

stuffs, as well as saddlery, ironmongery, horse shoes
 being received and stored there, from which to exe-
 cute the orders received from the various commands
 the front; whether the staff was dispatched as quickly
 the orders were received. No less than fourteen white
 men, assisted by a small army of Kafirs were employed
 packing alone. Not only were the commands
 or Ladysmith supplied from this centre, but also
 those in the Belmont and Kimberley districts.

Rights Protected

Some idea of the vast amount of work performed
 may be gathered from the following list of clothes etc
 sent from foodstuffs and other lines. The following
 quantities were dispatched during the month ending
 Dec 26th: - suits, 12,861; odd trousers, 10,503
 pairs; mackintoshes and overcoats 4,690; shirts,
 846; hats, 12,497; boots, 27,822 pairs; socks 14,314
 pairs; leggings 2,344 pairs; blankets, 7,858; saddles
 2,440; bridles 1,440; halters, 1,344; underpants 5,747
 pairs; singlets 6,728; braces, 3,807 pairs; tweed
 100 yards; reins 1,700; horse shoes, 300 drums;
 horse shoes nails, 252 boxes. All this from Johannesburg
 without taking into account the equally large quantities which were
 dispatched from Pretoria and other centres as well.

In addition to the above, vast quantities of food-stuffs every description were supplied from Gohannesburg, especially biscuits. The Government commandeered the fine steam bakery premises of Messrs Quinn and Co. in Kerbr St. where a large staff of men were kept working in relays day and night turning out biscuits by the ton, which were daily sent to the front in various directions.

Another undertaking which the Government established was a clothing factory. When the stocks of ready-made clothing in the store began to get low, large quantities of material were commandeered, and all the available tailors were employed to make it up into clothes. This helped to solve another problem by giving ^{profitable} employment to large numbers of burglars' wives, who would otherwise have had to rely upon ^{charity} ~~elemosynary~~ in order to support themselves and their families. From the above it will be seen that however easily the average Johannesburger could take things during the war, the Government officials by no means found time hanging heavily upon their hands.

Our only pabulum in the way of current literature was before-mentioned Standard and Digger's News - and and Post, the former of which I religiously read through every day, including the Government notices and the advertisements; a habit which constituted my daily rance. Its news was, of course, rigorously censored and was, notwithstanding, fairly accurate on the whole. Capital has been made, and fairly so, out of the absurdly optimistic prognostications of the British warmongers declared - before the war - that if the Boers took up us at all - in the event of circumstances in question were disposed to scout as ^{being} quite improbable - resulting war would resolve itself into a three-
 hrs march to Pretoria - a mere military picnic.
 How grievously these people erred has now been undauntedly proved by the logic of events.

But it is only fair to record that this sort of thing was confined to one side, and several instances may be called from ^{the pages of} the Standard and Digger's News. ^{almost equal grounds from the Boer side.} within three weeks of the investment of Cape by the Boers "Fall of Cape Imminent"

Rights Protected

appeared as a headline in the paper, ^{in question} and re-appeared at intervals of two or three weeks until the relief of that town. historical town proved it to have been obviously ^{to the contrary, what news of the war?} previous. ^{In fact "fall of Ladysmith imminent" became a standing joke as a} On Nov. 17, according to the same ^{authoritative} authority the Boers had "Ladysmith Practically occupied", whilst as early as Nov 6th preparations were said to ^{be} being made, by the provision of accommodation for large numbers of prisoners, ^{at Pretoria & Johannesburg} for the fall of Ladysmith.

Individuals also indulged in similar brag. Thus Standard and Times & News.

[From Capt. De Horte]

[His next address]

The following telegram was received ^{by the first State Prosecutor} from Capt. De Horte this morning:
 Charlestown 3rd 9 a.m. - All well My next address is Durban, Royal Hotel, room 100; an revoir.

Thus of Dec 26.

[Returned Kaurites.

[The Fall of Ladysmith.

{ Lieut. Philip Costhuiseu returned to Johannesburg for a short respite yesterday. He is full of nodderspruit and Colenso, and is prepared to lay wagers that Sir Geo. White eats the dust within the next fortnight.

