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THE ALGERINE PLAN

The Object of the Campaign was not to Free Cuba or Whip Spain but to Give Big Contracts to the Meat Trust.

The trusts elected McKinley and they had to have their money back, That is a truism that no fair man will deny. When the war broke out they saw a scheme to turn over a few millions to the meat trust and Alger and his conferers set about it in great haste. After the thing was over and there was a general protest caused by the horrible treatment of the soldiers, it became necessary to appoint a whitewashing committee. General Miles prepared and submitted a memorandum for the use of that committee. They took the paper and shoved it in a pigeon hole and it never saw the light until the other day. It was as follows:

"1. The life-giving properties in the food of armies up to the time of the Spanish-American war have been chiefly obtained from the flocks and herds of the country.

"2. The great armies of the civil war and the Indian expeditions were fed upon the herds of cattle which accompanied them.

"3. It was perfectly practicable to have had at all times herds of fat cattle at every camp in the United States.

"4. At no time during the war was there any emergency. The war was anticipated for months before it occurred. Congress, by unanimous vote had appropriated $50,000,000 for national defense; and it was perfectly well known to every military man that as the troops were called into service they would require food, raiment and equipment.

"5. It was equally well known that their services would be required in the tropics, and not in the arctic regions.

"6. It was also well known that beef cattle would be shipped by train or transport, wherever troops, mules and horses were moved.

"7. The travel ration which has been used for years, composed of corned beef, beans, bread coffee, etc., had been thoroughly tested and found satisfactory and is in general use today.

"8. The fact had been known for years that in Cuba a million and a half of people and a quarter of a million of Spanish troops (in their military operations during the last three years) had been principally fed upon the cattle of Cuba and those that had been shipped from the United States and South American countries; also that the Cuban army had subsisted in the same way, and that 10,000 troops under General Gassie had marched and manoeuvered against the spanish forces in eastern Cuba, sustained principally by cattle that accompanied them.

"9. It was also known that nearly a million of people and 16,000 troops in Porto Rico had lived upon the herds with which that island is abundantly stocked; and, in addition to this, that cattle were exported from the island, the same as tobacco, coffee and sugar.

"10. Instead of supplying the troops during this war as other armies have been supplied, with wholesome food (of which there was an inexhaustible supply in the country), there was gathered up all of the canned food possible, much of which had been stored for years in the warehouses of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, in other places and in foreign storehouses, and falsely labeled 'Prime Roast Beef,' when there was not an ounce of roast beef and not an ounce of prime beef contained in the cans. It was meat of the most inferior grade or the boiled pulp from which beef extract had been made, and the cans were filled up with grease or tallow, making a substance unpalatable, nauseating, offensive and unfit for human food—so nauseating, in fact, that after a few efforts to eat it the troops went hungry rather than try to live upon this vile stuff. In many cases it caused sickness, and in innumerable cases the troops were made weak by thus being supplied in lieu of having suitable and wholesome food.

"11. It is true that a small amount of canned roast beef was purchased for experiment with small detachments of the army prior to 1896, but owing to the unfavorable reports it had been abandoned and not purchased for four years prior to the war; and through the many reports that have been received by those who have tried it during the war and almost universally condemned it, it has been abandoned as a part of the ration, and the only use now made of it is to issue it to the starving Cubans.

"12. The evidence that has been presented which condemns this food can be confirmed by the testimony of tens of thousands of soldiers, if any additional evidence were needed.

"13. The sending of troops into a campaign against a hostile enemy chained to refrigerators and cold storage and ice houses is so unprecedented and unmilitary that it would be a waste of words to discuss it; yet this was done, and there was full knowledge that the commissary department required from the contractors furnishing refrigerated beef that it must keep for twenty-four hours outside of the refrigerators. (See the commissary-general's letter of July 19, 1898, as well as his sworn testimony on three occasions, and his endorsement dated June 17, 1898, on the letter of Dunlap & Michener, agents for Armour & Co., dated June 15, 1898.) To fulfill these contracts the contractors were compelled to resort to artificial preservatives. That they possessed and [illegible] to use chemical appliances is [illegible] beyond question. Their own [illegible] documents prove this. That they had these appliances and did use them is a fact established by unimpeachable [illegible] testimony.

