

UNCLE SAM'S EFFORT THE PAST DECADE

WONDERFUL PROGRESS IN EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES AND COMMON CLEANLINESS



OLD METHOD OF THRESHING RICE IN THE FIELD

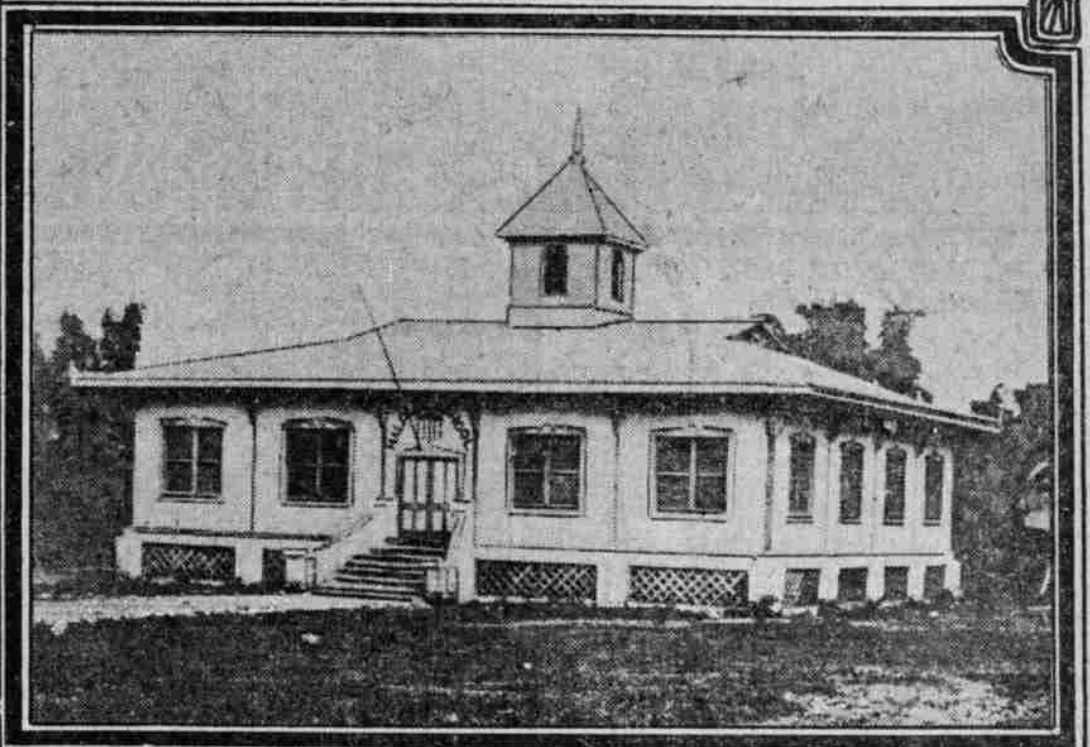
THRESHING RICE IN THE FIELD WITH AMERICAN MACHINERY



THE NEW MUNICIPAL TENEMENT, SUCH AS IS BUILT ON THE SITES OF THE DISEASE-INFECTED SHACKS OF THE OLD REGIME



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THE TYPE OF RURAL SCHOOL SUCH AS IS BEING BUILT THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES

When Manila fell then for the first time since the world began did a nation flushed with victory and mistress of the fate of conquered millions, turn her face from earth to heaven, and, catching some of the divine charity that inspired the good Samaritan set herself to lift a subject people to a higher plane of progress. Though the hand extended by her in amity and brotherly love was roughly thrust aside by those she sought to aid, she clung to her policy of disinterested benevolence with a tenacity born of conviction. She knew her neighbor, and while the smoke of battle still hung over the hills and valleys of the Philippines and every town and barrio was smoking with rebellion she replaced the military with civil regime and on the smoldering embers of insurrection planted civil government.

JAMES F. SMITH,
Governor-General of the Philippines.

American Army. The town became well governed, and the officials learned rapidly in the practical school of affairs.

This method is typical of the management of municipal affairs throughout the Philippines. No phase of the government of the islands can as yet be termed popular for the franchise has not been extended to more than 15 per cent of the people. Only those who can speak English or Spanish, who paid taxes or had held office in the past are at present allowed to vote, the policy being to extend the franchise as the natives become more enlightened. They are given every possible latitude in their control of the towns and are pulled up only when it is found imperatively necessary. The line is closely drawn between the municipal, provincial and national government in the islands. In the various colonies the same principle of allowing the general election of native governors and other officers and entrusting them with the management of affairs has been followed. They have been closely supervised and whenever they have gone wrong or acted foolishly they have been called to account. They have been taught and have shown a general readiness to profit by that instruction. Finally the national privilege of choosing a Legislature has been given to the natives and in this they have shown themselves both interesting and unexpectedly rational.

