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The Preparatory School Debaters.

CHENEY NORMAL VS. W. A. C.

The second annual debate between the State Normal School at Cheney and the preparatory department of the College, took place at Cheney last Thursday night. The question discussed was "Should the United States exercise no other authority in the Philippines than that which is necessary to prevent their invasion and subjugation by any other nation." Cheney maintained the affirmative, and was represented by L. A. Lewis, G. Stiles and R. E. Trumble. Pullman's debaters were A. S. Morgan, J. L. Ashlock and F. A. Wester.

L. A. Lewis opened the debate by showing that the Philippine Islands are of no benefit from a commercial standpoint because their location is not favorable for trade, that Manila is not in line of our steamers, it is out of the way to China, and we could never control China's trade through that port. He dwelt on the expense of keeping the Philippines, and the number of men necessary, and asked why not apply this vast expense to the arid lands of our own country?" He then compared the revenue with the expense, and stated that for every \$105 of expense we get \$1 profit, and that that goes to the brewers of Milwaukee beer. He said that China's trade was not of great value, and that the United States could not compete with Great Britain in that market; that the Filipinos trade with other countries more than with the United States, and that trade does not follow the flag. The speaker did well, and was interrupted by applause several times.

Mr. Morgan said: "Through circumstances unavoidable we came into possession of the Philippines." He then related the history of the Dewey fight and alluded to his personal experience in seeing the flag raised over Manila. If time proves our mistake in keeping the islands, we can make it good any time; but if we make a mistake in letting them go, we can never retrieve the loss. We were able to take part in the military operations in China because we had an army close at hand, and the islands would prove of great value in another such emergency. He showed the value of the islands by a chart. There are still 71,000,000 acres of land unsettled, the commerce of 1900 amounted to \$53,000,000, and the possibilities of the mining industry were immense. He mentioned the value of Hong Kong in promoting England's trade, and that showed how the Philippines would promote our trade in Asia, which is our natural market, it being closer to us than Germany or England.

G. Stiles followed, contending that a colonial policy is not consistent with our form of government. He said the governing of the islands would bring about foreign complications, and made much of the idea that liberty is a natural right of man.

Mr. Ashlock in rebuttal maintained that the Filipinos are incapable of self government. They have no statesmen, and without education, without a common language, and without communication between the various provinces, independence is out of the question.

Mr. Trumble maintained that it

was not just for one nation to legislate for another. He claimed that the Filipinos have a satisfactory government.

Mr. Wester is said to have made the best argument for the negative. He did some good rebuttal work, and said that we had a duty in the islands, to the natives and to the world.

After a couple of spicy rebuttals, the judges, Rev. Frye, Rev. Schlauch, and Prof. Brisco, all of Spokane, gave their decision in favor of the affirmative.

DAVENPORT HIGH SCHOOL VS.
W. A. C.

On Friday night the other Preparatory School team, consisting of V. E. Kuhn, C. F. Bense, and H. C. Todd, met Miss Bertha Johnson, Earl Phillips and Fred Hittman, of the Davenport high school. The question in the case was: "Would it be sound public policy for congress to legalize contracts allowing railroads to pool their earnings, provided the inter-state commerce commission had the power to abrogate such contracts whenever in their opinion it became necessary to do so?"

Mr. Kuhn opened the debate by saying that great evils exist under the present system. He used as an example the southern freight rate war of 1894, when rates went below cost of transportation to show the disastrous result of competition between parallel lines. He said that the next great evil is discrimination, which is the building up of one shipper at the expense of another. Wealthy shippers receive these rebates, and this builds up large companies and trusts. He quoted the