"[illegible] The serious and injurious effects upon the troops that were compelled to subsist upon these two classes of food, or to suffer in consequence of not having wholesome food, is as apparent as any well established fact; but the extent of such injury upon the health and lives of the troops cannot well be measured.

"15. While our troops were thus deprived of wholesome food, many parties were ready to supply them at all times and in all camps in this country and on foreign stations with any number of cattle. It is also a fact that during these very months in which our troops were serving in Cuba there were shipped from the Atlantic and gulf ports upward of 87,000 of the best beef cattle produced in the United States and sent across the Atlantic to foreign markets—enough beef to have supplied the troops sent from Tampa to Santiago for thirteen years.

"16. These facts have been established beyond question, and we believe that a great fraud has been perpetrated upon the government and a great crime committed upon its soldiers; and as to the party or parties who have committed this offense, and whether the evidence should be referred to the judicial officers of the government, in order that justice shall be done, are matters that we leave to the consideration of your honorable court."

PROSPERITY.

Special to the Chicago Times-Herald.—Wichita, Kans., June 12.—Miss Julia Roberts was married to Allen Denton at Iola yesterday. The bride confessed at the altar that she did not the least bit love the man whom she was to marry, but she was only marrying him to keep a mortgage from falling due and taking their old homestead.

Denton was the possessor of this mortgage, and he said he would cancel the same if Miss Roberts would become his bride.

The girl's parents objected and wanted to move out of the home which had been theirs for the last half century. The girl studied several days over the proposition and finally decided to sacrifice herself to save the home.

History will record that in the times of McKinley prosperity beautiful girls sold themselves to preserve a home for their fathers and mothers.

MORE PROSPERITY.

This kind of prosperity seems to spread all over rhe country, for the Minneapolis Times contains the following advertisements:

"Twelve acres, Fridley, on railroad, very desirable and cheap; sold in 1890 for $3,000; easy terms; $850, Baily, 507 New York Life Building."

Think of that! A fall in nine years from $3,000 to $850. And yet the gold standard has given us prosperity.

"584 acres, 1½ miles from Monticello, 400 acres in crop, 11-room house, large barn, built eastern style, machine shed, windmill, and other outbuildings, painted and in first class condition; good fencing; deep black soil; raised 18 bushel wheat to acre last year; biggest bargain in the state; $17 per acre. C. W. Somers, 505 Manhattan Blk., St. Paul."

$17 per acre, including 11-room house, large barn, etc. Seventeen dollars per acre, and raised 18 bushels of wheat, that ought to be worth $1 a bushel, or $18 a year for land offered for sale for only $17.

BALLINGTON BOOTH

It was the writers fate, along with others to listen to "General" Ballington Booth at St. Paul's Methodist church, Tuesday evening of last week.

It is true that the public may have had no right to expect a Demosthenes or a Bossuet, but the expectant public had a right to demand an observance of the common of good taste. We come to hear the gospel and we listened to a political harangue on expansion. It may be that this British Goliah, because like Saul he towers head and shoulders above all Israel, has the inate right to insult a respectable class of christians who make up nearly twelve per cent of the population of these United States. The doughty "General" was in favor of expansion PROVIDING, PROVIDING, along with the torch of liberty we took the Bible. People who did not believe in expansion had better leave the United States. Does this valorous hero of bloodless street parades know that in the Philippine Islands there is by absolute statistics, less illiteracy than there is in the United States, considered as a unit?

