

# REJECTS THE PEACE PLAN.

## England Declines Netherlands Offer to Intervene.

### His Majesty Has Considered Netherlands' Proposition and Indicates No Hope of Change.

London.—(Special).—The British government replied to Dr. Kuyper, the Dutch premier, that the Boers in the field desired to negotiate for peace, negotiations can be entered into, but only in South Africa. The British government adheres to its intention not to accept the intervention of any foreign power.

The text of the reply of Lord Lansdowne, the British secretary, to the communication of the Netherlands, is as follows:

The Foreign Office, Jan. 29, 1902.—Sir: You were good enough to lay before me, Jan. 25, a communication from The Netherlands government in which it was proposed that, with the object of bringing the war to an end, his majesty's government might grant a safe conduct to the Boer delegates now in Holland for the purpose of enabling them to confer with the Boer leaders in South Africa.

It is suggested that after a conference the delegates might return to Europe with power to conclude a treaty of peace with this country, and The Netherlands government intimate that in this event they might, at a later stage, be instrumental in placing the Boer plenipotentiaries in relation with plenipotentiaries who might be appointed by his majesty's government.

The Netherlands government intimate that if this project commends itself to his majesty's government they will inquire of the delegates whether they are prepared to make the suggested visit to South Africa. It may, therefore, be inferred that the communication I received was made on the responsibility of The Netherlands alone and without any of the Boer leaders.

His majesty's government has given its best consideration and whilst entirely appreciative of the motives of humanity which led The Netherlands government to make this proposal they feel they must adhere to the position adopted and publicly announced by it some months ago, that it is not its intention to accept the intervention of any foreign power in the South African war.

Should the Boer delegates themselves desire to lay a request for a safe conduct before his majesty's government there is no reason why they should not do so. But his majesty's government is not in a position to express an opinion on any such application until they have received it, and are aware of the precise nature and grounds whereon the request is made.

I may, therefore, point out that it is not at present clear to his majesty's government that the delegates retain any influence over the representatives of the Boers in South Africa, or have any voice in their councils. They are stated by The Netherlands government to have no such letters of credence or instruction of a later date than March, 1900. His majesty's government, on the other hand, understood that all the powers of government, including those of negotiation, were now completely invested in Mr. Steyn, of the Boers of the Orange River colony, and Mr. Schallberger, of those of the Transvaal. If this is so, it is evident that the quickest and most satisfactory means of arranging a settlement would be by direct communication between the leaders of the Boer forces in South Africa and the commander-in-chief of his majesty's forces, who has already been instructed to forward immediately any offers he may receive for the consideration of his majesty's government.

In these circumstances his majesty's government has decided that if the Boer leaders should desire to enter negotiations for the purpose of bringing the war to an end, those negotiations must not take place, not in Europe, but in South Africa.

It should, moreover, be borne in mind that if the Boer leaders are to occupy time in visiting South Africa in consulting with Boer leaders in the field and in returning to Europe for the purpose of making known the results of their work, and a period of at least three months would elapse, during which hostilities would be prolonged and much human suffering, perhaps needlessly, occasioned.

(Signed) LANSDOWNE.

### Pleads Guilty of Forgery.

Tiffin, O.—(Special).—Russell Drake, the absconding insurance agent who was captured in Mexico after a two years' chase, pleaded guilty to the charge of forgery and was sentenced to the penitentiary for seven years. Drake claimed, just before being sentenced, that he had been led to the crime because of financial straits, and disclaimed any criminal intent. He is prostrate due to consumption and may not live to serve his time out. The total amount of his peculations is about \$20,000.

### Overcome By Escaping Gas.

Brin, Pa.—(Special).—The entire family of Grant Shirley, a railroad brakeman, including his wife and five children, were overcome by escaping fumes of their home. Neighbors forced an entrance to the house and found the mother and two children unconscious. Shirley was away on his run. The fire in the boiler went out during the night and an increase in pressure killed the steam by overflowing.

# DUTCH PUZZLE ENGLISH PREMIER.

London.—(Special).—Lord Salisbury, the premier, unveiled a life-sized statue of the late queen at the Constitutional club.

