

SURRENDER OF CRONJE

There Is No Disposition in Great Britain to Overestimate the Success.

MORE TROOPS TO GO OUT

TENTHOUSAND ADDITIONAL TO BE SENT AT ONCE.

Majors Albrecht and Von Dewitz, the Famous German Officers, Captured With Cronje's Forces-The Guns Taken-Report That French Is Moving on Bloemfontein-Desperate Fighting Continues in Natal.

London, Feb. 28-4:30 a. m.-There is general cheerfulness throughout Great Britain over the surrender of General Cronje. There has been cheering to-day for the queen and a universal singing of the national anthem. This, with mutual congratulations, is the British way of celebrating the most cheerful day of the war. Already he is taking stock of the situation and measuring the future. There is no disposition to overestimate the success. The government entertains no illusion. As announced in the house of commons, ten thousand additional troops will immediately go out and the effective will be kept near 200,000.

Lord Roberts has done more than to capture four thousand Boers and a few guns. He is within striking distance of one of the Boer capitals and is master of a large district of the Free State. He has given a shock to Boer confidence and immeasurably restored the spirit of his own troops. In capturing Cronje he has taken a leader whose presence alone was worth thousands to the Boer cause. The best opinion here is that the Transvaalers are certain to continue the fight with undiminished vigor, but it is not so certain about the Free State.

Lord Roberts has not allowed the corps of descriptive writers with him to supplement his plain narrative as yet, and there are some points in doubt. It is not clear whether the 4,000 prisoners include those taken in small parties before the capitulation. Who has become of the rest of the Boers who held the Magerfontein lines and where are the big guns? The smallness of Cronje's forces causes some wonderment.

The morning papers, without exception, comment on the achievement of the Boer leader and men in holding off for ten days a force from six to eight times as large as their own. British opinion is far more generous in victory than in defeat.

Sir Redvers Buller is having a hard time in Natal. It is evident now after a fortnight's fighting, that he was misled when he wired that there was only a weak rear guard between him and Ladysmith. Apparently some of the hardest fighting of the war took place at the end of last week, as an armistice was agreed upon to allow attendance upon the wounded and burial of the dead. Both sides must have lost heavily.

At any moment, however, news may come of General Buller's success. Friday will begin the fourth month of the siege of the garrison, which is seemingly in a position where it is unable to do anything to help General Buller.

OFFICERS TAKEN WITH CRONJE.

Majors Albrecht and Von Dewitz, Famous German Officers, Captured With Cronje's Forces-The Guns Taken-Report That French Is Moving on Bloemfontein-Desperate Fighting Continues in Natal.

French Moving on Bloemfontein.

London, Feb. 28-7:07 p. m.-The officers captured by General Roberts, besides General Piet Cronje, include the following well known commanders: Chief Commandant M. J. Wolvaardt, a member of the Volksraad; Field Cornet Frus, a Scandinavian; Major Albrecht, the famous German artilleryman; Major Von Dewitz, the distinguished German officer, responsible for most of the splendid engineering works of the Boers since the commencement of the war.

Gen. Macdonald Better.

London, Feb. 27-7:51 p. m.-The war office has received the following from Lord Roberts: "Paardeberg, Feb. 27, General Macdonald is expected to return to duty in a few days."

AWFUL FIGHTING IN NATAL.

Heavy Losses on Both Sides-Boers Trying to Outflank British.

London, Feb. 27-A special despatch from Colenso dated Tuesday, February 27, says: "The Boers are endeavoring to outflank us, and severe fighting continues."

Colenso, Sunday, Feb. 25-In the attempt of the Boers to reach Pieter's Hill, the Boer fire was so terrible, from the infantry emerged from the cover of the trees that almost every man in the leading half of the company fell wounded. The advance line of the British reached a donga in front of the fire Boer trench, which was not apparent until they were actually in it. The Boers retired to the crest and then returned on either flank of the Boers, capturing the captured guns with a ter-

rible cross fire. Winding it impossible to hold the position or to advance the British fell back and entrenched themselves half way up the hill. The Boers maintained a heavy fire.

