

Dr. W. J. LEYDS  
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S-GRAVENHAGE

THE

# CHICAGO CHRONICLE

... AND ...

## PRESIDENT KRUGER

"The poorest being that crawls on earth, contending to save itself from injustice is an object respectable in the eyes of God and man."—*Edmund Burke.*

AMERICAN TRANSVAAL LEAGUE AT CHICAGO

ROOM 14, 88 LA SALLE STREET

CHICAGO

1901

Friends of the cause are invited to call at the League Headquarters, Room 14, 88 La Salle St., for free copies of this pamphlet for distribution.

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The cost of publishing and circulating this pamphlet is borne by the League. Funds subscribed for the destitute and homeless Boer women and children, are not drawn upon for any outlay or expense whatever.

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Money for the Boer Relief Fund should be sent to the Corn Exchange National Bank, 217 La Salle St., Chicago, Illinois. All contributions will be promptly acknowledged by the bank, where funds will be held subject to the order of the "Boer Relief Fund" Committee.

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Clothing for the men, women and children will be thankfully received at League Headquarters, Room 14, 88 La Salle St., and will be forwarded through a Committee in Holland.

THE  
CHICAGO CHRONICLE  
AND  
PRESIDENT KRUGER

(Editorial from Chicago *Chronicle*, July 31st, 1901.)

"KRUGER'S GREWSOME MESSAGE.

"Rev. Herman D. Van Broekhuizen, pastor of a Boer church in Pretoria, is traveling in the United States soliciting aid for the Boer women and children who are destitute as a result of the war. He says that Kruger sent by him this message: 'Tell the American people they are helping to murder us.'

"Mr. Kruger thinks that the United States ought to declare war against Great Britain, which would lead to a general war of nations, to assist the Boers in their war for independence. Hundreds of thousands of 'murders' would occur in such a war, with its battlefields as wide as the civilized world.

"The ex-president has escaped from all the horrors of the war in South Africa. He abandoned his country when the British came too near his places of refuge. He left his sick wife in the hands of British guards and she has since died. It is reported, and is probably true, that he carried away with him \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000 in gold belonging to the former Boer government and that the amount is deposited to his credit in various European banks.

"Mr. Kruger is not himself an object of sympathy except in his domestic calamities. What does he mean by murdering 'us'? He has secured his own safety by abandoning the Boer country and the Boer cause. The sublime 'Oom Paul' of the early part of the Boer war is a refugee, rich, safe, and, apparently, not entirely sincere.

"Substantially three-fourths of the soldiers in the Boer war, some 12,000 or 15,000, are prisoners at St. Helena, Ceylon, Bermuda and in other parts of the world. Nothing is left of the Boer plan of defense but raids of bushwhackers. They are fighting without hope and without purpose. It is their duty to make peace on humane terms.

"Kruger has shown himself without the spirit that leads a desperate national defense. Secure and a millionaire in his self-exile, he has no right to urge on his countrymen a continuance of a hopeless war."

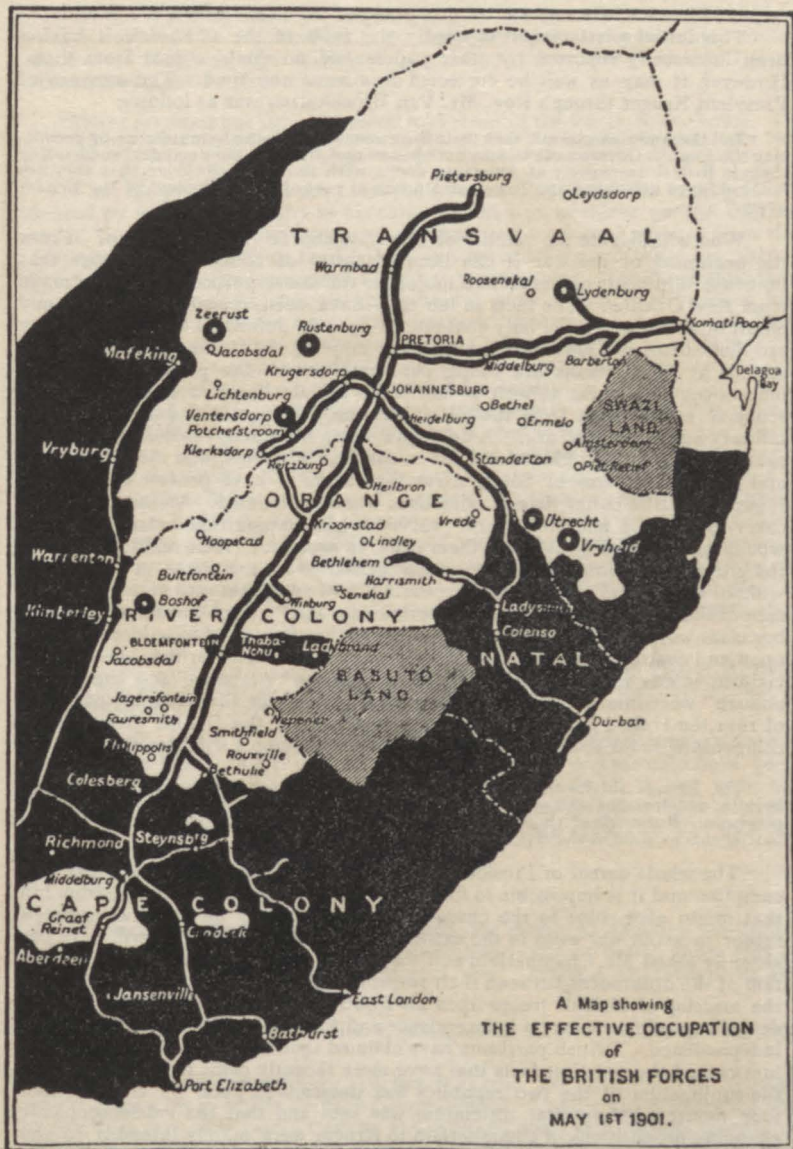
The above is fairly typical of the vicious and misleading statements in regard to the Boers that have been from time to time foisted upon the public by partisans who apparently rely more upon boldness of assertion for the success of their arguments than a fair statement based upon a thorough knowledge of the case they discuss. As such, a reply and criticism may not be inappropos.

It is surprising that an editorial writer of the usually conservative and intelligent Chicago *Chronicle* could be guilty of the ignorance of facts displayed in the above article. Its general tone is such as to warrant us in believing that its author was either incorrectly or incompletely informed concerning his subject matter, or else worked out his unique conclusions while under the influence of a violent anglomania which disregards such facts as do not fit in with the British Governmental policy. Doubtless it was a case of both. Possibly if the writer had read more thoroughly on the question he might have agreed with the opinions of the novelist, Richard Harding Davis, and President Kruger might have been spared this attack. (See appendix 1.) Dismissing the general aspect of the editorial with this cursory reference, we will now discuss its various clauses *seriatim*.

