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Mrs. Andrew Rice, of Neligh, Neb., says that "the big lie told last fall on Chancellor Andrews was first published in the Central Christian Advocate of Kansas City."

It is a fact beyond dispute that we have killed more people, caused more suffering and burned more towns in the Philippines during the last three years than Spain did in three hundred years. And we used to denounce Spanish cruelty.

We have gone into the Philippines and made war on the people without telling them what for or what we propose to do with them if they should propose an unconditional surrender to our military forces. The situation cannot be duplicated in all history.

Dave Hill's idea of political strategy seems to be to match barrels with Mark Hanna. Well, our Uncle Mark can beat Hill ten to one at that game. It is about the wildest idea ever entertained by "I am a democrat."

Our flag in Cuba represented liberty and self-government. On the 20th of this month it will be pulled down to the honor of this government, and the Cubans will hold it in reverence. Our flag in the Philippines has represented despotism and every Filipino hates it. But Teddy says that it must "stay put."

The proposition that when the American flag is hoisted over a piece of territory, it can never be taken down without dishonor, is the most absurd statement a politician ever invented. It was never intended for any other use than to fool mullet heads. For that it suffices very well.

All the financial papers and magazines of every sort declare that the demand exceeds the output. That is hard on the socialist and republican theories of overproduction. It seems to indicate that wars of conquest and common ownership of property are not pressing needs of these states just at the present time.

The republican and gold democratic editors are in great distress again for fear that the democratic party will be ruined by its opposition to the war in the Philippines. The Brooklyn Eagle is especially vociferous in its protests. It says that word "imperialism" should be stricken from the democratic vocabulary.

In the old days before imperialism demoralized our gallant little army, for an officer to lie was an unpardonable sin. For that he found no mercy and was cashiered. But now the unpardonable sin for an officer is to tell the truth. Forgers are promoted and the truth tellers are court-martialed. Funston and Major Gardner are recent samples.

Tom Johnson has announced another fanatical idea. He says that the public parks of Cleveland belong to the people and are maintained for the people's use, therefore they need no permits from the police or anybody else to hold picnics there. That the parks are really for the use of the people is an idea that seems never to have entered into a mullet head's brain.

The great emigration of American farmers to northwestern Canada still continues. Canadian officials assert that 50,000 American farmers will settle there this year. If an irrigation bill had passed congress, this exodus would have been in the main prevented. Congress had too much war or conquest to look after to pay any attention to the development of this country or the needs of farmers.

It is related of Col. William E. Peters of the confederate army, who has just died, that when his commanding officer ordered him to burn the town of Chambersburg, Pa., he refused to do it and replied: "I do not make war on defenseless women and children." If he had been in the Philippines he would have been court-martialed and sent home in disgrace and told that they wanted no "sentimentalists" over there.

The anglophile idea of sending a special embassy to help crown King Edward has been knocked out and if Whitelaw Reid, General Wilson and Admiral Watson go it will have to be in some other capacity. Senator Bailey showed so conclusively that the whole thing was unconstitutional that the republican leaders, like Allison, Lodge, and others, had to agree with him. No precedent could be found in history for an embassy, without formal nomination and confirmation by the senate.

Many years ago John Stuart Mill and other economists pointed to the fact that practically nothing was left over from year to year of all the goods produced. Everything was consumed as we went along. And yet the republicans and the socialists are always in a tremor about the danger of overproduction. To prevent the catastrophe, the republicans want wars of conquest and the socialists want the collective ownership of all the means of production and distribution. But no such catastrophe impends.

LAND MONOPOLY

This question which The Independent has so often propounded to the single taxers the Chicago Public makes an effort to answer. The independent's question was:

Since the community or population gives value to everything, why is it not right to tax all values given by the community to the full amount, if it is right to tax to the full amount the value given by the community to land?

Mr. Post says that "The Independent is confused by elliptical forms of expression," after which he continues to use them through the whole article. The Public should have consideration for our dullness of comprehension and avoided the forms that confused us. He has, however, some pity for our ignorance for he explains as follows:

In the first place, the phrase "to tax values" is simply a short cut for expressing the idea of taxing in proportion to values. Values themselves are not taxed. Men are taxed. Values are only a basis of tax measurement; the question being whether we shall tax men in proportion only to their land values or to their other values.

