

the purpose than small companies, partnerships, and individual proprietors. They are as much a factor of progress as the steam engine, and, like it, they temporarily throw a few men out of employment, but eventually they employ more men than before, and at better wages, while reducing the prices charged the public. The doubling of wages during the last hundred years and the lowering of prices to consumers are due to the increased production of labor caused by inventions and better business methods. The big corporation is one of these better business methods.

Some people, like Bryan, never see the sunlight, but only the shadow cast by its obstruction. They see the disadvantages attendant upon progress and none of the benefits. They opposed the railroad, as Bryan would have done, because it temporarily threw a few teamsters out of employment. For like reasons they can see nothing good in cooperation on a grand scale through the medium of big corporations. They are reactionary as well as ignorant, and either cannot or will not see the advantages as well as the disadvantages. They would destroy, not cure.

An Economic Question.

But while the big corporation is necessary and inevitable, its power for evil as well as for good has been growing with its size. How can we, without interfering with its efficiency, restrain the evils? Must we wait for the slow operation of natural laws to furnish the remedy for extortionate prices which may follow a short-sighted policy devoid of human feeling? Must we rely upon the breaking out of fresh competition or the falling off of business which may make even high prices unremunerative? Must we wait till we can cultivate anew a sense of human feeling in the stockholders and officers of corporations? Can legislation avert the evils of unwise corporate greed? If so, what shall the legislation be and to what extent shall it go? To condemn and exterminate all corporations, or all large corporations, if any line can be drawn, would be more disastrous to us than any injury we may suffer from abuse of their powers.

The problem is too vast, too complex, and too subtle for emotional empirics. It cannot be solved by our consciences unaided and unenlightened. We need to bring to it the open mind and the scientific habit of thought. As indicated by the address of the gold democracy, it is not a political question, either in its origin or its nature. Its solution calls for the dispassionate consideration of the best men of all parties.

OUR DUTY TO THE FILIPINOS.

If Mr. Bryan is elected president it will follow, in all probability, that Don Emilio Aguinaldo y Fami will be recognized as the head of the independent

government which is to be established according to Mr. Bryan's plans. In other words, Aguinaldo, who deliberately declared war upon the United States army and government in February, 1899, and who has ever since been the central figure in the Philippines, inspired the people to make war on America, will be the chief of a nation under the protection of the government which he has just been fighting.

After waging a conflict all this time against our country, under Aguinaldo's direction, that element of the Filipinos which is making the trouble will insist upon the continuance of him as their commander in chief, and if they do not secure such a concession they will fight just as persistently under Mr. Bryan's administration as they have under that of Mr. McKinley.

In order to appreciate the difficulties before a democratic president, if one is elected, it is well to remember that there is another large element of Filipinos who have maintained a friendly attitude toward us and who will make most serious objection to the recognition of Aguinaldo and his associates. It is even probable that the Moros in the Sulu group and in Mindanao, the Visayans in the central islands, and the Vicos in southern Luzon, as well as some of the tribes in the northern valley of the Cagayan in Luzon, will object to a settlement where their interests are not as carefully considered as those of the Tagalogs. In consequence there will arise a most complicated situation, which will bring far worse results than the legitimate effort to establish our rightful sovereignty acquired by treaty with Spain.

We have already gone through the most bitter experiences that we can possibly have under our determination to bring about peace and order and the general acknowledgment by the Filipinos of our sovereignty. The tendency hereafter, if Mr. McKinley is reelected, will be to improve. It cannot go the other way. In fact there is every reason to believe that if the present administration is continued there will be a speedy end to all resistance to American authority. The guerrilla warfare will lose its inspiration, and we shall be astonished at the ease with which we shall bring about contentment and well-being among the people of the Philippine archipelago.

If Mr. Bryan is elected president the different tribes throughout the islands will be filled with the expectancy of great results. There will be a scramble to obtain the chief benefits of Mr. Bryan's utopian scheme. There will be difficulties and dissensions without limit. There will be constant danger of civil strife. No matter how strong qualities of self-government we concede to the Filipinos, it will be only natural, after all, that Mr. Bryan and

the anti-imperialists have said and after the rosy promises they have made, that the Filipinos will experience a rude shock when they find that the realization is not equal to the anticipation.

Bryan and the Army.

It is no idle prophecy to predict that Mr. Bryan will require even a larger army and a greater expenditure of government funds to carry out his plans than Mr. McKinley will need to establish order, quiet and good government. There are, moreover, all sorts of complications that will arise in connection with the interests of foreigners. Demands for indemnities will pour in upon this independent Filipino government, and on the United States government as its protector. There will arise questions of authority as to which shall decide upon these points—the Filipino or the American officials. The impracticability of drawing a clear line of demarcation between the responsibilities of an independent Filipino nation and an American protectorate, such as Mr. Bryan outlines, will face and harass him every moment after he takes his seat in the white house. It is no exaggeration to say that Mr. Bryan will run the risk of international complications that may lead to a war which will cost many times more in lives and money than our present conflict in the Philippine islands, if he declares to the world "hands off!" while the Filipinos organize an independent government under this visionary protection of the United States.

Here is a situation that will almost surely develop and cause trouble, not only between the United States and a European government, but with the Filipino government, if Mr. Bryan carries out his intentions. If, for instance, Germany or some other European country demands a large indemnity from the Filipinos for injury to her interests, now or in the future, and the latter refuses to pay or grant the foreign demands, whatever they may be, the foreign nation will at once appeal to the United States. If the United States knowing that the demands are just, tells the Filipinos that they must comply, they may flatly refuse, and then it will remain for either the United States or the foreign power to compel them to yield, and this may bring about war. This is only one illustration of a score of misfortunes which are quite possible under Mr. Bryan's scheme of divided responsibility. But if the United States firmly establishes its sovereignty, all dealings will be with and through the United States government, and all questions in regard to the Philippine Islands will be settled just as any other would be with the main country here in America.

If Mr. Bryan is elected president and expects to apply the Monroe doctrine to the Philippines, he will require a much