

FOR THE SAKE OF HUMANITY

A Philippine Soldier Writes of the War.

On Samar Island the Natives Are Being Starved Into Submission—Uncle Sam's Remedy.

A letter received by Mr. Fred S. Dunham, the Second Avenue and Sixth street grocer, contains the following interesting news from the Philippines. The letter was written at Oquindo, Samar Island, and is as follows:

"I will now write you something about this country—of what I have seen and been doing. You know this is a country composed of many islands, some large and some small. If all were joined together they would make a country almost as big as the whole United States. This Samar Island is third in size, being 700 miles long and has an average width of 80 miles. I don't know the population. Some of the natives have a little intelligence, but most of them are very ignorant, so when the question came up of whether or not they should allow the United States to govern them like in our own dear country the wise ones told the others what to do, so those poor fools got their arrows and their bamboo cannons ready and of course they knew nothing about Americans. We were the first they have ever seen and they always expect us to kill them on sight. The insurgent army is composed of the worst element among them and is led by those wise men I spoke of above. The poor people have kept up this band believing that they were keeping out the Americans. They never left this island to assist the others so 'Uncle Sammy' left them alone while he had his army busy on the other islands and as soon as all surrendered he turned his attention to those Samaritans. To begin with he blocked Wry Port, has gun boats all around the island so that nothing can come on or go off; then he turned fourteen thousand of his hounds after them with orders to wage a vigorous and persistent warfare against them, so we were divided up in bunches of about 200 men to a detachment. All started from different points and worked towards the interior. I will tell you how my bunch have worked and of course the other have been doing the same. We left the coast May 24th. Our line of march was up along the Sepatan river. Our only transportation was 12 Chinamen who carried our ten days ration on their backs.

"The country was pretty thickly settled. We seldom found anybody at home because we could not see a house until we were right onto it. They could see us and get away; then we looted the place and take anything of any value to us, then we burn the house and destroy everything, the object being to force those people to quit assisting the insurgents. They must submit to the U. S. or starve to death. Some of them don't know what they are supposed to do and there you are; but I must not criticize. I simply state facts to let you know how this war for humanity's sake is being conducted. Well, we soon found some houses burned then and destroyed garden and everything, then onward march through fields of tobacco, hemp, pineapples, sugar cane, bananas, coconuts and rice. At last we came to an open space about the size of Boulder Park. An old soldier remarked to me, 'betcher we get it from you hill.' A minute later we were right into it but we soon put them to flight. Our long range guns being too strong for them. Although right there I had my closest call. We then had to make our way through a swamp, sometimes had to almost swim. At last we got up to the place they had when they fired on us. They had been well entrenched so we only got one. We went down the hill and took possession of a few houses which some of us used as quarters for the night. The sun was about two hours high so we spread our piece of blanket and shelter half out to dry. Each man cooked his own supper. I made myself a cigar from the genuine

leaf that grows here in abundance. It is not being my turn for guard I made down for the night. Some of the old soldiers amused themselves trying to scare the recruits. It was a mistake to do so for the joke may have been the cause of one man being killed during the night. About 12 midnight a man stood up alongside his shelter tent. The alert sentry saw him and shouted 'halt.' The man probably thinking he didn't mean him made no reply, then the excited sentry fired, killing him instantly. We got up at daylight, dug a hole with our mess pans and threw him in. We had breakfast and went on continuing our work of destruction as on the previous day. A week later we came to an old deserted town called Baria. Here we found some boats, something we needed. We put our prisoners into them and fifty of us took them down the river to the coast where we turned them over and got more rations. On our return we split up for a ten days hike. We had a hard time. I lived five days on sweet potatoes and green coconut milk. (Each green coconut has two quarts of water in it which is good and healthy.) We finally got together again near this place (Oquindo). Some of our men were badly used up, their general health was not so bad but their feet were in horrible shape on account of being wet all the time. We had to wade through creeks and swamps every day. The sand would get into our shoes and those tender feet had the socks knocked clean off them. I was in the shape of a 'useless Yapp' who is never any good in a pinch, in fact, no good at any time, except to get drunk when they have a chance. are the cause of a good soldier being disliked by civilians. They could do nothing but whine about the hardships and the good homes they left. We split again and the best of us came on and took Oquindo without losing a man. We found 5000 pounds of rice and \$35,000 worth of hemp. We burned the hemp and kept the rice. The people are coming in every day and taking the oath of allegiance and the town is building up fast. They build their houses out of bamboo, rattan and nepe. It makes a good house. Although there is plenty of mahogany timber here there is no way of making it into lumber."

