

CLARK'S STRATEGY MAY PROVE FUTILE

Opponents of the Montanan Determined to Keep Him Out of the Senate.

His Latest Coup Regarded as a "Trick" Hardly in Keeping With the Dignity of the Upper House.

Special Dispatch to The Call.

CALL HEADQUARTERS, WELLINGTON HOTEL, WASHINGTON, May 15.—William A. Clark of Montana will not be permitted to take his seat in the Senate on the appointment by Lieutenant Governor Spriggs, even if his opponents have to resort to filibustering tactics. The best lawyers of the Senate generally agree that all of the law points involved are technically in Mr. Clark's favor, but they argue that there are other points to be considered.

Many Senators are so much incensed over the manner in which Mr. Clark avoided being expelled from the Senate that they are now seriously talking of passing a resolution declaring that he was not legally elected by the Legislature, regardless of his resignation. Although Mr. Clark's name was stricken from the rolls the day his resignation was presented, Senator Chandler and other members of the committee believe that the Senate can properly act upon the resolution. By taking such action, it is argued, the Senate will simply clear up the record as to Mr. Clark's temporary service in the Senate and at the same time make the Clark case analogous to the Quay case.

Senator Clark Sanguine. Mr. Clark is frank in expressing his gratification at the appointment and in stating his belief that the Senate will receive him on these credentials. "All precedents are that there should be no legislation on the committee resolution pending at the time of my resignation. I do not think that Senators will find occasion to go out of their way to make an exception in my case," said he. "It is highly probable that Mr. Daly and his associates are disappointed over this result, and knowing them as I do, I am not surprised at anything they will insinuate or charge."

Barred From This Session. That he will be kept out of the Senate during the present session, leaders say, is a foregone conclusion. Precedents are being looked up in order that objections may be made to receiving credentials. Several cases have been found where such objections have been made on the ground of fraud.

URGES IMMEDIATE CANAL BUILDING

Senate Committee Files Its Report Favoring Nicaraguan Route.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The Senate Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals to-day, through its chairman, Senator Morgan, presented its written report on the Nicaragua bill. The report includes the statements of Admiral Walker and other members of the commission appointed to investigate the various routes and also the conclusion of the committee with reference to both the Nicaragua and the Panama routes.

can determine the practicability of the Panama canal so far as it depends on the rainfall and the fluctuations of the Chagres River. "Our engineers have come to no conclusion on the point of difficulty and have relegated the decision of the whole matter to the French engineers, to be determined by further experiment. When these engineers are in possession of all the facts that are known and are not able to determine the level at which the canal shall be built, if we wait until they have settled this vital point we put ourselves at their mercy and can only provide for the wants of our own Government and people when they have decided what is the best for their own interests. Congress owes a higher duty than this to the American people."

"They say," says the report, "they have assets that a committee of experts has valued at \$90,000,000. They make no offer or suggestion as to what they would take for it. The lowest sum at which they estimate the cost of completing their canal is \$85,000,000, so that, in entering that estimate, we would go in on the basis of \$15,000,000 for the completed canal on the plan of three levels, if that plan is adopted, against \$138,000,000, which is the highest estimate any engineer has placed on the Nicaragua canal. The difference is \$47,000,000 in favor of Nicaragua."

On the general question of the construction of a canal the committee takes the position that whatever canal be constructed, its ownership must be American, and that delay may be fatal to the success of the enterprise. It is argued by the committee that delay in construction cannot possibly advance the settlement of any question as to the canal after its completion. The committee therefore announces its conclusion to be that Congress should provide means and authority for constructing a canal by the Nicaragua route and refer to the President to deal with any questions of a diplomatic sort that may be raised by other nations in the progress of the work. After the bill becomes a law, it is declared, our first duty is to agree with Nicaragua as to terms, and to the future of the canal, and other powers as to the privileges they shall enjoy in the canal.

PATRICK O'CONNOR ACTED AS A SPY

LONDON, May 17.—The Daily Express publishes a three-column New York special signed by Patrick O'Connor, who crossed the Atlantic with the Boer delegates on the Maasdam under pretense of being an Irish-American and a Boer sympathizer. As a matter of fact, Mr. O'Connor understands the Dutch language, and he claims to have overheard much private conversation in the course of which Mr. Wolmarans is reported to have said to Mr. Fischer:

Natal. We are bitterly disappointed. Tell him how Schreiner is feeling. Mr. Fischer—He knows well, as well as we do, that Schreiner is loyal to Great Britain. Resuming English, Mr. Fischer said: "We are going to win the war if it takes years."

