

to determine those persons upon whom the permanent government of the Republic should be devolved."

It was, in fact, this phrase that gave the organizers of the league the idea of what may grow into a very important and far-reaching political movement.

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A staff correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, John Callan O'Laughlin, wrote from Washington on the 1st, that Mr. Root, the Secretary of State, who has just arrived from his journey through South America, is very strongly opposed to any policy which may lead to the annexation of Cuba. According to this report, Mr. Root's position is that—

the United States stands in an extremely awkward position before Pan-America. The countries of the southern continent remember what Mr. Root said to them—that the United States did not seek an inch of Latin American territory—and now they are stared in the face by the fact of the American occupation of Cuba. They never believed the United States was actuated by altruistic motives alone in going to war with Spain. They were surprised by the American evacuation of Cuba, but their distrust was revived by the policy of President Roosevelt in setting the government of Panama upon its legs at the expense of the Republic of Colombia. American fiscal intervention in Santo Domingo added to their suspicion. Secretary Root spoke convincingly to them of American unselfishness and now he wants to make his word good. He came back to Washington assured that the government of Colombia would negotiate treaties with the United States and Panama, a step it has refused, up to this time, to take in spite of the earnest appeals of this country. The negotiation of these treaties will be begun when Senor Enrique Cortez, the new minister of Colombia to Washington, arrives here. In arranging a settlement of all the questions with Colombia and between Colombia and Panama, Mr. Root believes he will show South America that the United States has acted and is still acting in perfect good faith.

But according to the same correspondent, Mr. Root's view is not that of other members of the cabinet.

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A foreign explanation of the causes of the war, may possibly have truth in it. The Paris *Matin* of the 1st says that Palma destroyed the independence of Cuba because he feared black supremacy. The real exercise of liberty would give power to the black and mulatto majority, and the terror of a regime of blacks provoked the electoral frauds with the revolution as a consequence. It adds:

Between the acceptance of an honest election, which would transfer the power from the whites to blacks, and the loss of independence, Palma has not hesitated. He has sacrificed the independence of his country, but he has obtained the protection of American forces against the exactions of the blacks, which he feared above all.

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All Quiet in Mexico.

From time to time during the summer prophecies of impending uprisings in Mexico have found their way into the daily press, coming from the City of Mexico, and from various points in the United States. The June labor riots at the Cananea copper mines in the State of Sonora, owned by Americans (p. 225), seem to have been the only actual outbreak during this time. The threatened uprisings were described in July dispatches as being anti-

foreign in sentiment, and as including plans for a great labor strike, and for massacres of foreigners, both to begin September 16, the Mexican Independence Day. Nothing violent seems to have occurred on that day. On the 27th a band of smuggling outlaws made an attack on the town of Jimenez, near the Texan border, and captured it, only to be routed later by Mexican troops. The affair is not regarded as serious. In regard to the "fake" character of the prophesied uprisings the Washington Post has intelligently said:

Able editorials have appeared in a number of leading American papers, gravely discussing the prospects of a Mexican Boxer uprising. The depth and persistence of American ignorance of all things Mexican is one of the marvels of the century. It seems to be impossible to lift the veil that shrouds the mysterious land south of the Rio Grande. To the average American, Mexico is the land of manana, cigarettes, guitars and sudden assassinations, and apparently he prefers that no modern sunlight should be permitted to dispel the romantic moonshine with which he envelops the country. There is no more danger of an "uprising" of Mexicans against foreigners than there is danger of an uprising of Americans in New York against the foreign horde. Americans are more welcome in Mexico than Mexicans in the United States and they are less subject to molestation. Mexicans of all classes are possessed of better manners toward the foreigner than are displayed by the average American.

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Russia Quieter.

The government's arrangements for the sale of lands to the peasantry are practically complete (p. 560). On the 30th regulations were made public under which the sale of 11,000,000 dectiatines of land in European Russia will begin immediately. The local agrarian commissions, which are composed of delegates elected by the peasants, the land owners and the zemstvos and of representatives of the government, will act as intermediaries in determining the value of the land and fixing the conditions of sale. They are charged also with arrangements for emigration. The acreage in eastern Russia and on the Siberian steppes surrendered by the Emperor, will be sold on easy terms. The price is less than \$2 an acre, and payments are spread over fifty years.

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The ban upon meetings of the Constitutional Democrats in St. Petersburg and Moscow having been removed (p. 610), a peaceful advance is hoped for. On the 1st the central committee of the "Cadets," as they are called, met in St. Petersburg. The position of Professor Milukoff in the party was at once recognized by his election to the presidency of the assembly. The general congress of the Constitutional Democrats, appointed for the 6th at Helsinki in Finland (p. 610), may after all be permitted to meet in St. Petersburg.

