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fear independence, and they seek annexation. He also gave his opinion that the Filipinos are not yet capable of self-government, and said that the American troops could be withdrawn ultimately, except in the Moro country, where they would have to remain a long time. He also said that the Moros would fight to the death to retain their slaves. Some of the members of the committee are inclined to doubt Senor Buencamino's testimony because of his sudden change in political be-

The secretary of war has transmitted to the senate a copy of the report made by J. G. Livingstone, governor of the Philippine province of Lorsogen. This official describes the cruel murder of two native officials by the American troops, and the torturing of another from the same town in order to force from him a confes-

By direction of the president the standing army has been reduced by 11,000 soldiers. This action was taken in conformity with the provisions of the army organization law, and makes the total strength of the army to be 66,497. It is planned to divide the army into thirds, having one-third in the Philippines at all times, and the remaining portion in the United States and elsewhere.

The minority members of the senate committee on isthmian canals have prepared a report declaring the Nicaraguan route to be impracticable, especially on account of volcanic disturbances, and favoring the Panama route. This report, however, is not meeting with the entire approval of the senate. Senator Morgan of Alabama, being in favor of the Nicaraguan route, and declaring that no fears of seismic disturbances need be entertained.

By a vote of 7 to 4 the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce agreed to consider and report the Nelson bill, which provides for a department of commerce.

On June 2 a conference was held at the White house between the president and leaders of the republican party in both houses, and the tariff revision was discussed. All present were opposed to it, however, expressing the belief that such a step is not desirable at this time.

On the same day Senators Proctor, Nelson, Gamble, and Kittredge were called to the White house to a conference in regard to pending legislation, especially as regards the Cuban reciprocity bill and the canal bill. The president has urged action on the subject and it was determined that the utmost concession in the way of a rebate to Cuba should be 20, 25, or 30 per cent of the duties collected on Cuban products.

A resolution was adopted in the house on June 2 calling upon the president to furnish full information as to the investigation of the British supply camp in Louisiana. The resolution was a substitute for the Cockran resolution recently voted down in the

On June 3 Senator Cockrell presented to the senate a number of papers bearing on the appointment of Capt. William Crozier to be chief of the bureau of ordnance, with the rank of brigadier general. Secretary Root has been severely criticised because of his action in this matter, but takes full responsibility for the appointment, maintaining that Captain Crozier was one of the best men to take charge of that important office.

An administration bill for the establishment of postal currency has been drafted by the committee appointed to consider the question. This bill authorizes the postmaster general to cause to be issued postal checks of fixed denominations, not above one dollar in even multiple of five and ten cents. These are to be redeemable or payable at any money order postoffice.

A fee in addition to the face value will be charged for every check issued. These postal checks will not be negotiable nor payable after the expiration of three calendar months from the last day of the month which may be written or stamped thereon, but a duplicate may be issued at any time thereafter by the postoffice department without charge. Duplicates will be similarly valid for three months. After the postal check is once paid the United States shall not be liable for any further claim for its payment. Postal checks will be sold everywhere the regular stamps are

On June 3 Senator Depew offered a substitute for Senator Platt's bill to suppress train robbery. It is as follows: That if any person shall willfully and maliciously trespass upon or enter upon any railroad train, railroad car, or railroad locomotive, within any territory of the United States, or any place subject to the executive jurisdiction or control thereof, with the intention to commit murder, ronbery, or any unlawful violence upon or against any passenger on said train or car, or upon or against any engineer, conductor, fireman, brakeman or any officer or employe connected with said locomotive, train or car, or upon or against any express messenger or mail agent of said train, or in any such car thereof, or to commit any crime or offense against any person or property thereof, such person shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding twenty years or by fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both, at the discretion of the court. That any person who shall counsel, aid, abet and assist in the perpetration of any of the offenses set forth in the preceding section shall be deemed to be principals therein. That upon the trial of any person charged with any offense set forth in this act, it shall not be necessary to set forth or prove the particular person against whom it was intended to commit the offense, or that it was intended to commit such offense against any particular person.

It is reported from Washington that on June 3 the house committee ou military affairs voted to table the resolutions of inquiry addressed to the war department relative to expenditures in Cuba. This action has the support of the republicans and the democrats gave notice of filing minority reports.

According to a dispatch from Washington one of the resolutions, by Mr. Goldfogle, New York, called for detailed information on expenditures, etc., during the American administration; another by Mr. Bartlett, Georgia, asked for information relative to salary, compensation, etc., paid to Governor General Wood.

The president sent to the house on June 5 the report of Colonel Crowder who made the investigation of the charges of Governor Heard of Louisiana that the neutrality laws were being violated at Chalmette, La. After giving the correspondence that took place between the state department and the governor in regard to this matter, President Roosevelt submitted the following report of Colonel Crowder: 1. The British remount commission, officers of which are operating and directing purchase and shipments of supplies in the United States is a bureau of the English army administration. 2. As organized by these officers, Chalmette station is a governmental shipping agency for but one class of military supplies and it has not the character of a base of military supBRAND NEW STEEL ROOFING

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