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CRONJE YIELDS TO CRUEL FATE

Brave Old Boer Could Hold Out No Longer Against British Forces

SURRENDERS HIS ARMY

The Boer Laager Found to Be in a Frightful Condition.

CAMP STREWN WITH DEAD

The Wounded Lying About in Hoops—Food Exhausted, Ammunition Damaged and Wagons Burned—According to an Official Dispatch the Force Surrendered Was Three Thousand Men, but Correspondents Put the Numbers Much Higher—News of the Surrender Received in England with Every Manifestation of Joy—Advices from Pretoria Indicate That the Determination of the Boers to Resist to the Bitter End is Intensified by Cronje's Misfortune.

London, Feb. 27.—Lord Roberts' cable to the War Office from Paardeberg this morning is as follows:

Cronje and all his forces capitulated unconditionally at daylight this morning. Now prisoners in my camp. Strength of force will be communicated later. I hope the government considers this event as satisfactory, occurring on the anniversary of Majuba Hill.

ROBERTS.
In the House of Lords today the Marquis of Lansdowne, secretary of state for war, read the following dispatch from Lord Roberts, which was sent from Paardeberg at 11:20 o'clock this morning:

"From information received from the intelligence department, it became apparent that the Boer forces were becoming depressed and disheartened. This, no doubt, had been accentuated by the disappointment caused by the fact that the Boer reinforcements had not arrived. I resolved, therefore, to bring pressure to bear on the enemy's positions. We pushed forward so gradually as to contract his position, and at the same time I bombarded heavily. This was materially aided by the arrival of four six-inch howitzers, which were brought from De Aar, by carrying out these measures the Boer position was greatly assisted in giving the necessary information as to the disposition of the enemy.

"At 3 o'clock this morning a most daring advance was made by the Canadian regiment and the engineers, supported by the First Gordons and the Second Shropshires, which resulted in our gaining a point six hundred yards nearer the enemy and eighty yards from his trenches, where our men entrenched and maintained the position till morning. It was a gallant deed, worthy of our colonial soldiers, and one which, I am glad to say, was attended with comparatively slight loss.

"This apparently precipitated matters. At daylight a letter, signed by Cronje, was sent in under a flag of truce, in which he stated that he surrendered unconditionally.

"In my reply I told Cronje that he must present himself at my camp and his force must come out of the laager after laying down their arms. At 7 o'clock I received Cronje, and in the course of the conversation Cronje asked for kind treatment at our hands; also, that his wife, grandson, private secretary, adjutant and servants might accompany him wherever he might be sent. I reassured him and told him his request would be complied with. I told him a general officer would be sent with him to Cape Town to insure his being treated with proper respect, and that he would soon be home.

"The prisoners number about three thousand and will be formed into companies under their own officers. They will leave here today, reaching Modder River tomorrow, whence they will be sent to Cape Town in detachments."

Roberts' Dispatch Read in the House.
In the House of Commons, Mr. George Wyndham, Parliamentary secretary of state for war, read the detailed dispatch from Lord Roberts in regard to the surrender of General Cronje, and there was great cheering. A special cheer was given for the Canadians when the portion of the message referring to their gallantry was read.

Mr. Wyndham repeated Lord Roberts' statement that special steps

would be taken to secure respectful treatment for General Cronje during his journey.

Much surprise was expressed when Roberts officially notified the government that the prisoners surrendered numbered only 3,000. It was expected that he had captured a force of at least 8,000, and unless Cronje's casualties number among the thousands the first great British victory will not turn out to be so great after all, as it seems incredible that a force of 45,000 trained British soldiers, under the greatest commander the British empire has, could be held in check for ten days and suffer severe losses. It is said that Lord Roberts has declined to send newspaper correspondents to permit a complete report of the situation; therefore many details are lacking.

VICTOR AND VANQUISHED

Roberts Kind and Sympathetic—Cronje Brave and Dignified.

London, Feb. 27.—A dispatch to the Central News from Lord Roberts' headquarters says:

"Paardeberg, Orange Free State, Feb. 27.—(4:35 a. m.)—General Cronje, commander of the Orange Free State army, has surrendered unconditionally to the British forces under Lord Roberts. He is now a prisoner in this camp. Cronje sent an officer to the British lines at dawn this morning with a flag of truce. The officer said he had a message for the British general in command. He was taken to Lord Kitchener, to whom he said General Cronje was willing to surrender, having found his position untenable, and only death or capture in prospect if he continued to fight. He wished to avoid useless shedding of blood and to save his women and children. He asked that they be given a safe conduct.

