

# THE NORFOLK WEEKLY NEWS.

NORFOLK, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1900.

## WAR SCENES SHIFT

### Lord Roberts at Last Enters the Enemy's Country.

### INSIDE THE BOER FRONTIER.

### For the First Time British Strategy Brings Successful Results.

### CAPTURE FIVE BOER LAAGERS.

#### Commander-in-Chief Terms French's Performance a Brilliant Military Feat. Operations in Blinding Dust Storm. British Losses Are Small.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The British army for the first time since the war began is inside the Boer frontier. Lord Roberts with at least 40,000 infantry, 7,000 cavalry and 150 guns has turned the Magerfontein lines before which the British forces have been encamped for ten weeks, and with half of his corps he is already operating on Free State territory. A battle has not yet been fought but large tactical advantages have been gained. The relief of Kimberley is within measurable distance and the way to Bloemfontein is appreciably easier.

The dispatches of Lord Roberts sketch three days' work. The forward movement began on Sunday, when Colonel Hannay set out with a brigade of mounted infantry for Ramah on the Riet, eight miles from Jacobsdal, one of the Boer supply stations. On Monday General French with the cavalry division seized the crossing of the Riet river at Dekil's drift, south of Jacobsdal, and 18 miles east of Honeyest kloof. He skirmished with the Boers and cleared the way for 20,000 infantry who followed across. On Tuesday with his three cavalry brigades and the horse artillery General French rode to the Modder river, a distance of 25 miles and took three fords with high ground beyond the river, and five Boer camps. He had a few casualties in brushes with horse. General French has now fixed himself on General Cronje's main line of communication with Bloemfontein, and 20,000 infantry with 72 guns are being pushed up to support him there. Lord Roberts' dispatches, wired from inside the Free State and on the Riet river, left him Wednesday morning. His advance had not been opposed by the Boers in force. Their patrols melted away as the British moved forward. The Boer army is likely to be felt in a day or two and a battle is consequently imminent. As to what forces General Cronje has now at his disposal and as to where he purposes making a stand against the invaders, no one here connected with the war office knows anything.

It is now realized that the incidents at Rensberg have been seen out of all proportion. Merely skeleton lines were maintained there, while troops were being secretly and rapidly concentrated on the Modder river. The facility with which 30,000 men have already been sent beyond the rail terminus shows that Lord Kitchener has been fully successful in organizing transport.

The London morning papers take rather sober views of the situation, but are greatly pleased and hopeful of what is to come.

### GEN. FRENCH ROUTS BOERS.

#### Lord Roberts Reports Brilliant Work by British Troops.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The war office has issued the following message from Lord Roberts, received last evening:

"DEKIL'S DRIFT, Feb. 14.—General French left this point at 11:30 yesterday morning with three brigades of cavalry, horse artillery and mounted infantry, including several colonial contingents, in order to seize a crossing of the Modder, distant about 25 miles. He reports by dispatch, dated 5:35 p. m., that he had forced a passage at Clip drift, and has occupied the hills north of the river, capturing three of the enemy's laagers, with their supplies, while General Gordon of the Fifteenth Hussars, with his brigade, who had made a feint at Rondevaal drift, four miles west, has seized it and a second drift between that and Clip drift, together with two more laagers.

"General French's performance is brilliant, considering the excessive heat and a blinding dust storm, which raged during the latter part of the day.

"Owing to the rapidity of his movements, General French met with but slight opposition, and his losses were small. Lieutenant Johnson of the Inniskillen Dragoons is the only officer reported severely wounded.

"The Sixth division was last night on the north bank of the Riet, at Waterfall drift, and is moving to support the cavalry. The Seventh division is here and will go on this afternoon.

"Four officers and 53 men had to be sent last evening in the returning wagons to the railway line, prostrated by heat and exhaustion."

#### Total British Casualty List.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—The total British casualty returns up to today are: Officers killed, 152; wounded, 380; missing, 112. Men killed, 1,477; wounded, 5,050; missing, 2,781; other fatalities reported, 603. Grand total, 10,515.

#### Snow Blankets Nebraska.

OMAHA, Feb. 15.—The snowstorm which began Tuesday night is reported as general throughout the central and a storm portions of Nebraska. The

snow is acceptable to the farmers. It is not heavy enough to do damage or impede traffic and the moisture will be immensely beneficial to the soil. Sleighing is excellent and the weather at most points is not severe, while the wind is light.

