

BRYAN NOW THE ISSUE

NATIONAL MACHINE OPERATED FROM OHIO.

Republican Managers of Nebraska Get Instructions From East How to Act.

Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 17.—As the campaign progresses it becomes more and more apparent that the cherished idea of the republican managers of making a still hunt against the ticket for the sake of claiming, in the improbable event of success, that a repudiation by his home state of Mr. Bryan becomes more and more hopelessly impracticable. To make that plan work, as the minority would have to conceal their intent. They would have to keep in the background the fact that Mr. Bryan was a factor. They would have to play the still hunt game in fusion counties, and to copy the chaste language of Mr. Gere, editor of the State Journal, used on a memorable occasion, "Whooop her up for the republican ticket" in counties where republicans are abundant.

To acknowledge that Mr. Bryan is of importance has always gone against the grain with a certain lot of republicans, who have usually had the management of that party's affairs in Nebraska. They would like to play this game more and get themselves to believe their own vehement assertions in that direction. They don't believe what they say, of course, but it is their idea of combating the man and the immense force of political principles which he advocates and which have come to be known as Bryanism. The plan of campaign mapped out by the local lights was in accord with this idea of attempting to brush aside the charge that next year's campaign and Bryanism were the principal issue.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE EAST.

As time went on the real managers of the Nebraska republican machine, the administration managers in Ohio and New York, sent out word that it must be a campaign against Bryan. The Nebraska crowd had to follow directions and they went into the anti-Bryan campaign, and the present campaign has evolved itself into a frantic effort on the part of the republican managers, state and national, to down Mr. Bryan in Nebraska. The statement of the man who went clear to Washington to say that "I believe it would be a blow at Mr. Bryan personally if the republicans carry the state, and I think we will do it," indicates the hopes and aspirations of the republican manipulators from the highest down to the candidates for postoffices at crossroads. "PERSONAL" TO LAW SCHOOL.

The developments of the last week have shown a curious commingling of the two plans of arousing partisan republican feeling by crying not too loud, but just loud enough, to get out their own partisans and not arouse the opposition. The still hunt plan has had an example in the "personal" "individually" written typewriter letters sent by the republican managers to the graduates of the law school of the state university, asking them to lay aside their political opinions if they are opposed to republicanism and vote for Reese for judge. In this "personal" "individual" letter the recipient who is appealed to by the friendly non-partisan chairman of the republican state central committee to assist in "striking" a blow at Mr. Bryan "personally" is addressed as "an alumnus" of the law college. The Latin is no more barbarous than is the "non-partisan" well thin, and the will, doubtless, to amuse the gentlemen who believe "in preserving republican governments everywhere and not in establishing an empire in this country."

The only trouble with the attempt to work both of these plans is that Nebraska voters are as gullible as the republican managers assume them to be. Reports that come in from out in the state show that the fusion voters and a great many former republicans who cannot stomach the dose of republicanism are not being caught in the trap.

GREET BRYAN AT SIOUX CITY.

Sioux City, Ia.—Special.—Thousands thronged to the reception tendered W. J. Bryan at the Mondamin hotel. It was deeply regretted that Mr. Bryan deemed it inadvisable to speak here. A morning meeting was not considered likely to be satisfactorily attended, however, and president McKinley's presence and the inconvenience of bringing the silver champion from Carroll for the evening were too serious obstacles to overcome.

The colonel was posted in the parlor on the upper floor of the hotel and as soon as the doors were opened the crowd rushed into lobby and up the stairs faster than they could be accommodated. A line was finally formed and the handshakers passed by in single file. Only a second was possible to each one of them.

Mr. Bryan declared he was in excellent health, except for a severe cold from which he is suffering. He looks worn and tired, but other so that is to be naturally expected considering the arduous nature of the campaign and the number of speeches he is making every day. He considers democratic prospects for the year most encouraging and expressed much enthusiasm for the local party leaders by his hopeful words. On leaving the hotel for the 10 o'clock train to Ida Grove, he found the sidewalks so much crowded that he had serious difficulty in forcing his way through to his carriage. At the station there was another ovation and so many people followed him into his car that many were still on board when it started to pull out and some trouble was experienced in getting them off without danger.

