

mand, whereupon the general manager put his request in the form of a demand, to which the officer replied that his orders were to prevent the landing of imported laborers and he must obey. There appears to have been no subsequent attempt to defy the governor. In defense of his position Gov. Tanner says:

My position has been from the beginning emphatically against the importation of labor into Illinois, not from the southern states alone, but from all other states, because such a pernicious system necessarily brings to our state and dumps upon society an undesirable class of citizens, and I do not propose, if I can help it, that the state of Illinois shall be used as a dumping ground for the criminal and idle classes of other countries or other states. If one, two or three, or even larger numbers, come to our state in the proper order and in the ordinary way, seeking employment, and the mine owners see fit to employ them, I will give them all the protection necessary to peacefully operate their mines.

Warrants were issued on the 14th for the arrest of the president of the coal company, the general manager, and the detective guards. They are charged with conspiracy to murder, and with actually committing murder, the charge resting upon the evidence given at the inquest. But no arrests have been made. When the police officer started for the stockade to arrest the accused person, the fact caused intense excitement and the militia officer in command interfered. He agreed to prevent the accused from leaving the stockade, and the warrants were withheld. The accused are now confined in the stockade under military surveillance until public feeling shall have sufficiently subsided to make it prudent to bring them before the civil magistrate.

The action of Gov. Tanner "in refusing to permit the state militia to be used in the interest of the coal operators" has been indorsed by the Chicago Federation of Labor, but the indorsement was given reluctantly. A feeling prevailed that the governor had merely made a bid for the labor vote, and the resolution was on the point of being lost when George A. Schilling, who was secretary of the state labor bureau under Gov. Altgeld, came to its rescue with an earnest speech. In the course of his speech Mr. Schilling said:

I don't care if, as has been said here, Gov. Tanner did or did not take the

stand he has in the Virden affair in the hope of gaining political capital. He did something that no other governor in the United States ever had the courage to do, and for that reason, in this instance, at least, he is deserving of our praise.

Another labor conflict in the United States has taken on an aspect of general import. It is the strike of the workmen in the steel and wire works at Cleveland, a branch of the recently formed trust known as the American Steel and Wire company. This strike was begun on the 1st of August last, in resistance to a reduction of wages. Just before the formation of the trust, wages had been reduced 15 per cent., and after the formation they were reduced 33 1-3 per cent. more. To the latter reduction the employees objected, and they appointed a committee to wait upon the company regarding the matter. But the company refused to confer with the committee. Thereupon the workmen struck and the strike has been in progress ever since. The strikers have congregated in the highways near the steel works, for the purpose of warning outside workmen of the continuance of the strike; and though no breaches of the peace have occurred, this has been made the basis by the company for applying for an injunction. Their application was made to the United States circuit court, before Judge Hammond, of Tennessee, and Judge Ricks, of Ohio, and in behalf of the strikers it was opposed by Arnold Green and ex-Congressman Martin A. Foran, two prominent lawyers of Cleveland. On the 18th the two judges granted the injunction.

Judge Hammond, who wrote the opinion in this injunction case, held that the fact that the complainant was a trust, and therefore a lawless organization under the statutes of Ohio, made no difference. He also held that to constitute a breach of peace on the part of the strikers it was not necessary that they should even have lifted a finger—the mere presence of large bodies of them near the works being sufficient.

In Wisconsin another labor case is in progress. This is a criminal trial for participation in a labor strike. The charge is conspiracy to injure the business of an employer of labor, and the defendants are Thomas I. Kidd, secretary of the International Wood Workers' union, and two "pickets."

They are defended by Clarence Darrow, of Chicago.

Of the great labor strike in Paris, described last week, very little news has reached us. On the 13th it was reported that the Railroad Men's union had decided to join the strike, and was sending instructions to provincial branches of the union to quit work, with a reminder, so the dispatch reads, "of the secret measures agreed upon at the railroad men's congress for the hindrance of traffic in the event of a strike." On the same day the offices of the strike committee were raided by the police and its papers seized, while several provincial railway stations were taken possession of by troops. Since these reports nothing of importance has been cabled.

Turning from labor difficulties to the difficulties incident to the negotiation of a treaty of peace between the United States and Spain, we find that affairs are being brought to a head. The commissioners of the two countries, sitting at Paris, held their fifth joint meeting on the 14th, and their sixth on the 17th. These meetings, like all that preceded them, were held in secret, but there is a definiteness and an air of probability about the reports of what occurred, which indicate that the reports are authentic. According to these reports, no discussion of the Philippine question has yet been reached, the commissioners having been at a deadlock over the question of the debt which Spain has saddled upon Cuba.

The Spanish commissioners insist, so the apparently true reports have it, that Spain shall be relieved of the Cuban debt, while the American commissioners insist that Spain shall withdraw from Cuba in accordance with the protocol—unconditionally. For their side of this issue the Spanish argued that a national debt is transferred with the transfer of sovereignty, and that as Spain is responsible for the Cuban debt she has a right to know to whom she relinquishes her sovereignty, to the end that she may discuss the responsibility for the debt. They therefore asked whether the sovereignty is to pass to the United States or to a Cuban government. To this the American commissioners replied that the Spanish position might have been tenable at one time, but that the signing of the protocol cut off all argument. Responding, the Spanish com-

missioners intimated that they were being put in the position of repudiating the Cuban bonds, and rather than do that they would surrender the entire Philippines; to which Mr. Day is credited with retorting that the surrender of the Philippines would probably be demanded, irrespective of the Cuban or any other debt. He is said to have added that President McKinley had instructed him to demand the entire surrender of Puerto Rico on the 18th before midnight, and the evacuation of Havana by November 1st.

