

Although the democracy of Oregon contends that state issues are paramount in the present campaign it has no disposition to apologize for its position on the Philippine question.

In its technical bearing, there is no doubt that the United States holds a valid deed of conveyance to the Philippine Archipelago.

Let no man who has a conscience, and who writes for the public press except to misrepresent wilfully and for political effect, assert to the contrary.

Again, let it be said that the campaign in Oregon should be fought upon state issues; but, recognizing that the opposition is indulging in a course of misrepresentation, it is pertinent to give some attention to this phase of the campaign.

"We believe that the best policy is to prepare the people of those islands for self-government as speedily as possible, and, when so prepared, to grant them their independence."

Is not this a rational course that is offered by the democracy? Does it not acknowledge our right to decide in the premises?

As a matter of fact, any man who gives expression to honest opinion will concede that the national program proposed by the Oregon democrats is wiser and more statesmanlike than that proposed by the republicans.

To turn to the republican platform for a moment, we find it is an apology. An apology is a confession of weakness. Hence, when the republicans in their state platform, find it necessary to apologize for a final and unequivocal declaration, that cuts off all possibility of future alteration of policy, it is good logic to argue that they are placing themselves upon the defensive.

Contrast the two platforms and you will have the result. The republican platform is a weak attempt at an apology for denying all future local self-government to the Filipinos.

The democratic platform recognizes the validity of our title to the Archipelago, but provides that at some time in the future, local self-government, and if circumstances permit, independence, be granted them.

Future History for independent

The republican Philippine plank is essentially an apology.

Finally, the democracy of Oregon contends that if this country do that which is consistent with liberty and retain the Archipelago there must be absolute free trade between this country and the islands.

"Bill" Furnish, the boodie candidate for governor of Oregon, is not having very smooth sailing. The better class of republicans is repudiating him right along, the latest being Judge Stephen A. Lowell, of Pendleton, than whom there is no abler or cleaner man in the state.

The Oregonian, in a recent issue scored Judge Lowell, of Pendleton, in an editorial for a letter the latter had written to Geo. E. Chamberlain congratulating that gentleman upon his nomination and pledging his support.

The Telegram alluded recently to an Eastern woman who had given birth to no less than five girl babies at once, or nearly so, and now it reads in an Eastern paper this amplification of the story: One year after marriage, a Massachusetts woman gave birth to a baby. The next year she produced twins, the next triplets, the next quadruplets, and just the other day, at the expiration of the fifth year of marital life, she presented her startled husband with five baby girls.

Prof. Robert E. Ely, the secretary of the League for Political Education, has been making some scientific examination into the earnings of the less fortunate than Brother Rockefeller and other plutocrats, and he presents some conclusions which are quoted in the March Pilgrim, necessarily much condensed.

The wage earners of the United States number fifteen million men, women, boys and girls of ten years of age and over. But on the average two persons are dependent upon each wage earner for support, which means that three people must live on the average monthly wage of \$33.33. Investigation has shown that about a quarter of a workingman's wages goes to rent, and about half to food and fuel. Thus the average workingman, with his family of two, will have left each month after paying for the roof over his head, and the food needed to sustain life, about \$8.30 a month for clothing, medicine, recreation, and a bank account against a rainy day—or the time when he will become superannuated.

Professor Ely very naturally says in the face of these figures that "the terms of our economic problem cannot be solved by thrift alone." And indeed the poorest encouragement to thrift is the knowledge that with the utmost economy for years the savings of a family will be inadequate to meet the needs of six months of illness or two months of costly sickness.

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