

FRENCH REACHES KIMBERLEY

British Finally Relieve the Beleagured Town.

RETIREMENT OF THE BOERS

The War Office Has Issued Orders for the Formation of 21 New Battalions and Three Battalions of Infantry.

London, Feb. 17.—The war office announces that General French reached Kimberley Thursday evening.

Following is Lord Roberts' message to the war office:

"Jacobsdal, Feb. 17.—French, with a force of artillery, cavalry and mounted infantry, reached Kimberley this evening (Thursday)."

Cronje's Retirement.

London, Feb. 17.—As Gen. Cronje's communications with Bloemfontein have been cut, England would like to hear that he elects to give battle among the low hills and ridges east of Kimberley. Should he determine not to do this, he must retreat to a point where he would prefer to fight.

The Boers have made no preparations to defend Bloemfontein, and there is no particular reason why General Cronje should risk a battle to protect the capital of the Free State.

Operations elsewhere are apparently suspended. A correspondent, writing from Cheley, February 15, says: "We are still hopeful of relieving Ladysmith."

Mr. Chamberlain's announcement in the house of commons of the intention of the government to encourage the Zulus to defend themselves from the Boers is a contingency the Boers seem to have anticipated, as they have been doing everything in their power to win the good will of the Basutos, who have thousands of good rifles.

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The cabinet council was in session yesterday for two hours. It will meet again today. This is quite unusual.

British Evacuate Rensberg. London, Feb. 17.—The Cape Town correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, telegraphing, says:

"It is reported here that the British have evacuated Rensberg and retired to Arundel."

Arundel, Feb. 17.—General Clements withdrew from Rensberg during the night, his rear guard arriving at Arundel early this morning.

Passed by the Senate. Washington, Feb. 17.—The senate substitute for the house currency bill was passed by the senate today by the decisive majority of 46 to 29.

Prior to the final passage of the bill, amendments were considered under the 10-minute rule. Only two of these amendments were adopted, viz: One offered by the financial committee, keeping the door open to international bimetalism, and one by Nelson, of Minnesota, providing for national banks with \$25,000 capital in towns of not more than 4,000 inhabitants.

The house today completed 26 of 124 pages of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, without amendment. During the general debate, which closed at 4 o'clock, a variety of topics were touched upon.

Fighting in Albay Province. Manila, Feb. 17.—Insurgent forces, estimated at 5,000 soldiers, mostly bolomen, attacked the American garrison in the convent at Daraga, province of Albay, the night of February 5.

Steel ornaments should always be kept in powdered starch to prevent their rusting.

IN FREE STATE.

Roberts' Column Invades Boer Territory.

London, Feb. 16.—General Roberts, with the bulk of the British army operating against the Boers, has succeeded in entering the Free State and has made the first step in his advance toward Bloemfontein.

As shown by the dispatches of Lord Roberts to the war office, the movement began Monday, when Colonel Hannay set out with a brigade of mounted infantry from Ramah, on the Riet, eight miles from Jacobsdal, the Boer supply base.

Tuesday, with his three cavalry brigades and the horse artillery, General French rode to the Modder river, a distance of 25 miles, and took three fords with high ground beyond the river, and five Boer camps.

Beckham and Taylor Both Want Injunctions. Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 16.—The suit of Beckham vs. Taylor, for the possession of the office of governor, was fled today in the circuit court at Frankfort.

TWO SUITS FILED.

Retreating to Bloemfontein. Jacobsdal, Feb. 19.—via Modder River.—General Cronje, with 10,000 men, is in full retreat toward Bloemfontein. General Kelly-Kenny is fighting a rear guard and harassing the retreat.

Blizzard in England. London, Feb. 16.—The effects of the blizzard which started today were felt throughout Great Britain.

More Plague in Honolulu. Honolulu, Feb. 10.—Five cases of plague have developed since the Alameda sailed, February 2.

Broom-Corn Trust. Chicago, Feb. 19.—There was a meeting of the members of the Union Broom Company, known as the broom corn trust, in this city, and it is said an effort was made to advance the price of broom from \$200 to \$220 a ton.

In Asiatic Russia. San Francisco, Feb. 19.—Advices from Japan, per steamer Coptic, report that the Japanese government has knowledge that Russia will place 50,000 troops at Port Arthur within two years.

Arrival of Supply Ship. San Francisco, Feb. 16.—The Vladimir Vostock, one of the supply ships chartered by the government for the transportation of quartermaster's and commissary stores, arrived from Manila.

MAKING FOR BLOEMFONTEIN

General Cronje Retreating With All Speed.

FRENCH'S STAY AT KIMBERLEY

Boer Wagon-Train Being Pursued Toward the Capital—Kelly-Kenny Harassing the Rear Guard.

