

REPORT ON PHILIPPINES.

Taft Describes Varying Conditions in Different Provinces.

Washington, Jan. 4.—The annual report of the Philippine Commission and a separate report by Governor W. H. Taft, made public at the War Department to-day, give a review of the results of the year's work of the commission, and contain recommendations for legislative action by Congress deemed essential to the welfare of the islands.

After reciting a history of the establishment of civil government through the various provinces, Governor Taft in his report says it has not been definitely determined what shall be done with respect to Mindanao, where, he says, hostility to the Americans does not extend beyond the Lake Lanao Moros. The Governor is of opinion that it may be possible to induce the Sultan of Jolo to part with some of the rights he claims to the Jolo group, and thus obviate many obstacles now encountered. The Moros, he says, do not understand popular government, and do not desire it, preferring control by dattos. "Possibly far in the future," he says, "control by dattos may cease. For the present, however, it is necessary only to provide a paternal, strong but sympathetic government for these followers of Mahomet."

Governor Taft tells of the conditions that have made it necessary for the islands to purchase about \$15,000,000 worth of food, on which to live, and of the effects war has had upon agriculture, almost the only source of wealth in the islands. The greatest blow to agriculture, he says, is the destruction of about 90 per cent of the water buffalo, on which the cultivation of rice is almost wholly dependent. After speaking of the ravages of Asiatic cholera, Governor Taft says:

The ban of Philippine civilization in the past was ladronism, and the present conditions are most favorable for its growth and maintenance. It is not certain whether in the present case of ladronism, with the temptations to ladronism, the constabulary will be able without the assistance of the military to stamp it out. Were there temptations to ladronism, which have been greatly enhanced by the depreciation of silver, might well have caused a new breaking out of the insurrection, and, in my judgment, it speaks wonders for the case of ladronism, which has been governed in normal times that we have comparatively so little disorder since the surrender of the insurgent arms in April.

Since the civil government was completely established in the Philippine provinces through the archipelago in July of last year, the Governor says, an American soldier has not been called on once to fire a gun, the country having been policed by the constabulary, a force of five thousand or six thousand men.

PREVALENCE OF LADRONISM.

"It may be," says Governor Taft, "that as the conditions grow worse—for they are likely to do so before they grow better—it will be necessary in a province like Cavite, where ladronism seems to be in the people, to proclaim martial law, and even to call in the military finally to suppress it, but it is still hoped this may be avoided."

The ladrones of Iloilo are characterized as an organized band of cattle thieves. They are being rapidly stamped out, Governor Taft says, that unless carabao can be replaced, or other methods of agriculture substituted which will prevent these animals being indispensable hereafter, the future for several years has a gloomy outlook.

The depressed condition of agriculture and the tendency to ladronism in the Tagalog and in some of the Visayan provinces do not apply to these provinces where hemp is the chief product. The report says:

They are wealthy and prosperous, and while the cost of living is more than it used to be, they have money enough with which to make improvements. Schoolhouses are being built, roads are being constructed, and the agricultural and industrial life is being introduced, and there is every evidence of a forward movement.

Throughout the rice and Tacloban provinces, however, we must expect disturbances from the time of the harvest to the time of the rice crop and the Kattunan societies. On the whole, there is before us a year of the hardest kind of work, relieving the people from the hardship and suffering likely to follow the failure of the rice crop and the suppressing of ladronism and other disturbances due to economic distress.

Governor Taft says the figures show that for the year ended March 30, 1902, the imports, exclusive of quartermasters' stores, of all goods were \$41,000,000, while the exports were about \$27,000,000. He says capital has seemed to be thin in coming to the Philippines, but adds: "It has come in a small way in various branches, so that the aggregate is very considerable."

NEED FOR CURRENCY CHANGES.

The Governor points out among other things from which the country is suffering that of fluctuating currency. On the subject of labor he speaks of the need of making temporary provision, such as is recommended by the full commission. Touching on the organization of labor unions, the Governor says that if properly directed the movement may give to the laboring classes a sense of the dignity of labor and of their independence. He regards the objection made by the Philippines to the unlimited introduction of Chinese into the islands to be logical and justified, and says:

Another phase of the labor question which does not seem to have had its proper weight upon the merchants of Manila in their demand for the admission of Chinese coolies is the great obstacle which such a policy would present to the opening by the United States of its markets to Philippine products.

