

teaching on this subject. A magistrate who was detailed to go everywhere with me, to see that I had every opportunity to conduct my business, was very anxious to know about railroads. He probably had never seen one in his life. One day he asked me where the station would be located in his capital town. I looked at him awhile, anxious to know if he understood what he was talking about. He would like very much to know. I told him that little matter would not be of the slightest importance. But he said he had an earnest desire to find that out, and he should like to have the knowledge for himself alone. I told him I did not know.

He expressed deep sorrow, and told me that it would help me also. I inquired how. "Why," he said, "I, like the other magistrates, can fix the price of land. I thought that all the business of the town would center about your railroad station, and that property there would become valuable. You and I can buy the land at our own price, and after having the station built in the center of it we could sell it back to the people we bought it from, charging our own prices."

Evidently human nature is not essentially different in China to what it is in the United States.—New Earth.

THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

From beginning to end there was not a word of vital discussion of party principle or policy, only a succession of bloated panegyrics. It was not intended that any delegate whose fidelity to boss rule was not assured should have an opportunity to open his mouth in the expression of opinion on dangerous questions. The bosses were afraid of free debate, and they suppressed every possibility of the appearance of a difference of opinion.

The convention was absolutely harmonious and absolutely useless as an indication of public sentiment. No representative of anti-administration sentiment on any subject was given an opportunity even to get himself hissed by the subservient lackeys of power. There was no more independent freedom of speech than in an assembly of Germans, Russians or Turks. Such a national convention was never before known in America. Twelve years ago it would have been the death of any party submitting to it. Perhaps it will be so now. It may be that there are yet some sparks of living independence in the republican party, that it is not a moribund organization composed wholly of dictators and cravens. There is more hope of the nation's purity and safety in the angriest free fight of a party caucus or convention, such as Ben Butler and Fred Williams have given samples of in this vicinity, than in such a convention as has been held this week in Philadelphia, having regard to the unrelieved acquiescence in

the tyranny of its control, and its emptiness of any genuinely popular character.—Boston Herald of June 22.

MR. BRYAN ON THE RIGHTS OF THE FILIPINOS.

I believe that the rights of the Filipinos and the rights of the Cubans are identical. The recognition of the rights of the Cubans by resolution did not create those rights. They existed before.

If the Filipinos have a right to their independence, the fact that they fought for it does not justify us in carrying on a war of conquest. It is no more humiliating for a nation to recognize the rights of an opponent than for an individual to do so. We would have had the same trouble in Cuba if we had treated the Cubans the same as we have the Filipinos. We would have had no trouble in the Philippine islands if we had treated the Filipinos as we have treated the Cubans.

If we are going to give the Filipinos their independence we ought to say so at once, and thus avoid further bloodshed. How can we justify the sacrifice of American soldiers and the killing of Filipinos merely to show that we can whip them?

The Bacon resolution received the support of nearly every democratic senator, and was adopted by a democratic caucus in the house. This resolution promised independence. If it had been accepted and acted upon when it was first introduced there would have been no Filipino war. If it had been adopted at the time the vote was taken it would have stopped the war.—William Jennings Bryan, in the Knoxville (Tenn.) Sentinel of June 22.

AN ENGLISH PROTEST AGAINST THE ANNEXATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLICS.

An extract from a letter by Silas K. Hocking, published in the London Christian World of May 24.

When the victorious armies of Germany marched to Paris, Germany did not annex France nor attempt to crush its spirit of nationality. She demanded a war indemnity, it is true, which was paid, and also annexed for strategical purposes two small provinces, which, however, have been a source of anxiety and unrest ever since.

If England were at war with a nation her own size there would be no talk of annexation; but because we are fighting a little people whom we can crush by weight of superior num-

bers we must, forsooth, take their country from them and destroy that sentiment of nationality for which they have fought so stubbornly. If it be said that we are compelled to annex, or they will threaten our peace in the future, I answer, Germany might have said the same thing of France; and we might say the same thing of other nations. According to some statesmen, France is a constant menace to us, so also is Russia. Why do not we wipe those countries from the family of nations in the interests of future peace? . . .

The Free State has existed on the best of terms with England, and no one, as far as I know, has said anything against its form of government. The only sin of the Free Staters is that they have been loyal to their own treaty and have fought side by side with the Boers of the Transvaal when the latter believed that their independence was threatened. That for standing side by side with their neighbors and fulfilling their treaty obligations they should lose their political life and their country seems a very harsh and cruel procedure.

ST. LOUIS' POSSE COMITATUS.

Developments in the strike of street-car employes in St. Louis place foremost the question whether a posse of citizens is not a greater menace to life and law than the industrial disorders which it is meant to combat. When the so-called rioting began there the police admitted that they were unable to cover the territory menaced. They expected that Gov. Stephens would send the militia to their aid. He refused to do so, for political and personal reasons, and the question of helping the police came up to the sheriff.

In summoning a posse comitatus he selected what he called "the best" men in St. Louis. The deputies were doctors, lawyers, rich business men and sons of millionaires. The newspapers wrote columns about them and laid special stress upon their wealth and attainments. Repeating shotguns loaded with buckshot were placed in their hands, and some of them began to ask: "Which end of the gun do you put the load in?" Most of them had never handled a weapon so modern and so deadly, and none of them knew what he might do if a crowd should become unruly. Of the 2,400 deputies thus far sworn to enforce the law and preserve property 35 per cent. were young men who bought leggings, red neckerchiefs, blue shirts and pistols and went about like the sheriffs in melodrama. "hon-