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PIETRUS JOUBERT IS DEAD

Veteran Commander-in-Chief of the Transvaal Forces Expires at Pretoria.

HAD BEEN ILL BUT A VERY SHORT TIME.

Noted Fugitive Was Loved by All His People and Respected by All His Foes--British Advance Begins--Boers Still Have 40,000 Men Under Arms.

Pretoria, March 29.—Gen. Joubert died last night at 11:30 o'clock. He had been suffering from a stomach complaint. The town is plunged into mourning for the true patriot, gallant general and upright and honorable gentleman.

Cruciger to Take Command.

Brussels, March 29.—A private dispatch has been received here from Pretoria which says that President Kruger will now take chief command of the Transvaal forces.

White Praises Joubert.

London, March 29.—In connection with the announcement of the death of Gen. Joubert, it is interesting to note that Sir George White, the British



GEN. JOUBERT.

general who commanded the garrison which defended Ladysmith, in a speech at Cape Town Tuesday evening declared that Joubert was a soldier and a gentleman and a brave and honorable opponent.

News in London.

London, March 29.—The afternoon newspapers publish long biographies of Gen. Joubert. Generally they are in a kindly tone. All the morning papers print singularly kind editorials concerning Gen. Joubert. They praise his military skill, uphold his chivalrous conduct, and regret that so strong and moderate a mind should be absent from the final settlement of the dispute.

Sketch of Joubert's Life.

Gen. Pietrus Jacobus Joubert, commander-in-chief of the Transvaal forces, better known as Piet Joubert or "Slim Piet" (Slim Peter), was born about 18 years ago. He was descended from an old French Huguenot family which settled in South Africa many years ago. He was born in Cape Colony, but was taken by his parents, when seven years old, to the Orange Free State, where he was named from an early childhood to shoot straight and hate the British.

He is described as having been utterly fearless. At schooling, he had not 100 and he never saw a newspaper until he was 19 years old. In spite of this, his ambition prompted him to read the few books he could obtain and he succeeded in obtaining a fair knowledge of history and languages.

Favored by the Natives.

In consequence of the reputation at Natal by the British his family moved from Natal and settled in the Transvaal. Soon afterwards he became a burgher of the South African republic and a daring fighter. It was claimed, in his behalf, that he could lead a body of men more successfully against hostile natives than any other man in the Transvaal. He was born in 1851, during Kruger's absence in Europe.

Gen. Joubert was always in favor of the use of force instead of diplomacy, and President Kruger on several occasions had great difficulty in repressing his hot-headed colleague, notably in 1879, when Joubert, in Kruger and Pretorius, was planning the rebellion to overthrow British rule in the Transvaal. The result was a crushing defeat and the practical independence of the Transvaal.

It was Joubert who organized the army of the South African republic later on, dividing the country into 17 military departments, and each of these departments into smaller divisions, with commanders, field cornets and lieutenants of various ranks in charge.

According to the general's plans, every man became a trained soldier without leaving his farm, and had his equipment ready at hand. To such a point of perfection was the system carried that within 48 hours after the present war was declared the Boer army was under arms.

Advance Soon to Begin.

London, March 29.—Lord Roberts has sent 10,000 troops to Glen, ten miles north of Bloemfontein, on the railway. This is a preliminary to the general advance. Immense quantities of stores have now been accumulated at Bloemfontein, and Lord Roberts' infantry is seemingly about to move.

TELLS OF A PLOT.

A Kentucky Militiaman Says There Was a Conspiracy to Kill Goebel and Implicate Officials.