### ABANDON SLINGERSFONTEIN

#### British Compelled by Fierce Shelling to Retire to Rensberg.

RENSBERG, Feb. 13.—Before dawn Monday the enemy opened an attack on Slingersfontein, assaulting with musketry the hills on the northeast, held by three companies of the Worcesters under Captain Hovel. The artillery attack began at sunrise. The Boers approached in great numbers, estimated at seven to one. The British under cover restrained the attack throughout the day. Meanwhile, two big guns on the west opened on the British at daylight and fired for half an hour, when a British howitzer silenced them with Lydite, the British artillery firing with precision. Then another Boer gun to the north opened on the Royal Irish Fusiliers, but rather ineffectually, as the British had good cover. The Boers then brought up a 40-pounder in order to bombard the camp from a hill to the north. The attempt was plainly visible, as the gun could be seen being drawn up by 18 oxen. With the Boers surrounding the British in overwhelming numbers and using artillery, it became evident that it would be impossible to retain Slingersfontein, which the British evacuated under cover of darkness, falling back upon Rensberg. The British casualties were lighter than might have been expected in the circumstances.

### WAR AGAINST BUCKET SHOPS

#### Board of Trade Delegates Pledge Themselves to Aid Reforms.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Resolutions calling for a federal law to suppress bucket shops and pledging themselves to aid each other in various reforms were adopted at the meeting of the board of trade delegates, representing 13 cities.

A standing committee composed of the presidents of the New York produce exchange, Toledo produce exchange, St. Louis Merchants' exchange, Minneapolis chamber of commerce and the Chicago board of trade was appointed to take up the matter of securing federal legislation to stamp out bucket shops. The delegates agreed to do all in their power to discourage privilege trading and voted their moral support to St. Louis and Chicago in maintaining their recent acts suppressing privilege trading.

### FLOODS IN NEW ENGLAND.

#### Freshets Is Rapidly Receding and Damage Is Being Repaired.

BOSTON, Feb. 15.—The flood in New England is rapidly receding under the influence of drying winds and freezing temperature and in another 24 hours most of the streams will have returned to their normal state. All day the damage caused by an unusually heavy rainfall was being repaired, except at points on the large rivers, where great masses of debris or gorges of ice blocked the natural channels. The most serious losses were probably at Montpelier, where the Winooski river, blocked by ice, entered the city streets, flooding half the business blocks and residences.

### TAFT REFUSES INJUNCTION.

#### Holds That Federal Court Has No Jurisdiction in the Kentucky Contests.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 15.—Holding that the federal court had no jurisdiction in the contests in Kentucky, Judge Taft refused to grant the application for injunctions against the Kentucky state board of elections and the Democratic contestants for state offices other than governor and lieutenant governor.

#### Troops Will Not Be Withdrawn.

FRANKFORT, Feb. 15.—Governor Taylor sent a message to the members of the committee appointed under the Crenshaw resolution to demand the withdrawal of the troops from Frankfort. The reply stated that the troops would not be removed, as their presence is considered essential to the preservation of life and property. Assurance was given, however, that the members of the legislature would not be molested in the discharge of their duty.

#### Waters Are Receding.

ATLANTA, Feb. 15.—Advices are to the effect that the waters are receding slowly. The damage done is supposed to have been considerable. Twenty-five bridges at an average value of \$1,000 each were carried away on streams north of Columbus. At West Point the water which was in the main street of the town yesterday, has receded.

#### Sharkey to Fight Fitzsimmons.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Tom Sharkey took up Bob Fitzsimmons' challenge to the heavyweights. Fitzsimmons was informed of Sharkey's acceptance and said: "If Jeffries does not come to time within a week I will make a match with Sharkey without delay. I am willing to make the side bet \$10,000, the winner to take everything."

### TELEGRAMS TERSELY TOLD.

The Ohio house Wednesday by a vote of 65 to 33 passed the Saffin bill, abolishing contract labor in the Ohio prisons.

Jack O'Brien of Philadelphia was knocked out by young Peter Jackson (colored) in the 14th round at San Francisco Wednesday.

The senate committee on foreign relations has authorized a favorable report on the bill to incorporate the American National Red Cross.

At the request of Mrs. Chickering, wife of the late Representative Chickering of New York, there is to be no congressional funeral in connection with the interment of the deceased congressman.