SIXTY MEN IN THREE ROOMS.

Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 17.—Sixty men cook, eat and sleep in three small rooms at Eaton and Porter streets. Director Grubb of the bureau of Charities says:

"They are all foreigners working at the mills in Woods Run. Each room contains five beds, holding two men each. While 30 men are sleeping, 30 others are working, who occupy the same beds and rooms when their 12-hour turn is finished. Thus over 50 people are quartered in these three small apartments every day.

"Each man does his own cooking. He buys his own meat and the pieces are all cooked together in the same pot, each bearing a string and a tag with the owner's name attached."

Director Grubb stated that similar conditions exist at other places in the neighborhood, which he thinks are very largely responsible for the unusual amount of typhoid and other sickness prevailing in that part of Allegheny.

KENT GIVES OUT STATISTICS.

Labor Commissioner Completes Estimate of Nebraska Crops.

Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 17.—From reports received from fifty-one counties in Nebraska, Labor Commissioner Kent has completed an estimate of the size of the different grain crops in the state for the year 1909. While necessarily incorrect because of the many counties which failed to report the estimate, it may be considered representative of the entire yield of the state, probably a little below the correct figures. It is known that in a number of counties which failed to report the yield of the different crops were much larger this year than last, but in the estimate of the labor commissioner no allowance is made for the increase, the estimate for the state being based on the increase or decrease in the counties which submitted reports.

The estimate of the labor commissioner, which includes the estimated number of horses and live stock, is here given in comparison with the report for last year:

	1898.	1899.
Wheat, bu.	28,690,552	30,545,880
Rye, bu.	3,117,447	3,241,344
Oats, bu.	170,153,117	192,900,185
Corn, bu.	36,345,728	37,335,491
Horses, head.	591,506	481,467
Mules, head.	38,874	37,467
Milch cows.	384,414	363,754
Other cattle.	999,466	1,032,413
Sheep, head.	306,093	205,796
Swine, head.	1,874,024	1,782,131

The legislature of 1897 provided for the gathering of county statistics and directing the county assessors to make careful reports of the number of manufacturing establishments found in their respective districts, the amount of money invested in the same, the number of hands employed and the wages paid the same. This was calculated to cover every branch of business in which laborers were employed and to show the actual amount of capital invested so that the statistical tables would be of some value in showing the sources and liabilities of the state. The assessors were to make these reports to the county clerks, who would in turn use them in making a full county report to the commissioner of labor. Quite a number of the counties have made no reports whatever and figures received from the others are far from being correct. Consequently the industrial report will, as last year, be rather inaccurate. Many of the counties reported only on corn and wheat and some on live stock and not on grain.

THUMMEL DRAWS LIFE JOB.

Grand Island Man Gets Clerkship of Circuit Court.

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 17.—George H. Thummel of Grand Island, United States marshal for Nebraska, has brought down the permissum that enables him to relinquish the office of marshal with its two years or more to serve for a berth that is at the pleasure of the court and practically is a life job under ordinary circumstances. Judge Sanborn, Caldwell and Thayer have appointed Mr. Thummel clerk of the United States circuit court to succeed the late O. B. Hillis.

This divorces the offices of clerk of the circuit court and clerk of the district court. R. C. Hoyt, nephew of Governor Cleveland, holding the office of district clerk under appointment of Judge Munger.

The news of the appointment came in the shape of the following letter, which was received by the deputy clerk:

"St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 13.—R. C. Hoyt, Deputy Clerk: Dear Sir—The circuit judges direct me to file with you the enclosed appointment of a clerk of the United States circuit court for the district of Nebraska, in place of Oscar B. Hillis, deceased. Kindly file the appointment and notify Mr. Thummel. Respectfully yours,

"WALTER H. SANBORN."

