

The News and Observer.

Leads all North Carolina Dailies in News and Circulation

ROBERTS MARCHES TOWARD PRETORIA

So the Censored Dispatches Seem to Indicate.

FIGHT AT KAREE SIDING

This May be an Incident of the British Advance.

SCHALKBURGER MADE VICE-PRESIDENT

He Succeeds Joubert in That Office, in the Transvaal. General Louis Botha is GAZETted Acting Commandant General of the Transvaal Forces.

London, April 20.—(1:50 P. M.)—The report of the fighting at Karee Siding, six miles north of Glen, may be the first news of the progress of the British advance on Pretoria, but even if this were only an unimportant skirmish there are many other indications that Lord Roberts is either starting or has already started for the Northern goal. A dispatch from Cape Town, under today's date, says the censorship restrictions have been greatly increased owing to the movements of the troops. All the dispatches bear traces of the strenuous efforts of the correspondents to give their papers an inkling of what is afoot.

The Boers south of Bloemfontein are reported to be retreating. Large commands were seen April 19th, near Thaba N'Chu, moving to the North. Their progress was slow, however, owing to the terrible condition of the country. By way of Pretoria comes a report that fever is decimating the Mafeking garrison and a letter from the mayor of Mafeking says Lord Roberts asked Colonel Baden-Powell to hold out until May 20th. Cecil Rhodes returns to Cape Town tomorrow. The announcement of his departure was unexpected. Never has a man so prominently connected with the vital questions of the day paid such a quiet visit to London. It is learned that the so-called "empire maker" came to England purely on business connected with the British Chartered South Africa Company, and the DeBeers Mine Company. He has accomplished his objects and, hating inaction and not wishing to meet people or freely express his views, has suddenly determined to return to South Africa, where he will watch the interests of these two companies. Mr. Rhodes has absolutely refused to be interviewed, though privately he has expressed scathing comments on several of the generalists still holding commands at the front. Lady Gatacre will be a fellow passenger of Mr. Rhodes. She is going as far as Madeira to meet her husband, the British General, who has been sent back to England.

FIGHT AT KAREE SIDING.

London, April 20.—(11:15 A. M.)—A special dispatch from Bloemfontein, under yesterday's date says firing is reported to be in progress south of Karee siding, six miles north of Glen. The strength of the Boers is not known. The British infantry, supported by artillery, held a strong position on a large dam.

SCHALKBURGER VICE-PRESIDENT.

Pretoria, April 20.—Major General Schalkburger has been gazetted Vice-President (in succession to the late General Joubert), and General Louis Botha has been gazetted acting Commandant General (succeeding General Joubert in command of the transvaal forces).

VICTORIA CROSS FOR BABTIE.

London, April 20.—The Gazette announces that the Queen has conferred the Victoria Cross on Major William Babbie, of the army medical corps, for conspicuous bravery at the battle of Colenso.

Major Babbie went to the assistance of wounded gunners in the face of a heavy rifle fire, during the fighting December 15th, and later in the day, assisted in bringing in Lieutenant Roberts, son of Lord Roberts, who lost his life while attempting to rescue the guns, for which, after his death, he was awarded the Victoria Cross.

CAPTURE OF CAPTAIN LITTLE.

Aliwal North, April 20.—Captain Little of Brabant's horse; Lieutenant Holbeck and Mr. Milne, a Router correspondent, fell into the hands of the enemy while they were trying to reach Wepener a week ago. Everything was taken from the prisoners, who were sent to Pretoria.

The Boers made a night attack on April 11th, but were discovered while creeping along a deep ditch, by Cape mounted rifles, with Maxims, who fired into them at a distance of 200 yards, with the result that the Boers lost five wagon loads of killed and wounded.

A simultaneous attack in other quarters was repulsed by the British, who used their bayonets.

The Boers still surround Wepener, but there has been little firing lately.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE BOERS.

Maseru, Basutoland, April 19.—Thursday.—The Boers continue to move freely around Wepener, going in all directions from which relief columns are expected. Desultory cannon fire and sniping have been going on all day, with scarcely any reply from Colonel Dalgety's force.

