

The Commoner.

Carpetbagery for the Philippines.

The inauguration of the carpet-bag system for the Philippines has not waited long after the passage of the amendment to the army appropriation act. President Taft, of the Philippine commission, has already commenced the establishment of several paper civil governments in Luzon and other islands, and on April 27 the civil service commission in Washington will set in motion the machinery to impart to them the needed vitality. It is officially stated that applicants from the ages of eighteen to forty who desire to serve the government civilly in the Philippines may then present themselves for examination. This examination will be exclusively of persons possessing technical and scientific knowledge as engineers, miners, foresters, etc. In filling the ordinary places which do not require special knowledge the preference will be given first to native Filipinos, and next to honorably discharged soldiers and sailors.

By way of encouragement it is further announced by the commission that all persons who have passed the necessary examination will have free passage in a government transport from San Francisco to Manila. From the date of departure from San Francisco they will also be entitled to half pay, and they will receive their offices with full pay on their arrival. Whoever shall serve three years and then wish to return to the United States will receive free passage to San Francisco, with half pay for the time of the voyage and full pay for leaves of absence to which he may be entitled. All this is done under the authority conferred upon the president by the amendment to the army appropriation act. As living is rather high in Manila, it is stated that the Taft commission has in view the erection of a number of dwellings, to be let to the civil servants of the government at moderate rents. The commission also proposes to set up a government commissariat to supply them with provisions at slight advances on cost prices.

It is worthy of observation that all the higher offices of the carpet-bag government of the Philippines are reserved for appointment by the president. The first thing is to lay the foundation with such rude materials as may be required. The ornamental superstructure of carpet-baggery will come afterward.—Philadelphia Record.

Four Interesting Paragraphs.

We ask our readers to peruse the following paragraphs with great care:

Some of our most thoughtful men are of the opinion that the one place in which the trust is to be dreaded is in its efforts to control legislation.

What they dread is the secret influence which the trust exerts in secluded chambers and the darkness of the night to shape legislation in its interest.

A notable case in point is the sudden conversion of Senator Foraker from an advocate of justice for the Porto Ricans, which he was on January 3, 1900, when he introduced senate bill 2016, which made commerce between Porto Rico and the mainland perfectly free, to an advocate of criminal injustice, which he was just six days later, when, on January 9, he introduced senate bill 2264, whose revenue provisions were substantially those of the house bill, which, as amended, became a law.

There were but two influences which were in the least concerned to do it, and those were the sugar trust and still more ruthless tobacco trust, both of which feared importations from the Philippines. In their conspiring chambers the alarm was sounded and prompt action taken that the generous impulses of the president's plain-duty message might never effect the liberation of the American people from the thrall of two odious trusts. Porto Rico they did not seriously fear, for Porto Rico is small, and to her commercial freedom was yielded after two years of servitude. But it was insisted that there should be a precedent

upon which might rest the contention that the Filipinos should be held in commercial slavery forever, because they could in no other way be controlled by the trusts. These are the plain facts in the case. We regret to state them, but they are true. The devices of secret councils have blinded good men in the republican party, and it is time that the scales were torn from their eyes. Neither as Americans, as republicans, or as honest men can the republican party pursue this policy.

We ask our readers what they think of these statements, and then we ask them if they will ask their friends who are not readers of The Examiner what they think of them. We believe that as a general proposition people who are not readers of The Examiner, when asked what they think of the foregoing paragraphs, will say that they are simply opposition to the government; that they are evidence of The Examiner's hatred for the republican party; that they are published to belittle the grandest administration the United States of America has ever seen. We ask our friends, when people who are not readers of The Examiner, make such statements, to tell them that the four paragraphs are an editorial taken from the San Francisco Chronicle of May 31, and published by the direct instructions of M. H. de Young, who is a member of the republican committee, who for sixteen years has been prominent in the councils of his party, and who is believed even at this time to be a candidate for office, subject to a republican convention.

When so stalwart a republican organ as the San Francisco Chronicle feels itself forced by conscience to denounce republican legislation as dishonest, passed as a result of a conspiracy between the sugar trust and the tobacco trust, we feel that indeed there is cause for alarm.

