

will vote for the Freiner bill. At the committee hearings railroad lobbyists offered statistics to show that passengers could be carried only at a loss for 2 cents a mile; but Mayor Johnson of Cleveland, who closed the argument for the reform, instanced mileage books, half-rate fares and excursion rates to prove that the railroads find a profit in low rates. The only concession given the railroad men by the committee was to make the bill effective thirty days after passage instead of immediately.

Further indications of the legislative temper at the Ohio capitol were furnished by the railway reporter of the Chicago Record-Herald of the 30th. He wrote:

Warren J. Lynch, passenger traffic manager of the New York Central lines; Fred Donald, commissioner of the Central Passenger Association, and other railroad men who went to Columbus, Ohio, to protest against the passage of a 2-cent passenger fare bill, returned to Chicago yesterday. "I never ran against such a game before in my life," declared Mr. Lynch. "The Ohio House certainly is crazy from the front to the back door, and they have got the bit in their teeth and are running away with it. We thought they were going to hold an investigation, but it looked to me like a railroad funeral. When a Pennsylvania man pleaded for time in order to furnish statistics one representative told him they did not want statistics, but did want a 2-cent fare. That settled him, and then Henry Anthorp started in to tell them why the railroads could not afford to carry passengers for 2 cents. Representative Freiner told him how it could be done. 'The railroads would save money,' declared the legislator, 'by striking you and your kind who are hanging around this capitol from off their pay rolls.' It is needless to say that Anthorp took the count. Then C. C. Heinlein, also a railroad attorney, came to bat. Representative Wertz called three strikes on him before he had time to swing his stick once. 'The people of Ohio will have 2-cent fare and railroad legislation or they will have the railroads,' was the final ball which Wertz shot over the plate. Then the representative proceeded to tell us that the State railroad commission was but a part and parcel of the railroad interests of the State. The funny part of it is that every one of the members is strictly honest. If you were to give the poorest one of them \$100,000, the first thing he would do would be to expose you on the floor of the House. You

ought to see the funny bills they have got pending, and every one of them will probably pass. They have got every one side-stepping, including the newspapers, for whose good will they don't seem to care a fig any more."

Democratic partisanship.

Senator Patterson of Colorado has evoked both criticism and applause by withdrawing from the caucus of Democratic Senators in Congress. This caucus met on the 3d for the purpose of securing united party action in the Senate against ratification of the Santo Domingo treaty (vol. vii, p. 731), and also to establish the precedent of requiring united party action in the Senate on all questions receiving a two-thirds vote of the caucus. Senator Patterson withdrew from the caucus, protesting that although he might be expelled from the Democratic organization of the Senate, they could not read him out of the Democratic party. Two resolutions were adopted by a two-thirds vote, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate ought not to advise and consent to the treaty between the United States and the Republic of Santo Domingo, now pending before the Senate.

Resolved, That if two-thirds of the caucus shall vote in favor of the foregoing resolution, it shall be the duty of every Democratic Senator to vote against the ratification of the said treaty.

Senators Patterson and Bailey debated the question of caucus rule on the floor of the Senate on the 7th, upon resolutions proposed by Senator Patterson.

Conditions in the Philippines.

The official report of the Philippine Commission, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, was made public at Washington on the 1st of February. As reported by Washington dispatches of that date this official description of conditions in the Philippines (p. 489) shows that—

the *ladrone* system is almost wiped out, what thieving bands remain have been driven into the inmost mountain fastnesses, and the peaceful citizens of the islands, freed of their terror of the outlaws, are returning to their abandoned homes outside the cities. As a result, agriculture, which had languished because of the disorder, is beginning to flourish again. The Commission goes into details regarding the organization of the bands and the

terrible punishments they inflicted on persons suspected of giving information to the authorities regarding their movements. It was not until the government showed itself determined and competent to put down the outlaws with a rigorous hand that the natives could be prevailed upon to give information which might bring down on their heads the tortures they had seen others suffer. In most of the provinces of the Island of Luzon the last vestige of armed resistance has been wiped out. In regard to conditions there the commission says: "We are informed that since the practical extermination of outlaws in the provinces of Cavite and Batangas the area of cultivated land has largely increased. Prior to this time the richest portion of the province of Cavite, lying in the foothills, had been almost entirely abandoned because of the lack of protection to the inhabitants, but since protection has been assured them, and the menace to life and property no longer exists, they are returning to their old homes, rebuilding their houses, and preparing their lands for cultivation. As a consequence there is to-day more land in cultivation in these two provinces than at any time since the insurrection of 1896." In Negros, Cebu and Panay conditions also have improved, and even in the province of the fierce Moros order has so far been restored that agriculture and commerce are making good progress. The resumption of commerce is shown by the fact that exports from the isles during the fiscal year increased \$2,129,738 over those of the previous year. Imports fell off \$2,342,000, but this was a sign of prosperity rather than the reverse, because the natives spent \$4,000,000 less for foreign rice on which to feed themselves. Prospects are that in future the home rice crop will be sufficient to feed the population, and there will be no need of importing this staple article of food. In regard to the lands of the friars, the religious controversies between the Roman Catholic church and the independent Filipino church, headed by Bishop Aglipay, the commission reports satisfactory progress toward solution. The report renews the recommendation that the Dingley tariff on tobacco and sugar either be removed or greatly reduced, and asserts that there is no danger of American markets being flooded with these two commodities from the islands because of the necessarily limited output. In regard to the establishment of a stable currency on a gold basis the commission says success has been complete. Recommendations are made, however, that United States gold coin instead of silver pesos be used as security for the redemption of paper currency because of the difficulty in storing millions of dollars' worth of silver. Since the Fili-

pinos have made no move to settle upon the public land it is recommended that the limit which any person may buy from the public domain be raised from 40 acres to 1,000 acres, and that the limit of land which any one person or corporation may hold in the islands be raised from 2,500 to 25,000 acres. It is hoped that in this way an influx of American capital may be induced.