In the course of the night the Dublin Fusiliers and the Connaughts arriving to support the Inniskillings another determined attempt was made to take the Boer positions. This also failed. A heavy fire continued throughout the night. The Inniskillings lost fourteen out of seventeen officers killed and wounded, and about two hundred and fifty non-commissioned officers and men killed and wounded.

BOER RETREAT CONTINUES.

A Party of Seventy Annihilated by Guns at Ladysmith.

London, Feb. 28-The Daily Mail has the following from Ladysmith dated Saturday, February 24: "Yesterday the Boer retreat continued. A party of about seventy en route for the north drew rein near Limit Hill. A battery of fifteen pounders placed not far off, suddenly opened fire and practically annihilated the party. A Boer was later seen collecting the dead and wounded. The Boers are trying to form a bridge or drift across Kip river, south of Umbulwana, evidently for the purpose of permitting the passage of wagons and artillery in their retirement from Colenso. Our guns are preventing this work being carried on."

Boers Fleeing Back.

Arundel, Monday, Feb. 28-The Boers under British pressure have evacuated their positions in this neighborhood, retreating northward. In the fighting hereabouts their loss is thought to have been considerable, as twenty-five graves were found.

British Occupy Jamestown.

Stickspruit, Monday, Feb. 28-Boer reports state that the British under General Brabant have occupied Jamestown, Cape Colony.

Cronje's Last Attempt to Escape.

London, Feb. 27-A special despatch from Cape Town dated Monday says: "General Cronje last night attempted to escape with a party of Boers, but he was driven back."

German Opinion.

Berlin, Feb. 27-The German newspapers are disappointed at the surrender of General Cronje. They say that Lord Roberts has shown real military ability and dash and that the Boers have lost in Cronje their most skillful leader.

YOUNG CANADIAN HONORED.

Queen Sees Him and Sympathizes With Him Over His Wound.

London, Feb. 27-There is no prouder person in England to-day than Private A. E. Cole of the Second Royal Canadian, who is the only wounded Canadian so far known in England, and who was specially honored by the queen and other members of the royal family who visited Netley to-day. Noticing his regimental name the queen asked to see him. Cole, who is a bright fellow twenty-five years of age, was ushered into the queen's presence and she tenderly inquired as to the circumstances under which he was wounded. Cole saluted and replied: "It was on the occasion of Colonel Picher's march to Sunny Side, your majesty. Our regiment advanced to the attack and while crossing the open ground I was shot through the foot."

FIRST NEWS OF THE SURRENDER.

Gen. Roberts Sends Two Telegrams and Gives Some Details.

London, Feb. 27-General Cronje surrendered unconditionally his entire force to Lord Roberts at dawn to-day. The prisoners number about four thousand men, including twenty-nine Transvaal and eighteen Free State officers. Fifteen guns were taken. Early this morning the following despatch was received from Lord Roberts: "Paardeberg, Feb. 27, 7:45 a. m.-General Cronje and all of his force capitulated unconditionally at daylight and is now a prisoner in my camp. The strength of his force will be communicated later. I hope that her majesty's government will consider this event satisfactory, occurring as it does on the anniversary of Majuba."

Details of Surrender.

Later in the day a second despatch was received from Lord Roberts as follows: "Paardeberg, 11 a. m. Tuesday.-From information furnished daily to me by the intelligence department, it became apparent that General Cronje's force was becoming more depressed and that the discontent of the troops and the discord among the leaders were rapidly increasing. This feeling was doubtless accentuated by the disappointment caused when the Boer reinforcements which tried to relieve General Cronje were defeated by our troops on February 23.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN NEWARK

THE GREATEST THE CITY HAS EVER EXPERIENCED.

Loss Estimated at Over \$1,000,000-Retail Dry Goods District Burned Out-Snyder's Big Department Store Losses Half a Million Dollars in Stock-Other Buildings Completely Gutted.