"General Kitchener granted the request, so far as the women and children were concerned, but insisted that the surrender in all other respects be absolutely unconditional. To this Cronje agreed.

"The Boer commander at once left his laager and, escorted by half a dozen soldiers, entered the British lines. He was met by General Kitchener, who immediately brought him to the headquarters of Lord Roberts. The greeting between the rival generals was kindly and extremely sympathetic on the part of Lord Roberts, who has great admiration for his captives, and brave and dignified on the part of Cronje.

"The condition of affairs in the camp of the Boers was something frightful. They had run entirely out of food, except the trek cattle, and these were eaten as rapidly as they were killed by the British shells. Their ammunition was badly damaged by the British fire. Most of their wagons were burned. The laager was strewn with the corpses of the dead, lying in the broad light, unburied and festering. The wounded were in an awful plight. The hospital corps was insufficient to attend to them, and they lay about the laager in heaps, some crying piteously, other shrieking in their pain, many silently enduring their agonies.

"British troops, immediately on taking possession of the laager, were ordered by Lord Roberts to devote their attention to succoring the wounded and burying the dead, as well as caring for the women and children, who, panic-stricken and in expectation of some awful punishment, could hardly be induced to accept kindness or aid from their conquerors. The British commissary was taxed to its utmost to give immediate relief to the sufferers, but everything is being done to alleviate the condition of their captives.

"It is believed that the surrendered force will number between 7,000 and 8,000 combatants. Besides these there are over 1,000 women and children and Kaffir laborers and members of the Red Cross relief corps."

LONDON OVERJOYED

Intense Excitement Attends the Reception of News of the Surrender

London, Feb. 27.—The Queen, who is at Windsor Castle, has cabled her congratulations to Lord Roberts on the surrender of General Cronje and his army.

General Roberts' dispatch was posted in the War Office just as soon as the press lobby was opened, and few people besides the newspaper men were present. The news spread quickly and crowds hurried toward the War Office, where there was a scene that has been without parallel during the war.

The comment on all lips was that this first real victory was doubly welcome, coming as it did on the anniversary of Majuba Day.

The bulletin from Lord Roberts was posted at the Mansion House on the board reserved for royal proclamations. A great crowd gathered on the sidewalk and in the street and blocked all traffic of vehicles. Shouts arose on all sides of "Read! Read! Read! Read!" There was silence for a moment and some one read out the last sentence,

(Continued on page 7.)

AS TO CONSPIRACY

Bill Introduced in the House to Restrict the Application of the Law

Washington, Feb. 27.—Mr. Ridgely of Kansas has introduced a bill in the House (H. R. 8017) providing that no agreement, combination or contract by or between two or more persons to do, or procure to be done, or not to do, or to procure not to be done, any act in contemplation or furtherance of any trade dispute between employers and employees in the District of Columbia, or in any Territory of the United States, or who may be engaged in trade or commerce between any territory and another, or between any Territory or Territories and any State or States, or the District of Columbia or with foreign nations, or between the District of Columbia and any State or States or foreign nations, shall be deemed criminal; nor shall those engaged therein be indictable or otherwise punishable for the crime of conspiracy, if such act committed by one person would not be punishable as a crime; nor shall such agreement, combination or contract be considered as in restraint of trade or commerce; nor shall any restraining order or injunction be issued with relation thereto. Nothing in this act shall exempt from punishment, otherwise than as herein, except any persons guilty of conspiracy, for which punishment is now provided by any act of Congress, but such act of Congress shall, as to the agreements, combinations and contracts herein before referred to, be construed as if this act were therein contained.

OLGA IN COURT

Witnesses Examined Privately in Regard to the Moral Tone of "Sapho."

New York, Feb. 27.—Olga Netherstone, the actress, appeared today in the Center Street Court, where the examination was resumed into the question as to whether "Sapho" is an immoral play. She came in with Hamilton Revelle, her leading man; Marcus Meyer, her manager, and Abe Hummel, their attorney. The hearing was private.

The first witness for the session was Mrs. Almon Hensley, president of the Society for the Study of Life. Other witnesses subpoenaed to testify at the hearing were Mrs. Julius Harburgner, Mrs. S. M. Harris of the New York Mothers' Club, Mrs. Amelia M. S. Calkins of the Study of Life Society, and Dr. Eloise of the Church.

There were also several dramatic critics among the witnesses.

FIELD DAY IN NEWTON

Campaign Opened for the Constitutional Amendment

FIVE SPEECHES BY BOWER

History of Suffrage and Party Politics in North Carolina Since the Civil War Outlined—Great Wrong Perpetrated Upon the White People by Permitting the Negro to Vote—The Speech Heard by a Large Audience.