When on the same authority we are told that the generous impulses of the American's plain-duty message were set aside in a dishonest fashion and overridden by the secret conspiracy of the tobacco trust and the sugar trust, we feel that The Examiner has failed in its duty in the past, hard as it tried to do it, and has not sufficiently pointed out the perils besetting the republic.

We hope that the friends of liberty and right everywhere will cut this article out of The Examiner and send it to their acquaintances.—San Francisco Examiner.

Official Call.

To Governors of States and Territories, mayors of Cities and Towns, Chambers of Commerce, Boards of Trade and all Commercial, Industrial and Mining Organizations:

The twelfth annual session of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress will assemble at 10 a. m., Tuesday, July 16, 1901, in Cripple Creek, Colorado, and continue at the will of the congress during the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th.

The territory within the jurisdiction of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress comprises the states of Arkansas, California, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Montana, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wyoming and Washington, and the territories of Arizona, Indian Territory, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Alaska, and the newly acquired possessions of Hawaii and the Philippine Archipelago. Within the sections embraced by the states and territories of the Trans-Mississippi region, there are upwards of 25,000,000 people and in addition thereto the large population in our eastern possessions directly affected by legislation emanating from the national congress. Within this region lie the greatest commercial, agricultural, mineral and stock growing interests, the development of which should keep stride with the material advancement within the Trans-Mississippi territory. In addition to these are the vast and growing commercial interests of the Gulf coast and the Pacific slope states, the question of

navigation and the improvement of the Trans-Mississippi water-ways, together with other questions of overland transportation which have been forced to the front by the needs arising from the enormous activity in the trade relations between the Trans-Mississippi states and the countries of the far east.

Whilst it is the object of the congress to encourage growth and the thorough development of each and every state and territory represented; to work in harmony for such national legislation as is calculated to promote the interests of the people of the Trans-Mississippi states; to increase reciprocal trade between the states and territories, to discuss matters of special interest and to decide upon plans which will bring about desired results, it is within the province of the congress to take cognizance of the great trade questions affecting the commercial relations between the Trans-Mississippi states and our new possessions of 10,000,000 people and the international trade relations with our neighbors of the far east.

All these matters will be germane for discussion. But the executive committee of the congress has laid emphasis upon a program which will be formulated later. This program embraces the following questions of immediate interest to the people of the Trans-Mississippi section: Governmental department of mines, rivers, water-ways and harbors, Nicaragua canal, semi-arid regions, Pacific cable, merchant marine, St. Louis world's Fair in 1903, trade with the Orient, consular service, statehood, railroad transportation, preservation of forests, beet root sugar, rice cultivation along the Gulf coast, trade with Mexico, exports and imports through Gulf and Pacific ports, encouragement of home manufactures, good roads and drainage, oil fields, irrigation, relation of the live stock interests to the forest reserves, governmental department of commerce and industries, and United States postal service.

It is the general desire of the members of the executive committee to confine discussion to subjects of general interest, and to exclude those which are of either a local or political nature. Whilst any question germane to the objects of the congress may be introduced by any delegate, the chairman of the executive committee would be grateful for suggestions as to questions to be discussed by any citizen of the Trans-Mississippi country.

REPRESENTATION.

The governor of each state or territory may appoint ten delegates.

The mayor of each city, one delegate, and one additional delegate for each five thousand inhabitants; provided, however, that no city shall have more than ten delegates.

Each county may appoint one delegate through its executive officer.

Every business organization, one delegate and one additional delegate for every fifty members; provided, however, that no such organization shall have more than ten delegates.

Governors of states and territories, members of the United States congress and ex-presidents of this congress are ex-officio delegates, with all privileges of delegates except those of voting.

All communications should be addressed to Arthur F. Francis, assistant secretary, Cripple Creek, Colo.

E. R. MOSES, Chairman Executive Com.,
Great Bend, Kansas.

ROBERT C. MORRIS, Secretary,
New Orleans, La.

Her Definition.

"What is your definition of satire?"

"Satire," said Miss Cayenne, "is something that compels you to laugh against your will in order to let it appear that you are not angry."—Washington Star.