

on measures referred to the people of the State shall be held at the biennial regular general elections, except when the legislature shall order a special election. Any measure referred to the people shall take effect and become the law when it is approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon and not otherwise. The style of all bills shall be, "Be it enacted by the people of the State of Texas." This section shall not be construed to deprive any member of the legislature of the right to introduce any measure. The whole number of votes cast for Governor at the regular election last preceding the filing of any petition for the initiative or for the referendum shall be the basis on which the number of legal voters necessary to sign such petition shall be counted. Petitions and orders for the initiative and for the referendum shall be filed with the Secretary of State, and in submitting the same to the people he and all other officers shall be guided by the general laws and the act submitting this amendment until legislation shall be especially provided therefor.

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Memorial Meeting for Ernest Crosby.

A memorial meeting for Ernest Howard Crosby (pp. 966, 1020) is to be held at New York, in Cooper Union, on Thursday evening, March 7. Among those in charge of the meeting are: W. D. Howells, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, John Burroughs, Samuel M. Clemens (Mark Twain), Hamlin Garland, Bliss Carman, Prof. William James, Horace White, Jane Addams, William Ordway Partridge, Edwin Markham, Dr. Felix Adler, Booker T. Washington, Moorfield Storey, William Lloyd Garrison, Henry George, Jr.; Justices John W. Goff, Martin J. Keogh, Samuel Seabury, and John Ford; the Revs. Ernest M. Stires, Father Ducey, Leighton Williams, Charles P. Fagnani, J. M. Mellish, I. K. Funk, and W. D. P. Bliss; Lieut. Gov. Chanler, Edward M. Shepard, George Foster Peabody, Tom L. Johnson, and ex-Governor Garvin of Rhode Island. The committee also includes representatives of the Social Reform Club, People's Institute, Manhattan Single Tax Club, Anti-Imperialist League, Whitman Fellowship, Filipino Progress Association, East Side Civic Club, Nurses' Settlement, Outdoor Recreation League, Society for Italian Immigrants, Vegetarian Society, Emerson Club, Dr. McGlynn Memorial Association, Brotherhood of the Kingdom, University Settlement, Brooklyn Central Labor Union and the Central Federated Union.

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The Santo Domingo Treaty Ratified.

The Santo Domingo treaty, sent by the President to the Senate February 12 (p. 1089), was ratified by the Senate on the 25th by a vote of 43 to 19, one more vote than the required two-thirds. In the debate, according to the report of the Chicago Record-Herald:

Senator Bacon of Georgia charged that the administration was being made the cat's-paw of American capitalists who control the Santo Domingo Improvement Company, which is to receive about 90 per cent. of the face value of its claims, while all other Dominican debts are to be scaled down 50 per cent. of their face value. Mr. Bacon expressed the belief that a large part of the debts were fraudulent, and that in providing for the payment without opportunity to adjust the claims, the United States is aiding graft and participating in placing an unjust burden on the Republic. The sale of 5 per cent. bonds to the amount of \$20,000,000, payable in fifty years, which is a part of the plan of settlement provided by

the treaty, Mr. Bacon said, makes the United States responsible for the collection of the revenues for fifty years and has the effect of establishing a protectorate over the Republic. The worst feature, Mr. Bacon said, was the precedent established by the treaty. He believed it would be the ground for similar proceedings in relation to other West Indian Islands, and that it would extend to take in practically all of the Central American states. "All of these countries," he said, "have debts they would like to settle in this manner."

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War in Central America.

Nicaragua and Honduras are in the midst of a lively little war (p. 1115). Each country disclaims responsibility for the belligerency, and charges the other with invasion. The proposed intervention of the United States and Mexico (pp. 1092, 1115), Guatemala, San Salvador and Costa Rica, is declared to have been initiated too late to be effective. Nicaragua seems to have the lead in winning battles and capturing towns.

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The Transvaal Elections.

Under the constitution granted by the British Parliament and King Edward in December (p. 896), the Transvaal has held its first elections, with the result that, though the English population outnumbered the Dutch, the Parliament is to have a strong Boer majority. This result, unexpected to the rest of the world, was brought about by an alliance of the African born English colonists with the Boers, making common cause against the English born who, representing the imperialistic tendency, have crossed seas to exploit and govern South Africa. The Cleveland Plain Dealer thus analyzes the political forces of the Transvaal: "There are at present four parties in the Transvaal, three of which are composed of English speaking men. The leading party is called the Progressive, and is representative of the mine owners, merchants and professional men. Directly opposed to the Progressive party is Het Volk, the Boer party, representing the farmers and the Dutch speaking element of the country. Were the line drawn distinctly between these two parties the English would have won easily. But there were other elements to decide the issue. The second English party, the Nationalist, composed of native born colonials, and an English Labor party joined forces with Het Volk and voted and worked for the Dutch nominees. The result was an overwhelming defeat for the English brought about by English votes."

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The Socialists' View of the German Elections.

That under present electoral apportionment the Socialists are not properly represented in the Reichstag, was claimed on the floor of the Reichstag by Dr. Bebel, the leader of the Socialists, in a debate on the 26th. Dr. Bebel declared that if there were a proper distribution of seats the Social Democrats would be in possession, not of 43, but of 117 of them. He asserted, moreover, that the elections had proved that every third man in Germany over the age of 25, was a Social Democrat.