

# CURRENT TOPICS

**T**HE ELECTION for the Philippine assembly took place July 30. A Manila cablegram to the New York Herald says: "Aguinaldo has refused to qualify as a voter in the election of an assembly next Tuesday, believing the legislature will serve no useful purpose for the Filipinos. Aguinaldo is farming, and, while not friendly to the government, he is taking no part in politics."

**G**OVERNOR CAMPBELL, of Texas, recently addressed ten thousand farmers at Willis-point, Texas. The New York Herald quotes the governor as saying: "If a horse thief gets into another state I can issue a requisition and bring him back, but to secure the return of a trust magnate charged with perjury it is necessary to employ lawyers, and I will spend every dollar the people will give me to spend to make Henry Clay Pierce come back to Texas and stand trial." Governor Campbell said Texas anti-trust laws, severe as they are, are not severe enough. He will not seek the repeal of any of them.

**C**ONGRESSMAN JENKINS, chairman of the house judiciary committee, has given to the Associated Press a statement relative to the North Carolina railroad rate contest. He says: "There never has been any event since the civil war that calls for so severe condemnation as the recent senseless tirade on behalf of states against the nation. It is humiliating that the matter has been compromised, and that the nation has to some extent surrendered. The civil war was the result of such agitation, and we may have earlier than we want another civil war. To avert such a calamity and preserve the nation we must conform to the law, obey the law and have the law enforced according to the frame work provided in the constitution. Ever since the civil war other states have had similar troubles and did not make fools of themselves or declare war, and the questions involved were decided by the supreme court and no bad results followed. If all state authorities are going to usurp functions of the supreme court and judge what federal act shall be nullified, no one can tell where it will end."

**M**RS. CHAPMAN, wife of the well known clergyman, J. Wilbur Chapman, died recently. At the funeral services Dr. Chapman paid this beautiful tribute: "Twenty years ago our lives came together, and the stream of love has broadened and deepened until to me, at least, it is well nigh immeasurable. She was a school girl and I a young minister weighed down with great burdens. I beheld her face first wreathed in smiles and from that day to this her life has been to me one constant display of sunshine. When she came to me she found me with a little motherless girl, and from the moment she gave me her life she loved us both with all the strength of her great nature. Our marriage was sanctified by the birth of a baby boy, and he no sooner drew out the tendrils of our hearts than he went back again to God, taking the best part of our lives with him. One day, after she had evidently thought it out and prayed it through, she said to me: 'It is all right, I will care the more tenderly for Bertha, and her mother in heaven will care for my little Robert.' \* \* \* She has been my counselor. Many a friend has given me credit for this or that, the laurels might more fittingly have been placed at her feet. When I was unknown and practically unused in any special way, it was she who told me she thought I might do more for God and men, and then she helped me with all her might. I testify publicly today that I owe more for what I may have been permitted to do to the sweet influence of this angelic soul than to any one else this side of heaven. Her personality pervades many of my sermons, and she has animated the most of my illustrations. She early came to Christ. When she could not tell, they welcomed her into the church when she was a mere child, and she smiled to think she might have come earlier so far as her faith was concerned. She was the most consistent Christian I ever knew. She lived with me nineteen

blessed happy years, and never spoke a word that had the faintest suggestion of impatience about it, or of disloyalty to Christ. I have suffered what seems to me to be an irreparable loss. My counselor, my strong rock; my sympathetic listener, my tireless helper, my true love, the mother of my children, and the wife of nineteen years, is gone. I do sorely need your sympathy. Yet we are not rebellious. So sweet, so good, so true was she that her children rise up to call her blessed; her husband too, for he praiseth her." At the close of which the doctor holding himself in control, said: "I ought to add, 'Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.' This is the day of a new consecration for myself and my family. Blessed God and Father take out of this sorrow its sting. I put myself and my family upon Thy help. And in this room where my dear one lies I erect a Holy of Holies and call upon the name of the Lord."

**T**AFT RESOLUTIONS were adopted by the republican state committee for Ohio by a vote of fifteen to six. The same resolution declared that the republicans of Ohio are opposed to the retirement of Senators Foraker and Dick. The resolution, as amended and finally adopted by the committee, is as follows: "Be it resolved by the republican State Committee of Ohio that we believe the great majority of the people of Ohio, convinced of the high character, great ability and distinguished services of Secretary Taft, indorse his candidacy for the presidency, and further, we declare that the republicans of Ohio overwhelmingly desire that the name of Hon. William Howard Taft be presented to the nation as Ohio's candidate for president, and that the republicans of other states be invited to co-operate with the republicans of Ohio to secure his nomination in 1908. And be it further resolved that we emphatically declare that the republicans of Ohio are opposed to the elimination from public life of Senators J. B. Foraker and Charles Dick, whose services to the party and state have been distinguished by ability, wisdom and patriotism."