The old readers of The Independent may feel some irritation because of taking space for such kindergarten explanations, but we want to do Mr. Post the fullest justice. He is a very able man and forceful writer when he does not undertake to accomplish the impossible. His final summing and the gist of the whole answer to The Independent is contained in the following sentence:

In its nature a tax in proportion to land values is a tax on monopoly, while a tax in proportion of labor values is a tax on labor.

It would be interesting to know the course of reasoning by which Mr. Post arrived at the conclusion that the ownership of land in varying sized parcels is a monopoly. What sort of a definition does he give to the word "monopoly" so as to make it include the holding in private ownership a town lot or a farm? The editor of The Independent thought that the meaning of the word monopoly was something like this: "To purchase or obtain the whole of any thing with a view of controlling the market, the possession of the power of exclusive dealing in the sale of any article."

He came to that conclusion because when he was a boy he was taught that the word was derived from the Greek "monos," which means "one," and "polo," I sell.

The editor of The Independent is so dull of comprehension that he will have to be shown still further before he can believe that the private ownership of land by hundreds of thousands of persons constitutes a "monopoly" if it were all owned by "one" person the case would be entirely different.

Professor Ely says that at first he followed John Stuart Mill in the erroneous idea that land is a natural monopoly, but that under his definition of monopoly, he can only say that land is a limited factor, but not a monopoly. The definition is: "That substantial unity of action on the part of one or more persons engaged in some kind of business which gives exclusive control, more particularly, though not solely, with respect to price." There is no substantial unity of action on the part of landowners.

LARGEST IN THE WORLD

Perhaps the best illustration of the practical good resulting from the continued educational work done by the people's party in Nebraska is the growth of the mutual insurance companies resulting in keeping hundreds of thousands of dollars in the state that would otherwise be sent to the east. The Farmers' Mutual Insurance company of Nebraska is the largest purely mutual insurance company in the world. It owes its existence and growth to teachings of the people's party and to favorable legislation, by people's party legislatures. It is a practical demonstration of the soundness of populist principles. It was populists who first advocated mutual insurance in this state. The champions of plutocracy all contended that mutual insurance could not succeed because the mutual companies would have no "capital," no stockholders to draw dividends, no money to loan at exorbitant rates of interest on farm mortgages. Time has proven that honesty and integrity in the management of insurance companies is a more certain road to success than any amount of capital backed by greed and avarice.

There may be good and sufficient reasons why we do not manufacture steamboats and sailing vessels in Nebraska. There may be good reasons why we do not mine coal and iron and gold and silver, but there is no reason why Nebraska cannot write every line of insurance needed in the state and write it at the actual value of the insurance plus the expense connected with writing it. The man who insists on going east to find the wisdom necessary to conduct an insurance company displays but little confidence in the intelligence of the people of his own state. It is the lack of confidence in home institutions and the resulting

WAES OF CONQUEST

Many people have not had the opportunity to study ancient history, but they are more or less familiar with the events of recent years which will make part of the history of these times. This recent history proves that it makes no difference what race undertakes to wage wars of conquest on the people of another race, the most inhuman barbarities are indulged in.

The "laws of war" are not regarded at all. That has been the case whether it was the Anglo-Saxon or the Latin race. Kitchener did in upper Egypt, the Soudan and South Africa exactly what Weyler did in Cuba and what we have done in the Philippines. History tells us that wars of conquest in ancient times were carried on in exactly the same way. Knowing what effect these wars of conquest would have upon our army and the American people, The Independent has from the very first opposed this war on another race and asserted that this nation could not long endure half republic and half empire. In perfect accord with its position from the first, it now says that the attack should not be made on the army, however guilty some of its officers may be, but upon the clique of republican politicians at Washington who inaugurated the war and who are still determined on empire.

MILLIONS IN IT

Farmers are asking a good many questions these days. One of them made the following inquiries of the editor of The Independent the other day: "Has Morgan got an inexhaustible gold mine so that when he wants to buy a few steamship lines, or form a billion dollar trust, all he has to do is to scoop up a few tons of gold and then go ahead?" From the talk in the dailies, one would be inclined to think that Morgan was working some such plan as that, but it is not so at all.

These big trusts are formed without the use of money except the small sum that is actually spent in what is called promoting. Say that there are six big steamship lines, each capitalized for \$10,000,000. The boards of directors get together and form a trust. They place the stock of their different lines in the hands of a third party—a trust company. It is agreed that all six companies shall dissolve and a new company be formed, called, for instance, the International Steamship company. The combined stock of the six old companies was \$60,000,000. The new company issues \$120,000,000 of stock and distributes it among the old companies, giving them two shares of the new for one of the old, and, behold, a steamship trust with stock watered 100 per cent ready for business!