London, Feb. 19.—General Cronje, with a start of a day or two, is seemingly in full retreat from Lord Roberts, moving northward. General French, with the cavalry, simply stayed overnight in Kimberley, and then pushed on to get in touch with the retreating enemy.

Military opinion here is that Lord Roberts will not push far after the Boers immediately, because of transport problems and the need of rest for the troops. He has to feed 70,000 persons in his army and the whole Kimberley population.

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Riots in Martinique. Fort De France, Martinique, Feb. 19.—A mob of rioters yesterday at Rivierre Saile refused to hear Senator Knight, who is favorably disposed towards their cause.

The situation grows worse rather than better, in spite of the concessions by the employers. Work is stopped, and the strikers, urged on by their ringleaders, are becoming more menacing and exacting.

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WE ARE AN ASIATIC POWER.

United States Alone Opened the Door of China.

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 17.—President Jacob G. Schurman, of Cornell university, in an address before the Business Men's Association, of Ithaca, spoke at some length on the issues arising out of the Philippine question.

"The markets of the world are open to us and receiving our products. The Spanish war gave us a solution to that question. That war was waged to drive from Cuba an effete European power, a government of tyranny.

"These are hard facts, and as strange as they are true. Where England and Germany kept us from the competition, it is now all our own, and the lion's share is coming with it.

"Our flag is anchored in the Pacific; it is floating over the Philippines. Henceforth we are to be on an equal footing in Asia with Russia, Germany, France and England.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The adjutant-general received the following cable message from General Otis:

Manila, Feb. 17.—Bates left today with two regiments and battery of artillery on transports for San Miguel bay, province of Camarines Sur.

Havana, Feb. 17.—The second anniversary of the destruction of the United States battleship Maine in this harbor was suitably observed here today.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 16.—Three men were drowned and \$500,000 damage done to property along the Hudson river by the worst freshet which this city has seen since 1857.

New York, Feb. 17.—The date of the fight between J. J. Jeffries and J. J. Corbett has been fixed at May 14.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—After a heated debate, the resolutions committee of the anti-trust conference decided to report in favor of government ownership of railroads and for their seizure on payment of actual value and without payment for "watered stock or other fictitious values."

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CENSUS OF CROPS.

The Next Enumeration Will Be Taken in June, 1900, of the Products of 1899.

The first really valuable census of agriculture in the United States was taken in 1850, of the crops of 1849.

Instead of recording several farms on one schedule in the Twelfth census, as heretofore, each farm will be accorded a separate blank, the entries on which will not be known to any save sworn officers of the department.

Tax assessors, collectors, and equalizers cannot serve as enumerators, or have access to the census returns, or to the information therein contained.

There are more than 5,000,000 farms, plantations, ranches, stock ranges, and market gardens in the United States, all of which, for census purposes, will be designated as "farms."

A "farm" is all the land cultivated or held for agricultural purposes under one management, whether in a single body or separate parcels.

The enumerator will ask for the size and value of each farm, the value of buildings, and the aggregate value of all machinery, implements, vehicles, harnesses, etc., used thereon; and the amount of land owned and leased, respectively, by said occupant.

He will also ask for acreage and value of each crop, and the acreage of improved, unimproved and irrigated lands.

The designation "each crop" includes all grains, cotton, corn, rice, sugar cane, sugar beets, sorghum, hay, clover, wild grasses, gathered forage, flax, hemp, hops, peanuts, tobacco, seeds, nuts, tropical fruits, small fruits, orchard fruits, nursery and greenhouse stock, broom corn, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes and yams, all vegetables, including the product of all family, truck, and market gardens, etc.; also new or unusual crops, when found.

He will also ask for the quantity and value of milk, cream, butter, cheese, raisins, prunes, molasses, sirup, sugar, eggs, beeswax, honey, wool, wine, cider, vinegar, dried and evaporated fruits, forest products, poultry and meat products, and generally, all articles made at home, or for the home, from farm materials in 1899.

If a person who moves from a farm between the end of the crop year 1899 and June 1, 1900, will leave a written record of the products and crops of that farm for 1899 where it will reach the appropriate enumerator, the statistics for his operations for that year will not be lost.

He will be required to give the enumerator of the district in which he lives on June 1, 1900, the acreage, value, buildings, machinery, implements, and live stock of the farm he then occupies.

Every farmer will begin at once to prepare a careful record of all the facts which the enumerator will be instructed to record in June, 1900, he will save time for himself and the officer, and insure more accurate returns to the government.

The twentieth century will begin on January 1, 1901. Therefore, the pending census will afford to future generations a measure of the strength and condition of the United States at the threshold of the new hundred year cycle.

Spokane is to send a formal invitation to President McKinley to visit the town in October, when, it is said, he will come to the Pacific coast.

