

A Cuban secession.

Cuban politics (p. 378) has afforded an opportunity, apparently, for the American colony of the Isle of Pines to instigate secession and solicit annexation to the United States. One third of those living in the island are said to be American citizens. The secession movement was organized by the American Club, an organization which is described as "including most of the substantial citizens of the island." The new government was organized on the 13th by sixty members of this club who, say the dispatches, "declared themselves a territorial convention and took steps to organize a government." They have taken a recess until the 18th, after electing the following Territorial officers:

Secretary of State, T. B. Anderson; treasurer, James M. Steere; delegate to Congress, M. C. Ryan; chief justice, A. T. Friese; and sheriff, David B. Wall. The proceedings were officially reported to the United States on the 14th in this address:

Nueva Gerona, Isle of Pines, Nov. 14.—Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, President, Washington—Dear Sir: The people of this island, having purchased homes under the treaty of Paris, believing it was United States territory, and having waited more than three years for recognition of their rights as American citizens, fearing a continuation of these conditions and feeling alarm at the condition of Cuba during the coming election, have taken preliminary steps for the establishment of a territorial government under the Constitution of the United States. We believe this the proper step for us to take and the most effective way to receive justice and equity from our national lawmaking body. We also rely upon you, our President, for a square deal. We trust our action will meet your approval. T. B. Anderson, Chairman Territorial Convention.

The Russian revolution.

All Russia appears from the dispatches to be in revolutionary turmoil (p. 510), the particular items of information relating especially to Poland, Kronstadt, and the probabilities of another general strike. On the 10th representatives of all political parties in Poland met at Warsaw and requested of the Czar full autonomy for Russian Poland with its own parliament. The response was a proclamation of martial law in all of Russian Poland. On the 8th a naval mutiny had broken out at

Kronstadt, which lasted several days and involved great loss of life, and many of the mutineers have been condemned to death. The reports of these events are followed by dispatches of the 15th from St. Petersburg stating that in view of the condemnation of the mutineers the delay in carrying out the reforms outlined in the Imperial manifesto, the proclamation of martial law in Poland, and other repressive acts, the council of workingmen's delegates have decided to proclaim a general strike throughout Russia.

Norwegian politics.

In reorganizing the general government in Norway (p. 458) the Storting did not submit the question of monarchy or republic to referendum, but did order a plebiscite for and against Prince Charles of Denmark as king. The voting began on the 12th, and on the 14th, though the returns were incomplete, the election of Charles was assured. In 418 constituencies there were 233,935 affirmative and 62,739 negative votes.

British municipal elections.

News by mail of the 2d from the municipal elections of the 1st in England and Wales showed the results in 116 boroughs. In these Liberal gains were 61, Labor gains 38, Conservative gains 36, Liberal Unionist gains, 1, and Socialist gains 5. Imperial party politics was in many places disregarded, but the local Progressives are clearly and strongly in the lead.

NEWS NOTES

—The national convention of the Citizens' Industrial Association met at St. Louis on the 15th.

—The American Federation of Labor began its 25th annual convention at Pittsburg on the 13th.

—Stephen M. Merrill, for 32 years a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, died at Keyport, N. J., on the 12th, of heart paralysis, at the age of 80.

—The evangelical Inter-Church Conference (p. 458) held its first session on the 15th at New York. All non-evangelical denominations were excluded.

—An injunction against W. D. Vandiver, superintendent of insurance for Missouri, was granted in the Federal court at St. Louis on the 9th to restrain him from enforcing his order (p. 571)

excluding the New York Life Insurance company from doing business in his State.

—Criminal proceedings for libel against Thomas W. Lawson were begun in Boston on the 14th by Clarence W. Barron for alleged misstatements in the October "Everybody's."

—The world's production of gold in the year 1904 is now reported as \$347,-325,644, partly in consequence of discoveries of new deposits and partly as the result of improved methods of treating ores.

—James E. Eagle, father of H. R. Eagle, the Chicago merchant, and father-in-law of Judge Edward Osgood Brown, died on the 9th at the age of 76. Mr. Eagle's widow is the sister of the Rev. Walter Elliott, head of the Paulist House in Washington.

—Alarmed at the report that there have been 86 suicides in Cleveland in the past nine months, Mayor Tom L. Johnson appointed on the 9th a commission, whose duty it is to try to dissuade would-be suicides from their purpose. The commission consists of Harris R. Cooley, director of charities; W. A. Greenlund, a member of the charity bureau, and Frederick C. Howe, a State senator-elect.

PRESS OPINIONS**THE NEXT CHICAGO ELECTION.**

Chicago American (Dem.), Nov. 7.—The people have elected a municipal ownership mayor. Next April they must elect 35 municipal ownership aldermen. The people's battles are progressive. When a great city like Chicago adopts a municipal policy it cannot be swerved from its course by a handful of traitorous aldermen. . . . On the result of next April's election hinges Mayor Dunne's fulfillment of the people's policy during his present term. The deadlock in the Council on the municipal ownership issue is caused by the franchise plotters. . . . As the April election approaches so will approach the bringing of the two coordinate branches together. If Chicago elects 35 municipal ownership aldermen next Spring the battle is won.

TOM L. JOHNSON.

Chicago Tribune (Rep.), Nov. 13.—Mayor Johnson's attitude toward individual suicide will set people thinking who have not realized the prevalence of this evil.

Cleveland Plain Dealer (Ind. Dem.), Nov. 8.—The overwhelming victory of Mayor Johnson and his tried and efficient associates by a majority about equal to the Mayor's combined margins over Akers and Goulder four and two years ago, respectively, is a conspicuous personal triumph, and what is more important, conclusive evidence of the fact that the people of Cleveland know a clean, efficient administration when they see it and can be depended upon to retain in office public servants who have been found faithful to their trust.

Chicago Record-Herald (Ind. Rep.), Nov. 11.—It is true that every charity organization, every municipal lodging house, every social settlement, every "home" maintained by private or public beneficence is an anti-suicide agency. Anyone who thinks himself or herself driven to commit suicide would be sympathetically received by those in charge of such establishments