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The Morning Astorian.

VOL. 1.

ASTORIA, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1900

NO. 277



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ROBERTS MAKES A WATER HAUL

His Well-Spread Net Again Eluded by the Boers.

FRENCH IN HOT PURSUIT

His Boats Are Badly Used Up and Roberts Will Probably Have to Begin His Task All Over Again—Wepener Is, However, Safe.

LONDON, April 25.—It is officially announced that Wepener has been relieved. The relief of Colonel Dalgety was accomplished by General Brabant.

LONDON, April 25, 5 a. m.—It is now apparent that the chances of Lord Roberts catching the retreating Boers in his net are very slender.

The Boers have everywhere retired at the first pressure of the British advance and the hope that General Buller would be able to induce them to remain at Dewetsdorp until they had been forced to fight or surrender has been disappointed. No attempt was made to pursue the commandos retiring from Wepener.

Everything now depends upon the progress of General French's cavalry brigades, but they are entering a very difficult and practically unknown country. The cavalry have already had a long march over heavy and sandy roads and nothing is known regarding the condition of the horses.

In any case it is now a race between the federals and the forces of General French and General Hamilton.

The slowness of the recent movements of the British infantry and the previous experience of the ability of the Boers to move rapidly, with guns and baggage, over their own country lead to the belief that Lord Roberts' enveloping operations will fall and will have to be repeated further north. At the most he will perhaps capture some Boer guns and baggage and bury the retreating Burgheers.

Considerable results have been attained in the relief of Wepener and in clearing the southeastern corner of the Free State of Boers, but the Boer army, whatever its strength, has still to be dealt with.

Besides the casualties among the men, the Boer bombardment of Colonel Dalgety's position wrought great havoc among the cattle and horses. The garrison could have held out for another fortnight, but were in no condition to render much assistance in pursuing the Boers.

The inhabitants of Mafeking are now on a daily ration of two pounds of soup and two quarts of "skilly."

DALGETY'S CASUALTIES.

MAFEEKING, April 25.—Colonel Dalgety's casualties are 38 killed and 122 wounded.

LEADING UP TO WEPENER.

Roberts' Account of the Operations Which Probably Forced the Boer Retreat.

LONDON, April 25.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Bloemfontein, April 25.—Pole-Carew's division occupied Roodekop yesterday evening without casualties. The advance was covered by cavalry and horse artillery, which drove the enemy back with heavy losses, their dead being left on the ground. The mounted troops halted for the night at Grotfontein, and at 7:30 this morning were crossing the Modder river at Valsbank in accordance with my instructions to French to endeavor to place himself astride the enemy's lines of retreat.

"French's arrival near the Modder evidently, however, alarmed the Boers, who evacuated their strong position near Dewet's Dorp during the night and it was occupied by Chermiside's division this morning. The mounted infantry under Ian Hamilton drove the enemy off the kopjes in the neighborhood of the water works without casualties on our side.

"The Highland brigade marched 24

miles yesterday to support General Hamilton, and halted for the night at Kilp Kraal, four miles short of Sanna's Post. Brabant and Hart are still a few miles short of Wepener and the numbers of the enemy appear to have somewhat increased during the last few days, but it is not likely there will be much trouble in the neighborhood of Wepener, once Dewet's Dorp is occupied by our troops.

"I inspected the city imperial volunteer battalion yesterday on their arrival at Bloemfontein. They are in fine form and look very workmanlike.

"I also inspected the 1st company of imperial yeomanry, which has arrived here. The men turn out smart and their horses are in an admirable condition."

WHILE THE BRITISH SLEPT.

The Boers Advance to a Strong Position Near Wepener.

MASERU, Basutoland, Tuesday, April 24.—On the breaking up of the bivouack this morning, Generals Brabant and Hart discovered that the Boers who fell back towards Wepener yesterday had advanced during the night several miles nearer to Strauss farm, which is a favorable position for resistance.

