

### Philippine Independence

Since the outbreak of the World War the public mind has been centered on so many other vitally important problems that the matter of the independence of the Philippines has largely been lost sight of. However, the detail, by the President, of General Wood and Cameron Forbes to investigate and report upon the conditions in the islands has, to a considerable extent, revived interest in the subject. Due to a residence of some 13 years in that far-off land, we naturally have acquired some familiarity with the situation, and accordingly have been solicited by numerous "COURIER" readers to write an article relating thereto. The limitations of the time and space makes possible only a few observations.

Two men quite so well qualified as the distinguished gentlemen named above, for the purpose the President has in view, are scarcely to be found within our borders. They have lived and wrought long and well in the country, they know the people; they are thoroughly conversant with every problem—social, economic, or political—concerning them today. After an absence of a number of years, they now return, with open minds, prepared for a searching investigation, after which they will render an unbiased report to our Government. Upon this report is likely to hinge the political destiny of the Filipino people for a generation or so to come. At least, that is our opinion. For there is small likelihood that this report will encourage the President to recommend to Congress the complete withdrawal of American sovereignty over the Islands. This is as it should be; for the Filipinos are not yet ready for independent self-government, nor are they likely to be for a very long time to come, if at all. It is certain that they have been a thorn in the flesh of the United States since the very day they came under our control.

A question frequently asked is "Why didn't Dewey, after sinking the Spanish fleet in Manila Bay, sail away and leave them to work out their own salvation?" To be sure, that would have proved a simple solution of a complex problem. But would it have been the proper thing? We think not, in spite of the fact we would thereby have saved much in blood and treasure later.

It should be recalled that, by the capitulation of the Spanish naval and land forces, the only semblance of government that existed at the moment was destroyed. The maintenance, then, of law and order—especially in the great city of Manila—devolved upon the United States, without whose protection thousands of foreign nationals—British, French, German, and Dutch—would have been ruthlessly slaughtered by the hungry hordes of half-wild, blood-mad barbarians who swooped down upon the defenseless city, sworn to wreak vengeance upon every man, woman and child of white skin. Now, under such conditions, to have sneaked away and left these foreigners to a fate so terrible would not only have involved our government in serious international complications, but would justly have brought down upon us the curse of Christendom.

So we accepted a responsibility that had been forced bodily upon us; a responsibility which we have never yet attempted to shift. And during the 23 years that have elapsed since that time, we, although totally without previous experience in colonial administration, have accomplished a work perhaps unparalleled in the annals of human history.

Let us here review the situation briefly. At the time of our occupation of the country the percentage of illiteracy was unequalled in all the world outside of China. It had been the policy of the Spaniards to discountenance educational movements of every complexion, the intellectual growth of the natives being the one thing they dreaded most, for it was only through tenet ignorance that their control over them could be maintained. It is true that each village, as a rule, had its parochial school, but the instruction there given was extremely meager and rudimentary. The crying need of the people, then, was schools, and schools in abundance we proceeded to give them. As far back as 1901 more than two thousand qualified and specially trained American teachers were on the ground and excellent schools were established from one end of the archipelago to the other. The average school attendance since that time has passed the half-million mark. A very considerable number of young men and women, after completing the highest courses offered by home institutions, have come to America and earned diplomas from such places as the University of California, Yale,



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### RAMSEUR NEWS

#### Improvements in Streets and Buildings

Along with the great improvements heretofore mentioned in Ramseur News, we are to be congratulated in having a generous gift by Mrs. W. H. Watkins in the extensive grounds adjoining the school property, which has been used as play ground, fair ground, etc., but which comes to the school now as a gift by title. In addition to this generous donation Mrs. Watkins has given a wide street through her land from T. A. Moffitt's to A. H. Thomas' which shortens the distance for school children and gives them a safe and clean walk. Work will be going on to open this street before this is published.

Mr. S. E. York has made extensive improvements on his residence recently.

Mr. A. L. Caviness is improving his residence by additional rooms and C. E. Butler has recently painted his residence as have many others in our town this year. Making our city much more alive than many of its size. Plants have not run quite all the time.