Puerto Rico was surrendered on the 18th, the American flag being raised over the palace at San Juan at 12 o'clock noon. This ceremony was followed by the raising of American flags over the other public buildings of the city. Gen. Brooke, chairman of the American commission of evacuation, then telegraphed to the secretary of war at Washington that "the occupation of the island is now complete." Gen. Macias, the Spanish captain general, had sailed on the 16th, with most of his staff, for Spain.

Cuba still remains under the nominal sovereignty of Spain, but Admiral Sampson, chairman of the American evacuation commission there, has made a peremptory demand for the complete surrender of Spanish sovereignty on December 1st.

While nominal sovereignty of Cuba remains for the present in Spain, and the United States holds part of the island by military occupation, the Cubans are preparing to assert their right of sovereignty at the proper time. To this end, a convention of Cuban representatives from the principal cities and towns met on the 17th at Sagua la Grande and unanimously adopted a platform of principles as the basis for a political party to be called the National Political Party of Cuba. In this platform the convention declared that it recognizes "no sovereignty other than the free and independent people of Cuba;" that "the will of the people as expressed in the laws enacted by their representatives shall be the supreme law of the country;" that there must be no "special privilege to any class of citizens;" and that "the right of the individual" is to be always defended, "upon the purest democratic principles and according to Christian morals." Among other demands of this platform are universal suffrage,

free speech, free press, religious liberty, liberty of all other opinion, the habeas corpus, an extensive and liberal postal service, free and non-sectarian public schools, the rights of assembly, petition, and trial by jury, and the abolition of capital punishment and of standing armies. The president of the convention was Jose Torres y Mendez.

President McKinley's committee of inquiry into the mismanagement of the war left Washington on the 16th. Its destination was Jacksonville, Fla., and the party consisted of 24 persons, who were accommodated with a special train consisting of a dining coach and sleeping and parlor cars. The committee expects to go from Jacksonville to Tampa, and thence to Atlanta, Anniston, Huntsville, Chattanooga, Lexington, Camp Meade and Camp Wikoff. On the 18th the committee began its work at Jacksonville.

American politics have settled down everywhere to the routine of campaigning, and there is nothing to note except the address which the national committee of the National Democratic party (gold democrats) has issued. This address was issued on the 16th. It is an appeal to the democrats of the country to abandon "the vagaries of the Chicago platform;" and, denouncing protection as "the spoliation of the many for the benefit of the few," and as inevitably breeding "trusts, monopolies, and those special privileges by which the cunning and unscrupulous prey on their unsuspecting and credulous fellow citizens," the address opposes the extension of protection to colonies, and favors the widest freedom of trade, of importing as well as exporting. It of course declares emphatically for the gold standard.

#### NEWS NOTES.

—The London county council has decided to purchase and operate the entire London street car system.

—The Cleveland city council has reduced street car fares on two of its lines to four cents, with seven tickets for a quarter. The companies threaten an appeal to the courts.

—Ex-Police Inspector John Bonfield, who precipitated the Haymarket riot in Chicago, in 1886, by breaking up a peaceable public meeting, died at Chicago on the 19th.

—The third assistant postmaster general, in his annual report recom-

mends negotiations with England, Germany and France, with a view to reducing international postage rates to 2 cents a half ounce.

—William Waldorf Astor has won a bet of \$25,000, in London, the condition of which was that he give a dinner to 27 persons, all seated around a table made from a single cross section of California redwood tree.

—The Mohegan, of the Atlantic Transport company's line, which left London for New York on the 13th with 50 passengers and a crew of 150 men ran ashore in the night off the Lizard. Most of those on board were lost.

—Bishop Joseph C. Hartzell, of the M. E. church in Liberia, Africa, who is now in the United States, announces that he is commissioned by the republic of Liberia to ask the United States to establish a protectorate there.

—It is now announced that the so-called official report of the naval engagement in which Cervera's fleet was destroyed, which all the newspapers published and which appeared in The Public last week, was fraudulent. No official report has yet been made.

—The Single Tax Society of Germantown, Pa., has addressed a letter to the czar thanking him for his disarmament proposition, and urging him to exercise his great power as an absolute sovereign to adopt a free trade policy as the best means for promoting peace.

—The emperor and empress of Germany have started upon a pleasure trip to Palestine. The imperial train consisted of 11 goods cars and 7 parlor and sleeping cars. The party was received at Venice on the 14th by the king and queen of Italy, and on the 18th at Constantinople by the sultan.

—Harold Frederic, of the New York Times, by all odds the best London correspondent ever attached to the American press, died near London on the 19th, from the effects of a stroke of paralysis suffered six weeks ago. The physicians refuse to give a death certificate because his illness was treated by a Christian scientist.

—Reports from Japan by way of Vancouver, B. C., tell of frightful floods in the valley of the Feng. Hundreds of villages have been swept away and thousands of people drowned. The Ishikari river also has overflowed, drowning more than 1,000 people. The same reports tell of a typhoon off Formosa, which was very destructive both to life and shipping.

—President McKinley arrived in Chicago from Omaha, via St. Louis, on the 15th, remaining until the 20th as the guest of the Chicago peace jubilee committee. The peace jubilee in Chicago extended over the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th, the principal procession being on the 19th. The weather was very