseilles is, for the time being, almost at a complete standstill, which are imported are scarce. The prices of sugar, coffee, flour and other necessities have increased. A number of factories have been obliged to close. These conditions, added to the serious damage done by the floods and hail, have thrown the whole population into deep misery. The storekeepers and merchants intend to appeal to the government to remit the taxes for the first three months of the year.

FOREST FIRES IN NEW JERSEY.

Five Thousand Acres of Big Timber Destroyed—Windsor in Danger.

HAMMONTON, N. J., April 3.—One of the most extensive forest fires that has visited this section of the state is raging in the big woods north of this city. The fire reached a point just east of the town of Winslow last night, and for several hours it was feared the town would be wiped out. Men, women and children fought the flames and succeeded by back firing in turning the flames to the north of the town. While the men throw up benches to keep the fire away, women and children carried their household goods to places of safety and are guarding them, as a change in the wind is feared.

Several farm buildings, about 5000 acres of big timber and thousands of cords of wood have been consumed. Many narrow escapes of the firefighters have been reported.

Interest in Spain in the Capture.

Madrid, April 3.—The capture of Aguinaldo has caused much interest here. The press is divided on the subject. In a published interview the director of the Filipino organ here and the president of the so-called Filipino junta emphatically declare that the capture will have no permanent effect on the war; that Aguinaldo will be replaced, and that the Filipinos, aided by the climate, will never be subdued.

Good Workers for Mills.

It is said that the New Englander makes the best mill hand.

Will Go to West Point.

Washington, April 3.—The president today appointed Calvin T. Titus to be a cadet at large at the United States military academy at West Point.

Titus was the first soldier to scale the wall at Pekin. General Corbin today cabled General MacArthur at Manila to send young Titus home on the first available transport, in order that he may take the entrance examination to the academy.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Aguinaldo Acknowledges Uncle Sam's Sovereignty.

REPORT FROM GENERAL MACARTHUR

The Ex-Chief of the Tagal Rebels Promises to Become a Peaceable and Law Abiding Citizen.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—The war department today received information from General MacArthur that Aguinaldo has taken the oath of allegiance to the United States under the terms of amnesty offered by General MacArthur by direction of the president. The dispatch conveying this information contained much more than was given to the public. The portion withheld related to the future disposition of Aguinaldo and made suggestions as to what the late chief of the insurrection might accomplish. No official statement could be obtained as to what finally would be done with the prisoner, but it was emphatically stated that he would be held for the present, but would be granted all possible immunity consistent with existing conditions. General MacArthur has hopes that a great deal may be accomplished through Aguinaldo. During the time he has been a prisoner he has made quite a favorable impression upon General MacArthur. General MacArthur's dispatch follows:

"Manila, April 3.—Adjutant General, Washington: Since arrival at Manila, Aguinaldo has, at Malacanang, been investigating conditions in archipelago. He has relied almost entirely upon the instructive advice of Chief Justice Arellano. As a result, today he subscribed and swore to the declaration on page 11 of my annual report.

"The oath referred to is as follows: 'I hereby renounce all allegiance to any and all so-called revolutionary governments in the Philippine Islands, and recognize and accept the supreme authority of the United States of America therein. I do solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to that government; that I will at all times conduct myself as a faithful and law-abiding citizen of the said islands, and will not, either directly or indirectly, hold correspondence with or give intelligence to an enemy of the United States, nor will I abet, harbor or protect such enemy; that I impose upon myself these voluntary obligations without any mental reservations or purpose of evasion, so help me God.'

"It has been suggested that under the terms of the notice of amnesty, the prisoner should be set at liberty at once, but there is a provision in the amnesty proclamation which says that those who have violated the laws of war are excepted from its terms. Whether or not General MacArthur has been satisfied that Aguinaldo had not violated the laws cannot be stated, as the prisoner would be permitted to take the oath pending an investigation of his past conduct. Aguinaldo, having been the head of the insurrection, undoubtedly can be held until further investigation is made or until the circumstances which surround the situation in the Philippines make it advisable to release him outright, or otherwise dispose of him. The conditions and the general situation and Aguinaldo's relation to them was the subject of General MacArthur's dispatch.

RETURN OF GOVERNOR ALLEN.

May Decide Not to Return to Porto Rico.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—While Governor Allen, of Porto Rico, who sailed yesterday from San Juan, on the Mayflower, for Hampton Roads, has not formally submitted his resignation, so far as can be learned, his friends here would not be surprised if he decided not to return to Porto Rico. Governor Allen went to Porto Rico in July last, at the request of the president, to set up the new civil government there and get it into good working order, with the distinct understanding that he was not to be asked to remain after this was done. The president and the secretary of war are full of praise for the manner in which Governor Allen has accomplished his task. It is expected here that if Governor Allen declines to continue in office, Secretary Hunt, late of Montana, will succeed to the place. As to Governor Allen's future, his name is connected with official gossip with one of the foreign ministries, though as there are no present vacancies he might be obliged to wait for a time.