The Caledon River rose considerably during the night. This made the Boers

uneasy, as they feared separation. Some reinforcements have arrived for them, coming apparently from Thaba N'Chu or that direction. Our casualties up to date are believed to have been 25 killed and 110 wounded. Owing to the heavy rain and clouds heliographing has been impossible for the last two days.

The Boers who lately surrendered in the Wepener district have been forced again with violence to fight. Ten of their leaders have been arrested.

President Steyn has issued orders to the Boer forces to hold tight to the grain districts of Wepener, Ladybrand and Ficksburg, from which they draw their food supplies, and also to prevent the British forces from getting rich supplies now in those districts.

BEGIN A GUERRILLA WARFARE.

London, April 21.—(Saturday)—The Lady Smith correspondent of the Daily News, says:

"The Boers in Natal are already commencing a guerilla warfare. Both the Transvaalers and the Free States are compelling the natives to bear arms. General Buller has ordered all the farmers between Ladysmith and the Drakensberg range to retire to Estcourt."

CHERMSIDE AND RUNDLE IN MOTION.

Reasons For Publishing Lord Roberts' Spion Kopy Dispatches.

(By the Associated Press.)

London, April 21.—(Saturday, 4:20 a. m.)—General Chermiside and General Rundle are moving over the sodden roads. Rain was still falling when they went into camp Thursday afternoon eighteen miles west of Dewetsdorp. They hold the railway and the Southern frontier of the Free State with 20,000 men.

How many are going with the generals who will engage the Boers at Wepener is not mentioned in the latest dispatches from Oorlogspoor, where the British bivouacked Wednesday night. The field telegraph ends there.

On Thursday the Boers still had Colonel Dalgety closely penned.

The Government's reason for publishing Lord Roberts' Spion Kopy dispatches was explained last evening at Hull by Mr. Walter Hume Long, President of the Board of Agriculture, who said that the country was entitled to receive all the information the Government could give.

"The Government is told," continued Mr. Long, "that having published the dispatches, it is bound to deal immediately with the General affected, but in following such a course, the Government might have to dismiss every general the moment he made a mistake. Had such a policy been pursued in the past, many most glorious deeds would not have been performed."

BRITISH ENTRENCH ALONG HILLS.

Brandfort, Orange Free State, Thursday, April 19.—General Delarey has returned from a reconnaissance in force east of the railroad to the Modder River. He reports that he met only a few scouts, but that he saw British fortifications all along the hills.

HE JOINS DEMOCRATS

Son of a Leading Republican For White Supremacy.

He Wishes to Help Clear Away the Racial Gloom That Overshadows North Carolina.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Chapel Hill, N. C., April 19, 1900.

"Hon. F. M. Simmons, Chairman State Democratic Executive Committee, Raleigh, N. C.

"Dear Sir: It was my desire and intention to see you while at the State Democratic Convention on April 11th, 1900, (the largest and most enthusiastic I ever witnessed, and likely the largest I ever will again see in the State) and tender you, however little it may be, my services as a Democrat to help you as chairman to clear away the dark racial gloom that overshadows North Carolina, and free her from disgrace, corruption, ringleading, and incompetency, and place her upon a high plain of future security, prosperity and happiness, so much depending upon White Supremacy prevailing in the State.

"I will vote in the coming election, August next, for the first time in my life, for the Democratic nominees and the principles and doctrines which they will enunciate. The only thing which concerns me most and I regret is, to go contrary to the doctrines and teachings of my father, who has always espoused the principles of the Republican party, having cast his first vote accordingly and has voted said ticket ever since, as well as my kith and kin sides lineal and collateral.

"I have reached this conclusion after careful observation, Mr. Chairman, and the young man who is led to ally himself with the Republican party in North Carolina and the South, makes a personal sacrifice second only to that on Calvary, differing in this that he has nothing to gain, and a fine chance for a wrecked and wasted life, which God had given him for a grander and nobler purpose.

"Very truly,

"W. W. MASON."

Washington may have been the first in the hearts of his countrymen, but the confidence man wants to be first in their pockets.