"He says that Kruger sent by him this message: 'Tell the American people they are helping to murder us.'"



The portion of this map which is colored black denotes more or less effective occupation by British garrisons. Such occupation was never absolutely effective, and was always liable to be disturbed by the siege of the garrisons. The portion of the map in white was in the occupation of the Boers.—Methuen's "Peace or War in South Africa."



The portion of this map which is colored black denotes the occupation of the British. The portion in white is not held by British troops, and the Boer occupation is only disturbed at intervals by the "sweeping movements" of British mobile columns. The black belt on each side of the railway line denotes roughly our effective power over a few miles on each side of that line, but there is no means of preventing the Boers from crossing and recrossing in most places.—Methuen's "Peace or War in South Africa."

This initial misstatement is hardly the fault of the *Chronicle*, it having been incorrectly reported by other papers and no doubt copied from them. However, it may as well be corrected now as at any time. The message of President Kruger through Rev. Mr. Van Broekhuizen was as follows:

"Tell the American people that their Government is helping to murder us by permitting the English Government to purchase horses and mules in their country, and loading them in British transports at American docks with the full knowledge that they are being shipped direct to Cape Town and Durban as part of the equipment of the British army."

Who will dispute the validity of this statement in its correct form? From the beginning of the war it has been a matter of common knowledge that immense shipments of horses and mules for the above purpose have been made from New Orleans. The facts in the case have been repeatedly verified and admit of no denial. The only contentions open to defenders of such a policy are that horses and mules are not military supplies and if they were the transactions at New Orleans are simply personal ones on the part of the British officers engaged, being as such a matter of private business and outside the scope of interference from the administration. If horses and mules are not military supplies, what are? A field gun is as absolutely useless without its motive power as it would be without its carriage or spiked, and the topography and physical features of South Africa are such as have proven the soldiers themselves little better than wooden ones when unmounted. Without horses to carry themselves, and mules their provisions and ammunition, even their overwhelming numbers would avail them little, on account of their inability to cover the ground. If these transactions were carried on in the name of individuals without the British Government appearing, how shall that plea stand when the case of the "Alabama" is cited in international law? That vessel and others of her class were fitted out in British ports and by British shipbuilders to prey upon and destroy, if possible, our merchant marine. The British Government claimed it was never officially cognizant that the "Alabama" and the "Shenandoah" were intended for the Confederacy, yet under the Washington treaty of 1871 the United States received \$15,500,000 from the British exchequer to compensate us for the damage inflicted on our commerce by those ships.

"Mr. Kruger thinks that the United States ought to declare war against Great Britain, which would lead to a general war of nations, to assist the Boers in their independence. Hundreds of thousands of 'murders' would occur in such a war, with its battlefields as wide as the civilized world."

The whole career of President—not "Mr."—Kruger belies the above presumption and it is impossible to find any indication, verbal or written, from him that might give color to the charge. On the contrary he has always sought rather to avoid war even in the extremity of his own country's peril. He persistently asked Mr. Chamberlain and the British Ministry for a peaceful arbitration of the differences between their respective Governments up to the time that the massing of British troops upon his frontiers convinced him of the sinister designs upon his country's independence and forced him into war to uphold that independence. British partisans have claimed that President Kruger's ultimatum caused the war; but facts that have more recently come to light show that the subjugation of the two republics was determined upon by Great Britain four months before that ultimatum was sent and that the kaleidoscopically changing propositions of Chamberlain to Kruger were merely intended to gain time until South Africa had been filled with troops and the English public maddened by carefully concocted slanders into war. (See appendix 2.) Throughout the war, even up to the present time, the president has never asked for forcible intervention from any nation so far as we are aware. His agents, wherever they have attempted to secure mediation, have constantly

pointed to the provisions of the Hague treaty as the peaceful means by which such action could be accomplished, and that intervention secured which under the treaty "shall never be considered by either of the parties to the contest as an unfriendly act." (See appendix 3 )

"The ex-president has escaped from all the horrors of the war in South Africa. He abandoned his country when the British came too near his places of refuge. He left his sick wife in the hands of British guards and she has since died."

That the president has not "escaped from all horrors of the war" is evidenced by the death of many of his children and grandchildren on the field of battle, the capture and imprisonment of others and his forced absence from the death-bed of his wife, which the *Chronicle* writer callously ascribes to his "desertion." Neither has he abandoned his country, although it is the fourth time that British aggression and greed (see appendix 12) have forced him to leave his home, three times to make a new home in the wilderness and endure each time the dangers and privations of the pioneer; but his decrepitude is such that he was asked to go to a place of safety in order to facilitate the operations of the Boer army, its entire force being considered inadequate to protect him. It is significant that immediately after he left the troubles of the British recommenced. Would the *Chronicle* writer have wished to see the fleshy and infirm old gentleman, who is also nearly blind, dash around the country on horseback with General DeWet? Or perhaps he may regret in his British partisanship that the president did not fall into the hands of his country's enemies to accompany troop trains for the rest of his natural life as a living shield for British soldiers? (See appendix 4.) We cannot see at any rate that it is discreditable to a man of seventy-five years of age to feel his physical powers waning so as to unfit him for service in the mobile Boer army, for it was only the decline of those powers and the burden his protection placed upon the burghers that induced him to leave South Africa.

"It is reported and is probably true that he carried away with him \$5,000,000 or \$4,000,000 in gold belonging to the former Boer government, and that this amount is deposited to his credit in various European banks."

Did he? And if so, what of it? Does the *Chronicle* hint at embezzlement? If the money had been left in bank at Pretoria it would undoubtedly have been confiscated as belonging to the enemy's government; even if it had been his private property he could only have drawn twenty pounds per week as directed by General Maxwell in his proclamation No. 20. (See appendix 5.) Can we blame him for withdrawing it?

"What does he mean by murdering 'us'?"

He means, undoubtedly, his own nation, the people to whom he has been a father for a half century and those of his children slain in battle, those still in the field, and others held as prisoners of war. Perhaps he thought of his recently deceased wife.

"He has secured his own safety by abandoning the Boer country and the Boer cause."