The Philippines are as thickly populated as the state of Michigan. Eight out of ten of her inhabitants can read and write. In nearly every home is found the Crucifix and books of devotion. If these Filipinos need to be christianized, then the great church that produced Francis Xavier and Vincent de Paul is not christian. By contrast let us look at Hawaii. When James Cook discovered the Sandwich Islands in 1778, they contained 200,000 strong vigorous and healthy natives. England took to the islands, rum, syphilis and the Bible—the diseases and their antidote. After 120 years less than 20 per cent of the original number of the natives are left. Which has the better record, the Latin or the Anglo Saxon? I will not say that Mr. Booth is in the pay of Mark Hanna because that cannot be proven. But it is safe to say that the American politicians are like the lice and frogs of Egypt, there is nothing too small for them. They have got hold of the pulpit, the religious press, the Volcanoes—what next? God save the Mark!—Vox Clamantis in Deserto.

News of the Week

The statement in the Independent last week that an effective censorship was impossible in this age of the world and that McKinley's attempt to establish one in the Philippines would prove abortive has proven true. John T. McCutcheon, who has been the most reliable correspondent in Manila since the war began, has evaded the military dictatorship and managed to get an uncensored dispatch through to his paper by sending it to HongKong and cableing it under British protection.

The conditions of affairs in the Philippines is just as has been represented all along in the columns of this paper. The bombastic reports of Gen. Otis are utterly discredited by this dispatch. Mr. McCutcheon first makes a detailed statement of the claims of Gen. Otis and then specifically denies every one of them. He says:

"It is represented by the military authorities that matters are moving on prosperously and that the Filipinos are sick and tired of the war. The insurgents army is represented as a pack of brigands under robber chiefs, and these leaders are said to be quarreling among themselves, being unable to hold their forces together much longer. They say that the war would be brought to a close promptly if the wet season would hold off a little longer. They say the number of troops now at hand is sufficient for every purpose. They say that business is improving and peace returning in spite of Aguinaldo and his men. They say that the scattered forces of the insurrection have been deprived of resources and that the insurgent leaders, acting only from motives of selfish personal ambition, keep up their spirits merely in the hope which comes to them from the anti-annexation sentiment expressed in the United States."

In effect Mr. McCutcheon says that these officers wilfully falsify, or in other words they do not differ from the ordinary political liar in the states. Hear him:

"The officers in the field know that the Filipino troops are aggressive and full of spirit. The thoughtful men in Manila know that the rigid press censorship and the Washington bulletins do not in the least strike terror to the bosom of Aguinaldo and his men. The outlook at the present time is more gloomy for the speedy ending of the war than ever before. The insurgents still have a good organization, and their resources are not materially impaired. The failure to sweep the fertile rice country above San Ferando to the cost has left immense resources in the hands of the enemy. Therefore they can contibue the war indefinitely. The only true method of pacifying the country is to garrison all the important towns. It will take many more thousands of troops to do that."

After this clear statement he gives the number of effective troops now available for service in the islands, which he says, after deducting the killed, wounded and sick, are six thousand men. That is all that is left of that brave fighting army that at first numbered about 30,000. After all the blood shed, all the cost and all the suffering both at home and in the Philippines, we are worse off than when we began the fight. If ever a set of men deserved the curses of all mankind it is those who brought on this war with the Filipinos, as well as those who have attempted to deceive the people of this country by their press censorship and their unparalelled lying.

After this McCutcheon goes on to give the sentiment of those who have had to do the fighting. He says: "The war against the insurgents is unpopular with the troops, who show no enthusiasm in in their work and little pride in their victories which they have won."

Now there is a statement of conditions in the Philippines by an honest man on the ground and whose interests would be to take the side of the military. What will the American people think of it? McCutcheon says that it will take at least 75,000 men to capture the islands, and any man knows that it will take 50,000 to hold them after they have captured them. Must the blood of America be poured out in this way to satisfy the English so that they may have a place for safe investment of the $500,000,000 that they receive from the toilers of America in interest on investments in this country? There is no American capital to be invested there. We have to borrow English money to develope the resources of even this state. English capital will own the water power to be developed at Fremont. It is simply a plan to shed the blood of our sons for the benefit of the English money loaner.

