

the products of this country. The latter provision was not made in the House bill. It is not thought that it will affect Brazil because of the export tax placed by that country on coffee, but it is expected that it will affect those countries which impose an import tax on a raw material which is used for manufacturing in this country. The new provision would make the maximum rates applicable to any colony or political subdivision of a country which has the right to adopt and enforce tariff legislation. The conditions imposed by the new section are applicable to the products of a country whether imported directly or indirectly from that country. Coffee and tea are the only articles of the free list upon which a maximum duty is applied.

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#### A Philippine Independence Amendment.

A proposed amendment to the Philippine tariff clause (p. 393) of the pending Payne tariff bill (p. 419) was spoken to on the 20th, in the United States Senate, by Senator Wm. A. Stone. The amendment reads as follows:

That it is hereby declared not to be the policy and purpose of the United States to maintain permanent sovereignty over the Philippine Islands, but to exercise authority in and over said Islands only so long as it may be necessary, in the opinion of the Congress and the President of the United States, not to exceed fifteen years from and after the passage of this act, to organize and establish a native Government capable of maintaining public order in said Islands, and until such international agreements shall have been made between the United States and foreign countries as will insure the independence of the Islands, and the people thereof. Upon the organization of such native government, the organization of which shall be upon such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by the United States, all authority, civil and military, of the United States, except as may be otherwise agreed upon between the government of the United States and the Government of the Philippine Islands, shall be withdrawn from said Islands; and hereafter and until the provisions of this Section shall be altered, amended or repealed, all articles of whatever kind, being wholly the growth and product of the Philippine Islands, shall be admitted into the United States free of duty; and agricultural implements of all kinds, cotton and cotton manufactures of all kinds, books and publications of all kinds, and machinery for use in manufactures of all kinds, being wholly the growth and product of the United States, shall be admitted into the Philippine Islands free of duty: Provided, That this section shall not be in force and effect nor become operative until the existing legislative authority of the Philippine Islands shall by joint resolution, duly enacted, consent to and approve the same. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby repealed.

Discussion is promised on this amendment. It is believed that if the Philippine Islands are once admitted within the tariff wall of the United States, for which the Payne bill is intended to pre-

pare the way, without some such declaration, the peaceable attainment of independence will be made difficult. The Philippine Assembly recognizes this, and has made earnest protest to Congress.

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#### Railroads and Coal-Land Ownership.

The United States Supreme Court handed down through Justice White on the 3d, Justice Harlan dissenting, a decision upholding the constitutionality of that clause in the Hepburn railroad rate bill (vol. ix, p. 321) by which railroads and carriers are prohibited from dealing in the commodities they carry (vol. ix, p. 180); but declaring that the government's interpretation of the clause under which it was endeavoring to compel the railroads to part with their coal lands, was a false one. The decision announces, according to the Chicago Record-Herald's report, that the "commodities clause" does not mean that a railroad company may not own stock in another company which controls coal mines the product of which the railroad company transports to market; nor does it mean that if such a railroad company owns its mines direct, it cannot transport their product, provided it first parts with it before it becomes interstate traffic. The effect of this decision makes it possible for the railroads to do by indirection what they cannot do directly—namely, own coal mines and transport the products therefrom. In order to do this, however, it becomes necessary for a railroad company either to organize a subsidiary company which shall be the legal owner of the mines, or in the event of the railroad company's owning its mines direct, then it will become necessary for it to dispose in good faith of the output of the mines before it transports the same.

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#### Coal Mine Peace.

The controversy between the coal operators and their employes (p. 375) was settled on the 29th for another period of three years—until March 31, 1912. With the exception of five added stipulations suggested by the miners the agreement is identical with the one signed in New York three years ago. The Mine Workers' Union is not officially recognized, the members of the miners' committee simply signing the agreement "on behalf of the representatives of the anthracite mine workers."

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#### The National Peace Congress.

The second National Peace Congress (p. 420) opened in Chicago on Monday, the 3d. A preliminary meeting for the benefit of the school teachers of the city was held on Saturday afternoon, the 1st, and on Sunday further preliminary meetings and peace services and sermons called out large audiences. The meetings of Monday, Tues-