

# Pretoria and Her Seven Forts

How the Capital of the Boers Has Been Fortified.

Pretoria, capital of the Transvaal, is a country town, asleep back of mountain walls and the frowning guns of seven modern forts. Here, unless all present indications fail and the war ends earlier than men expect, the Boers will make their last stand against the English and endure a possibly lengthy and bloody siege before capitulation.

On three sides of Pretoria the mountain ranges rise to elevations of 1000 and 2000 feet above the streets of the city, which itself is 4500 feet above

structures represent the genius of four nations.

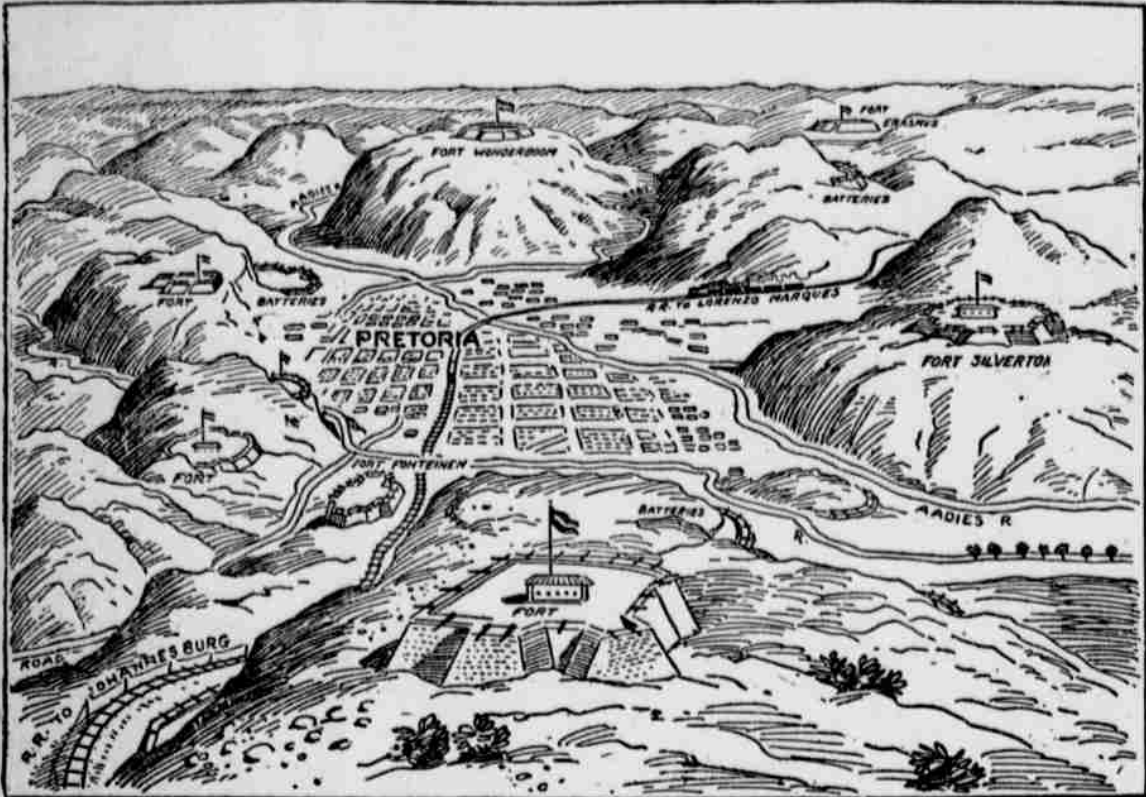


PREB. KRUGER'S CHURCH AT PRETORIA. (Here he holds services, exhorting the Burgers who drive in from miles around in their ox-carts.)

No one just knows—or will admit knowing—the inward mechanisms of

running together across the plain through the Winderboom Poort.

Both river and railway pass under the guns of a large fort 31,000 feet from the center of Pretoria. The westernmost fort is on the range of hills behind Pretoria, and lies at a distance of 31,000 feet from the city's center. There is a powerful redoubt to the southwest on the range of hills through which the transport road to Johannesburg passes. This completes, with various earth batteries, the circle of the larger works defending the Boer capital. Behind the great redoubt are the principal magazines, one excavated out of the solid rock, with a bombproof roof, and the other built into the kloof, also bombproof. Communication between the redoubt and the last-mentioned magazine is by means of a covered way. Roads connect all these forts with the capital, and they have pipes laid for water, as well as electric lights for the search lights.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL DEFENSES OF PRETORIA.