He has abandoned neither. He has, it is true, left the country on account of the exigencies to which we have before alluded. As for his abandoning the cause, he is even now vainly rapping at the closed doors of European monarchs, asking for recognition as the president of his country so long as hostilities may continue, and for peaceable intervention and arbitration under the Hague treaty, all that an honorable man can possibly do upon neutral ground. He is probably coming to this country to ask the president of these United States to receive him as the president of the South African Republic, and thereby

challenge the attention of England to the fact that, in the opinion of the people of this country, a mere paper annexation cannot make men who are fighting for freedom liable to hanging as traitors, rebels and outlaws, and place them beyond the pale of civilization. Should President McKinley refuse to receive him he will call upon Congress for an expression of that sympathy and friendship for the oppressed that is innate in the American people, which Congress has until now never failed to give in similar cases.

"The sublime 'Oom Paul' of the early part of the Boer war is a refugee, rich, safe, and, apparently, not entirely sincere."

He is a refugee; so was William the Silent, so also were Louis Kossuth and Victor Hugo, and yet the memory of these men is none the less honored today on that account. He may also be rich; but it well suits the purpose of the English to have him accounted so in order that financial aid may be withheld from his cause. Who knows what sacrifices he may be even now making from his private fortune? We would ask the *Chronicle* in what respect the president is "not entirely sincere"?

"Substantially three-fourths of the soldiers in the Boer war, some 12,000 or 15,000, are prisoners at St. Helena, Ceylon, Bermuda and in other parts of the world."

If this statement is correct it leaves but five thousand Boers in the field to oppose the British army of two hundred and fifty thousand, plus the armed Kaffirs, Zulus and Basutos in the British service. At this rate it is costing England \$280.00 a day to fight each individual Boer.

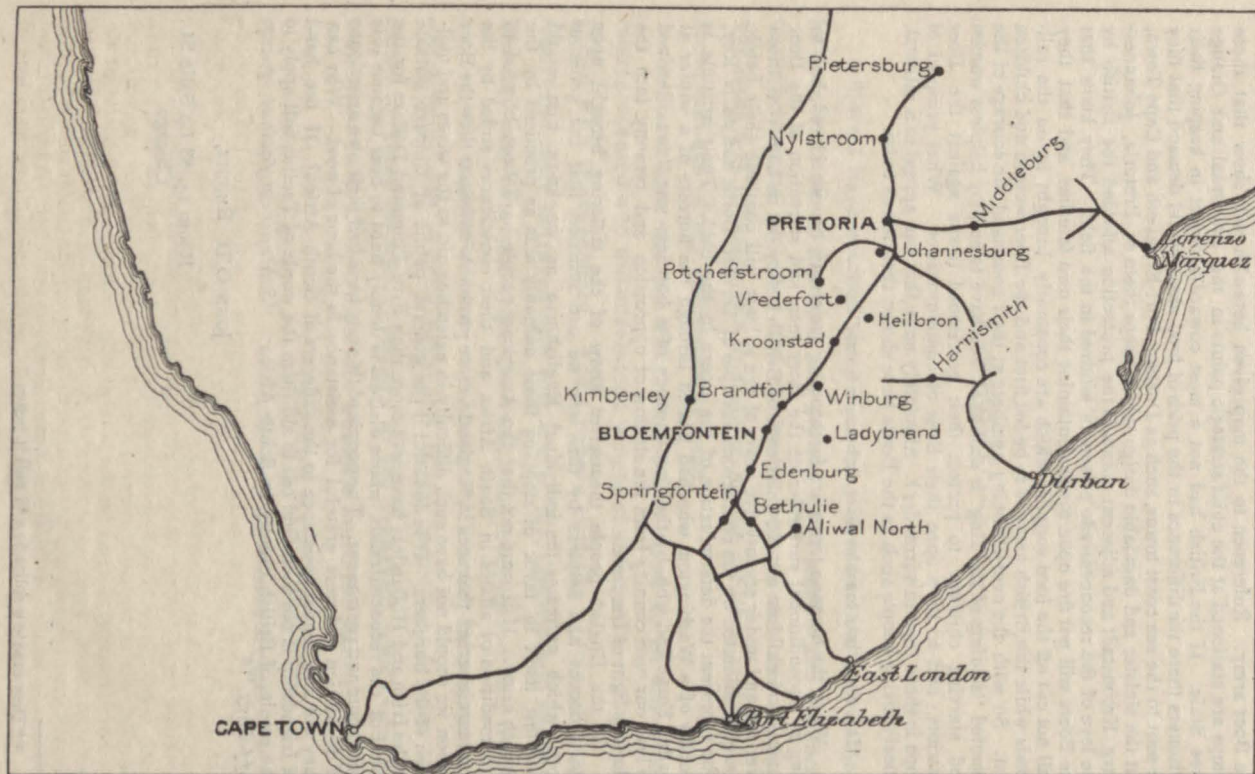
"Nothing is left of the Boer plan of defense but raids of bushwhackers."

Yet we occasionally hear of these "bushwhackers" driving out more British garrisons, occupying towns and being sufficiently organized to come to a hand to hand conflict at Vlakfontein recently.

"They are fighting without hope and without purpose."

Their purpose has never wavered; it is the independence of their country. Their only hope is in fighting. There can certainly not be much hope for any patriotic, self-respecting burgher in Roberts' proclamations A1 and A2 given in appendices 6 and 4 respectively. Would the *Chronicle* writer surrender himself under the conditions offered and take the degrading oath of neutrality that forced him to betray his comrades by disclosing the hiding places of arms and ammunition? (See appendix 7.) How would he like to accompany British military trains as a living shield against the military operations of his own countrymen? (See appendix 4.) How would he like to resume agricultural pursuits after taking the oath and suddenly have his receipts for commandeered articles canceled and compensation denied him for them if a culvert should be blown up in his district? If a telegraph line should be cut within twelve miles of his farm his home will be burned and he himself made a prisoner of war. (See appendix 6.) This, mark, after he has subscribed to all the British conditions. Would he "surrender and hand in his arms" so that his property would not "be confiscated and his family turned out destitute and homeless" (see appendix 11), or would he not rather remain in the field and die in the last ditch in the hope that before death came he might help capture a British supply train to feed the starving people of Ventersburg (see appendix 10)? Another pleasing prospect for the burgher who surrenders is the horror of the reconcentration camps made necessary by farm burning as retaliation against owners absent on commando (see appendix 9), where the conditions are such as to cause an annual death rate of over eleven per cent. (see appendix 8), and which are used by the British as a protection against the military operations of





MAP SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS WITH REFERENCE TO THE RAILROADS.

the Boer army. Reference to the map given herewith will show that these camps are stationed at the chief strategic points in the Transvaal and Orange Free State. If the British had not a most cowardly object in keeping their prisoners there the difference in the price of food alone would demand that they be sent to the sea coast towns, such as Durban, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town, but the sinister and damnable design which keeps them at Pretoria, Johannesburg, Kroonstadt and adjacent points is the protection afforded the British by the love of the reconcentrado prisoners' kindred in the field. They know that the Boers will not fire upon towns containing their own families, and that they will not cut off the food supplies which are constantly brought in on the railroads while the British army is to be fed first and the Boer women and children last. So with the overwhelming numbers at their command the courage of the vaunted "soldiers of the king" is such that they have to employ helpless women and starving children to protect their garrisoned towns against the Boer patriots, and to keep open their lines of communication. What prospect of hope is there then in surrender? Absolutely none that can appeal to a rational, liberty-loving people such as the Boers have shown themselves to be.