Newton, N. C., Feb. 27.—Special.

The campaign for the constitutional amendment was opened in Catawba county today by Hon. W. H. Bower in a speech of an hour and a half. It was a splendid effort, and advanced the cause of white supremacy in this county. The largest crowd ever assembled in the courthouse at Newton heard the entire speech. It was noticeably the most intelligent and representative assembly of the best male citizens of the county ever at a political gathering.

Mr. Bower, after being presented, gave a brief history of suffrage and party politics in North Carolina since the civil war, picturing vividly the ill effects consequent upon the enactment of unwise and unjust suffrage laws. He showed how the right of suffrage was bestowed upon the ignorant negro just emerged from slavery but still a savage, by allens to the State, against the protest of the intelligence and manhood of the State; that the very cream of North Carolina's purest and most patriotic citizens, to the tune of thirty thousand or more, were disfranchised that the great horde of negroes and those who dominated them might rule and ruin the State; that the wrong has for thirty years been a menace to the peace and good order of the commonwealth, retarding its material advancement. In 1898 the white people of the State again took the reins and are following up that victory by a campaign to permanently right the great wrong and outrage perpetrated upon them.

The speaker made a plain, forcible and convincing argument upon the legality of the amendment. Although the courtroom was crowded, it was remarkable that when a voter went in he remained standing in the jam until the speech closed. Never was better attention given to a political speaker. Everybody was pleased, and much good was done. A large number of Populists paid close attention, and

CROWDS HEAR DEPEW

The New York Senator a Star Attraction

BIG GUNS IN THE HOUSE

General Debate on the Porto Rico Tar Bill Closed—Carmack, Clayton, DeArmond and Baily Attack the Bill With Great Force—Cannon and Others Rally to the Support of Measure—Old Republican Doctrine Quoted.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Previous announcement that Mr. Depew of New York would address the Senate today drew a large attendance of Senators and a notable assemblage of spectators in the galleries. Aside from the enoche he pronounced upon the late Vice-President Hobart, this was Mr. Depew's first formal speech in the Senate, and particular interest was manifested in it. Senators on both sides of the chamber gave him close attention.

Mr. Turley of Tennessee was entitled to the floor at the conclusion of routine business to conclude his speech on the Quay case; but he yielded to Mr. Depew, saying that if time allowed he would finish his speech after the New York Senator had concluded; if not, he would go on tomorrow.

Mr. Depew addressed himself to the resolutions offered on the Philippine question, particularly to that proposed by Mr. Beveridge of Indiana, declaratory of the policy of the United States toward the Philippine Islands.

[His speech is reported at length on the sixth page of The Post.]

The Quay case went over and the Hawaiian bill was taken up.

Mr. Pettigrew offered an amendment annulling all contracts made in Hawaii since August, 1898, by which persons are held in service for a definite time. He made the statement that 30,000 contract laborers have been brought there from China since the American flag flew over these islands. They came from China and Japan, Mr. Pettigrew said. Mr. Cullum accepted the amendment and without final action the Senate adjourned at 5:30 o'clock.

Heavy Debate on Porto Rico Tariff

The last day of general debate on the Porto Rico tariff bill opened in the House today with a twenty minute speech by Mr. Carmack of Tennessee in opposition to the bill. The alternative presented by the bill, he said, was the abandonment of our priceless principles of our new possessions. The country had been dazzled with the gorgeous picture of empire, yet at the very threshold of the new departure, he said, gentlemen on the other side had been appalled lest the trade which they had looked at with covetous eyes would bring ruin and destruction to American labor. Therefore the new possessions were to become colonies and to be turned over to carpetbagger adventurers.

He said that Mr. Grosvenor the other day had displayed dense ignorance when he had declared that this was the battle of 1890 over again. He read from the Republican platform of 1890 to show that it set up the very contention maintained by the Democrats now—that the constitution was supreme in the territories, and extended over every foot of ground over which the United States had jurisdiction.

"That was the doctrine of the Republican party and Abraham Lincoln," said he, "and we stand here to defend the theory that slavery and political despotism cannot be imposed within the jurisdiction of our country; that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are the inalienable rights of all within our jurisdiction."

Mr. Clayton of Alabama, who followed Mr. Carmack, created amusement and enthusiasm by reading a letter written by Chairman Payne to W. H. Curtis of Palmyra, N. Y., January 24, 1900, in which he advocated free trade with Porto Rico on the ground that it would give relief to the stricken island. The letter also contained the following reference to the Philippines: "Under the treaty the Philippine Islands are to have free trade with Spain for ten years. We could not extend these tariff laws to the Philippine Islands even if we would."