The circuit judges who had the naming of the clerk were Henry C. Caldwell, Little Rock, Walter H. Sanborn of St. Paul and Amos M. Thayer of St. Louis.

George H. Thummel, the new appointee, resides at Grand Island, and was appointed United States marshal to succeed Frank E. White of Plattsmouth. He is a lawyer by profession, and has been prominently identified with Nebraska politics for more than twenty years. His new position is practically a life office, and the compensation is received from the fees of the office, the maximum being fixed at \$3,500 per year, the same as the district clerk, provided the office business pays it. In this case there is no question about the fees reaching the maximum.

The clerkships of the circuit and district federal courts will now be held separately, as was the case when Judge Dundy was on the bench, but it is not yet known whether they will occupy separate quarters. District Clerk Hoyt said that he had no information on that point. Of the amount of federal court business transacted here, the circuit court does a little more than two-thirds.

The new clerk will take the office as soon as his bond, which will be in the sum of \$10,000, is approved.

COAL FAMINE THREATENED.

South Omaha, Neb., Oct. 17.—A real cold spell of one week would bring a coal famine that would cause more misery in South Omaha than can be imagined," said a coal dealer, and that is what every other retailer of coal has to say of the situation.

South Omaha is practically out of coal. One of the great packing houses had to shut off a department a portion of the time the other day on this account, and several departments have suspended work at times because of the lack of sufficient fuel.

That is the real fear in the event of a coal famine in this city. Should the packing houses, any one of them, be compelled to suspend work on account of having no fuel, it would result in the sudden turning out of hundreds of men for a time. There is not a retail coal dealer whose orders have been filled, and every one of them are anxiously waiting for coal, some of which was ordered many months ago. The scarcity of cars for transporting the coal has been given as a reason for the lack of it quite frequently. But it is now stated that the reduction of work-hours in Iowa and Missouri has decreased the production nearly 30 per cent. At any rate there is not enough coal in South Omaha at the present time to tide over a week of cold weather and coal men dubiously declare that there are no prospects for an abundant supply in the immediate future. It is sincerely believed that the only thing that will prevent a coal famine in this city is a continued period of warm weather.

THE CALICO COMBINE.

London, Oct. 17.—A combination of all the firms engaged in the calico printing trade in Lancashire and Scotland is announced. The capital is about \$60,000,000. The undertaking is due to price cutting in New York.

BOERS ARE FIGHTING

WAR IS NOW BEING WAGED IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Fifteen British Soldiers Killed in the First Engagement—An Armored Train Attacked.

Kimberley, Oct. 17.—The report that fighting has taken place at Kraaipan has been officially confirmed.

London, Oct. 17.—The Exchange Telegraph company has received a dispatch from Capetown, saying that the Boers have blown up another armored train, carrying telegraph operators from Mafeking.

Those who have been anxious for more stirring news from the seat of war are getting it to the full, as, according to dispatches, shooting must have been nearly continuous along the entire borders of the Boer republic, while pitched battles have occurred or are occurring at various points in Natal and British Bechuanaland.

Most of these reports, however, remain unconfirmed.

As Mafeking is cut off telegraphically, the stories from that point are generally of doubtful origin and must be regarded with suspicion.

While there is every probability that General Cronje's big commando has begun the assault on Mafeking, reliable details must still be awaited.

Further details are at hand regarding the destruction of the armored train at Kraaipan. They show that Captain Nesbitt, who was in command of the train, was warned at Maribogo that the Boers held the line. He replied that he was bound to proceed. Nothing happened until the train was a culvert that had been blown up by the Boers, who were lying in wait for the train. The Boer artillery immediately opened fire and a desperate fight ensued, lasting four hours, with the Boers attacking from the rear. The precise details are uncertain.

HEAVY BRITISH LOSS FEARED.