"It is their duty to make peace on humane terms."

When the humane terms are forthcoming they may be considered, but so long as unconditional surrender of the Boer men and starvation of the Boer women and children are the chief ends of British policy, let us hope that those over ten and under seventy-five years of age at least will continue their heroic struggle animated by the courageous example of DeWet, Botha and de la Rey, who represent the determination of the Boers in the field. Their attitude is worthy of a Washington who had passed through the horrors of a winter at Valley Forge and who, by the "continuance of a hopeless war," was destined to lead our own country from the shadow of oppression and tyranny into the glorious light of freedom.

If the English people themselves knew of the suffering brought upon the innocent and helpless by this war we are satisfied that the generous spirit which animates the individual Englishman as we know him would manifest itself in favor of stopping these unmanly acts as practised by the British army. If it were not that the American people have been blinded to the condition of affairs in South Africa and their consciences stifled by the commercial greed that sees in England a more profitable customer than the Boer nation we should not have such difficulty in extending aid to the wives and children of the burghers. It is doubtful if the general public of Chicago outside of the Irish and Hollanders have sent more than Five Thousand Dollars for the relief of the reconcentrados, whose distress is doubly hard to bear because it is both acute and permanent. The people of this city have had their own experience of destitution and were grateful for assistance in the hour of need. Why can they not now render assistance to the sufferers of South Africa? If the hand of friendship is not soon held out to aid them the words of Tacitus will apply to the results of British cruelty in South Africa: "*Solitudinem faciunt, pacem appellant.*"\*

JOHN O'D. RENNIE,

Room 14, 88 La Salle St.,  
Chicago.

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\* "They create a solitude and call it peace."

## APPENDIX 1

“Since I have reached the Transvaal I have been so busy taking in new ideas about the Boer and getting rid of most of the old ones, that the original picture I had of him has become dim and elusive. Yet mine was probably the impression of him which is still held by some millions of my fellow-countrymen.

“After I had met the Boers and found them to be the most misrepresented and misunderstood people of this century, I sympathized with them entirely. And I believe that the people of England, who were betrayed into this war by Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Rhodes, who misrepresented the facts, and suppressed the truth, . . . and frightened them with evils which never threatened and which never will exist—I believe if those people could learn the truth, by three months of enquiry in the Transvaal, which was the way I learned it, their sympathies would be much the same as mine.”

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS,

In “With Both Armies in South Africa.”

## Could the Boers Have Avoided War?

The British had decided on War in June, 1899

The Ultimatum was sent in October, 1899

The belief of many persons, especially those who have studied the South African question, that the negotiations of the British Government leading up to the war were insincere, and only a part of the predetermined conspiracy to seize the Transvaal, has now been confirmed by testimony that should convince anyone, in the statements made by Lord Lansdowne in the House of Lords, March 15, 1901.

Lord Lansdowne was until recently a Cabinet Minister, and held, during the past several years, the position of Secretary of State for War. Lord Wolseley was Commander-in-Chief of the British Army.

Said Lord Lansdowne in the British House of Lords, March 15, 1901:

"He, [Lord Wolseley,] wished us to mobilize an army corps. He suggested to us that we might occupy Delagoa Bay. . . . I would remind him that he pressed these measures upon me, as he says, in the month of June [1899] with the expression of his desire that the operations may begin as soon as possible. Why? In order that we might get the war over before the month of November, 1899. My lords, the idea of forcing the pace in such a manner as to complete the subjugation of the two Republics by the month of November, 1899, was, I frankly confess, one that did not at all commend itself to Her Majesty's Government. But do not let it be supposed that all this time we were sitting with our hands folded. . . . We earnestly desired to have the country with us. We believed the country was not ready for war in the months of June and July, 1899."

This evidence is not only unimpeachable, but clear and explicit, and from one of the chief actors in the plot. *In June, 1899, four months before the war began, the British Government had determined upon war; it had settled the object of the war, not any redress of pretended grievances of the Outlanders, but "the subjugation of the two Republics."*

It was only waiting till Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Alfred Milner, a subsidized Press, and other forces working steadily for war, should have blinded and maddened the country to the required point.

Meanwhile, Mr. Chamberlain was making "propositions" and changing them as fast as they were accepted by President Kruger, and making new demands, and refusing the urgent requests for arbitration that President Kruger repeatedly made. And British soldiers were being poured into South Africa by thousands from all parts of the Empire.

### APPENDIX 3

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EXTRACT FROM THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT FOR THE  
ARBITRATION OF DIFFERENCES AS DRAWN UP AND  
SIGNED AT THE HAGUE CONFERENCE.

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*(Full text published in January, 1900, American Monthly Review of Reviews.)*

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"TITLE SECOND—Of Friendly Offices and Mediation.

"ARTICLE 2. In case of serious dissension or of conflict, before the appeal to arms the signatory powers agree to have recourse, as far as circumstances will permit, to the friendly offices or to the mediation of one or of several friendly powers.

"ARTICLE 3. Independently of this resort, the signatory powers think it to be useful that one or more powers which have no part in the conflict may offer of their own volition, so far as circumstances may make it appropriate, their friendly offices or their mediation to the states engaged in the conflict. The right to offer these friendly offices or mediation is absolute in the powers which take no part in the conflict, even during hostilities. **The exercise of this right shall never be considered by either of the parties to the contest as an unfriendly act.**

"ARTICLE 4. The duty of a mediator consists in conciliating the opposing claims and appeasing the resentment which may have sprung up between the states engaged in the conflict."

## APPENDIX 4

# DID WEYLER EVER BEAT THIS ?

Boers used to Protect the British from other Boers !

*(From the Government Gazette, Pretoria, 21st June, 1900)*

"No. A2

### "PROCLAMATION

"Referring to my Proclamation, dated Pretoria, 16th June, 1900, I, Frederick Sleigh, Baron Roberts, of Kandahar and Waterford, K. P., G. C. B., G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., V. C., Field Marshal, Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Troops in South Africa, do hereby declare, proclaim, and make known, that, should any damage be done to any of the lines of Railway or to any of the Railway Bridges, Culverts, or Buildings, or to any Telegraph lines or other Railway or Public Property in the Orange River Colony, or in that portion of the South African Republic for the time being within the sphere of my military operations, the following punishment will be inflicted:

"1. The principal residents of the Towns and District will be held, jointly and severally, responsible for the amount of damage done in their district.

