

merce and industries," the head of which shall be a member of the president's cabinet. (2) That a reciprocity commission be created as a bureau part of this new department.

The Philippine situation carries us from a contemplation of the question of commercial warfare at our national capital to that of sanguinary warfare in our oriental "possessions." Two engagements are reported for the week. One occurred on Bohol island, where the Americans captured a strongly fortified stockade by scaling a precipice in the rear and surprising the garrison, which in escaping was exposed to a destructive fire from another American force. The other engagement took place in Luzon, not far from Cavite. As usual, the Filipinos were put to flight. Another strong force of Filipinos has been discovered in Laguna province, Luzon, under command of Gen. Caballas. The force includes several American Negroes. Reports from Samar are to the effect that although no surrenders in large numbers have been made, the inhabitants are evidently suffering severely from hunger. American gunboats with searchlights guard the island coasts so closely that it is almost impossible to land any food.

Aguinaldo is reported to have requested Gen. Chaffee, the American military governor of the Philippines, to allow him to go to the United States this winter and explain the desires of the Filipino people to congress. He asks also that eight friends, four of whom are prisoners at Guam and four are prominent citizens of Manila, be allowed to accompany him. No response to this request is yet announced.

From South Africa, only one notable engagement between British and Boers is reported. It took place on the 20th, and was not reported by Lord Kitchener until the 23d. British troops had been sent to occupy a ridge on the Sandspruit, near Villiersdorp, in the northwestern part of the Orange Free State. This force was attacked by a body of Boers, who, in the resulting battle, secured a lodgement on the ridge. The British major in command and one of his captains were dangerously wounded, and 350 British troops were made prisoners. Lord Kitchener's dispatch adds that another British force came up in time to release the prisoners, and that it at the same time captured a Boer

commandant, Uys, who had been wounded.

Perhaps the most important of recent developments with reference to the Boer war is the anti-British excitement which has broken out in Germany. Its immediate cause is a speech made at Edinburgh not long ago by Mr. Chamberlain, in the course of which he said that the methods of British warfare in South Africa, to which exception had been taken, are justified by precedents set by the Germans in their war of 1871 with France. This has been treated in Germany as an accusation by a British cabinet officer of German barbarity, and tremendous popular indignation has been aroused in Germany in consequence. Mr. Chamberlain has explained in an open letter that "no sensible German" could be affronted by his justification of British methods in the Transvaal, for he "did not mean that the severity of the Germans went beyond what was just and necessary," but that "what was just and proper for Germany could not be barbarous and inhuman on the part of Great Britain." This explanation, however, has not allayed the excitement in Germany, which is described with evident accuracy in some of the dispatches, as similar to the feeling in the United States prior to the war with Spain, and liable likewise to become inflammatory upon the slightest provocation. The London Post's correspondent at Berlin regards the situation as serious. He warns the British people not to be misled into supposing that the German demonstrations are artificial. They have been practically spontaneous, he says, and—

reflect the feeling of aversion and hatred with which an overwhelming majority of the German nation regards the war and the British people.

Before returning to our side of the Atlantic, our attention is demanded by a ministerial crisis in Greece, growing out of rioting at Athens. The riots broke out on the 21st. They had their origin in an attempt of the queen to have the gospels translated into modern Greek for common as distinguished from ecclesiastical use. During the war with Turkey, wounded Greek soldiers to whom she gave testaments told her they could not read them because they did not understand the old Greek text. She consequently arranged for a modern translation, and in this enterprise she was seconded by the premier, M. The-

okotis. The innovation was not approved by the Holy Synod of the Greek church, and was resented by the students of the Athens university, who called a public indignation meeting, which assembled on the 21st around the ruins of the temple of Jupiter Olympus. Resolutions were adopted at this meeting calling on the Holy Synod to excommunicate any person who should translate the gospels into modern Greek. A force of marines, 800 strong, was landed to preserve order, and as the meeting broke up it came into collision with this force. Seven persons were killed and 37 seriously wounded. This disturbance lasted only for the day, the city resuming its normal condition during the night; but the students secured possession of the university buildings, which they refused to relinquish except upon terms. When the rector, with 30 professors, endeavored on the 22d to persuade them to leave, they declined to do so unless given guarantees that no legal proceedings would be taken against them, that the translators of the gospels would be excommunicated, and that the university would not be occupied by troops. At the meeting of the chamber of deputies on the same day, a rancorous debate began, a disposition being manifest to hold the ministry responsible for the deaths of the day before. As the debate went on through the 23d, vast and noisy crowds surrounded the chamber, but they were soon dispersed by the military. Finally a motion approving the action of the government was adopted by a vote of 107 to 87. Notwithstanding this vote, however, and the entreaties of the king, the ministry of M. Theokotis resigned on the 24th. The reason assigned is that as a judicial inquiry has been ordered, the ministry thought it proper that the investigation should be carried on under a ministry which could not be charged with being interested in the result. M. Zaimais, a former premier, was named to organize the new ministry, which he succeeded in doing.

Returning now to the American side of the Atlantic, we are confronted with further developments in the civil war in Colombia. References to this rebellion in connection with a similar rebellion in Venezuela, and the delicate relations existing in consequence between the two countries, have been made in these columns at pages 280, 298, 312, 330, 344, 362, 376 and 411.

