

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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NEGOTIATIONS RENewed

The return of the envoys from General Luna was somewhat sooner than expected, but the chief matter of surprise is that they had nothing new to submit in renewing negotiations. It is hardly possible that General Otis failed to convince them on their first visit of the hopelessness of obtaining a cessation of hostilities until the Filipino congress could determine whether there should be peace and hence their repetition of the first proposals appears to warrant the opinion of some that they are simply stalling for time to rehabilitate their forces. The envoys expressed confidence that the congress would declare for peace, saying that the people want peace, but they seem not to appreciate the fact that the American authorities cannot now recognize a Filipino congress or government, having distinctly taken the position that the Filipinos are in insurrection against American authority, with whom there can be no negotiations that do not contemplate unconditional surrender. Hence it is useless to urge that Aguinaldo cannot surrender without the authority of the congress.

TRIMMING IN REGARD TO THIS QUESTION

There should be no more attempts to secure "international bimetalism," since they would certainly prove futile. There must be no quarter shown those who would depress the currency, impair the public credit, destroy confidence and introduce disorder and confusion into the business of the country. The plain and imperative duty of the party in power is to make such a declaration of the gold standard as will remove all doubt respecting the future basis of the currency—a declaration which, even in the event of the election of a silverite president, would render him powerless to injure the public credit. This duty the sound money men of the country confidently expect the Fifty-sixth congress to perform and we believe it will do so.

MEMORIAL DAY PREPARATIONS

The committee of the Grand Army of the Republic which has been charged with the work of preparing for the Memorial day celebration in Omaha has issued the following address: To the Generous and Patriotic Public: The observance of Memorial day to commemorate the memory of the nation's fallen heroes is at hand. As a patriotic people let us keep alive the sacred associations of this time-honored service. To this end we, the finance committee, appeal to you to contribute a sufficient fund to defray the necessary expenses of a suitable demonstration in honor of the occasion. The amount and name of each contributor will be published and as soon as possible after Memorial day the expense account will be published, showing what use has been made of your money. Send your contributions as early as possible to L. S. Skinner, treasurer, 309 New York Life building.

MR. ATKINSON'S MISTAKE

The postmaster at San Francisco has been directed by the postmaster general to exclude from mail for the Philippines certain pamphlets forwarded by Edward Atkinson, an officer of the Boston Anti-Imperialist league and quite well known to the country as a writer on economic subjects. The pamphlets are regarded at Washington as seditious in character and calculated, if allowed to be sent to their destination, to create dissatisfaction and possibly mutiny among the soldiers. Atkinson acknowledges their authorship and it is said that he is liable to fine and imprisonment under the statutes providing for aid and comfort to insurgents against the authority of the United States. Unquestionably Atkinson has made a very serious mistake, if the pamphlets in question are of the character represented. It is an exceedingly grave matter to attempt to incite dissatisfaction among soldiers in the field facing an enemy. The administration, therefore, has taken the proper course in not allowing the objectionable documents to be forwarded. Yet it may be doubted whether they could have done any harm. The brave and patriotic soldiers in the Philippines are not likely to be influenced by any appeals designed to incite them against their government and we have no doubt that they would have repudiated with most indignant scorn so palpable an insult to their loyalty and patriotism. They are as intelligent as they are valorous and know their duty. It is doubtful true that most of them would like to see a termination of hostilities, but while there is fighting to do they are ready to do it and no amount of appeals of the Atkinson sort could incite them to any conduct prejudicial to their country. It is not stated whether the pamphlets were approved by the Anti-Imperialist league, but we are quite sure that Atkinson's course will not be approved by anti-expansionists generally, who recognize the difference between criticizing the policy of the government and tampering with the soldiers who are fighting its battles.

