



THE LITERARY DIGEST



PUBLIC OPINION (New York) combined with THE LITERARY DIGEST

Published by Funk & Wagnalls Company (Adam W. Wagnalls, Pres.; Benj. F. Funk, Vice-Pres.; Robert J. Cuddihy, Treas.; Robert Scott, Sec'y), 44-60 E. 23d St., New York

VOL. XLV., No. 23

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 7, 1912

WHOLE NUMBER 1181



TOPICS OF THE DAY



WILL THE DEMOCRATS FREE THE PHILIPPINES?

IT MAY SEEM a trifle bitter that after fourteen years of our rule the Filipino is not only willing to see our starry banner leave his archipelago, but holds a regular celebration at the bare prospect of it. More than twenty thousand Filipinos, dispatches tell us, paraded the streets of Manila in "wildest jubilation" over the election of Woodrow Wilson to the Presidency, and "listened to addresses in which the rule of the United States was declared practically at an end." On this occasion, moreover, Emilio Aguinaldo, the leader of the Filipino insurrection following the war with Spain, made his first public appearance and political speech since his capture by General Funston in 1901. These facts, as well as the comment of the Filipino press, say the correspondents, reflect a prevailing belief in the islands that one of the first acts of the Democratic Administration will be to arrange for their independence. Nor is this impression entirely confined to the Filipinos. In a Washington dispatch to the *New York Sun* (Ind.), we read that "some of the Democratic leaders are talking of giving the Philippines limited independence on July 4, 1913," and the same correspondent quotes Chairman Henry of the House Rules Committee as predicting that one of the first measures to go before the House will be the Jones Bill, which provides for qualified self-government at once and complete independence at the end of eight years. The press also quote Speaker Champ Clark's declaration that he intends to use "every endeavor" to free the Filipinos "for their good and our own."

The Philippine plank in the Democratic platform, it will be recalled, reaffirms the party's opposition to "a policy of imperialism and colonial exploitation in the Philippines or elsewhere," and asks for "an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to recognize the independence of the Philippine Islands as soon as a stable government can be established, such independence to be guaranteed by us until the neutralization of the islands can be secured by treaty with other Powers." This, remarks the *New York Evening Post* (Ind.), is not a promise of "immediate independence," but of "the immediate adoption of a pledge of independence at the earliest practicable date." "In a way this declaration does not go beyond that made by the Republicans in the past," remarks the *Chicago Post* (Prog.), which adds, however, that "the Republicans always had an idea that the Filipinos could not safely be turned loose for forty years"; and that "the Democrats hope to do the thing more quickly." After all, it continues, this question ought not to be a political one at all;

"it ought to be a matter of plain Americanism, of a belief in the right of all people to rule themselves if they know how." It is on the question of how soon the Filipinos will "know how" that we find the widest divergence of editorial opinion. Thus while some papers cite facts and authorities in support of their belief that the Filipinos are already competent to manage their own affairs, others cite other facts and authorities to prove that dire consequences would follow our withdrawal from the islands now or in the near future. To quote again from the *New York Evening Post*:

"Two serious arguments will, however, be used to impress those who have thought only superficially on this matter. How about the wild tribes? will be asked. And how about the possibility of these people governing themselves? The facts about the non-Christian tribes are that they constitute but 600,000 out of 7,600,000 people; they dwell in the mountain fastnesses, and they, says Judge James H. Blount in his new book, 'The American Occupation of the Philippines,' 'cut little more figure, if any, in the general political equation, than the American Indian does with us to-day.' To those who have any doubts on this question we most heartily recommend this excellent volume from the pen of one who was an officer of volunteers in the war and subsequently a judge. He has not the slightest question as to the ability of the Filipinos to set up satisfactory governments. . . .

"Under the promise of independence, he declares, a 'very fair electorate of at least one-third, possibly one-half, of the adult male population, could be built up.' The setting up of prospective Filipino States would, he says, 'electrify the Filipino body politic,' as would the mere definite promise of independence. But without that definite promise, nothing can be gained. Least of all would it be fair to deny self-government to millions because of a fraction of the uncivilized among them. We must, as Judge Blount says, make clear to all concerned, and particularly to the American grafter and Filipino demagogue, 'that the government of a remote and alien people is to have no permanent place in the purposes of our national life.'"