"2. In addition to the payment of the damage above mentioned, a penalty depending upon the circumstances of each case, but which will in no event be less than a sum of 2s. 6d. per morgen on the area of each Farm, will be levied and recovered from each Burgher of the District in which the damage is done in respect of the land owned or occupied by him in such District. Furthermore all receipts for goods requisitioned in such District on behalf of the military authorities will be cancelled and no payment whatsoever will be made in respect of the same.

"3. As a further precautionary measure, the Director of Military Railways has been authorized to order that one or more of the Residents, who will be selected by him from each District, shall from time to time personally accompany the trains while travelling through their District.

"4. The houses and farms in the vicinity of the place where the damage is done will be destroyed, and the residents in the neighborhood dealt with under Martial Law.

"5. The military authorities will render every facility to the principal residents to enable them to communicate the purport of this Proclamation to the other residents in their district, so that all persons may become fully cognisant of the responsibility resting upon them.

"(Signed) ROBERTS,

"Army Headquarters, Pretoria. "F. M., Commanding in Chief, South Africa.

"PRETORIA, June 19th, 1900."

[The correctness of this copy is vouched for by the American Transvaal League at Chicago (Room 14, No. 88 La Salle St.), it having been copied from the original printed Government Gazette in the possession of a war correspondent residing in Chicago.]

## APPENDIX 5

# You may not go to the Bank to get your own Money!

[From the Government Gazette, Pretoria, 21st June, 1900]

"No. 20

### "PROCLAMATION

"Whereas, it is expedient to grant permission to certain Banks in Pretoria to transact business, and further to lay down the conditions under which such business may be carried on during such period as may be found expedient.

"Now, therefore, I, John Grenfell Maxwell, Major General, Military Governor of Pretoria, hereby proclaim that from the date of this Proclamation the following Banks shall alone be permitted to carry on the business of Bankers within the town of Pretoria and the district under my command, to-wit:

"The African Banking Corporation, Ltd., the Bank of Africa, Ltd., National Bank of S. A. R., Ltd., Natal Bank, Ltd., De Nederlandsche Bank en Crediet Vereeniging, Z. A., the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.

"And then only subject to the following terms and conditions:

"1. Banking hours to be from 9 A. M. to 12 noon daily, Sundays excepted.

"2. Payments must be received in specie only for credit of current accounts or on fixed deposits.

"3. Cheques must be paid across the counter in specie only.

"4. **No customer will be allowed to draw any amount beyond the sum of £20 (twenty pounds) weekly, and no cheques for any greater amount are to be honoured without the written authority of the Military Governor, or of such person as he may from time to time appoint.**

"5. Imperial Army cheques and the cheques of Military Officers exceeding the limit in the last preceding condition may be cashed without the authority of the Military Governor.

"6. No other class of Banking business of what nature or kind soever is permitted.

"7. No transfers of current accounts, balances, or fixed deposits shall in the case of any customer be made from one account to another.

"8. No transfers of accounts from any Bank shall be permitted, whether to a branch of the same Bank or to a different Bank.

"9. No securities of articles deposited for safe custody with any Bank shall be released or removed or handed over by the Bank with which the same may be deposited without authority in writing from the Military Governor.

"10. No advances shall be made to customers or any other person whatsoever.

"11. No Banks not mentioned in Proclamation No. 6, of June 7th, 1900, will be permitted to receive unwrought gold.

"And I further proclaim that Banking business shall be carried on only by the Banks mentioned in this my Proclamation, and if any other Bank, company, partnership or individual shall be found transacting any Banking business whatever, they will be punished according to Martial Law. If the Banks mentioned in this Proclamation commit any breach of any of the conditions under which they are hereby permitted to carry on their business, such Bank will thereupon be closed, and its permission to transact business withdrawn and cancelled, and in addition will further be liable to punishment under Martial Law.

"JOHN GRENFELL MAXWELL, Major-General,

"Military Governor."

[The correctness of this copy is vouched for by the American Transvaal League at Chicago (Room 14, No. 88 La Salle St.), it having been copied from the original printed Government Gazette in the possession of a war correspondent residing in Chicago.]

## APPENDIX 6

# Don't Hurt Us, or we will Imprison Non-Combatants!

*[From the Government Gazette, Pretoria, 21st June, 1900]*

"No. A1

### "PROCLAMATION

"Whereas, small parties of raiders have recently been doing wanton damage to public property in the Orange River Colony and South African Republic by destroying railway bridges and culverts and cutting the telegraph wires, and, whereas, such damage cannot be done without the knowledge and connivance of the neighboring inhabitants, and the principal civil residents in the districts concerned.

"Now, therefore, I Frederick Sleigh, Baron Roberts of Kandahar and Waterford, K. P., G. C. B., G. C. S. I., G. C. I. E., V. C., Field Marshal, Commander in Chief of Her Majesty's Troops in South Africa, warn the said inhabitants and principal civil residents that, **whenever public property is destroyed or injured in the manner specified above, they will be held responsible for aiding and abetting the offenders. The houses in the vicinity of the place where the damage is done will be burnt, and the principal civil residents will be made prisoners of war.**

"ROBERTS, F. M.,

"Commanding in Chief, South Africa.

"Army Headquarters, South Africa,

"PRETORIA, 16th June, 1900."

[The correctness of this copy is vouched for by the American Transvaal League at Chicago (Room 14, No. 88 La Salle St.), it having been copied from the original printed Government Gazette in the possession of a war correspondent residing in Chicago.]



APPENDIX 7

THE ALTERNATIVES:

Commit Perjury,  
or Become a Traitor!

[From the Government Gazette, Pretoria, 21st June, 1900]

"OATH OF NEUTRALITY

"No.....

"I, the undersigned,.....

of .....

in the District of.....

"Do hereby solemnly make Oath and declare that I have handed in and given up all the Arms and Ammunition demanded of me by the British Authorities, namely, all Rifles and Rifle Ammunition of whatsoever description they may be. And I solemnly swear that I have no Rifle or Rifle Ammunition remaining, **and that I know of none such being concealed or withheld by anybody whatsoever.**

"And I further swear that I will not take up Arms against the British Government during the present war, nor will I at any time furnish any member of the Republican Forces with assistance of any kind, or with information as to the numbers, movements, or other details of the British Forces that may come to my knowledge. I do further promise and swear to remain quietly at my home until the war is over.

"I am aware that if I have in any way falsely declared in the Premises, or if I break my Oath or Promise, as above set forth, I shall render myself liable to be summarily and severely punished by the British Authorities.

"I make the above declaration solemnly believing it to be true, So Help Me God.