Speaking at a dinner after the unveiling, the premier referred to the recent Dutch note in a tone, for him, of unusual flippancy. He said that doubtless some of his auditors thought it but a trick to catch a cabinet minister and extract from him some information concerning that abortive crisis which had lately filled columns in the newspapers. He doubted, however, if they would extract much. For himself, he was unable to imagine the object of the Dutch, for whose friendly feelings he had the greatest admiration, but he could not see the precise object they hoped to gain by this curious step.

"There is no longer any question of sentiment," continued Lord Salisbury. "We have entered upon a matter of business which we must push forward. What we are now seeking is security. Any peace which recognizes fully the rights of the sovereign and gives us security for the empire we should accept, not only with willingness, but with delight. It is useless to tell us to behave so as to leave a pleasant recollection in the minds of those with whom we are fighting. The only result that can compensate for the sacrifice of blood and treasure is that for the future there shall be security in that part of the empire on which the ambition of Mr. Kruger has poured the abundance of sorrow and desolation."

# CAPTURE GEN. DEWET'S LAST GUN.

London.—(Special).—The British pursuit of General Dewet has been successful to the extent that his last gun has been captured and Commandant Wessels, one of his principal lieutenants, has been routed. Lord Kitchener sent the news in a dispatch from Pretoria, as follows:

"Byng's column, while proceeding toward Liebenburg, after a night march, attacked and routed a considerable force of the enemy under Commandant Wessels. We captured a 15-pounder and a pom-pom taken from Firman's column, and also a Boer pom-pom, which was the last gun DeWet had, and three wagons of ammunition, 150 horses and 100 mules. The Boer casualties were five men killed, six wounded and twenty-seven men captured."

"Among the killed was Field Cornet Wessels. Among the prisoners is Captain Muller of the Staats, Artillery. The enemy was scattered. Our casualties were slight."

The National Scouts, near Middleburg (Cape Colony), captured thirteen prisoners. Plumer, near Amersfoort (Transvaal), captured seven prisoners and 500 head of cattle. General Gilbert Hamilton captured thirty-two prisoners."

# SUBMIT PEACE NOTE TO THE BOERS.

London.—(Special).—In the house of commons Mr. Balfour, the government leader, announced that copies of the correspondence exchanged between the government of the Netherlands and the government of Great Britain, on the subject of peace in South Africa, had been mailed to Lord Milner, governor of the Transvaal and Orange River colony and high commissioner of South Africa, who would be instructed to ask Lord Kitchener to communicate the contents to the Boer leaders in the field.

Mr. Chamberlain, the colonial secretary, added the information that if the leaders of the Boer forces proposed to Lord Kitchener negotiations for settlement, the proposal would be forwarded for the consideration of the government.

# TUBERCULOSIS SPREAD BY CATTLE.

Kansas City, Mo.—(Special).—In a paper read before the Central Short-horn Breeders' association, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson called attention to the fact that tuberculosis is being spread in the United States by cattle imported to improve the breed in this country. He suggested that Great Britain's example of shutting down on the importation of cattle and sheep be followed.

The theory that it is necessary to have "fresh blood" from Europe in order to maintain the standard of the American herds is, he contended, a fallacy, pure and simple.

Mr. Wilson was unable to be present personally, and his paper was read by George M. Rummel, an expert of the department of agriculture.

# NEBRASKA BANK IS VICTIMIZED.

Fremont, Neb.—(Special).—The Fremont National bank and several business houses are looking for a middle-aged, smooth faced man, slightly pitted with smallpox.

This individual, giving the name of A. Morse, deposited a draft for \$500 on the federal government at the bank, representing that he was the steward of a geological surveying party, which was soon to make Fremont temporary headquarters. Later he deposited a forged check with the name of E. J. Costes of Grand Island signed to it.

He paid several bills about town with checks on the Fremont bank and Tuesday evening decamped.

