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The Wilson News.

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IT STAGGERED THE BOERS

DEFEAT AT ELANDSLAAGTE RENDERS THEM
FEEBLE—DUNDEE NOT ANXIOUS.

BRITISH ALARMED AT SITUATION IN AFRICA

Fearful That Telegrams Do Not Tell Exact Con-
ditions—A Strict Censorship
Established.

London, October 24.—The military authorities and the public in general are much alarmed at the situation in South Africa, as it is feared that the official dispatches do not represent the condition of affairs accurately. The latest despatches have been withheld by the Cabinet after a conference.

Getting Cruisers Ready.

London, Oct. 24.—It is stated at Portsmouth that the Admiralty has ordered all the cruisers mobilized at the late manoeuvres to be prepared for active service on short notice. The work of preparing the vessels for commission is being pushed ahead hurriedly.

The Fight Near Mafeking.

The War Office issues the following, dated Cape Town 23rd: "Gen. Baden-Powell telegraphs under date of the 15th that all is well. In the fight to-day four miles from Mafeking, an armored train and a section of the British South African Police, with two squadrons of the Bechuanaland protectorate regiment, repulsed the enemy. The British loss was two killed and fifteen wounded. The enemy's loss is estimated at fifty-three killed and many wounded.

Our Enemies, But Brave Men.

London, October 24.—The War Office gives out this dispatch from Pietermaritzburg under date of the twenty-second. "A number of Boers captured at Elandslaagte are expected here tonight." The Government has issued notice requesting citizens to abstain from demonstrations, adding, "Though they are our enemies they are brave men, and we can afford to be generous.

Strict Censorship Maintained.

London, October 24.—At ten this morning the Central News had not received a message from Glencoe since Saturday afternoon, although it is understood the telegraph line to Glencoe, Ladysmith and Durban was restored yesterday. It is believed the situation is due to a censorship the strictest ever known.

Says Boers Fired on Ambulance.

London, October 24.—The Daily News correspondent at Ladysmith vouches on personal observation for the fact that the Boers fired on an ambulance succoring the wounded and says others will testify to the same.

The Boers Completely Staggered.

Cape Town, October 24.—This afternoon news came from Dundee to the effect that the Boer disaster at Elandslaagte staggered the Boers completely, rendering their attack on Dundee feeble and that therefore there is no cause for anxiety.

Want Natives to Fight.

London, October 24.—A despatch received at Cape Town from Herschel on the twenty-third says that fifteen natives who arrived there state they were arrested after leaving Johannesburg and ordered to fight the British in Natal, but succeeded in escaping.

It is reported at Cape Town that President Steyn, of the Orange Free State, is close to Aliwai on the North borders of the Free State.

Great Suspense and Anxiety.

London, Oct. 24.—The War Office explained to-day that the summary given yesterday by Lord Wolsey to the House of Commons has caused unnecessary alarm. It asserted that the official note which called for Yule's retirement should be more accurately described as a change of position for tactical reasons, and that the alarm is not justified. There is no denying, however, that great suspense and anxiety is existing, and is increased by the report in circulation purporting to emanate from official sources to the effect that the Boers have secured the services of thirteen thousand natives.

Votes Forty Million Dollars.

London, Oct. 24.—In the House of Commons Wyndham read Wolsey's summary of the situation in Natal. Yule has fallen back to effect a junction with White. He camped last night eighteen miles south of Dundee without seeing the enemy. He has since reported all well.

White fought a force of Orange Free State Troops at Waschbanc successfully.

A despatch to Sir Frederick Walker has come confirming the report that Kimberly was safe on the 22nd.

The House by a vote of 337 to 25 voted eight million pounds for the war.

London, October 25.—The anxiety for the perilous condition of the British army in Natal is aggravated today by the lack of official confirmation of the reported union of Gen. Yule's army with Gen. Whites. The War Office has not published any despatches from White today. Although it is believed the union has been accomplished. The silence of the War Office arouses the fear that evil news is suppressed.

Kimberly About to Surrender.

The report here is that Kimberly has asked terms of surrender. Following the bombardment the besieged garrison is said to have sent a flag of truce to the Boers.

The despatch says no casualties resulted in the bombardment, and the place is well prepared to resist assault.

Boer Force Ninety-Eight Thousand.