Colonel Dalgety was severely attacked with six guns this morning, probably with a view of preventing him assisting the relief column. It seemed yesterday that Dalgety had practically been relieved, but the offensive attitude assumed by the Boers this morning shows this idea to have been erroneous. General Hart is now a few miles behind General Brabant's division which is waiting for the former to come up.

Thirteen British wounded were removed to Mafeking at midnight and placed in the English church.

BOSHOF RECAPTURED.

LONDON, April 26.—A dispatch from Pretoria, dated Tuesday, says the Boers have recaptured Boshof, the British retiring.

ESCAPED TO THE NORTH.

The Retreat From Wepener Was Conducted as Roberts Had Anticipated.

LONDON, April 25.—The war office has issued the following from Lord Roberts, dated Bloemfontein, April 25: "The enemy retired from in front of Wepener last night and this morning fled northward, along the La-dybrand road. Their number was between 4,000 and 5,000."

BRABANT'S MARCH UP THE HILL.

Finding the Boers Opposed He Marched Down Again and Bivouacked.

MASERU, Basutoland, Tuesday, April 24, evening.—Generals Hart and Brabant covered only a short distance today and finding a strong force opposed to them bivouacked on the ground they had occupied.

RUSSIA WILL INTERFERE.

The Porte Has Assurance That She Will Not Let the United States Collect Its Claim.

LONDON, April 26.—A Constantinople correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says:

The Porte considers that its offer to rebuild the American structures burned at Kharpout will close the question. It bases this belief on the news that Russia has intimated an intention to oppose any attempt on the part of the United States to enforce payment."

THE CAKE ALL DOUGH.

Plan to Bring Dewey and Bryan Together Has Failed.

CHICAGO, April 2.—Admiral Dewey will not break bread in Chicago with W. J. Bryan. The Seven O'clock club, which had arranged for the pleasant ceremonial to take place next Tuesday evening at the Lakeside club, has changed the date of the dinner to May 5.

Admiral Dewey will leave town on the evening of the fourth and Colonel Bryan can reign supreme at the banquet. The officers of the Seven O'clock club have little to say concerning the sudden change of plans except that Mr. Bryan, the guest of honor, could not arrange to be in town May 1.

PNEUMATIC MAIL SERVICE DOWNED

House Refuses to Make Further Appropriation for Its Support.

PUBLIC SCANDAL BREWING

Charged That Company Installing the Pumps Has Been Bribing Support by Sending Blocks of Stock to Influential Members of Congress.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The house today put its heel upon the pneumatic mail tube service in operation in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, and if its action stands, the whole service will be crushed out.

The postoffice committee had recommended an increase of appropriation for this service from \$225,000 to \$725,000. The proposed increase was attacked by the appropriation committee, under the leadership of Moody, of Massachusetts, with such vigor and success that in the end the house voted, 87 to 56, to strike out the entire appropriation from the bill.

Moody created a sensation in the way in which he assailed the methods of the pneumatic company and made the direct charge that a former member of the house who was a member of the appropriation committee had been a holder of the stock and bonds of the company. He declined to disclose the gentleman's name.

He added to the scandal by charging that a block of the stock had been sent as a New Year's gift to a near relative of another member of congress, but to the credit of the member, he said, the dishonoring gift had been returned to the sender by the next mail.

Although the tube service was highly commended by other members, these revelations transferred the sentiment of the house, which has several times voted for the tube service, into a decisive majority against its continuation in any form.

THE CLARK CASE AGAIN.

Minority Report Filed, Which No Man Living Can See the Necessity for or Understand.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The minority of the members of the senate committee on privileges and elections, consisting of Senators Pettus and Harris, who do not accept all the views of the majority of the committee in the case of Senator Clark of Montana, today presented their dissenting opinion in the case. The report begins with the following statement:

"We agreed and still agree to the resolution adopted by the committee itself. But this report is merely the writing of the chairman, with the aid of one other member and never was submitted to any meeting of the committee and therefore cannot be considered as the words of the committee."