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—Senator Hansbrough of North Dakota addressed the senate on his bill appropriating the receipts from the sale of public land in certain states and territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands. He claimed that the proposition was not a sectional one and said it would provide homes for many new homesteads. At the conclusion of Mr. Hansbrough's speech the irrigation bill was ordered to be reported by the committee.

# ARE STRICT ON CARRIERS.

## Industrial Commission Advocates More Rigid Rate Laws.

### Recommends Policy of Setting Aside Forest Reserves Already Inaugurated and Rural Service.

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—The industrial commission has submitted its final report to congress. It is a document of more than 1,000 printed pages. The first part deals with the progress of the nation, agriculture, mining and transportation. Recommendations are made on the subjects of transportation and agriculture. The commission advises as to transportation:

That the policy of government supervision and control of railroads as originally laid down in the senate committee report of 1886 and embodied in the following year, in the interstate commerce act, be revised and strengthened.

Such legislation should provide: More stringent regulation of the conditions under which freight and passenger tariffs are published and filed. No rate or classification ought to be changed without at least sixty days' notice to shippers, unless specifically authorized by the interstate commerce commission.

# STRICT ADHERENCE TO TARIFFS.

That strict adherence to published tariffs be required and that rebates and discrimination be prevented by an increase of the penalties. That the long and short haul clause in section 4 of the act of 1887 be strengthened by special order of the interstate commerce commission.

For a specific grant of power to the interstate commerce commission over classification, both as to items and grouping.

Coupled with this, however, we dissent from the section of the so-called Cullom bill requiring the interstate commerce commission within a certain period to promulgate a uniform classification for the United States. For the establishment of a permanent corps of expert auditors who shall have authority under the supervision of the interstate commerce commission to examine periodically the accounts of all railroad companies, whether operating or financial, in their nature.

# PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATIONS.

That railroad companies be prohibited by law from making lower freight rates upon imports billed to the interior of this country, in connection with ocean transportation than otherwise, than are made on similar articles from the seaboard to the interior or than are made from one inland point to another where the distance is not greater.

It makes the following recommendations:

That the secretary of agriculture be given authority—

To inspect dairy products intended for export and to certify their grade and quality.

To fix standard grades for cereals, based on season of growing, quality and weight per measure, and when intended for export to inspect and certify the same.

To cause stock cars and stock yards to be cleaned and disinfected whenever he considers such action necessary.

To make adequate regulations prohibiting the shipment of uninspected or diseased meat from one state to another or to foreign countries.

To require and direct the proper disposition of diseased meat.

That a more comprehensive penalty clause for shipping diseased meat be enacted.

That a law be enacted to provide:

For the inspection of nursery stock intended for interstate commerce, or for export and prohibiting the transportation of diseased, infected or un-inspected nursery stock and for rules and regulations to govern the importation of diseased, infected or un-inspected nursery stock or fruit.

That the system of free rural delivery be extended as recommended by the postmaster general in his latest annual report.

That the policy of setting aside forest reserves already inaugurated be extended and that the three bureaus of the government which have charge of investigations and administrative work connected with forestry be consolidated.

# Upholds Inspection Law.

Denver.—(Special).—The supreme court has handed down a decision upholding the livestock inspection law passed by the legislature in this state. The decision was rendered in the case of Ed. H. Reed, who rushed cattle into this state from Texas for the purpose of testing the law. The sentence of six months in the county jail against Reed was also affirmed. Reed was backed by the leading livestock organizations of the country, who claimed that the federal inspection laws superseded those of a state.

# For Carnegie.

New York.—(Special).—The Carnegie Laboratory of Engineering, connected with the Stevens Institute of Technology, at Hoboken, was formally dedicated with interesting exercises. At a banquet held in the evening the guest of honor was Mr. Carnegie, who a year ago gave the trustees of the institute \$50,000 with which the laboratory was built. Set in a solid silver box the model of the first "T" rail patented by old John Stevens was presented to Mr. Carnegie.

# MAYOR PHELAN ON CHINESE QUESTION.

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—James D. Phelan, recently mayor of San Francisco and one of the California commissioners appointed by the governor to represent the state before committees of congress here, was a witness before the house committee on foreign affairs.

