

10. The British are to provide for the restoration of the people to their homes and for supplying them with indispensable seed, stock, implements, etc.; also to pay war losses of individuals incurred under the laws of the South African Republic to the extent of \$15,000,000, in addition to lending to individuals to an unspecified amount at 3 per cent. interest.

The foregoing agreement is signed in behalf of the British by Lord Milner as high commissioner; in behalf of the South African Republic by Gen. Schalk Burger as vice president acting as president, Gen. Reitz as state secretary, and Gen. Botha as commander-in-chief; and in behalf of the Orange Free State by Gen. De Wet as acting president in place of President Steyn (the latter being ill and having appointed De Wet to act for him), Gen. Bremner, Judge Hertzog and Delarey.

No provision regarding the Boer allies of Cape Colony and Natal was made in these terms of settlement, but at the time of handing the document to the Boer commissioners for submission to the Vereeniging conference, Lord Milner read a statement, of which he gave them a copy, to the effect that—

the treatment of Cape Colony and Natal colonists who joined the Boers in the war will be determined, if they return to their own colonies, by the colonial governments; and as to Cape Colony that the government there agrees that the rank and file who surrender, and before a magistrate acknowledge themselves guilty of high treason, shall be punished only by denial for life of registration as voters, provided they have not been guilty of murder or acts contrary to the usages of civilized warfare; and that those holding official positions may be tried for high treason and punished at discretion provided that the death penalty shall not be inflicted.

Thus ends the British war in South Africa, reports of which have appeared regularly in these columns, from time to time, as the facts were disclosed through the daily press. By utilizing the reference pagings, inserted in most of the items, to trace them back from the last to the first, the reader may begin with the Cape Colony elections of 1898 (vol. i. No. 21, p. 10) and without further search follow the story of the war, told as it progressed, in a continuous serial narrative down to its close. In recognition of Lord Kitchener's services the king requests parliament to enable

him to grant Kitchener \$250,000. The Irish members announce their intention of opposing the grant at every stage.

The passage by the United States Senate of the Philippine civil government bill comes hard upon the heels of the South African treaty of peace, this bill having after prolonged debate been passed on the 3d. It was reported favorably on the 31st of March by the Senate committee on the Philippines, of which Mr. Lodge is chairman. The bill is very long, and is designed to be temporary in operation. It sanctions the existing American government in the Philippines, set up by the President; it provides for a census, as soon as peace shall have been established, with a view to organizing a permanent representative government; it authorizes the commission to lease and alienate the public lands; it authorizes it to grant franchises; and it provides for coinage and banking, with the silver standard. The bill makes no intimation of the intention of the United States with reference to the future of the islands. Consequently the minority of the committee recommended a substitute looking to the ultimate recognition of the Philippines after the manner of the organization and recognition of the Republic of Cuba. When the question came to a vote on the 3d, the majority of the committee had already caused the bill of rights of the United States constitution, except the clauses relative to juries and the bearing of arms, to be inserted in the bill; and several proposed amendments were voted on prior to the submission of the main question. One of these would have admitted Philippine products into the United States at 50 per cent. of regular customs duties. It was rejected. The substitute was also voted down. Morgan, of Alabama, and McLaurin, of South Carolina, Democrats, voted against the substitute and with the Republicans; while Hoar, of Massachusetts, and Wellington, of Maryland, Republicans, voted for it and with the Democrats. Mason, of Illinois, refused to vote either way on any of the amendments. On the final vote, that on the passage of the bill, the only Democrat to vote with the Republicans was McLaurin, of South Carolina. Hoar, Wellington and Mason voted with the Democrats in the negative. With these exceptions the bill passed by a strict party vote, the

affirmative vote being 48 and the negative 30. The bill is now in the House, where it is expected to come in conflict with the measure approved by the Republican committee of that body.

Upon the eve of the vote upon the Philippine bill in the Senate the war department announced that the effective strength of the army in the Philippines will be reduced in less than two months to 25,000 men. Already orders had been issued reducing the army as a whole from 77,287 to 66,497.

On the subject of labor strikes in the United States, to which considerable space was devoted last week (p. 119), there are several important facts to report.

The anthracite coal strike (p. 119) was strengthened on the 2d by the accession of from 75 to 80 per cent. of the men engaged in pumping out the mines to save them from destruction by water; and in support of the employers a large body of "coal and iron police," a private armed force, hired and controlled by the coal combinations, has been sent out to patrol the coal fields. The professed object of this movement is to prevent disorder and protect property from violence; though the strike leaders assert that there is no danger of violence and that the real object of privately policing the country is to incite individual strikers to breaches of the law.

In the tugmen's strike on the great lakes (p. 119), summonses have been issued by the steamboat inspectors at Chicago against the licensed tugmen who refuse to work on boats of the towing trust, but nothing further of interest is reported.

The Chicago street car strike, which seemed imminent last week (p. 119), has been settled, as rumor then had it. The settlement, effected through the mediation of Franklin MacVeagh, as a member of the arbitration tribunal of the National Civic Federation, secures all that the employes demanded. It is to hold for one year, and guarantees that—

1. The companies (the Consolidated Traction Co., the Union Traction Co., and the Chicago General Street Railway Co.) withdraw all opposition to the organization of their employes into the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employes of America.