"They assert that in the main report 'statements are made as to facts which are based entirely on the testimony of a witness of doubtful credit and that the testimony is plainly contradicted.' Closing they say: 'The only proposition for which we contend is that this is a judicial case and that a committee of the senate ought to consider and report it as judges.'"

CUBAN OFFICERS' ALLOWANCE.

Secretary Root Makes a Statement to the Senate of What Each Has Received.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Secretary Root today sent to the senate his reply to the resolution asking if the officers of the United States army in Puerto Rico have received any compensation in addition to what they were entitled to receive by law as salary and allowances. The reply says that allowances have been paid as follows:

Military governor of Cuba, \$7,500 per year; military governor of Havana, \$5,000 per year; collector of customs for the island of Cuba, \$1,500 per year; treasurer of the island of Cuba, \$1,500 per year.

THE PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED.

Colorado Populists Have a Scheme to Provide Bryan With a Running Mate.

FLORENCE, Col., April 25.—The populist state convention today elected delegates to the national convention and endorsed W. J. Bryan for president.

A resolution adopted recommends that the populists make no nomination for vice-president, but in lieu thereof that an executive committee be appointed with authority to confer with similar committees from the democratic and silver republican conventions at Kansas City and to agree with them if possible upon a vice-presidential nominee in honest sympathy with Mr. Bryan.

PUBLIC LIBRARY GIFT.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Congressman Fowler will give to the city of Elizabeth, N. J., a public library building fully equipped, the whole to cost \$100,000.

shot every one, their bodies floating away. One soldier had his head struck with a bolo.

General Bell's two regiments are hard at work in clearing country. They meet with many small squads of bolo men and last week killed a total of 125. A squadron of the Eleventh cavalry is about leaving Manila on board the transport Lennox to reinforce them.

The insurgents keep the province in a state of terror and are wreaking vengeance on natives who trade with the Americans, burning many villages, including the populous town of San Fernando.

General Bell has issued a proclamation declaring that he will retaliate relentlessly until this guerilla warfare ceases and that he will burn all the towns which harbor the guerillas.

In a fight at Sorsogon, Albay province, April 15, three companies of the Forty-seventh infantry, Captain Gordon commanding, routed a large force of insurgents, mostly bolomen, killing 52 of them.

OTIS' CASUALTY LIST.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—The following list of deaths which have recently occurred in the Philippines has been received at the war department from General Otis at Manila.

Malaria fever, April 18, Charles V. Stiles, Forty-Fourth infantry; April 15, James A. Littleton, Fourth cavalry; April 19, Harry F. Nash, Nineteenth infantry.

Accidental, April 17, Harry H. Schultz, Forty-Fourth infantry, dived on rock; March 22, John S. Dillin, Nineteenth infantry, killed by comrade.

Enteric, April 8, Thomas Gillespie, Eighteenth infantry.

Typhoid fever, April 15, Frank J. Valdez, Eighteenth infantry; April 14, Deck R. Eisenberger, Thirty-Fifth infantry.

Colitis, April 11, Charles J. Magore, Eighteenth infantry.

Septicemia, April 7, Charles Lightall, Nineteenth infantry.

Dysentery, April 7, L. H. Converse, Sixth infantry; March 10, James P. O'Shea, Six infantry; April 14, John P. Brouner, Fourth infantry; April 15, Henry Weibner, Forty-Second infantry.

April 16, Charles Brown, Twenty-Sixth infantry; April 2, G. B. Southerland, Sixth infantry.

Varicella, April 15, Arthur Gwynn, Richard B. Harber, Thirty-Second infantry.

Pneumonia, April 19, James J. Curran, Fourth cavalry.

Died from wounds received in action, April 9, Benj. F. Welch, Fourth infantry.

COEUR D'ALENE INQUIRY.