MAINTAIN THE GOLD STANDARD

What currency legislation, if any, will be enacted by the Fifty-sixth congress cannot now be predicted with certainty. The probability is that the generally approved recommendation of the president, that greenbacks redeemed in gold should be reissued only in exchange for gold, will be adopted. Sound money men are practically unanimous in favor of this, which it is conceded on all hands would effectually safeguard the treasury against raiding by means of the "endless chain." It is possible that there will be legislation looking to an increase of national bank circulation, but this is not likely. The demand from portions of the country for legislation that will give such sections needed banking facilities may receive recognition and there will certainly be a very strong pressure for it. But the paramount duty devolving upon the next congress is that of settling the gold standard, by a direct and unequivocal declaration that the obligations of the government are payable in gold. The country is prepared for such a declaration and the pledge of the republican party to maintain the gold standard and require that a republican congress shall enact legislation which will make that standard secure. Most of the republican representatives in the next house were elected on gold standard platforms. The result of the elections of 1898 showed that the popular sentiment is strongly for gold. Opposition to the gold standard has been steadily diminishing for the last two years, under the conclusive demonstration which events have given of the fallacies of the silverites. With the restoration of industrial and commercial prosperity, with the great expansion of trade, with the rise in the prices of commodities and the wages of labor, with the rapid growth of national wealth—all confuting the theories and the prophecies of the advocates of currency debasement—the vindication and justification of the gold standard is complete. There is not a single point in the contention of the silverites that has not been overturned by the experience of the past two years. There is not a single proposition urged against the gold standard in the last national campaign that has not been utterly demolished by events. With the gold standard this country has made during the last two years the most marvelous progress in its history for a like period and its people as a whole were never more prosperous. The time has gone by for trifling or

DOUGLAS COUNTY FARMERS CAN OPEN UP

A new and profitable field by experimenting in beet sugar culture to an extent that will demonstrate the adaptability of our soil and climate to the growth of the beets of strongest saccharine qualities. General Ludlow either does not appreciate Spanish character or he is one of the most hard-hearted wretches who ever wore a uniform. He has called before him the Havana editors who have been printing lurid fables about disturbances and outrages and warned them they must tell the truth in the future or suffer consequences. A Spanish editor told the truth: Never, except in case of accident.

