

is receiving very general attention throughout the world.

In truth, the suggestion made by Mr. Rhodes to Mr. Stead in 1890 is fairly in keeping with the characteristics of the man as the world has learned him through South African history. He believed, evidently, that a favored class of men had authority to ride booted and spurred over other men. To be sure, this was all to be for the advantage of the "other men." British impositions upon the Boers of South Africa were, in Mr. Rhodes' opinion, entirely proper because British domination meant progress and the rights and preferences of the Boers were not, in the least, to be considered.

On the same line Mr. Rhodes would have the few men who absorb great wealth administer, not only that wealth, but administer all the government of the English speaking people. These wealthy men were to organize a secret society. England and the United States were to be brought practically under one government. This government and all the people thereof were to be completely dominated by men of wealth, comprising the membership of this secret society.

The blunt way in which Mr. Rhodes stated this proposition makes it sound harsh to many thinking men; and yet there is not a great difference between the scheme as revealed in the tendencies of the republican policies of today and the scheme revealed in the candid statements of Cecil Rhodes. To be sure, there is no oath bound secret society now engaged in the effort to rule the people, but a coterie of men, operating under skillful and ingenious plans of organization, controls generally the finances of the country and is seeking, with prospects of success, to transfer from the government to themselves the money issuing functions that, in a government of freemen, must remain free from selfish control. The commerce of the country is rapidly coming under the domination of a few men who have been referred to by an eminent American as "captains of industry." And these men are rapidly obtaining control over the necessities of life, securing day by day more and more power to increase the prices of commodities and to decrease the rate of wages according to their own pleasure.

However much one may be startled by the blunt proposition of the late South African magnate, the intelligent man cannot fail to believe that if present day conditions are permitted to continue, without vigorous and successful protests from the people, this now astounding proposition will in time be realized.

During the past five years, the American people have seen the representatives of class interest taking encouragement and license from the election and re-election of republican administrations, to do things which, prior to 1897, no American politician would have dared to stand for, and no American citizen could have been persuaded to defend.

It was but a short step from a successful campaign in favor of bimetallism with a string attached to it in 1896 to an explicit declaration in favor of the gold standard in 1900.

The adoption of the policy of imperialism, the recommendation by the republican committee of a bill providing for the redemption in gold of the silver dollar and for the asset currency plan, the passage by the United States senate of the ship subsidy bill, and the various other things done in the name of the republican party have been the logical results of the blind trust which the American voters placed in that party in the campaigns of 1896 and of 1900.

Things that were once denounced by the dominant party are now defended.

Trusts which that party once promised to destroy they now promise to "regulate."

Men to whom the republican president once referred as representatives of "cunning," are now

referred to by the same gentleman as "captains of industry."

"Little by little, but steadily as man's march to the grave we have been giving up the old for the new faith. We began by declaring that all men are created equal, but now, from that beginning, we have run down to the other declaration that for some men to enslave others is the sacred right of self-government."

However much Cecil Rhodes' proposition may grate upon our ears today, if the tendencies of republican policies continue unchecked and unrepublicated, if the American people continue to sleep upon their rights, to close their eyes to the enormous evils going on around them, to stop their ears to the appeals of men who are foresighted enough to see the terrible consequences of these wrongs, the dream of the South African magnate will be realized and a government of freemen will be transformed into a nation of serfs.

Torture in the Philippines.

When General Miles charged in his letter to the president, that the war in the Philippines had been characterized by great severity he was rebuked by Secretary Root and informed that the Filipinos had been treated with marked consideration. It now appears that the administration had withheld from the public the report of one of the provincial governors protesting against the cruelties practiced. The investigations which have taken place since reveal such an astonishing condition that the secretary of war has felt it necessary to cable to Manila instructions for the court-martial of the guilty officers.

The secretary's order will be found on another page. It more than sustains the charges made by General Miles and ought to convince the most partisan republican that our war of conquest is proving as demoralizing to the invaders as it is destructive to the subject race.