Sulzer Provoked No Knockdown in Yesterday's Committee Sitting.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—When the Coeur d'Alene investigation was resumed today there was no outward evidence of yesterday's exciting affray between witness, Bartlett Sinclair and Attorney Robertson. The members of the committee gave a good natured turn to the affairs by an exchange of raillery on Sulzer's vice-presidential aspirations. Sinclair's testimony dealt with the permit system.

When Attorney Robertson began the cross-examination of Sinclair he made no allusion to their personal conflict. The cross examination was made for the purpose of showing that Sinclair's exercise of authority was inconsistent with the state of martial law.

INDIANIA CONVENTION.

Its Session Carried Out With Perfect Harmony—Senator Fairbanks Elected Chairman.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 25.—The program arranged for the opening session of the republican state convention was carried out to the letter this afternoon without a note of discord.

Chairman J. Frank Hanly was indisposed and United States Senator Fairbanks became chairman pro tem. Senator Fairbanks spoke in defense of the vote of the Indiana delegation on the Puerto Rican measure. He promised in behalf of the administration generous treatment toward Puerto Ricans in respect to their domestic affairs.

He disclaimed any protective feature to the new law and pronounced it purely one of expediency, prompted by humanity. The convention adjourned until tomorrow.

ANOTHER PARTY HEARD FROM.

The Ripley Canal Commission Reported at Darien.

CHICAGO, April 25.—A dispatch to the Herald from Panama says: H. C. Ripley and party, acting under the direction of the United States canal commission, have left for Darien to explore the region between the Darien harbor and Caledonia bay on the Atlantic side of the isthmus, embracing also the rivers Sabana Tuyra and Chucumque.

The local government has supplied them with letters for the authorities in Chepicaua and Pinogia. Accompanying Mr. Ripley are Messrs. Hancy and De La Motter, assistant engineers, and Dr. Mandel, surgeon.

NOT THE ENGLISH WAY.

Restrictions Upon Labor Because of Nationality Don't Go in British Columbia.

OTTAWA, April 25.—The Dominion government has disallowed the recent acts of the British Columbia legislature, which prevented the employment of Japanese.

The Atlin placer mining act, which prevented aliens holding mining claims has also been disallowed.

THE OREGONIAN RELIEVED.

Captain Carter Sent to Prison Yesterday in Obedience to His Demand.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Captain Gertrude M. Carter tonight was taken to Fort Leavenworth to serve out what remains of his sentence of five years' imprisonment for embezzlement.

BRITISH AVENGE CHINESE MURDERS

Their Towns Destroyed and Many of the Natives Slain.

DETAILS OF THE OUTRAGE

Doctors Kiddle and Sutherland Stunned to Death From Ambush by a Tribe of the "Wild Was"—Redress Promised by the Government.

VANCOUVER, B. C., April 25.—Details of the Kiddle-Sutherland murders were received from Burma today by the steamer Empress of China, 13 days from Yokohama.

The aggressors in this outrage were the Was, or "Wild" Was, as they are commonly called, living in Mengkaus. The party, including Drs. Kiddle and Sutherland and J. H. Little, with an escort in charge of Chinese non-commissioned officers, were suddenly attacked from ambush by the Was. Dr. Kiddle and Dr. Sutherland were stoned to death and Little was rendered temporarily insensible. Four of the Chinese escorts were killed.

Three days after this outrage the United British and Chinese forces attacked the Was. A group of the Was' villages implicated in the original attack were then made objects of attack by the British and Chinese forces and 2,000 houses were burned and 60 Was were killed.

Tsung Li Yamen has received a telegram from the Chinese officials in Yunnan to the effect that the British troops destroyed and burned the Chinese fortresses at Te Sao and Pa Nih on the Burma Yunnan frontier, killing eight Chinese soldiers. This was in reprisal for the attack upon the British commission.

Yamen was terrified and immediately sent a humble message to the British minister, Sir Charles Macdonald, begging him to prevent any further drastic measures by the British troops on the frontier and promising to make every effort to give full redress by China for the outrage.

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