North Yakima merchants are not worried because a mild winter has left heavy stocks of woolen goods on their hands; the price on woolsens has advanced 25 per cent in the past three months.

Thursday 100 horses were shipped from Walla Walla to Vancouver, says the Walla Walla Union. The animals, together with a number of other horses, will be transported to the Philippines for cavalry use.

Blanche Dewey, a 15-year-old girl of Snohomish county, made complaint against her father, charging him with criminal assault upon her, and on the witness stand swore that the complaint was false and that there was no ground for it.

George Gross, at Junction City, has a hog that weighs 525 pounds.

C. R. Hunt is about to build a new barn on his Tillamook dairy ranch, for which 45,000 feet of lumber will be required.

Telegraph, telephone and electric companies have appealed to the authorities of Pendleton to protect them from the tin sign tackers, who persist in defacing their property by tacking their advertisements on the poles in the streets.

George and John Dunsan, of Wilbur, near Meacham station, are in jail at Pendleton, charged with the larceny of two saddles from Ed Lisher's barn, and a horse belonging to George Adams, of Pendleton.

BRADSTREET'S REPORT.

Favorable Increase of Trade as Compared to Last Year.

Bradstreet says: Satisfactory advances as to expanding trade in dry goods and kindred lines come from a number of markets.

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The enumerator will ask for the size and value of each farm, the value of buildings, and the aggregate value of all machinery, implements, vehicles, harnesses, etc., used thereon; and the amount of land owned and leased, respectively, by said occupant.

He will also ask for acreage and value of each crop, and the acreage of improved, unimproved and irrigated lands.

Failures for the week in the United States number 199, as compared with 231 last week, 160 in this week a year ago, 269 in 1898, 325 in 1897 and 276 in 1896.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets.

Onions, new, \$3.25@2.50 per sack. Lettuce, hot house, 40c per doz. Potatoes, new, \$18@20. Beets, per sack, 75@85c. Turnips, per sack, 60c. Carrots, per sack, 50c. Parsnips, per sack, 75@85c. Cauliflower, 75c@1 per dozen. Cabbage, native and California, \$1.00@1.25 per 100 pounds. Apples, \$1.25@1.50 per box. Pears, \$1.00@1.25 per box. Prunes, 60c per box. Butter—Creamery, 31c per pound; dairy, 17@22c; ranch, 20c per pound. Eggs—20c. Cheese—Native, 16c. Poultry—13@14c; dressed, 14@15c. Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$12.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$18.00@19.00. Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$23. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$21; whole, \$23. Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.25; blended straight, \$3.00; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; graham, per barrel, \$3.80; whole wheat flour, \$3.00; rye flour, \$3.80@4.00. Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$14.00; shorts, per ton, \$16.00. Feed—Chopped feed, \$20.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$20; oil cake meal, per ton, \$30.00. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, 7 1/2@8c; cows, 7c; mutton 8c; pork, 7 1/2c; trimmed, 9c; veal, 8 1/2@10c. Hams—Large, 13c; small, 13 1/2c; breakfast bacon, 12 1/2c; dry salt sides, 8c.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 53@54 1/2c. Valley, 53c; Bluestem, 57c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$3.00; graham, \$2.50; superfine, \$2.10 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 35@36c; choice gray, 34c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$14@15.00; brewing, \$17.00@18.00 per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$13 per ton; middlings, \$19; shorts, \$15; chop, \$14 per ton. Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$7@7.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton. Butter—Fancy creamery, 50@55c; seconds, 42 1/2@45c; dairy, 30@37 1/2c; store, 25 1/2@32 1/2c. Eggs—14 1/2@16c per dozen. Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; hens, \$4.50; springs, \$2.50@3.50; geese, \$7.00@8.00 per lb; \$4.50@6.50; ducks, \$5.00@6.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@11c per pound. Potatoes—55@90c per sack; sweets, 2@2 1/2c per pound. Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 90c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 1 1/2c per pound; parsnips, \$1; onions, \$1.50@2.00; carrots, \$1. Hops—7@8c per pound. Wool—Valley, 12@13c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 8@14c; mohair, 27@30c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 4 1/2c; dressed mutton, 7@7 1/2c per pound; lambs, 7 1/2c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$5.50@6.00 per 100 pounds. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.00@4.50; cows, \$3.50@4.00; dressed beef, 6 1/2@7 1/2c per pound. Veal—Large, 7@8c; small, 8 1/2@9 1/2c per pound.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Spring—Nevada, 12@15c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12@16c; Valley, 20@22c; Northern, 10@12c. Hops—1899 crop, 11@13c per pound. Butter—Fancy creamery 23@24c; do seconds, 22@23 1/2c; fancy dairy, 20@21c; do seconds, 18@19c per pound. Eggs—Store, 13@15 1/2c; fancy ranch, 17c. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$17.50@20.00; bran, \$12.50@13.50.