The First Nebraska are at last on their way home and the governor has issued a proclamation asking the whole state to arrange for an appropiate reception. The dispatch says that they are going by the way of Japan and China. Why no one knows. They will probably be here in about a month.

The failure to get volunteers to fight the Filipinos is shown by the advertisement sent out from Washington saying that the recruiting officers have been authorized to take any thing—tramps, foreigners, flat-footed, those who can't read or write—in fact any thing that can stop a bullet or make food for fever in tropical jungles. The press dispatch announcing this state of affairs is as follows:

"Under the instructions to recruiting officers, enlistments for three years recruits, intended for regular regiments, and enlistments of volunteers for two years, will be made. In the case of the volunteers there will be no restrictions as to citizenship or educational qualifications. Recruiting officers have previously been compelled to reject men who were not citizens of the United States, or uneducated, and have thrown out men who were flat-footed. While it is intended to obtain as high a class of men for the volunteer service as possible, it is pointed out that the law will allow the enlistment of recruits showing sufficient intelligence to perform duty as American soldiers."

The lightning did some terrible work last Sunday at Ulysses, Neb. A party of five young men and boys were struck by a lightning bolt and all were killed. The names of the dead are Victor Dobson, a farmer, aged twenty-three; Ira Dobson, a brother of Victor; Thomas Bidwell, of Lincoln; Herman Eager, of Lincoln; Johnnie Ames, young son of John Ames, a farmer.

Imperialism got an awful black eye at the Omaha Exposition grounds on the Fourth. Gen. Wheeler had been advertised as the attraction. It was known that he favored the McKinley policy and it was thought to be a great stroke to get him for a speech. All the soldiers in the Spanish war that could be induced to attend were there, but when Wheeler began to press the imperialistic question too hard—although they were all disposed to treat him courteously—all the returned members of the First regiment got up and went out. They were followed by all the others who could get out without creating a disturbance When he got through there were but few soldiers left, and not many others for that matter. Imperialism is no go out here in Nebraska.

The populists of Lancaster county will hold their county convention on the 10th of August. The call will be issued next week.

PROGRESSING BACKWARD

Surprising Statement Made by the Fleet Engineer of the Asiatic Squadron.

One of the most comprehensive as well as astonishing statements in regard to the Philippine situation comes from Commander John C. Ford, Fleet Engineer of the Asiatic squadron. He has recently returned and made a statement concerning the situation which was printed in the Baltimore Sun.

"When I left," said Commander Ford, "we held not quite so much ground as was ours during the first part of August last year, and our lines were restricted to the suburbs of Manila. The troops did push out into the country, but could not hold the ground, they made by raids and were obliged to fall back. It it impossible to conquer the people or to gain the islands without more troops. If we send a great many more soldiers out there and bend all our energies to doing it, we can beat them and take the islands. It would mean great loss of life and considerable time, but it could be done. As it is now it is all we can do to hold our own. The insurgents are constantly encroaching, and though, as I have said, raids are made, the natives driven back, and the line thrown out, we can't hold the ground because we have not enough men.

"The line is always active, and there is no relief. Men spend months in the trenches, subjected to great mental and physical strain and never knowing at what moment they will be assailed. The lines of the natives are often not a block away from our own, and the rule is when you see a head exposed to shoot it. The natives are always on the defensive.

"As for their condition now, as far as I can see, they are stronger, more determined, and more skillful in the art of war than when the fighting out there started, and as the days go by they increase in strength and knowledge, having nine or eleven millions of people to draw from. They are armed with Mausers—the best rifle in the world—and are far better marksmen than the Spainards. At first they shot high and missed, but now they have caught on and aim low with deadly effect. They have a good government now, which they are operating successfully, and preserve law and order. They certainly don't think theire is a hopeless fight, and I don't think any one else does who knows anything about it.

