

to oppose the whole "dreibund" policy. The German emperor's name was hooted by them in the reichsrath, and while denouncing him they also denounced the Austrian government for cowering before him. To intensify this danger to the "dreibund" treaty the Russian government, against which in part the treaty is made, is pursuing a policy of giving exceptional freedom to Russian Poles along the Prussian frontier with a view to creating Russian sympathies among the Prussian Poles by bringing Russian liberality to the Poles into sharp contrast with the drastic Prussian policy.

France is stirred profoundly by a religious agitation which threatens open revolt. The struggle is due to the rigid enforcement by the new ministry (p. 150) of the "associations law," enacted a year ago (p. 202), which subjects the Catholic orders to regulation by the civil powers. When the new ministry with M. Coombes at its head faced the new parliament at its first session, a vote of confidence in the determination of the ministry to apply the policy of "laicism (anti-clericalism), fiscal reform and social solidarity" was carried in the chamber of deputies by 329 to 124. That was on the 12th of June. Two days afterwards, June 14, the ministry outlined its policy as follows:

- (1) Vigorous anti-clerical policy;
- (2) reduction of military service to two years;
- (3) imposing an income tax either rigidly proportional or progressive;
- (4) withdrawal of educational privileges from all religious institutions, leading up to a future state monopoly of schools and universities;
- (5) radical reforming of the judicial machinery, implying, perhaps, a revising of the criminal and civil codes in order to rescue justice from a tangle of contradictory jurisprudence;
- (6) the pensioning of aged and disabled workers and widows with children;
- (7) state ownership of the railways.

Pursuant to the first and fourth items of this policy, an order was issued on the 10th enforcing the "associations law" by directing the police to close all religious schools which did not apply for special authorization under that law and which might remain open at the end of six days. For doing this the ministry was interpellated on the 11th, but by a vote of 328 to 218 the interpellation was at the premier's request, postponed.

Great popular excitement followed the subsequent efforts at closing Catholic schools. All France was in a turmoil, and in many cities and towns the resistance was so great that the gendarmes were called in to support the police. Throughout the country, schools and cloisters were turned into fortresses, around which the Catholic peasantry formed protective cordons and defied both police and gendarmerie. A mass meeting held in Paris on the 26th to protest against the closing of the Catholic schools was broken up by mobs, which organized counter demonstrations. On the 27th two mass meetings were held in Paris, one for the suppression and the other against it, the attendance at each being about 15,000. Neither was seriously disturbed, though there were several violent encounters in the neighborhood. In the midst of the enforcement of this anti-clerical policy the chamber of deputies took a recess on the 12th until October.

To the closing days of the present session of the British parliament a vigorous debate over maladministration in Ireland has lent excitement. When the appropriation estimates for Ireland came before the House of Commons on the 23d, John Redmond, leader of the Irish parliamentary party, moved a reduction of the salary of George Wyndham, chief secretary, and the acrimonious debate followed. The question came to vote on the 25th and the motion was defeated, 168 to 117; but the object of the Irish party was accomplished in laying bare the oppressive system of government prevailing in Ireland, the main features of which the ministry were unable to deny.

Another motion, made and supported by the Irish party, but which was opposed by the Liberals as well as the Conservatives, was a protest against the appointment of Lord Alverstone, Sir John Bigham and Sir John Ardagh as a royal commission to inquire into the question of remitting or reducing the sentences imposed in South Africa by British military courts during the war. It was urged that the approving attitude toward the Jameson raid of two of these appointees, Alverstone and Bigham, made them unfit to serve on such a commission. The protest was defeated, July 28, by a vote of 210 to 64.

Mr. Chamberlain took occasion on

the 30th to make a speech from the floor of the Commons dealing comprehensively with the South African question. Regarding the status of the defunct republics he is reported as saying that—

the imperial government had established a crown colony in the strictest sense. The next step would be to add a nominated official element, and then nothing but circumstances and time would separate the new colonies from full self-government, the ultimate goal of their ambition. That consummation would not be delayed; if for no other reason, because it might relieve the government of the tremendous burden of responsibility involved in the present situation, but all must understand that the government would not be rushed nor hustled into any action which circumstances did not warrant. The speaker said he was one of those optimistic enough to believe that the new colonies would reach the ultimate goal of their ambition much sooner than many persons now thought possible. So far as the government was concerned, the surrender promises would be kept, in spirit as well as by letter. The government, he said, was bound both by honor and interest to this course.

After many days the Boer resolutions of surrender adopted at the conference at Vereeniging (p. 137) on the 31st of May by a vote of 54 to 6 have been transmitted in full text. They are as follows:

This meeting of representatives both of the South African Republic and of the Orange Free State, held at Vereeniging, from May the 15th till May the 31st, 1902, has received with regret the proposal of His Majesty in connection with the cessation of the present hostilities, and the communication that this proposal must be rejected or accepted unchanged. It regrets that H. M.'s government have absolutely refused to negotiate with the governments of the two republics on the basis of our independence or to allow our governments to communicate with our delegation. For our nation has always thought that not only on grounds of justice it has a well-founded claim to that independence but also because of its great material and personal sacrifices made for that independence.

This meeting has earnestly considered the state of our country and people and paid special attention to the following facts:

1. That the war policy of the British military authorities has led to the total devastation of the territory of the two republics, with the burning of farms and villages, the destruction of all means of existence and the exhaustion of all resources necessary for the

support of our families, the subsistence of our forces and the continuation of the war.