"Before me

[The correctness of this copy is vouched for by the American Transvaal League at Chicago (Room 14, No. 88 La Salle St.), it having been copied from the original printed Government Gazette in the possession of a war correspondent residing in Chicago.]

APPENDIX 8

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What would Americans and Englishmen have said of the Spaniards if this had been equaled in Cuba?

“IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS LAST NIGHT LORD RAGLAN, PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF THE WAR OFFICE, GAVE THE MORTALITY FOR ALL THE REFUGEE CAMPS IN SOUTH AFRICA IN JUNE AS 63 MEN, 138 WOMEN, 576 CHILDREN, OUT OF A TOTAL OF 14,623 MEN, 24,711 WOMEN AND 43,075 CHILDREN.”

*Chicago Daily News*, July 16th, 1901.

In connection with the above figures it should be borne in mind that this high rate of mortality cannot be palliated in any degree by the unhealthy nature of the country as was the case in Cuba. The climate of South Africa is salubrious and healthful, as is demonstrated by the remarkable physical powers of its inhabitants.

APPENDIX 9

# PACIFICATION BY ARSON

From *The Forum*, August, 1901

British Official Summary of Number of Buildings Burnt in each Month

June, 1900.....	2	November, 1900.....	226
July, 1900.....	3	December, 1900.....	6
August, 1900.....	12	January, 1901.....	3
September, 1900.....	99		
October, 1900.....	189		552
Dates not known, but probably before November, 1900.....			90
Total destroyed.....			634

(The arithmetical errors in the above are those of the British war office.)

Some "Reasons for Destruction"

"Accidentally destroyed by lyddite fire.

Farm near where telegraph wire was cut.

Burnt evidently by mistake.

Men on commando in the immediate neighborhood, notice having previously been sent to the laager that their houses would be burned if they did not come in, or were not at their houses by the date.

By reason of its utility to the Boers.

Used by Boer outposts.

Troop train derailed and fired on two miles E. of Pan.

Witpoort had been an enemy's stronghold for some considerable time.

Coetzar being seen with two others, who shot a man of 5th Lancers.

This house was burnt without orders by some one unknown.

To destroy mealies, etc., stored in house; owner on commando.

Harboring Boers and grinding corn for Boers at the mill."

In a few instances no reason whatever is assigned. Among these is the following entry, which records an instance of incendiarism for which the British Government has already had to pay a heavy price:

District.	Name of Village or Farm.	Name of owner.	Date of Destruction.	Reasons for Destruction.
Rhenoster River	.....	Christian de Wet	.....	.....

The Hague Treaty "On Military Authority over Hostile Territory"

"Article 44.—Any compulsion of the population of occupied territory to take part in military operations against its own country is prohibited.

Article 45.—Any pressure on the population of occupied territory to take the oath of allegiance to the hostile power is prohibited.

Article 46.—**Family honor and rights, individual lives and private property, as well as religious convictions and liberty, must be respected. Private property cannot be confiscated.**

Article 47.—Pillage is absolutely prohibited.

Article 50.—No general penalty, pecuniary or otherwise, can be inflicted on the population on account of the acts of individuals for which it cannot be regarded as collectively responsible."

APPENDIX 10

CLEARED OF SUPPLIES  
PARTLY BURNED  
FARMS DESTROYED  
WOMEN AND CHILDREN LEFT TO STARVE

**"NOTICE**

"The town of Ventersburg has been cleared of supplies and partly burnt, and the farms in the vicinity destroyed, on account of the frequent attacks on the railway line in the neighborhood. The Boer women and children who are left behind should apply to the Boer commandants for food, who will supply them unless they wish to see them starve. No supplies will be sent from the railway to the town.

"(Signed) BRUCE HAMILTON,  
"Major-General.

November 1, 1900."

From The London Speaker, Dec. 22, 1900.

STOP FIGHTING  
AND  
GIVE US YOUR COUNTRY  
OR WE WILL  
PUNISH YOUR WOMEN and CHILDREN

Verbatim copy from Johannesburg  
Gazette, July 21, 1900.

By Order of the British Government.

V. R.

V. R. means Victoria Regina (Queen).

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

IT is hereby notified for information that unless the men at present on commando belonging to families in the Town and District of Krugersdorp **surrender themselves and hand in their arms** to the Imperial Authorities by the 20th July, the whole of their properties will be **confiscated and their families turned out destitute and homeless.**

By order,  
G. H. M. RITCHIE,  
Capt. K. Horse,  
Dist. Supt. Police.  
Krugersdorp, 9th July, 1900.

**GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.**

## APPENDIX 12

# THE CAUSE OF THE WAR

Supplementary report of United States Consul at Pretoria, under date Pretoria, December 31, 1898, as follows:

I enclose a list of the dividends paid by the mining companies of the South African Republic during the year 1898.

It must be remembered that this has been a remarkably dull year, so far as ordinary business is concerned, and the mining companies, it is freely said, are not working up to their full capacity; but nevertheless the production and profit have been greater this year than ever before. When the differences that are said to exist between the Government and capital have been removed or adjusted, the Transvaal, it is predicted, will see a most wonderful boom.

It would appear that the payment of such enormous dividends should produce a marked business activity, until it is realized that fully 90 to 95 per cent. of these profits go to Europe, leaving but a small fraction to be put in circulation at home.

### MINING DIVIDENDS IN 1898. At Johannesburg, Transvaal, Witwatersrand Mines.

COMPANY	DIVIDENDS FOR ONE YEAR	TOTAL DISTRIBUTED
Angelo.....	50 per cent.	£ 137,174
Bonanza.....	100 "	200,000
City & Suburban .....	15 "	204,000
Crown Deep.....	50 "	150,000
Crown Reef.....	240 "	288,000
Driefontein.....	25 "	68,750
Durban Roodepoort.....	80 "	100,000
Ferreira.....	300 "	270,000
Geldenhuis Deep.....	75 "	225,000
Geldenhuis Estate.....	147½ "	295,000
Ginsberg.....	40 "	64,000
Glencairn.....	25 "	125,000
Henry Nourse.....	125 "	156,250
Johannesburg Pioneer.....	675 "	141,750
Jubilee.....	100 "	50,000
Jumpers.....	80 "	80,000
Langcaster.....	10 "	28,995
Langlaagte Estate.....	30 "	141,000
"    BB.....	7½ "	47,437
May Consolidated.....	15 "	41,250
Meyer & Charlton.....	60 "	15,000
New Comet.....	12½ "	28,125
New Heriot.....	100 "	111,864
New Kleinfontein.....	10 "	23,125
New Primrose.....	55 "	165,000
Rietfontein "A".....	22½ "	71,437
Robinson.....	16 "	440,000
Roodepoort. United Main Reef.....	40 "	60,000
Rose Deep.....	40 "	170,000
Salisbury.....	10 "	10,000
Simmer & Jack.....	3½ "	164,500
Stanhope.....	10 "	3,400
Treasury.....	15 "	81,000
Village Main Reef.....	60 "	210,000
Wemmer.....	150 "	120,000
Witwatersrand.....	30 "	97,500
Wolhuter.....	10 "	86,000
Windsor.....	20 "	20,000
Worcester.....	60 "	57,440
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>£4,833,997</b>

### OUTSIDE DISTRICTS

COMPANY	DIVIDENDS FOR ONE YEAR	TOTAL DISTRIBUTED
Sheba.....	6¼ per cent.	67,187
Barret.....	6% "	8,000
Glynn's Lydenburg.....	10 "	16,375
Transvaal G. M. Estates.....	10 "	60,422
<b>Total.....</b>		<b>£ 151,984</b>

The above is the complete list as given by the United States Consul.