New York, Feb. 27-The greatest fire Newark, N. J., ever experienced swept through the retail dry goods district to-night, destroying a score or more buildings. The loss is estimated at over \$1,000,000. The fire started in W. V. Snyder's department store at Broad and Cedar streets, a four story building, of seventy-five feet frontage and extending two hundred feet along Cedar street. The stock was valued at half a million dollars and nothing was saved. The building was burned to the ground.

The four story building adjoining the Snyder building on Broad street and occupied by J. M. Mantse, dealer in lace and similar goods on the first floor, and offices on the upper floors, was soon burning and was eventually totally destroyed with everything it contained. Next to it was the restaurant and confectionery establishment of T. B. Allen, a fashionable caterer, this building also containing many offices. The fire completely gutted this building, but left the front part almost untouched. From Peddie's it spread to the big department store of David Strause. The rear of this building was gutted. The firemen at this point made a desperate stand to prevent the fire from getting into Martegan's jewelry store, which was in the next block.

At the same time the flames were traveling southward with as much fury as on the north of the original fire. W. T. Rae's jewelry store occupied the corner opposite Snyder's. Nothing was saved here, although the valuable stock of jewelry, probably the largest in Newark, was securely locked in the vaults of the building. Above the jewelry store the building was occupied as offices.

Within an hour there was hardly a brick of the building standing above a few feet from the sidewalk. The flames drove through the solid wall into P. J. Garrigan's drug store. Cairns' photographic establishment and galleries were next above this and nothing could save either of them. The rear end of the Beehive Dry Goods store, owned by L. S. Strauss & Co., was next to go and here a large body of firemen concentrated and fought hard to keep the fire from entering the main building, which was separated from the rear portion by a party wall with iron doors. The fight was a stubborn one. The doors became red hot and the task looked hopeless.

While the flames were thus eating the heart out of the most important business block on Broad street, the fire was spreading westward along Cedar street on both sides. On the south side back of Snyder's the fire burned from No. 2 at the rear of Rae's store to No. 24. These were all small stores, in buildings three and four stories high, the upper floors being floors occupied largely as dwellings. In this row was Bierman's pawn shop, where many thousands dollars' worth of articles were destroyed. On the north side of Cedar street back of Snyder's the fire attacked row of all brown stone and brick buildings, used as offices on the upper floors and stores on the ground floor. Immense crowds watched the conflagration. The entire police force was called into service and some difficulty was had in keeping back the crowd.

FATAL RAILROAD WRECK.

Local Passenger Trains Into an Express on Missouri Pacific.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 27-The blizzard prevailing throughout western Missouri caused a train wreck to-night on the main line of the Missouri Pacific, in which at least two persons and possibly more were killed and several others were badly hurt. The fast St. Louis day express was delayed by a freight train stuck in a snow-drift two miles south of Independence, Mo. The St. Louis local passenger train, running forty minutes behind the fast express, came on through the blinding snow storm and crashed into the express train ahead, the engineer having failed to see the danger signal which the first train had sent back. The parlor car in the rear of the first train was cut in two. A list of the dead and injured, so far as known, follows:

The dead: Unknown woman, body consumed in wreck; unknown woman, body taken to Independence.

Injured: Mrs. J. G. Schmidlapp, Cincinnati, badly cut and scalded, fatally injured; J. G. Schmidlapp, Cincinnati, badly hurt; Miss Schmidlapp, Cincinnati, badly hurt; mother of Mrs. Schmidlapp, painfully injured; L. F. Sheldon, Sedalia, Mo., assistant superintendent of telegraph of the Missouri Pacific, painfully scalded; Mrs. Elizabeth Peters, Kansas City; Mrs. Elizabeth Lee, Cincinnati; William Vaughn, Cincinnati, newspaper reporter, badly scalded; Brakeman McAttee, badly cut and bruised.

MEANING OF CRONJE'S CAPTURE.

Opinion of Montagu White-End of Offensive Operations.