CONSERVATIVE LEGISLATURE

THE election of the Philippine Legislature and the course it pursued during the session that is just closed has proven to the world that the native has ability of his own as a politician and can play to both the gallery and pit at the same time. The nearest approach to the drawing of party lines in the election was the distinction of Progressives of Federalists, who favor the policy of the United States and are willing to wait until fitness is proven before assuming unaided the lines of government, and on the other hand the Nationalist party, which favors immediate self-government by the natives.

This party first appeared as the Partido Nacionalista Imperialista or the Immediate National party. This showed popularity and the lead was followed by a party known as the Partido Nacionalista Urgentissimo, or the most urgent nationalist party. Not to be outdone, a third party sprang forth and called itself the Partido Nacionalista Explosivo, or

the explosively national party. This latter party was as strongly national as it was possible for men of any faith to dominate themselves, but all three were loud in their demands for immediate government by the people who voted, and those people wanting to do the governing voted for them and they were elected.

It so happens that if the reins of government were given into the hands of the present voting constituency of the Philippines there would be no approach to popular government, for but 15 per cent of the male population have the franchise at the most liberal figures. The native, however, has not yet grasped the idea of every man living under a government having a voice in it, for there has always been a ruling and a ruled class and he cannot understand it yet. He cites with the utmost seriousness the fact that there are twice as many educated Filipinos as there are officers to fill and urges that there is opportunity for even rotation among the government class. The big idea has not as yet sunk in.

The explosively urgent, immediate nationalists having been elected upon their ardent declarations, became, upon the meeting of the Legislature a very different sort of men. They realized the fact that they were being measured by the United States as to their ability as a deliberative body and that their future development and even their future existence depended upon how they should deport themselves. They were then playing for the favor of the wise men in governmental affairs with whom rested their futures and the fiery talk of the campaign subsided. The Philippine Legislature became a dignified, even conservative deliberative body. It made good beyond the fondest expectations of students of Philippine affairs who hope to see a great nation built upon the site of centuries of inactivity.

The Anti-Imperialist League originating in Boston has long agitated the idea of immediate independence of the Filipino regardless of the lack of unity, language, enlightenment—in the presence of the old Spanish idea of class distinction and a lack of an understanding of any sort of government with a possibility of permanence. Eliseo Warren, representing that league, was on the spot as a lobbyist. Dr. Dominador Gomez, a radical firebrand orator, delivered a most impassioned speech in favor of immediate independence but by an almost unanimous vote it was stricken from the record and the body went quietly about the deliberation of serious affairs. The Anti-Imperialist League, which has done much to keep up the spirit of unrest in the islands by holding out a hope of immediate independence with every Presidential election, was entirely ignored. The first act of the Legislature was a vote of thanks to the United States for past favors and an appropriation of 1,000,000 pesos for public schools. The action of the Legislature shows the people to be learning their lesson with wonderful rapidity.

The death rate has always been something frightful in the Philippines. This is not so much due to the climate as to unsanitary conditions. In Manila 60 per cent of the babies die before they have reached the age of one year. It is a densely populated city practically without sewerage and taking water from the Mariquina River, a stream that is lined with villages that observe no precaution against polluting it. Before the end of the present year, however, a modern sewer system will be in course of operation and a water system bringing pure water from the interior will place the city on an entirely different basis. It is expected that next year the death rate will be reduced to half of what it is at present. Countless artisans well are accomplishing for the interior

towns what a water system will do for Manila. American machinery makes them possible. A striking example of what may be accomplished is shown in the results that have been brought about in connection with smallpox. In Manila the natives formerly died like flies with it, but last year there was not a single death reported from this cause. In a surrounding section of country where the average toll to smallpox was 6000 a year not a soul died from this cause. In a single year 2,000,000 vaccinations have been made. These lives are being saved outright through American occupation, and with sanitary methods introduced the total will run into the millions in a few years. In addition healthful conditions will go far toward developing and strengthening the race.

Before the American occupation there was little done toward such imperatively necessary work as the isolation of lepers. They were known to exist in considerable numbers throughout the islands, mingling freely with their fellows and increasing the number of sufferers. Instances were known where they were stoned and driven out of villages as in biblical times. Now, however, a colony has been established at Culion, a beautiful and healthful island, and all those affected are gradually being concentrated. It is expected that in all there will be found to be some 3000 cases of leprosy, but when these are isolated contagion will cease, and as those affected are short lived, the disease may be wiped out in the course of a few years.