"I think we should be careful of what we say to this man, as he may be a spy. Are you sure he is an American?" Mr. Fischer—There is no doubt of it. I can tell by his accent.

Mr. Wessels—it would never do, of course, for the British to know that we are really in the last extremity, or for him to know that we are thinking of staying in America.

Then, resuming the English language, Mr. Fischer began by blaming Cecil Rhodes for the bringing on of the war. He said:

"I have not a shadow of doubt that Sir Arthur Milner was sent to South Africa to prepare for the spoliation of the Boer republics, by force if necessary. The franchise issue was all a bluff. President Kruger conceded so much at the Bloemfontein conference that Milner was in mortal fear lest all his requests should be granted and lest he should thereby lose the chance of annexing the Transvaal."

Mr. Wolmarans said to Mr. Fischer, in Dutch: "Do you think we had better tell him how Kruger broke off the conference?"

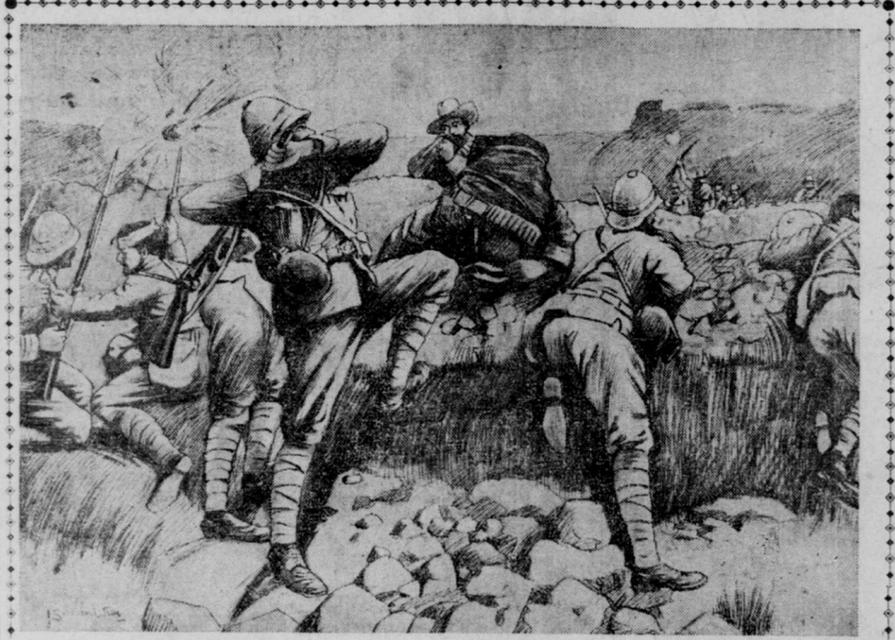
Mr. Fischer—No. Mr. Wolmarans in Dutch—Our position just now is precisely that of Jameson at the time of the raid. He expected Johannesburg to rise to his assistance. He expected the same of Cape Colony and

SHOTS FIRED FROM BEHIND A WHITE FLAG

LONDON, May 16.—The War Office posts the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, under date of Koonstad, May 15: "Two officers and six men of Prince Alfred's Guards, while out foraging yesterday a few miles from Koonstad, visited a farm flying a white flag, the owner of which surrendered himself, with arms and ammunition. They then approached another farm, also flying a white flag. When within forty yards of the inclosure they were fired upon by fifteen or sixteen Boers concealed behind the farm wall. Two of the men were killed, Lieutenant F. B. Walton was wounded and Lieutenant W. B. Eveston and two non-commissioned officers were taken prisoners. The owner of the farm states that the Boers threatened to shoot him when he protested against their making improper use of the white flag."

RELIEF FORCE FIGHTS BOERS AT KRAAL PAN

British Public Is Feverishly Awaiting News of the Expected Succor of the Hunger-Bitten Garrison at Mafeking.



Sharp Fighting at Mafeking—Boers Attack British Works. From the Spear.

THABA NCHU, May 17.—The British force advanced this morning twenty miles to the northwest and took possession of Maquatlings Nek. Prisoners continue to be taken daily.

