

BRITISH NOW ACTIVE.

Every Preparation for War in South Africa.

LONDON, Oct. 8.—Whatever may be the result of Great Britain's controversy with the South African republic, every department of the government to-day is as busy as though actual hostilities had begun. The electric flash that announced the mobilization of the army reserves and the summoning of parliament, set every wheel of the government machinery in motion. An hour after the Gazette appeared, executive orders were being dispatched from the war office to every section of the kingdom, and the 10,000 bulletins which appeared throughout the country to-day are said to have been identical with the proclamation prepared for use had the Fashoda incident required such a step.

At the same time, Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour were issuing the necessary orders for the reassembling of parliament, and the admiralty was concentrating its transports. So complete were the preparations that 25,000 reserves have already individually received coupon tickets which contain instructions where each man shall report for railway transportation to the place designated, and a money order for three shillings for provisions en route. At Woolwich to-day, it was asserted that 95 per cent of the reserves would be fully equipped within six days. In the meantime, the members of the two houses of parliament are arranging to return to London, and a force of men is busily engaged in completing the improvements at Westminster.

The important news from South Africa comes from Mafeking, where twice on Saturday the British camp was aroused, the men stood to their arms, guns were limbered and patrols were dispatched in the direction of the border. No hostilities have occurred as yet, but the enemy has moved practically to the border, eight miles from Mafeking, in force, estimated at least 6000, comprising five commanders. The garrisoning and fortifying of the town are practically completed. The streets are barricaded, and a perfect system of mines has been laid. Two armored trains have arrived at Mafeking, consisting of three bullet-proof cars, the first of which carries a searchlight, while the rest of the cars are loop-holed. Each train is complete in itself and carries its own provisions.

Colonel Robert Baden-Powell, commanding the Fifth dragoon guards, has issued a notice that the Boers who are massed on the Natal and Bechuanaland frontiers have orders not to fire unless the British begin, and that the town is well prepared for eventualities, but as the Boers may shell the place, every endeavor should be made to safe-guard the women and children.

An armored train was inspected at Kimberley Saturday. A signal station has been erected with a conning tower at the top, 130 feet above the tracks. Communication by telephones had with a central office, and signals are given to the troops by flags. By this means, maneuvers were successfully conducted Saturday. The troops number 3000, including the bicycle corps.

A train was also successfully tested at Mafeking. It patrolled to the north and practiced firing at targets.

A dispatch from Kimberley to the Cape Argus says that 3000 Boers are encamped midway between Boshof and Kimberley. They are well armed, and great religious fervor is shown in the camp. The Boers, however, are chafing under the delay. They patrol the border nightly, and have been ordered not to permit a British uniform to approach the frontier.

A special order was gazetted on Saturday announcing that the British residents would be allowed to remain in the Transvaal, and under what conditions.

Notes for the Cycler.

A couple of years ago bicycle riding was made responsible for the falling off of so many persons in literary enthusiasm. The wheel took them away from books and overcome the allurement of the library. Now, however, one publisher has discovered that the bicycles has at least been the means of awakening an interest in natural history, and reports as a direct result an increasing demand for books on the subject.

New phrases in the world of cycle-freakdom are constantly breaking out. There is a man seeking the permission of some big factory owner to be hauled to the summit of his tallest chimney and there spend six days riding round the ledge, to the amazement of the world below. He says that he can make a lot of money this way. The great chimney will be plastered with advertisements, and as thousands of people will come to the place with the expectation of seeing him topple off, while they are waiting for this to happen, they can, of course, be entertained and instructed by reading the advertisements.

The Sydney, Australia, cycle track has been lightened in a royal way by means of inverted arc lights. Fifty-five arc lights and seventy incandescents are placed around the track at intervals of thirty-five feet, the lamps being inverted, with the reflectors immediately over the arc. There are absolutely no shadows cast and leading cyclists are of the opinion that it is safer to ride at night under this light than by daylight.