At Sila, India, distress among the people is spreading and 3,500,000 persons are now receiving relief.

WON BY A LONG AND FIERCE STRUGGLE

\$545 Per Ton For Armor Knocked in the Head.

\$300 STILL THE LIMIT

Majority Sat Down on Establishment of Armor Plant.

THE MINORITY STRUCK BACK WITH VIM

The Senate Considered For the Greater Part of the Day's Session the Conference Report on the Hawaiian Civil Government Measure.

Washington, April 20.—As a result of a protracted struggle in the House today the provision of the Naval Appropriation Bill to enable the Secretary of the Navy to contract for armor for the battleships Maine, Ohio and Missouri, now awaiting their armor equipment, at \$545 per ton, the price asked for Krupp armor, is out of the bill as is the provision to repeal the \$200 limitation placed upon the price of armor by the current law. The fight came at the end of the consideration of the bill. Although the provision was obvious to the rule all the minority members of the committee had agreed to it, but today when the majority declined to allow the discussion of appropriation for the establishment of an armor plate factory they retaliated by raising a point of order against the two provisions above referred to and they were ruled out.

The exact effect of the action of the House today is disputed. The appropriation of \$4,000,000 under the head of "armor and armament" remains in the bill as well as the language of the provision authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to contract for armor of the best quality for the Maine, Ohio and Missouri, the words struck out being "at a cost not to exceed \$545 a ton including royalties." It is contended by some that this empowers the Secretary to contract for the armor without regard to cost. By others it is claimed that the provision will be ineffective unless the Senate inserts the price. So much bad feeling was aroused by the wrangle over the armor plate provision that Mr. Underwood, of Alabama, began a filibuster after the bill was reported to the House and finally forced an adjournment without final action on the bill.

Before the armor plate question came up two amendments to modify the provision for the increase of the navy, which authorizes two battleships and six cruisers, were defeated. One proposed to add provisions for six gunboats and the other to strike out the provision for the battleships. The question of building ships in government yards did not reach a vote as the amendment offered to this end was ruled out on a point of order.

An amendment was agreed to providing that the chief of the Bureau of Ordnance should not be below the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

Mr. Fitzgerald, of New York, offered an amendment to build four of the ships authorized by the bill in Government yards.

Mr. Foss raised a point of order against the amendment, which, after prolonged debate, was sustained, 82 to 74.

Mr. Vandiver, a member of the committee, offered an amendment to appropriate \$2,000,000 for the erection of a Government armor plate factory and for the appointment of three officers of the navy to select a site for such factory.

Mr. Dayton made a point of order against the amendment and insisted upon it despite the protest of Mr. Underwood, who said it was outrageous that a proposition involving the whole question of armor plate which had been agitated for five years, should be strangled, and the House led like a bull by a ring, and made to vote.

The Chair sustained the point of order from which decision Mr. Underwood promptly appealed.

Mr. Underwood, reviewing the history of the armor plate controversy, proceeded to show the situation which confronted the country. Under existing law Congress could not buy armor except at \$200 per ton and the provision in the bill to pay \$545 for the armor of the Maine, Wisconsin and Missouri, he claimed, was a change of existing law and therefore out of order. He was several times called to order by Mr. Hepburn for not speaking to the appeal, and finally amid increasing excitement and confusion Mr. Hepburn made the point that when called to order, Mr. Underwood must take his seat.

This the member from Alabama did, whereupon Mr. Bartlett (Ga.), moved that Mr. Underwood be allowed to proceed in order.

Mr. Bartlett's motion prevailed, 81 to 73, and Mr. Underwood proceeded. He was again called to order, and the Chair

recognized Mr. Dalzell to move to close debate upon the appeal.

Debate was closed, 96 to 82, and the Chair was sustained, 97 to 83.

Mr. Vandiver then made the point of order that the provision to pay \$545 a ton for armor of the Maine, Ohio and Missouri, was a change of existing law and, therefore, out of order.

The act of March 3rd, 1899, he said, limited the cost of armor plate to \$200 a ton. The act of the previous year limited the cost to \$100 a ton.