It seems, however, that a police patrol, attracted by the firing, approached within about 2,000 yards of Kraaipan, saw the train dived, with the Boer artillery still pounding at it, but noticed no response. The Boers seemed afraid to approach until the wreck was complete, and the police patrol feared as there were no signs of life near the train, that the entire force had perished in a desperate attempt to get the train back to Mafeking, where they knew it was anxiously awaited with its load of arms and munitions.

There is no means of verifying this. Two miles of rails were torn up.

There is no authoritative confirmation of the report that a battle has been fought in the district between General Sir George Steuart White and the Orange Free State troops, although there is no question that the Boers have crossed the frontier at several points. They are said to have eighteen guns, but if, as is reported, the engagement began before the Boers had formed a laager and thrown up earthworks, the British cavalry and artillery are liable to have had the best of the fighting.

SPAIN'S TALE RETOLD.

It is also reported that the British have gained a great victory, that 2,000 Boers were killed and that the British loss was very slight, but this may be without ground. Another report has been published to the effect that Lord Rothschild was in receipt of news of a great British victory; but when the Associated Press representative questioned him regarding the alleged dispatch, he said before the strike 370 men were employed there and the output was 65 to 100 carloads daily. Now they employ a force of about 400 scabs and the average output is 16 carloads a day and at no time has the output exceeded 25 carloads daily. The same situation exists to a greater or less extent in every mine controlled by the "Big Four." We estimate that there are 5,000 idle coal miners in the Indian Territory because of the strike, but they are standing firmly by union principles. Although many have been offered work elsewhere they almost uniformly refuse because they do not care to go away from their homes.

CANUCKS GREATLY EXCITED.

Montreal, Que., Oct. 17.—This city is in a great state of excitement. The bulletin boards in front of the newspaper offices are viewed by thousands. There is no doubt that an army of 10,000 men could be raised in a few hours.

The armies are crowded with men ready to volunteer and the fact that the Canadian government has decided to send 10,000 men to the front with the heartiest approval of all classes, including the French, the latter as an enthusiastic as the English speaking people, though a few Irishmen have met and given out statements that sympathize with the Boers. An order has been given that 10,000 men and that if more are wanted they can be called upon at any moment.

An order has been given that the first thousand will sail from Quebec October 31, under command of Colonel Otter. A thousand college students burned Kruger in effigy amid the greatest enthusiasm of many thousands.

"SCHWAN VERY SUCCESSFUL."

Washington, D. C., Oct. 17.—The following cable from General Otis has been received at the war department:

"Manila, Oct. 14.—Schwan's column swung into Imus from Das Marinas yesterday morning; camped at Bacoor last night; has scattered insurgents, who probably retiring by detachments on Indang. Condition of roads prevent further pursuit. I, one hundred, and twenty-five men, thirty-seventh volunteers, Major Chetham, drove insurgents south and westward from lake town of Muntinlupa yesterday, pursuing several miles, retired to Bacoor last night by Zapote river road; lost three men killed, two wounded, one missing. Schwan's movement very successful; inflicted a heavy loss on men and property of southern insurgent army; he reports their casualties at 200 killed and 400 wounded; their stored supplies destroyed. Young men from Araya northward toward yesterday, scattered insurgents, who retired northwest; his casualties, three slightly wounded; considerable store of grain captured."

FOR THE GREATER ARMY.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 17.—To carry out the plans of Admiral Crowninshield respecting the substitution of shore barracks for receiving ships in the navy, estimates have been prepared for submission to congress covering the cost of the change. These are for fireproof barracks for 1,000 men at the New York navy yard, \$600,000; for like barracks for 800 sailors at League Island, Norfolk, Mare Island and Boston, \$400,000 each, making a total of \$3,400,000. The medical department has secured an allotment of \$10,000 for a hospital and dispensary at Guam. It appears from the report of the naval commandant that with 8,000 people on the island there is not a single physician and there are no medical stores outside of the ship's surgeon and supplies.