"What they are fighting for now is absolute and entire liberty. They don't want us there or over them, and in the course of time might wear out our patience entirely. An excellent postal and telegraph system is in existence, which we wish very much we could get hold of. While they fight for entire freedom, all they ask is a chance for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and they care not whether it be a republic of their own, or some form devised for them by the great United States of North America. I see nothing promising in the struggle now or any hope of speedy success on our part, unless many more troops are sent out.

DON'T LIKE A GUN.

Attracted by the terrific roar of tinhorn patriotism at Topeka Billy McKinley opened the recruiting office there expecting to fill those three skeleton Philippine regiments in about three days. He supposed the recruits would roll up the streets by the thousands, headed by Dave Mulvane, and whole gang of state house patriots, with Bill Wasser from Girard crowding up the rear. But Billey's solicitor waited in vain—Dave nor Stanley, nor Wasser, nor any of the roaring tinhorn brigade put in an appearance—no processions—no receptions—no sky rockets—no picnic lemonade—no speeches—no nothing but a dreary silence. True enough, a few ragged tramps dumped into the hoosegow city by McKinley prosperity, concluded they might get grub anyhow by joining McKinley's army, wended their way from the box cars to the recruiting office and declared their readiness to fight for Bill McKinley if he would only feed them—and that was all. But wait a wee. These tinhorn patriots will be on hand in swarms for the first epauletted hero that comes that way, and they will roar about the patriotism as lustily as ever. But you never will eatch them shouldering a gun. The recruiting officer closed in great haste and got out of town as quickley and quietly as possible.

MILITARY ADVISERS

President McKinley has no competent military advisers. The war has been managed by men incompetent to manit, and some of them are unworthy of high places. President McKinley's advisers have been a secretary of war who has never conducted a military campaign, and whose dishonorable dismissal from the army was recommended by Generals Custer, Metritt and Sheridan, an assistant secretary of war who is without military experience; and an adjutant general, who was officially declared in the civil war to be "unfit to command brave men."

From the beginning of the war with Spain to the present military advise of our foremost soldier has been asked but once and that was on July 3, 1898, when the president turned in terror to General Miles and begged him to save Shafter's defeated army. Thus it happens that while General Miles is within easy access of the president and ever ready to serve his country, his splendid abilities are ignored, and the country is deprived of the best military skill.

General Miles will go wherever he is ordered. But if he goes to Manila, he will go there knowing that there is left behind him in Washington a man who would be liable to resort to any ruse to destroy General Miles, in the vain belief that he might rise when Miles would fall. It is the man who sent a secret telegram to General Garretson on the Yale, in July, 1898, telling him to sail at once, a telegram intended to prevent General Miles from reaching Santiago on the fast cruiser, when the general was acting under orders from the president and hastening to save human life and win victory for the nation.

THOU SHALT NOT KILL.

People who are finding fault with Rev. Dr. Lorimer because he preached against trusts in his baccalaureate sermon at Brown University, and because he preached against the machine method of bestowing charity; and who want to turn Rev. Dr. Herron out of his professorship in Grinnell college because he says the golden rule ought to be the rule for getting gold; and who are raging at Bishop Potter, of New York, because he takes for his text "Thou shalt not kill" and applies it to the slaughter which is going on in the Philippine Islands; and all sorts of other people who insist that clergymen shall not denounce the particular sin of which the complainants are fond, would if they could have their way, reduce the pulpit to narrow straits for themes. They recall the story of the prudent deacon who told his new pastor that it was not quite safe in their church to preach against any sins except such as were peculiar to the ancient Jews.—Boston Advertiser.

HORRORS OF WAR.

How a Soldier of Iowa Came to Believe in the Efficiency of Prayer.