Mr. Clayton asked that this letter and an extract from Mr. Payne's speech in support of the bill be printed in parallel columns in the Record. He declared that the brood of trusts had flocked to Washington and compelled the leaders of the Republican party to turn their backs upon Porto Rico. He asked if the people of that island were not entitled to as much consideration as the Sultan of Sulu, who was granted free trade with all the Philippine Islands.

Mr. De Armond of Missouri said this bill proposed to set aside the constitution, not for the purpose of doing something philanthropic, but in the interests of the partial or complete enslavement of a helpless people. This change of front had been brought about by the influence of the agents of mighty corporations. He argued that nothing could be done outside of the constitution. There was always one supreme test from the beginning of the republic until the last sad hour of its existence, if that should come, and that test was the constitution. He

said the administration had determined blindly and greedily to hold the Philippines for what could be made out of them. It matters little about Porto Rico. The Porto Ricans were to be crucified in order that the cross might be raised in the Philippines. We could withdraw from the archipelago and leave 10,000,000 of tropical people to work out their own salvation. "In my opinion," he said, "that is what we ought to do." (Democratic applause.) "But if they are held they must be held under the constitution. The inhabitants must be American citizens—black, brown and yellow—and ultimately be represented upon this floor with more representation than all of New England." He thought the time was coming when there would be a revulsion in the Republican party, when the Republicans who now had the backbone to oppose the present program would be hailed as the saviors of their party.

Cannon Defends the Bill

Mr. Cannon of Illinois followed Mr. De Armond. He spoke with much earnestness. He was old enough, he said, to judge time by events, and he had grown to distrust those who came, when great public crises arose, talking of the unconstitutionality of measures to meet them. He remembered when a president with a whole party behind him asserted that there was no power under the constitution to coerce a sovereign State when those States were already in arms, prepared to shoot the life out of what was left of the Union. The constitution, he said, was the buckler of those who attempted to embarrass the government during the war. It was the shield of Vanlandingham and Voorhees.

Mr. Cannon said he, for one, believed the constitution was made for the people and not the people and the country for the constitution. (Applause.) "Never, thank God," he said, "had there been a day or hour during the administration of Jefferson, Jackson, Polk, Lincoln or McKinley when in a crisis a way had not been found to meet it." When he heard the gentleman from Missouri announce the doctrine that we should forsake the Philippines in their helpless condition, who had not voted against the \$20,000,000 appropriation to pay Spain for these islands—

"He did vote against it," interposed Mr. Wheeler of Kentucky.

"Then he is one of the thirty-four consistent," replied Mr. Cannon.

"What about the rest of you? If I held the views you do, I'd quit."

Continuing, Mr. Cannon said he believed we could do what Jefferson did when he signed the act which was an exact copy of the Spooner bill now before the Senate, to vest the executive, legislative and judicial power over the Louisiana territory in him until the insurrection was put down.

"What is the administration's policy?" asked Mr. Norton of Ohio.

"I'll tell you," responded Mr. Cannon. "As to Porto Rico, do the only thing that can bring relief to the island—pass this bill. As to the Philippines, continue to do, as we are doing—put down the insurrection and restore law and order." (Applause.)

"I'm for keeping the Philippines," under the constitution, subject to the legislation of the country that owns them, and work out good results for them and good results for us. I'll risk the people's verdict on that issue." (Renewed applause.)

Mr. Bailey of Texas spoke next. As he arose his political associates gave him a round of applause. Preliminary to launching upon his argument, Mr. Bailey, advertising to Mr. Cannon's speech, said that only one portion of it called for serious reply—the accusation against the Democratic side for voting the \$20,000,000 to Spain. Mr. Bailey said that that vote committed the Democrats to negotiate as to the future policy toward the Philippines. They voted the money to discharge an obligation of the government incurred without their consent.

Turning to the bill, Mr. Bailey declared that there was involved in it a question of law and a question of morals.

Mr. Dooliver of Iowa followed Mr. Bailey in support of the bill, and the House at 5 o'clock took a recess until 8 o'clock for speeches only.

At the night session Mr. Tolbert of South Carolina and Mr. Bellamy of North Carolina, among others, made vigorous speeches against the bill. Mr. Bellamy declared the bill unconstitutional and objectionable from every point of view. He was listened to with marked attention and created an excellent impression.

