

# The State Democrat.

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## What Imperialism Means.

The new departure taken by our government in entering on a career of colonial expansion is pregnant with far reaching consequences which most of our people do not fully realize. To carry out a colonial policy will be very expensive both in cash and in lives. An enormous navy must be maintained and a huge standing army must be kept drilled to be constantly ready in case of emergencies.

The possession of one colony will lead to the acquirement of others because the big army and navy can just as well protect a dozen colonies as two or three. The United States will, if the present policy is persisted in, be in on the partition of China and will grab what it can get like the nations of Europe.

This policy will inevitably lead to the entangling alliances against which our nation was warned by the great Washington. These alliances with other powers are absolutely necessary to the colonial idea and will in time drift us into war with some of the powers of Europe. In case of a general European war we will probably be compelled in self-protection to take one side or the other and there is no knowing what the end will be.

The enormous cost of colonialism will have to be made up by taxation. The internal revenue tax will have to be made permanent and new forms of taxation must be invented in order to meet the ever increasing deficiency and to furnish money for the increasing pension list which imperialism will cause.

To carry on the policy of expansion will be a constant drain on the best blood of our country. Our young men will go forth to foreign lands and most of them will never return. After awhile when the novelty wears off it will be hard to obtain volunteers to enlist in the regular army. When volunteers cannot be obtained conscription must be resorted to and our young farmer lads will be compelled to serve in the army whether they wish to do so or not.

Those of our citizens who came from foreign lands know what compulsory military service is and they have no desire to sustain a policy in their adopted home which will in the course of time inevitably lead to the same system of militarism which prevails in Europe.

There are in this state thousands of loyal citizens who were formerly subjects of the Czar of Russia or the Emperor of Germany and have personally experienced the oppression of militarism and can enlighten natives who are blinded by the glamour of an empire in the Philippines.

We are just at the threshold of a colonial expansion policy and it is not too late to turn back to the doctrine of Washington and Monroe, and the nation should give the question sober attention before taking a step too far which cannot be retraced.

We can probably digest Hawaii and Porto Rico and make American states out of them. Cuba we should set free as also the Philippines after order is restored and a stable local government established. The policy of exploitation should be severely frowned down as this is the secret of the demand for conquest.

## Why Reed Retires.

A Washington special to the Minneapolis Times gives the following inside information as to the reason Reed suddenly decided upon retiring from congress:

The whole secret of his retirement is that he could not stomach the administration. He has no use for McKinley. He does not like him personally, or officially. As speaker of the house, as a conspicuous member of the Republican party, it was necessary for him to work with the chief executive. He was tired of this to the point of nausea. The big Maine man simply would not stand it any longer. Aside from the personal disappointment, which would make him look upon McKinley as anything but a desirable partner in the business of running this government, is the fact that he was wholly out of sympathy with the policy of the administration, and he felt that if he followed his own inclinations and convictions he would subject himself to cheap and unfair criticisms.

## Company F.

The attention of our imperialist friends is called to the telegram of Company "F" of Aberdeen sent to Senator Kyle on the 13th of April, 1898, just eight days before the declaration of war with Spain. Company "F" was not then willing to fight the insurgents and protested against the "infamy" of any such transaction. It was not then in favor of "criminal aggression." Company "F" then said it would "gladly fight for freedom" and begged Kyle and his colleagues not to "oblige us to fight against it." "Remember 1776" patriotically declared Co. "F." The Aberdeen Company then represented the sentiment of the state. It probably holds the same sentiment now, as it has been forced to do what it declared would be infamous, which is not the fault of Company F or any other part of the regiment, but of McKinley. If it had been supposed when Company "F" enlisted that it was to go to the Philippines to fight against freedom, Company "F" would not have enlisted nor would any of the rest of the regiment. One of the reasons why McKinley does not call for the additional 35,000 volunteers provided by the army bill is because he fears he would have difficulty in getting them. Company "F" was right and the men who denounce the presidents crusade against freedom in the Philippines are right.—Plain Talk.

## Weary of Fighting.

The correspondent of the Chicago Record had an interview with the gallant Colonel Stotsenberg of the First Nebraska regiment, just the day before he fell on the field of battle. The correspondent says:

"The action today is considered the hardest and hottest fight that has been fought so far between the Americans and the insurgents. It was the first battle in which the Filipinos have driven the American troops before them. It indicates the desperation of the insurgent forces and shows that they are still capable of terrible fighting."