Referring to a statement by Minister Wu that "labor agitators" were behind the Chinese exclusion movement, Mr. Phelan declared the overwhelming sentiment on the Pacific coast in favor of exclusion, as shown by referendum votes, a unanimous press, unanimous delegations in congress and a unanimous exclusion convention. On the other side, he said, were the Pacific Mail Steamship company, the Canadian railways, the Chinese diplomatic representatives, several retained attorneys and returned missionaries, who urged no public reason for the admission of the Chinese and who had finally agreed to the renewal of the Geary law for two years, when it is stated, the treaty of 1884 will expire.

In conclusion he said: "The attorneys for the Chinese advocate the re-enactment of the Geary law for two years, because, in case of a decision from the supreme court favorable to them, the law will be useless for which it was designed by congress, viz: the exclusion of the Chinese coolie laborers. We are dealing with people who are trained to the evasion of law and for twenty years the government has been endeavoring to circumvent their evasions."

# ELEVEN KILLED IN GAS EXPLOSION.

Chicago, Ill.—(Special).—Eleven persons were instantly killed and twenty-three injured by an explosion of gas last night, which wrecked two buildings at Twenty-second street and Archer avenue, and inflicted a property loss of \$50,000 or \$75,000.

Eleven bodies were recovered from the ruins by a force of policemen and firemen, who worked all night.

The cause of the explosion is not yet satisfactorily explained. It is supposed to have resulted from escaping gas in the basement of the three-story frame building occupied by the butcher shop of Otto Trusel, whose family lived upstairs.

The explosion came with a deafening roar, which seemed to come from directly beneath the Trostel house. Almost at the same time, the cover of the manhole, half a block south, was thrown high in the air, and was followed by a sheet of flame which shot upwards to the height of 100 feet. The Trostel house, which was already tottering, caught fire, and in a few seconds was enveloped in flames. Before the frightened inmates could escape, the entire building collapsed.

The gas mains were filled with flames and blazing columns of fire issued from other manholes along the street. The two-story building adjoining the Trostel house was also destroyed.

A number of persons in the vicinity were cut by flying glass or knocked down by the force of the explosion. One street car was thrown off the track, but none of the passengers were injured.

# LEASE OF INDIAN GRAZING LANDS.

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—Papers were served today on Secretary Hitchcock and Indian Commissioner Jones by the supreme court of the District of Columbia asking them to show cause why they should not be restrained from approving certain leases for Indian grazing lands in South Dakota. Hearing in the case will be held February 12. The officials will be issued by the court. They assert that they have acted in accordance with the law and that the objection of the present plan of leasing lands at Standing Rock comes only from a small minority of the band. It is stated that the Indians at this agency, in council assembled, approved the leasing proposition, and that the objections were heard from only after bids were called by advertisement in the newspapers. Indian Commissioner Jones had another hearing before the senate committee last night.

The South Dakota delegation is not united in opposition to the leasing of Indian grazing lands in that state. Senator Kittredge said that he advocated the leasing of lands, but that some changes might well be made in the districts as marked out by the officials. Representative Burke was opposed to the principle. He says it will delay the opening of Indian lands in the state and thus retard its full and complete development.

# REFUSES TO PARDON THE YOUNGERS.

St. Paul, Minn.—(Special).—The state board of pardons has denied the application of the Younger brothers for a full pardon. The principal reason given is that they are on parole under a special legislative act, and that no decision should be made in such a case which could not be properly followed in other cases. The application is considered premature, as the Youngers have been on parole only about seven months, and the board states that it is opposed to setting a precedent in such cases, excepting where special and extraordinary facts exist.

# Phillips' Kick Costly.

Ottumwa, Ia.—(Special).—Thomas J. P. Phillips, late democratic candidate for governor of Iowa, in open court here pleaded guilty to the charge of kicking Editor Robert H. Moore on the public streets of this city and was sentenced by Judge Roberts to pay a fine of \$15 and costs. The peace bond under which Phillips was held was then dissolved. Moore now has a \$5,000 suit pending in the district court, which was today assigned for next Wednesday.