NONE OF HER BUSINESS.

Russia's Reply to the Protests of Japan.

YOKOHAMA, April 4.—Leading Japanese newspapers assert that the Russian government has replied to Japan's protest against the Manchurian convention to the effect that Russia does not wish to enter upon a discussion with a third power relative to her negotiations with China; that the proposed agreement is purely temporary, and not intended to impair the sovereignty of China or to injure the interests of other powers; that the contents of the agreement immediately upon its conclusion will be communicated to the other powers, who will undoubtedly find them acceptable, and, finally, that if any of the provisions are not acceptable to Japan, Russia is prepared to discuss the matter in a friendly spirit.

Disorders in Russia.

Berlin, April 4.—The Vienna correspondent of the Times, reviewing the Russian political situation, takes a serious view of it, believing that the first reports of far-reaching revolutionary movements are confirmed by reports of sanguinary disturbances in Dyalystock, where there is no university. The disorders there, in his opinion, show that the rioting is no longer confined to students. The correspondent, however, does not believe that the domestic situation will immediately hamper Russia's foreign policy.

HER SAILING PREVENTED.

Injunction Suit Against British Mule Transport.

NEW ORLEANS, April 4.—Proceedings were brought in the United States court here today by representatives of the Boers to prevent the sailing of the ship Anglo Australian, loaded with mules, consigned to the British in South Africa. Judge Parlange, after reading the petition, issued an order requiring the defendants in the case to show cause April 6 why a preliminary injunction should not be granted.

The petition sets forth that the United States and its people are at peace with the South African republic, and the Orange Free State and their citizens; that Great Britain is at war with these republics, seeking to destroy the property rights and credit of the petitioners; that for the purpose of carrying on this war, the Anglo Australian is now loading at this port with munitions of war, namely, mules and horses to the number of 1200, and to the value of \$150,000; that the steamer is employed in the military service of the king of Great Britain; that for some time defendants have been forwarding from this port such munitions of war, knowing that these munitions and the ship were in the military service of Great Britain, and they were to be used against the people of the South African republic, and the Orange Free State; that defendants are making use of New Orleans as a basis of the military operations of Great Britain in its war in South Africa, and to augment its military supplies and arms; that by the use of these munitions the armies of Great Britain are laying waste and destroying the farms and home of petitioners and holding as prisoners of war the wife and children of one of the petitioners, Samuel Pearson; that Samuel Pearson has already suffered the destruction and loss of property to the value of \$90,000, and is threatened with the loss of \$150,000 more, and, finally, that the war can be carried on by Great Britain only through the renewal of its military supplies from this port, and that when these supplies cease, the war must end. In consideration of these statements an injunction is asked to prohibit the shipment of military supplies out of the port. A temporary injunction is asked in the meantime.

THE BOOZ INVESTIGATION.

Findings of the Military Court of Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The findings of the military court of inquiry which investigated the treatment alleged to have been accorded to the late Oscar L. Booz, ex-cadet at the West Point military academy, have been made public at the war department. The findings of the military court are summed up in a letter written to Secretary Root, which accompanies the report. The letter says: "The findings of this court of inquiry, which are sustained by the evidence, show that the statements which led to the convening of the court to the effect that ex-cadet Oscar L. Booz came to his death by reason of injuries received by having at the academy were not true. They show that at the same time Cadet Booz was a member of the academy hazing was prevalent there to a deplorable extent; that the present officers of the academy have shown commendable energy, zeal and efficiency in detecting and punishing offenses of this character, and that they greatly decreased the practice. The testimony and findings of the court were placed in the hands of the committee of congress charged with the investigation of the subject, and the very efficient and beneficial action of that committee, followed by legislation upon the subject, contained in the act of March 2, 1901, renders further action by the department unnecessary."

THE MANCHURIAN TREATY.

Rumor at Pao Ting Fu That It Has Been Signed.

LONDON, April 4.—The Morning Post publishes the following dispatch from Pao Ting Fu, dated March 31: "Chinese officials here profess to have received information from Li Hung Chang that the Manchurian convention has been signed."

"The Chinese expect after all that the Manchurian convention will be ratified in the course of the next five days," says the Tien Tsin correspondent of the Standard, writing Monday. "The southern viceroys and governors are incensed, and threaten rebellion if the court yields. The northern Chinese are more ignorant and indifferent. The Tartar general at Feng Tien, Manchuria, has issued a proclamation assuring the people that the Russian occupation is only temporary. The Chinese troops at Feng Tien are wearing Russian badges, and the town is occupied by a strong Russian force."

