



FORUM OF THE WEEKLY PRESS



Elizabethtown (Ill.) Independent-Star: The democratic party is opposed to the whole colonial business.

Pawnee (Neb.) Chief: A careful reading of Governor Taft's testimony convinces one that everything would be lovely in the islands were it not for the Filipinos.

Dayton (Wash.) Courier-Press: Mr. Knox should get a fresh grip on his duty. As attorney general of the United States he is the servant of the people, not of the trusts.

West Point (Neb.) Democrat: The ground hog doesn't draw a salary, but he made the United States weather bureau look like a republican Philippine report this year.

Rich Hill (Mo.) Enterprise: The United States ought to take royalty and imperialism by the nape of the neck and seat of the breeches and kick it beyond hellspoint.

Corning (Ia.) Free Press: Senator Teller wants to protect the Filipinos against foreign powers. What they need now is to be protected against the United States senate.

Fairbury (Neb.) Journal: It is really amusing to see a republican sneak around behind the barn and cuss the tariff on lumber every time he thinks of how much it has cost him.

Woodland (Cal.) Democrat: American sympathy for people fighting for their liberty will not be permanently stifled because the administration deems it necessary to send representatives to the coronation of King Edward.

Emmettsburg (Ia.) Democrat: If King Edward only knew how hostile public opinion is in this country to representation at the coronation exercise, he would be justified in turning the cold shoulder to our special representatives.

Hastings (Neb.) Republican: President Roosevelt has said it—that Sampson and not Schley had command of the fleet off Santiago when the Spanish ships were compelled to strike their colors. But Roosevelt saying so don't make it so. Public Opinion still has the center of the stage.

Athens (O.) Journal: When Senator Tillman and his colleagues argue for justice to the inhabitants of the insular possession of the United States, they are doing no more than trying to guarantee universal rights that are considered in the Declaration of Independence and the constitution.

Bellefontaine (O.) Examiner: On account of his openly expressed sympathies for the cruelly wronged Filipinos, Senator Tillman has been warned by Foraker of the penalty for treason. Senator Tillman may well reply to this threat that if it has become treason to defend the principles of the American Declaration of Independence, the ultra loyal Foraker is at liberty to "make the most of it."

Coldwater (Mich.) Star: This fostering "the monarchic idea" should be squelched at once by an aroused public opinion and a political overthrow of the plutocrats while there is a chance to do it civilly. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty?" Did you ever hear of it?

Watertown (N. Y.) Reunion: Secretary Long is rather ridiculous in pretending to believe that Abraham Lincoln, if living today, would approve the Philippine policy. Mr. Lincoln distinctly declared that no man is good enough to govern another man without that other man's consent.

Cisco (Tex.) Apert: Principally as a result of the fixing of prices by trusts the prices for the necessities of life in the United States have advanced nearly 50 per cent since 1897. It is possible that the days of feudalism are reaching us here in free America? It seems to be gradually dawning upon us.

Towson (Md.) Democrat: When Senator Tillman and his colleagues argue for justice to the inhabitants of the insular possessions of the United States, they are doing no more than trying to guarantee universal rights that are so considered in the Declaration of Independence and the constitution.

Council Bluffs (Ia.) Tribune: For the first time in its history this government will send representatives abroad for the especial purpose of participating in the crowning of a king. A century ago Americans believed they had made great progress in a movement that would drive crowned heads and crowns from the earth. What chumps our foredaddies were!

Pennsboro (W. Va.) News: Leaving aside the matter of "manifest destiny" the Philippine fiasco has cost us \$300,000,000 already and by the end of this year another hundred millions will have been added. This is more than one third of the sum that the Napoleonic wars cost France in thirteen years and is about one-tenth the cost of civil war.

Farmington (Ia.) Herald: It did not require the brutal assaults on southern democrats, by the Chicago Chronicle, to convince thinking men that the Chronicle's mission is to place the democratic party in a position to "enjoy" perpetual defeat. That sheet has no use for the democratic party, and only poses as a democratic paper for the purpose of making harmony impossible. It is one of the best newspapers in the country, and is brilliantly edited. It don't pay, and never did, but certain interests keep it in the field in order to use it in defense of organized greed. We know of no reason why it should have the slightest claim upon democrats. No republican paper in Illinois ever did as much for the success of republicanism as the Chronicle. It is the best, republican paper in the United States.