"I had a conversation with Colonel Stotsenberg yesterday. He was in Manila, where his wife is staying. He said he wished he was back in America."

"I am tired of fighting," said the officer who today fell so bravely, "and I am tired of seeing my men killed. More of the men in my regiment have been killed than in any regiment in the Philippines. Since March 25th fifteen of my brave boys have been killed and 120 wounded, and there are but 650 men in the regiment."

"I congratulated him and told him that as he was at the head of a volunteer regiment he would soon be sent back home."

## Wins Hearty Commendation.

While the partisan politicians are trying to ridicule Gov. Lee for demanding the recall of the South Dakota troops from the Philippines, the parents and friends of the soldier boys, and the boys themselves will give him their hearty commendation. The soldiers enlisted to fight Spain and they should not be retained a day longer than they can be sent home.—Castalia Republican.

Since the telegraph has recorded so many brilliant deeds of the leaders of the regiments from South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas, the Republican newspapers have with remarkable unanimity quit the cry that the officers are all Populists and mere creatures of the Populist governors of those states. They are afraid this kind of politics will cast some lustre on the Pop administration in those states.

Senator Gray of Delaware, was one of the senators who accepted a position on the peace commission that went to Paris and agreed to pay \$20,000,000 for a quit claim to the Philippines. The president has just rewarded Gray for having been a submissive servant of the administration by placing him in a life position on the federal bench.—Sioux Falls Press

The only way to get Alger out of the cabinet with a clean shirt for the administration, is to pay him back the \$150,000 he contributed to the corruption fund of 1896. This sum was contributed on condition that he be in the cabinet, and he must either stay there or have his money back.—Ellendale Record.

The Republican members of Congress from Minnesota got frightened after Governor Lee and Governor Lind made a demand for the return of the volunteers, so they made a demand also. Think of it—"loyal" Congressmen actually demanding the return of volunteers whose term of enlistment had expired! What treason! Representative Stevens of the St. Paul district actually became so "unpatriotic" as to declare that to keep the boys in the service after their time had expired was "Conscription." Surely Stevens should be promptly hanged.—Plain Talk.

The bounty on gophers gives the children a chance to earn a little money but it seems to be the general opinion that it is of no great benefit. The only way to exterminate the pests is by poison used in some systematic manner. A few killed here and there while they are allowed to breed on thousands of acres of vacant land will not materially decrease the number.—Ellendale Leader.

It is a sad commentary on the degeneracy of American principles when our people have so far forgotten the traditions of their fathers that two Scandinavian governors have been obliged to call a halt in the mad race for wealth and conquest and point out to the government in power how it has violated the principles of the national constitution and the declaration of independence.

## Literary Notes.

Dr. Albert Shaw's study of the new San Francisco charter in the May Review of Reviews, is full of suggestions for municipal reformers in other cities. The experiments of the "initiative" and the "referendum," for which the new charter provides, will be watched with intense interest.

Under the caption of "Wireless Telegraphy," the "North American Review" in its May number presents two extremely important papers on this novel scientific discovery, one from the pen of G. Marconi, the noted inventor of wireless telegraphy, who treats of "Its Origin and Development," and the other by Prof. J. A. Fleming, F. R. S., who deals with "Its Scientific History and Future Uses."

Under the title, "A Strain of Music," Anna Farquhar contributes to "The National Magazine" of Boston for May a romantic story dealing with the life of a prominent violinist. From the intatory paragraph until the close the story holds the reader's attention glued to the interesting paper. We would suggest that our readers send for the May issue, which will be forwarded free if you mention our paper. Address, National Magazine, 91 Bedford St. Boston, Mass.

The May McClure's is especially notable for its articles of sharp present interest. J. L. Steffens supplies a valuable, and often dramatic, chapter in recent politics in the story (never before fully told) of Theodore Roosevelt's experiences with the warring political reformers and party politicians during his recent canvass for the governorship of New York and since. A new and fuller view of Admiral Dewey and his way of dealing with affairs in the Philippines is given in Oscar King Davis's "Stories of Admiral Dewey." Mr. Davis writing from his own personal knowledge, acquired as the Manila correspondent of the New York Sun.