THE APPOINTMENT OF HALF THE OFFICERS

of the state house, together with several officers of state institutions, to be delegates to the National Conference of Charities and Corrections at Cincinnati betokens another large junket with its concomitant raid on the free railway pass distributors. Charity, it will be remembered, has always been relied on to cover a multitude of sins. Needs Revision. The "few and far between" description cannot truthfully be applied to the Nebraska colonels. Effect of the Gold Cure. In 1893 Nebraska added \$5,000,000 to its land mortgage debt and in 1898 reduced the same debt \$5,000,000. That state is taking its gold standard medicine without much objection. Everything Goes There. Philadelphia Ledger. One day we got news about the military telegraph is kept well up with the advancing columns, and the next comes word that advances from the front are brought by couriers and carrier pigeons. The latter, of course, are adjuncts of the flying column. Home-Made Flyers. Boston Transcript. The postmaster general having expressed the opinion that the United States is big and strong enough to stand on its own feet, old school republicanism offers the timely suggestion: "Suppose, then, it meets the negro problem in the south. Doesn't Mr. Smith think it is about time?" The Remedy for Trusts. Philadelphia Ledger. Whether the states are competent to deal with the trust problem is a serious question. Few of them have shown any disposition to attack the subject. It is undeniable, however, that the United States has the power to deal with the trusts. Let congress swing its ax at every colossal trust which works a monopoly gorge and the American workmen the best and healthiest consumer will be rescued from thralldom. Things Coming Our Way. Philadelphia Record. Now comes the sudden and desirous Minister Straus to find him two American experts who can teach the people of Turkey how to raise the American crops on their farms. This is at once a triumph of American skill and a gratifying sign of advancing civilization in Turkey. As yet it is only a sign, but there is reason to hope that it may grow into something tangible and comprehensive. Friendly Relations with Germany. The sincerity of Germany's desire just now to cultivate friendly relations with America appears conspicuously in the continued comments of German newspapers on the Cuban episode. Many of them candidly admit that the sending of the German fleet to Manila last spring was an irritation to the United States, and that the German admiral's conduct was far from agreeable to Admiral Dewey. With such confessions our people ought to be satisfied. Conscription Tax Dodging. Chicago Chronicle. The decision of New York's corporation court that William Waldorf Astor need not pay \$90,000 of personal taxes into the city treasury on the ground that he is a non-resident will be hailed with uniform acclamation by the large colony of rich New Yorkers who spend most of their time and wealth in Europe. There are more than one of exhibiting American patriotism and the suggestion that our exiled patriots should pay their taxes on this side will nilly nays of rudeness, not to say ingratitude on the part of Mr. Astor and his one of those blue-blooded patriots who give Americans to understand that they should feel complimented by his refusal to accept British naturalization. As the latter might also entail too frequent visits from the tax collector, there is this a clear demonstration that Mr. Astor is opposed to taxing on general principles. OPPOSITION TO IMPERIALISM. Well-Founded and Widespread Dislike of the Policy of Conquest. Denver Republican. The declared opposition of the German-American press to a policy of imperialism gives no occasion for surprise. It is in line with the sentiment which caused many Germans to leave their native land and make their homes in the United States. They left Germany that they might escape imperialism. They will not become its adherents here. When the war with Spain was at its height there was a strong feeling in favor of extending the jurisdiction of the United States to remote parts of the world. It found expression in the declaration that when the flag was planted, it should continue to float. But with the return of peace public sentiment changed and the people began to take a more conservative view of imperialism. So that now there is little of the war spirit of imperialism left. The American public demands that while national honor and prestige should be maintained the mission of the United States shall be one of peace rather than of foreign conquest. With this sentiment German-American agents are in sympathy. There is strong opposition to a policy which would involve the maintenance of a large standing army. A large standing army is attended by dangers to the liberties of the people at home which might counterbalance all that could be gained of glory and imperial power abroad. There is no danger that the country will adopt a course which would commit it to the policy of maintaining a formidable army, clothing the national executive with power which he might some time turn against the people themselves. But while this is true there will be no temporizing with the inhabitants of conquered provinces who may be disposed to resist the authority of the American government. There will be no yielding to foreign interference. A strong navy is demanded. But it is for protection and not for conquest that such a navy will be built and maintained. The Philippine islands will be reduced to subjection and Cuba will be occupied until a stable government shall be established in the island. But public sentiment does not approve the policy of permanently annexing the Philippines or of acquiring the island of Cuba. It may, therefore, be said that people who take the position of the German-Americans need have little fear of the brilliant and able and of valiant influence at home will be adopted.

ECHOES OF THE WAR.