Brussels, October 25.—The Transvaal league has issued an estimate of the Boer forces, placing the number available against Great Britain at ninety-eight thousand. The Transvaal and Orange Free State are credited with 35,000, Cape Colony (recruits) at 8,000, Hollanders at 6,000, 4,000 Germans, 2,000 Irish, 600 Americans and 7,000 others.

More Boers Against Kimberly.

London, Oct. 25.—Gen. Cronje twice repulsed at Mafeking, reported to be advancing on Kimberley, and is commanding men, stores and munitions. He left a small command investing Mafeking. The Free State Boers are moving westward to join Cronje in the attack on Kimberley.

Cleared Away The Wreckers.

A despatch from Kimberley dated 31st, says "We are safe as the bank. Not one man has left. Rain is approaching. Our troops met the enemy who were cutting the line today. A Maxim on the armored train did good work and cleared away the wreckers.

THE CHRISTIAN CONVENTION

THE FIRST SESSION BEGAN THIS MORNING.
A LARGE ATTENDANCE.

THE DAY IS GIVEN OVER TO THE WOMEN

Successful Meeting of the Woman's Mission-
ary Society—Excellent Reports
and Able Papers.

The trains this week brought in large delegations to attend the N. C. Christian Missionary Convention, and the Christian church was thrown open and delegates and friends spent some time in social intercourse, in renewing past acquaintance, and in making new friends. In the various homes of Wilson these workers for Christ are being entertained, and find a hearty welcome.

The first work of the convention was entered into Tuesday morning, the day being given over to the Christian Woman's Board of Missions. The officers of this organization are: President, Mrs. C. A. D. Grainger, of Kinston; Vice President, Mrs. Helen Kennedy, of Wilson; Secretary, Mrs. S. R. Dixon, of Dixonville; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Cora McRae, of Kinston; Treasurer, Mrs. A. Fields, of Kinston; Supt. Children's work, Miss Alice Hines, of Wilson.

The exercises of the morning began with a devotional service led by the President, and prayer by Mrs. Louise Kelly, Kansas City. This was followed by a most appropriate and happily rendered "Address of Welcome from Mrs. Joseph Kinsey, the response being made by the President, Mrs. Grainger, who followed this up with the "President's Address." In this the work and the condition of the Society was reviewed, and the most gratifying outlook was noted.

Mrs. S. R. Dixon next read her report as Secretary, in which the good work done the past year was emphasized, as well as the encouraging aspect for the future. It called attention to the missionary work being done in all heathen lands, as well as in America, and told of the support which these women give to Bible Chairs in connection with the leading universities in America, such as Ann Arbor, Mich., the Universities of Virginia and of Georgia, in order to teach the Bible and to bring the student body in touch with the spirit of missions; also speaking of the hopes of establishing such a Chair in the University of North Carolina.

In the absence of the Treasurer the Secretary read her report. This showed that a healthy financial condition existed and that funds were in hand for the work of the coming year.

Miss Alice Hines, the State Superintendent next read her report of the Children's Work. This organization has in the past year grown in North Carolina from 4 bands to 12 and now numbers 240 members. Last year the children raised \$190 for the support of orphans and the builders' fund, a most excellent record.

"The Hour of Prayer" was the subject of a well prepared and excellently delivered paper by Miss Eva Kinsey. It was a pleasure to listen to this lady as she brought forth the salient points of her subject, and referred to the necessity for individual prayer, the basis of prayer, its purpose, the difference between praying

and saying, the value of morning prayer as well as of evening devotion. The paper was filled with the choicest quotations and was a production which showed ability and study.

At the request of the President Mrs. Louise Kelly specially emphasized the value of the united prayers of the society on Sunday afternoon, and after referring to the fact that a young lady missionary, Miss Susie Rawson, on her way to India, was now on the ocean, led in a special prayer for her and her work.

After an announcement of committees by the President, a well sung selection by the audience led by Prof. F. F. Dawson, and the benediction, the time was spent in greetings and social conversation till adjournment was taken till half-past two.

The afternoon session of the C. W. B. M. showed an increased attendance and increasing interest in the Christian Convention.

