

THE MILITARY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

If General MacArthur in Manila can deport and practically confiscate the property of a newspaper publisher—a native-born citizen of the United States—it inevitably follows that a military officer commanding troops in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma or Alaska may likewise deport citizens and confiscate their property. This doctrine cannot be questioned by those who deny that the constitution follows the flag. It is the very essence of their contention. It presents a somewhat disquieting outlook to the citizens of the territories, however.—Chicago Chronicle.

It is another evidence of the growth of militarism that General MacArthur's administration should dare to do such a thing without the certainty of a rebuke. It is another proof of the arrogance of the army when left unrestrained and isolated from the influence of public opinion. General MacArthur is treating the editor who offends him as he would treat a civilian whose presence was not desired at Fort Sheridan, if he happened to be in command of the military post, by expelling him from the grounds. But he is treating the whole of the archipelago as a military post, which it is likely to be for many years under the present regime. He is executing the policies of Otis frequently outlined by that general when he was in command, whose habit it was to call before him the correspondents of the Record and other papers and announce: "I can put you off the island if I want to." The "put-you-off-the-island" policy is in effect at last.—Chicago Record.

General MacArthur, addressing a regiment of volunteers about to return from the Philippines, told the men that the chief advantage of the work in which they have been engaged is "engendering of a warlike spirit, without which no nation can continue to live and by which alone a nation is created and made perpetual."

It is lamentable that an American should believe such a thing and teach it to his fellow-citizens. This nation was not created by the spirit of war and conquest, but by the spirit of independence and justice. War was an unavoidable means to an end and when the end was achieved the sword was sheathed that the republic might be perpetuated by peace.

Perhaps a soldier may be excused for considering his work the highest and most important done in the world, but it is difficult to understand how an intelligent American, even though his training has been that of a warrior, can so misunderstand and misinterpret the ideas of the founders of this government as to assert that its vital principle is war for war's sake.

The engendering of a warlike spirit is one of the most evil and dangerous consequences of the Philippine adventure, in the view of those who are not blinded by commercialism and are capable of drawing conclusions from the lessons of history. If we are killing Filipinos just

to keep our soldiers in practice and inspire them with desire for martial glory, we are false to all the ideals of American manhood and have perverted the

power of the republic to base ends. Free government and wars of conquest cannot long keep company.—Philadelphia North American.

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