

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 15, 1898

LET THE PEOPLE SPEAK AGAIN

This is a nation in which the people rule. One of our most stubborn presidents said in recognition of this fact that he had no policy to enforce against the will of the people. Lincoln fully tested the sentiment of the public before he issued his emancipation proclamation. Grant abandoned his annexation policy when he was made to believe that the people were against it. McKinley made hurried preparation for war long before war was declared, because he knew the people demanded it. He seems to be hesitating now about a definite policy as to the Philippines, because the anti-annexationists have represented that the masses of the people are strongly against the retention of the islands conquered by Dewey and held by Merritt.

Neither the anti-annexationists nor those who put peace above national honor or national duty can speak for the people who rallied about the administration at the beginning of the war with such unanimity, high spirit, and resoluteness. The disposition of the Philippines is one of the most momentous questions ever presented to a civilized nation for decision. On the instructions issued to the Paris commission, or on the position taken by the president and his immediate advisers, may hang not only the determination of our own future, but the direction to be taken by the forces of Christian civilization. On such a question the people must speak for themselves.

They have spoken in terms that could not be misunderstood, but it is now represented that there has been a reaction, and that on sober second thought the people are against holding the Philippines. They are not. The sober second thought is better than the first impulse. The more the question has been studied, the stronger has grown the sentiment in favor of retaining the islands. The religious press, which rarely enters the field of political discussion, is almost unanimously in favor of American control in the Philippines. There is, in fact, no public sentiment in favor of their surrender. Not even the few individuals who assume to represent the sober second thought of the people go that far. There is absolutely no public sentiment in favor of returning the islands to Spain. There is no European sentiment in support of such a proposition. The Filipinos themselves are in a rage because they fear that the United States contemplates such a course.

Under the circumstances, it seems impossible that the people should be misunderstood. But if they have been, if any one is in doubt as to the trend of public sentiment on this question, the people should again speak out. They should speak to and through their congressmen, to and through the pulpit, to and through the press. Clubs should take action, business men's associations should go on record, and, if need be, mass meetings should give expression to the sentiment of cities, counties, and states.

The people are not in indifferent or acquiescent mood. They are impatient over indecision and restive under the intimations that the president is in doubt as to what policy should be pursued. Little has been said about the matter in the last two or three weeks, because the president's appointments to the peace commission seemed to give assurance that the administration had a definite and satisfactory policy as to the Philippines. It probably has, but there are those who are striving to convince the president that the views held by Senator Davis in the west and White-

law Reid in the east are not the views of the people in either section. On this point the people cannot afford to be misunderstood. They cannot remain silent. They are not in favor of surrender, and they must say so. The people who stood by the president before the war and through the war have the right to be heard now.

Notice to Delinquent Taxpayers.

The delinquent taxes of Wasco county, as shown on the rolls now in the hands of the sheriff are \$60,000, an amount almost equal to the indebtedness of the county. Every citizen will doubtless admit that this state of affairs should not exist, and that all taxes should be collected. On account of hard times in the past the county court has shown leniency to taxpayers, but that leniency has reached the limit, and the court cannot wait longer on delinquents to make settlements. For this reason a warrant has been attached to each delinquent roll commanding the sheriff to collect all taxes by seizure and sale of property. With a bountiful crop now in sight, there can no longer be any reasonable excuse for the non-payment of taxes. The sheriff is bound by oath to comply with the terms of the warrants attached to the tax rolls for the collection thereof, and has no option in the matter. Delinquent taxpayers can save the cost of seizure and sale of property by settling their taxes at once.

ROBERT KELLY,
Sheriff and Tax Collector for Wasco County.

Dated, August 4, 1898.

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Mr. A. C. Thomas, of Marysville, Tex., has found a more valuable discovery than has yet been made in the Klondike. For years he suffered untold agony from consumption, accompanied by hemorrhages; and was absolutely cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. He declares that gold is of little value in comparison with this marvelous cure; would have it, even if it cost a hundred dollars a bottle. Asthma, Bronchitis and all throat and lung affections are positively cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Trial bottles free at Blakeley & Houghton's drug store. Regular size 50 cents and \$1.00. Guaranteed to cure or price refunded.

Next to the general prosperity prevailing throughout the northwest, the subject most talked of is the great Oregon Industrial Exposition at Portland from Sept. 22 to Oct. 22. On every hand you hear people say they would not miss this great fair for anything, and the railroad and steamboat lines are going to grant greatly reduced rates. All who attend the fair will make a splendid investment.

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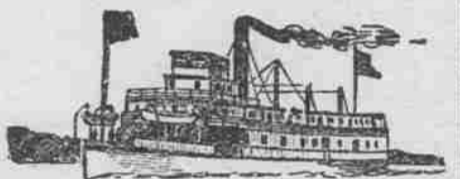
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