**A**FTER THE adjournment of the committee Senator Foraker said: "I can not add anything to what I said in my open letter published this morning. I wrote that letter foreseeing the result and feeling that it was my duty to give notice beforehand that I would not be bound by any such unauthorized action. The committee had no more right to speak on that subject for the republicans of Ohio than any other twenty-one republicans of the state might have had, and the action of the committee will not affect my course in any way. The next state convention will have authority to speak, and by the action of that convention it will be the duty of every good republican to abide. In the meanwhile we shall have our municipal elections and the benefit of occurring events, in the light of all which we shall no doubt be able to act intelligently and satisfactorily."

**R**EFERRING TO the Taft endorsement in Ohio the Columbus (Ohio) Press-Post says: "The Taft campaign managers are in worse plight to appeal to republicans of other states for support than they were before. The indorsement they wanted has a hole in it over one-fourth the size of the state of Ohio. This is a denouement which must be highly pleasing to President Roosevelt, who is the real candidate behind the Taft boom to secure a nomination for a third term. It will give the president an excuse for promoting the boom of Cortelyou until he gets ready to take up somebody else in his now transparent game of eliminating everybody but himself."

**T**HE PHILIPPINE elections for members of the first assembly were held Tuesday, July 31. The Chicago Record-Herald says: "While the returns of the Philippine elections for members of the newly established congress are not yet all in, it is apparent that the nationalists have won a decided victory over the progressives and the other factions. This is not surprising, and,

indeed, it had been predicted some time ago that the progressives would make even a poorer showing than it seems they have. As election day approached, however, the progressives showed that they possessed the rudiments of a party organization, which the other parties did not, and hopes for their success were raised higher than the facts warranted. The nationalists want immediate independence from the United States. The progressives express themselves as well satisfied with the present government, and set up a program of internal improvements, tariff reforms and extended educational facilities. A lower house dominated by the nationalists may or may not be a good thing for the Philippines. If the members have their hearts set exclusively on the profits they can make for themselves and see their own greatest benefit in agitation then agitation will continue, and perhaps obstruction to the work of the present government will result. If, however, the nationalists sincerely want to get independence for their country and recognize that the most effective way to achieve it will be by showing their own capacity to participate intelligently in their government, then it may perhaps be better for the islands to have a lower house in opposition to the American administration than the reverse. It can confidently be said that no practicable scheme which the lower house advances for the welfare of the islands will be rejected by the American administration, so far as fulfillment lies within its power. It is only where the welfare of the islands comes in conflict with special interests of American industries and so meets obstruction in our congress that trouble will be apt to arise. If congress would recognize the needs of the Philippines by establishing free trade between the islands and the United States more would be accomplished than by any one other step."

**J**UDGE KENESAW M. LANDIS, in the United States district court at Chicago, fined the Standard Oil company of Indiana \$29,240,000 for violations of the law against accepting rebates from railroads. An Associated Press dispatch says: "The fine is the largest ever assessed against any individuals or any corporation in the history of American criminal jurisprudence, and is slightly more than 131 times as great as the amount received by the company through its rebating operations. The case will be carried to the higher courts by the defendant company. The penalty imposed upon the company is the maximum permitted under the law, and it was announced at the end of a long opinion, in which the methods and practices of the Standard Oil company were mercilessly scored. The judge, in fact, declared in his opinion that the officials of the Standard Oil company who were responsible for the practices of which the corporation was found guilty were no better than counterfeiters and thieves, the exact language being: 'We may as well look at this situation squarely. The men who thus deliberately violate this law wrong society more deeply than does he who counterfeits the coins, or steals letters from the mail.' Judge Landis commenced reading his decision at 10 o'clock, and occupied about one hour in its delivery. He reviewed the facts in the case, took up the arguments of the attorneys for the defense and answered them and then passed judgment upon the company, which he declared violated the law for the sole purpose of swelling its dividends. The court held that the railroads have no more right to make a secret rate for a shipper than a board of assessors would have to make a secret assessment on any particular piece of property. The court expressed regret that the law failed to provide more serious punishment than a fine, but insisted that the penalty should be sufficiently large to act as a deterrent and not of such a size as to encourage the defendant to persist in lawlessness. At the conclusion of his opinion, and after announcing the amount of the fine, Judge Landis directed that a special grand jury be called for the purpose of inquiring into the acts of the Chicago and Alton company, it having been proved in the case just closed that the oil company accepted rebates from that corporation. This jury is summoned for August 14. The decision of Judge Landis aroused almost as