Buffalo, Feb. 27-Montagu White of Pretoria, formerly commandant of the Boer republic at London, who arrived here to-day, in reply to a query said that the surrender of General Cronje marked the close of the offensive operations of the war. The enormous, overwhelming British force has compelled the abandonment of offensive tactics and the beginning of defense. "How long will the Boers be able to defend their country?" "That is impossible to say. I am not a military man. I am informed, however, by men who are competent strategists that Pretoria is impregnable. The remainder of the war between England and the South African republic will be less dramatic and will be of long duration."

PORTO RICAN TARIFF BILL.

Republican Managers Confident That It Will Have a Majority.

Washington, Feb. 27-The Porto Rico tariff bill closed to-day in a blaze of glory. The galleries were banked to the doors and every seat on the floor was occupied when the rival champions of the respective sides, Mr. Dolliver of Iowa and Mr. Bailey of Texas, made the closing arguments. Each spoke for an hour and a half. The speech of Mr. Bailey, devoted as it was almost exclusively to the legal phases of the controversy, while it was profound and impressive, did not arouse the unbounded enthusiasm which swept galleries and floor while Mr. Dolliver was speaking. The Iowa was at his best, and his wit, eloquence and sarcasm in turn drew salves of applause from his republican associates. Before these closing speeches were made Mr. Cannon of Illinois, chairman of the appropriations committee, and one of the veterans on the republican side, made an exceptionally effective speech in support of the bill. Messrs. Carmack, dem. of Tennessee; Clayton, dem. of Alabama; Kleberg, dem. of Texas; Pearce and DeArmond, dem. of Missouri, made speeches in opposition to the bill. The republican managers are now confident that with the modifications agreed upon at the conference last night, the bill will command a narrow minority on the final vote to-morrow.

Dewey Addresses the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 27-Mr. Dewey of New York addressed the senate to-day on the Philippine question. His oration was beautiful in thought and diction. He strongly upheld the policy of the administration, and in conclusion pictured so brilliantly commerce and civilization moving hand in hand for the happiness and uplifting of the people of the Philippines as well as those of this country that the galleries were swept by a storm of applause. After Mr. Turley had concluded his speech on the Quay case, the Hawaiian government bill was again taken up, but little progress was made. An agreement was reached that a final vote should be taken on the question to-morrow.

PORTO RICANS STRIKE.

Five Hundred Workmen on Military Road Demand Five Cents an Hour.

San Juan, P. R., Feb. 27-The first important strike among Porto Rican laborers began yesterday morning when 500 men, who had been constructing the military road from Ponce to Adjuntas, marched into the latter town, waving flags and carrying banners with the inscription "We workmen demand five cents an hour." The strikers, who were orderly, appointed a committee to consult with the contractors. The present rate is three cents an hour, and the men complain that they are compelled to work from sunrise to sunset for thirty cents. No definite understanding was reached and the matter is still open.

SNOW PROMISED FOR TO-NIGHT.

Storm Coming from Southwest-Expected to Pass Off by To-morrow.

Washington, Feb. 27-The weather bureau here publishes the following weather information: During Wednesday a southwest storm will move north of east causing rain in the South Atlantic and East Gulf states, snow and rain in the Middle Atlantic states and the Ohio Valley and snow by Wednesday night in the North Atlantic states. West of the Mississippi the weather will be generally fair, preceded in the Mississippi valley by snow or rain. Over the eastern part of the country the temperature will moderate Wednesday and a decided fall in temperature will occur in the Middle and West Gulf states. By Thursday the storm will possibly have passed off the Atlantic coast. On the New England coast variable winds will shift to easterly and increase in force Wednesday. On the Middle and South Atlantic coast easterly winds will become brisk and high. On the Gulf coast high southerly winds will shift to northwesterly. Storm signals are displayed from Brownsville to Baltimore.

MORRISON INDICTED FOR MURDER.

Mount Vernon Man Who Shot His Wife While in a Dream.

New York, Feb. 27-The Westchester county grand jury at White Plains to-day handed down an indictment for murder in the first degree against Alfred Morrison of Mount Vernon, who shot and killed the woman generally known as his wife. It was understood that District Attorney Andrews produced a number of witnesses to show that the shooting was not accidental, though Morrison had claimed he shot the woman on waking from a dream that burglars were in the house.