MINERS ARE NEEDED.

Coal Combine Unable to Secure Good Laborers.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 17.—The war on the coal combination known as the "Big Four" will be waged to a finish by the United Mine Workers of America. That organization's treasury is backing the unions affected in Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and Indian Territory, and the brainiest men of the executive council have planned what they believe will be a most successful crusade.

Every coal miner in the states and territories named is affiliated with a union and is paying into the campaign fund 50 cents each week and in every affected district energetic men are laying the wires for the final coup. Moral suasion will be the principal weapon used. At the present time more than two-thirds of the coal operators in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas and Indian Territory have recognized the unions by signing agreements and ratifying the wage scale, and they are proving strong allies of the men.

The "Big Four," it is said, has but few really experienced miners in its employ, and in consequence is unable to work its mines to their capacities. In every coal district there is a dearth of miners and missionaries are now at work securing men now employed by the "Big Four" for engagements in the coal mines of the central and southern states.

In many of the large cities a coal famine exists. The demand everywhere is greater than the supply, and great efforts are being made to induce the thousands of unemployed experienced men in the camps controlled by the "Big Four" to accept employment at more remunerative rates. Transportation facilities have been furnished all come from East St. Louis to their points of destination, and in several instances offers of transportation from the place of employment to the mines have been held up as a bait.

James Boston, a member of the executive council of the United Mine Workers of America, returned here from a visit to Illinois. At labor headquarters he was given a cordial greeting and to all inquiries asent the trouble with the "Big Four" was that the union force were never in better shape for a winning fight than they are now.

"We will at once prosecute the campaigns as planned," said he. "The 'Big Four' will be forced to recognize the operators who have declared that they will in no way recognize the right of the men to organize or to be represented by business agents. That is the contention. We insist that we have as much right to representation as have the operators. The stockholders of the companies of the 'Big Four,'—the Western Coal and Mining company, the Central Coal and Coke company, the Southwest Improvement company and the Kansas and Texas coal company—exercised that right when they organized and placed the affairs of the respective companies in the hands of agents, and the men who work for them believe they are entitled to the same rights. The miners do not know the stockholders and it goes without saying that the stockholders do not know the miners. The principle involved is the root of unionism, and in order to uphold it the United Mine Workers of America will fight for it until it is recognized.

"By depriving the companies of the services of experienced coal miners we will strike a blow at their most vulnerable spot. One experienced miner can be depended upon to make more money for them than three scabs. The experienced man knows how to dig, he knows how to care for the 'room' and how to 'prop.' Turn a mine over to an inexperienced gang and it soon becomes dangerous to work in and its output is curtailed to a losing point. The situation at the mines of Hartshorn, Indian Territory, will illustrate my meaning. Before the strike 370 men were employed there and the output was 65 to 100 carloads daily. Now they employ a force of about 400 scabs and the average output is 16 carloads a day and at no time has the output exceeded 25 carloads daily. The same situation exists to a greater or less extent in every mine controlled by the 'Big Four.' We estimate that there are 5,000 idle coal miners in the Indian Territory because of the strike, but they are standing firmly by union principles. Although many have been offered work elsewhere they almost uniformly refuse because they do not care to go away from their homes.

"At Leavenworth, Kan., and at Brush Creek, Higginville and Waverly, Mo., steady work is being experienced and the same can be said of the camps that supply St. Louis, Chicago and other cities with coal. In Chicago a regular coal famine is on, the demand being greater than at any time since 1873, the year of the great panic. In the industries are continually being laid off, and as the demand for it is as great everywhere, and there is a lack of experienced men, the supply is necessarily short.

"In our fight against the 'Big Four,' said Mr. Boston in conclusion, we are in a business. There will be no calling it off or a cessation of efforts until the white flag is shown by the 'Big Four.' It will be a continuous fight until then, for the unions must be recognized.