The point of order was finally sustained by the Chair. The Democrats greeted the decision with applause.

Mr. Bingham (Pa.), speaking to pro forma amendment denied on the authority of Mr. Cramp of the Cramp Ship Building Company that there had ever been a proposition for a combination between his firm and the Carnegie Company on the subject of armor plate.

The provision for the repeal of the restriction of \$300 a ton in the current law went out on a point of order.

Without further amendment the bill was reported to the House. Mr. Underwood (Dem., Ala.) demanded a separate vote on each amendment and on the first made the point of no quorum. The Speaker was unable to count a quorum, whereupon Mr. Underwood moved an adjournment. The motion was lost, but the quorum failed on the next vote, and at 8:25 o'clock without finally disposing of the bill the House adjourned.

THE HAWAIIAN BILL IN THE SENATE.

The Conference Report the Subject of Sharp Criticism.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, April 20.—The Senate had under consideration during the greater part of today's session the conference report on the Hawaiian Civil Government measure. Mr. Cullom made an extended explanation of the changes in the bill. The report was the subject of sharp criticism. Final action upon it was postponed until tomorrow.

The Alaskan Civil Code Bill was considered for a brief time, Mr. Bate, (Tenn.) delivering a speech in opposition to the pending Hansbrough amendment relating to the rights of alien miners.

THE CANAL BILL COMES UP MAY 1.

Mr. Hepburn Says the House Will Consider and Pass It.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, April 20.—Representative Hepburn, in charge of the Nicaragua Canal Bill announces that a definite arrangement has been reached by which the bill will be considered by the House on May 1st and 2nd, and passed.

The National Bank of Savannah and the Merchants National Bank have each purchased \$50,000 worth of the new two per cent. bonds and exchanged their old bonds for the new issue, with a view to increasing the circulation from \$45,000 each to \$100,000, under the terms of the new financial law.

PLAY ON THE DIAMOND

Philadelphia Defeats Boston in a Close Game.

The New York Boys Score a Well Earned Victory Over the Brooklyn Team at the Polo Grounds.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, April 20.—The New York's scored a well earned victory over the Brooklyn at the Polo Grounds this afternoon. The Brooklyn began with a rush, but the substitution of Doherty for Seymour in the third inning saved the day. Attendance 4,200. Score: R. H. E. New York 0 4 4 2 0 11—12 13 4 Brooklyn 1 4 0 1 0 0 2—8 7 4 Batteries: Doherty, Seymour and Grady; Dunn, Kitson and McGuire. Umpire, Emslie. Time, 2:09.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 20.—The baseball season opened here today under auspicious circumstances. Spectators had the satisfaction of seeing Philadelphia defeat Boston in a closely contested eleven-inning game. Previous to the game the clubs marched across the field and raised the Stars and Stripes amid patriotic music.

The game was a pitcher's battle and Nichols, while apparently having the better of it, had weak support. Boston's defeat was the result of two consecutive errors by Lowe, in the eleventh inning. With Lajoie on base and one man out, Lowe fumbled an easy grounder from McFarland's bat and then muffed a throw to catch McFarland at second, permitting Lajoie to score. Score: R. H. E. Boston 0 1 0 3 0 0 0 0 0—4 9 5 Philadelphia 2 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1—5 7 2 Batteries: Nichols and Clarke and Sullivan; Frazer and McFarland.

At Cincinnati—Cincinnati-Chicago, rain. At St. Louis—St. Louis-Pittsburg, rain.

RUSSIA WINS IN KOREA.

Korea Pledges Herself Not to Alienate Kojie Island.

(By the Associated Press.)

Seoul, April 21.—(Saturday)—An agreement has been concluded between the Russian and Korean Governments, Korea pledging herself not to alienate Kojie Island, at the mouth of Masampo harbor.

At Bluefield, W. Va., John Peters, colored, who assaulted Kate Ritchie, a 16 year old white girl, near Tazewell, on Wednesday, was lynched last night.

STORM BREAKS IN THE CONVENTION

Culmination of Factional Fight in Tennessee.

THE EVANS WING BOLTS

Republicans Will Send Two Delegations to Philadelphia.