OCEANIC'S EAST VOYAGE.

Breaks Her Previous Eastward Record by Fifty-four Minutes.

Queenstown, Feb. 27-The White Star line steamer Oceanic, Captain Cameron, from New York February 21, arrived at Queenstown at 4:50 o'clock this evening. This is the Oceanic's fastest eastward passage, the distance from Sandy Hook to Dublin's Rock, 2,500 knots, being covered in six days and twenty-two minutes, her previous record being out down fifty-four minutes.

A Rubber Chop Starts Up.

Boston, Feb. 27-The American Rubber Co.'s factory at Cambridge resumed operations at full time to-day, thus giving employment to 1,000 people. The shut down has lasted ten days.

Attorney Parker's Appointment.

Washington, Feb. 27-The senate to-day confirmed the nomination of F. H. Parker of Connecticut to be attorney of the United States for the district of Connecticut.

BANQUET OF BUSINESS MEN

SUCCESSFUL EVENT OF THE NEW HAVEN ASSOCIATION

Held in the New Haven House Last Night-Number of Out-of-Town Associations Represented-Address by C. C. Shayne, President of the New York Merchants' and Manufacturers' Board of Trade.

The sixth annual banquet of the New Haven Business Men's association was held in the New Haven house last night and from every standpoint it was the most successful ever given by the association. Business men from all over the state were present; plumbers, merchants, lumber dealers, bankers, clergymen and representatives from almost every branch of trade mingled with each other, discussed prices, the Boer war, imperialism, and almost every topic worthy of a discussion. The business men of this city have formed an association that in time will be a leader of its class in the country, and the enthusiasm and strength shown at last night's gathering, it could be seen that the local branch is one of the most representative bodies of men in the state.

The dinner, served by Proprietor Moseley, was one of the best that that genial landlord ever offered, and the speaking that followed it is rarely equalled, both in oratory and humor, at any public gathering.

The speakers at guests at the banquet were C. C. Shayne of New York, Rev. Levi Gilbert and Mayor Driscoll, N. G. Osborn, who was to have been a guest, was unable to attend. The following members of the different business men's associations of the state were present, and were seated at the great table:

George F. Kellogg of Hartford, D. N. Howe and C. S. Palmer of Hartford, John Moriarty, General W. L. Hall and E. P. Fitzgerald of Waterbury, George Hoyt and Edward J. Thomas of South Norwalk, F. D. Valentine of Derby, T. T. Ferry of Ansonia, L. T. King of Meriden and Wilbur B. Ives of Meriden. Henry H. Guernsey, George B. Johnson, F. J. Linsley, George M. Adkins, C. F. Wilson and M. E. Goswami were also seated at the head table. Other New Haven business men present were E. E. Atwater, S. E. Dibble, George J. Bassett, L. C. Heller, George D. Post, C. M. Parker, C. F. Messinger, Charles E. Hart, John B. Judson, Henry Hillman, George W. Crane, E. L. Norton, F. B. Walker, John Brown, S. S. Adams, R. C. Platt, S. Davis, James Earle, Ed. T. Thomas, David S. Gamble, Jr., William M. W. R. Francis, S. R. Field, L. A. Bettscher, E. R. Jeffcott, Charles W. Scranon, Edward McGrath, Carl Stahl, Bernard Lynch, George E. Nettleton, J. D. Welch, G. W. Hazel, L. E. Mansfield and Arthur Griggs.

There were thirteen tables in the large dining room and at each table there was a furnished music for the occasion and played during the first half of the evening. About 10:15 o'clock President H. H. Guernsey, who acted in the capacity of toastmaster, rapped for silence and made the opening address.