BLOODY RELICS PRODUCED.

Paris, Mo., Oct. 17.—The dirk knife with which the state claims Alexander Jester stabbed Gilbert Gates and cut his throat, was described in the testimony of State Senator Sylvester Allen of Bluffs, Ill., at the Jester preliminary hearing. The blood-stained buffalo hide on which Gates' blood is said to have ebbed, as he lay prostrate in the wagon, was brought into evidence. Marshal Dunham of De Witt, Ill., son of the tanner to whom the green hide was intrusted to be tanned, gave the testimony. James Mitchell, marshal of Booneville, Mo., testified that he saw Jester and Gates together before Gates disappeared. His testimony was intended to prove premeditation, in Jester. The other witness examined testified to the travels of Jester after the disappearance of Gates.

MEN FOR GENERAL OTIS.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 17.—The war department has received the following from General Otis:

"Manila, Oct. 14.—Tacoma arrived last evening; delayed two weeks by typhoid; 191 horses, four cavalry regiments, nine light transport. Belgian king arrived this morning; seven companies of Thirty-fourth infantry; no casualties."

GEN. BULLER, THE BRUTE

COMMISSIONED BY ENGLAND TO CRUSH BOERS.

Most Bloodthirsty General in the British Army Will Wage a Relentless War on the Dutch.

London, Oct. 17.—War, so often predicted in these dispatches as being the inevitable climax to hopeless things, has come at last and is now in full swing for the subjection of the little republic, whose whole military punts sets and rises at Majuba Hill. Great Britain has set going machinery more powerful than that which crushed Napoleon and twice as strong as that which gave her Egypt and the Sudan. General Buller has gone and already the Boer bullets have sang a song of desperate defiance.

That the next few weeks will be marked by sharp fighting can almost be taken for granted. That the result will probably be for a time not too favorable to the British is also to be admitted. The main question is, How long are hostilities to last? The ultimate British victory is almost assured by virtue of overwhelming strength.

A forecast of the length of the campaign should not be ventured without knowledge of an extraordinary circumstance communicated to the Associated Press on most reliable authority, tho' hitherto not printed in England, namely, that General Buller has gone to the entire control of the South African situation. He will be as absolute as was Wellington and less hampered than was Kitchener.

Therefore, not only the conduct of the war lies in his direct control, but virtually the future of all South Africa, and no prognostications are of any value without taking into consideration his personal character for obstinacy and frankness, traits responsible for the supremacy he has attained.

BULLER'S CONDITIONS.

Two months ago the secretary of state for war, the Marquis of Lansdowne, offered Buller command of the projected army corps. Sir Redvers gave a point blank refusal unless the war office would guarantee him between 60,000 and 70,000 men. He is quoted as having said on that occasion: "I shall not be handed down to history as another Sir George Colley."

The reference was, of course, to the defeat at Majuba Hill. He also said that if he were to go it must be on the distinct understanding that he would select his own staff and would be entirely uninterfered with by the war office.

His request regarding the staff was prompted by his suspicion that Lord Wolseley would attempt to pay off old scores by foisting upon him staff officers antagonistic to him. Lord Lansdowne, however, has not only prevailed, and Buller, having gained all the points he coveted, accepted the supreme command.

HIS BLOODTHIRSTY BOAST.

Prior to Lord Lansdowne's assent General Buller freely expressed his opinion that when he had driven the Boers into a corner his hand might be stayed by a peace loving cabinet or well intentioned war office—a condition of things he could not tolerate, for, as expressed in his hand was "not one of them that, once put to the plow, releases its grip."

It appears that both the queen and the cabinet practically acquiesced in his demand, although, of course, retaining a nominal control, scarcely worth the name. Buller is pretty certain to cut the wires behind him and to be out of touch with London at critical moments for fear the cabinet might change its mind.

OFFICER CALL HIM A BRUTE.