The divorce of church and state in France.

Efforts to enforce the new law of France for the separation of church and State (p. 581), have raised a storm of protest all over France, and in some places rioting has occurred. The especial reason for this commotion is the enforcement of that clause of the law which requires inventories of church property. In several Paris churches on the 1st pitched battles were fought, and hundreds of church members were arrested. According to Paris dispatches of the 1st the Ministry was interpellated on the subject in the Chamber of Deputies and—

Premier Rouvier replied that the Ministry was determined to do its duty at any cost, even employing armed force if necessary. Scenes of extreme violence took place at the Church of St. Clothilde. The church had been filled since early morning, the congregation including many prominent men. Repeated charges by the police on the crowds gathered outside led to fifty arrests, including two priests. The crowd eventually became so violent that the police drew their swords. Many were injured during the fighting. Fire engines were placed near the church so as to be able if necessary to drench the crowd. The women showed the greatest determination, opening umbrellas for their protection and chanting psalms. Under a shower of broken chairs the officers broke down the church doors and entered the building. One of the principal officers was wounded severely. Inside the church the congregation had erected barricades, which had to be taken by assault while men and women fainted. At the altar a few of the congregation and some young priests stood, defiantly brandishing sticks. The ejection of the remainder of the crowd resulted in the injuring of many persons on both sides, including fifty policemen and guards and a still higher number of the militant Roman Catholics. All the windows of the church were broken and every chair smashed. Similar scenes were enacted in many parts of the country. The prefect of the Departement of the

Selne has issued an order to the clergy instructing them to give up the keys of their churches and adding that in case of refusal the commissioners are instructed to call on the armed forces for assistance.

Further rioting was reported on the 20th. A fight in the church of St. Pierre du Groscaillou resulted in the injury of fifty persons, some of them seriously. Three thousand were in the church. The police give the names of seven persons seriously injured, including the Marquis Daubigny and two priests. The duc de la Rochefoucauld, who was arrested during the troubles at the Church of Ste. Clothilde, was condemned to three months' imprisonment. Dispatches of the latter date explain that—

those offering resistance belonged to the mixed classes. There was undoubtedly a considerable proportion of fervent Catholic of both sexes among them who believed in the sanctity of their cause, and who were prepared for martyrdom, but many were mere anti-republican partisans, including royalists, imperialists and nationalists.

The British elections.

As a result of the overwhelming Liberal victory in the British elections (p. 727), a split in the Conservative party is reported, between the old Conservatives under Balfour's leadership, and the followers of Chamberlain. Most of the reports on this head are, however, little better than political gossip. Not until Parliament assembles and factional lines appear, is any trustworthy news regarding Opposition leadership probable. Meanwhile Balfour and Chamberlain have agreed to call a general meeting of the party for an early date not yet announced.

Intelligent explanations of the significance of the Liberal victory are only beginning to find their way into the daily press on the American side. The following from the New York daily Press (Rep.) of February 4—a staff correspondent's letter of January 25 from London—comes exceptionally near to being a correct estimate:

Upholders of Henry George's principles have cause to rejoice in the great Liberal landslide in England. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the new Premier, has definitely committed his

Government. Besides the Prime Minister, the most important members of the Cabinet are well-known advocates of taxation of the value of the land. Among these are Mr. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir Edward Grey, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Haldane, Earl of Carrington, Mr. Bryce, the Earl of Aberdeen, Mr. Herbert Gladstone and others. There is naturally great rejoicing at the offices of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values. Frederick Verinder, its secretary, who has been connected with this movement in England for a quarter of a century, expressed himself as elated at the results obtained by the agitation which practically began on the street corners in 1881. "By the way," he said, "people all over England have been surprised at the arguments advanced in this election by workmen and the supposedly 'ignorant classes' on the mooted points of Protection versus Free Trade. So it may interest you to hear that Henry George's book, 'Protection and Free Trade,' to the extent of 30,000 copies was placed by our league where it would do the most good; and we also sent out daily, long before the election, practically hundreds of thousands of leaflets setting forth plainly just what we meant by land-value taxation." "But is the Prime Minister sincere in his utterances on that head, or were they only made to catch the popular vote?" I asked. "I have every reason to believe that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman means exactly what he says," answered the single taxer, "and will carry out all his promises. He is committed definitely and irrevocably to the principle of taxation of land values; and, even if he were not, there are many other members of the Cabinet who are in favor of the principle. "I suppose, in England, with its great landlords, and all the property in the hands of a few, it was not easy to get these principles before the country?" "Well, I admit there were enormous difficulties, and now that we have won," replied Mr. Verinder, "I feel that we have a right to be in high spirits over the real triumph of Henry George's principles." "Have any of the great landlords begun to see things your way; are they willing that their individual property should be taxed on a land-value scheme?" was asked. "The Marquis of Northampton," replied Mr. Verinder, "one of the greatest property owners in England, who has large tracts in London itself, was originally one of the prime movers in the land-value direction; one of our vice presidents was Lord Hobhouse, and so was Earl Compton. It does not seem to be at all well known," he added, "that a bill for the taxation of land values has long been before Parliament. In 1904 and 1905 it was carried by majorities of 67