The *Baltimore Evening Sun* (Ind.), while indorsing the Democratic attitude, warns against haste, and has this to say:

"It will be remembered that Mr. Bryan made his campaign in 1900 chiefly on the issue of imperialism and Filipino independence, and tho defeated, the Democratic party has refused to believe that that verdict represented the country's final answer and has kept it to the front ever since as a vital question of national policy and honor. The Jones Bill, which was introduced at the last session and which is to be called up soon after the reassembling of Congress in December, is designed to redeem this Democratic pledge, and its friends hope that it will become a law early next spring.

"The Jones Bill provides for a probationary independence for

TERMS: \$3 a year, in advance; four months, \$1; single copy, 10 cents; postage to Canada 85 cents a year, other foreign postage \$1.50 a year. **RECEIPT** of payment is shown in about two weeks by date on address label; subscription including the month named. Instructions for **RENEWAL**, **DISCONTINUANCE**, or **CHANGE OF ADDRESS** should be sent two weeks before the date they are to go into effect. **Both old and new addresses** must always be given. **DISCONTINUANCE:** We find that many of our subscribers prefer not to have their subscriptions interrupted and their files broken in case they fail to remit before expiration. Nevertheless, it is not

assumed that continuous service is desired, but subscribers are expected to notify us with reasonable promptness to stop if the paper is no longer required. **PRESENTATION COPIES:** Many persons subscribe for friends, intending that the paper shall stop at the end of the year. If instructions are given to this effect, they will receive attention at the proper time.

Published weekly by Funk & Wagnalls Company, 44-60 East Twenty-second Street, New York, and Salisbury Square, London, E. C.

Entered at the New York Post-office as Second-class Matter.

a period of eight years, during which the President of the United States would have a veto power over any legislation which might be passed by the Filipino Congress. It reduces the qualification for the franchise from 500 pesos to 250, and from those who can read and write Spanish or English to those who can read and write a native language. The Philippine Legislature at present consists of the Philippine Commission, appointed by the President of the United States, as an upper house, and the Assembly, elected by Filipino voters, as the lower. This system has been in operation since 1907, but it has not satisfied the aspirations of the natives, and Manuel Quezon, their Delegate to Congress, is leading the fight for national emancipation.

"The only substantial objection to the Jones Bill seems to be the insufficiency of the probationary period provided. Eight years is scarcely long enough to educate the Filipinos in the art of self-government. It is true that they have had some five years of preliminary training and that they have had the advantage of American contact and civilization since we delivered them from Spanish rule in 1898. But they have not been walking alone, and 15 or 20 years of probation would be wiser than 8 and would better serve to confirm their self-control and balance.

"Of the righteousness of the principle and the soundness of the policy embodied in the Jones Bill there can be no doubt. We have no moral right to hold the Philippines indefinitely, and it is bad national policy to do so."

Still other papers urge a withdrawal from the Philippines at the earliest possible date as a mere matter of economy. The islands, they say, are not only a bad investment, they are a heavy burden. Thus the *Boston Herald* (Ind.) characterizes the Philippines as "an extravagant child in the family that contributes nothing to the general maintenance." A fair estimate of what they are costing us, says this Boston paper, is \$75,000,000 a year, "which, spread through the cumbersome system of federal taxation, means the extraction of several times as much from the pockets of the people." This is higher than the estimate made by Mr. Jones, who in reporting his bill to Congress, said that we could save \$50,000,000 annually by giving self-government to the Filipinos. And there are still other authorities who maintain, with President Taft, that the Government of the islands is wholly self-supporting.

Among those prophesying disaster as a result of any change in our present policy toward the Philippines, we find papers of all political complexions, including the *Washington Post* (Ind.), and *Star* (Ind.), *Hartford Times* (Dem.), *New York Commercial* (Com.), *Columbus Dispatch* (Ind.), and *Ohio State Journal* (Rep.), *Cincinnati Times-Star* (Rep.), *New York Tribune* (Rep.),

and *Evening Mail* (Prog.), *Boston Transcript* (Ind.-Rep.), *Philadelphia Inquirer* (Rep.), and *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* (Rep.). The *Hartford Times* dwells upon the strategical importance of the Philippines, both from a military and a commercial point of view, and remarks that "the awakening of dormant Asia might easily render Manila a port of world-wide importance and the islands as necessary to the safeguarding of our trade routes as Gibraltar and Malta are to the British Empire now." The *New York Commercial* remarks altruistically that altho "we are ruling these islands at a heavy financial loss," nevertheless "we have undertaken the job in good faith, and are bound in honor to see it through to the end." "Will President Wilson convert the Democratic party into an Aguinaldo Aid Society?" asks the *Washington Star* in apparent alarm; and the *Columbus Dispatch* remarks that the Democratic program on this point "begins to assume the proportions of a blunder." Urging this nation not to shirk a duty that is burdensome, the *Washington Post* remarks:

"Even from the humanitarian standpoint, the only thing that the United States can do with honor is to continue its present attitude toward the Philippines. The United States is now putting civilization into the Philippines. It is a job that will extend over many years. Not until the present children of the islands, who are being taught high standards, have grown to their majority, will it be safe to give the Filipinos independence.

"The United States Government is carrying on the work of education as rapidly as possible. The Jones Bill provides for gradual steps toward independence, but such a bill is unnecessary. The gradual steps are being taken already. As soon as the Filipinos are fit for self-government, Congress can take action. To act now, when the future Filipino is merely in the making, would demonstrate that the Democrats are beginning the old reckless game of shooting without aiming."

Moreover, say other critics of the Jones Bill, to give political independence to the islands at this stage would be a crippling blow to their commercial prosperity. A *Washington* correspondent of the *New York Sun* states on the authority of "army officers and others who have had administrative experience in the islands," that "stagnation of the Philippines and demoralization of the Filipinos themselves will result" even from the present talk among Democratic leaders of hastening Philippine independence. We read:

"The possibility of the islands being soon turned over to the

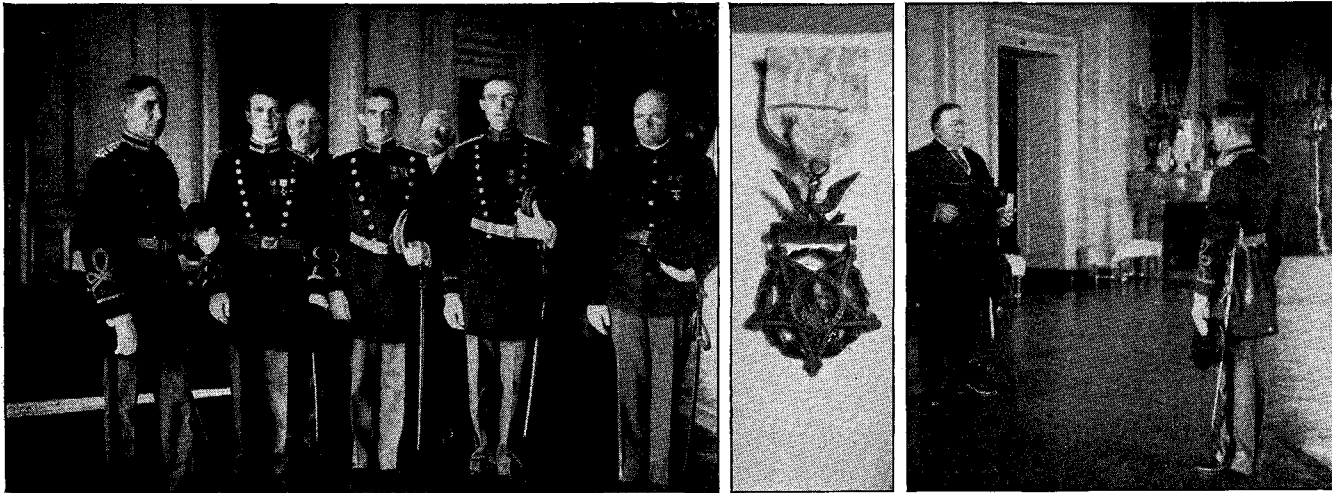


"AND A MERRY OLD SOUL WAS HE."
—Macauley in the *New York World*.



ANOTHER GAME THAT NEEDS REVISED RULES.
—Plaschke in the *Louisville Post*.

SIGNS OF A COLD WINTER.



Photographs by Harris & Ewing, Washington, D.C.

THE REWARD OF VALOR.