Frankfort, Ky., March 26.—F. Wharton Golden, of Barbourville, sergeant in the Taylor state militia, testifying Saturday in the examination of Secretary of State Caleb Powers on the charge of conspiring to murder Governor William Goebel, gave direct testimony that may be summarized as follows:

- 1. That the republican state officials brought mountain feudists down to the state capital for the purpose of enforcing republican control of the legislature by violence.
2. That he (Golden) was one of the agents of the republican officials in bringing these men to the capital.
3. That he understood that the mountaineers were to kill enough democratic members, if need be, to give the republicans a majority in the legislature.
4. That the mountaineers so understood their duty, and came armed and prepared to do it at the order of their superiors.
5. That these mountaineers were to be brought to Frankfort ostensibly as witnesses in the contested election cases.
6. That on the morning of the day before Goebel was shot John Powers told him (Golden) in the office of Caleb Powers that "Goebel is going to be killed today."
7. That John Powers had told him on another occasion that two negroes—Rock Smith and Dick Coombs—had been brought to Frankfort to kill Goebel.
8. That he saw Coombs in Frankfort every morning for a week previous to the shooting.
9. That Coombs said to a man named Wallace, in his presence, "D—n him, I know him as far as I can see him, and I can kill him as far as I can see him," meaning Goebel. This conversation, witness said, was in the Taylor adjutant general's office.
10. That Acting Gov. Taylor told his leaders, in Golden's presence, that "they must act first," meaning that they must start a riot in the senate chamber, before he could call in the state militia.
Frankfort, Ky., March 28.—Secretary of State Powers, charged with complicity in the Goebel murder, has been held to the grand jury without bail.

CONDITION OF LABOR.

President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, Gives His Views of the Situation.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 27.—President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, has returned from Washington, where he attended a meeting of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor. In speaking of the condition of labor he said:

"There are about 200,000 idle union men in the country, 5,000 of whom are miners. There are about 40,000 miners, so the percentage is less than two per cent. of idle men. We will add about 3,000 men to the ranks of the unemployed by the settlement reached in central Pennsylvania last week. The district has about 4,000 miners. We looked over the whole field of labor during our conference. It was estimated that 4,000 of the idle men of the country are in Chicago."

"There are many small strikes throughout the country at present. The greatest strike is in Chicago. Labor conditions on the whole are rather bright. The readjustment of wages on a basis equal to that before the panic is slow."

Mine Accident Figures.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 27.—The annual report of James Roderick, chief of the state bureau of mines and mining, contains a chapter dealing with mine accidents and their causes. In the 29 years from 1870 to 1899, the report states, 9,575 lives were lost in and about the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania.

Speedy Aid for Porto Rico.

Washington, March 27.—There will be no delay in the execution of the act of congress appropriating \$2,000,000 for the relief of the residents of Porto Rico. The war department had anticipated the passage of the act and had made arrangements to carry its provisions into effect at once.

Farm Implements for Cubans.

Santiago de Cuba, March 29.—A large quantity of plows, hoes and other farm implements has been received here for free distribution throughout the province, and hundreds of applicants have already been supplied. They say they can soon raise enough to support their families.

The Door Is Open.

Washington, March 28.—All the great powers—Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia and Italy—have agreed to Secretary Hay's proposal for the maintenance of the "open door" in China.

Rob a Safe.

Hardy, Neb., March 26.—The State bank of this place was visited by burglars at three o'clock Saturday morning. They blew open the safe with dynamite and secured \$4,000. No trace of the robbers has been secured yet.

Hanged by a Mob.

Greenville, Miss., March 28.—The negro, Will Edwards, alias "Wing" Smith, who murdered Edward B. Johnson at Dulane's camp, was hanged by a mob to a railroad bridge near Greenville.

Brokers Fail.

Marquette, Wis., March 27.—Clapp & Culver, brokers, failed Monday afternoon for \$10,000. Charges of misappropriation are made and warrants for their arrest are out.

Three Men Killed.

Muncie, Ind., March 24.—A boiler exploded in the James Nicklin sawmill near here, killing Len Von Buskirk, Thomas Sullivan, Clifford Von Buskirk and Marion Carey.

Lost Jewels.

Denver, Col., March 28.—Mrs. Franco M. Wolcott, granted a divorce from Senator Wolcott March 6, lost jewelry by theft valued at about \$40,000 while in Paris.

Rob a Bank.

Hampstead, Va., March 29.—Robbers broke into the Ethand bank here blew open the safe, stole \$2,000 in currency and escaped.

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