ANTI-IMPERIALISTS

A National Convention Will Be Held After Party Nominations Are Made

Chicago, Feb. 27.—An anti-imperialist convention will be held, probably in Indianapolis, soon after the Democratic and Republican parties have made their nominations for President and Vice-President of the United States. Such is the announcement made by E. Burritt Smith. The attitude to be taken by the convention will have to be decided upon then, and until that time the anti-imperialists will refrain from committing themselves on the presidential question.

A Noted Criminal Escapes

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 27.—Special.—Will Harris, white, a noted criminal, escaped custody last night. Harris is supposed to have been connected with the murder of a policeman in Richmond, Va., also a postoffice robbery in Atlanta. Harris' pal, a negro, is now confined at Columbus, Ohio, for the Atlanta robbery.

WHO WILL BE JUDGE?

The Nomination of Ewart Certain to Be Voted Down.

PRITCHARD IN WAR PAINT

Our Republican Senator Going to Newtown to Speak Today Against the Constitutional Amendment—Bellamy Proposes One Cent Postage on Letters—Swanson Considers It Almost Certain Bellamy Will Keep His Seat.

By JOHN G. BOYLE.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Special.—There was considerable gossip about the capitol today as to who would succeed Judge Ewart when the Senate rejects him. There was a rumor that his name would be withdrawn. This was found to be without foundation. Senator Pritchard's name was used as his probable successor. This, too, was without authority. Senator Pritchard said to your correspondent:

"Under no circumstances will I accept the place. I will remain in the Senate until the end of my term."

Judge Ewart was asked if he had anything to say as to the adverse report, and he replied: "Nothing." He is looking well and will remain here until his case is decided by the Judiciary Committee. This committee will report next Monday. There were several members who were favorable to him, but they have been staggered by the sub-committee—Senators Simons and Pettus—reporting against him this session twice in succession. It is now confidently predicted that the full committee will report unanimously against him.

Some criticism has been made against Senator Pritchard in this matter, it being asserted in some quarters that if he had influence he could pull Ewart through. As a matter of fact, well-known to your correspondent for two years, if it had not been for Senator Pritchard's persistence in behalf of Judge Ewart, he would not have been nominated again this session. The place was offered to Senator Pritchard last December. He declined it then, as he will do so now, after Judge Ewart is defeated, as he is certain to be, unless his name is withdrawn.

Senator Pritchard left here tonight for Newton to deliver his first speech in the present campaign against the adoption of the constitutional amendment. He was accompanied by his law partner, Mr. Rollins, and his brother, Mr. Pritchard, who will remain in the State for a week or more. Senator Pritchard will return here Thursday.

Mr. Bellamy today introduced a bill to reduce the rate of postage on first-class mail matter to one cent for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

W. J. Hannah of Greenville was today admitted to practice before the Interior Department.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces that on March 19, 1900, an examination will be held at Wilmington for the position of stenographer and typewriter; age, twenty years or over.

Pensions have been granted residents of North Carolina as follows: Sextus Chadwick, New Bern, \$6; Henry Lockett, Scotland Neck, \$6; Seth S. Woodard, Columbia, \$12; Edmon John, Wainnabow, \$6; James Collins, Elizabeth City, \$6.

M. H. Hartz has been appointed postmaster at Calberton, Cherokee county, vice J. W. Baller, resigned; S. H. Darden, at Little River Academy, Cumberland county, vice J. C. Adams, resigned.

Congressman Swanson of Virginia, who has several contests on his hands in Congress, said to The Post correspondent today that he felt almost certain that Mr. Bellamy will retain his seat. Mr. Bellamy feels sanguine, but not sure, and goes ahead, conscious that he was elected and that the House will not unseat him.

John S. Tucker of North Carolina has been promoted from \$920 to \$750 in the Internal Revenue Bureau of the Treasury.

Active Boer Sympathizers

Rochester, Feb. 27.—Boer sympathizers in Rochester have raised a large sum of money to be forwarded to the Boers in South Africa. It was reported that there is a secret league here, the members of which are constantly working for the Boer cause, canvassing the city for money and sending articles of clothing and food to their brethren in South Africa.

Mail Steamer Stranded

Sassnitz, Germany, Feb. 27.—The Swedish mail steamer Rex stranded off Lohme, Ruegen Island, during a fog. Five stewards were drowned in attempting to leave the ship. The rest of the crew and the passengers and the mail are still aboard.

Cold in the Adirondacks

Plattsburg, N. Y., Feb. 27.—Last night was probably the coldest of the winter in the Adirondack region. It was 12 below zero at daylight here this morning, 14 below at Malone and 23 below at Saranac Lake.