He compared the banquet of last night with that of a year ago, showing the difference in size and enthusiasm and gave a comparison of the association of to-day and as it stood this time last year. He said that six of the nine associations in the state were represented and wished to welcome and introduce the new members of the association, the delegates from Derby and Meriden. In introducing Mr. Shayne as the first speaker of the evening, President Guernsey said he was one of New York's most prominent business men, a member of the New York state commission, president of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' board of trade and is holding several other important commercial positions. Mr. Shayne was greeted with hearty applause that lasted several minutes.

C. C. Shayne, President of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Board of Trade of New York, was the next speaker. He spoke in part as follows:

"Business men can promote the interests of each other by co-operating through commercial organizations. A commercial organization has weight in proportion to the influence of its individual members, and judging from the appearance of the gentlemen present, the Business Men's Association of New Haven ought to be a power for good in this community. Business men should organize commercial associations in every important village and city throughout the United States, and the very best intellect among the business men should be sent to business men's conventions so that subjects will be well considered and deliberations carefully matured.

The general public ought to believe that leaders in business men's associations merit as much recognition at their hands as those of a political gathering. The work of improving trade conditions, stimulating progress and hastening and guarding commercial prosperity is as important as questions of expediency and policy discussed by politicians. You have facilities here for a splendid harbor in which the masts of ships from the various ports of the world should be seen. This city could be made an important seaport, and it will if the business men of New Haven unite in making demands which should be respected. You ought to secure the co-operation of the government in deepening your harbor so that large ships could be loaded and discharged here. It is apparent that we will soon have the Nicaragua Canal and I hope that it will be under the absolute control of our government in time of war as well as in time of peace. When finished it will be a great benefit to the commercial interests of the United States. After your harbor shall have been improved to admit large vessels, the tools, rides and

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

PROMINENT MEN PRESENT.

Gen. Miles Among Those at Banquet of Bridgeport Trade Board.

Bridgeport, Feb. 27-The annual banquet of the Bridgeport board of trade, which is always the occasion of gathering some of the most noted men of the country around the festive board, was held to-night at the rooms of the Algonquin club, with upwards of four hundred people present. The event was the most successful gathering the local board of trade ever held. Among the guests present were Major-General Nelson A. Miles, Senators William Lindsay of Kentucky and Joseph R. Hawley of this state, Congressman E. J. Hill, General Charles Miller, commander of the Pennsylvania National Guard, ex-Congressman C. A. Towne of Minnesota, Vice President Merrill of the Consolidated road, Governor John G. Brady of Alaska, Julius Ford of New York, General George H. Ford and Henry C. Rowe of New Haven, Charles F. Brooker of Torrington and Mayor Stirling. Letters of regret at their inability to be present were read from Mark Hanna and Congressman Hamilton Lewis of Washington, Rev. J. C. O'Brien, President Merrill of the Consolidated road, Governor John G. Brady of Alaska, Julius Ford of New York, General George H. Ford and Henry C. Rowe of New Haven, Charles F. Brooker of Torrington and Mayor Stirling. Letters of regret at their inability to be present were read from Mark Hanna and Congressman Hamilton Lewis of Washington, Rev. J. C. O'Brien, President Merrill of the Consolidated road, Governor John G. Brady of Alaska, Julius Ford of New York, General George H. Ford and Henry C. Rowe of New Haven, Charles F. Brooker of Torrington and Mayor Stirling.

The sixth annual banquet of the New Haven Business Men's association was held in the New Haven house last night and from every standpoint it was the most successful ever given by the association. Business men from all over the state were present; plumbers, merchants, lumber dealers, bankers, clergymen and representatives from almost every branch of trade mingled with each other, discussed prices, the Boer war, imperialism, and almost every topic worthy of a discussion. The business men of this city have formed an association that in time will be a leader of its class in the country, and the enthusiasm and strength shown at last night's gathering, it could be seen that the local branch is one of the most representative bodies of men in the state.