2. That placing our captive families in the concentration camps has led to an unheard of state of suffering and disease, so that within a relatively short time about 20,000 of our beloved ones have died there, and the horrible prospect has been opened that in this way our entire race may become extinct.

3. That the Kaffir tribes within as well as without the limits of the territory of the two republics are nearly all armed and take a part in the struggle against us, and by committing murders and perpetrating atrocities create an unsupportable state of things in many districts of the two republics, such as quite recently occurred in the district of Vrijheid, where 56 burgers were murdered and mutilated on the same occasion in a most horrible manner.

4. That by proclamations of the enemy to which he has already given a commencement of execution the burgers still fighting are threatened with the loss of all movable and immovable property, and so with total material ruin.

5. That the conditions of the war have made it impossible for us for a long while already to keep the many thousands of prisoners taken by our forces so that we can only inflict small damage on the British forces, whereas, the burgers who are taken prisoner by the British forces are sent abroad, and that after the war has been raging for nearly three years, only a small part remains of the forces with which we began the war.

6. That this fighting remnant which forms but a small minority of our nation has to fight overwhelming numbers of the enemy, and, moreover, practically exists under conditions of famine and destitution of the necessaries of life, and notwithstanding our utmost endeavors and the sacrifice of all that was dear to us, we cannot reasonably hope for ultimate victory.

This meeting therefore is of opinion that there are no reasonable grounds for supposing that this people will retain its independence by continuing the war, and considers that under the circumstances the nation is not justified in continuing that war, as it can only result in the social and material ruin not only of us, but of our posterity.

Compelled by the above circumstances and considerations, this meeting instructs both governments to accept the proposals of H. M.'s government and to sign them in the name of the people of both republics.

This meeting expresses its confi-

dence that the conditions called into existence by the acceptance of the proposals of H. M.'s government may soon be improved in such a manner that our nation may attain to the enjoyment of those privileges to which it believes itself justly entitled, not only on the grounds of its past, but also because of its sacrifices during the war.

This meeting has with great pleasure noted the resolve of H. M.'s government to extend a great measure of amnesty to such British subjects as have taken up arms on our side, and to whom we are attached by ties of blood and honor, and expresses the wish that it may please H. M. still further to extend this amnesty.

From the Philippines there are indications of unrest in Mindanao, where the Mohammedan natives were some time ago supposed (p. 71) to have been brought under subjection.

Another court-martial has been concluded at Manila, this time in the case of Lieut. Edwin Hickman, of the First cavalry. He had ducked two Filipinos in a pond in Tabayas, their offense being that they refused to guide him to the headquarters of the Filipino general Caballes. Lieut. Hickman admitted the charge, but pleaded that he was justified under general order 100. He also produced a telegraphic order from Gen. Chaffee, says the special Manila report of the 24th to the Chicago Inter Ocean, "urging the location of (Gen.) Caballes, regardless of the measures necessary to do so."

Further steps have been taken to secure an investigation of the atrocities in the Philippines. They come in the form of an open letter to President Roosevelt from Charles Francis Adams, Carl Schurz, Edwin Burritt Smith, Moorefield Storey and Herbert Welsh, representing a meeting of representative anti-imperialists (p. 55) held at New York city last spring. The letter is long and circumstantial, and offers to direct the President's attention to concrete cases of atrocity the investigation of which would demonstrate a regime of kidnaping, murder, robbery, torture of both men and women, and the infliction of death penalties on testimony elicited by torture.

National political affairs in the United States were marked by a Democratic dinner at Nantasket, Massachusetts, on the 24th, at which

Wm. J. Bryan and Edward M. Shepard were the principal speakers. Mr. Bryan afterwards went into Maine for a speaking tour in support of the Democratic ticket to be voted upon at the approaching state election. His progress is described by Democratic papers of Maine as a continuous ovation.

In Iowa the Republican convention met on the 30th. The highest officer to be elected is secretary of state and this convention nominated W. B. Martin. But the most important action of the convention was its adoption of the tariff plank of last year's platform which was then forced upon the party by the faction at the head of which Gov. Cummins triumphed over that led by Gov. Shaw (now Secretary of the Treasury). For months past the Republican party of Iowa has heatedly debated the movement of the Shaw faction to reject this plank this year. In behalf of that movement it has been argued that the objectionable plank is virtually a plea of guilty to the Democratic charge that the tariff is the parent of the trusts. This debate was carried to the convention, but did not break out upon the floor. It was settled in the committee on resolutions, where the Cummins faction again won into point and the old plank was readopted. The plank in question, while endorsing the policy of protection, favors "such changes in the tariff from time to time as become advisable through the progress of our industries and their changing relations to the commerce of the world." The platform approves the Philippine policy, commends President Roosevelt's administration, and, while refraining from proposing him for the next presidential nomination, looks forward to his election as "a foreshadowed event demanded by the popular will and one that will maintain and promote the national prosperity and conserve every national interest." On the trust question it asserts—

the sovereignty of the people over all corporations and aggregations of capital, and the right residing in the people to enforce such regulations, restrictions, or prohibitions upon corporate management as will protect the individual and society from abuse of the power which great combinations of capital wield.

Ohio politics are affected by the political situation in Cleveland,