With a little more of the spirit of cooperation on the part of every one of us our town would be an ideal one anyway. As it is it is the best in the state anywhere.

Mrs. W. C. Trogon and children, of Drexel, are visitors here for a few days.

Mr. Ray Thompson, of Snow Camp, was a visitor here last Sunday.

Mr. W. R. Craven, our miller, is attending the Sunday school convention at Junaluska this week.

Mr. A. H. Thomas is away representing Ramseur Broom Company this week.

V. C. Marley and wife are in Baltimore this week purchasing fall goods, millinery for marley and Caviness. They were accompanied by Mrs. W. H. Marley and Miss Marley.

R. W. M. Smith filled his regular appointment here Sunday along with our other good pastors. We love Brother Smith more the longer he stays with us. We almost wish we were presbyterians so we could keep him for life.

We were again excited a little last Sunday to see an aeroplane sailing over our city. Whether it was a federal revenue detective or a German scout we do not know but we have an idea it was our friend and one time resident George Allred, of Greensboro, where he is manufacturing aeroplanes; and was probably advertising a little.

Harvard, and Columbia. Industrial schools, though unpopular in the beginning, have been well patronized, and have done much to shatter this age-old tradition handed down by the Spanish, that it is a disgrace to work with the hands. In fact, the work of education has been relentlessly pushed, until today the percentage of illiteracy, in so far as it applies to the younger generation, will compare favorably with any other country.

Under the American administration, marvelous progress has been made in the economic development of the country; each island of importance has a road system equaling that of our own New England states, said to be the best in the world, while hundreds of miles of railway have been constructed. Until the present year, exports have largely exceeded imports. The people are immeasurably better fed, better clothed, better housed than had ever been dreamed of as possible before the arrival of the Americans. Tremendous progress also has been made in the matter of public health work. At the time of our taking over the country, statistics showed an annual death rate in excess of 40,000 from smallpox alone; cholera had ravaged the country every few years, taking its toll of hundreds of thousands, while leprosy ever-present and almost everywhere. Ten years later these diseases had been substantially stamped out—or at least brought under such control as to no longer prove a serious menace.

Now, the question naturally arises "Are not the natives, in view of the progress made in the past 2 decades, prepared to take over the Government and administer it themselves?" The answer is that they have really been given just such opportunity, but have failed woefully to demonstrate that they are capable of climbing the steep hill of self-government under their own steam. When Burton Harrison went over, in 1913, to relieve Cameron Forbes as Governor-General, his first move was to replace a majority of the higher American officials with natives—men specially educated and trained for the special duties to be performed. They were given the fullest liberty of action under the law—with the result that the Government is now nearly bankrupt. Certainly it has proved a dear experiment. The good work accomplished by Americans has been practically undone.

Again, tribal differences make complete independence at the present time an utter impossibility. This is the unqualified opinion of nearly all foreign observers, as well as many of the more intelligent natives themselves. Race hatred and race jealousy will never prove a stumbling-block for better will one tribe submit to the domination of another tribe. Under native rule civil war would break out within six months, and would not cease; first the Tagalogs would be supreme, then the Visayans, then the Ilocanos. In the meantime, the country would rapidly sink back into the state of barbarism in which we found it, August 13, 1898. Thus we would be forced to return and take the helm again, just as we were forced to do in Cuba. As a matter of fact, thousands of the more substantial and far-sighted Filipinos vigorously oppose the idea of complete separation from American protection and control. They tremble in the ever-menacing shadow of Japan. And well they should. Complete independence at this time means a return to the state of anarchy.

### ASHEBORO-HIGH POINT ROAD BY RANDLEMAN

The committee appointed at the road meeting in Asheboro last week composed of Messrs R. P. Deal, W. F. Talley, Randleman; J. S. Lewis, J. D. Ross, D. B. McCrary and H. M. Robbins went before J. Elwood Cox, state highway commissioner, in High Point last Friday returning believing that Randleman will be linked onto the High Point-Asheboro—the old plank road. This information was received from Mr. Cox, who stated that he has promised to recommend to the state commission that the road be run through Randleman, provided the expenditure of the work will not cost much over \$50,000.