In consideration of these facts an eminent jurist remarks that "those persons at home who justify or extenuate torture for confession, and the use of such confession as a justification for the infliction of the death penalty or the destruction of homes and property, are greater enemies of the republic than the soldiers who have inflicted the torture."

To this pass has imperialism brought this republic in three short years. Five years more of it will pave the way for the destruction of this republic. This nation cannot long endure half empire and half republic.

stroyed—they should rather be protected; but the people should be informed that, so long as an army can subsist among them, recurrences of these raids must be expected, and we are determined to stop them at all hazards."

The republican party first deserted the humanitarian principles of Lincoln and now their press is trying to blacken the character of the officers and men who fought on the union side in the civil war. If there is any patriotism left in this land there should a protest go forth from one end of it to the other against slandering the men who fought for and saved the union and who now lie slumbering in their graves while these republican ghouls blacken their memory in trying to cover up their own foul deeds. Nothing in all history can be compared to the baseness of this last turn that the republican party has taken.

TORTURE AND EVIDENCE

The imperialist senators have spent their greatest force in describing the torturing to death of private O'Herne. But all the evidence submitted by them to prove the barbarities said to be committed on Private O'Herne is that which was forced from men by torture.

On confessions secured by torture, towns have been burned and hundreds of people slain. After the disappearance of Private O'Herne, a native, supposed to know something as to his fate, was put to torture, and by that process he was made to say that O'Herne had been put to death under horrible circumstances, and to name 11 other natives who had participated in the murder. Then the other 11 were taken in hand, and from their testimony, under torment, the story of O'Herne's death was pieced out. Senator Beveridge, in the senate debate, claimed that the proof of O'Herne's horrible fate was "conclusive," but Senator Hoar compelled him to admit that the murder was not capable of proof by any scrap of evidence other than that secured under torture. Such testimony, as every one knows, has been outlawed for generations in civilized nations, because a man will often swear to anything, true or false, in order to escape torment.

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Then the editor who spends his days in the city is very apt, no matter how honest he is, to form wrong conclusions concerning the vast mass of people who do live on farms. In Lincoln it was frequently said that it would not do for the reform journals to attack the beef trust because farmers were getting high prices for their hogs and cattle. Several farmers up here have spoken about an editorial in the last Independent which held to the opinion that the reform forces should stand by the principles even if some who have voted the ticket were benefited by present conditions. The populist farmers here say: "That suits us. We believe in fair play, unequal rights for all and special privileges to none as much as we ever did. Don't hesitate to stick right to the old principles just as you always have done in the past."

And this is the paradise of Nebraska, a country where there never has been a crop failure and where the farmers have made more money in the last year than they ever made in a year in all their lives before.

One of them said: "I can't help thinking all the time of the poor workingmen in the cities who have to go without meat and work hard every day. I wish I could send them a hind quarter of a steer and stand off to one side and see them eat beefsteak until they couldn't swallow another mouthful."

The Independent has no fear about what the big-hearted farmers of Nebraska will do to the beef trusts and all other trusts at the next election.

SENATOR LODGE

The degeneration which always accompanies imperialism as is marked in the United States senate as anywhere. Senator Lodge is a man of fine education, an author of some standing and has a good command of English. But the effect of the policies he has been advocating has so clouded his intellect that his speech in defense of the administration policy in the Philippines falls almost to the level of the pot house spell-binder.

The whole force of his reply was devoted to the charge that the criticism of the Philippine policy was to "make up a live issue" for the opposition during the coming campaign. As this criticism was begun by his colleague, Senator Hoar, a staunch republican, the silliness of it becomes apparent to even a school boy. The fiercest criticism comes from his own state and from lifelong republicans.

A speech impugning the motives of his opponents and denying to them all patriotism and love of country, is a disgrace to a man of the training and environment of Senator Lodge. It shows a rapid and distinct degeneration.

That is the effect that wars of conquest have always had on every nation that ever engaged in them. It is what The Independent predicted when the policy was first adopted. Senator Lodge is a most distinguished example of it.

"SENTIMENTALISM"

The merging of Chicago banks after the Morgan fashion in railroads and steamships did not turn out as the promoters thought it would. The number was so reduced by successive consolidations that there has been "a rage for new banks," as one of the Chicago dailies expresses it. The result of the merging will be that there will be more banks in Chicago than ever. Many men of money think that they can see big profits in the organization of new banks and they are going into the business.

