

ocrats voted with LaFollette. The bill was improved by democrats. It would have been better if all the democratic amendments had been carried and all of those, also, offered by LaFollette and for which democrats voted. And then they say, "You must stand by Roosevelt and elect republicans to office."

If you want to stand by the president, I will tell you the best way to stand by the president. It is to elect democrats to office to back him up and not republicans. Why, the president has done pretty well, considering his environment—remarkably well for a republican—but he would have done better if you hadn't hung so many republican mill-stones around his neck and had so many republican bushwackers at work all the time.

If you want to stand by him, give him democrats in the senate and house and they will say to him, "Mr. President, you can go ahead with confidence, now. We will be behind you. You go as far as you will—go as fast as you can—and we will be with you." They will say, "Mr. President, if, at any time, you get weakkneed or faint hearted and start to back, back, we are right behind you and we won't let you back." It is better to encourage him and push him forward than to send republicans down there to harass and annoy him.

Now, my friends, I want to speak for a moment on another question. We tried six years ago to get the country to take an American position on the question of imperialism. We pointed out the evils of a colonial policy and we warned you that your republican leaders intended colonialism.

They wouldn't tell what they intended. They said they couldn't talk to people who had guns in their hands. They said let the Filipinos lay down their arms and we will talk to them, and the Filipinos laid down their arms and then what did these republicans say? They said there was nothing to talk about!

They wouldn't talk to them when in rebellion and when they ceased to rebel, they said everything was settled and there was nothing to discuss! They criticised us for discussing imperialism when war was in progress. Two years ago when there was profound peace Governor Wright—then acting governor over there—wrote a letter to President Roosevelt and the president circulated it as a campaign document and Governor Wright said that the discussion of the rights of the Filipinos in this country was making their task harder over there. We couldn't discuss the question when they had war for fear that it would continue the war and we couldn't discuss it when they had no war for fear they would start a war! We haven't found a time when the republicans were willing to discuss imperialism.

Well, my friends, since I last visited you, I have had a chance to see the Filipinos. Now I defend from observation all that I defended from theory. I said then they had the right to govern themselves—to shane their own destiny. I now tell you that they are able to govern themselves and shape their own destiny. If you tell me that less than 10 per cent of them are educated, I reply that less than 10 per cent of the Japanese are permitted to vote under their suffrage laws, and yet a government resting upon a vote of less than one-tenth of the male population of Japan has astonished the world! And every year finds more educated people in the Philippine Islands.

In Manila there were one thousand students above the bachelor's degree studying law, medicine and engineering, and they prepared a memorial and presented it to me while I was there. They had more than fifty printed pages and every page a protest against American rule and not

an argument printed on any page that would not have been accepted by any republican in this country a year before we began our experiment in imperialism.

Every year more are educated. One teacher told me that in his district they had 150 per cent of the people of school age in school. One hundred and fifty per cent! Why, we do well if we get 95 per cent of the people of school age in school. Over there so many of the parents went with their children that they had more than 50 per cent more than the school age.

I was told by another teacher of an incident. He told me a Filipino boy was working for an English lady and she liked him so much that when he stopped to go to school she tried to persuade him to stay at work. She was paying him 20 pesos per month and she offered to double it to 40 pesos per month—a tempting offer. But the boy told her he loved knowledge more than money and would go to school.

Yet they tell you they must send a carpet-bag government over there and hold it in place by a standing army because they are not capable of governing themselves! They used to think there was going to be money in this experiment and when they thought there was money in it they thought the hand of God was in it. But my observation is that these people see the hand of God in a thing only when they see a dollar in the hand. When they found there was no money in it they probably found God didn't mean it, after all. Nine-tenths of the republicans will tell you today that after while the Philippines, of course, will have independence. I heard speeches there by American officials and every speech contained language that could not be honestly construed except as a promise of independence, and yet this experiment in colonialism has cost us something like \$500,000,000!

Why, with that sum we could build the Panama canal and not tax the American people another dollar! With that sum we could reclaim the arid lands of the west on which homes could be built for more American citizens than will go to the Philippine Islands to live in a thousand years! \$500,000,000! We could build a railroad from New York to San Francisco that would do more to regulate railroad rates than all the railroad rate bills you can pass in a hundred years! \$500,000,000! You could build good roads, improve water-ways, and deepen harbors—how much you could do with \$500,000,000!

But we have wasted it trying to follow at the tail end of the European processions. India is held up for us as a model in the Philippines. Yes, and the memory of those half-starved people walking like shadows through their native land still remains with me. England's policy in India a model? England taxes the Indian people about \$100,000,000 a year to support an army that India does not want! Why is the army there? Some say to keep the Indians in subjection; some say to keep Russia from stealing India. Upon those people of India, whose average income is \$10 per year is this burden placed, and the government that does it spends \$8,000,000 a year on education! One hundred and fifty years of English rule and less than ten million spent in giving them something in return.

Our contention is that if you will take away from the trust magnates the means by which the world has been taxed for their benefit—if you withdraw the special privileges and favors that republicans have given to them and make them act and live upon their merits, no man will accumulate enough money in a lifetime by honest effort to make his fortune a menace to society.

But, my friends, if you are not going to stop the stealing, you will have to

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