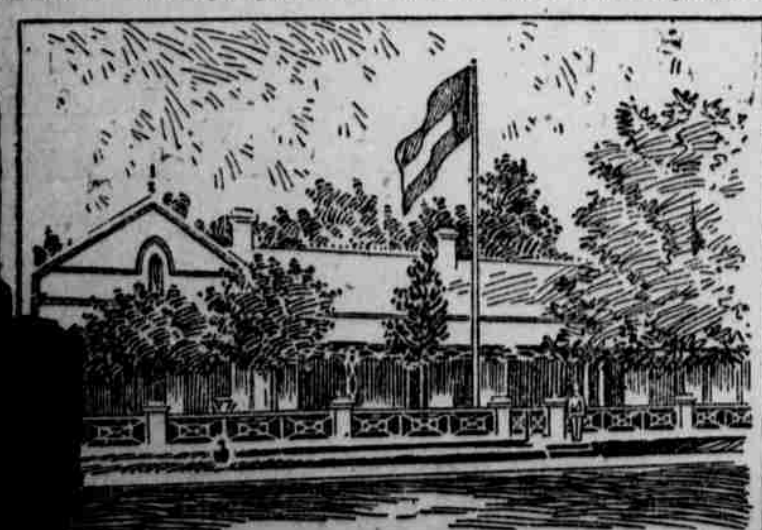
sea level, but 1100 feet lower than the site of Johannesburg to the south. On the fourth side—the south and facing the approach from Johannesburg—the range flattens away to a vast and level plateau, treeless, desolate, exposed at every point to the sweep of any guns that may command it. The town is 1080 miles from Capetown, fifty from Johannesburg. On the map it seems as easy of approach as a prairie village in Nebraska. But the map topographer fails to present the lofty, barren hills that face the south plateau, the



THE RAAD HOUSE, PRETORIA.

precipitous banks of Apies River, the narrow gorges—so few in number—the innumerable "spion" or lookout kopjes that seem literally to leap from the bosom of the plain and suddenly, silently oppose access to the capital city.

You look up to the mountain fronts as your train struggles to find its way into Pretoria and wherever the eye rests there appears to be the lines of a fort, a redoubt, the front of masked batteries or the domes of bombproofs and cannon pits. To the north, east, west and south these engirdle the city. They command the few—very few—narrow entrances to Pretoria. They watch like great dogs the dusty, sun-rotted veldt over which any English troops coming from the south must pass. They blink at the railroad to Johannesburg, and the one to Lorenzo Marques, and the one to the north at Winderboom and guard the ways to Beersheba, Hebron and Polonia. Their location has been with purpose. Captain Schiel, now an English prisoner, constructed the one at Daspoort from plans obtained in Berlin. He brought special assist-



PRESIDENT KRUGER'S HOUSE, PRETORIA.

from Berlin to aid him in the Amsterdam engineers built of the defenses. After them French engineers, and then of Italy, so that the completed

these forts, the mysterious battery locations. When the forts were building workmen employed on one part of the structures were not allowed to work on another part. Sentries were posted at all the entrances. Knowledge of the details of the work was kept from all but the president and the commanding officers.

In external appearance the seven forts are alike. They have masonry faces, with earthwork which covers their fronts to a great depth. Pile upon pile of sandbags are stacked up wherever shells from the enemy might strike. There are many hidden recesses, secret passages, complete telephone connections—not only with each other, but with government buildings in Pretoria. Searchlights are mounted in each structure so as to command the surrounding country at night. The magazines are underground and are reported to be mined. Report has it also that the near approaches are mined and that the electrical construction is such that considerable portions of an enemy's army might be blown into eternity before surrender came. For food, in the event of siege, enormous quantities of maize have been accumulated—enough, it is said, to feed the army and the population of Pretoria for five years. The supply of ammunition is calculated to be sufficient for two years.

The center of the system of forts lies about 3600 feet to the westward of the northern end of Pretoria, and has a radius of something more than 7000 yards. The center of the city is only about 11,000 feet, nearly due south, on the fort on Signal Hill, which is about 405 feet above the plain on the west side of the railway to Johannesburg, and about 13,000 feet from the fort on the hill to the east of the railway and the Apies River running to the north. Between this fort and the river are the fountains that furnish the water supply of Pretoria. The distance between the forts on either side of the railway is 7100 feet. The railway station, where the lines from Johannesburg on the south, Delagoa Bay on the east and Pietersburg on the north form their junction, is immediately outside the city on the south side. The railway to Pietersburg, after winding some distance to the westward, passes out

The Boers call the ranges about Pretoria Magalies. The town was laid out after 1836 by them and named after Pretorius, one of their first and strongest leaders. He was the first President of the Republic and Commandant General of their army. The real growth of the town did not commence until after the victory at Majuba Hill in 1881. Johannesburg is the center and home of the Uitlanders—the nervous, adventurous element of the Transvaal. But Pretoria is essentially the center of the pastoral Boers. Tropical flowers and plants cover the valley in which it lies, and willows grow in every direction. Nearly all of the buildings are white in color. On the dome of the capitol is a golden statue of Liberty. The Witwatersrand mines, which yield \$100,000,000 annually, are but a short distance from the capitol. Howard C. Hillegas, in Harper's, mentions the universal prevalence of the bicycle in Pretoria, of the telephone and the electric car. The Boer congress—the volksraad—meets at Pretoria, and President Kruger has lived there for fifteen years. American goods are largely in evidence in the shops of the town, and the American shopman is already there in large numbers. Pre-



GOOM PAUL'S BUILDING AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

torias does not and has not encouraged the presence of Englishmen, but Germans and Frenchmen are welcomed. The streets are broad and clean, the water supply fine and ample.