See pages 360 and 361, "Commercial Africa in 1899." Published by the Treasury Department of the United States. (Bureau of Statistics.)

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# SURRENDER OR EXILE!

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IF WE CANNOT WHIP YOU WE WILL TRY SOME  
MORE INTIMIDATION!

---

LATEST UP-TO-DATE METHODS OF THE "SOLDIERS OF THE  
KING," ASSISTED BY ZULUS, BASUTOS AND KAFFIRS!

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## PROCLAMATION

*By Lord Kitchener, Aug. 7, 1901*

"LONDON, Aug. 9th.—A parliamentary paper has been issued containing the proclamation issued by Lord Kitchener Aug. 7th in accordance with instructions from the imperial government, the governments of Cape Colony and Natal concurring. The proclamation says:

"All commandants, field cornets and leaders of armed bands, being burghers of the late republics and still engaged in resisting his majesty's forces, whether in the Orange Colony, the Transvaal or other portions of his majesty's South African dominions, and all members of the late governments of the Orange Free State and Transvaal, shall, unless they surrender before Sept. 15th, be permanently banished from South Africa. The cost of the maintenance of the families of all burghers in the field who have not surrendered by Sept. 15th shall be recoverable from such burghers and shall be a charge upon their property, removable and immovable, in the two colonies."

"The preliminary correspondence shows that the proclamation is based upon suggestions which the government of Natal forwarded to Colonial Secretary Chamberlain July 24th, and that the date Sept. 15th was recommended by Lord Milner."

*Chicago Post, Aug. 9, 1901.*

## APPENDIX 14

### Report of the Medical Officer of Johannesburg

"JOHANNESBURG;

*"January 9th.*

"This is to certify that I have carefully examined: (a) a sample of mealie meal numbered 1; (b) a sample of mealie meal numbered 2; and (c) a sample of sugar numbered 3. Sample 1 is mouldy, contains mite, and is unfit for human consumption. Sample 2 contains mite, but I could not discover in it living mite. It is, however, dangerous as human food. Sample 3 is a moist sample of brown sugar. The smell is somewhat sour, but microscopically I could not find ferment or other foreign matter except water. The sugar is unfit for the use of young children. If the meal and the sugar from which the samples are taken are used as human food, they are liable to produce diarrhoea, especially to children. I have sealed the samples with my seal after examining them.

"D. W. JOHNSTON, F.R.C.S., D.P.H., &c."



## APPENDIX 15

### Extracts from the Report of Miss Hobhouse, Representative of the Women's Committee on Investigation of Refugees' Condition, of London, England.

#### THE CAMP AT KIMBERLEY.

*March 13th.*

All today I have been in the camp—fortunately only twenty minutes' walk from my hotel. It is the smallest in area that I have seen. The tents too close together, and the whole enclosed in an eight-foot high barbed wire fencing, which is supposed to be impregnable, and cost £500. Sentries at the gate, and walking inside. No nurse; an empty, unfurnished marquee, which might be a hospital; over crowded tents; measles and whooping-cough rife; camp dirty and smelling; an army doctor, who naturally knows little of children's ailments; fuel, almost none.

A Commandant's wife is here, with six children. It is so sad about her baby. A general came to her home with his column to sweep her away. She is a delicate-looking, gentle woman, with a white skin and beautiful scarlet lips, so seldom seen out of books. Her baby was only seventeen days old when the troops came, and she was very weak. She could not nurse the child, and, like all her children, it was being brought up on donkey's milk. This she explained to the general, who gave special commands that wherever she went that donkey was to go, even to Vryburg and Kimberley. Well, by degrees, she arrived in Kimberley, and the donkey came also to the town. But once she was in the camp that donkey disappeared. They either couldn't or wouldn't produce it. The baby failed and pined. Friends from Kimberley tried everything—cow's milk, condensed milk—all no good. It was a splendid child, and it dwindled to skin and bone. At last the new superintendent arrived; they appealed to him, and showed him the dying baby. At once he produced that donkey; but it was too late. The baby had got so weak it was past recovery. We tried what we could, but today it died. It was only three months, and such a sweet little thing. The mother is much respected, and there is great sympathy felt for her. It was still alive this morning; when I called in the afternoon they beckoned me in to see the tiny thing laid out, with a white flower in its wee hand. To me it seemed a "murdered innocent." And an hour or two after another child died.

A terrible evil just now is the dew. It is so heavy, and comes right through the single canvas of the tents, wetting everything. The night I slept at Norval's Pont I found this out for myself. Though in a marquee with double canvas, all my clothes were damp through, and these people have to put their things on saturated day after day. All the morning the gangways are filled with the blankets and odds and ends, regularly turned out to dry in the sun. The doctor told me today he highly disapproved of tents for young children, and expected a high mortality before June.

I am going to buy some mourning for this bereaved mother—don't think that foolish or extravagant. You would not if you knew how much these poor people think of a bit of black, and it seemed to me the best way of showing some sympathy. She is in need of clothes of some sort, and her present from England will be black instead of coloured.

## DEAD CHILDREN.

*March 15th.*

Today I got the mother's black clothes (all hers are burnt), and took them up. Another child died in the night, and I found all three little corpses being photographed for the absent fathers to see some day. Two little wee white coffins at the gate waiting, and a third wanted. I was glad to see them, for at Springfontein a young woman had to be buried in a sack, and it hurt their feelings woefully.

*April 15th.*

I am just writing these few lines before leaving this on Friday. I was much distressed today in the tent of two women—sisters—whose children are wasting away. We have at last got a new civilian doctor, who speaks Dutch, so I hope we shall move on a bit. Seven children died here the few days I was at Capetown, and two since my return besides.