Mankato (Kas.) Advocate: Just as soon as the important question is settled as to who will attend the coronation of King Ed from this country, and the still more important problem as to what they shall wear has been definitely known, the country can settle down to work again and help pile up the next dividends for our own kings, the Standard Oil and steel trust magnates.

Bluffton (Ind.) Banner: While Governor Taft is minimizing the difficulties to be encountered in the Philippines, the public is reading the terrible march of our soldiers through Samar. What the country wants is "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth" about the Philippines. At present the administration is giving out some statements that are not harmonious.

Santa Barbara (Cal.) People's Paper: Such ceremonies are degrading to true manhood. The king, like a little boy, will go through it all, but, oh, the weariness of it all, and its utter emptiness. We want our president to be courteous in reference to it, but above that we want him to be wisely in earnest as the head of a people who believe in manhood rather than royalty.

Ashland (Neb.) Journal: The height of snobbery and toadyism was reached the other day when two Americans—supposed to be citizens of this great country—appeared at an English "royal" function attired in knee breeches and carrying small swords. They were supposed to represent the American people. If they do, then may the good Lord have mercy on our miserable souls!

Burwell (Neb.) Mascot: At last American is toadying to a king. With pomp and splendor a delegation goes over to do homage to an imbecile king at his coronation. Oh for the patriotic days of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. There are in this country thousands of men that work from sun to sun, that are better morally, physically and intellectually than King Edward, the Boer oppressor and George III.'s successor, the ruler of our country's enemy.

Lincoln (Neb.) Independent: Whenever imperialism is applied to one of its adherents, he rises up and makes the most furious protests. Dr. Lyman Abbott first denied that "just government had anything to do with the consent of the governed," but when the state of New York proposed to govern the city in which he lives without the consent of the governed living in that city, he grew almost frantic. He declared that the thing was a horrid crime and "that a law enacted over our heads we rightly resent." When the Filipinos or Boers resent that thing, Dr. Abbott thinks that they ought to be shot until they stop their resenting.

Shelbina (Mo.) Democrat: The imperialists are afraid to meet squarely the issue of holding dependent colonies. Some of them claim this was settled by the election of 1900; but they would not meet the issue then. They put it off and said the war was to be carried on to uphold the honor of the flag and secure order. Now they refuse to define their position, by saying it is time enough to cross the bridge when we reach it, etc. Thus they dodge. This is pretty good evidence that they think the country is against them.

Michigan City (Ind.) Dispatch: Speaking of Senator Beveridge's recent denial of the press censorship in the Philippines the Chicago Record-Herald says the press correspondents say there was a censorship and it thinks they know more about it than Beveridge. It is evidently disgusted with the gushing senator and does not hesitate to let its feelings be known. It also condemns the censorship as wholly unnecessary and unjustifiable and says the American people are entitled to know the whole truth about the Philippine conquest.

Fairhaven (Wash.) Times: Bartholdi's statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World" in New York harbor will have its light extinguished forever by the government on March 1. Congress has been so busy shaping things for our expanding empire, and figuring on how to explain away the doctrines of free government while seizing subject colonies, that an appropriation to keep Liberty's torch burning as a beacon light of hope to the weak and bullied peoples of the earth was naturally overlooked.

Richmond (Mo.) Democrat: Democracy may have its defects—what system of politics or religion has not? But its great cardinal doctrines that repose confidence in the people to act wisely and justly for their own best ends stand forever and beyond comparison superior to the republican doctrine of centralization of power and distrust of the people. Democrats who falter under the discouragement of temporary defeat, should drink again and drink deeply of the Jeffersonian spirit.

Fort Dodge (Ia.) Post: What is all this talk about sending representatives of the United States to witness the coronation of King Edward? Have we, a plain people, any business to recognize monarchy? Has any European government ever recognized the office of president of the United States by sending a special representative to see him inaugurated? Are the United States so small and so insignificant that they must come when Edward VII. whistles? Snobbery reigns triumphant, and the good old democratic and republican spirit of Jefferson and Abe Lincoln is crying in the streets for recognition.