

federation of trades unions with employers' associations. A meeting with this object in view was held in London on the 18th. It was attended by labor leaders, members of parliament and employers; and an announcement was made that 40 organized labor bodies had declared their willingness to join such a federation. This movement appears to have derived its impulse from fears of American competition. Consequently, a suggestion to make the federation international met with an unfavorable reception. The meeting finally decided to make a vigorous campaign to unite masters and men in a federation to preserve the prosperity of their various industries.

Great Britain is much less interested just at present in industrial organization projects of that kind than in parliamentary legislation. The "black budget," as the disgruntled British taxpayer denominates the fiscal schemes of the ministry (see pages 41, 73, 83), has been followed by an army reorganization bill that has in it the making of much trouble. It necessitates a supply of 680,000 regulars, militia, yeomanry and volunteers, which it is believed, considering the dullness of recruiting, cannot be maintained without conscription. Veiled hints have been thrown out by the war department that this may be resorted to, repugnant as it is to British tradition and thought. The bill was nevertheless passed in the house of commons on the 16th, after a three days' debate, by a vote of 305 to 163, a condemnatory amendment offered by the liberals having been first defeated by 211 to 327.

Yet the bill got no whole-hearted support. Indeed, the idea is growing that the tory ministry is "riding for a fall;" that is, that it would welcome a vote that would excuse its resignation and the shifting of pressing problems over to the opposition. This disposition is said to have been further indicated on the 21st when the ministry announced that the adoption of a liberal party motion reflecting upon the budget proposals would be regarded as a vote of "want of confidence;" yet only 300 out of 400 ministerial votes were cast against it. The fact that it received only 123 votes, though the opposition numbers something like 270 members, is taken as one of the indications that the liberals are not

disposed to accommodate the ministerial desire to unload responsibility. With the "black budget" and possible conscription agitating England, it would seem that the Boers are having their revenge.

From the Boer war, the dispatches continue meager and indefinite. With their reports of little skirmishes, their surmises as to the whereabouts of Boer leaders, and their accounts of ambushes, it is evident that the war is not over. But no inferences as to its progress can be drawn. The total number of British troops officially reported as in South Africa on the 1st was 249,416.

Dispatches from the Philippines to the United States are much like those from South Africa to London—they give but little information even in proportion to their length. There are accounts of surrenders of small bodies of Filipinos and implications that absolute peace is at hand. But the only really definite statement of this kind is a report from Gen. Wheaton, cabled from Manila on the 20th, which declares:

All the insurgent leaders in north Luzon have surrendered, terminating the war in this part of the country so far as armed resistance to America is concerned.

Aguinaldo is still confined under guard. It is explained that this is principally for his own protection. He asserts, however, that he needs no such protection; and the fact that his correspondence is censored indicates that other and more controlling purposes than protecting him dictate the restraint that is put upon him. In an Associated press interview on the 17th he "expressed the opinion that the American government of the Philippines, in order to be unquestionably satisfactory, should conform strictly to the American constitution. Asked whether he considered the Filipinos capable of exercising all the privileges guaranteed by a liberal interpretation and application of the constitution, he declined to express an opinion."

NEWS NOTES.

—The Pan-American exposition at Buffalo was formally dedicated on the 20th.

—The Alabama constitutional convention met at Montgomery on the 21st.

—Gen. Fitz John Porter died at Mor-

ristown, N. J., on the 21st at the age of 80.

—A total eclipse of the sun was observed from the island of Sumatra on the 20th.

—The wife of Lyman J. Gage, secretary of the treasury, died at Washington on the 17th.

—It is reported from Copenhagen that the United States has bought the Danish West Indies for \$4,000,000.

—Chicago has been selected by the committee at Paris for the next quadrennial Olympian games. They take place in 1904.

—Edwin F. Uhl, formerly assistant secretary of state and also ambassador to Germany, died at Grand Rapids, Mich., on the 17th.

—There are indefinite reports of labor riots in Italy, which are said to have started an exodus of the comfortable classes from Milan.

—The governor of Wisconsin signed a bill on the 16th which imposes a tax of ten cents a ton on all ice shipped out of the state.

—The British census returns are officially reported in parliament as showing a population in Ireland of 4,456,546, a decrease since the previous census of 5.3 per cent.

—On June 1 and 2, at the Great Southern hotel, Columbus, beginning at eight p. m. on the 1st, the fifth annual conference of the Ohio Single Tax league is announced to meet.

—The upper house of the Norwegian parliament has by a vote of 19 to 13 rejected the bill of the lower house allowing communal suffrage to women who pay taxes on an income of 300 crowns—about \$70.

—Andrew Carnegie has given \$10,000,000 to provide education in the Edinburgh, Glasgow, St. Andrews and Aberdeen universities for Scotch students only. A trust will be formed to administer the funds.

—The United States has submitted to Great Britain the draft of a new Nicaragua canal treaty. It reached London on the 18th through Lord Pauncefoot, the British ambassador at Washington, to whom Secretary Hay had delivered it.

—The Trans-Siberian railway is now open to traffic throughout its entire length. It reduces the time for a trip around the world from 60 to 33 days. The time from St. Petersburg, the western terminus, to Vladivostock, the eastern, is ten days.

—The Rev. Henry C. Minton, of San Francisco, was on the 16th elected moderator of the Presbyterian general assembly, now in its one hundred and thirteenth session, at Philadelphia. He defeated the Rev. George T. Purves, of New York, by a vote of 337 to 276. The great debate on the revision of the creed was to have begun on the 23d.