

New York, November 15, 1907.

"The plan of a neutralized independence so exactly meets the demands of justice to the Filipinos and so exactly discharges the obligations which the American people have assumed with reference to that unfortunate people that it must commend itself to all who are interested in the establishment of justice. It is one of those evident propositions which does not admit of serious debate, and any opposition to it can spring only from indifference or from an actively adverse self-interest. I wish you all success in your efforts to advance that solution of the existing wrongs."

EVERETT V. ABBOT.

Aiken, S. C., November 21, 1907.

"I fully sympathize with the desires of the people for self-government, and I am amazed that if Congress is of opinion that they are not in a present condition to receive it, it should not have given to those people the fair play and decent treatment in respect of their intercourse, commercial and other, with our people at home. They are certainly subjects if not citizens, and as subjects they deserve the same treatment in all respects, other than political, that is granted to citizens resident here."

GEORGE F. EDMUNDS.

New York, November 21, 1907.

"There is only one true code of morality, individual and national, and repentance is the only cleansing power for sin. If, then, we would purify our national conscience we must say to the Filipinos whom we have so cruelly wronged: 'In God's name be free! We, the American people, will guarantee your independence. Work out your own salvation, remembering that many prophets foredoomed failure in the days of our own feeble beginning.'"

LOUIS R. EHRLICH.

Greenfield, November 23, 1907.

"It would be a source of gratification to me to add any such slight degree as I might by my presence to the propositions looking toward the restoration of honor in our national policy by the granting of independence to the Philippines."

HERBERT C. PARSONS.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE expected to come to Boston, but "regrets his inability to be present." He has, however, sent us five hundred very valuable remembrances.

The meeting was dissolved.

*You are earnestly asked to hand this after reading, to some other person who will also give it careful consideration.*

# REPORT

OF THE

## Tenth Annual Meeting

OF THE

## Anti Imperialist League

NOVEMBER 28, 1908

AND ITS ADJOURNMENT

NOVEMBER 30

PUBLISHED BY

THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST LEAGUE

20 Central Street, Boston

traordinarily inapt reply, which begged the question, was that "Japan and Mexico are not republics!"

#### MEETINGS.

The Executive Committee has held its regular fortnightly meetings, at the first of which Mr. Albert S. Parsons was elected chairman. It has conducted the executive work of the League, elected additional officers and issued two addresses.

The adjourned annual meeting of the League on December 3, 1907, was addressed by Mr. Moorfield Storey, Mr. A. Hildalgo-Rizal, Mr. Dana Estes, Mr. F. B. Sanborn, Lieutenant-General Nelson A. Miles and the Rev. Charles G. Ames.

On the 15th of May last, in connection with the installation of a monument to Governor Boutwell in the Groton cemetery, a meeting was held at the Groton Town Hall which was called to order by the Secretary of the League. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Endicott Peabody, D. D., the Head Master of the Groton School, a group of boys from which, by his kind permission, had sung a hymn at the cemetery while the members of the George S. Boutwell Woman's Relief Corps of Ayer and the Grand Army Posts of Ayer and Groton laid flowers upon Governor Boutwell's grave. An address was delivered by the Hon. Winslow Warren, and a poem read by Mr. William Roscoe Thayer.

On the 15th of June, at Young's Hotel, there was a gathering of those who organized and spoke at the initial Anti-Imperialist meeting in 1898 at Faneuil Hall, to commemorate its tenth anniversary.

At the Twentieth Century Club, November 9th, a luncheon took place, followed by a meeting at which Mr. Storey presided and which was addressed by Miss Helen C. Wilson and Mr. A. Hildalgo-Rizal and Mr. Raphael A. Dimayuga.

#### DOCUMENTS.

The following documents have been circulated during the year:

Proceedings of the Ninth Annual Meeting.

Liberty Poems (presented by Mr. J. H. West).

Proceedings at the Neutralization Meeting in Faneuil Hall, November 25, 1907.

