

State outside of Cook County	279,108	51,045
Total	440,414	74,563

American politics in the Philippines are marked by the organization of a Democratic party. The only party heretofore has been the Federal, organized under the patronage of the American military and civil authorities. But the Democratic party has been organized by prominent Filipinos, including Gen. Lukban, upon their own initiative. It demands a modification of the present American administration in the Philippines so as to afford a greater degree of self-government. The immediate establishment of two legislative chambers, both to be elected in accordance with suffrage laws as they obtain in the United States, is among the specific demands. Also that the acts passed by the two chambers shall become laws without awaiting the approval of the American authorities.

Australian politics have recently taken a significant turn in one of the States of the Commonwealth—Victoria, formerly a protection colony. At the time of the agitation for the federation of Australia, one of the explanations made in order to meet objections was that a great part of the expense of the Federal parliament could be saved by the reduction of the State parliaments. But up to the present time the parliament of South Australia is the only one that has been reduced. When it became evident to the people of Victoria that their parliament did not mean to reduce itself, an agitation was started in the little country town of Kyabram for a reduction of members and general economy. This movement spread rapidly and soon caused the fall of the Peacock ministry, then in power in the State. It was replaced by the Irvine ministry, the premier in which, Mr. Irvine, is a democrat of strong single tax tendencies. In a little while the Irvine ministry suffered defeat in parliament, and dissolving that body, appealed to the people. General elections were consequently held in October, and the Irvine ministry was returned by an enormous preponderance of members—66 Ministerialists to 15 in Opposition and 14 Labor members. Thus the Labor party, which has heretofore held the balance of power in Victoria, is no longer in that controlling position, and the State government is completely in the control

of the Ministerial party, which is distinctly democratic in its tendencies. Among the new Ministerialists are many free traders and single tax men, at least four of whom are in the front rank as men of ability. One of these is Max Hirsch (author of "Socialism versus Democracy"), the single tax leader of Australia, who made a brilliant campaign for the Federal parliament two years ago (vol. iii, p. 484, vol. iv, p. 130), and, though a pronounced free trader, was defeated by only a small majority in what had always been an overwhelming protectionist constituency. The platform of the new Victoria ministry calls for the reduction of the legislative assembly, or lower house of the State parliament, from 95 to 56 members, and of the legislative council, or upper house, from 48 to 28. It commits the ministry also to other economies and to reforms of the council.

At last there is an end to the civil war in Colombia, our Panama and South American neighbor. The first notice made of this war in these columns appears upon p. 9 of No. 86, vol. ii. Beyond the fact that it had broken out in October, 1899, with a great battle, details at that time were meager. Since then we have had frequent occasion to refer to its progress, as newspaper dispatches have reported it. The war grew out of a quarrel (vol. iii, p. 153) between the Conservative party, which was in power, and the Liberal party, which accused the party in power of wholesale corruption. In the summer of 1900 it was reported (iii, 266) to have been ended, but in the following winter (iii, 682) it was again in full activity. Fighting occurred at intervals with varying results, until the Liberals suffered a crushing disaster (p. 472) in October of the present year, and were defeated in November in a naval battle (p. 503) off Panama. It is now reported that a treaty of peace was signed on the 21st, on board the American warship "Wisconsin," between Gen. Herrera, the leader of the Liberal revolt, and Gen. Salazar, as the representative of the Colombian government. As reported from Panama on the 22d, the treaty liberates all political prisoners except those who are unwilling to accept the treaty; agrees that war taxes and extraordinary contributions shall be discontinued; and extends amnesty and guarantees safety of person and property to all those who have been engaged in the revolution. It fur-

thermore declares it to be the wish of the President and the whole nation, once public order is restored, that elections take place for members of Congress, the government agreeing to see that those elected take their places lawfully. This clause names certain questions which will be proposed for the consideration of Congress, having reference to the Panama canal negotiations, to reforms presented to Congress in 1898 by President Marroquin, and to reforms of the currency system, the amount received from canal contracts to be used as a basis for extinguishing the public debt. In an interview at San Jose, Costa Rica, on the 23d, Gen. Vargas Santos, the military director of the revolution, expressed his satisfaction in terms which indicate the grievances for the redress of which the Liberals began the war. He said:

My hopes have been realized regarding the termination of the war. If the solemn treaties insure the rights of the liberal citizens of my country, I am satisfied that the lesson that has been received by the Liberals and the Conservatives in the fighting of the past 37 months will never be forgotten. We are not seeking government offices, but only want the due representation of our party in Congress and in the municipalities and a respect for private property. There is a need of organizing a fair judicial power and to make the liberty of the press effective. We want to have the right to educate our children according to our wishes, and we demand honesty in the management of the public treasury which so far has been at the disposal of privileged families, resulting in the reducing of the majority of the people to poverty.

The mediator in effecting this treaty of peace was Rear Admiral Silas Casey, of the United States navy.

NEWS NOTES.

—Secretary Chamberlain, of the British cabinet, sailed for South Africa on the 25th.

—Frederick A. Krupp, head of the famous gun factory at Essen, Germany, died on the 22d at the age of 56.

—The price of silver in the London market on the 25th was 45¼ cents an ounce—the lowest in the history of the precious metals.

—Thomas P. Ochiltree, once a congressman from Texas, and famous in his day as President Grant's chum, died at Hot Springs, Va., on the 25th.

—The British House of Commons ratified on the 24th by a vote of 213 to 136, the action of the Brussels inter-