AGRICULTURAL OPPORTUNITY

THE greatest blow that the islands have suffered since the beginning of the American occupation has been the rinderpest, a disease among the domestic animals that carried off the greater part of them and left the farmer without a beast of burden to carry or drag his load. It has been found impossible to replace the native carabays by any cattle from the outside, as these when introduced mostly die before becoming used to the climate. American machinery is, however, being rapidly introduced and is taking the place of these domestic animals. It is no uncommon sight to see a traction engine drawing a gang of plows or an American harvester threshing rice.

Agriculture has been materially interfered with because of this loss, but the figures show that the value of the export crop for the past six years has been regularly 50 per cent greater than it ever was during the Spanish regime. In the old times the average export amounted to about \$25,000,000 in value while the average for the past six years has been \$22,000,000. This is not an inconsiderable item as an immediate result of Yankee thrift, for so short a period, and in the face of disaster such as is rarely met.

The islands are valuable primarily because of the fertility of the soil and upon this basis must be built their future. They are located in the tropics and have a soil of unusual fertility. India, China, Japan and other sections of the Far East have been farmed until the soils are exhausted, yet the mouths are to be fed and the Philippines are virgin and can be made productive. There is an unlimited market for everything that may be produced, for in this part of the world, in which lives the bulk of its population, there is a market at the very door. There is a forest primeval in the Philippines that covers an area greater

than New England and offers hard woods and ordinary building timber of quality and in quantity. China is badly in need of railroad ties and all sorts of structural materials, as is Australia, and in the Philippines these are ready for the axe. The Government has taken charge of the lands and is administering them from the standpoint of scientific forestry, allowing only the mature trees to be cut and as a result there will be possible an annual yield of ripe timber that will improve the forests as the years pass.

Sugar cultivation is not deemed the best thing for the future of the islands, as it will lead to a centralization of power in a wealthy few and the degradation of the masses. As the United States is carrying on the work in the Philippines from the standpoint of the philanthropist it is thought best to encourage the tendency toward increasing the numbers of small farmers who own their own land and work it, rather than the big planter. In the meantime the United States puts up the tariff bar against the introduction of Philippine sugar which the local manufacturer maintains he needs for his own protection. The friends of the islands in return say that they would like sale in this country for an amount of sugar so limited as to produce no effect on the market, the object being the immediate limited financial aid to the archipelago. This has not yet been granted. Hemp, tobacco, rice and other small crops are regarded as having a more direct bearing upon the future of the native and offering him greater profits and better living.

When the Philippines were first taken over by the United States a policy for their control and fiscal disposition was mapped out by President McKinley. That policy looked to the government of the Philippines for his good rather than his exploitation and to the gradual extension to him of self-government as he proved himself capable of it. There has since been little advocacy on the part of any party for any change of that policy and it has been rigidly adhered to and it is the only thing looked for in the future. There have been little one way and another as to methods and time, but the principle has not been changed. The insular bureau of the War Department keeps its finger upon the native pulse and when the right beat is felt the boom will be granted; but competence must first be proven.

When the educational system that has been inaugurated, primary and political, has ground for 30 years it is held that a new generation with undreamed of possibilities will be in charge of affairs. It will be an educated English-speaking generation and the whole of the islands will have been drawn together by the bond of a common language and a common interest. The educated class as at present existing will have been submerged and have ceased to exist as a ruling class aside from the masses of the people. The virus of self-government by the people will have sunk deep and in this isolated corner of the world in the heart of one of the oldest races the earth has known will be produced a form of government developed to its utmost by a virile young race of the West. Such a race as the Philippines educated into the operation of a republican form of government will be a novelty that will lend interest to the deliberation of students of government.

The idea of the public as to who bears the expense of the multitude of service that is being done the Philippines is erroneous in the extreme. The fact stands

that the greater part of the burden rests upon the islands themselves and the expenditure is merely guided by the Insular Bureau. The United States does not pay a cent toward the maintenance of the public schools, toward sanitation, toward industrial development. All these expenses are met out of funds raised by the islands themselves. The service of the Americans in this respect is merely in the administration of affairs. They show the people how to get the right things for themselves and do not extend their aid so far as to create a crutch that will go toward preventing the natives from walking alone.

WHO PAYS THE FREIGHT?

THE taxes out of which the wonderful transformation is being brought about are, however, not so heavy upon the masses of the people as were those under which they labored during the Spanish occupation and for 250 years made so little progress. The wealthy, who escaped under the Spanish regime, are more heavily taxed now than then, but the masses pay less. There seems no question as to the respective benefits.

The expense to the United States is, however, sufficiently great and her sacrifice sufficiently appalling to entitle her to credit for a monumental and unselfish work. There are maintained in the Philippines 12,000 soldiers. There is the necessity in the United States for maintaining a standing Army under any conditions.

