

notified to remove the bodies. A short time afterward it was noticed that three of the victims were returning to consciousness. Restoratives were applied and two recovered completely." Commenting on the affair the paper says: "The victims who survived the official execution are legally dead. In a court of law they will not be permitted to impeach the records of their execution. Their rights and privileges before the law are ended. They cannot sue, be sued, marry, own property, vote, or exercise any of the rights of a citizen. Neither will they be held accountable for their acts. If arraigned for depredations it will only be necessary to rest on the court record of their death."

A DEPLORABLE SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA is reported by the Cape Town correspondent for the Cincinnati Enquirer. This correspondent says that the British authorities are considering the advisability of importing Asiatics for the purpose of accomplishing the work in hand and that the British ministry is prepared to sanction this plan. The Cape Town correspondent adds: "Meantime the position is absolutely deplorable. Thousands of whites are on the verge of starvation. The government is arranging relief works, but hundreds of newcomers daily swell the number of distressed. The arrivals include many white women, who ought not to be allowed to pass to Cape Town to a nameless fate. Crimes of violence are increasing daily, streets of the town being unsafe after dark. The veldt is infested over large areas with roving bands of desperadoes. Nearly three years drouth makes the condition of the rural districts almost as bad as the towns. The Boers are sighing for the old times, when crime was practically unknown outside of Johannesburg."

THE FAILURE OF THE STEEL TRUST TO pay the regular dividend on the common stock has prompted a number of holders of that stock to organize for the purpose of obtaining recognition. The New York correspondent for the Boston Globe says that no dividend on the common stock was passed, although the corporation has a surplus of nearly \$100,000,000. It is related by this correspondent that at the meeting held in a New York law office by the representatives of the holders of the common stock, one of the men present laid down 135 shares of stock, saying he had bought it to give to his children, as a promise of J. Pierpont Morgan made him feel it would be the best legacy he could leave. He said that after investing his money, he had been forced to sit and see it melt to almost nothing. These people contend that the fact that the corporation has a growing surplus is a proof that the trust is able to pay the common stock holders something, if the directors who are most interested in preferred stock only cared to do so.

THE DECISION OF THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL committee to hold the party convention for 1904 at Chicago, June 21, prompts the Providence Journal to compile a list of the times and places of previous republican national conventions. The list is as follows: Philadelphia, June 17, 1856; Chicago, May 16, 1860; Baltimore, June 7, 1864; Chicago, May 20, 1868; Philadelphia, June 5, 1872; Cincinnati, June 14, 1876; Chicago, June 2, 1880; Chicago, June 3, 1884; Chicago, June 19, 1888; Minneapolis, June 7, 1892; St. Louis, June 16, 1896; Philadelphia, June 19, 1900. The Journal adds: "From these figures it appears that no national convention of the republican party has ever been called for so late a date as that of 1904. The November election will occur, however, on the latest possible date, namely, the 8th, which will be 'the first Tuesday after the first Monday' of the month, so that the campaign next year will be exactly as long as that of 1900, when the convention met on June 19 and the election was on November 6. But the 1904 campaign will be much shorter than the average since 1856."

PROF. WILLIS MOORE, CHIEF OF THE United States weather bureau, recently delivered an interesting address before the house committee on agriculture relating to the estimates for appropriations for the weather bureau service. In this address, Professor Moore, in reply to a question, said that there was but 17 per cent of error in the weather forecast. He said that there would be no improvement in this service, which he regarded as good under the circumstances, until additional scientific knowledge was obtained.

ALTHOUGH IT IS GENERALLY BELIEVED that Mr. Roosevelt's nomination is

assured, considerable interest attaches to the statements made by Mr. Hanna's Ohio friends. Thomas R. Knapp of Columbus, O., speaking to the Washington correspondent for the Cincinnati Enquirer, said: "If the friends of Roosevelt are waiting for Hanna to announce his candidacy for the president they will wait a long time. Senator Hanna will make no such announcements. Whoever heard of a man with any horse sense announce 'I am a candidate for the presidential nomination?' It is all right for a man to announce through the papers in his district that he is a candidate for sheriff, mayor or congress. That is proper, but not so when it comes to seeking the presidential nomination. The friends of the man to be voted for in convention do the announcing. That is to say, they bring him out and let the people know why he should be nominated. And that is what Hanna's friends are industriously doing. The Ohio senator cannot help himself. He is in the hands of his friends. And he may say a dozen times over 'I am not a candidate and am not seeking the nomination,' but that will not stop the movement now on foot to nominate him next June. The business interests of the country are afraid of Roosevelt. It can trust Hanna. No man has declined a presidential nomination and Hanna will not, in my judgment, prove an exception. Roosevelt may receive the promises now, but Hanna will get the votes in convention, and he doesn't have to announce that he is a candidate."