The Way of Honor out of the Philippines. Rev. Prof. C. M. Mead.

Philippines "Thrust Upon Us?" Rev. Prof. C. M. Mead.

The Philippine Menace. Reprint from the American Economist.

Petition to the Congress of the United States. (It is respectfully submitted that Philippine Independence should be promised now by joint resolution.)

The Duty of the United States towards the Philippine Islands. Mr. Moorfield Storey.

Neutralization and Independence for the Philippine Islands. Hon. James L. Slayden.

Policy as to the Philippines. Hon. Thomas W. Hardwick. (Introducing correspondence between Hon. J. H. Blount and Assistant Attorney-General for the Constabulary George R. Harvey.)

Neutralization. Erving Winslow.

Remarks. Hon. John Sharp Williams. (Introducing Philippine Policy, Mr. Moorfield Storey.)

Commemorative Exercises in connection with the Erection of a Memorial Tablet to George Sewall Boutwell.

Address to Members and Friends of the League.

Address to the Anti-Imperialist Voters.

Philippine Independence. The Actual Proceedings in the Philippine Assembly June 19, 1908, and extract from the address of Speaker Osmena.

The Presidential Campaign. El Renacimiento, June 25, 1908.

The Two Extremes. El Renacimiento, June 27, 1908.

The "Democracy" of Professor Burks. El Renacimiento, October 12, 1908.

Address by Don Pablo Ocampo at Lake Mohonk, November 2, 1908.

Many bulletins have been issued to the press containing items of news from the Philippines and other interesting matters concerning the work of the League, and a large number of the earlier publications of the League still on hand have been distributed, especially among those asking for documents for purposes of debate; and for such debates we have been enabled in some cases to furnish speakers.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The Rev. W. H. Scott, of Woburn; Mr. Samuel Bowles, Jr., of Springfield; Mr. Roger Sherman Hoar, of Concord; Mr. Magnus W. Alexander, of Lynn; Dr. Patrick J. Timmins, of Boston; the Hon. Thomas Mott Osborne, of Auburn, N. Y.; the Hon. Edward M. Shepard, of New York City; the Rev. J. T. Sunderland, of Hartford, Conn.; the Hon. Francis E. Woodruff, of Morristown, N. J.; the Rev. Prof. C. M. Mead, of New Haven, Conn., and Prof. Lewis Jerome Johnson, of Harvard University, Cambridge, were elected Vice-Presidents of the League by the Executive Committee.

## NECROLOGY.

The losses in our list of officials since the last annual meeting have been, from the Vice-Presidency, the Hon. James Kimbrough Jones, a strong and consistent opponent while he continued a member of the Senate of the retention and subjugation of the Philippine Islands; Professor Charles Eliot Norton, who most earnestly deplored and protested against the Spanish War and the new departure in the policy of the United States which followed it, and the Hon. E. W. Carmack, whose eloquent appeals in the Senate against the conquest were scarcely less effective than those of Senator Hoar; and from the Executive Committee we have been obliged to deplore the loss of the Hon. Thomas John Gargan, long a devoted member of the League.

Dr. David J. Doherty, of Chicago, was not a member of the League, but it is not proper to omit here a tribute to his self-denying and persistent efforts, involving three journeys to the Philippines in behalf of the interests of their inhabitants, sanitary, moral, social and political. In a very real sense he was a martyr to his devotion, as his last visit was undertaken when his health was broken down and the journey was undoubtedly the chief contributing cause of his death.