LONDON, May 17, 3:20 a. m.—The British relief column fought the Boers at Kraal Pan, thirty-two miles south of Mafeking, on Tuesday, according to a telegram received Wednesday at Lourenço Marques from Moloop, 100 miles north of Mafeking. This intelligence is accepted here with some reserve, because it is difficult to understand how the news could have been so quickly put on the wire from a place 132 miles from the scene of the engagement.

General Rundie is sweeping through the northeast of the Free State. The Boers are dissolving before him and some are surrendering. Their main force is assembled between Ficksburg and Winburg, but it is without close organization.

Guerrilla Warfare. To-day's installment of the war story from every part of the war field is, therefore, seemingly a narrative of British successes, but with the Boers preparing for a last desperate fling farther in the interior and with Boer guerrilla parties looting houses and stores in the northwest section of Cape Colony, it is not all roses for the British.

The Ladysmith correspondent of the Morning Post, presumably John Stuart, is reported captured by the Boers at Kraal Pan. The British public is kept expectant of the announcement that Mafeking has been relieved. In army circles the opinion seems to prevail that this has already been accomplished, although two hours after midnight the War Office asserted that news of the relief had not been received. The steadfast courage of the hunger-bitten garrison has produced a heroism which is the best of all.

Big News Held Back. Douglas Storey, the Mail's correspondent at Pretoria, wires: "The Boer Government is holding back some big news. Fever prevails here, President Kruger is working day and night. The latest Boer official bulletin is that the relief column has been defeated with great loss."

Lord Roberts continues passive at Koonstad. His cavalry are stretching like a semi-circular screen many miles in length, without lapping flanks. The railway will probably be completed to-day. The Koonstad censor permits the passage of long dispatches dealing with incidents prior to the occupation.

The Times considers the rumors alleged here to President McKinley's alleged pro-Boer sympathies "utterly baseless." It says: "Mr. McKinley is convinced that the country does not wish him to interfere and that interference would be in all respects inexpedient as well as impossible."

It seems that General French's cavalry had one lively fight after crossing the Zand River. A mixed squadron, composed of the Scots Greys, the Inniskillings, Carbineers and Australian Horse, took a koepje and dismounted. The Boers suddenly fired from a concealed position, killing many horses and stampeding the rest. The Boers then advanced in overwhelming numbers and drove the squadron, capturing some. The Boers killed the dead and looted the saddles. A small brigade of cavalry drove them off.

There has been a heated discussion in the Raad in secret session respecting the expediency of destroying the mines. The result is not publicly known. The foreign mining representatives are greatly alarmed and have addressed strong representations to their respective Consuls.

Further north the Hussars charged the Boers, killing and wounding many stragglers with sabers and pistols. Lord Roberts' infantry marched 120 miles in seven days. General French marched thirty miles in one day. The Boers, when retreating, dragged thirty-two guns through Koonstad.

Persons acquainted with Colonel Baden-Powell's scheme of defense at Mafeking assert that the occupation of the Kaffir location by the Boers would not endanger the garrison, provided relief came quickly. A telegram from Cape Town says that Cecil Rhodes has decided to retire altogether from Cape Colony politics.

HARD TIMES AHEAD IN GREAT BRITAIN

General Buller's Move. General Buller is moving toward Newcastle. He appears to be using 25,000 men against 500 or 600. His operations will almost certainly result in forcing his way into the Transvaal, possibly in time to cooperate with Lord Roberts' advance, although General Buller is now 232 miles from Johannesburg, or twenty-five days' march.

NEW YORK, May 16.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, speaking at Bristol this evening, congratulated the audience on the fact that the cloud of war was fairly lifting and that there were streaks of light portending a glorious dawn. Continuing, he said: "We are contending with a foe whose courage and skilled tenacity we have learned to respect. But we are entitled to hope that the beginning of the end is coming."

Mr. Fischer went on to say that the friendly help of the United States in the cause of peace. That is what we will say to the public. As a matter of fact, we have no hope whatever. We have no cut and dried programme."

NEW YORK, May 15.—Charles B. Pierce, the Consul General of the Orange Free State, to-day received the following cablegram from Pretoria: "Messrs. Wessels, Fischer and Wolmarans: May justice and righteousness be with you. KRUGER."