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A HOT TIME IN OLD TOWN.

(Continued from 1st page.)

R. Gray, manager of the Dawson Hardware Company and candidate for alderman on the People's ticket, was first at the bat. He thanked his friends for the honor conferred on him in having selected him as a candidate for alderman and gave it as his belief that his ticket had on it men who had the best interests of the city and Dawson at heart, men who would bend every energy to see that their choice would be elected. He was proud, he said, to be associated with such men as Dr. Norquay, Mr. Vachon, Charles MacDonald and the others. Under the able leadership of such an unpurchasable gentleman as Charles MacDonald the speaker was proud to serve and he considered that success was quite evident. Reference was made to the good system of government of the past year on account of the economic administration of affairs and the quotation about the son having to be next to himself in order to follow the footsteps of the old man was used with telling effect, the simile being employed for the purpose of showing how wise the successful candidates would have to be in order to do as well as their predecessors. (Tumultuous applause from the upper left hand procuring box occupied by the editor of the News, the Duke of Doughty and Tom Chisholm.) The men who can fill the bill must be honorable and fearless and he said that if he and his friends were elected they would labor assiduously for the welfare of the city. The large aggregation of foreign capital in the city must be safeguarded as long as they come within the provisions of the law and pay their just taxes. Without mentioning names the speaker took a couple of lying falls out of the White Pass Company which it was said was exacting every pound of flesh it could and not paying a cent into the public treasury. This should be changed and the taxes which are ours of right should be paid into the treasury of the city of Dawson and not Victoria, Vancouver or Whitehorse. The snow men were pulled over the coals for daring to bring goods into the country which might be bought to an advantage by the small trader who could not afford to buy in 100-ton lots. Mr. Gray would put a heavy tax on the snow men. Then the liquor permit system was taken up without gloves, the opinion being ventured that no one approved of them except those so fortunate to be in possession of one. The Yukon council, he said, had put pants on the youth Dawson and now let the people supply the coal and vest in order that the child may go out in the world properly clothed. The exhortation for every man to put his back in the collar and elect the People's ticket was given and the boosters of the bolters missed a cue where applause was expected and should have been given. Then came the string episode which seems to have become part and parcel of the campaign. With dramatic fervor Mr. Gray proclaimed there were no strings on him and that he was pledged to no man or party, but was free to act and would act to the best of his ability, if elected, in the interest of all classes alike. (Loud applause.)

The chairman of the meeting next gave the Kids an inning, introducing T. G. Wilson, also a candidate for alderman. Mr. Wilson at the beginning apologized for being compelled to refer to his notes and almost immediately knocked his hearers off their seats by declaring he had no policy or platform, but would endeavor to meet all conditions as they arose. He did not propose to make any promises as the present was largely an experimental year and no one knew where they were starting in. He considered the best way was to be free and then do what was for the best interests of the city when the time came to act. In regard to taxation the speaker was in favor of getting after that class of people who do a large business and yet contribute nothing to the municipal coffers. Reference was made to the Kids and the great fear felt by everyone that if they got into office they would first go after the spoils in sight. Mr. Wilson assured the audience that such fears were preposterous, but the lack of applause showed that upon that point the bulk of those present were from Missouri and would have to be shown. D. Donaghy had said he was a friend of the man with the pick and the speaker made a like claim inasmuch as he was once one of them. Mr. Wilson has great faith in the future of Dawson and expects to see here nestled down 'neath the babbling Klondike a second Johannesburg in less than a decade. Within 30 miles of Dawson was the largest body of

how grade ore in the world and there was no question but that Dawson eventually would be the leading mining city in the universe. Franchises here would be valuable and consequently must be guarded. In concluding the speaker stated he had been nominated by the wage working class and if there was to be any scratching done on election day scratch him and vote the balance of the ticket straight. (Loud cheers.)

At this time the Kids had a round, likewise the bolters, who call themselves the People's party, and it was the Citizens' ticket next up in the person of Herbert E. A. Robertson, an elegant and logical speaker. Said he:

"Mr. Chairman and gentlemen. The last speaker has referred to the faith we have in Dawson, but he is not alone in his faith in our city.

Everyone here must feel and does feel the greatest faith in the camp. The question is, who shall best safeguard and govern the interests of Dawson? We have lately become incorporated and on the 6th of February we must vote for a mayor and council. I am before you representing what is known as the Citizens' ticket—a ticket composed of those who believe and must be carefully safeguarded."

