

but can be postponed until "the doctrine that the people are the only source of power is made secure from further attack."

American military affairs in the Philippines are worse. For seven days, according to a dispatch of the 19th from Manila, there has been a distinct increase of Filipino aggressiveness, especially near Manila and along the line of the railroad. On the 17th a serious engagement occurred near Siniloan, on the eastern shore of Laguna bay, between an American force of 90 men and a Filipino force of 1,000. The Americans suffered a loss of 26 wounded, 5 missing and 12 killed. The result of the battle is not reported.

American casualties since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out in detail at Washington to September 19, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900 (see page 91)	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900	55
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900	409
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Total deaths since July 1, 1898	2,311
Wounded	2,255
Captured	10

Total casualties since July 1, 1898	4,576
Total casualties reported last	4,539
Total deaths reported last	2,274

Under date of August 1, a Manila mail dispatch just at hand tells of the problem of insufficient troops. The return of the two years' volunteers must soon begin, and as that time approaches the question of replacing them is becoming in Manila a topic of general discussion. The prevailing idea appears to favor the organization and arming of a native militia force. Steps in that direction have been already taken. Another mail dispatch, received by the postmaster general at Washington and given out for publication on the 13th, transmits two undated proclamations, one issued by President McKinley's Philippine commission, and the other by the Filipino government. The American proclamation promises free transportation home to all Filipino soldiers who surrender their arms, and directs the confiscation of all money and hemp belonging to the Filipino government; the Filipino proclamation announces that for a period of ten days amnesty will

be extended to all Filipino spies in the American service, and declares that the American threats to pursue the Filipinos to the hills are idle because the American forces are short of food and ammunition and have received no reinforcements for many months.

Our affairs in Cuba are gradually coming to a head. The elections, under the authority of our war department, for delegates to a convention to be held at Havana in November for the purpose of adopting a constitution for Cuba, took place on the 15th. They were wholly undisturbed by rioting or violence of any kind. The votes cast numbered 186,240, with the following result:

- Pinar del Rio, three nationalists.
- Havana, six nationalists and two republicans.
- Matanzas, three republicans and one democrat.
- Santa Clara, six republicans and one independent.
- Puerto Principe, two nationalists.
- Santiago de Cuba, six nationalists and one republican.

The chief difference in principle between the nationalist and the republican parties is that the latter stands for a federation of the provinces, and, while favoring independence for the island, does not push that question to the front; whereas the former stands for making of Cuba a compact nation, and insists upon early independence. In the elections, therefore, the principle of nationality and early independence is asserted. As the republican party is composed mostly of whites and the national party is very generally supported by negroes, the former is locally known also as the white and the latter as the black party; and recent dispatches indicate that owing to the triumph of the blacks, the whites may advocate annexation.

From our own affairs to British. London is guessing over the movements of President Kruger, of the South African republic. The object of his change of base to Portuguese territory, as reported last week, while his countrymen still carry on their warfare, is a mystery. Lord Roberts reports that Kruger has formally resigned the presidency, and he threatens drastic measures against guerrilla fighters. The resignation is denied from Holland by the Boer envoys. They explain that the executive council has full authority to authorize Kruger's departure, and that the vice president acts during his absence.

The envoys have also issued an appeal to the nations for intervention, in which they accuse the British of proclaiming the annexation of the Transvaal so as to enable them "to prosecute the war in, an inhuman manner, contrary to international law, and to mercilessly pursue as 'rebels' exhausted combatants hitherto recognized as belligerents." Holland has offered Kruger passage to Europe on a war vessel, and Kruger has accepted.

While Kruger has been making his way to Europe upon a mysterious mission, the Boers have continued their stubborn resistance to the British advance. Lord Roberts reported heavy fighting on the 12th near Barberton (the southern terminus of the branch railroad from the Lorenzo Marques line), and the British occupation of that place on the 14th. At last accounts fighting was in progress at Komatipoort, which is on the Transvaal-Portuguese frontier, about 50 miles west of Lorenzo Marques; and Gen. Viljoen, who has succeeded Botha in supreme command, was reported to be moving northward in the direction of Hectorspruit with a force of 3,000 men.

Taking advantage of the South African situation the British ministry have decided to dissolve parliament and go at once to the people. Elections in England at this time of year are extraordinary. It is supposed that they are called now because the Tories realize that jingo sentiment is subsiding, and also because the vote can now be taken upon the old registration. There will be a new registration in January. Since most of the voters who have moved since the last registration are probably liberals, the Tories being wealthier as a rule, and therefore more stationary in their abode, it is believed that an election now would be to the advantage of the Tories, as well on account of the disfranchisement of liberals under the old registration as of the rapidly declining war feeling. So the queen's consent to dissolution on the 25th has been obtained. Writs for a new election will be issued at the time of the dissolution, and voting will begin October 1. The new parliament will assemble November 1. A Tory majority is confidently expected. The Tories themselves claim that they will have a larger majority than they have in the present house, which is 128, the ministry being supported by