

## SECRETARY TAFT SPEAKS OF "ABE"

Asks Banqueters to Say What Lincoln Would Do in Today's Problems.

### FILIPINOS ARE CONSIDERED.

Cabinet Member Declares the United States Government Has Brought The Light to the Islands.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 12.—The Lincoln club banquet here tonight was a brilliant success with a galaxy of speakers never equaled in Michigan political banquets. More than 2,000 persons occupied seats at the tables. The hall was elaborately decorated, and as a compliment to Ambassador Jersander of France, French colors were mingled with the American.

The speakers were Ambassador Jersander and Congressman George Edmund Poes, Secy. of War Taft, Governor Curtis Guild, Jr., of Massachusetts, and Director John Barrett of the bureau of American republics. Although all of the speakers were greeted with enthusiasm, it was Secretary Taft who received the greatest outburst of applause.

It continued for several minutes before he could begin his address. Interrupted frequently by applause, he spoke as follows:

#### HIS ADDRESS.

"The Philippine Islands came to us without our design. In one moment, without our knowledge, we found ourselves in possession of a new territory. It was necessary that Dewey should destroy the Spanish fleet in the Pacific territory. The destruction of the Spanish fleet put the Philippine Islands at our mercy. We had no troops, however, and as a reasonable war measure we invoked the assistance of Aguinaldo and his fellow insurgents against the Spanish army. We took up in establishing a government in the islands until our army could traverse the 7,000 miles between our ports and the Philippine Islands. With the assistance of Aguinaldo's army we took the city of Manila and then the peace came. The question was what course lay open to us.

#### THE PHILIPPINES.

"Should we turn our island allies back to the government of Spain and the oppression against which they had revolted? Would Abraham Lincoln have advised us to do so? I do not think so. Should we turn the islands over to Aguinaldo and his military subordinates? They had themselves in the nine months intervening tried to establish a civil government, but tyrants and the influence of the government in trying to maintain order would have made it a crime against the whole people of the islands to turn the islands over to them. Should we have thrust upon us, would Abraham Lincoln have advised a policy of seclusion and retreat from these islands to leave them with no government, to let chaos that would only increase the suffering of those unfortunate people? Clearly there is nothing in the Declaration of Independence as interpreted by Abraham Lincoln that would have compelled this pusillanimous course.

#### DRAW A DISTINCTION.

"It is true that the declaration recites that all just government must rest on the consent of the governed; but that is to be interpreted as meaning a consent of the governed who have intelligence sufficient to enable them to discriminate as to what is government in their own interest. Lincoln in his debates with Douglas did not insist that the colored men, as they were, were not to be considered as government as voters, but he evidently treated the postulate in the Declaration of Independence as the ideal toward which all government should work. He would have been the last man to say that it was the duty of McKinley and the Republican party, responsible for administration, to have turned the islands over to a people of seven millions, with 90 per cent having a density of ignorance hard for us to understand and with 10 per cent though somewhat civilized and intelligent, yet without the true spirit and proper interpretation of the principles of the Declaration of Independence. I affirm that the policy adopted by Wm. McKinley and embraced by the Republican party under which it is proposed to gradually extend self-government to the people of the Philippine Islands as they shall become better and better politically educated by practice and by the school system, is following the true spirit and proper interpretation of the principles of the Declaration of Independence. No man would have been quicker to scout as impracticable dogmatism the bitter criticism, the unreasonable opposition, and the almost treacherous sympathy with the opposition of our government in the Philippines, displayed by the anti-imperialists and their Democratic followers, than Lincoln.

#### WHAT AMERICA HAS DONE.

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### SKIN CURE A SIMPLE WASH.

External Remedy for Eczema Sufferers Greatly Simplifies the Treatment.

If you are suffering from any burning itching skin disease, the only way to cure it is cure the skin itself.