At the time of our last account (p. 411) the Colombian government reported that the insurgents had been signally defeated. That was early in October. On the 31st of that month indefinite reports were published of the kidnaping of the president of Colombia. These were followed on the 7th of November by reports of the capture, by the insurgents, of Panama, the Pacific end of the isthmian railroad. The latter report was quickly denied, only to be followed by one on the 9th to the effect that they had captured Tumaco, about 500 miles south of Panama. Nothing further of importance was heard for several days, when the insurgents were reported to be in force within ten miles of Panama; and immediately upon the heels of this report came one from Colon, the Caribbean end of the isthmian railroad, known formerly as Aspinwall, that that city had been attacked by the insurgents on the 19th and after a battle of an hour and a half captured. This report was immediately confirmed by official reports received by the American state department. Transit over the isthmus was interrupted for only a brief time, the United States gunboat Machias having landed 100 marines to guard the railroad and prevent interruption to trains. The insurgent leaders were notified after the capture of the city that the American government would keep the railroad open and in operation by force if necessary. Soon afterward a Colombian gunboat appeared with a force of government troops who were preparing to land in the town, when, on the 24th, Commander McCrea, of the United States gunboat Machias, forbade the landing on the ground that it would endanger the terminal property of the railroad. The Colombian commander responded with a formal notification, under the laws of war, that in 24 hours he would open fire upon the town. It is supposed that the American authorities have forbidden this also, since in a bombardment the shells, to reach the town, must be fired over the railroad. However that may be, the time fixed by the Colombian commander for the bombardment, the 25th at noon, has been postponed by him until the 29th at six o'clock in the evening. He sailed away on the 25th, immediately after announcing the postponement. Since then fighting has been reported as in progress along the line of the isthmian railway, the latest reports indicating that the insurgents were falling back under a heavy fire and that the government troops had now

opened the way to reoccupying Colon from the land side.

The distrustful relations between Colombia and Venezuela (noted in the pages cited in the preceding paragraph) have become so acute that on the 26th the Colombian government severed diplomatic intercourse. A revolution is in progress in Venezuela as well as in Colombia, the difference being that in Colombia the Conservatives are in power while the insurgents are Liberals, and in Venezuela the Liberals are in power while the insurgents are Conservatives. Naturally, therefore, the government of Venezuela is in sympathy with the insurgents of Colombia and the government of Colombia is in sympathy with the insurgents of Venezuela. This, in general, is the cause of the disrupted diplomatic relations between the two countries.

NEWS NOTES.

—The German reichstag reassembled at Berlin on the 26th for the winter session.

—The national Democratic headquarters are being moved from Chicago to Washington.

—Harvard won the intercollegiate football championship on the 23d in a contest with Yale at Cambridge, Mass., the score being 22 to 0.

—The Fort Worth brewery, of Austin, Tex., pleaded guilty on the 21st to a charge of violating the Texas anti-trust law, and was fined \$5,500.

—The New York court of appeals decided on the 22d that the New York statute prohibiting the "scalping" of railroad tickets is unconstitutional.

—A. J. Streeter, of Illinois, who was the presidential candidate of the Union Labor party in 1888, died at New Windsor, Ill., on the 23d at the age of 78.

—Three deaths from lockjaw caused by vaccination occurred last week in Camden, N. J., making ten in all from the same cause in that city during the past three weeks.

—At the parliamentary election in Galway, Ireland, on the 21st, Arthur Lynch, colonel in the Second Irish brigade of the Boer army, was elected by a vote of 1,247 to 473.

—An Englishman of the name of Patterson, well known in the United States as the secretary of Sixto Lopez, the famous Filipino, was deported from Manila on the 26th by the American authorities for refusing to take the colonial oath of allegiance.

—Paris is making an experiment in the use of pavements of glass

made under a new process. They are said to form an excellent foothold and promise to be without dust and not to absorb waste. The process utilizes all kinds of glass debris.

—John E. Redmond, the Irish leader in the British parliament, accompanied by his parliamentary colleagues, Thomas O'Donnell and Patrick McHugh, arrived in Chicago last week and had a reception from 5,000 Irish-Americans at the Auditorium on Sunday.

—On the 23d the Holland submarine torpedo boat, Fulton, went under water at New York, and remained 15 hours—12 hours longer than any other submarine boat has been submerged. The party which went down with her included Rear Admiral John Lowe.

—A Boer "rescue meeting," to protest against the British reconcentrado camps in Great Britain, will be held in the Auditorium, Chicago, Sunday, December 8, at eight p. m. The subject, "What President Roosevelt Can Do," will be discussed by Burke Cochran, of New York.

—The United States court of appeals, sitting at St. Louis, decided on the 25th that marriage is in law a civil contract, requiring no ceremony to make it binding, and exists when a man and a woman agree to be husband and wife and follow the agreement by "consistent and notorious cohabitation."

—During a recent visit of Gen. Wood to Santiago he bought for the American government the principal portion of the San Juan battlefield, including San Juan Hill, the site of the blockhouse and Bloody Bend. The tract comprises 200 acres and cost \$15,000. It will be considered a United States reservation, and the government intends to lay out a beautiful park on the old battlefield.

—Judge Kohlsaat, of Chicago, a federal judge, has sentenced three union labor "pickets" for contempt of court. He found them guilty of violating his injunction against "picketing" the Allis-Chalmers shop in connection with the machinists' strike. The accused were denied a jury trial. Judge Kohlsaat's sentence in two of the cases is a fine of \$50 and one-third of the costs with imprisonment until paid, and in the other, 30 days' imprisonment in the county jail at Wheaton.

—The supreme court of Ohio granted a motion on the 26th, made in behalf of Mayor Johnson, of Cleveland, for leave to file a petition for mandamus, as an original proceeding in that court, compelling the state board of railroad tax equalization to appraise railroad property at 60 per cent. of its actual value, like farms and residences, instead of 23 per cent., as now. The point involved in the motion was