AND WILL PUT OUT TWO STATE TICKETS

The Evans Wing Will Run W. F. Poston For Governor and the Brownlow Wing John E. McCall, McKinley is Endorsed by Both Factions.

Nashville, Tenn., April 20.—Tennessee will have two Republican tickets in the field in the coming State campaign. Likewise two sets of delegates will go to the National convention at Philadelphia. As expected the Senate split today, the Evans contingent walking out and holding a separate convention. W. F. Poston, of Crockett county, is its gubernatorial selection, while John E. McCall is at the head of the State ticket named by the convention over which Congressman Brownlow presided. Pension Commissioner, Henry Clay Evans will lead one delegation to the National convention, while the other will be directed from the background by Congressman and National Committeeman Walter P. Brownlow. Both delegations are instructed for McKinley.

The situation is the outcome of a bitter factional fight that has been waged in the State for some time. The expected storm broke in the State convention soon after it met today and the Evans men bolted, proceeding to Amusement Hall, where they held a convention of their own. The split came when the "uncontested" delegates refused to substitute the minority for the majority report of the Committee on Credentials. The committee presented a majority report seating Brownlow delegates from thirteen counties. The minority recommended the seating of Evans' delegates in each instance. When the motion to substitute was lost, W. S. Tipton, of Bradley county, called on McKinley's friends to follow him out. As the bolters filed out of the hall, there was much disorder. Finally order was restored and the majority report was adopted.

Congressman Brownlow was installed as permanent Chairman and Congressman Henry R. Gibson, of Fester, W. Brown, G. N. Tillman and John E. McCall were named for delegates at large to the National convention. The resolution adopted denounces the election laws of Tennessee, declaring they differ in no essential from the Goebel law of Kentucky.

The administration of President McKinley is warmly endorsed and renomination at Philadelphia declared for.

Continuing the resolution says: "We congratulate the country that the present Republican Congress has established by legislation the permanence of the gold standard. We denounce the monstrosities of the recent Nebraska platform, which is admitted to be the forerunner of the National platform, to be adopted by the Chicago wing of the Democratic party at its National convention in Kansas City."

The platform declares for expansion and on this subject says in part: "With such Democrats as Senator Morgan of Alabama; Senator McLaughlin, of South Carolina and Judges Lurton, and Wright, of Tennessee, endorsing the policy of the administration in its treatment of expansion as an accepted fact, we contemplate with complacency the denunciation of the administration by the Bryan followers, who are 'hell for war in time of peace' and 'hell for peace in time of war.'"

John E. McCall was the convention's choice for Governor and W. C. Harnsby for Railroad Commissioner.

At Amusement Hall the Evans contingent made numerous speeches of indignation. J. R. Walker was made permanent chairman. The resolutions adopted declare allegiance to the Republican party traditions. McKinley is endorsed and his renomination advocated. The administration of H. Clay Evans as Commissioner of Pensions is praised and the upbuilding of a merchant marine declared for. The resolutions conclude with a scathing denunciation of Congressman Brownlow and the majority faction of the Republican State Executive Committee.

W. F. Poston was unanimously nominated for Governor and W. S. Tipton for Railroad Commissioner. Howard A. Mann, H. T. Campbell, J. C. Napier, (colored) and James Jeffreys were selected as delegates to the National convention. The Evans faction is bitter in denunciation of the Brownlow cohorts. Mr. Evans today sent the following message to General H. V. Boynton at Washington: "Situation most embarrassing and humiliating. No box stuffing and perjury ever equalled what we have here. Decency thoroughly disgusted."

Cissie Loftus, the English music hall singer, who is resting at Old Point, last night fell overboard from the pier at Chamberlain's Hotel and was rescued from drowning by Coxswain Dalem, of the United States training ship Monongahela.

Homer Crawford, a negro, was legally executed in the county jail yard at Hawkinsville, Ga., yesterday, for the murder of Johnson Pat, colored.

THE A. C. I. CONSOLIDATION.

Movement Endorsed by Stockholders of W. & W. and S. Railroads.

