

question raised by Mr. Tillman, which up to that point had been decided by his rulings as presiding officer, to the Senate itself, and there it still rests, the committee on privileges and elections having not yet reported.

The Philippine tariff bill, which was under discussion when the difficulty between Senators Tillman and McLaurin occurred, passed the Senate on the 24th by the party vote of 46 to 26. This bill originated in the lower house (pp. 583, 663), and as it left that body it had provided for the full application of the Dingley tariff rates to imports into the United States from the Philippines. But the Senate modifies this to the extent of imposing but 75 per cent. of those rates, an effort to make it 50 per cent. having failed. An amendment declaring that the constitution and all laws of the United States which are not locally inapplicable shall have the same force in the Philippine archipelago as elsewhere in the United States was lost by 26 to 47, while the Democratic substitute for the whole bill was lost by 25 to 46. But an amendment providing that no person shall be convicted of treason in the Philippines by any tribunal, civil or military, except upon the testimony of two witnesses or of confession in open court, was agreed to unanimously, 69 to 0; and one providing that there shall be no punishment by any tribunal of the United States, civil or military, of any person who fails to give information of the treason of a mother, father, son or daughter was agreed to by 38 to 34.

In the Philippine islands Gen. Lucban was captured in Samar on the 22d. His capture is regarded as the most important since Aguinaldo's. Another capture, that of the second in command to the Filipino Gen. Malvar, namely, Gen. Cortez, was made on the 23d at Santa Cruz, in the province of Laguna, Luzon. He was discovered by the aid of a treacherous native. Surrenders of small bodies of Filipino troops are reported, and general pacification at an early day is predicted by the dispatches.

Affairs in South Africa are not so favorable to the British as are those in the Philippines to the Americans. The disaster reported last week (p. 729) was quickly followed by another—the cutting up of a detachment of the "Scots Greys," a crack regiment of British dragoons with a long his-

tory. The fight occurred at Klipdam, on the 18th, and resulted in a British loss of two killed, eight wounded and 46 captured. Subsequently the Boers released their prisoners. On the 23d 600 Boers successfully "rushed" a British outpost near Botha'sberg, but they left 15 killed and 6 wounded, the British loss being 20 killed and 38 wounded. Another fight occurred on the 24th. The Boers attacked a British convoy southwest of Klerksdorp, but there is no further news of the affair than that the fighting was severe.

When the subject of the war in South Africa came up in the House of Lords the monotonous debate was enlivened by an unexpected speech from the Bishop of Hereford, the substance of which has just been published. He declared that he was against the policy of unconditional surrender on the part of the Boers. Such a spirit on Britain's part, he said, tended only to inflame the burghers' passion of patriotism. Besides, he asked, why should they lay down their arms without knowing what they were going to get? The hanging and shooting of Scheepers and others he bitterly denounced, calling them "spectacular and political executions." He wanted plain, clear, categorical terms, that would make for peace in its truest sense. Then, turning toward Lord Salisbury, the bishop asserted that the government, by its present attitude, was "sowing dragons' teeth," and that the harvest was likely to be a bloody one. Nevertheless the motion for a vigorous prosecution of the war and approving the course of the ministry was carried by 60 to 16. According to the latest official report, the British loss in lives thus far aggregates 20,210.

The Barcelona riots, reported last week (p. 729), are officially announced to have subsided. This announcement was made in the Spanish senate, at Madrid, on the 24th, by the minister of war, Gen. Weyler. But a fierce battle had been fought in the streets of Barcelona on the 20th, and the situation was so threatening on the 21st that Spain was believed to be in the throes of a revolution. Gen. Weyler urged the queen to give him a free hand, and the premier, Sagasta, threatened to resign if the request were granted. The queen was believed to favor Weyler's plan, however, and it is probable that he acted upon it, for on the 22d a dispatch from Barcelona stated that the captain gen-

eral had notified the populace that any persons found with arms in their possession after three days, would be tried by drumhead court-martial and shot. The restoration of tranquillity was officially reported two days later.

Italy as well as Spain is affected by labor disturbances. But the Italian censorship on these subjects is so strict that no definite information is obtainable. It is a very significant fact that this strictness of censorship has been so intensified within the past few days that all telegraphic messages are subjected to exceptionally severe scrutiny by the censors and that private individuals are forbidden the use of the telephones until further notice. Reports from Switzerland of the 24th explain that the object of this increased severity is "to prevent news of the growing labor troubles and bread riots in northern Italy from crossing the boundaries."

American politics offer nothing of special moment except the Democratic banquet at the Manhattan club, New York, on the 22d, and the People's party conference on the 21st in Kansas. At the banquet the principal speaker, David B. Hill, outlined a platform on which he believed all factions of the party could stand, and predicted that New York would be the pivotal state in the next presidential election. The conference of the People's party at Kansas (pp. 690, 724) met at Topeka on the 21st. The attendance is reported as small, much less than half the number of delegates contemplated by the call being in attendance. Those that did attend were largely "middle-of-the-road" delegates, who opposed going en masse into the Democratic party. The conference, which had been called by the state committee to advise a policy with reference to the new law enacted by the Republican legislature, which makes fusion nominations impossible, ordered the committee to call a state convention.

Owing to legal obstructions Mayor Harrison, of Chicago, notified the city council on the 24th of his objections to the referendum clause (p. 730) of the street car ordinance quoted last week, and which he had originally recommended. This clause made the ordinance as passed by the council depend for vitality upon its subsequent approval by the people of the city. The mayor now expresses a fear that such a referendum might be held to be an unlawful delegation of legislative