

Kansas City Platform Endorsed.

Out of 1,300 School Teachers 1,292 Give Assent to the Democratic Method of Dealing with the Philippines.

Jacob G. Schurman, president of Cornell university and formerly president of the Philippine commission, delivered an address before the Nebraska State Teachers' association at Lincoln on the evening of January 1. Mr. Schurman's subject was "Our Philippine Policy." The Lincoln Journal, a republican paper, says that there were in Mr. Schurman's audience 1,300 school teachers.

From the Journal's report of the Schurman address this extract is taken:

President Schurman said that there were three ways left for the treatment of the islands in the future.

"Filipinos who want American sovereignty are known as the federal party. Their fundamental plank is incorporation into the American union. Do you want that? I don't believe that one in a thousand wants it. If we do not our duty is to indicate it to the federal party so they cannot charge us with double dealing. If they were incorporated into the union the result of a presidential election might be settled in Manila. We are a federation of American people and we want no partnership with the people of any other race.

"In the second place we may keep them in subjugation forever. That is one solution and is favored by imperialists and jingoists. I don't believe that a feasible solution. It is not in consonance with our traditions. It violates our ideal as expressed in the Declaration of Independence. The American people are the last people on earth that would force any other people into subjection."

The third solution, that of ultimate independence, he believed to be the only feasible one. He said: "I do not ask that it be done tomorrow. I do not quarrel with what has been done in the past. I opposed the turning over of the government to Aguinaldo because I did not believe that he represented the Filipino people. I would turn it over to the Filipino nation after it has been organized under the protection of the United States.

"I have no doubt about the final disposition of the islands because I have abounding faith in the honor and the political sagacity of the American people."

The Journal report further says:

"At the close of his address practically the entire audience rose in response to his call for those who indorse the plan of giving the Philippines ultimate independence, as has been done in the case of Cuba. Only eight of the audience declared their adherence to the policy of keeping the islands permanently."

The policy advocated by President Schurman directly conflicts with the Philippine policy of the

Rich Rewards.

An interesting article, written by William J. Gibson, formerly a lawyer in the United States treasury department, appears in a recent issue of the New York Evening Post. Mr. Gibson directs attention to the tariff on mica. Paragraph 184 of the Dingley law is as follows: "Mica, unmanufactured or rough trimmed only, 6 cents per pound and 20 per cent ad valorem; mica, cut or trimmed, 12 cents per pound and 20 per cent ad valorem."

Mr. Gibson points out that more than one-half of the world's production of mica is used in the United States. He quotes from the prospectus of a mica mining company the following:

Mica—Rich rewards of a protected industry. The mining of mica in the United States is protected by a tariff of 150 per cent. This company has the added advantage of cheap freight and low labor cost. Here is what operating a protected industry means. . . . The total cost of producing first-class mica in our mines and delivering it in New York is \$50 a ton. The selling price is from 40 cents to \$8 a pound. This means that you can sell at from \$800 to \$16,000 a ton a commodity that costs you exactly \$50 to produce—not a cent more.

Mr. Gibson then says that "for every dollar

republican party.

It is in line with the plan proposed by the platform adopted by the democratic national convention held at Kansas City in 1900. In that platform the following plank appeared:

"We condemn and denounce the Philippine policy of the present administration. It has involved the republic in unnecessary war, sacrificed the lives of many of our noblest sons, and placed the United States, previously known and applauded throughout the world as the champion of freedom, in the false and un-American position of crushing with military force the efforts of our former allies to achieve liberty and self-government. The Filipinos cannot become citizens without endangering our civilization; they cannot become subjects without imperiling our form of government, and we are not willing to surrender our civilization or to convert the republic into an empire; we favor an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to give to the Filipinos, first, a stable form of government; second, independence; and, third, protection from outside interference such as has been given for nearly a century to the republics of Central and South America."