Mrs. — has been taken to the hospital in town. She is very ill from a kick in the stomach by a drunken soldier. Something internal. He was punished, I believe, but that does not cure her.

## THE TENTS.

*April 15th.*

All the afternoon I was kept in Mrs. L.'s tent by a downpour of rain. Half the tent floor was a pool of water, which the Kaffir boy was vainly trying to bale out. Two pails caught the pourings from the tent door. All around and above it dripped, making pools on the bedding and on the mats as we sat huddled up—two Kaffirs, five children, Mrs. L., and myself—in the steamy atmosphere, till I began to turn sick, as I generally do in the tents. When it rains at night as often it drips on them all night, and makes little pools on the beds. No wonder children sicken and die. The cloth of the tents seems so very thin and poor.

## BLOEMFONTEIN AGAIN.

*Bloemfontein, April 22d.*

Here I am again in Bloemfontein. I arrived yesterday, taking two and a half days from Kimberley. The camp work grows so vast and so rapidly that I feel it is almost impossible to cope with it. Here there are now about 4,000, or double the number I left six weeks ago. At Springfontein I left a manageable little camp of 500; now it has swelled to 3,000, and as we passed along yesterday morning there was a trainload in the station of 600 more. It was pitiable to see them—massed in the train, many of them in open trucks. It was bitterly cold, and I was wrapped in a thick Welsh shawl. All night there had been a truly torrential downpour of rain, and water stood everywhere in pools. On the saturated ground they were trying to dry themselves and their goods.

## THE FOOD DIFFICULTY.

Some women were pushing their way to the platform to try and buy food for their children. The soldiers would not permit this. I expostulated. The men said they were sorry for them, but they had to obey orders. It was Sunday morning, and Springfontein's one small shop closed, and I knew the refreshment room was the only place where food was available.

## MORE "SWEEPING."

If only the camps had remained the size they were even six weeks ago, I saw some chance of getting them well in hand, organizing and dealing with the distress. But this sudden influx of hundreds and thousands has upset everything, and reduced us all to a state bordering on despair.

More and more are coming on. A new sweeping movement has begun, resulting in hundreds and thousands of these unfortunate people either crowding into already crowded camps or else being dumped down to form a new one where nothing is at hand to shelter them.

About food, too. The superintendent of a camp is getting in rations for such a number, and suddenly 200 more mouths are thrust in upon him, and things won't go round. Last Saturday 200 or 300 families were without meat in Bloemfontein Camp for that day and Sunday. This would not matter if there were an alternative food, but there is only the ordinary supply of coarse bread to fall back upon, with black coffee and sugar.

#### SICKNESS AND DEATH.

No wonder sickness abounds. Since I left here six weeks ago there have been 62 deaths in camp, and the doctor himself is down with enteric. Two of the Boer girls who had been trained as nurses, and who were doing good work, are dead, too. One of them, Poppy Naude, was a universal favorite. She did not know where her mother was. Her father was in Norval's Pont, and there had been some talk of my taking her to join him; but in the end she thought she was doing useful work where she was, earning 2s. a day, and she had better stay and nurse the people in Bloemfontein. I came back to find her dead. The doctor, the nurse, and all had said, "We can't spare Poppy."

But, in spite of the death-roll, I think your fund has saved and strengthened many children. It has provided brandy, maizena, Mellins', and, where possible, fresh milk. The Government clothing has hitherto come to almost nothing. I formed, as agreed, the committees. The camps were divided into sections, the minimum required was noted down, and the total requisitioned for. Now it has come to a full stop. The superintendent must certify that not one of the applicants has anybody in the camp who could rightly maintain her. Amongst so many, to find that out is well-nigh impossible. The superintendent hesitates, and the whole thing hangs fire.

Thus, had it not been for our clothing, things would have been bad indeed. I hope to get up to Kroonstadt where no help has been given.

#### MISS HOBHOUSE'S MISSION STOPPED.

*June 1st.*

These letters end with an expressed hope of going on to Kroonstadt, where I had been earnestly invited by the superintendent, owing to the need of clothes in camp and amongst the Boer nurses. But permission to do this or to go further north at all was refused. This fact, combined with other reasons, and the belief that a more detailed knowledge of the circumstances was evidently needed in England to facilitate the collection of funds, etc., determined me to return home at once, a few weeks earlier than I should otherwise have done.

Moreover, it became clear that one person is unable to cope with the work owing to the fresh influx of people.

# AMERICAN TRANSVAAL LEAGUE

## AT CHICAGO

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Branch Leagues formed in all parts of the United States. For particulars address the Secretary.

Membership Fee (including dues) \$5.00 per annum.

Checks for Membership Fee and dues should be payable to the American Transvaal League at Chicago, and should be sent to Samuel A. Calhoun, Secretary, Room 14, 88 La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois.

60/8184

Secretary American Transvaal League

*Room 14, 88 La Salle St., Chicago, Illinois*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my check for **Five Dollars** in payment of initiation fee, and in lieu of dues for the first year.

Name .....

..... Street ..... State of .....

Secretary American Transvaal League

*Room 14, 88 La Salle St., Chicago, Illinois*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my check for **Five Dollars** in payment of initiation fee, and in lieu of dues for the first year.

Name .....

..... Street ..... State of .....

Secretary American Transvaal League

*Room 14, 88 La Salle St., Chicago, Illinois*

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find my check for **Five Dollars** in payment of initiation fee, and in lieu of dues for the first year.

Name .....

..... Street ..... State of .....

## BOER RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE

---

The following named Gentlemen have agreed to attend to the  
distribution of funds donated for the homeless and  
destitute Boer women and children

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Hon. Thomas G. Windes.....	Judge of Appellate Court, Chicago
Hon. Edward F. Dunne.....	Judge Circuit Court, Chicago
Hon. Theodore Brentano.....	Judge Superior Court, Chicago
Jenkin Lloyd Jones.....	Pastor All Souls Church, Chicago
Dr. Hiram W. Thomas.....	Pastor People's Church, Chicago
Thies J. Lefens.....	172 Washington St., Chicago
George Birkhoff, Jr., Consul for the Netherlands..	85 Washington St., Chicago
Ricard O'S. Burke.....	Harbor Engineer, 321 City Hall, Chicago
Rev. W. Heyns, Pastor Holland Christian Reformed Church.....	.....
.....	523 West Fourteenth St., Chicago
Hon. H. D. Peck.....	Attorney at Law, 518 Walnut St., Cincinnati, O.
Herman Van der Ploeg.....	Attorney at Law, 84 La Salle St., Chicago
Peter Van Vlissingen, Real Estate Loans....	172 East Washington St., Chicago
Samuel A. Calhoun, Secretary American Transvaal League.....	.....
.....	Room 14, 88 La Salle St., Chicago