Mr. Cox further stated that he will have engineers survey a possible detour, branching off of the main road at St. Paul's church and re-entering it at Hinshaw's fork, a distance of approximately two miles.

In the event the road is built through Randleman it will mean that a little over one mile of the Greensboro-Randleman-Asheboro road will be hard surfaced inasmuch as a part of the detour will be a small portion of the Greensboro-Randleman-Asheboro highway.

At first it was thought that the Randleman people would fight for the detour to leave the Asheboro-High Point road at Brown's cross roads and re-enter at Hinshaw's fork, a distance of about four miles. It is known that Mr. Cox wasn't very enthused over this extended detour owing to the cost.

However, since the Randleman people seem to have worked out a plan so that the detour may begin at the church, thereby cutting down the expense about half, it is said that Mr. Cox, believing in the importance of linking Randleman onto the old Boone-Wilmington plank road, declared his willingness to recommend the proposition to the state commission. Mr. Cox stated that he thought the commission would act favorably on the matter. Randolph county will foot the bill for the work of the present; in other words the county will loan the state the money to do the work.

In the event the survey shows that the detour will cost too much, there is another way to hook Randleman onto the road. This will be done by hard surfacing the Greensboro-Randleman-Asheboro road from Randleman to the Hinshaw fork, or the point where the road enters the High Point-Asheboro highway. It would cover a distance of little over a mile.

As a result of the High Point conference it would appear that Randleman is almost certain to be connected one way or the other to the famous old plank thoroughfare.

### PREMIUM LIST

For Ramseur Chrysanthemum Show—Auspices Ladies' Aid Society

- Largest potted bloom, \$5.
- Second largest potted bloom, \$2.
- Best collection of six plants, \$3.
- Second best collection of six plants, \$2.
- Largest six blooms, white, \$1.
- Second largest six blooms, white, 50c.
- Largest six blooms, pink, \$1.
- Second largest six blooms, pink, 50c.
- Largest six blooms, yellow, \$1.
- Second largest six blooms, yellow, 50c.
- Largest six blooms, bronze, \$1.
- Second largest six blooms, bronze, 50c.
- Best collection of old time and pom-pom, \$1.
- Best fern, \$2.
- Second best fern, \$1.
- Best collection five to seven ferns, \$2.
- Second best collection five to seven ferns, \$1.
- Best begonia under one year of age, \$1.
- Best begonia over one year of age, \$1.

### MISS MINNIE HOOVER MAKES FINE IMPRESSION IN MOORE

The Monroe Enquirer pays the following compliment to Miss Minnie Hoover, of Asheboro. Miss Minnie Lee Hoover, of Asheboro, is the court stenographer here this week. She is stenographer for the court in the fifteenth district and is one of the most rapid and most accurate in the state. She is very popular with the members of the bar, and especially so with that remnant of it still in bachelorhood.

### CONFIRMED PROOF

Residents of Asheboro Cannot Doubt What Has Been Twice Proved. In gratitude for complete relief from aches and pains of bad backs—from distressing kidney ills—thousands have publicly recommended Doan's Kidney Pills. Residents of this vicinity who so testified years ago, now say the results were permanent. This testimony doubly proves the worth of Doan's Kidney Pills to Asheboro kidney sufferers. E. L. Nelson, High Point St., Randleman, N. C., says: "I have used two boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills and have been entirely relieved of lameness in my back. I now feel better in every way. I gladly recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to other kidney sufferers."

Lasting Benefit. Over three years later, Mr. Nelson said: "During the past three years my system has been entirely free from kidney complaint. It gives me great pleasure to tell of the permanent cure Doan's Kidney Pills gave me." Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Nelson had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

power; we are necessarily becoming more and more involved in the affairs of the Far East. It is manifestly essential, then, that we maintain at some strategic point a reasonably strong military and naval base. For this purpose the Island group is entirely



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