SLANDER OLD SOLDIERS

The republicans are trying to put Sheridan's raid into the Shenandoah valley upon a level with General Smith's order to make Samar "a howling wilderness" and "kill everything over ten." If there is a soldier left of the civil war who does not revolt at this sort of thing, he is not fit to wear the Grand Army button. General Grant's order was as follows:

In pushing up the Shenandoah valley, where it is expected you will have to go first or last, it is desirable that nothing should be left to invite the enemy to return. Take all provisions, forage, and stock wanted for the use of your command; such as cannot be consumed, destroyed. It is not desirable that the buildings should be de-

SOUTH AFRICA

When old Paul Kruger said that the English might win, but it would be at a price that would stagger humanity." Lord Salisbury, Joe Chamberlain and the hooligans replied with sneers of derision. Of late the British have changed the manner of their bearing toward the Boers and readily admit that they have staggered humanity by the skill of their generals, and men who fought on the union side in the civil war. If there is any patriotism left in this land there should a protest go forth from one end of it to the other against slandering the men who fought for and saved the union and who now lie slumbering in their graves while these republican ghouls blacken their memory in trying to cover up their own foul deeds.

The British have laid waste their country, burned their private property, desolated their farms, turned their women and children out on the veils to starve or confined them in reconcentrado camps to die of disease, but the Boers have done none of these things. They could have retaliated in a way that would have destroyed more British private property than they themselves owned, but they have observed the laws of war and fought their battles like gallant, brave and true Christian men. Their conduct has been the admiration of the whole world and is at last forcing acknowledgement even from their enemies.

These are some of the things that have resulted from discarding the Declaration of Independence and the tearing of the constitution in shreds by a truckling supreme court. What more is to follow along the same line, no man can tell. Will it leave the nation a wreck, as Roman and Spanish imperialism did?

slaughter of the people, is now defended in the United States senate and protests made against it are sneered at as "sentimentalism."

Another strange thing has happened. The republican papers are hunting up all the old charges that were ever made against the boys in blue and their officers by the worst fire eaters of the south and parading them as a defense for the order to "kill everything above ten" in the island of Samar. What do the old gray-headed men who fought four long years for liberty think of that? How do they like to be held up to the world, not as honorable and brave soldiers, but as samples of Spanish barbarity, whose acts in the civil war were so inhuman that they furnished precedents for making a thickly populated country "a howling wilderness?"

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NEW ZEALAND LANDS

The Independent says again what it has repeatedly said before, that the New Zealand management of the land question has proved successful in every particular. The Independent endorses it, believes in it as far as it has been explained to us in this country, but it is a thousand miles from the "single tax," as advocated here. Mr. S. D. R. Caldwell, president of the board of trade in Auckland, was recently in this country. In speaking of this subject, he said:

"The plan of placing all land under government control has been a great success. Large estates have been bought by the government. Where the owners refused to sell, the property has been condemned by law and divided into small farms which are leased on very favorable terms to tenants. The government borrows the money to buy these lands at 3 and 3 1/2 per cent. Then it rents the land to tenants at such a price that its income is about 5 per cent on the money invested."

The universal dislike of the people to the holding of land in large bodies, or lots in cities for the sole purpose of obtaining the rise in value given by increased population, has been at the very foundation of the support that has been given to the single tax theory. In New Zealand they have broken up that practice completely without resort to the single tax. The same thing can be done here. At the antipodes they call this New Zealand way of controlling land "socialism." But the collective ownership fellows in this country would not admit that it was socialism or anything approaching it.

There are certain departments in each university of which the people know or think very little, yet they have a very important bearing on the welfare of the whole nation. They are sociology, political economy and psychology and of these psychology is by no means the least. The sympathetic action of mind on mind and the awful effects it sometimes has should be understood by all the people. It should be among the things taught in the high schools. A psychological vortex may form at any time and widen and extending like one of these prairie "twisters," gather within its grasp all but the very strongest intellects of the whole land. A wave of speculation forms in some locality, it widens and broadens, the prices of houses and lands begin to go up, everything follows in their wake, and men walk around the streets thinking that they are wealthy. They increase the cost of their living, that makes business for the merchants and they in turn extend their store buildings and so it goes. It may be called a psychological wave. It certainly is an effect of mind upon mind. It goes to the extent of destroying reason. A few men of stronger minds watch this thing with a critical eye and take full advantage of it to accumulate fortunes for themselves.