MARKS GREAT ADVANCE IN MILITARY SCIENCE

LONDON, May 17.—An armored train, constructed for the War Office, was tried yesterday at Leeds. The officers present at the trial think the invention marks a great advance in military science. The armor is half an inch of nickel and steel and it is proof against bullets and shell splinters at a distance of twenty yards. Each of the three trucks of the train carries one 4.7 naval gun. The trial, which was made under severe conditions, was completely successful, and the train will proceed to South Africa immediately.

SENATE TAKES UP FRAUDS IN CUBA

Bacon of Georgia Demands an Investigation of the Island Government.

Charges That Fourteen Million Dollars Have Been Expended Through the Profligacy of Officials.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—Discussion of the administration of affairs in Cuba by agents of the United States occupied the attention of the Senate during the greater part of to-day's session. Bacon of Georgia addressed the Senate at length on his resolution directing the Committee on Relations with Cuba to make an investigation of the conduct of financial affairs of the island. He said it was due the people of this country to know just how affairs in the island were being conducted, and since the disclosures of the past few days had been made with respect to the alleged misappropriation of funds in the postal service, the obligation upon Congress to make an investigation was doubly heavy. He urged that the honor of the country depended upon its being able to clear away the fraud and corruption which, it was charged, had been discovered. He insisted that the Government of the United States has no authority in Cuba, and demanded to know how soon it proposed to redeem its pledge and leave the government of the island to its inhabitants.

of greater dignity than a general commanding an army in the field? What obligation was there on this Government to place him in a position of viceregal authority? What obligation was there on the Government that any one who claimed to have an official dignity in Cuba should be the guest of this man? Bacon declared that one of the prominent officials in Cuba had used the Cuban funds with which to purchase personal apparel. He further asserted that there were well founded rumors that there had been the most extravagant expenditure of Cuban funds for fitting up luxurious quarters for officers and furnishing these officers horses, carriages and liveried servants.

The following measures were passed: House bill repealing the provision of law allowing merchandise passing through the United States from any foreign country to be transported free of duty so far as the Mexican free zone is concerned; also a resolution offered by Lodge calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the influx of Japanese labor into this country; and another resolution which had been a power unrestrained by the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the influx of Japanese labor into this country; and another resolution which had been a power unrestrained by the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the influx of Japanese labor into this country.

"Still further," said he, "within the past week the fact has been disclosed—a fact that brings the blush of shame to the cheek of every American citizen—that trusted officials in Cuba have misappropriated large amounts belonging to the people of Cuba. Nobody knows how large these amounts are. At first it was stated that they were \$30,000. Next it was said they would amount to \$75,000, and now it is intimated the amounts may aggregate \$400,000. At first one man only was involved in the difficulty. Now there are many more. What it is intimated it may amount to is a power unrestrained by the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the influx of Japanese labor into this country; and another resolution which had been a power unrestrained by the Secretary of the Treasury for information in regard to the influx of Japanese labor into this country.

National Honor at Stake. The Bacon Cuban investigation resolution was then called up by its author, who, in opening, said that there could be no more mandatory duty than that which rests upon the United States that every dollar collected in Cuba should be applied to the people of Cuba. Every dollar so collected, he said, belonged to the people of Cuba, and not a dollar to the United States or to any official of the United States.

Interrupting Bacon, Hale of Maine asserted that the order creating Major Rathbone's office was of a character of power such as was given to Roman pro-consuls. There was nothing like it in this Government. It was a power unrestrained, unbridled. After paying a compliment to Major Rathbone, Hale continued: "The Senator and all of us ought to have known that the giving of this unbridled power to one man would be abused by the men under him, and in the end he would suffer."

Objections of national honor demanded that we investigate the affairs of Cuba and see that they have been rightly conducted. Perhaps at no time had any people constituted themselves the agent for a trust such as that we had imposed upon ourselves in Cuba. In the degree of honor with which this country was performed, the world is to be judged by the world. If there were no rumors, he said, of maladministration on the island of Cuba, the duty to investigate the business and governmental affairs of the island would not be so urgent.

Hale did not approve of this fashion of teaching self-government to the Cubans. Bacon, continuing, said the question now presented was should Congress sit still, in the face of these gross violations of public trust, or should it investigate them to the bottom? He understood that the majority of the Committee on Relations with Cuba did not wish to undertake the work he (Bacon) knew of Senators who were started at the magnitude of the work and were afraid it might take the balance of the year. If these Senators were not willing to undertake the work he (Bacon) knew of Senators who were started at the magnitude of the work and were afraid it might take the balance of the year. If these Senators were not willing to undertake the work he (Bacon) knew of Senators who were started at the magnitude of the work and were afraid it might take the balance of the year.