It is this man then, whom some of his own officers do not hesitate to call a brute, however much they admire his determination, who holds the destiny of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State in his hand.

He knows the Boers and he hates them. He has campaigned over the whole present battle ground, and is, above all, a soldier from head to foot. As soon as he reaches South Africa he will inaugurate a campaign of aggressiveness such as the world has seldom seen, but which he believes justifiable by virtue of his own superior forces. The sternest measures will not be too stern for him and until the last vestige of Dutch power, whether in the Transvaal, the Orange Free State or Cape Colony, is swept out, he will not stay his hand.

The idea is well illustrated by Sir John Tenniel's cartoon in this week's Punch, representing John Bull saying: "You will fight, you shall have it this time. It is right to the finish."

General Buller's mission is nearly in keeping with the spirit of the colonial office. Right or wrong, they believe in war as the only possible solution of the Transvaal trouble, and have made no attempt to conceal their satisfaction at having received an ultimatum from President Kruger, thus being able to place the onus on the Boers.

PITIFUL HYPOCRITES.

England may or may not have justification for her contentions, but the government organs, which must know as the Associated Press knows, by personal knowledge, the real feelings of the anti-Boer party in England have made pitiful hypocrites of themselves in printing jeremiads on Kruger's perseverance in sending an ultimatum.

The only thing that surprises an impartial observer is that the Transvaal president did not adopt this course weeks ago, before the British reinforcements arrived. The only explanation of his failure to do so lies in the report that he overestimated the strength of the British peace party.

Once General Buller gets to work it is believed the Boers will offer little organized resistance. Something, of course, depends on the success they may achieve in the interim, but the life insurance companies are only asking an extra premium of 5 pence as a war risk, in other words placing the odds at 20 to 1. This does not apply to South African irregulars fighting side by side with the regulars, for it is said that the Boers will show them no quarter. This, is hard to believe, as it is recalled with what unusual humanity the Boers treated the English prisoners during the previous war.

Speaking of the war of 1881 it should be remembered that General Colley's entire force amounted to less than 2,000 men, while the Boers had nearly 12,000.

General Sir Stewart White, commandant in Natal, is not likely to fall into General Colley's error of a premature advance. In fact it is rather presumed that General White, knowing the extent of the reinforcements on the way, will consistently remain on the defensive, rather than risk a doubtful engagement.

All sorts of surmises are current regarding the detailed strategy likely to be employed. One authority says the hostility of the Orange Free State against an immense advantage upon the British, as it will enable Sir Redvers

BULLER TO GO DIRECTLY THROUGH THAT COUNTRY INTO THE TRANSVAAL.

The Naval and Military Record, in the course of a most interesting article written by an army officer who compares the forces, says:

MAY EXPECT LOSSES.

"There is little doubt that the first losses on our side will be heavy. Our troops will be compelled to accept the role of attack upon prepared positions while the Boers, at the very outset, by means of the mobility, may be able to make a dash into Natal, retiring with comparative ease if pressed. But it is hard to believe that they have staying power sufficient to prolong operations for any length of time.

"General Buller will eventually be strong enough to invest any fortified towns or positions taken from the Boers and to sit down and wait until exhaustion sets in. Sparsely as the veldt is settled it is a question whether 10,000 yeomen, trained to the use of arms, can be raised throughout the whole Transvaal. The rest are city men, with the vices of greed and the love of ease engendered in centers of urban life. It is far from true that the Boers are a godly, clean living and generous race. They have openly given it out that the British are to be uprooted stock and branch and the oft-heard phrase, 'to every man his damsel or two,' throws a lurid light on Kruger's pious front."

Although Sir Buller has gone, most of the corps is still here. The Associated Press learns that the admiralty has finally fixed upon October 2 as the first day of regular embarkation, continuing each day thereafter from Southampton, which will be literally red and khaki brown with departing troops. On October 23 and 25 there will be embarkations of a large contingent of men and equipment at Tilbury. These two ports will be the only outlets of any importance.