There is in the city of Manila real estate and improvements assessable for taxation amounting to \$41,000,000, while there is non-assessable real estate in the city to the amount of \$25,502,000, of which \$13,384,288 is public property and \$12,117,940 is church property, exempt under the law. Governor Taft commends to the commission the benefits that might accrue from the establishment in the islands of postal savings banks.

Governor Taft tells of the recently organized independent Filipino Catholic church, and says the commission should consider that it would take no part in religious controversies.

THE COMMISSION'S VIEWS.

The Philippine Commission, in its annual report, which is the third it has made, says at the outset:

The insurrection as an organized attempt to subvert the authority of the United States in these islands is entirely at an end, and the

NURSING MOTHERS.

A mother's poor health is bad enough for the mother but worse still for the nursing baby.

Mothers find Scott's Emulsion a nourishing and strengthening food. If the breast milk is scanty of thin Scott's Emulsion will make it rich and more abundant.

When mothers take Scott's Emulsion the babies share in the benefits. Thin babies grow fat. Weak babies get strong.

Will send you a little on try. If you like, SCOTT & BOWNE, 406 Pearl Street, New York.

THE WORK OF CONGRESS.

Many Important Measures in Senate and House.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Many of the Senators who left Washington for the Christmas holidays are still absent, and the present indications are that when business is resumed at noon to-morrow there will not be a large attendance. Before the week is far advanced, however, the Senate again will be in regular working order, and there will be little cessation of work before March 4. The prediction is general that the remainder of the session will be exceedingly busy because of the number of important questions which will be pressed for consideration before final adjournment.

In the present week, and probably for some time to come, the Omnibus Statehood bill will be the chief topic of discussion on the floor, but under the unanimous agreement by which this bill was made unfinished business it cannot be taken up any day before 2 o'clock. It is the purpose of the friends of the bill to press its consideration, and not to allow the bill to be sidetracked except under great pressure. The present purpose is to give way only for appropriation bills, but there are now no appropriation bills on the Senate calendar. It is, however, the purpose of the Senate leaders, and especially of those who oppose the Statehood bill, to press appropriation bills to the front as rapidly as possible. The Senate Committee on Appropriations immediately will take up the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill, and it will be reported to the Senate as soon as possible. It is a bill which demands considerable investigation, and it is not probable that it will reach the Senate much before the middle of the month. It is reported that the committee will seek to secure its immediate consideration.

According to the arrangements made before the holidays, the debate on the Statehood bill will be resumed at 2 o'clock to-morrow, Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, being the first speaker on the list. He is a member of the Committee on Territories, and in addition to his opposition to the admission of the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona he is a staunch advocate of the bill for the admission of Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one State, which was reported by the majority of the committee as a substitute for the House Omnibus bill. He has a carefully prepared speech, and its delivery probably will require the greater part of two days. Senator Burham will be heard next, and he also probably will speak for two days or more. Other Republican Senators have agreed to speak in opposition to the bill, and it is now estimated that there will be no fewer than fifteen anti-Statehood speeches before consideration of the measure is concluded. Some speeches in support of the bill are promised, but the indications are against the delivery of any of them in the present week, though it is possible that Senator Foraker, who is an earnest advocate of the Omnibus bill, may be heard some time in the next few days.

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No complete programme is mapped out for the House for the first week of the new year. The leaders are anxious to force the appropriation bills ahead as rapidly as possible. The Indian bill is on the calendar, and headway is making in committee with the Postoffice, Diplomatic and Consular and District of Columbia bills. The latter, at least, will be reported to the House at the end of the week. Mr. Sherman, of New York, chairman of the Indian Committee, is ill at Hot Springs, Ark., and his absence may delay consideration of the Indian bill. Until the appropriation bill gets into the hopper, the House probably will occupy its time with miscellaneous matters brought up under calls of committees.