In his speech delivered at Indianapolis, August 8, 1900, the democratic nominee for president said:

"If elected I should convene congress in extraordinary session as soon as I am inaugurated and recommend an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose:

1. To establish a stable form of government in the Philippine islands, just as we are now establishing a stable form of government in the island of Cuba.

2. To give independence to the Filipinos, just as we have promised to give independence to the Cubans.

3. To protect the Filipinos from outside interference while they work out their destiny, just as we have protected the republics of Central and South America, and are, by the Monroe doctrine, pledged to protect Cuba.

4. European protectorate often results in the exploitation of the ward by the guardian. An American protectorate gives to the nation protected the advantage of our strength, without making it the victim of our greed. For three-quarters of a century the Monroe doctrine has been a shield to neighboring republics, and yet it has imposed no pecuniary burden upon us."

It is significant that in an audience comprising 1,300 school teachers only eight persons were found who declined to indorse the Philippine policy proposed by the democratic party.

spent in taking out the mica \$10 in return is obtained." He cites a decision relating to mica waste, which decision was made by the board of general appraisers. Under the law, waste, generally speaking, is assessed at 10 per cent ad valorem. The board of appraisers, however, assessed the mica waste as manufactured mica and one of the members of that board presented a dissenting opinion in which he said:

It appears from the evidence in this case that if the mica waste under consideration should be classified for duty under said paragraph 184, an article valued at \$3 per ton would be made dutiable at \$120 per ton or at the rate of 4,000 per cent.

The Chicago Record-Herald, a republican paper that has become weary of carrying the tariff barons' burden, commenting upon Mr. Gibson's article, says:

Though this country is such a large importer it has some of the most valuable mica mines in the world, and as the promoter intimates their owners are enjoying the rich rewards of an overprotected industry."

The mica industry promoters are only a bit more candid than those of other protected concerns. If Mr. Gibson could obtain the facts rela-

ing to some other protected industries, he would doubtless be able to show that the owners of the mica mines are not the only ones who are enjoying "the rich rewards of an over-protected industry."

The Blockade.

It would hardly be in keeping with the spirit of arbitration for the British-German alliance to maintain its blockade during the arbitration proceedings. Neither would it be in harmony with that spirit for the blockade to be maintained after the agreement has been formally made that the controversy be submitted to The Hague.

A rule that would govern these European powers in their controversy with a powerful nation should prevail in their contention with Venezuela. It is not at all likely that if Great Britain and Germany were contending with a formidable power, rather than with a weak and helpless one like Venezuela, these European governments would insist upon a continuance of hostile action after a plan of amicable adjustment had been agreed upon.

The very fact that Venezuela is weak makes it all the more important that these powerful European governments should adhere rigidly to correct action. The cause of peace and the principle of arbitration will gain much when the powerful governments of the world show themselves ever ready to conform to the rules growing out of earnest efforts for the adjudication in peaceful ways of differences between nations.

Under the most advantageous circumstances Venezuela, should the decree be against her, will be greatly embarrassed in the effort to pay the European claims. The maintenance of the blockade would interfere with Venezuelan commerce. The creditor and the debtor would thereby suffer loss; and there are eminently practical reasons why the blockade should be discontinued. It would seem that these reasons would appeal to the European ministers in their capacity as creditors even if the suggestion that the powerful state owes to the cause of peace at least the benefit of a good example fails to reach them.

Constitutional Amendments.

As some discussion has arisen as to the right of the states to compel an amendment to the constitution, The Commoner prints below a copy of Article V. of the constitution which sets forth the two methods of amendment; first, the submission of an amendment by two-thirds of both houses; and, second, the submission of an amendment by a constitutional convention called at the request of the legislatures of two-thirds of the states:

ARTICLE V.

"The congress, whenever two-thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the congress; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the senate."

Dr. John Bascom assails Mr. Rockefeller's university bequests and declares that money obtained at the expense of the people cannot be used for the benefit of the people. It must be that Dr. Bascom is not to be blinded to the right by the smoke of any amount of kerosene.