The Medal of Honor, which is to the American soldier what the Victoria Cross is to the British, was recently awarded by the United States Government to the five men shown in the foreground of the first picture. The first, on the reader's left, is Capt. Julian Gaujot, of the 1st Cavalry, who went alone under fire to the Federal garrison at Douglas and persuaded the remnant of the Mexican forces to surrender to him before they were all killed by the insurgents. The four others, reading in the same order, are Capt. Archie Miller, Lieut. Arthur H. Wilson, Lieut. John T. Kennedy, and Quartermaster-Sergeant Joseph Henderson, all of the 6th Cavalry, who displayed extraordinary courage in the Philippines in the capture of Jikiri, a Jolo pearl pirate. The story of this exploit will be found on page 1095. The central cut shows the coveted medal, which many regard as the highest honor in the gift of the Government. There are at present only about thirty-five men in the active service who have received it. On the reader's right President Taft is presenting this medal to Captain Gaujot.

Filipinos has already caused a cessation in the flow of capital to the Philippines. Americans who have already invested in the Philippines declare they will not venture another cent in the islands' industries until they know whether or no American control is to be continued.

"On his recent trip to the Pacific Major-General Leonard Wood, former commander of the Philippines Division, was besieged by Americans interested in the Philippines, who said they were planning to sever all business connections in the islands if the uncertainty as to the continuance of American control continued much longer. Decisive action by the Democrats in favor of freeing the Philippines within the next few years will result in a general exodus from the islands of Americans and other foreign investors, according to reports received here."

THE EMPTY COAL-SCUTTLE

CONSUMERS who turn to their favorite newspapers to find out why they are paying so much for coal, are informed that there is a shortage in the coal supply. The more conservative papers adopt a reassuring tone. The shortage is "temporary," and "nothing to be alarmed about," according to one editor, who attributes it to the lack of a reserve supply because of the strike last spring, and to a shortage of cars for carrying the coal, which "results from the imperfect machinery for getting cars back to the lines which own them when in the transporting of freight they have passed over to other railroad lines." So the New York *Tribune* is inclined to advise us thus:

"If every one would put in coal only as he needed it no one would suffer from the shortage, and there would be no 'famine' and no 'famine' prices. And every one might feel sure that when his small stock ran out it would be possible to replenish it. Coal is being constantly mined and brought to the city."

The New York *Commercial*, too, puts much faith in an optimistic report made by a committee of the New York Merchants Association, which concludes with these words:

"Providing no unforeseen contingencies arise the aggregate of production will reach the normal during the next three months, in which case there will be sufficient coal on hand to meet every reasonable demand for consumption."

But others, especially in New York City, Philadelphia, and the New England cities, are not so easily satisfied. Whatever may be the reason, there is an admitted actual shortage of some

5,000,000 tons, and this, declares the New York *Times*, "is somebody's fault." Stove coal in these cities is sold now at anywhere from \$6.75 to \$8.00 a ton, according to local conditions. We are told by the New York *Evening Post* that tenement dwellers who ordinarily buy coal by the bucket at the rate of from \$10 to \$12 a ton, are now paying at the rate of \$16 a ton. "Because of a temporary shortage of coal the local consumer is being unmercifully gouged," is the crisp way the New York *World* sizes up the situation.

The strike and car-shortage explanations, and the further statement that at this time of year large quantities of coal must be sent West before navigation closes on the Lakes, are not taken very seriously by the New York *Sun*:

"It is a disquieting thought that if a strike takes place in the anthracite region every spring and the Western shipments continue to be made by the existing schedule, a winter may come when the people of the East will freeze to death for want of fuel."

"The future of the coal industry as it affects the consumer, whether he be manufacturer or householder, is portentous of trouble and peril. In the high cost of living coal is already a prominent item. If it becomes scarcer and dearer, suffering in the cities will be enormous. It is obvious that the relations of operators and miners, including the contracts between them, must undergo changes to diminish and terminate strikes and that the system of periodical deliveries must be reorganized."

Other papers take this occasion to protest against the ways of the all-powerful coal magnates, and to denounce the combination of railroads and mine-operators, known as the "Coal Trust." In the current *Everybody's* Mr. Leo L. Redding relates certain interesting facts showing how these companies work together, under the guidance of Mr. Baer and Mr. Morgan, to their own vast profit and to the detriment of the independent producer and the consumer. He calls attention to the high freight-rates on anthracite, the large "selling charges," and the following up of wage increases by advances in the price of coal "sufficient to take up the full amount of the new expense and turn additional millions into the purses" of the coal magnates. The competition of independent operators and railroads is pretty effectually discouraged, we are assured.

Recent hearings before the Pennsylvania State Railroad Commission brought out the fact that the Philadelphia and