"MAYOR OF DUFFYVILLE" DEAD.

He Was a Member of the Notorious 1884 Board of Aldermen.

Michael J. Duffy, who was a member of the 1884 Board of Aldermen, of which several members were indicted in connection with the Broadway Railroad franchise grant, who was known as "Mayor of Duffyville," and was a partner in the undertaking business with ex-Police Captain Daniel C. Moynihan, died last night from pleurisy at his home, No. 144 East One-hundred-and-third-st., He had been sick for some time, and was taken to the hospital on Wednesday, at St. Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Duffy was sixty-four years old. He was born in Eleventh-st., and after getting a public school education, learned the trade of bricklayer. He and his brother, Thomas, once an alderman, moved into the building business and put up over eight hundred houses. The majority of the buildings from Ninety-fourth to One-hundred-and-fourth streets, between Third and Lexington avenues, were put up by them. This became known as Duffyville.

Duffy became a member of Tammany Hall and was elected an alderman from the old Twelfth Ward in 1884. He was sent through the Civil War with the Second Avenue, 17th New York Volunteers, retiring as second lieutenant.

CUBAN ACTRESSES GO TO ITALY.

Three Cuban actresses who are on their way to Italy to appear with an Italian company were passengers on the Spanish Line steamship Manuel Calvo, which arrived yesterday. They are the Señoritas Maria Svetada Masson, Linda Brambilla and Elvira. They were sent through the House by the Second Avenue, 17th New York Volunteers, retiring as second lieutenant.

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Shreveport, La., Jan. 4.—Charles Fitzgerald, post-office inspector at Jacksonville, received an order to proceed immediately to Indianola, Miss., to look into the situation there. He left Jackson for Indianola yesterday.

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FOSTER ON MEXICO.

Belief in Country's Desire to Protect Investors.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster, after a recent conference with Ambassador de Aspiroz on the proposed change by Mexico from a silver to a gold standard, expressed himself as having no fears as to the changes proving injurious to American interests in Mexico, or even resulting in hardship to the Mexican Government. Mr. Foster's opinion has weight, not only from the fact that he was Minister to Mexico for the seven years ending with 1880, but because his extensive interests in the Central American Republic lead him to take a deep interest in its financial welfare and integrity. Mr. Foster added that the Mexican financial situation had not led him to curtail his investments there, and praised the recent report of Ambassador Clayton, in which it is stated that Mexico offers excellent opportunities for the investment of American capital. It is estimated that upward of \$50,000,000 belonging to citizens of the United States will be invested there in the present year. In conclusion Mr. Foster said:

The credit of the Mexican Government is excellent. Its bonds are payable in gold, even though the country uses the silver standard in measuring its currency. I believe American investors are perfectly satisfied that the integrity of the Mexican Government is such that it will not permit the investments of this country to suffer.

U. S. MONEY IN MEXICO.

Consul General's Report Shows About \$500,000,000 Invested.

According to a report recently received here from Andrew D. Barlow, United States Consul General at the City of Mexico, Americans are making wonderful strides in obtaining control of some of the largest lines of business in that country. Consul General Barlow, for instance, has estimated that Americans control about 70 per cent of the railroads of Mexico—that is, they hold 70 per cent of the total securities outstanding in the railroads. He estimates that Americans have about \$80,000,000 in Mexican mines, and adds the comment that the introduction of American mining machinery is making the business profitable even in some of the abandoned mines of that rich mineral country. Americans also control about 70 per cent of the American money invested in Mexican agriculture. In the City of Mexico alone it is estimated that \$20,000,000 of American money is invested, and the total amount of American money in the country is put, in round figures, at \$500,000,000.

THE CONSUL GENERAL SIGNIFICANTLY SAYS:

The impetus given to Mexico's industries by this enormous amount of American money is of a degree for the great industrial progress which it has made during the last few years. With Mexico's exports to the United States of all her imports from the United States and selling 80 per cent of all her exports to the United States, Mexico is rapidly becoming a manufacturing American capital in her, the commercial bond between the sister republics is one that can hardly be broken. The flow of American capital into this republic has apparently only begun. Each year the business and sells more and more to the United States. The community of interest is growing daily, and certainly makes for harmony between the two nations.

