

tective committee of the Equitable, New York Life, and Mutual companies? The committee will be unfettered, except that it is to take possession of the New York and Mutual companies and select directors and controllers who shall be pledged to obtain full restitution and full punishment of wrongdoers and also obtain restitution and punishment of the Equitable wrongdoers. There will be no expense to the committee nor need the committee travel. The committee is to represent no faction and is obligated to no one, except the policy-holders. It has been decided that you should represent your section in this sacred duty kindly wire answer at my expense. This is vital! You will not be bound until other members' names are submitted to you."

Favorable replies were reported on the same day from Gov. Johnson of Minnesota, Gov. Beckham of Kentucky, and ex-Attorney General Monnett of Ohio.

#### Revival of the Philippine question.

At a mass meeting of the Anti-Imperialist League (pp. 21, 25, 305, 343), held on the 10th in Faneuil Hall, Boston, the dean of the Yale Law School, Henry Wade Rogers, was the principal speaker. Prof. Rogers related the colonial policy to an imperialistic tendency at home. Said he:

Ever since the Civil War there has been taking place in this country a steady centralization of government. The treatment accorded our new possessions is one evidence of what has been taking place. The people of the United States have shown themselves unwilling to govern their conduct according to the basic principles upon which our institutions, State and national, were founded. The principle which Lincoln declared would be "in all coming days" a stumbling block has been disregarded within forty years by the party which he founded. In place of the distrust with which the fathers looked upon executive power, we find a disposition to resort to the President for relief in matters which are entirely outside his authority. An industrial dispute arises between labor and capital and men appeal to the President, as a powerful ruler whose wishes, like the command of an autocrat, are not lightly to be disregarded. Congress shows a disposition to delegate to the President powers of government which the Constitution never intended he should exercise. In 1901, for example, the Congress passed the Philippine act, which constituted the President an absolute despot over eight millions of people. The principles of constitutional liberty can only be preserved by strictly conforming to the

limitations of power which the Constitution prescribes. There may be a man in the White House some time whose intentions will not be as good as those of Washington and Lincoln or Cleveland and Roosevelt.

In introducing Prof. Rogers, Moorfield Storey, the distinguished lawyer of Boston, who presided at the meeting, made an address, in which he said that a government similar to that of Russia had been established by the United States in the Philippine Islands.

In connection with this Boston meeting it is to be recalled that Richard Weightman, Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune (Republican), reported as follows in the Tribune of October 3, with reference to the Taft expedition (p. 358) to the Philippines:

One fact developed by the Taft expedition to the Philippines is that of the deep desire and resolute purpose of the natives to obtain the privilege of self-government. Other matters are involved in more or less uncertainty. There can be no doubt on this point whatsoever. We hear from time to time positive assertions to the effect that the Filipinos are gradually becoming reconciled to our rule, realizing our superior methods and institutions. These, however, invariably emanate from our own officials or from some beneficiary of our establishment. The Filipinos themselves invariably declare, and with steadily increasing emphasis, that they want to govern themselves. This feeling is not confined to the ignorant, low classes. It is the unanimous sentiment of the educated, well to do, and responsible elements of the population.

Apparently the Philippine problem is more exasperating than reports of the Taft party has revealed, for in the September 28th issue of the New York Age, one of the leading Negro papers of the country, we find a special letter from Manila, dated the 18th of August, in which the correspondent says:

The political pot boiled as it never boiled before in the Philippines during the visit of Taft's party. . . . This feeling reached its climax at a dinner by Senor Arsenio Cruz Herrera, alcalde of the city of Manila and president of the Federal party, to the visiting Congressmen and the provincial governors. Senor Herrera improved the occasion by delivering a speech of bitter denunciation of Gov. Luke Wright and of the class of Americans sent out here to

govern the Philippines, especially the American Commissioners. He made no bones of stating that he and the Filipinos are sick and tired of Wright and his creatures and desire their dismissal, on account of the ineradicable bias against the Filipinos given them by the prejudices against colored races which residence in the Southern States instills. In short, so incendiary did Senor Herrera's speech seem to Secretary Taft that it was, at his request, kept out of the American papers. . . . Gov. George Curry of Samar arose and said something in defense of Mr. Wright, alleging his great rectitude and saying that if the Federals had gone to the governor and made complaint about the outrages he surely would have attended to the matter. Senor Herrera replied, citing the case of the violation of a woman by a constabulary officer, who has not been punished for his crime, and the trial of the Renacimiento editors, ordered by the governor, solely because said newspaper denounced the outrages committed. He continued, that the class of Americans sent here to govern the Islands are responsible for the alienation of the people from the American government, characterized them as "grafters" and "virtue despoilers," and asked the visiting Congressmen to send to the islands a better element of Americans, such as the Filipinos could respect. At this point Gov. Curry, who is an American, became so exasperated that he lost control of himself, and leaping to his feet hurled a glass of champagne—glass and all—full in Herrera's face. The pandemonium which ensued was horrible, and all accounts of it were kept out of the local press and foreign dispatches. The Americans, whom Herrera castigated so bitterly, are full of wrath, and his resignation has been demanded. El Renacimiento, the native organ, is being prosecuted for libel by the government, though charged by an individual, a Colonel Baker of the Philippines constabulary, who commanded the forces in Cavite and Batangos during the recent upheaval. Baker put into use Weyler's old Cuban game of "reconcentration" and used the people very roughly, indeed; and El Renacimiento got its foot into it for criticizing his methods and conduct.

#### Dissolution of the Norway-Sweden union.

After two days of exciting discussion in the Norwegian Storting over the Karlstad agreement concerning the dissolution of the Norway-Sweden union (p. 409), a proposal of the republican members to submit the agreement to a referendum was defeated on the 10th by 109 to 8, and the agreement was ratified by 101 to 16. It