Miss Alice Hines led the devotional exercises, and after the singing of a bright song, "The Model Auxiliary" was the subject in hand. This was a symposium, led by Miss Alice Hines, who made the introductory remarks, followed by the following ladies, who discussed special points of the auxiliary work:

Mrs. Cora McRae, of Kinston, "The Social Feature"; Mrs. F. W. Luxford, of New Bern, "Importance of the Training of Children;" Miss Sue Helen Draughan, of Whitakers, "The Tidings;" Miss Alice Robinson, of Washington, "The Financial Support;" Mrs. Helen Kennedy, of Wilson, "The Necessity of an Auxiliary Programme;" Mrs. W. G. Johnson, of Kinston, "Consecration and Prayer;" Miss Pet Pate, of Goldsboro, "Personal Responsibility."

All of the papers showed rare excellence and presented the various aspects and needs of the work in the best manner.

Committee reports followed next. The committee on "Plans for Future Work," composed of Mesdames W. D. LaRoque, W. J. Crumpler and Miss Alice Hines recommended,

1st. That a State Organizer for the C. W. B. M. be employed.

2nd. That a special fund be set aside to prepare some one for the mission field.

3rd. That all members specially observe the union hour of prayer, 5 to 6, on Sunday afternoons.

4th. That the National Board grant Winston \$200 on preacher's salary, and also \$100 on State work.

The Committee on Literature was not ready to report.

The Committee on Enrollment, Misses May Faircloth, Daisy Herring and Melissa May reported 38 members present.

The Committee on Nominations, Mesdames Cora McRae, Douglas Hackney, Joseph Kinsey, J. L. Murphy and Spears reported as follows:

For President, Mrs. C. A. D. Grainger.

For Vice-President, Mrs. Cora McRae.

For Secretary, Mrs. S. R. Dixon.

For Treasurer, Mrs. Haywood Edmundson.

For Superintendent of Children's Work, Miss Alice Hines. These were all unanimously elected.

After transacting some routine business the consecration service was entered into. A memorial service for Mrs. Winnie R. Full, of Kinston, who died a short time ago, was held, and touching tributes to her worth

were paid by Mrs. J. L. Murphy, who spoke of her as a mother and Mrs. S. R. Dixon, who referred to here as a worker. In addition to other speakers Rev. J. J. Harper, of Smithfield, and Rev. W. G. Johnston, her pastor, also spoke in touching words of the consecrated work of this good woman.

During the service there were a number of hymns and songs sung with earnestness, led by Prof. F. F. Dawson.

At night the entire church building was packed, and many had to stand. More delegates to the convention had come in during the afternoon and the registration showed 180 present.

The devotional service was led by Mrs. S. R. Dixon, this being followed by an inspiring and magnificent address from Mrs. Louise Kelly, of Emporia, Kansas. In this address she traced the beginning, expansion and growth of the Woman's Missionary Society, spoke of its work in home and foreign fields, of the great good it had accomplished and the great opportunities in sight, notably the further introduction of Bible Chairs in the great colleges and universities. The speaker was most eloquent and charmed the great audience which heard her.

A collection was taken to aid the society, and \$42 came in as a free will offering. After the services closed many remained and some time was spent in a social intercourse.

WEDNESDAY.

The Convention proper began its work at 9 this morning in the Christian church, the devotional exercises being conducted Rev. C. W. Howard, of Kinston. President J. J. Harper, of Smithfield, was at his Post as was Rev. M. T. Moye, Recording Secretary, B. H. Melton, Corresponding Secretary and Mr. George Hackney, Treasurer.

After prayer and song a hearty and well put address of welcome was made by Prof. Kinsey and responded to by President Harper.

The address of the President came next, and in the course of his remarks he emphasized the following points:

1 Thorough training of congregations, largely to be accomplished by teaching of ministers and officers to meet the attacks of skepticism.

2 General dissemination of our literature, that our position may be thoroughly understood and appreciated.

3 Systematic Sunday school instruction and gradation of pupils.

4 More church buildings necessary to success.

5 Strengthen rural work by means of grouped churches to build parsonage and employ and sustain a preacher.

6 An increased spirit of liberality.

7 More interest should be shown in the W. C. B. M.

8 Unity of purpose and concert of action on the part of ministers as a requisite to our advance.

After a song by the Convention State Secretary Melton made his report in which he stated that:

Four fifths of the churches contributed to State Missions and the churches have been liberal in giving to Foreign and General Home Missions. The Secretary emphasized the necessity of deeper consecration in all the churches and among the preachers. Deeper, broader and richer spiritual life is the supreme need of all the churches. He further said that missionary work has been

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