At the same time ~~times~~ it must be admitted that this attitude "high falutin'" was not by any means general or even common amongst the poets, most of whom, so far as I could judge, were sufficiently impressed with the magnitude of the problem and the task which confronted them. [It must be admitted that ^{war} all war news appearing in the paper bore some semblance of probability occasionally, however, some extremely good examples "stretching the long bow" appeared. One narrative, in particular, appearing in the ^{issue} paper of Dec 13 was quite too delicious to be allowed to sink into the oblivion which would be its normal fate, and is well worthy the immortality it will doubtlessly attain by being reproduced in the present volume. Here it is, verbatim et literatim.

[Before Davidson is is is]

[Against Heavy Odds]

[6 Against 100]

[A Woman Rescued]

[And Prisoners Liberated]

Johannesburg Lager, Ladysmith, 3.30 p.m. (From Special Correspondent). - On the 6th of December, six burghers attached to the Wakkerstroom Commando, who went to rescue a woman at Halvaatje, in the Prakenberg, met one hundred vital carbineers, armed with two Maxim's.

There was a fierce battle on the Kweek-Beetje kop, on a farm belonging to Boeraad Oosthuizen.

The six burghers' horses were shot dead, and one of our party was wounded in the foot. The battle lasted from ~~two~~ 2 o'clock in the afternoon till 6 o'clock, after which the carbineers were repulsed.

A wagon with oxen belonging to Boeraad Oosthuizen which contained two prisoners (Cheyer, senr., and Meyer, junr.), was captured by the six Boers, and the prisoners having been liberated, were conveyed to the Johannesburg Lager, where all parties.

Rights Protected

STAY ENTRANCE
NEWS BUILDINGS

CITY DENTAL INSTITUTE

WINE & SPIRITS

Rights Protected

NANI DAMA COMARANDO N DO

26.10.99

BARNETT & CO

(including the Kalvaatje woman) are now under the care of Commandant Viljoen.

From the above it will be seen that our reading, far as the daily press was concerned was not altogether wanting in the elements of humour, but on the whole it was very dreary; and as regards outside ^{news} papers of any description they were as rare as honest politicians. Such an exert was it to obtain ~~any~~ ^{one} that I find I have made a special entry in my diary on February 7 recording the fact that I had that day obtained the loan of a copy of the Natal Witness of January 1st and I will remember that it was almost in ribbons when I got it, so thoroughly had it been read, and through many hands had it already passed.

Apparently for want of something better to do or think about, ~~apparently~~ ~~some~~ certain individuals devote their surplus mental energies to thinking out and setting afloat all kinds of rumours; generally of a more less idiotic or malicious nature. At one time was said that the Government intended to command twenty-five per cent. of all the cash balances

depositors of the several banks in town. At another
 the British subjects, ^{and other aliens} were to be lagered outside the
 town, preparatory to blowing it up, and at yet
 another, ^{the said aliens} were ~~all~~ to be cleared out of the country
 altogether for some reason or no reason at all;
 whilst extravagant reports regarding the progress of the
 war and happenings in various directions were cir-
 culated as quickly as they could be concocted; one
 rumour being no sooner contradicted than its place
 was taken by another equally absurd or malicious.

Rights Protected

great did the ~~evil~~ ^{evil} become. It was so acute the
 feeling of uneasiness engendered by them, that at
 the end of December the authorities at Pretoria issued
 a warning threatening rumour-mongers with a
 fine of £10 on conviction, and in the case of aliens
 the deportation across the border of the State. This
 had, at least for a time, a salutary effect, and the
 evil was greatly mitigated, ^{very} much to the relief
 of the more reasonable and sober-minded members of
 the community.

Chapter VII.

Relief and other funds - ambulance corps - temporary hospitals - camping out with the Jewish ambulance - threatened scarcity of food - stopping food supplies from Delagoa Bay - results - futile as regards stopping the war - high prices - revision of British permits - President Kruger and the Britishers - reprehensible conduct of Kitchener - demeanour of Boers during the war - Mr. C. and his champagne snuffers.

A large, black and white group photograph of a community or organization, possibly a school or a church group, arranged in many rows. The individuals are dressed in formal attire typical of the early 20th century. The photograph is mounted on a light-colored, aged paper background. The text "Rights Protected" is overlaid in the center of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Rights Protected

Collection Number: A1203

Collection Name: Edward Bushnan Rose

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive

Location: Johannesburg

©2014

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

The photographs by David Barnett, which form part of the notebook, are subject to copyright by The Star newspaper.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a collection held at the Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.