GEN. DE WET CAPTURED; LED BOERS' REBELLION

His Followers Already Had Been Taken Prisoners by South African Troops Under Botha.

PRETORIA, (via London,) Thursday, Dec. 3.—Gen. Christian De Wet, leader of the rebellion in the Union of South Africa, has been taken prisoner, according to an official announcement made here.

He was captured by Col. Conrad Brits Tuesday on a farm at Waterburg, a town 100 miles east of Mafeking, in British Bechuanaland.

Following the mutiny of Lieut. Col. S. G. Maritz in Northwest Cape Colony, Gen. De Wet, famous as a commander in the Boer war, secretly left Pretoria on Oct. 20 and began a campaign of speechmaking in the rural districts, gradually gathering a force about him. His first hostile move was at Vrede, in the Free State, on Oct. 29, which he entered with 150 mounted men, of whom only two-thirds were armed. There they took possession of the Post Office and the bank. There also De Wet made a speech in which he referred to the invasion of German South Africa as "a dastardly act of robbery." He then began to commandeer saddles, arms, ammunition, and other supplies, for which he gave receipts.

On Oct. 27 the rebel Maritz, after having his terms for surrender rejected, was totally defeated and fled to German territory. A few days later De Wet began to operate in force in the north of the Free State and Gen. Beyers in the Western Transvaal. The latter was hotly pursued by Gen. Botha, who routed him and captured eighty men.

In the vicinity of Frankfort De Wet petitioned for an armistice in order to "negotiate." On Nov. 2 the Pretoria Government granted an armistice, for five days. Later it was reported that De Wet's commando had been captured and that the Government had the situation well in hand, although Beyers and De Wet were still at large.

The New York Times
Published: December 3, 1914
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