ENGLAND TO GRAB ALL.

The Outlook quotes a member of the cabinet, whose name is not given, but who is evidently Mr. Chamberlain, as saying in private conversation:

"Absolute authority, nothing more and nothing less, is what we intend to secure in South Africa. There can be but one fate for the Boer oligarchy and there can be left no doubt in the British severally over all South Africa. When these ends have been attained a policy of magnanimity and consideration, such as has made the French-Canadian loyal British subjects, will, I have no doubt, be applied with equal success in South Africa. To destroy ruthlessly the best traditions and amour propre of the Boers would be an act of the supremest folly."

PRICE OF DIAMONDS GO UP.

War in the Transvaal Threatens to Diminish the Stock.

New York, Oct. 17.—A diamond which would have cost a purchaser \$100 on January 1 is now worth \$167.12.

That's another result of the war crisis in the Transvaal. The De Beers company, which markets the South African output, controls 90 per cent of all the diamonds annually mined. Taking advantage of the conditions, the firm has ordered an advance of 5 per cent four times since January.

Ludwig Nissen, editor of the Jewelers' Circular, and other authorities declared that a cablegram from London is circulating in the trade to the effect that an additional flat raise of 25 per cent had just been ordered.

Charles F. Wood of No. 1 Maiden Lane, diamond importer, says: "I have telegraphed my brother who is selling in the west, not to be too ready to dispose of stock, lest big dealers jump in now and deplete us, when we could not restock, except at a big advance. The supply of the world average \$300-\$500,000 annually. Nine-tenths of it comes from South Africa. Of the \$300,000,000 America takes about \$12,000,000 a year. I do not think all the uncult diamonds above ground would be worth more than \$1,000,000, and the importers and dealers probably have that many more on hand than enough to carry them comfortably through the next three months, the way the trade has been going."

BIG FOUR TELEGRAPHERS.

Terre Haute, Ind., Oct. 17.—Within three days a strike of telegraphers on the Big Four railway may be declared. With them are allied the conductors, the brakemen and the Order of Railway Trainmen. The engineers have refused to become an ally of the telegraphers.

The cause of this movement on the part of the telegraphers is a demand for a raise of wages and a demand for a conference by the officers of the Railway Telegraphers with the officials of the Big Four. The telegraphers claim they have been refused a conference by the railroad officials and in order to get a hearing have requested the members of the order working on the system to vote upon the question of a strike.

The committee of Division No. 37, which includes the Big Four system, has established headquarters at the Onondaga hotel, at Indianapolis, and there they are receiving the communications and ballots from the members of the order relative to the proposed strike.

In refusing to confer with the committee the Big Four officials declare that they are ready and willing to hear the grievances of any particular operator or office and adjust the matter, but that they will not confer with the committee as a whole on the proposition of a general adjudication, inasmuch as the committee does not represent the sentiment of a majority of the telegraphers on the system. The committee claims to represent 98 per cent of the telegraphers of the system.

CATTLE TRUST'S ROUGH TIME.

New York, Oct. 17.—The new cattle trust, with \$100,000,000 capital, designed to control the export business, in which many big Chicago packers may be interested, is having rough seas owing to the condition of the money market. New Yorkers are not hunting chances to float such big concerns. George B. Loving of Fort Worth has been in Wall street for several weeks negotiating with Charles R. Flint, but nothing definite has been accomplished.

Ranchmen controlling more than three hundred thousand head of steers are willing to sell their cattle to the trust, but in the present state of the money market New York bankers are frowning at capitalizations. The Carnegie Steel company has had to abandon its attempt to reorganize on a larger scale because of the limited supply of funds.

Charles R. Flint said to a reporter that prominent Texas, Chicagoans and New Yorkers were back of the combination. Asked whether any packing firms constituting the "Big Five" were interested, he replied: "Yes, these distributing houses are interested." Half of the stock will be preferred and half common.