Mr. Barlow's report, in substance, is as follows:

More American capital is invested in the railroads of Mexico than in any other single line—about 70 per cent of the total. In this line American capital dominates. All of the important railroads in Mexico (except the National Mexican Government, the Mexican Railway, which also runs between this city and Vera Cruz and is controlled by English capital, and the National Tehuantepec Railway, which is being reconstructed by S. Pearson & Son, of London, under contract with the Mexican Government) are owned by American capital.

A large amount of American capital has been invested in the railroads of this country within the last two years, the Mexican National Railroad having passed from British to American control, and the Mexican Central, always American, having acquired some short lines which were not owned by Mexican capital. Since the construction of the Mexican Central by Americans, some twenty years ago, United States capital has always been the strongest factor in Mexican railroads, and at present it constitutes about 80 per cent of the total capital invested in the country.

Next in importance to the railroads, from the standpoint of American capital invested, is the mining industry. Since the time of Cortez mining has been the principal source of Mexico's wealth. The amount invested by Americans in mining in Mexico may be stated, in round figures, at \$200,000,000. This is a comparatively small percentage of the total amount of capital invested in Mexican mining properties. Yet a large amount of this \$200,000,000 is invested in up to date mining machinery, which is comparatively expensive. Mexico's mineral wealth has been greatly increased by this American investment. Mines that were given up years ago, and mines that could not be worked at all on account of the low grade of the ores, can now be profitably worked by the newer methods, for which Mexico is mostly indebted to Americans. The increased output of Mexico is due to the fact that the American mining districts, is largely due to Americans, both through the improved mining methods and the introduction of the country's railroads, which are built by our capital. Thus, taken on the whole, American capital is a stronger factor in Mexico's development than the amount of capital invested indicates on the surface.

Agriculture comes after mining in the amount of American capital invested in Mexico. The estimates under this heading have been most difficult to make. It is certain that many of the so-called agricultural companies have been organized to generate the amounts of capital actually invested by them. The first cost of virgin land in the tropics is a very small—say 50 cents to a dollar—per acre, and some of the older companies have not only made considerable sums in improving their properties, but in a general way the "monthly payment" companies have not invested much more than the promoters for the privilege of holding stock in their companies. Legitimate investments in agriculture are expected to pay reasonable returns—perhaps a larger percentage of profit than the same amount of money could earn in the United States—but profits of 20 to 50 per cent profit in five or ten years can be set down as "fakes" pure and simple. The speculative bubble will be pricked one of these days, and the small investors in the United States will have a lot of pretty engravings of the stock market to show for the money they have invested.

Rubber culture in Mexico is as yet purely in the experimental stage, and no reliable statistics or information can be given concerning its probability of success. Promoter of rubber companies who are purely speculative and theoretical. Other American agricultural companies who are known to be successful. Some are successful, but they are comparatively few. The most successful are those who have visited the country personally and thoroughly investigated the proposition and the local conditions.

OPENINGS FOR AMERICAN CAPITAL.

Another erroneous idea, which seems to be quite common among Americans resident in the United States, is that Mexico is a good place for persons of small means to come to to engage in agricultural or other pursuits. In most cases it is not, unless in Mexico, no person should decide to come here to live and engage in business without first personally visiting the country and thoroughly investigating the local conditions. The next State in the cultural companies, there are a great many legitimate agricultural companies—some very successful—and there is doubtless a large field here for conservative investment of American capital. In the United States capital is only beginning to assume importance,

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Former Prices Up to \$35.00.

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Men's Overcoats, all models, which include 42, 45 and 50 inch Box Coats; Surtout, single or double breasted; Greatcoats and Ulsters, of Vicunas, Kerseys, Cheviots, Frieze and Scotch Coatings, in shades of black, Oxford and Cambridge; also mixtures. Many are silk-lined throughout; all sizes from 32 to 48 inches; the former prices of which were up to \$35.00, at \$21.00.

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