(By the Associated Press.)

Wilmington, N. C., April 20.—Special meetings of the stockholders of the Wilmington and Weldon and Southeastern Railroad Companies were held here this afternoon, 98 per cent. of the stock being represented. The action taken by the board of directors at Baltimore, Wednesday, with regard to the consolidation of all the companies composing the Atlantic Coast Line system into one corporation was unanimously endorsed. The name of the new company will be "The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company," with a mileage of about 1,770 miles and an additional mileage of 800 controlled by lease or joint ownership, making a total of approximately 2,570 miles.

Besides the officers named in yesterday's Associated Press dispatches the directors will be: B. F. Newcomer, Baltimore; E. B. Borden, Goldsboro, N. C.; George Howard, Tarboro, N. C.; Donald MacRae, H. Walters and J. W. Norwood, Wilmington, N. C.; and Michael Jenkins and Walter Newcomer, Baltimore; Fred W. Scott, Richmond; D. W. Lassiter, Petersburg; H. B. Short, Lake Waccamaw, N. C., and J. J. Lucas, Society Hill, N. C.

James F. Post will be Secretary and Treasurer, and the general offices continued at Wilmington. There will be no new mortgage and the present bonded indebtedness will not be increased.

TROUBLE WITH WEST AFRICAN NATIVES

Rumors of Quarrels With the French in the Yeruba County.

(By the Associated Press.)

Lagos, British West Africa, April 20.—Three hundred Nigerian troops have been dispatched overland to the Gaman country, northwest of Ashanti, where the British residents report a recrudescence of the troubles which necessitated the expedition of last year. One hundred and fifty other troops are proceeding from the Gold Coast. There are unconfirmed rumors here of trouble with the French at Meko, in the Yeruba county, in the neighborhood of Dahomey frontier. Owing to the distance, however, this can hardly be connected with the troubles in Ashanti and Gaman.

Accra, April 20.—Heavy fighting is reported in progress near Kumassi.

Board of Directors For the Journal.

(By the Associated Press.)

Atlanta, Ga., April 20.—Under the reorganization of the Atlanta Evening Journal, a Board of Directors has been elected by the stockholders, and these officers have been named by the board: President, Morris Brannon; Vice President, James R. Gray; General Manager, George H. Dickinson; Business Manager, H. H. Cabaniss; Secretary, W. B. Roberts; managing editor, Josiah Carter; Treasurer, H. M. Atkinson.

WON BY TAR HEELS

The Result of the Debate at Nashville.

Whitehead Klutz and William S. Bernard Carried Off Honors From Vanderbilt For North Carolina's University.

(By the Associated Press.)

Nashville, Tenn., April 20.—Representatives of North Carolina University won the oratorical contest from Vanderbilt in the University Chapel here tonight. The question was "Resolved, That the United States should not retain permanent possession of the Philippine Islands." North Carolina had the negative side, and was represented by Whitehead Klutz and William S. Bernard. For Vanderbilt, E. B. Crooks and Carl Monk spoke. Governor McMillin presided.

Heavy Advance in Freight Rates.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, April 20.—It is announced by a Wall Street news agency that the through freight rates between the Pacific coast and all points south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi river were cancelled today. All of the interested roads, including the Southern Pacific, have issued notices to that effect. As a result of this action the trans-continental rates east of the Mississippi river are added to the rate between San Francisco and the river, and the through rate advanced in the exact amount of the added local, which ranges from 30c. per 100 pounds, to \$1, and more in some instances.

INTERVENTION THEIR LAST HOPE.

Steyn Declares Great Britain Aims at Destruction of the Boers.

(By the Associated Press.)

Cape Town, April 20.—At a meeting of the Volksraad of the Orange Free State at Kroonstadt today, President Steyn denounced Lord Roberts' proclamation as "treachery" and declared that as Great Britain's object "was their destruction their last hope was to appeal to the civilized powers to intervene."

Senator Davis introduced an amendment to the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill appropriating \$25,000 for defraying the expenses of a delegation from the United States to the international Conference of American States proposed to be held in Mexico, in the interest of the Union of American Republics.