Continuing, Mr. Bacon presented a statement showing the receipts and expenditures of the various States, including Georgia, Missouri and Massachusetts. They were in every instance less than those of Cuba.

Investigation as to the record of the clerk in the military department who handled several hundred dollars' worth of stamps proves that the transactions so far as the United States are concerned, were of his brother, who is a stamp collector, were of his brother, who is a stamp collector, were of his brother, who is a stamp collector.

Allowance to Army Officers. Bacon discussed at length the allowance made to various officers in Cuba by direction of Secretary Alger. He inquired why such allowances were not made to General Wilson and General Lee. He read the order of General Alger making an allowance of \$500 per year in addition to his salary to Governor General Brooke.

What was there, Bacon inquired, in the office of the Governor General of Cuba which required him to exercise functions

REPORTED REPULSE OF BOERS AT MAFEKING

LORRENZO MARQUES, May 16.—A Portuguese official dispatch says an encounter has occurred at Mafeking and that the Boers have been repulsed with heavy loss.

PLUMERS CAMP, Friday, May 4. via Omsk, Monday, May 7.—Natives who have arrived here say that the bombardment of Mafeking May 1 was not heavy. Twelve hundred and eighty refugees from Mafeking have reached here. Patrols who have returned from the northern orders of the Transvaal say they saw no signs of Boers. All is quiet here. The Boers regularly patrol the neighborhood of Mafeking, but do not seem to be disposed to be aggressive.

TO MEET BOER ENVOYS.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Representative Sulzer of New York has announced the Congressional committee which will go to New York to-morrow night to meet the Boer delegates as follows: Senators—Hettfield, Idaho; Mason, Illinois; Wellington, Maryland; Teller, Colorado, and Allen, Nebraska. Representatives—Sulzer, New York; Robinson, Nebraska; De Arment, Missouri; Shea, Kentucky, and Champ Clark, Missouri.

The committee will take a midnight train, arriving at New York Friday. Sulzer says he understands the call of the President will be unofficial in character.

SUBSTITUTES WHO WERE EXECUTED

Convicted Murderers of Missionary Brooks Save Their Lives by Paying Others to Die.

Special Dispatch to The Call

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 16.—Advice by the Empress of India are to the effect that punishment has been meted out to the murderers of Missionary Brooks. Fifteen men were tried for the crime before the Provincial Judge at Chitmanu and C. W. Campbell, British Consul. It was developed at the trial that only three were guilty of the actual killing, and one of these dealt the fatal blow. This one, being most culpable in the Chinese criminal code, was beheaded in the presence of the British Consul. Another, who was only a shade lighter in guilt, was sentenced to strangulation at the autumn Assizes. A third was sentenced to life imprisonment, and four others to ten years' imprisonment. Four head men from the villages to which Mr. Brooks had been taken, having failed to protect him, were dismissed forever from office. Two village elders of the hamlet near the scene of the murder are to pay the cost of a memorial tablet to be erected at the scene of the murder at the cost of 500 taels. The Governor of the province has paid 500 taels for the following purpose: To build a memorial chapel at Pingyin, Mr. Brooks' station; to place a memorial in his school at Canteury, England; and to cover the loss of the Episcopal church's native Christians in that district at the hands of the Boxers.

House Proceedings. WASHINGTON, May 16.—The House accomplished little to-day besides passing the Senate bill to incorporate the American National Red Cross. No progress was made with the Alaskan code bill owing to the inability of the two sides to agree as to the time to be allowed for general debate. The conference report on the District of Columbia appropriation bill was returned after extended debate.

substitutes to suffer the death penalty and life imprisonment in their stead. The authorities permitted them to buy their lives back. The man who delivered the blow that killed Mr. Brooks was sentenced to have his head cut off. For \$300 he got an opium bond, who had dissipated his fortune and had but a few months to live, to allow himself to be decapitated in his stead, and the substitute was duly executed. The second man in guilt was condemned to be strangled in his stead and the third murderer got a substitute to take life imprisonment for \$50. The third substitute was also a morphine fiend. Broken-down wrecks who offered themselves as substitutes, that they might perform one good act for their relatives before their lives were ended by handing them a sum of money which to poor people in China would be a fortune.