In spite of its bloody war with Great Britain the South African Republic had time to plan and complete a building at the Paris Exposition and to make it ready for the Transvaal exhibit. Every visitor to the great exposition will be specially interested in this display. The chief feature of the exhibit is a collection of native minerals, including the gold ores of the Rand and uncut diamonds. The exhibit also contains specimens of the agricultural industry of the Transvaal, such as fruits and cereals. A collection of hunting trophies, including the skins of lions, leopards and other wild animals, shows that the Boers have had to encounter in their marches north through the wilderness. The building has two stories, with a central tower and cupolas on the corners.

**Drinking Water For Engineers.**  
To provide drinking water on locomotives a Southern man has designed a tank to fit in one side of the large water tank on the tender, the body of the small tank being surrounded by the water in the large tank to keep the drinking water cool.

## FILIPINO POLICE.

Under American Supervision Natives Keep Order in Manila.

Native police were an experiment once in Manila. Now they are a fixture. They carry their revolvers and swing their clubs in an independent manner, hold their heads high and wear yellow shoes with all the dignity of one to the manner born. Colonel Williston, the Provost Marshal, hesitated a long time before he would permit the natives to carry arms. But at last Major Tiernan, who belongs to the First Artillery by rights, and who is Chief of Police by virtue of his appointment and ability, persuaded the Colonel to select a small number of the natives to patrol the streets that were not as prominent as the Escocita or as public as the Luneta.

Kalki, in a different shade from that worn by the soldier, was chosen as the uniform. At first there was a question as to how they should carry something to enforce the laws of the highway and the city. So they were given clubs. Now, a club is effective so long as it is within reach of the evil-doer, but as there was more or less robbery going on among the natives it became a necessity to arm the police with something that would shoot. That is how it came about that the native police were armed with revolvers as large as those carried by the American soldiers.

Each policeman wears a cap, and that gives him a military air. His uniform is tailor made and fits him perfectly. The trousers are long enough to reach below the tops of yellow shoes and sometimes are stuffed inside the lacings. On the breast is a silver badge showing a number and precinct. The officers are designated much as they are in the army, either by stripes on the sleeves or straps on the shoulders. They travel out of their stations in twos, one walking along each side of the street.

One thing these uniformed men do is to keep the streets clean of all dirt and refuse. A garbage wagon daily comes along every street, the native driver rings a bell and the householder is supposed to send a servant out with the day's accumulation from the kitchen and the stable. It is one of the duties of the police to see that the caraboa cart is not kept waiting too long at the door.

The men composing the force are brave. They have been compelled to rush into houses where robbers were



NATIVE POLICE IN MANILA.

at work. More than one has been carried away to the hospital badly wounded in the fights which have followed. Besides this they have the confidence of the natives and have been able to inform the officials of dangerous plots or the presence of insurgent agents.

All this has resulted in the appointment of more native policemen and the establishment of more stations. Colonel Williston is satisfied that the experiment has proved a success. Among other things it shows that the work of reconstruction will be made easy, for there is growing confidence in the ability of the native to administer his own affairs.

**Where Tommy Atkins Gets His Name.**  
Every British reader should know the origin of the sobriquet "Tommy Atkins." Tommy Atkins was the name of a sentry who, when the Europeans in Lucknow were flying for the Residency, from the mutineers, refused to leave his post, and so perished. After that it became the fashion to speak of a conspicuously heroic soldier in the fights with the rebels as "a regular Tommy Atkins."—London Daily News.

**Queen Victoria's Famous Steer.**  
Although many people are aware of the fact that the Queen of England is very fond of all kinds of live stock, it is not generally known that she goes in for stock raising as a very serious business, and adds very materially to the royal income by so doing. Such, however, is a fact, for the Queen has long been known to be the happy pos-



essor of some of the best and most profitable live stock in the kingdom. The accompanying illustration shows her famous Hereford steer, which has won prize after prize at different cattle shows and has just been successful in carrying off the blue ribbon at the Birmingham cattle show. Queen Victoria is said to take a great personal pride in the handsome animal, which has brought her in many hundred pounds of prize money.