Settlement With Turkey.

Washington, April 4.—There is reason to believe that Lloyd C. Griscom, secretary and charge of the United States legation, at Constantinople, who is now on his way home, has earned the credit of effecting a final and satisfactory settlement of the American missionary claims against Turkey that have taxed the abilities of no less than three of the ablest ministers ever sent by the United States to Constantinople. It appears now that Mr. Griscom has finally succeeded in arranging with the Turkish government the principle upon which these long-standing claims shall be settled, and that the pledge of the Turkish government in such binding form that it is not doubted that payment will soon be made.

Fresh Disturbances in Manchuria.

Berlin, April 3.—A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from St. Petersburg, dated April 1, says robber bands, Boxers and Chinese soldiers have been causing fresh disturbances in Manchuria in the neighborhood of Chang Tu Fu. General Gaulthers is strengthening the railroad military posts between Karan and Tientsin. General Gaulthers has asked Governor General Gredokoff to send reinforcements, as a general revival of the Boxer movement is expected in the spring.

CHINA WILL NOT SIGN

Rejects Manchurian Treaty and So Informs Russia.

WANTS TO CONTINUE ON GOOD TERMS

But Says This Action Was Made Necessary by Pressure from Other Powers—Earl Li Was in Favor of the Treaty.

PEKIN, April 5.—The Chinese government has formally notified Russia that China, owing to the attitude of the powers, is not able to sign the Manchurian convention. "If it is China's desire," says the formal notification, "to keep on friendly terms with all nations. At present she is going through a period which is the most perilous in the empire's history, and it is necessary that she should have the friendship of all powers much she might be willing to grant any special privilege to one power; when others object it is impossible for the sake of making one nation friendly, that she should alienate the sympathies of all others."

AGREED TO BY COLOMBIA.

Will Lease Canal Territory to the United States.

NEW YORK, April 5.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Official denials greeted the published report that J. Pierpont Morgan, having discovered a gold mine on the Panama canal route, would head a syndicate to build a canal, and had secured President McKinley's cooperation and the aid of Colombia. Denials came from the white house, the state department, the Colombian legation and the French embassy. Most of those who denied the report declared that it was started to make difficult the negotiation of canal treaties by the United States.

The big news development in the canal situation is that Minister Silva, who is also Colombian minister of foreign affairs, in his memorandum to Secretary Hay, has formally agreed on behalf of his government to grant the United States a long lease of the territory through which the canal passes. He states emphatically, however, that his government will not cede sovereignty. The lease is to be granted on these terms:

"The United States shall pay to Colombia, in half-yearly installments, during the first 25 years after the opening of the canal to the public service, a share amounting to 5 per cent of its gross income, during a second period of 25 years, 6 per cent; during a third, 7 per cent, and during a fourth, 8 per cent. This is on the basis of a 99-year lease. The United States shall guarantee that this share shall be in no case less than \$250,000 annually. In case of the issuance of stock, Colombia is to receive a share based upon that given it by the Panama Canal Company, amounting to one-thirteenth of the number of shares issued. Colombia is to receive \$250,000 annually for the use of the railroad. Colombia mails, troops and effects belonging to the republic, and emigrants to the country up to the number of 2000 must receive railroad transportation free of charge. Colombian vessels are to be allowed free use of the canal. Finally, Colombia binds herself to grant permission to the French Canal Company to negotiate with the United States for the concession of the canal. The concession absolutely forbids the company 'to cede or mortgage its rights under any consideration whatever to another nation or foreign government, under penalty of forfeiture.'"

TRAINS IN THE FALL.

Washington & Oregon in Vancouver in September.

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 5.—Edmund Rice, Jr., secretary and manager of the Washington & Oregon Railroad Company, which recently purchased the right of way of the Portland & Puget Sound Railway Company, from this city to Kalama, said tonight that the company is making arrangements to commence building the line at once. The company expects to advertise for bids April 15, and to have the line completed and ready to run trains into Vancouver in September in time to move this season's fruit crop. Double crews of surveyors are setting grade stakes and cross-sectioning, and it is the intention to have this work finished this week. Chief Engineer O'Neill is preparing plans for construction, and bids will be asked soon.

The line from Vancouver to Kalama will be a little over 30 miles long. The grade, Mr. Rice says, is in very good condition, only requiring to be leveled in places and culverts and bridges built. The remainder of the right of way has been cleared. There are no heavy grades, and the line will be comparatively easy to build. Regular trains, he says, will be operated to and from Vancouver after the completion of that portion of the road until the bridge across the Columbia peninsula to Portland has been completed. Mr. Rice estimates that it will require 18 months to build the bridge after the right to construct it has been obtained from congress.

Part of Northern Pacific.