"The last speaker stated he had no platform, but I don't see why and how any speaker can come before you and say so. (Loud and continued applause.) You must have a platform when you go before the public. It is an easy matter for a candidate to say 'you can never tie me down to any one thing,' but that is a theory which will not hold good in practice. I have been asked what our platform is and gentlemen I propose to read it to you as published in two of the city papers. The first paragraph is, 'An honest administration, economy, a consistent with progression.' Now, a great many people think that taxes will be lessened when the city is incorporated. They should stop to consider that at least this year the expenses of carrying on the administration will amount to considerable. The cost of incorporating Dawson will fall upon the people this year. Paragraph 2 of our platform says: 'The general improvement of the city streets, lighting, sidewalks, etc., consistent with a reasonable expenditure.' You all know that we will always be in favor of keeping the streets of Dawson in good repair and the general improvement of them. Paragraph 3 is: 'No salaries for aldermen.' We do not approve of salaries for aldermen, an item which will effect some saving and give us more money to run the town."

Mr. Robertson read the remaining paragraphs of his party's platform, speaking to each plank as read. Referring to the saloon licenses and the permit system, he said:

"We believe the city council should have absolute control of all saloon licenses. A great deal is heard of the permit system. At the present time the government controls the saloons in every way and a great many people do not believe in that. We are in favor of the same system employed on the outside, namely, that the city should control the saloons."

"Then there are the franchises—electric light, water and similar ones. Incorporation means that the city will take the place of the Yukon council in the handling of the franchises. We shall see that the health ordinance shall be strictly carried out. We shall also see to the proper distribution of taxes. One man should not bear the whole burden and let his neighbor escape, and no man should say he should not be taxed, but rather let me pay my share and no more." We are in favor of a complete system of fire inspection.

"In the matter of the permit system, like Mr. Wilson, are in favor of abolishing it. We believe that every line should have the same privileges and the saloon man should have the right of buying in whatever market he pleases and doing his own importing after paying whatever custom and excise dues that are fair and just. I believe the Citizens' ticket is a good one and we have at the head of it a representative business man, a gentleman whom we want for our mayor. That gentleman is Mr. Henry Macaulay. (Loud and continued cheers.) I am sure that all of you who know Mr. Macaulay know that he is a business man of irreproachable integrity and an honor to the city of Dawson. Since coming here he has been a successful business man, and that is one of the strongest points in his favor and why he should be put at the head of affairs in Dawson." (Intense applause.)

Charles MacDonald was next introduced, being greeted with a generous amount of applause by his friends and supporters. The speaker first apologized for being late and then squared matters by telling the assembly he knew they had been abundantly entertained. Mr. MacDonald was not in his usual good form, showing considerable evidence of over-training and possibly carrying too much weight.

In the course of his remarks Mr. MacDonald told the audience the pleasure he experienced in coming before them, as he always found them a reasoning people open to conviction. The election of February 6 was dwelt on for a moment and the present pretty kettle of fish Dawson has on her hands was laughingly referred to. One might imagine a kingdom was at stake or a republic tottering to its fall, but after all it was only a little thing that was creating such a devil of a row. Merely the election of a mayor and six aldermen. Mr. MacDonald deprecated the use of unkind words in the campaign and hoped that

lose your temper. He freely stated the stand he had taken in the last election, declaring he was not prepared to disenfranchise himself and say he would have no vote or voice in the control of civic affairs in the city in which he paid his taxes. He spoke of the two organizations which were formed and of his affiliation with the Kid Committee. After election he considered the matter as settled and that both organizations should have disbanded, and regretted they had not done so.

Concerning his candidature for mayor, at the hands of the Kids he declared at the time he would not allow his name to go before that convention as a candidate, not because he had no friends among them or did not believe in the principle upon which they were at the time acting.

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but—well, because, and if the nomination had been tendered him by the Taxpayers Committee his attitude would have been the same. He does not believe in bringing politics into municipal affairs. Bad business. Regarding the objections which had been given to him standing as a candidate for mayor, Mr. MacDonald said it had been charged he was a Liberal in politics, a charge to which he pleaded guilty with extenuating circumstances. It was also charged that he held a position under the Dominion of Canada, which he submitted was no crime. He elected and it came to a choice between the two positions he would stick to Dawson through thick and thin. The speaker also declared he was not under the thumb of Commissioner Ross or anyone else. The cost of transportation and insurance was touched upon, also city franchises, and amidst much huzzahs the silver-tongued orator resumed his seat.

