

commission, for congress may refuse to ratify the promises. But the proclamation urges them to welcome the commission enthusiastically in the various towns and provinces, and to ask boldly for the form of government they most desire. It closes with an appeal to the people to still strive for liberty and independence.

American casualties in the Philippines since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out at Washington to May 23, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900, (see page 91)	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900	2
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900,.....	23
Total deaths since July 1, 1898.....	1,872
Wounded	2,129
Total casualties since July 1, 1898.....	4,001
Total casualties reported last week.....	3,973
Total deaths reported last week.....	1,847

In the Cuban postal defalcation, of which an introductory account was given last week, there are no very important developments except of details. Neely has been arrested on a criminal charge pending extradition proceedings and admitted to bail in \$20,000. He has been arrested also in a civil action brought by the United States to recover \$45,300.25 of public monies which he is charged with appropriating. In this proceeding he has been committed to Ludlow Street jail, New York city, in default of \$50,000 bail. To clear the way for his removal to Cuba for trial on the criminal charge, the judiciary committee of the lower house of congress agreed upon an extraditton measure, which the house passed on the 23d. It adds to the existing law a provision that—

whenever any foreign country or territory or any part thereof is occupied by the United States, any person who shall violate or who has violated any of the criminal laws in force therein and who shall depart or flee or who has departed or fled from justice therein to the United States, shall, when found therein, be liable to arrest and detention by the authorities of the United States, and on written request or requisition of the authorities in control of such foreign country or territory shall be returned and surrendered as hereinafter provided to the authorities in control of such foreign country or

territory for trial under the laws in force in the place where such offense was committed.

There is no political news of general interest in the United States, but in France it now appears that the triumph of the nationalists or military party in Paris, reported on pages 71 and 92, was purely local and its effect upon national politics of no importance. Though the nationalists secured a majority in the Paris council they were defeated overwhelmingly in the provinces. Out of 33,942 communes thus far heard from (the total number being 36,170), they won only 153. Other reactionaries won 8,519, while the result in 438 has not been definitely reported in this country. The supporters of the republic won 24,832.

Closely following these elections the French parliament reassembled on the 22d, after a six weeks' recess, and the ministry submitted to an interpellation on its general policy. Conceding that the Paris elections were a rebuff to the republican idea, the prime minister, Waldeck-Rousseau, pointed to the elections in the provinces as a triumph for the republic, and outlined the following ministerial programme: A law for the protection of the president from calumniators; a law to prevent the accumulation of property by religious associations; laws for promoting education; direct taxation; pensions for workingmen. He closed with the declaration that if this programme did not secure a majority the ministry would resign. By a vote of 439 to 56 it was then ordered that "the chamber is resolved to energetically pursue a policy of reforms and the defense of the republic and laity;" and by 271 to 226 that the chamber "approves of the declaration of the government."

In English politics the Australian question, explained on page 92, appears to have been amicably settled. Mr. Chamberlain, as noted on page 92, introduced the Australian commonwealth in parliament on the 17th with an amendment preserving rights of appeal to an appellate court of the empire; and the bill, so amended, passed its first reading. It came up for second reading on the 21st, when Mr. Chamberlain announced an agreement with the Australian representatives. The agreement was to the effect that an appeal from the highest court of the Australian common-

wealth may be taken to the queen's privy council in every case in which both parties to the litigation consent, and also where other than Australian interests are concerned; but in all other cases the Australian legislature is to be free to adopt any course it pleases. This modification, while it holds Australia in subordination to the empire by a slender legal thread, thereby satisfying Mr. Chamberlain's requirement, is a substantial victory for the Australian delegates.

Quite as important in some respects was the action of the London county council on the 22d. That body then demanded the surrender of their franchises by the street car companies of three parishes, embracing about 20 miles of track, and announced its intention of hereafter requiring possession of street car properties as fast as their franchises expire. The council intends to place all the lines in the county under public ownership. No new franchises will be given, and the only question that agitates the council now is whether to lease the lines or subject them to public operation.

England is undergoing the troubles of a great lockout at Staffordshire which threatens the pottery supply. Some 20,000 operatives, representing every department of pottery work, are idle. Production is consequently at a complete standstill. The cause of the lockout was a small strike in one establishment for the restoration of the wages that were reduced a penny in the shilling 20 years ago. To defeat this strike the employers combined and declared a lockout. They refuse even to consider the workmen's demand before autumn, and thus far every attempt at arbitration has been without result.

A street car strike in Berlin, which was ended in two days, was violent enough while it lasted. It broke out on the 19th. For two days the 6,000 strikers tied up the lines. Their weapons were stones, and the blank cartridges of the armed police failed to disperse them. But on the 21st the chief burgomaster of Berlin intervened. His mediation was accepted by both sides, and through his influence most of the demands of the strikers, though they had been stubbornly rejected for weeks, were granted.

The St. Louis street car strikers, of whose strike we have told on pages