The dinner, served by Proprietor Moseley, was one of the best that that genial landlord ever offered, and the speaking that followed it is rarely equalled, both in oratory and humor, at any public gathering. The speakers at guests at the banquet were C. C. Shayne of New York, Rev. Levi Gilbert and Mayor Driscoll, N. G. Osborn, who was to have been a guest, was unable to attend. The following members of the different business men's associations of the state were present, and were seated at the great table:

George F. Kellogg of Hartford, D. N. Howe and C. S. Palmer of Hartford, John Moriarty, General W. L. Hall and E. P. Fitzgerald of Waterbury, George Hoyt and Edward J. Thomas of South Norwalk, F. D. Valentine of Derby, T. T. Ferry of Ansonia, L. T. King of Meriden and Wilbur B. Ives of Meriden. Henry H. Guernsey, George B. Johnson, F. J. Linsley, George M. Adkins, C. F. Wilson and M. E. Goswami were also seated at the head table. Other New Haven business men present were E. E. Atwater, S. E. Dibble, George J. Bassett, L. C. Heller, George D. Post, C. M. Parker, C. F. Messinger, Charles E. Hart, John B. Judson, Henry Hillman, George W. Crane, E. L. Norton, F. B. Walker, John Brown, S. S. Adams, R. C. Platt, S. Davis, James Earle, Ed. T. Thomas, David S. Gamble, Jr., William M. W. R. Francis, S. R. Field, L. A. Bettscher, E. R. Jeffcott, Charles W. Scranon, Edward McGrath, Carl Stahl, Bernard Lynch, George E. Nettleton, J. D. Welch, G. W. Hazel, L. E. Mansfield and Arthur Griggs.

There were thirteen tables in the large dining room and at each table there was a furnished music for the occasion and played during the first half of the evening. About 10:15 o'clock President H. H. Guernsey, who acted in the capacity of toastmaster, rapped for silence and made the opening address.

He compared the banquet of last night with that of a year ago, showing the difference in size and enthusiasm and gave a comparison of the association of to-day and as it stood this time last year. He said that six of the nine associations in the state were represented and wished to welcome and introduce the new members of the association, the delegates from Derby and Meriden. In introducing Mr. Shayne as the first speaker of the evening, President Guernsey said he was one of New York's most prominent business men, a member of the New York state commission, president of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' board of trade and is holding several other important commercial positions. Mr. Shayne was greeted with hearty applause that lasted several minutes.

C. C. Shayne, President of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Board of Trade of New York, was the next speaker. He spoke in part as follows:

"Business men can promote the interests of each other by co-operating through commercial organizations. A commercial organization has weight in proportion to the influence of its individual members, and judging from the appearance of the gentlemen present, the Business Men's Association of New Haven ought to be a power for good in this community. Business men should organize commercial associations in every important village and city throughout the United States, and the very best intellect among the business men should be sent to business men's conventions so that subjects will be well considered and deliberations carefully matured.

The general public ought to believe that leaders in business men's associations merit as much recognition at their hands as those of a political gathering. The work of improving trade conditions, stimulating progress and hastening and guarding commercial prosperity is as important as questions of expediency and policy discussed by politicians. You have facilities here for a splendid harbor in which the masts of ships from the various ports of the world should be seen. This city could be made an important seaport, and it will if the business men of New Haven unite in making demands which should be respected. You ought to secure the co-operation of the government in deepening your harbor so that large ships could be loaded and discharged here. It is apparent that we will soon have the Nicaragua Canal and I hope that it will be under the absolute control of our government in time of war as well as in time of peace. When finished it will be a great benefit to the commercial interests of the United States. After your harbor shall have been improved to admit large vessels, the tools, rides and

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

NEW HAVEN BAPTIST UNION

THE SEMI-ANNUAL BANQUET HELD LAST EVENING.

Large Gathering in Parlors of Calvary Baptist Church-Speeches by Distinguished Divines and Prominent Laymen-Dr. Tupper of Philadelphia on "Pessimism versus Optimism."

The New Haven Baptist union held its semi-annual banquet in the parlors of Calvary Baptist church last evening. It was quite largely attended and proved one of the most enjoyable events in the history of the organization. The union met at 7 o'clock for a social hour and promptly at 7:30 sat down to dinner. The menu was an excellent one and the enjoyment of dining was greatly enhanced by the beauty of the table decorations. These were done in pink and lit with candles of the same color, the whole presenting a charming appearance. The decorations and the menu were the work of the women of the church.