Copenhagen is entirely given over to the cyclists. They seem to have taken complete possession of the city, which just now is looking lovely. The streets are thronged with riders, a large proportion of whom are women, and they ride, as a rule, exceedingly well, but far too quickly to be altogether safe in the streets of a large town. To be quite candid, the police regulations regarding cyclists in Copenhagen leaves much to be desired, and the non-cycling part of the population complain bitterly of the danger and inconvenience caused by reckless riding of a kind which would not be tolerated in London or Paris or Chicago. The Danish woman copies her English sister in her neat, serviceable short skirt, loose cotton blouse and sailor hat. There are scarcely any feminine wearers of knickerbockers to be seen and good seat and correct angle action are almost universal. Denmark is an ideal country for the cyclist—flat, pretty well wooded, and with good roads. It is becoming quite a common thing for parties of cyclists to go on tour through Jutland during the summer months.

Prattle of the Youngsters.

Little 3-year-old Bessie was trying to dress herself one morning and managed to get her clothes badly mixed. Calling to her mother she said: "Oh, mamma, come and help me; I'm all upside out."

"I guess that ain't me," said little Ralph as he gazed earnestly at a photograph of himself. "What makes you think it isn't?" asked the mother. "'Cause it's standin' still too long to be me," was the reply.

"I wonder," said little Harry, "if men will ever live to be 500 or 600 years old?" "No, I guess not," replied his 5-year-old sister, who was studying her Sunday school lesson. "The Lord tried it once and they got so bad that he just had to drown them."

"You tallow-faced slob!" snarled the bad boy of the neighborhood. "For two cents I'd break yer face!" "I shall go and consult the lexicons in reference to that word 'slob,'" responded the other, a little boy from Boston, wrathful but self-possessed, "and if it has an opprobrious significance I will return and chastise you."

One evening 4-year-old Nellie, failed to mention her father in her prayer because he had scolded her. "You must pray for papa, too, Nellie," said her mother. "But I don't want to," replied the little one. "But you must," said mamma. Dropping on her knees again she added: "And, for pity's sake, bless papa, too, and let us have peace in the family."

Tommy—Pop, the rain falls afike upon the just and the unjust? Tommy's Pop—Yes, yes; don't ask silly questions? Tommy—And it isn't just to steal another man's umbrella, is it? Tommy's Pop—Certainly not. If you ask any more—Tommy—But, pop, the rain doesn't fall upon the man that steals the umbrella and it does on the man that had his stolen. Funny, ain't it, pop?

ACTING Secretary Allen has prepared the statement of estimates which will be submitted to congress for the maintenance of the naval establishment for the next fiscal year. These amount to \$73,034,083, which is an increasing over the appropriation for the current year of \$24,536,187. Included in the increase for next year are appropriations of \$12,268,475 for public works and navy yards and stations. There is also an estimate of \$2,022,000 for the new naval academy. The item for navy, including armor, guns and machinery, is \$22,983,101. The estimate for the bureau of construction and repair are increased over the current appropriations about \$3,000,000, for steam engineering \$1,000,000, and for pay of the navy about \$700,000, while the estimates for ordinance are decreased about \$700,000.

A special to the Denver News from El Paso, Tex., says: George E. Fitzgerald, of this city, a prominent mining man, today received an offer from an English syndicate of £150,000 for a vast tract of land owned by him and two brothers within the present boundary limits of Venezuela. They inherited the land from their father, who obtained it by purchase from Venezuela 17 years ago. The land was in the territory afterwards claimed by Great Britain and was found to be rich in minerals. Englishmen were operating gold and iron mines on the land when, by the recent decision of the boundary commission, it again became Venezuelan territory and the title reverted to Fitzgerald and his two brothers, who served in the Philippines as officers in the Thirteenth Minnesota infantry.

A special to the Chronicle from Webster, Ia., says: William J. Bryan is a very sick man. Friends who have spent Sunday with him at the farm of Fred P. White, democratic candidate for governor of Iowa, three miles from Webster, are afraid that Mr. Bryan may have to abandon temporarily his campaign work, not only in Iowa, but in Kentucky and Ohio. When Mr. Bryan awoke Sunday morning he complained about his throat and lungs, but said that he had suffered from a similar ailment once before, and that it had yielded to treatment.