# Fight To Death Over a Pie.

Butler, Pa.—(Special).—Word has been received from Slippery Rock, Pa., of the death recently of Ernest Morrow from injuries received in a brawl at the restaurant of Johnathan Sneathen. A dispute arose over the payment of a bill for pies and in the fight that followed Sneathen struck Morrow over the head, crushing his skull. Sneathen claims the killing was in self defense and surrendered to the authorities. Morrow's father is one of the most prominent men in Butler.

# Angus Bull Breaks Record.

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# A BILL TO ANNEX CUBA.

## Measure Provides Union First as Territory Then as State.

### Recommends Twenty-Five Per Cent Decrease in Consideration of Preferential Rates to U. S.

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—Representative Newlands of Nevada, of the ways and means committee, who was the author of the resolution annexing Hawaii, has introduced a joint resolution, inviting the republic of Cuba to become a part of the United States, first as a territory and then as a state of the union, to be called the state of Cuba, also authorizing a 25 per cent reduction of duty on the present crop of Cuban sugar. In consideration of Cuba's granting preferential rates to the United States. The resolutions confine the 25 per cent reduction of duties to the period prior to January 1, 1901.

The provisions as to annexation are as follows:

"In the meantime the republic of Cuba is invited to become a part of the United States of America, and her people to become citizens of the United States, with the assurance that Cuba will be entitled at first to a territorial form of government under the constitution and laws of the United States, with a delegate in congress to represent her people, and that ultimate statehood will be granted, when, in the judgment of congress, it is advisable to admit Cuba, including such other West Indies belonging to the United States as may be deemed advisable, as a single state in the union, to be called the state of Cuba."

Mr. Newlands in explanation of his resolution said:

"All those who have appeared to voice Cuba's needs and requirements have indicated that an invitation to Cuba of annexation would be accepted."

"Annexation by force would not be justified. It must be accomplished, if at all, by the free act of the Cuban people. At present there is no machinery in Cuba by which the popular will can be tested, but the Cuban constitution has been adopted. The Cuban congress will meet in February, a Cuban government will be organized and the United States will then leave the government and control of the island to its people. Cuba then will be in a position to express her will and it is only necessary to tide over the present emergency by a temporary measure, such as I have introduced, reducing the duty on Cuban sugar one-fourth for one year and inviting Cuba to become a part of the United States under a territorial form of government, under the constitution, her people to become citizens, not subjects, with the ultimate result of statehood."

"In coming into our political union Cuba will secure immediately the highest degree of freedom and with it a large market for her varied products. These products will not threaten our sugar industry so seriously as they would under reciprocal trade relations, for the reason that the restricted labor laws of this country will apply and will raise the cost of production to such an extent as to prevent overestimation of her industries, while her supplies will be bought in the high protected markets of this country, instead of the cheap markets of the world. I much prefer political union for that involves the best kind of commercial union that can be established between the two countries. Such annexation is entirely in line with the traditional policy of the country."

When the time for statehood comes Cuba, Porto Rico and other West Indian islands in our possessions can be incorporated into the union as one state, thus doing away with the danger of over-representation in the senate.

### SHOULD HAVE DEMANDED INDEPENDENCE

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—Former Senator William E. Chandler, in a letter just made public, says that one of the mistakes made by the government prior to the Spanish war was in not demanding the independence of Cuba. No demand of this kind, he says, was ever made.

He praises those Americans who were for an immediate war at the time the negotiations were going on, saying that the haste prevented a coalition of European powers.

In conclusion, the senator heartily approves the attitude the democrats took in forcing the war.

New York.—(Special).—Former Minister to Spain Stewart L. Woodford, in commenting on former Senator Chandler's letter, says it is true that he never demanded the independence of Cuba from the Spanish government prior to the war, because the cortes the only body having the right to grant it, was not then in session. For other reasons, also, he says, the demand would have been impracticable.

