

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$6.00. Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$8.00.

COMMUNICATIONS. Communications relating to news and Editorial Department, The Omaha Bee.

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FIXING THE STANDARD.

Trustworthy reports from Washington say that all indications are favorable to an unmistakable declaration for the gold standard from congress next winter. The correspondent of the Springfield Republican says such a declaration, with the necessary measures to buttress it against all assaults, is likely to be put through both houses of congress within a few weeks after they assemble.

The correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce speaks even more confidently of the prospect of a gold standard declaration. He says that those who are familiar with the purposes of the administration are convinced that the action of congress at the next session will plant the country firmly on the gold basis. He declares that there is no ground for the reports that the president and republican senators of the finance committee were timid about writing the word "gold" in the statutes.

It was hardly necessary to contradict the statement which attributed to Admiral Dewey the declaration that our next war would be with Germany, for no one with an intelligent appreciation of Dewey's character and good sense gave it any credence. There is no man in the naval service of this or any other country who has a higher sense of the obligations and proprieties which his position imposes than Admiral Dewey and he is simply incapable of such a violation of propriety as the remark ascribed to him involves.

The fame of Dewey will not suffer in the least from these misrepresentations, yet it is the duty of reputable newspapers to at least shield him from the annoyance which their publication doubtless causes him. He is returning to his country the hero of the most illustrious achievement in our naval history. He has a right to expect from the American press fair and honorable treatment and not to be placed in a false position before his countrymen and the world.

The new secretary of war, Hon. Elihu Root, will enter upon the duties of the office today and reports from Washington which appear to be trustworthy indicate that there will very soon be some important military changes. It is stated, in the first place, that Major General Miles is to be placed in command of the army in reality and given complete authority over all the military movements of our soldiers. This, it is said, has been strongly urged upon the president by at least two members of the cabinet, while it is further stated that in his conference with the president Mr. Root gave him some important information regarding the feeling among republicans in respect to military operations in the Philippines.

It is the impression at Washington, according to several correspondents, that it is the present purpose of the president to order General Miles to Manila. It is probable that Miles does not desire such an assignment, but of course he would go without hesitation if ordered to do so and this replacing of Otis would be no reflection on the latter. It is said, however, that the president is being advised to simply give General Miles the supreme command, allowing him to direct the movements of the troops and either go to Manila or remain in Washington, as he shall deem best.

Whether or not there is substantial ground for these statements, it is not to be doubted that President McKinley realizes the fact that there is a great deal of popular dissatisfaction with military operations in Luzon and this feeling is certain to be strengthened and intensified by the expressions of returning soldiers. Knowing of the widespread existence of this sentiment it is not improbable that the president is giving it serious consideration.

There is also talk of a contemplated change in Cuba and that General Brooke may be succeeded by General Leonard Wood. The administration of the former has been subjected to some criticism, but it is probably a fact that General Brooke has followed strictly orders from Washington and therefore is not to be blamed for whatever faults or mistakes have been made in our Cuban policy. General Wood has been remarkably successful in administering affairs in Santiago province and if it should be decided to replace Brooke the appointment of Wood to succeed him would be generally approved, but it is doubtful whether a change in the governor-generalship of Cuba is seriously contemplated. It is understood to be the purpose of the administration to advance as rapidly as possible preparations for establishing civil government

in Cuba and as this will be done under instructions from Washington there appears to be no reason why the work cannot safely be entrusted to General Brooke.

The most important thing to be done is to reassure the public in regard to military management in the Philippines. It is unquestionable that General Otis has lost popular confidence, that there is a very general belief that he is not equal to the task devolved on him. Perhaps President McKinley does not share in this opinion, but he cannot well afford to ignore it.

A calamity organ in these parts beams the fact that the census returns for the last two decades show that tenantry has increased to an alarming extent in the great American cities. In view of the enormous increase of city populations and the cheapening of house rent to a point that scarcely yields enough for the landlord to pay taxes, insurance and repairs, is there anything strange or alarming about the increase of tenantry in the cities? Is it not also true that there has been an enormous increase of home owners in the suburbs of great cities within the past two decades by reason of the extension of electric tramways that enable wage-workers to pursue their vocations in the city and enjoy the comforts of the suburban home?

According to the sworn exhibit of the expenses incurred by the ten claimants who entered the race for the republican nomination as judges of the district court the aggregate amount paid out to the ward politicians, printers, livery keepers and dealers in political options was less than \$150 all told, which would indicate that the new law has caused a slump in the primary election market.

Local poperaic find themselves in a pocket. Not having decent material for a straight judicial ticket they are hoping to secure a fighting chance by nominating two or three republican nominees and calling the creation a non-partisan ticket. That is to say, it would be non-partisan to the extent to which republicans might be bamboozled to swallow it.

How Aggy Does It. Aguinaldo will never understand why there should be any differences of opinion in the United States War department. When he has an unruly general he disposes of the entire case by a prompt and simple assassination.

Compulsory Arbitration. Philadelphia North American. Compulsory arbitration means merely that disputes between employers and employees shall be settled by judicial decision. It is a step toward the civilization of society, and which, because society is civilized, are no longer settled by fighting.

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