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# REPORT

OF THE

## Seventeenth Annual Meeting

(ADJOURNED)

OF THE

## Anti-Imperialist League

FEBRUARY 28, 1916

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BOSTON

dom makes us ready to trample upon them whenever our oppression seems likely to be profitable. For the question "Is it right" our opponents would substitute "Will it pay," and the country which adopts this standard of action has lost its soul.

"What shall it profit it then if it gain the whole world."

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. James H. Bowditch and Mr. Albert S. Parsons were appointed by the chair as a committee to distribute and collect ballots, and the following officers were declared by them to be chosen:

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LETTERS

The following letters were read:

From the HON. JOHN F. SHAFROTH:

"To the Anti-Imperialist League will be due an incalculable influence in the passage of the bill. It has been your constant work for sixteen years that has kept so many people in line for independence, and the incessant work of your organization has kept it ever alive before the people. Its greatest benefit has been the preservation of the spirit of our government as voiced in the Declaration of Independence.

"I recognize that your organization has produced this result more than the influence of any other body of men. The constant and persistent declarations and addresses of your Presidents and members have kept this a live issue, and have at last, it seems, produced excellent results. While it is always gratifying to give to a people liberty and independence, it becomes doubly satisfactory when by the same act we preserve the fundamental principles of our own government. The Declaration of Independence may not be in law of the same force as the constitution, but it is unquestionably the spirit of our government, and we cannot deviate from its principles without sapping the very foundation of our institutions."

From GOVERNOR McCALL:

"I am sure I should be glad indeed to be at your meeting, but I am so tied up with engagements that I cannot undertake to come. There seems every prospect of the passing of a bill in Washington which is likely to settle the Philippine question in the way in which you have from the start contended it should be settled."

From COL. HOMER B. SPRAGUE:

"Congratulations on your still holding fast to the 'faith once delivered' to Boutwell and other Saints."