With peace prospects brightening in the byways and jungles of Luzon, gossipers are discussing what the country will do when Dewey comes home. To borrow the sage of a year ago, "We want to do a thing to him." But there is one feature of the home coming which will be closely watched by those favored with front seats, and that is the admiral's visit to Washington. In the midst of the nation's jollity last May it was lamented that the admiral wiped out an old personal score with the Spaniards at Manila Bay. He had played the gallant to a Washington woman years before. A Spaniard appeared on the scene, cut out Dewey and married the belle. Wherefore the American commander put his heart into that job at Manila and scored at the expense of the Spanish nation. The woman whom Dewey is said to have lost comes now to Washington as Duchess de Arcos, wife of the new Spanish minister to the United States. Who can say what must be the feelings of the general public to this romance in contemplating the possibilities of a meeting in Washington. The real story behind Spain's diplomatic move dates back a quarter of a century, relates the St. Louis Republic. At that time the present Duchess de Arcos was a young widow, the daughter of a wealthy social favorite in Washington society. George Dewey, who had just reached a captaincy in the navy, was her suitor. The Duke de Arcos was then plain Juan Brunetti, whose first name his American friends had familiarized into "Jack." Jack Brunetti was an attaché of the Spanish legation. He, too, was paying court to the captivating Virginia Lowery. He won and Dewey lost in that game of hearts. Miss Lowery, then in the first flush of her girlhood, did not lack for attentions, even the most distinguished, but she was dowdily cast over the transfer of Brunetti to another station. First among those whose attentions the gay world of Washington said at that time was likely to woo her away from her Spanish betrothed was Admiral Dewey, then a captain in the navy, a widower, with one little son. No sooner did he see the coast clear than he pushed his own claims with an ardor that, according to all accounts, must have disconcerted that of the absent Spaniard. It certainly looked as if he were in to win. But no. Miss Lowery would not have Captain Dewey as a husband, however much she thought of him as a friend. He was a constant caller at the house, a man far more attractive personally than the silent, scholarly Spaniard, who was almost dumb in general society. All that could be done by Judge and Mrs. Lowery to further the suit of Captain Dewey they did, but without avail. It was Brunetti Miss Lowery loved, not Dewey, she told them. Time went by and the years sped on. Brunetti saved money at long intervals to come to this country for a short visit to his sweetheart. But even with the most scrupulous economy his visits numbered far short of half a dozen in eight or ten years. Meanwhile, wherever he went to Washington, made his first call at the Lowerys, and invariably renewed his pleading with the lady he so ardently longed to make his wife. Suddenly, after fifteen years or more of waiting, during which the young girl had developed into a talented woman of mature middle age, came a sudden and unexpected change. An old uncle, who had borne the title of Duke de Arcos, together with the estates that went with it, died, and his son, both name and title fell upon Juan Brunetti's share. There was a speedy interchange of letters across the Atlantic, and then, more unexpected still, came one deeply bordered with black from the absent Spaniard to the young girl. His father had died. Brunetti was now Duke de Arcos and was heir to one of the proudest titles and handsome fortunes in Spain. No sooner had he attended to the business arrangements necessary upon his changed position in life than he took passage for this country, arriving here to find that Miss Lowery's mother, who had been an invalid for many years, had recently died. Nothing would deter him from his intention of marrying his sweetheart, however, and so Judge and Mrs. Lowery accompanied him to Washington, where so many sad memories clustered about their home, to the summer place at Manchester-by-the-Sea. There the marriage was quietly performed, and almost immediately thereafter the young bride started for Mexico, where he had been sent as minister by his country. And Admiral Dewey? Well, he was not at that time, trying his best to forget the romance he had for so many years hopelessly cherished in his heart. After a year of married life the clouds of the Spanish-American war began to gather. The Duke and Duchess de Arcos, after a short visit in Washington on their way from Mexico, sailed for Spain. George Dewey, then a commodore, next turned up at Hong Kong, and when he picked up the cable at Manila he had smashed the forces of love and disappointment influenced that memorable battle?

ARBOR DAY AND THE SCHOOLS.