The Ambitious Little Boy.

Some fellows like to play base ball. An' some likes foot ball, too. An' some thinks marbles better yet. An' plays for keeps—they do! But where's there any fun in them. Is more'n I kin see. Fer Buff'lo Bill an' cowboys Is good 'nough for me!

I'd ruther roam the prairies wide. An' hunt the Injuns wild. Then have to monkey 'round in school. Jes' like some little child. I don't see how my folks expect To make much out of me Unless I'm round where Buff'lo Bill An' all his cowboys be!

If I could get a nice fat horse A gun an' pistol, too. You bet I wouldn't stay 'roun' here With such prospects in view! I'd start right fer the wooly west, An' mighty soon I'd be With Buff'lo Bill an' cowboys— They're good 'nough fer me!

I'm jes' about discouraged When I think of what a name I'd carve in letters big an' bold, 'Sides winnin' piles o' fame, I'd call myself the "Infant Scout," An' soon my ma would see That Buff'lo Bill an' cowboys Wuz jes the men for me!

I'd wear my hair way down my back, An' sport a buckskin coat With fringes runnin' down the seams, An' open at the throat; I'd wear a big sombrero, An' boots with spurs—O gee! If I could only live out west Where all the cowboys be!

My mamma says I'm orful bad 'Cause I don't like my school, An' says if I keep on I'll be Jes' nothing but a fool; She sez she jes' can't understand What hez got into me; An' what there is 'bout Buff'lo Bill That's good—she fails ter see.

But then, my ma she ain't a boy, So how is she to know, Fer if she was I bet she'd guess The reason I think so; She never read of Jesse James, Er Injuns shot out west. Er else she'd see why Buff'lo Bill An' cowboys is the best.

I guess they's time enough for me To go to school bime-by, Jes' now I want to win a name— How can I 'less I try? If you like school, why, that is jes' The place you'd orter be; But Buff'lo Bill an' cowboys Is good 'nough fer me!

The marriage of Maurus Jokai, the Hungarian novelist, who is now in his 75th year, to Arabella Grossnag, an actress, 18 years old, came off last week as per schedule. The first wife of Jokai, whom he married in 1848, was also an actress, Rosa Laborfalve, the greatest of Hungarian tragediennes.



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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Oregon City, Ore., Sept. 2nd, 1899. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver, at Oregon City, Oregon, on October 16th, 1899, viz: J. ARTHUR WATROUS; H.E. 1025 for the N 1/2 of Sec. 36, T. 1 N., R. 5 W. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: John T. Fitches, Forest Grove, Or.; Adam Fulton, Glenwood, Or.; Dr. G. O. Rogers, Forest Grove; John E. Strait, Glenwood, Or. CHAS. B. MOORES, Register.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Oregon City, Ore., October 5th, 1899. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk of Tillamook county, at Tillamook, Ore., on November 27th, 1899, viz: PIERRE J. HEYVAERT; H.E. 9726, for the Lots 1 and 2, and N 1/2 of N 1/2, Sec. 11 and S 1/2 of S 1/2 of Sec. 2, T. 2 S., R. 3 W. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Henry Lederer, James Teel, Albert Phelps and William H. Owen, of Tillamook, Or. CHAS. B. MOORES, Register.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Land Office at Oregon City, Ore., October 5th, 1899. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk of Tillamook county, at Tillamook, Ore., on November 27th, 1899, viz: ANTON L. WHITTEN; H.E. 10777, for the E 1/2 of Sec. 34, T. 4 S., R. 3 W. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Louis Olson and Fred C. Skomp, of Trask, Or.; Daniel Murphy and Jerry Murphy, of Tillamook, Or. CHAS. B. MOORES, Register.

NOTICE. To WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that I will not be responsible for any debts or contracts entered into or incurred on account of any of my interests in Tillamook county, by any person whatsoever, unless the same be authorized in writing by me, SAMUEL ELMORE.

TWO LIVE PAPERS.

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The state department was informed from London that the British foreign office had ratified the Alaska provisional boundary line as agreed upon by Secretary Hay and Mr. Tower, British charge d'affaires.

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