A Manila correspondent in a letter sent by mail—the censor would never have permitted it to come by cable—writes of an interview he had with a private soldier. It will give a better idea of the infinite cruelty of the imperialistic war than can be obtained in any other way. The mother of a soldier in the Philippines sends it to the editor with the remark: "While it almost broke my heart to part with my boy, I did not object to his enlisting, for I thought he was going to rescue the starving women and children in Cuba Instead of that he was sent to the Philippines and has been forced to engage in killing people who were our friend when he enlisted. He is a good boy and feels just as this Iowa soldier does. He has written a good many letters but he always says I must not let them be printed." The article enclosed was as follows:

"Down the village streets and into every hut and building went the soldiers on their mission. The teeth of the aged chattered with fear and the soldiers were met with tears and prayers for mercy as they entered the doorways. In many homes children stood by and watched, wide-eyed with wonder, joining their piping voices with the moans of the parents. White flags hastily constructed out of anything, from a handkerchief to a bit of underclothing, waved from the windows. In one hut the inhabitants were found hurriedly piecing a flag together, while a child was waving still another emblem from a window.

"I ain't much on religion these days," said a browned Iowa soldier, as he lay on his back on the floor of a vacant hut this afternoon, "but I believe the prayers of those people were answered. Now let me tell you. I was sent to search that house over there," and he pointed to a nipa hut snuggling in the shade of a great mango tree. "I just turned into the gate and I heard a woman sobbing a prayer. As I stood there another voice joined here. I tell you it was mighty earnest. But I had my duty to perform and I mounted those steps, that are made of bamboo, I carried my gun at present, for I didn't know what minute I'd run across an insurgent, and I reckon there was quite a crowd, judging from the way the women folks prayed, I said, I climbed up that ladder rather carefully, and I don't believe a soul in the house heard me or saw me until my shadow filled the doorway.

"There on the knees with their crosses before them, were the whole family. The father was not saying much, but he had his eyes closed. I should have said the grandfather, for he was an old, old man. A little girl saw me first. She seemed to be chilled with fear. At last she pulled her mother's dress and then the woman saw me. She was praying and kissing her crucifix and she crawled over toward me on he knees and caught my hand and kissed it again and again. The grandfather joined his voice with his daughter's in the trembly tones I had heard outside. One child hugged my legs and another looked at me with great, wide eyes. And through it all ran their prayers. I couldn't make out anything but 'senor' and after awhile I realized they were praying to me.

"I couldn't think of anything to say to her. I knew some Spanish, but couldn't get it on my tongue. By and by I got 'Buenos dios' past the lump in my throat. That word changed them all from supplication to thankfulness. Soon the little ones understood that they were to be left alive and they crouched down by their mother. You talk about tears of joy! I forgot all about my gun, and reached down to help the woman to her feet. I set the Krag down mechanically, leaning the barrel up close behind me, but as I think of it now I don't believe any one noticed that. They saw my hands free and knew that they were to live. Like a fool I kept repeating 'Buenos dios, buenos dios,' but those words told them what I wanted them to know. Surely it was a happy family that got off its knees that day. I suppose my experience was just like the rest. There was no arms in the house, but in the rice stack I found a bolo and a handful of ammunition. I'll confess I did not implicate the family in that affair."

Thinning Orchard Fruits.—Whether or not it pays to thin the fruit of an orchard, everyone agrees that with a few trees it is advantageous to thin an overburdened crop down to a reasonable number of choice fruits. In an experiment reported by the department of agriculture, thinning was found to increase the total yield and to decrease rot. The thinning was practiced with apples, peaches and plums, early thinning giving the most practical results. It was concluded that it pays best to commence work of this kind immediately after the fruit has set.

Potash, as a constitutent of fertilizers, exists in a number of forms, but chiefly as chlorid of muriate and as sulphate. All forms are freely soluble in water and are believed to be nearly, if not quite, equally available, but it has been found that the chlorids may injuriously affect the quality of tobacco, potatoes, and certain other crops. The chief sources of potash are the potash salts from Stassfurt, Germany—Kainit, sylvinit, muriate of potash, sulphate of soda, and sulphate of potash and magnesia. Wood ashes and cotton-hull ashes are also sources of potash.