## THE EDICTS OF FASHION.

NEW YORK CITY (Special).—For outing hats there are felts, but there are more stitched taffetas, with soft crowns and high brims. For the bi-

chou holds this bow in place and more choux appear beneath the brim at one side.

An absolute novelty in street suits is also shown in the large picture. It demonstrates two things—the growing fancifulness of the tailor-made toilette, and the overpowering popularity of the lace jacket. The suit is of pale mauve cloth and has a very short, single-breasted, basqued coat buttoned snugly down the middle of the front. Over the corsage and the sleeves of this coat is the lace jacket in ecru guipure. The lapels are in white satin, hand painted with violets and with a narrow edging in black velvet. A broad, flat collar of the cloth forms an effective background to these lapels. Round the hips and again a little distance above the hem the skirt is banded with many rows of stitching. A cravat of white chiffon finishes the throat, while the hat is of mauve straw faced with black chiffon, and trimmed with white and black chiffon. At one side of the brim, against the wearer's hair, rests a mass of shaded mauve roses.



OUTING HAT OF KHAKI, WITH WHITE FEATHERS.

cycle and for golfing, there are khaki hats in yeoman and trooper shapes, some of which have the regulation chin strap, which, however, is fastened around the hair behind. For such headgear bands of khaki colored

**For the Children.**  
Children's clothes are to be trimmed with heavy cream lace and insertion. Little boleros of the lace will be worn with wash silk waists. Narrow velvet ribbons also will be utilized in trimming their clothes.

**Sashes on Their Frocks.**  
Sashes are very much in evidence on thin frocks. They are arranged in the long, slender effects and are built chiefly of some thin fabric.

**Shirt Waists in Infinite Variety.**  
The only monotony of style in shirt waists has entirely disappeared, and there is simply no limit to the varia-



RED FOULARD WITH WHITE LACE.



THE NEWEST LACE JACKET.

puggaree muslin are the usual trimming, with bunches of cock's feathers or drooping pheasant's plumes, which have replaced last summer's stiff eagle's quills.

The sailor hat bobs up serenely; it is little changed in shape, though occasionally it has an absurdly high crown. For dressy wear it is decorated with wreaths of leaves, or with twists of tulle and spreading wings.

An outing hat of khaki in a flat beret shape, with two quills passing through the khaki from side to side, one on the crown, the other through the brim. These are held by a double clasp in brass. At the side, close to the hair, is a looped rosette of khaki colored ribbon.

Nearly all hats are arranged to match the neckwear and the parasol. With a blouse in green and mauve will be worn, for example, a green straw hat, whose brim is lined with fine mauve hyacinths, close set. The parasol, if possible, will be covered with silk like that of the blouse.

### A Forecast of Summer Styles.

Red foulards and challies promise to be even more popular this summer than the blues that have so long held their own. The model shown in the large engraving reproduced from the New York Sun represents a frock in figured red foulard. The long, plain skirt falls in ample folds and has an overtunic with a pointed tablier front. The tunic is edged all round with a broad band of white Cluny lace. A broad godet plait headed by a long narrow lace insertion raises this tunic at either side. The bolero is in red velvet veiled with old guipure that extends upon the shoulders so as to form jockey sleeves. At one side droops a lace lapel over which the bolero fastens with a single big button. The sleeves have a cuff corresponding to the "jockey-sleeve" at the shoulder. Red velvet forms the folded belt. The underblouse, of black silk muslin over green silk, is in artistic contrast to the red of the velvet and silk. Small tabs of red velvet finish the stock in the back. At the throat is a bow in white tulle. The hat is in red chip faced with pink muslin and edged with black velvet. Its trimming consists of a large triple-looped bow in black velvet ribbon with a border in pink. A red velvet

itions in design and decoration, says the New York Sun. For outing purposes and strictly morning wear there are the plain tailor-made waists of madras and cheviot, with a French back and a box plait down the front, but the dainty sheer laws and soft silks with their tucks and frills are so much more attractive that the original shirt waist is quite eclipsed by a more feminine variety. All over embroideries are used for white waists, and in small designs of dots and birds' eyes, embroidery forms two-inch bands with narrow lace finishing the edges, on a plain white lawn waist, striping it in three rows up and down the back and front.

A silk bodice which has the effect of a bolero is tucked around in wavy lines, and the lower part of it above the belt is of diamond-tucked white organdie, very fine and sheer. This forms the lower sleeve, the transparent chemise and collar band and the revers edged around with a frill of lace.

Another model with a yoke of lace is piped around the neck with black velvet, and a cravat of the same silk is threaded through an opening below



A DESIGN THAT IS POPULAR.

where it fastens with a gold buckle. A finely tucked chiffon bodice has a yoke collar of embroidered satin and applique designs in real lace.