IT WAS REPORTED FROM NEW YORK UNDER date of January 9 that it has been definitely decided that the government has agreed upon a plan to finance the \$40,000,000 Panama canal payment, and that the transfers will be effected without disturbance of the money market. The New York correspondent for the St. Louis Republic says: "The arrangement decided upon constitutes little more than a shifting of credits. Funds to the amount named will be withdrawn by degrees from the depository banks and immediately redeposited in the same banks to the credit of the shareholders or their representatives. J. P. Morgan & Co. will act as the financial agents of the Panama company, and to them nearly the whole sum will be paid. The funds will be redeposited, it was said today, in their names. This is the first authentic statement yet made with reference to a transaction that has elicited very general interest in financial circles. Details of the scheme as here given were confirmed today by banking interests with close Washington affiliations. This shifting of accounts has not yet taken place. But the arrangements are perfected so that, whenever the treasury wishes to put through the operation, it can be easily done. Government deposits here and out of town will be utilized for the purpose. But the arrangement made is very definite in providing for an equivalent deposit, to be made with the banks whose government deposits are drawn upon. For that reason the readjustment will have the effect of merely transferring the sum from one account without the inconvenience that would be caused by not having the sum withdrawn immediately and replaced."

WHAT THE WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch calls "two astounding revelations" developed in the contest over General Leonard Wood's nomination. The Post-Dispatch's correspondent says that these revelations are considered by anti-Roosevelt men "as little less than a public scandal." This Washington correspondent says: "In the opinion of many senators, General Wood has been guilty of tampering with a witness before the senate committee, which investigated the charges preferred against him. What is considered convincing evidence is submitted in the form of a letter written by General Wood to Ray Stannard Baker, who was the chief witness in his behalf before the committee. When Mr. Baker was before the committee he was examined regarding a magazine article written by Major Runcie attacking General Brooke which, Runcie declared, was revised and approved by General Wood. It was developed that he had received a letter from General Wood. Baker reluctantly admitted that fact. He could not remember any of its contents, but finally promised to forward a copy to the committee."

THE LETTER REFERRED TO RECENTLY became public. It is dated Manila, July 29, 1903, and is marked "Personal and Confidential." The Post-Dispatch's correspondent says that this letter was evidently written by General Wood in

anticipation of the president calling an extraordinary session of congress, at which his case would be considered. The letter referred to reviews the doings of Wood and Baker in Cuba, and says: "I have given your name and address to the war department and to the president and have requested the later to call upon you and show you the letters and statements made. I do not know that he will see fit to tell him the purpose of your visit to Cuba in 1899, and why it was you wanted as much information as you could get on Cuba. I have told them of my reference of you to Runcie for information as to the condition of affairs in the judiciary and department of justice generally, etc."

IT IS POINTED OUT BY THIS WASHINGTON correspondent that Mr. Roosevelt followed General Wood's suggestion "to call upon you and show you the letters and statements made;" that the president desired to see Baker before he testified; that efforts were made early in the morning by telephone to find Baker at the various hotels; that Baker was eventually found in the witness room at the capitol and invited to luncheon. This correspondent says that members of the committee heard of this search for Mr. Baker and had him on the witness stand until all his evidence was submitted; that he arrived at the White house nearly an hour late for luncheon. Another revelation to which this correspondent referred and the one which he says is attracting most attention relates to a portion of the testimony given before the senate committee by General James H. Wilson.

GENERAL WILSON SEEMS TO BE VERY much opposed to General Wood's promotion, and in his testimony before the senate committee, said that every officer in the army resented it. "I suppose he was selected," continued General Wilson, "because the president thought he was the best man. Now I think it would be well for this committee to have a showdown as to merit at this time. If he is the best man, he should be promoted. If he is not the best man, then follow the precedents and select the best man." In his testimony before the senate committee, General Wilson told the committee that he had had an interview with Mr. Roosevelt at his home in Oyster Bay soon after Mr. Roosevelt had been elected to the office of vice president, but before the death of Mr. McKinley. General Wilson said: "Mr. Roosevelt began then in rather extravagant terms to praise General Wood, whereupon I said to him: 'Governor Roosevelt, I think you are perhaps mistaken about that. If I am correctly informed, General Wood was never under fire in his life until the Spanish war began, either in the Geronimo campaign or at any other time. In the Spanish war, General Wood was never in but one battle, and that at Las Guasimas where, but for his rescue and support by the colored troops, he would have been badly handled.' According to General Wilson, Mr. Roosevelt replied: 'Oh, yes, he was at San Juan.' General Wilson retorted: 'I beg your pardon, he was not. You know that he was in the rear looking for ammunition.' General Wilson says that Mr. Roosevelt answered: 'Yes, but do not tell anybody.' In his testimony before the senate committee, General Wilson, commenting upon this statement, said: "Now, why he did not want me to tell anybody, I do not know. I did not pursue the subject any further and that is the last word that has ever passed between us with reference to General Wood."

PRINTED TESTIMONY OF THE INQUIRY before the senate committee with relation to General Wood's promotion shows that when General Wilson was asked: "Do you think that President McKinley made a mistake when he made General Wood a brigadier general?" General Wilson answered: "I think he made a deadly mistake. When he gave that appointment, I think he gave the greatest shock to the sense of discipline and fairness of the American army that it has ever received." It should be said here that when Secretary Root appeared before the senate committee, he declared that he was in possession of sufficient evidence to convince him that General Wood was in the hottest of the fire during the Spanish-American war. On that occasion, Mr. Root also said: "I think I ought to allude to the remarks of General James H. Wilson here as to the conversation with the president. Of course, the president cannot be a witness. The president informs me that General Wilson is mistaken and that no such conversation regarding General Wood's presence at the San Juan fight that Jay ever took place between him and General Wilson."