Valuable correspondence, much of it containing matter worthy of wide circulation, remains in the files of the office where it is always accessible to any of our friends. A quotation is made from an important letter recently received:

Mr. Taft hopes that ultimately the Philippines may become to us what Canada is to Great Britain. Why does it not occur to him rather to institute a parallel between our relation to the Philippines and England's relation to India? Here the parallel is obviously very close. Canadians are substantially of one race with the English, and are only in the loosest sense subjects of the British sovereign. But this present degree of freedom was accorded only in consequence of a rebellion, and there are still indications that Canada is not altogether satisfied with even the small degree of authority which England exercises over her. But what of India? After a century and a half of subjection to English rule, she is in a condition falling scarcely short of rebellion. A state of discontent exists which is rapidly uniting the discordant native elements into a movement for the promotion of an Indian nationality—a movement so much feared by England that a liberal government finds itself constrained to institute measures of repression so drastic that the ultimate effect can be none other than an increased alienation between the rulers and the ruled. There is where we need to look, if we wish to learn from history what our Philippine experiment in "colonization" is likely to lead to.

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In point of fact, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to specify any case in which one nation has ever imposed its rule forcibly upon another from a benevolent desire to do it good. When conquest and subjugation take place, the primary motive of the conqueror can always be assumed to be a selfish one. The conquest of the Philippines was no exception to the rule. No one but a very unsophisticated individual can

an issue in the campaign the question of Philippine independence, like the question of the tariff, was not really discussed, yet the party which, in its platform, declared for the immediate independence of the Islands elected its governor in three great states long strongly Republican, and no one can pretend that his advocacy of this cause cost Mr. Bryan a vote. We know that all over the country men regret that we ever took the Philippines, and are anxious to be rid of them. No longer a probable blessing, they are regarded as a source of trouble and expense,—an actual curse. Nor can anyone longer question the desire of the Filipinos for immediate independence. They have asserted it themselves by the action of the Assembly on the address delivered by the speaker, Senor Osmena, and through their representative in Congress, Senor Ocampo, whose words have been quoted in the report of our Secretary. Not only have they asserted their wish, but so far as they have been given the opportunity they have proved their ability to govern themselves. Their Assembly has won only golden opinions from the Americans who watched its work. It has been efficient, wise and temperate.

The Americans and Filipinos in the Islands are not coming into closer relations, but are drawing apart, nor is anything else to be expected. Our whole policy rests upon the assumption of our superiority. We insist that we are so much above the Filipinos that we can determine whether or not they are fit to govern themselves in their own country, and because we have decided that they are unfit we are there. It is not surprising that the Americans in the Islands should share this feeling, and decline to treat the Filipinos as equals, nor is it strange that a proud people should resent such treatment. Of all civilized people we are most affected by the prejudice of color, and for that reason we are the least fit to govern men whose skin is darker than our own.

With America desiring to be rid of the Islands and the Filipinos desiring to be free, it would seem that a separation could not long be delayed. It is not possible that the first nation to proclaim that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed should long be false to its principles, when they are receiving recognition in Turkey and Persia; and though it may be that for a while, under President Taft, our cause will seem to lose, we have behind us moral and economic forces that cannot be resisted, and the "self-evident

truths' on which we stand are a rock that cannot be shaken. Parties and party leaders come and go, but  
 "Freedom's battle once begun  
 Bequeathed by bleeding sire to son,  
 Though baffled oft is ever won."

Meanwhile our duty is clear. We must continue the contest without faltering. We must lose no opportunity to lay the facts before our fellow-countrymen. We must point out that the policy of Mr. Taft does not mean independence, that, as he frankly admits, he hopes the Filipinos will cease to desire it, and that his measures are designed to realize this hope. We must resist every step in this policy, and so far as in us lies we must show the American people that to hold the Filipinos as our subjects against their will is wrong,—politically, economically and morally wrong;—that from this wrong nothing but evil can come alike to ruler and subject, oppressor and oppressed, and that, as its history has abundantly shown, this nation cannot endure part free and part subject to arbitrary power. The end of the contest may come soon or late, but whether we live to see the end or not, the fight for freedom must never be abandoned.

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS OF THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST LEAGUE FOR 1908-1909 WERE

UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED:

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Moorfield Storey.

TREASURER

David Greene Haskins, Jr.

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Erving Winslow.

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