Seattle, April 5.—The Seattle & International Railroad, which reaches north out of Seattle into British Columbia, is, by a deal effective April 1, merged into the Northern Pacific, which company will continue its operation. G. B. Cliff, who was master of transportation of the old concern, has been promoted to division superintendent of the Seattle division of the Northern Pacific, comprising the old Seattle & International and Northern Pacific terminals in Seattle.

A TRIP TO AMERICA.

Aguinaldo Wants to See the United States.

MANILA, April 5.—Chief Justice Arellano, who administered to Aguinaldo the oath of allegiance to the United States government, described today the conditions leading up to and attending the ceremony, which was semi-private. Aguinaldo, still detained in an apartment of the Malacanang palace, and awaiting orders from Washington, had expressed himself as anxious to learn more regarding the American system of government, and had asked Chief Justice Arellano to enlighten him. The chief justice carefully explained the various measures passed by the Philippine commission, and showed him what provisions were made for education and progress and for municipal and provincial self-government. Listening with deep interest, Aguinaldo finally exclaimed: "I never believed the Americans would be so fair and liberal." Before the conversation had ended, he had agreed to take the oath of allegiance, and this was immediately administered. Senor Arellano says:

"Aguinaldo's action will induce all the insurgents to surrender, and I predict that the islands will be completely pacified by June. Aguinaldo is eager to visit the United States, but when I questioned him on the subject of holding office, he replied that he had no desire in that direction and intended to retire to private life after a trip to America."

Constanza Probito, daughter of the ex-chief of the Kalipunan society, who is president of the woman's peace league, was permitted to have a long interview with Aguinaldo. She reports having found him in a quandary, professedly desirous of peace, yet reluctant to abandon the idea of Filipino independence.

"He seemed unable to make up his mind regarding the oath of allegiance to the United States," she says, "because he had sworn eternal fealty to the Filipino flag and had been elected leader of the revolution. He showed a disinclination to assist in ending the insurrection, though he bowed somewhat to public sentiment. He wanted a conference in order to ascertain the wishes of the Filipino people and suggested that a convention consisting half of insurgents and half of Pacificos should decide the matter."

"I told him that 90 per cent of the population were in favor of peace, and he responded: 'Even so, my lot is yet with those upholding the cause of the insurgents. With their consent, I would quit, but otherwise, how can I? By the trickery of the Americans I was captured. Now that I am a prisoner I must consider what is best. Liberty is sweet, but those whom I would desert would hate me. Hard is my lot. If paroled I should respect my word, but sometimes I think exile and imprisonment would be preferable.'"

SALISBURY WILL RETIRE.

Rumors That He Will Resign in a Few Days.

NEW YORK, April 5.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: Parliament has adjourned for the Easter recess, after a session more satisfactory to the opposition than to the government. The record of business is meager, but that is a small matter in comparison with the lack of energy and judgment with which the house of commons has been led. The continuance of Lord Salisbury in power for many weeks is doubted by some of the most experienced parliamentary heads. There are rumors that he has sought to offer his resignation before his departure for Beau lieu, and that A. J. Balfour would be found in the upper house when parliament reassembles. Another version is that nothing will be done for a fortnight and that Lord Salisbury may consent to remain in office until the close of the session if his health improves in the Riviera. There was no lack of gossip in the smoking room of the house of commons during the closing hours, but the only points on which there was a general agreement was that the government had been on a downward grade since the king's speech was read, and that a stronger leader than Mr. Balfour was needed in the commons.

ARMY MOVING NORTHWARD.

Meaning of General Plumer's Occupation of Nylstroom.

NEW YORK, April 5.—The news from Lord Kitchener that General Plumer has occupied Nylstroom, is taken to mean, the London correspondent of the Tribune says, that the British army in South Africa has at last resumed the northern advance toward Pietermaritzburg. Nylstroom is situated a little way off the railway, about 90 miles north of Pretoria. It was held for a few days by General Baden-Powell in August last year, but had to be evacuated because the force then at Lord Robert's disposal was insufficient at once to provide a permanent garrison and to secure the railway line northward from Pretoria. There can be little doubt that Lord Kitchener's latest report indicates the execution of a comprehensive plan for the conquest and pacification of the Northern Transvaal.

With the occupation of Pietermaritzburg the main trunk lines of railway would be lost to the Boers, but there is a heavy task in the protection of another line of communication, 240 miles long, that would be added to the burdens of the British army.

Blown to Fragments.

Phoenix, Ariz., April 6.—News has been received here of a catastrophe at Senator W. A. Clark's United Verde mine, at Jerome. While nearly a dozen men were at work near where a shot was placed on the lower level, there was a premature explosion. James Rooney and Joseph Zeal were blown to fragments, and several others were injured.

Americans are trying to buy and reorganize the sleeping-car system of all Europe.