Great Value and Wide Application of a Beautiful Constructive Idea. Boston Transcript. It is a matter of congratulation that for one day in the year our public schools become modern colleges of the academe, looking to the development of the love of the true, the good and the beautiful through contact with nature. Viewed from the standpoint Arbor day is a monumental institution. It embodies not only the practical, but also the sentimental and the ethical. It replaces the destructive by the constructive. It presents the ideal of negative teaching, substituting for the negative "No," the positive "Plant." It is in its general observance, it seems to have done more to stem the tide of forest denudation than all legislation. The movement instigated by ex-Secretary Morton a score of years ago to plant trees in the great treeless areas of Nebraska—a scheme now extended to nearly every state and territory—gave us Arbor day. Its observance is now only second in popularity to Christmas and Easter. Through its influence barren tracts have been made habitable. But the real value of the day, it is to be noted, does not inhere, after all, in the setting out of many trees within a prescribed limit. The secret of its great influence lies in the thoughts and feelings engendered by its observance, the lessons taught and their effect upon after life. While Arbor day has had general observance in a school holiday, through the initial efforts of Hon. B. G. Northrop of Massachusetts that it has attained its high degree of utility and influence. Not only are the school house grounds adorned with trees, vines and flowers, but this cult has spread to the families and homes represented in the schools. The tree near the school house is no longer looked upon as a convenient source from which to procure disciplinary aids. It is regarded as a thing of beauty and a joy forever. For the education recognizes the necessity for cultivation in the mental and moral as well as in the physical and intellectual. It is gratifying to note the progress which nature study is making in our schools. It is coming to be realized that children should spend more of their younger days in the open world. It is now known that with children as with trees and plants, though nurture can do much, nature can do most. Arbor day gives Nature, the great teacher, a chance to put her touch upon impressionable minds at the important time when she affords the opportunity to the careful instructor to point the practical lesson of economy. There is no denying that our handling of our forest treasures has been unpeppably wasteful. In the great redwood forests of the Pacific coast, in producing a railroad worth 35 cents a foot of lumber, the substance of the tree is wasted. In Europe, where sad experience has taught better ways, seven-eighths of the forest material is made use of and the waste is only one-eighth. Even a child can understand the lesson of these facts. It would be a good thing for the future if the school children of today could be impressed with the economic value of taking only the percentage of tree growth, getting the greatest profit, the forest itself, remain intact. Schools of higher education have taken this up. The great College of Forestry in New York state, with a demonstration area of 30,000 acres in the Adirondack region, has for its motto the economic application of the poet's appeal, "Woodman, spare that tree," expressed in the words, "Woodman, cut that tree judiciously." When the school children learn this lesson, wilful, ignorant forest destruction will receive its lesson. The tree planting movement will then add economy to its application to a keener love of nature and a higher, broader knowledge and appreciation of the value of trees. PLAGE OF BILLBOARDS. Magnitude of the Public Affliction in Chicago. Chicago Times-Herald. In response to the public protest against the unsightly advertising billboard nuisance, which is now invading nearly every street and avenue in the city, an ordinance has been presented to the city council limiting the size of the billboard to fifty square feet. During the consideration of this ordinance the city billposters argued the council to adopt an ordinance requiring the payment of a license fee not exceeding \$1,000 a year for the privilege of operating advertising billboards. While the proposition to limit the size of the billboards to fifty square feet is a commendable one, it cannot be said that a license fee, however large, would abate their unsightliness or reconcile the public to the disfigurement of the streets. Neither will the \$1,000 license fee remove the objections urged by the building commissioner. The principal objection to the license fee proposed, however, is the fact that it is urged in order to give one billposting firm a monopoly of the business. The firm that is intruded behind the largest billposting area already leased or constructed could easily afford to pay the license and control the business rather than sacrifice the heavy investments made. The high "double-deckers" that are being erected all over the city should be abolished by an ordinance making the disfigurement of the city in this manner punishable with heavy penalties. It is a question whether any citizen has a right to deface the city in this way for his personal profit, even though he is able to rent the vacant ground for that purpose. Chicago can never shake off the habitations of an overgrown country town so long as it tolerates the nuisance. A billboard of fifty square feet will answer all the legitimate requirements of this kind of advertising in Chicago. And an annual license fee for each billboard would easily afford to pay the license and control the business rather than sacrifice the heavy investments made. PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. The late ex-Governor Oglesby of Illinois was once asked what he got by his overland trip to California, in 1847, in search of gold. "No gold," he replied, "but enough experience to make me what I am." The Arkansas anti-trust law has been declared unconstitutional by the court on the grounds that it was an attempt to deprive the part of the state to exercise an extrajurisdiction jurisdiction by bringing within the scope of its penal laws acts done by individuals and corporations in other states. The supreme court of Pennsylvania has declared the inheritance tax unconstitutional. It is estimated that this will deprive the state of \$1,000,000 revenue and that it creates a necessity for an extra session of the legislature, especially as there was already a deficit of \$3,000,000 in the state treasury when the act was passed. Colonel Tasker H. Bliss, representing the Treasury department in Havana, has put forth some figures and estimates concerning the revenues of Cuba which seem to show conclusively that for some time prior to the war Spanish officials completely withheld about \$9,000,000 of the customs receipts from their government every year. For the physical purification of Coney Island the New York Health department is going to spend \$10,000 in disinfectants. The residents of the island object to the movement as strongly as they have since it was subjected to any attempts at moral purification. Mrs. George, whose trial for the murder of George Sexton has just come to a close, has had four offers of marriage since the trial began and three offers of a place on the state's bounty of \$50,000 for a marriage in from Allegheny City, Pa.