President William H. Douglass presided as toastmaster of the occasion and introduced the speakers of the evening. At the table with him were seated the Rev. Kerr Boyce Tupper, D. D., LL. D., pastor of the First church, Philadelphia; Rev. Dr. Warren L. Phillips, Rev. Addison T. Moore, Rev. George H. Ferris, Pierce N. Welch, vice president of the union; C. M. Parker, its secretary and treasurer. At intervals during the evening selections were rendered by a quartette from the Yale Glee club. Mr. Douglass prefaced his remarks in introducing the speakers by a short address to the members present. He reviewed briefly the work of the union and the splendid results it has accomplished and then urged all present to greater effort in its behalf.

The next speaker, Rev. George H. Ferris, picked up the remarks of the preceding speaker and continued much in the same vein. He also spoke of the great results to be attained by working together. He said: "We're coming more and more to live with one another and to believe in one another. It is good to belong to an organization which recognizes a man as a man, whose cry always has been and always will be, 'Thou madest him and thou reverence him.'"

The address of Rev. Dr. Tupper, who was next introduced by President Douglass, was very interesting and was frequently interrupted by applause. The subject on which he spoke was "Pessimism vs. Optimism, or the World Growing Better." Few who listened to his words but were convinced that the world is really growing better. He spoke in part as follows: "There is nothing, I believe, plainer to the student of history than that this world of ours grows better from generation to generation. The world to-day is moving through a fearful crisis, but it is for the good of humanity. Humanity is not a downward spiral, but an upward spiral, which is constantly whirling round and round in its movement toward a higher plane. The golden age is never in the past; the golden age is never in the present. It is always in the future."

Diverging, he went into the subject of pessimism and declared that even in these times it is better than it used to be, and to bear out his statement said that the money lost by the United States treasury under the Cleveland administration was less than ever before in the history of America. "And if McKimley," he said, "can manage his treasury as well as he managed the Spanish war, he will go out of office without a cent. When I see Roosevelt elected governor and Goebel not, Dewey senator and Quay not, and Roberts sent back to Utah in disgrace, I see more and more confidently that true Americanism is raising the country out of the mire of political jobbery."

The last speaker of the evening was Dr. Phillips, who spoke in part as follows: "It is a sad and sad to stand here to-night to speak a few words of fraternal greeting in the name of your sister churches, and especially in the name of the denomination which in a humble way I represent. There is a certain very strong tie between us. We both stand for liberty, for the sacred autonomy of the individual body of believers. We are willing that others should do as they please, but as for us, we believe in a 'church without a bishop and a state without a king. Why should we not join hands for more efficient service; federation is in the air, let us set the example. We are both congregational in our polity, we believe in democracy, in the reign of the people. We had some little differences of opinion at the beginning, your St. Roger was not very handsome, but treated by some of the elect, but Massachusetts is now stricken with late but genuine repentance and you are generous, let us begin again. Recent wars have proved the value of a navy, let us move together, you by water and we by land, for the establishment of the great republic of love and righteousness, and for the benefit of our Lord over all the earth."

Miles on Cronje's Surrender.

Bridgeport, Feb. 27-General Nelson A. Miles, who was a guest at the board of trade banquet, when interviewed concerning Cronje's surrender said: "No true citizen of a republic can fail to admire and feel a glory in the struggle made by Cronje. A week ago we were told that 50,000 men had cornered in a trap 10,000; we have been told since then that the 50,000 grown to greater numbers. To-day we have been told that the force of 10,000 had dwindled to 3,000 still headed by their brave old commander. What has become of the remainder? As the number of that beleaguered band of patriots decrease our admiration for them must necessarily increase."

Fire Commissioners Meet.

At a meeting of the fire commissioners last night the monthly bills were read and accepted. The board approved of a new box on Goffe street, and after an informal discussion the meeting adjourned