Thousands of patients have suffered for months in vain attempts to doctor their blood when the whole trouble was bacilli feeding upon the skin and causing the unsightly blotches and sores. Skin specialists now prescribe a simple liquid wash, easy to apply, which gives instant relief. This remedy is composed of oil of wintergreen to which are added a few vegetable remedies. Oil of wintergreen alone will not cure but a coarser of experts in Chicago, headed by a noted specialist, experimented with other medicinal properties until they found the proper preparation. The result of their efforts is called D. D. D. Prescription, a sure specific for the cure of skin diseases.

Here is only one instance of what D. D. D. Prescription has done for little "grit" head was a running sore. D. D. D. Prescription has cured her sore and well.—B. L. Hipp, Phil Campbell, Ala.

If you are suffering from any skin disease, you will not pay you to try one bottle of D. D. D. Prescription? You probably have spent many times the cost of one bottle vainly trying to stop that awful burning itch. Druehl & Franken, Druggists, call at your drug store for free booklet on the care and nutrition of the skin with suggestions as to the use of D. D. D. Soap. This valuable booklet is absolutely free.

better and far abler to resist disease. Would Abraham Lincoln have dissented from this policy?

"We have introduced a system of sanitation from which the burdens of government are borne by wealthy and the humble in the proportion of their ability to pay, and abolished the old Spanish system from which the taxes were chiefly levied from the poor and humble people. We have introduced and carried on a system of improvement of harbors, roads, railroads and interisland communication by steam navigation. We have built the islands by improving the means of intercommunication and stimulating the spread of common medium in language as they never have been united before. Would Lincoln have objected to this policy?

"We have organized autonomy in the municipalities, autonomy in the provincial governments; we have introduced into the central government, as one branch of the government, a representative assembly selected by the eligible voters of the Christian provinces, and we have now a government that is largely a government of the Philippine people under the leadership of a native American executive and one American branch of the legislature. Would Abraham Lincoln have dissented from this policy, of step by step leading the people of the islands to the responsibilities of self-government and familiarity with its difficulties?

#### CONSTITUTION AND FLAG.

"We have introduced into the islands all the constitutional guarantees under the federal constitution except the right to bear arms and the right to serve on juries, for both of which as yet the islands have no facilities. We have introduced into the islands a purely unitary, but we have given them, and they are now enjoying, the right to life, liberty and property, and the pursuit of happiness and freedom from deprivation of life, liberty and property by due process of law. We have given them a judicial system, in the impartiality and efficiency of which they have every confidence. Would Lincoln have dissented from this policy?

"The truth is, when the altruistic liberal policy inaugurated by McKinley and carried on under Roosevelt, with respect to the Philippines is fully understood, and when the people of the islands and his political methods are considered, it may be affirmed without hesitation that he would have approved the Philippine policy from the beginning to the end, from the first departure from, but the Declaration of Independence.

WHAT ROOSEVELT HAS DONE.

"During the administration of Theodore Roosevelt, our influence as a world power has exceeded anything before in our history. We have done more toward bringing about the peace of the world than any other president of our country. Under these circumstances there is room for doubt that Abraham Lincoln would have approved the policy of McKinley and Roosevelt. In maintaining our position as a world power, in increasing the size of our navy so that when we do intervene in international affairs we may exercise influence commensurate with our greatness as a nation.

"Finally, can there be any doubt where Lincoln would have stood in the issues which peculiarly distinguished the administration of Theodore Roosevelt? I refer to the struggle which he and his administration made for the elimination from our business and political fabric of corrupting influences of the unlawful business combinations and the moralizing influence of disobedience to law, and the gradual extending of self-government to the people of the Philippine Islands as they shall become better and better politically educated by practice and by the school system, is following the true spirit and proper interpretation of the principles of the Declaration of Independence. No man would have been quicker to scout as impracticable dogmatism the bitter criticism, the unreasonable opposition, and the almost treacherous sympathy with the opposition of our government in the Philippines, displayed by the anti-imperialists and their Democratic followers, than Lincoln.

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