MORTGAGES IN NEBRASKA.

Pertinent Points on Property Shown by the Records. The returns of mortgages filed and released in Nebraska during the last few years are likely to prove a serious embarrassment to Mr. Bryan when he starts out on his calamity campaign for the presidency next year. It does not appear now how he is going to use these returns to prove that the farmer is overburdened with indebtedness, that the poor are getting poorer and that the only way to prevent the whole country from going to ruin is to coin the entire product of the silver mines into dollars. Pertinent facts and figures on this subject are given in the recently published report of the Nebraska Labor bureau. The comparative figures of real estate mortgages filed and released in the state for the seven years past are as follows:

Table with columns: Year, Filed, Released. Data for years 1892-1898.

TICKLISH THOUGHTS.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Who is your tar now?" I haven't quite decided which it will be. You see, it is one only two left who haven't trusted me. Somerville Journal: Nobody knows how the woman who is speechless with indignation suffers. Detroit Free Press: "You live next door to a distinguished pianist, don't you, Simpson?" No, he lives next door to me, and he is distinguished as a pianist, but I do not do anything to distinguish myself for him. Indianapolis Journal: "Did it ever occur to you to wonder how the interrogation mark originated?" Yes, mum, I will respond. When Yer Walker, who de use or stealin' when yer can git him dis easy?" "Just perfect. She has sense enough on sweeping day to hang the best rug on the front porch." Philadelphia Record: "I hope, poor man," said the philanthropist, old lady, as she passed the pilgrim a half dollar, "that you will always stay honest and never stoop to the filthy trick of—'Yes, mum, I will respond. When Yer Walker, who de use or stealin' when yer can git him dis easy?" Detroit Journal: There are burglars in the house. Of that no doubt remains. The man has risen and is searching for something in the darkness. "Have you mislaid your revolver?" falters the wife. "No, my necktie," falters the man. "For after all he is only a man." Chicago Record: "Henry, we'd get along better together if you had more will-power." "Martha, we'd get along better if you didn't have quite so much." Somerville Journal: A perturbed man has been found in a noble neighborhood who showed him a fine new Easter hat and told him that it cost only \$2.25. Chicago Post: "Very few people," she said, "know how to shake hands properly." "Well," he returned somewhat expectantly, "there are other forms of greeting, you know."

SPRING.

Among the branches of the trees The merry robins too; Far out, upon the cherries, The merry robins too. The blushing girl is out again Upon a wheeling spire; She crouches down behind gentlemen And mocks their frolics. The winter elder barrel lies Deplete, without a bung; Also, the farmer's out of meat. And gentle Spring has sprung. TIMELY WARNING. Somerville Journal. The open cars are out again. The pear-tree buds are white. Forsythias are blooming. The gardens fill with light. The robins run along the grass. The peach-tree buds are pink. The lawn has changed from brown to green. And Spring is here, you think. The leaves are showing on the elms, Stirred by the gentle breeze. And soon a dainty pink and white Will clothe the apple trees. Yes, Spring is here, but don't be rash; Be sure of bearing what you sow. So wait a while before you take Your winter flannels off.

Advertisement for clothing: "Don't Put Off Till Tomorrow What Should Be Done Today".

WHAT applies to our splendid showing of spring suits at

\$10.00

Mixtures, stripes, plain colors and checks, without doubt the best selection ever shown in Omaha, at that price—their real value being \$15. Style, fit and quality warranted and all for \$10.