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Press dispatches from St. Petersburg, under date of the 2nd, state that several newspapers have published editorial articles on the events at Atlanta, Ga., comparing them with the anti-Jewish massacres in Russia. The *Novoe Vremya* expresses the hope that the United States now will cease to attribute the

Russian excesses to official provocation, instead of admitting that they are the result of natural racial animosity.

NEWS NOTES

—The Illinois State Conference of Charities will be held in Chicago from October 24 to 26, inclusive.

—Sir William Treloar was elected on the 29th Lord Mayor of London in succession to Walter Vaughan Morgan.

—M. M. Crane, formerly attorney general of Texas, has challenged Senator Bailey (p. 603) to debate the senatorial question.

—Joseph F. Smith, president of the Mormon Church, was arrested at Salt Lake City on the 1st and held for trial on a charge of polygamy.

—The United Irish League met at Philadelphia on the 1st. One of the distinguished attendants is T. P. O'Connor, M. P., who arrived in New York on the 29th.

—A long distance balloon race from France northward across the English channel was won on the 1st by Lieutenant Frank P. Lahm, the representative from the United States.

—The Colby faction of the Republican party in New Jersey, which recently made great headway against the Republican machine (p. 204), was badly beaten at the Republican primaries last week.

—Miss Anna Nicholes, secretary of the Illinois Woman's Trade Union League, has been substituted for Mrs. Clara P. Bourland on the Democratic ticket of Illinois (p. 514) for university trustee.

—A great canal in northern Italy, draining the provinces of Mantua and Regglo, and discharging into the Po, has just been completed. Six thousand men have been at work for five years upon it.

—The Japanese Naval Department has decided upon the improvement of the Japanese navy, the expansion to cover a period of eight years. The parliament is asked to vote \$135,000,000 for the purpose.

—A slight earthquake shock was reported in France on the 20th, and on the 27th the island of Porto Rico received a series of heavy shocks. No serious harm was done, but the people were greatly terrified.

—The Danish parliament was opened on the first by King Frederick in person. According to the press dispatches the King announced that steps would be taken to meet the wishes of Iceland regarding the reform of its constitution (p. 605).

—The highest mountain in North America, Mount McKinley, in Central Alaska, 20,464 ft. in height, has been ascended to the summit for the first time. The feat was performed by Dr. Frederick A. Cook, of Brooklyn, who had attempted it several times before and failed.

—A dispatch from Rome on the 1st states that the convocation of the second peace conference at The Hague is being urged by Great Britain and also by Russia, the latter wishing to show that the internal situation in that country is again becoming

normal and that, in any case, it does not affect her foreign policy.

—Francis H. Warren, editor of The Detroit Infirmer, a weekly paper devoted to the interests of the colored people, and himself a Negro, has been nominated in Detroit on the Democratic ticket for the legislature. Two reputable Negro lawyers, who sought nomination for the legislature on the Republican ticket, were turned down.

—Harry Orchard, the self-confessed murderer of Governor Steunenberg, upon whose testimony the State of Idaho is depending to convict Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, the officials of the Western Federation of Miners (p. 349), has become a raving maniac under the strain of the "sweat box," to which he has been subjected for almost a year.

—The Grand Lama of Tashi Lhumpo, in Thibet, is to have an automobile—an eighty horse power car. Neither cart roads nor carts are known in the neighborhood of Tashi Lhumpo, and the motor will be the first wheeled vehicle the natives have seen. The Tashi Lama will have a road made from his monastery to Cyantse, where there is a new British road.

—The Viceroy of India, Lord Minto, received on the 1st from the most influential body of Mohammedans that has ever approached the British government in India, an address setting forth the grievances and aspirations of the Mohammedans of India, and especially their claim for a fair share in any modified system of representation that might be contemplated.

—Elihu Root, United States Secretary of State (p. 611), has completed his South American tour. He reached Washington on the 30th, and is reported as expressing much gratification at the honor accorded him as a representative of the United States wherever he went in South America, and as greatly impressed by the industrial awakening in that continent.

—A national purity conference under the auspices of the National Purity Federation will be held at Chicago on the 9th, 10th and 11th, at Lincoln Center (p. 443). An interesting feature will be an address in the afternoon of the 10th by Theodore Schroeder, attorney for the Free Speech League of New York, and one in the evening of the same day by Anthony Comstock.

—The German Social Democratic convention in session at Mannheim (p. 610), on the 28th, unanimously adopted resolutions expressing sympathy with the Russian revolutionists. The convention has decided to summon an international socialist workingman's congress, to meet at Stuttgart next autumn for the purpose of demonstrating the solidarity of the socialists throughout the world.

—On the morning of September 28th, the last day of the dreadful hurricane in the Southern States, Mr. Asa C. Staples "blew into" Fairhope, situated on Mobile Bay in the midst of the storm district. He immediately applied for two lots on Fels avenue. "Aren't you scared out?" asked the almost breathless inhabitants. "No," said the indomitable big gentleman, "I came to Fairhope because she demonstrates Single Tax principles. I am going to build