The May Arena contains a startling expose of what are alleged to be the delusions and impositions of "Christian Science." Horatio W. Dresser tells the story of Mrs. Eddy's indebtedness to Dr. P. P. Quimby, from whom she learned all that is true and good in mental healing, basing his statements on a careful study of original MSS. and correspondence; and Mrs. Josephine Curtis Woodbury, a former pupil and associate of Mrs. Eddy, tells how the story of Mrs. Eddy's alleged "revelation" has attained the amazing proportions of the present fanatical sect, at the head of which this remarkable woman presides with a rod of iron, compelling all her followers to buy her books, photographs and souvenir spoons, to read only her own authorized text-books, and do their utmost to spread her strange ideas. In one of the illustrations which accompany these courageous articles, Mrs. Eddy is represented in the act of receiving her revelation, while behind her is the scriptural serpent which she is supposed to have vanquished. This remarkable expose will prove enlightening to all interested in Christian Science.

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## CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED

The True Principle of Expansion Recognized by Democrats.

To be a Democrat is to be at the same time an expansionist. Every acquisition of territory since the adoption of the constitution has been distinctively a Democratic measure. Jefferson was the first great expansionist. He extended our sovereignty over the northwestern territory and gave us that vast domain lying west of the Mississippi river. Jackson and Polk, worthy successors of their great prototype, carried on the work which he had so splendidly begun, until the flag and the eagle ruled from the gulf to the lakes and from sea to sea. This was Democratic expansion.

All Democrats earnestly hope that the time is not far distant when American influence and human freedom shall cover the earth and all nations be united in an unbroken chain of friendly republics. But back of expansion Democrats have always demanded and still demand the recognition of the cardinal principle of the "consent of the governed." In the case of Hawaii, the dominating elements of those islands having by means of a successful revolution established a republic and sought admission to our Union, as Texas did, it was right and proper that the door should be thrown open to them. While there was no formal declaration of a desire for union on the part of the Porto Ricans, their actions made their wish so apparent that the incorporation of the island as a territory was no violation of the Democratic idea of justice. Democrats also hope for the early establishment of Cuba by the free consent of her own people. But there is a vast difference between these instances and the Philippine Islands. Those islands are inhabited by an alien race that never can assimilate with ours. The population is already more dense than that of our western states, so that there is no room to introduce a new element governed by our institutions. We must either adopt the Sinfonian plan and butcher enough Filipinos to open a way for civilization or we must govern them forever as a subject people. Neither of these plans can meet the approval of American freedom. They are totally repugnant to the eternal sense of justice and humanity that has made us the grandest people among the races of men. If we had treated the Filipinos in a half decent and friendly manner, there never would have been any trouble with them. They regarded us as friends and deliverers until by our own insin-

cerity and deceit we led them to believe that we were as bad as the Spaniards. Then the clash came as an inevitable result. Our true position was the one first assumed by the great Dewey—that of friendly alliance. If this position had been maintained, they would have organized a republic under our protection and established us for all time to come as the most favored of nations, entitled to the best that they could give and enjoying greater benefits of trade and commerce than sovereignty can confer. This vantage ground has been purposely set aside by the corrupt and greedy elements that dominate the McKinley administration. The trusts and the plutocracy see only the riches of the Philippines, which they hope to absorb regardless of any sense of justice or the lives that may be sacrificed in the commission of the gigantic robbery. They care nothing for human life and justice when weighed in the balance against Mammon. W. S. BRYAN.

## Silver as Representative Money.

Unless silver dollars are to continue to be final money for all purposes then there is no reason for retaining them in our currency at all. If they are to be redeemed in gold, then they are no better than paper, and paper might as well be substituted for them; or, which is the same thing, the coin might as well be dropped out altogether, leaving only the paper certificates to circulate. Surely no government would originally coin silver, make the coins redeemable in gold also. To put silver dollars between the paper representatives of such dollars and the gold which stands for the redemption of both is to make use of a false foundation to no purpose. Manifestly the silver in that case serves no real money purpose and might as well be dispensed with entirely. For the chief advantage metallic money has over paper is in being naturally regulated through production, and when this advantage is given up there is little gained by using the metals for money. Unless, therefore, silver is to be treated as money as absolutely as gold there is no reason for using it at all except perhaps for convenience's sake for subsidiary coins.

## Not Yet.

"Are you related to each other?" inquired the probate judge at Oklahoma City of a German bridal couple bearing the same name. And the groom replied: "Nein. Das is vat's de matter. Ye wants to be aketty."—Kansas City Journal.

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