# WANTS GOM PAUL KRUGER TO COME.

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—Representative Cochran of Missouri has introduced in the house this resolution:

Resolved, by the senate and the house, That Hon. Paul Kruger, president of the South African republic, is hereby invited to visit the United States as the guest of the country at such time as may suit his convenience. For the defrayment of the expenses incurred in his entertainment in this country the sum of \$25,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Delegate Wilcox of Hawaii introduced a bill increasing salaries, as follows:

President of the United States, \$100,000; cabinet officers, \$25,000 each; members of congress, \$10,000; vice president, \$25,000. Another bill by Mr. Wilcox fixed the salary of the governor of Hawaii at \$8,000, with a schedule of salaries for various other Hawaiian officers.

The bill "to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service" was acted upon favorably by the house committee on commerce. It establishes the rank of officers in the service, that of captain being the same as major in the army and lieutenant commander in the navy. Retirement at the age of 54 years at three-fourths pay is provided for. Admiral Melville, chief of engineers of the navy, appeared before the committee and strongly advocated the bill.

The house committee on merchant marine and fisheries reported the senate bill equalizing the inspecting fees and privileges of foreign ships entering our ports with like fees and privileges fixed by the countries from which these vessels come. The bill applies more particularly to Canada, which charges certain inspection fees to American vessels, whereas Canadian vessels heretofore have paid no such fees in American ports.

# Angus Bull Breaks Record.

Chicago.—(Special).—The Aberdeen Angus bull, Prince Ito, sold at auction at the Union Stock yards, Chicago, brought the record price of \$9,100. The highest price for an Angus bull ever realized in the ring before was \$1,000. The Herefords made the previous highest record in twenty years with the bull Perfection, which brought \$8,000.

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# LITIGATION IN IOWA LAND TITLES.

Des Moines, Ia.—(Special).—The judicial committee of the senate has reported a bill to the senate which looks to the prevention of a large amount of threatened litigation over land titles in Iowa. The bill legalizes transfers of land where the husband has signed the name of the wife under a power of attorney, and prevents a claim by the wife for her dower interest therein because of her failure to personally sign the deeds. It has recently been decided by the supreme court that the wife's dower interest cannot be disposed of by the husband acting under power of attorney from the wife. This has opened the way to a vast amount of litigation, and a number of suits have been commenced to recover dower interest in lands thus transferred. The senate committee bill does not affect any pending litigation, but as to all other matters corrects the evil.

# BUILDING FUND FOR AMES.

A bill was presented in the senate by Fitzpatrick to give the Iowa State college at Ames a permanent building fund raised by a tax levy of one-fifth mill on all the assessable property of the state. This is to meet the demands of the state university for an increase in the university building tax to the same amount. The state college people are asking that their institution be placed on an equality with the one at Iowa City. President MacLean of the state university appeared before the senate committee on ways and means and made an argument in favor of the tax levy increase. He represents that on account of the fires the university is in pressing need of more buildings, and that there is not sufficient coming in on the one-tenth mill levy. The university is actually in need of buildings now, not considering the probable growth of the institution, costing more than \$1,000,000.

# BILL CARRIES OUT SHAW'S THEORY.

Washington.—(Special).—Representative Pugsley of New York, a member of the house banking and currency committee, has introduced a bill on the general lines of Secretary Shaw's letters respecting the deposit of surplus government funds under certain conditions with national banks.

The bill invests the secretary with wide discretion in the deposit or recall of the treasury funds, but authorizes him to make deposits with national banks having not less than \$100,000 capital and surplus of \$100,000 of such portion of the surplus treasury funds above \$50,000,000 as may seem proper to prevent absorption of money in the federal treasury.

No one bank is to receive deposits of more than 50 per cent of its combined capital and its surplus. Unless United States bonds are deposited as securities the banks shall pay interest on government deposits of not less than 2 per cent per annum. These deposits are made a first lien on bank assets.

The bill specially provides that it shall not affect existing depositories. The author of the bill estimates that under it the government surplus would be deposited with 800 banks, instead of the comparatively small number now entitled to hold government funds.

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