

Does Imperialism Pay?

In his speech delivered at Tammany's Fourth of July celebration, the Hon. Charles A. Towne in presenting his views on our colonial policy thus said in part:

"At the same instant of time Spanish tyranny was intolerable in two hemispheres. Against it Cubans were in armed revolt at our very doors. Against it Filipinos were in armed revolt half way round the world. Each sought national independence, and we knew it. Fellow citizens, when the inquisition of after ages shall arraign us at the bar of history, how shall we answer the question: 'Why was a war for the freedom of one people changed into a war for the subjugation of another people?' You accepted the services of the Filipinos in conquering the Spanish; you gave them arms and ammunition; you put them in your trenches; you let them fight for you, bleed for you, die for you; you know they thought your object to be the independence of the Philippine islands; why, when the fleet of your common enemy was sunk deep in Manila bay, did you turn your guns on your allies and substitute your own for Spanish rule when they were equally opposed to both?"

"Why did you denounce as traitors millions of people not born under your jurisdiction and who had never vowed you allegiance? How can the descendants of the American revolution purchase the bodies, the country and the allegiance of ten millions of unwilling people for twenty millions of dollars? If you had already got them

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A STEALTHY GROWTH.



"Say, Mister, I don't like the looks of that dog o' yours and I don't want him on the place."  
 "Oh, that's all right! He's harmless and I ain't going to keep him any way."



"I see you've got that ornery purp yet. When are you going to get rid of him?"  
 "Oh, he wouldn't hurt anybody, but ain't much account so I'm not going to keep him longer."



"Hello! There's that measley cur again. Thought you weren't goin' to keep him?"  
 "Well I'm not. Going to get rid of him soon, sure."



"Sic 'im, Tige! Sic 'im!"

by right of conquest, why did you pay twenty millions of dollars for them? Why did you not treat the Filipinos as you treated the Cubans?"

This is a strong presentation of the Philippines issue from a moral and sentimental standpoint and will appeal most strongly to those who believe that nations, like individuals, should have a code of morals, in which justice, honor and fair play constitute a rule of conduct, and in which avarice and oppression are not justified under the brutal dictum, "might makes right."

But the imperialists have been appealed to in the name of our sacred honor and glorious traditions incessantly, but all in vain.

However, those who could not be reached by appeals to the higher and nobler sentiments of national honor have in the light of sober second-thought begun to figure on the money that is in our colonial policy, and here is the table which shows the profits we realize in return for an adventure that has set a blister upon the fair forehead of American liberty:

Capital sunk in acquiring possession .....	\$420,000,000
Present annual cost of occupation .....	37,000,000
Total annual trade with United States .....	15,000,000
Net annual balance of trade against the United States .....	8,000,000

As a contemporary suggests: "Only a short sum in arithmetic is needed to show that if the total value of our

exports to the islands were all clear profit it would not pay 1 per cent on our capital already sunk, nor one-eighth part of the yearly cost of occupation."

How long will it be before the patriotism and sound common sense the American people will be aroused to the point of repudiating a miserable business that is a taint upon our honor, an endless strain upon our public purse and an intolerable oppression upon a people who had the right to expect from us better things? —Memphis (Tenn.) Morning News.

Cummins on the Currency.

Governor Cummins made a speech before the Bankers' association at Davenport the other day in which he made some remarkable confessions.

He declared that the "present system of furnishing a currency with which, to do a business already vast and constantly growing is inadequate is beyond controversy. . . . You know and I know that a reform in the laws touching currency is one of the things so necessary that the tortured body of business attests it in the agony of its movements."

The governor don't advocate any particular policy for relieving the "tortured body of business," but in a very timid way speaks of the Fowler bill or one of similar scope.

It appears very remarkable that a

man who has for years been engaged with his party in overthrowing the constitutional policy of the government and building upon its ruins a bank system of currency especially designed to give to corporations the full control of the issuance and regulation of the currency has only, after all these years of speculation and legalized robbery of the people, just discovered that the system is "inadequate."

Such talk as this will disturb "confidence" and the governor don't appear to realize that our financial system is a "confidence" game throughout.

The gold basis is a delusion and a fraud and nobody knows it better than Governor Cummins.

The whole fabric is based on government bonds and bank credit, and the scheme now is to extend and expand this bank credit by making corporation stocks and bonds a bank asset on which they can issue more promissory notes to draw interest from a people who are compelled to borrow them from the banks to do business on.

No currency based on such a policy is sound or sensible. No currency that is owned and controlled by corporations is a sound or a safe currency, only to the extent that the government backs it. If the government must back it, then the government should issue and control it, not in the interests of the banks, but in the interests of the whole people.—Creston (Ia.) Morning American.