EUROPE GROWS TIRED OF ITS GYPSIES

Conference Meets in June at Berne, to Get Rid of Strollers.

ALWAYS a wanderer on the face of the earth, the Gypsy is once more to face persecution.

The united effort of Europe is to be exerted to drive from the continent the mysterious, nomadic race of beings, whose life has been the inspiration of great literature and stirring music.

"No home but the road, no life but pleasure, no roof but the sky," the Gypsy's dream of happiness is no longer to be realized in Europe, for next June a conference of representatives of all the powers will meet at Berne to decide on the best means of getting rid for all time of the picturesque bands of strolling people whose history goes way back to the most remote ages.

It is a need for a universal system of policing the continent that has forced representative measures to be adopted against the Gypsies.

Recent attacks, successful and unsuccessful, on the lives of monarchs have fired the police of the continent to renewed efforts to guard against anarchy. No one ever accused the Gypsy of being an anarchist. He is too indolent, too easy-going, to take an interest in politics. He cares nothing about who governs the country, or how the wealth is distributed, as long as he can go from place to place in his decorated wagon and get there to eat to keep life in himself, his wife, his children, his horse and dogs.

For the rest, give him but the sunshine and the open air; wealth can be distributed any way at all, unjustly or justly; monarchs can be good or bad, he cares not at all; he has neither country nor politics. His last thought would be to take life as a means of bringing different political conditions.

and as there are no other battles to fight these men had as well be in the islands as in Fort Sam Houston. The additional expense of keeping them there over what it is at home is, however, about \$2,000,000 a year. Aside from this there is the sacrifice of some thousands of soldier lives in battle and from diseases that are to be charged up to the Filipino account. The soldiers were glad, however, to take their chance in the jungles, for it gave the opportunity for a fight, the first love of the Anglo-Saxon and the soldier's glory. Some lost in the gamble, but not grudgingly.

There is the first \$30,000,000 paid to Spain that must be charged up to the islands. There are \$3,000,000 in the account in a direct expenditure in the purchase of the estates owned by the Catholic Church. This is another example of the magnificent accomplishments of the United States for the Filipino people. On these church lands dwell 60,000 of them as virtual serfs, while today they are homesteading these same lands in small farms and becoming property citizens. It is a part of the great plan to put the land in the hands of the people and make them an independent agricultural nation.

A considerable sum is being spent at Manila for fortification but this may not be charged to the island because of the fact that it is done in the establishment of our security in connection with the naval base at Subic Bay in the East for which this country has striven for many years.

AWAKENING

THE Philippines are awakening to an appreciation of what is being done for them. The Americans are no longer dis-

trusted and regarded as tyrants against whom eternal vigilance must be maintained in an effort to avoid oppression. The little brown people are putting their hands in those of the busy Yankee and asking to be allowed to follow where he leads. At the latest election of governors about half of those who were elected stood on a platform following the plan of the Americans for independence only after it was earned and not for one or more generations. The idea that a sale of the islands is possible is finding always less place in the mind of the native. He is coming, through oft-repeated reassurance, to have absolute confidence in the sincerity of his protector and that the only thing that will prevent him standing ultimately as a citizen of an independent country will be his own declaration in favor of remaining under the same guidance permanently.

All these things have been done in ten years. Since chaos has been brought into order there has elapsed but half that time. Yet a populous nation is being adapted to a new mould and is already assuming its shape. This in spite of the fact that the development of nations is considered an age-long process beset with difficulties that only great time can remove. The rapid growth hot-house method has never before been tried, but the indications point to the accomplishment of one of the greatest tasks of the age in record time. America has proven herself original and on a bigger scale than ever before in her application of national philanthropy. Has there ever been given a bigger push to world advancement?

From the old tribal days descended a fixed belief in the authority of the head of the house. The father is master of the family, and over the fathers reign the chiefs of the band, whose dictates are obeyed, and who has the power of inflicting punishments either by personal chastisement, quarantine or banishment from the camp, the kind of penalty depending largely, of course, on the gravity of the crime.

The Gypsy child, while getting only the teaching of the mother and that only until the age of 7, is far from being the hopeless illiterate that might be imagined. The Gypsy is a natural-born dancer, musician and seeress. First, in his famous rhapsodies, has wonderfully committed to music the wild harmonies loved of this people that dwells in greatest numbers in Austria-Hungary.

Undoubtedly the concerted European movement will drive large numbers from the other side to this country, Mexico and South America, there to continue the strolling life, which is theirs by choice and from which no man's decree can permanently turn them.—Kansas City Journal.