

ment was brought into prominence and made a political factor by Mr. Asquith's speech, referred to above, which he delivered at a dinner given in London by the Essex liberals on the 20th. The speech appears to have been provoked by two or three important events. Six days before, at a dinner of the National Reform union, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, who is the official leader of the liberal party, followed by Sir William Harcourt, his predecessor in that position, and John Morley, had made strong and acceptable speeches against the policy of the government in South Africa. That anti-imperial demonstration was followed by a parliamentary hitch. On the 17th, when the ministry admitted in parliament that 40,229 Boers were in the British reconcentrado camps, and that in these camps 98 men and women and 318 children had died in May (p. 171), a liberal member moved an adjournment as a protest against the inhumanity implied by this admission. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman spoke and voted for the motion. Mr. Asquith and his following of "liberal imperialists" in the house refused to vote, but without giving any reasons. Next came a so-called pro-Boer meeting at Queen's hall, London, on the 19th, at which Mr. Labouchere presided, and resolutions against annexation were passed. These events provoked Mr. Asquith's speech of the 20th. He protested against the acceptance of the Queen's hall resolutions of the night before as a pronouncement of liberal policy. Asserting that liberals favor a free, federated South Africa, on the lines of Canada and Australia, he declared that Boer independence is impossible. He went on to explain that although at the beginning of the war he believed it possible to restore the South African republics, he was now a reluctant convert to the necessity of annexation. Notwithstanding Asquith's expressions of desire for a united liberal party, his speech as a whole was immediately recognized as a proclamation of hostility to Bannerman and his following. The London Daily News, the liberal organ, responded with an urgent call to the party to rally to Bannerman's support. For all practical purposes the party is now divided, with Bannerman at the head of one wing and Asquith at the head of the other.

Meantime the war in South Africa, which is the occasion of this split,

drags on without reason to hope for an early end. Hardly any news is allowed to escape the British censor, but it leaks out that the Boers control a large territory and make frequent incursions into the places nominally under British rule. Another battle was fought on the 20th. It was at a place called Waterkloof. The result is not divulged, but the British loss is reported as 8 killed and 6 wounded, besides 66 captured. The cost of the war, as reported on the 25th to parliament, is £250,000 weekly—about \$60,000,000 a year.

The Filipinos are less fortunate than the Boers. Their republic comes to an end with the surrender of Gen. Cailles, which took place on the 24th at Santa Cruz, in the province of Laguna, island of Luzon. The number of men surrendered was 650 and of rifles 386, with 4,000 rounds of ammunition. Certificates for \$30 for each surrendered rifle were delivered by Gen. Sumner, who received the surrender; but Gen. Cailles returned them, saying indignantly that the rifles were surrendered voluntarily and not sold to the Americans. When he tendered his own sword, in token of submission, Gen. Sumner handed it back, an act which the soldiers on both sides cheered. All who surrendered took the oath of allegiance to the United States. As the pathetic ceremony of this final chapter of the brief but bloody history of the first republic of Asia drew to a close, the heartbroken Filipino general gave way to weeping. Recovering sufficiently to make a farewell address to his little army, he advised the surrendered soldiers to uphold American institutions. At the termination of the ceremony he and his troops were released—all except one, a lieutenant, who was identified as Frank Meekin, a private in the Thirty-seventh United States volunteers. This young man had deserted the American army some time ago and joined Gen. Cailles's force. Upon recognizing him, the Americans put him in irons and sent him to Manila for trial.

Official steps were taken at Washington on the 21st for the reorganization of the American government in the Philippines. The president issued an executive order on that day appointing William H. Taft as civil governor of the islands; and on the same day he appointed Gen. Chaffee as military governor. The term of

office of each will begin July 4 and continue until otherwise ordered.

Political agitation and organization in the United States with reference to the state elections next fall is gaining headway. We told last week of the organization of the Public Ownership party of Missouri. The political event this week is the republican convention of Ohio. It met on the 24th at Columbus, and after completing its work adjourned on the 25th. Senator Hanna was soon known to be in control, his domination being determined by the contest for state committeemen. All the convention committees then fell into his hands. Senator Foraker was made temporary chairman and Senator Hanna permanent chairman, while Gov. George K. Nash was renominated to head the ticket. The platform, after reaffirming the principles of the last national platform, begins with a compliment to the party on its achievements at home and abroad. It then demands a stronger navy and "such legislation as will restore our merchant marine to pre-eminence upon the sea." It also urges the speedy construction of an American ship canal. On the subject of trusts it declares:

We recognize the right of both labor and capital to combine when such combinations are wisely administered for the general good, but combinations which create monopolies to control prices or limit productions are an evil which must be met by effective legislation vigorously enforced. The only legislation, national or in Ohio, on this subject has been enacted by the republican party, and that party can be safely trusted to deal with this problem.

The continued exclusion of the Chinese is advocated, and a "most liberal application" of "generous pension legislation" is asked for. There is next a demand that the representation in congress from the southern states which suppress the colored vote shall be reduced to the basis of the actual voting population. Lynching is denounced. With reference to the question of imperialism—

the republican principle that congress has power to govern our new possessions according to the needs of their own people and in the interest of the people of the United States—

is said to have been sustained by the supreme court, which has made—

the momentous determination that the republic is a nation with the powers