

in ignorance as well as of the white taxpayers whose money it would save. But the rights of the negro were championed by three Senators, one of whom took advanced grounds against the race prejudices on which slavery had rested, and the Senate tabled the recommendation of the Committee by a vote of 19 to 12. Still more encouraging than this public debate is an editorial which appeared recently in the Atlanta "Constitution" commending a speech delivered at Boston by President Bumstead, of the colored university at Atlanta, advocating the higher education of his race. The article in the "Constitution" urges that the support of the higher schools for the negro is needed as a matter of economy, because without these higher schools the six million dollars which the Southern States spend annually for negro public schools will largely go to waste for the want of competent negro teachers. The editorial says:

One graduate of Atlanta University has trained two hundred teachers, who in turn are instructing ten thousand children. The figures [given by President Bumstead] show that since 1825, 2,414 negroes have been graduated from college. Returns received from some six hundred show an individual holding of real estate of an average assessed value of nearly \$2,500. Returns from more than half of all these graduates show that 55 per cent. were teachers, 19 per cent. ministers, 6 per cent. doctors, and 3 per cent. lawyers; or 83 per cent. engaged in teaching and the professions. Listen to this:

Ninety per cent. of those graduated in Southern colleges remain and work in the South, while fully fifty per cent. of those graduated in the North go South and labor where the masses of their people live.

Not only do we retain ninety per cent. of these educated black people, but fifty per cent. of those educated North come back—a compliment to the South, as the place best adapted to them; but a menace also, unless we arouse and keep our white boys in front of the procession! Not suppression of negro education, even were that possible, but competition, will give to the dominant race the advantage assumed by natural capacity.

When such an editorial as this appears in the leading newspaper in Georgia, the friends of equal rights can take fresh courage.



The Philippines Several matters relating to the Philippines have attracted attention during the past week. One despatch from Manila states that the Filipinos there "have been enjoying recently novel experiences in the holding

of free, open political meetings;" at these meetings former insurgents urged their friends to accept the propositions for government made by the United States. The same despatch states that General MacArthur has ordered the deportation to Guam of several leaders of the insurgents who have refused to accept the American theories and maintain their demand for Filipino independence. Among these men who have been sent to Guam—which some of our papers are now calling the American St. Helena—are Mabini (probably the ablest of insurgent advisers intellectually) and General Del Pilar. The Philippine Commission has completed a code for municipal government, under which civil government will be established in the place of military law in several towns. In various parts of Luzon insurgent camps had been captured and destroyed. Senator Paterno, who heads one faction of the recently formed Federal party among the Filipinos, has published an address which states that, while the declared principles of the party (namely, the acceptance of American sovereignty) will do for the present, eventually the Filipinos will seek fuller independence, and that the relations between the Philippines and the United States should be merely those of Australia and Canada with Great Britain. In Manila a new school law is being discussed by the municipal council and the United States Commission; strong opposition has been offered by native leaders to a proposition to allow religious instruction in the schools out of school hours and with the consent of the parents; even this, they say, would give the friars an opportunity which they might abuse. A petition from two thousand Filipinos reached Washington last week and was offered to Congress; it prays Congress to make a positive declaration of its policy towards the Philippine Islands, denies that the Filipinos are to be regarded as disorganized tribes, asserting, on the contrary, that they are homogeneous, and that eighty per cent. of the natives can read and write.



The Boer War There may be a revulsion from the general admiration for General De Wet if the despatch received on Monday of this week should be

confirmed. It has been supposed that this splendid soldier's bravery was equaled by his humanity. The despatch is to the effect that last week "three agents of the Peace Committee" were taken as prisoners to General De Wet's laager near Lindley, that one of the agents, a British subject, was flogged and then shot, and that the other two burghers were flogged. Flogging, as a mode of punishment, is opposed to any code of civilized warfare; and the comment in England on such an act will doubtless be bitterly accentuated if it is shown that one of the victims—the one who was shot after being flogged—was a subject of the Queen. General De Wet, however, might reply that he was justified in shooting any Englishman who should tamper with his troops. The Peace Committee to which reference is made is believed to be that organized by some of the Boer burghers living near Kroonstad, in the late Orange Free State, who recently adopted resolutions urging their brethren to conclude peace, and declaring that General De Wet and President Steyn were the only real obstacles to such a conclusion. Despite the fact that the Kroonstad appeal criticises the recent Africander Congress at Worcester as "misleading and giving false impressions," it is interesting to note that the Dutch farmers of the Worcester and Hermon districts of Cape Colony have held meetings at which resolutions were adopted expressing approval of this appeal. The prevention of rebellion by the Boers in Cape Colony has resulted quite as likely from the influence of Dutch burghers as from the display of armed activity by the British at Cape Town and elsewhere. Another reason for the absence of a rebellion may perhaps lie in the fact that the lines of British communication from the sea to Pretoria have not been permanently broken by the recent Boer raids. At the same time those raids form a very unusual event in the history of war. More than a month has now elapsed since the Boers crossed the Orange River and entered Cape Colony. So far as the outside world knows, the London War Office is still in deplorable ignorance with regard to the numbers of the invaders. Beyond the fact that they are moving southward over sparsely inhabited tracts, it has apparently failed to locate them for more than a day at any

point; this, however, is not surprising, since no armed bodies have ever changed bases with greater rapidity than that which has characterized Boer movements. In the Transvaal last week Boer operations were remarkable because of a dozen engagements east of Pretoria, but especially from the fact that the Boers actually attacked two railway stations close to that capital. In all of the engagements the Boers seem to have suffered final defeat, though at severe cost to the British.



China and the American Government

Last week the United States Government received its first setback in the conduct of diplomatic negotiations concerning China. The week previous, Secretary Hay had proposed that negotiations be conducted at some place other than Peking and outside China, preferably at Washington. The reason given was that the transfer might facilitate the conclusion of negotiations as a whole by separating those still requiring considering and deliberation from those already determined. The proposition was opposed by the other Powers, (1) because of the expense involved in two sets of commissioners; (2) because such a course would diminish local pressure on the Chinese; (3) because, for a conference outside of the Chinese Empire, certain Chinese statesmen must be invited whose presence in China is necessary at present, while if they remained in China there would be delay in exchanging communications between them and the new commissioners at a new place; (4) because such a knowledge of recent Chinese affairs as is possessed only by the accredited representatives of the Powers at Peking would be indispensable. Although he believed himself to be acting for the best interests of all concerned, Mr. Hay has now deemed it advisable to withdraw his proposition. At the same time, wishing above all else to avoid delay in the progress of the negotiations, he has not only urged Mr. Conger, our Minister to China, to urge forward the early conclusion of the negotiations, but has also requested the Powers to avoid all unnecessary delay. A circumstance which will expedite matters is the signing, after an irritating postponement,