## TEST VOTE ON FINANCE

### Amendment for International Bimetallism Is Lost.

### VOTE WAS 25 FOR, 45 AGAINST.

#### Spirited Debate Under the Ten-Minute Rule—Final Vote on Amendments and the Bill Will Be Taken in the Senate Today—Debate in the House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Throughout its session yesterday the senate had the financial bill under discussion. Until 3 o'clock the debate proceeded under the 10 minute rule and was spirited and interesting. A test vote indicating approximately the majority on the passage of the bill was taken. Chandler (Rep., N. H.) offered an amendment to authorize the president to appoint commissioners to any international bimetallic conference that might be called and it was defeated by a vote of 45 to 25. Chandler's proposition out of the way, the discussion proceeded on the amendment brought in by the finance committee, providing that the provisions are not to be intended to place any obstacles in the way of international bimetallic. The Democratic senators arraigned the Republicans for reporting the amendment, declaring they were insincere and that the proposition was intended to hoodwink the people and catch votes. No vote on the amendment was reported. The final votes on the amendments and the bill will be taken today.

#### House Debate Covers Wide Range.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—It was the intention of the Republican leaders of the house to call up the Porto Rican tariff bill today, but there was such a demand for time to discuss various questions during the general debate upon the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill that Mr. Payne gave notice that he would allow the Porto Rican bill to go over until Monday. The debate upon the legislative bill strayed far from the bill, touching the question of government deposits in national banks, reckless expenditures for pensions, and finally drifting into the question of election methods in Missouri. Bartholdt (Mo.) raised the latter question by attacking the Nesbitt law and provoked a long reply from Benton (Mo.), who in turn, aroused Mr. Pearce (Mo.). Some very caustic things were said on both sides.

#### ANTI-TRUST SESSION ENDS.

#### National Conference Completes Its Work at Chicago and Adjourns.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Stormy scenes characterized the session of the national anti-trust conference preceding the final adjournment last night. The climax came when delegate Joseph Parker, a middle-of-the-road Populist, surprised the conference with a resolution pledging the delegates to vote for no party that does not stand for government ownership and the principle of direct legislation. The Democratic leaders interpreted this as an attack on W. J. Bryan and were on their feet in an instant to block the move. Chairman Monnett was in doubt as to what to do. Disorder reigned for 10 minutes and then Chairman Monnett used the gavel and temporarily adjourned the convention.

#### Estimate of Expenses.

The county commissioners of Madison county, Nebraska, at their regular meeting in January, 1900, made the following estimate of expenses for the ensuing year:

County Institute fund.....	\$ 125 00
Commissioners' pay and mileage.....	2,300 00
County clerk, salary as clerk of board.....	500 00
County superintendent, salary.....	1,400 00
County road fund.....	7,500 00
Care of paupers.....	2,600 00
Bounty on wild animals.....	800 00
County printing.....	800 00
Fuel, postage and express.....	1,300 00
Jailer's fees.....	1,000 00
Books, stationery and supplies.....	1,800 00
Janitor's salary and assistants to county officers.....	2,00 00
County attorney, salary.....	950 00
County bridge fund.....	9,000 00
Election expenses.....	2,400 00
District court and jurors.....	7,500 00
Assessors' pay and mileage.....	3,500 00
Insane fund.....	850 00
Poor farm expenses.....	1,000 00
Aid to Agricultural society.....	700 00
High school tuition fees.....	500 00
Furniture and repairs on court house and jail.....	500 00
Interest on court house bonds between Madison and Union precincts.....	400 00
Sinking fund for same.....	400 00
Battle Creek village jail bond and interest.....	150 00

PHILIP BAUGH,  
County Clerk.

#### Odd Fellows' Home Burns.

LIBERTY, Mo., Feb. 15.—The state Odd Fellows Home, situated a mile south of Liberty, was destroyed by fire that started from a torch which a plumber was using to thaw out a frozen water pipe. The building was constructed of wood and burned quickly. The members of the home, 15 of them aged men and women, the rest small children, were gotten out without being injured. The building was constructed at a cost of \$70,000 and was formerly the Winner hotel. The building and contents were insured for \$30,000.

#### Kyle in Republican Caucus.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The Republican caucus of the senate authorized its chairman, Senator Allison, to appoint a committee to arrange the order of business for the remainder of the session. Senator Kyle of South Dakota attended and participated in the proceedings of the caucus for the first time.

#### Elevator Bought In by Bondholders.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 15.—The Farmers' elevator, one of the largest grain warehouses in the west, which has been in the hands of a receiver for some time, was sold for \$175,000, the bondholders buying it in. It is thought the bondholders will arrange to operate the elevator if they cannot sell it.

#### Great Damage to Shipping.

PARIS, Feb. 15.—Great damage has been done to shipping along the French coast. Many fishing smacks have gone ashore, especially near Dunkirk, Cherbourg and Brest. Near the last named port ten wrecks have occurred. Several fatalities are reported.

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