Mr. Edward J. Davis of Massachusetts, a sergeant of company M, 26th Vol. Inf., testified before the senate committee a few days ago and gave a detailed description of the "water cure" as administered by American soldiers to the presidente of the town of Igaros. The following is an extract from his testimony:

The man's clothing was removed above the waist and his hands tied behind him, when the cure was administered by this detail. "He was then," the witness said, "taken to the water tank and thrown upon his back and while an interpreter stood over him, a stream of water was directed into his mouth, which was held open.

"Who gave the command for this treatment?"

"Captain Glenn."

"How was the man's mouth kept open?"

"By means of a stick, but I could not see just how it was done."

Continuing the witness said that when the victim of the cure was filled with the water the members of the detail would force it out of him by rolling their fists over his stomach and that process was kept up for about ten minutes.

He described the second application of the cure as previously testified to and corroborated Sergeant Riley in the statement that the details of this performance were under the charge of Contract Surgeon Lyon and that Captain Glenn and Lieutenant Conger were both present when it occurred.

Sergeant Davis also testified that Captain Glenn ordered Lieutenant Conger to burn Igaros, a town of about 10,000 people, and that in pursuance of the order "all except about fifteen houses were destroyed and men, women and children forced out indiscriminately."

What will be the effect of this brutal warfare? That it will intensify the hatred which the Filipinos feel toward the Americans goes without saying, but what will be its effect upon our people? If they protest they will be accused of encouraging the Filipinos; if they remain silent they will become calloused and indifferent to such things.

Imperialism is harmful enough to Filipinos but it is infinitely more harmful to our own people. The victims of injustice may recover from its effects, but those who do injustice cannot so easily recover. We are sowing the wind and we shall reap the whirlwind, even though many seed times and harvests may pass between the sowing and the reaping.

Stabbed in the Dark.

The senate committee having in charge the resolution submitting the amendment providing for the popular election of United States senators has accepted the Depew amendment which reads as follows:

The qualifications of citizens entitled to vote for United States senators and representatives in Congress shall be uniform in all the states, and Congress shall be empowered to enforce this article by appropriate legislation, and to provide for the registration of citizens entitled to vote, to conduct such elections and the certification of the result.

The purpose of this amendment is to defeat the proposition by indirection. The republican railroad attorneys can vote for the resolution because they know it cannot pass. They substitute a bitter partisan and sectional question for a plain and simple reform. Lacking the courage to attack the resolution openly, they stab it in the dark. The fact that Senator Depew proposed the amendment is sufficient proof of its source as well as of its purpose. It comes from the great corporation magnates who use such men as Senator Depew as servile tools, and it is introduced not because those who suggest it have any unselfish desire to protect the colored man, but because they do not want popular government and think they can hold the black man between them and the wrath of the voters. A few republicans may be independent enough to oppose the amendment, but most of them will hail it with joy. As long as public opinion was passive on the senatorial question the constitutional amendment was quietly strangled, but when the people began clamoring for the change it was necessary to divert their attention from the real issue and Senator Depew was the man naturally chosen to represent the monied interest and to head their cowardly and clandestine fight.

The Post Check Currency.

Mr. C. W. Post of Battle Creek, Michigan, has suggested to the treasury department a plan for the issue of a new kind of postal note which simplifies the sending of money by mail. The plan is this: As the present greenbacks are presented for cancellation new notes are to be issued for them, identical in size and appearance, except that there will be a blank on the note which can be filled out by any one and the note made payable to the order of any person in the United States. As soon as the name is written on the note the note ceases to be money and becomes a check on the government for the amount and can be collected at the postoffice named upon the identification of the payee.

A stamp will be put on the bill by the sender and this stamp will pay the order or postal note system and would be especially convenient for people living in the country or in cities where they have delivery. It would save the trouble of a trip to the postoffice and the inconvenience attendant upon the present system. It goes without saying that it would be a convenience to publishers because it would enable subscribers to remit through the mails without danger or trouble, and at less expense than now.

The system has already been endorsed by the postoffice department and by a large number of the newspapers. There seems to be no objection to it and the sentiment in its favor is growing.