During his speech Mr. MacDonald studiously avoided making any reference to Mr. Macaulay or the Citizens' ticket, though he frequently alluded to Dr. Thompson and the Kid ticket, a slight so apparent that it cost him and his party many votes which otherwise might have been theirs. Mr. Macaulay followed, his appearance being greeted with cheers that were deafening. While waiting for silence he stood without embarrassment before the large crowd, smiling at the immense popularity and enthusiasm shown him. His remarks were concise and well chosen, such as would be expected from the successful man of business that he is. He said:

"This is the first time in my life that I have put a foot on a public platform, and I come here under considerable difficulty, you will admit. I have not been trained as others have who have spoken, and you will have to overlook my infirmities. I come before you as a business man. I belong to the party who were once the taxpayers, but who are now known as the Citizens' party—(loud applause.) I tried to infuse harmony into the political situation, and only have two tickets, but now you have got three. All I have to say is that I hope you will make a good selection. I cannot get into a parliamentary carter, like my friend, Mr. MacDonald, but I am going to hit right on business lines (hear, hear, and applause.) I will touch on a matter referred to by Mr. Gray. That is the

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scow question. We must not impose a hardship upon certain people, certain merchants of Dawson, in this respect. I am a merchant of Dawson, and have always advocated giving the merchants some protection, but we must not crowd out the small merchants, who bring their goods down in order to avoid the prevailing high freight rates.

"I presume I am classed as one of the members of the 'whisky trust' (laughter.) If you take away the saloon men from my support, I do not see but what I am cutting my own throat, but I am acting in the interests of the people of Dawson. I have no strings on me. (Loud laughter and applause.) When I am carried to the polls on election day—as I have every reason to believe I will be—(loud cheers.) I will work only for the interests of the city of Dawson. I will substantiate at all times this fact, that if the confidence of the people is placed in me I will do my duty to the best of my ability."

Dr. Alfred Thomson was next introduced. As one would say of a singer, the doctor was in good voice and he carried with him to the front of the stage a bunch of the brightest and most pointed shafts of sarcasm he has ever yet turned loose, referring to Mr. MacDonald as the 12-inch bore gun of the opposition. He spoke of the speaker immediately preceding having ignored Mr. Macaulay and the Citizens' ticket in his remarks, and opined that in the coming election they would be heard from, and most emphatically, too. The part Mr. MacDonald had played with the Kid Committee prior to the last election was gone into without gloves during

which dissection there was much laughter at the expense of the People's party candidate. The speaker referred to the seceders from their ranks after the late election, remarking that all they had left of their late secretary was his cast-off clothes. He spoke of his ticket and the material it contained, and like his predecessors disclaimed any strings being attached to either him or any of his fellow candidates.

Peter Vachon followed with a short address, claiming the present to be his first offense in politics. He had earned the nomination only at the earnest solicitation of many of his friends and if elected would do his duty to the best of his ability.

J. E. Binet spoke in French, winding up by saying "If you can't vote for me vote for Max Landerville and James McKinnon anyhow."

Thas. Adair said "It will not take me long to tell you where I stand. I will make no pre-election promises, but am simply here to support the ticket I am on as I think it is the best one."

George Murphy said "All I will say is that if elected to office I will use the same zealous care in performing my duty as I do in conducting my own business."

James McKinnon and Max Landerville, both stated their belief in the boldness and perfect righteousness of

the Kids' ticket, the former having loose a considerable quantity of hair on the question of bribery and corruption.

J. U. Nicol said he stood as one of the Citizens' ticket which he considered the most representative and best presented. If elected he will do his utmost to fill the office in an honorable and business like manner.

Following Mr. Nicol the chairman announced that he would grant ten minutes each to any one from the audience who might wish to address the meeting and instantly there arose such a chorus of voices that one could not be distinguished from the other. D. Donaghy, who resented being chaffed as the man with the pick, first up and was followed by J. P. Sugrue, F. M. Shepard, Charles Binet, D. A. Macrae and others.

Shortly before adjourning the chairman read a wire from the outside bearing the information of the action which had befallen Major Woodhouse and a vote of sympathy was unanimously taken with instructions to forward it to Halifax. The meeting came to a close at 11 o'clock with three cheers for the King.

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