The late 1890s and early 1900s were the heyday of mass circulation newspapers in expanding American cities. Advances in typesetting and color printing made it possible to print massive runs of low-priced newspapers and magazines. Judge and Puck were two popular magazines published in New York and distributed nationally.

Press barons competed in circulation wars with sensationalistic stories about the conflict in Spanish Cuba and eye-catching graphics including colorful political cartoons. William Randolph Hearst, who owned the New York Journal and the San Francisco Examiner, was an enthusiastic supporter of the war with Spain and the war in the Philippines that followed. His, and his rival Joseph Pulitzer’s sensationalistic New York World, were called “Yellow Journalism” after a popular cartoon called The Yellow Kid that both published during a circulation war in New York in 1897. By 1898, the Journal and the World were each selling 800,000 papers daily in New York City.

American cartoonists reduced Filipinos to caricatures of African savages and squalling infants. U.S. political and military figures were depicted as strong white men. U.S. congressional opponents of the war in the Philippines and the Anti-Imperialist League were derided as meddlesome old women and mocked as “aunties”.

These political cartoons from the Abe Ignacio Collection of Filipiniana were published in

**THE FORBIDDEN BOOK:**
**THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR IN POLITICAL CARTOONS**

Abe Ignacio, Enrique de la Cruz, Jorge Emmanuel, Helen Toribo
San Francisco: T’Boli Publishing, 2004
The San Francisco Examiner illuminated its offices at Market and Third to welcome the troops returning from the Philippines in 1899. William Randolph Hearst, who owned the Examiner, was an enthusiastic supporter of the war with Spain and the war in the Philippines.

*The Society of California Pioneers, San Francisco*
“THE FORBIDDEN BOOK”

The late 1890s and early 1900s were the heyday of mass circulation newspapers in growing American cities. Advances in typesetting and color printing made it possible to print massive runs of low-priced newspapers and magazines. Papers competed in circulation wars with sensationalistic stories and eye-catching graphics including colorful political cartoons.

*Chicago Chronicle / The Forbidden Book*
THE FILIPINO’S FIRST BATH
Grant Hamilton
Judge, New York, June 10, 1899

Here President William McKinley scrubs a Filipino savage with a brush labeled “Education” in the cleansing waters of “Civilization”. A freshly scrubbed Cuba and Porto Rico in the background are donning new clothes decorated with the U.S. stars and stripes.
SMASHED!
Dalrymple
Puck, March 8, 1899

A demonic looking President Emilio Aguinaldo riding the hobbyhorse of Dictatorship is smashed by the gloved fist of the United States military. A U.S. Navy battleship is visible on the horizon.
The U.S. pro-imperialists contended that allowing the Philippine Republic its independence would disgrace the American military. Here U.S. sailors and soldiers offer the sword of surrender to an imperious Aguinaldo and his primitive entourage while the stars and stripes trails in the dust.
INFORMATION WANTED
Grant Hamilton
Judge, June 11, 1898

A startled Uncle Sam holds a crying black orphan wearing a tag from Admiral Dewey. American cartoonists consistently, and erroneously, depicted Filipinos as African savages and as crying children. The caption “Information Wanted” is more truthful than the cartoonist probably intended for it is true that the United States knew almost nothing about the diverse peoples it had suddenly adopted.
A TRIFLE EMBARRASSED
Keppler & Schwarzmann
Puck, August 3, 1898

The strong white arms of Manifest Destiny deliver Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines to an orphanage run by Uncle Sam and Columbia. Inside the gates, Mexico, Texas, California and Alaska play together happily. Manifest Destiny was a catchphrase coined by Democratic journalist John L. Sullivan in 1845 when urging that the U.S. annex the Republic of Texas because it was “our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions”. The phrase was revived in the 1890s by advocates of U.S. trans-Pacific expansion.
“THE WHITE MAN’S BURDEN”

Victor Gillam
Judge, 1899

“The White Man’s Burden: The United States and the Philippine Islands” is a poem written by English poet Rudyard Kipling and published in McClure’s magazine in February, 1899. It urged the United States to “Send forth the best ye breed... To serve your captives’ need.” In this cartoon, a sweating Uncle Sam carries a hamper with his new, non-white dependant people. He follows in the footsteps of British John Bull carrying the peoples of the British Empire and China. Their common goal is “Education” and “Liberty.”
AND, AFTER ALL, THE PHILIPPINES ARE ONLY THE STEPPING-STONE TO CHINA

E. Flohri
Judge, March 21, 1900

Uncle Sam, carrying a book entitled Education and Religion, brings railroads and modern industrial goods to China which awaits him with open arms. The cartoon justifies the U.S. occupation of the Philippines as a stepping stone in this trade. But as a matter of fact, the U.S.’s principal trans-Pacific trading partner was Japan, not China.
TROUBLE AHEAD FOR THE TRAINER

J. S. Pughe

_Puck_, date unknown

President Theodore Roosevelt is shown as a muscular circus trainer brandishing a whip and controlling domestic economic monopolies ("Trusts"), the Republican Party (the elephant), the Dominican Republic (San Domingo), Panama (a stubborn donkey) and the Philippines caricatured as a black savage. Progressive Republican TR pursued both a reformist economic policy at home and an imperialist policy abroad.
IT'S UP TO THEM
Keppler
Puck, December 24, 1902

Uncle Sam offers the Filipinos a choice: either adopting the English language and American ways (the school teacher with her books) or facing well-armed American troops. As it turned out, the Philippines got both.
THE IDOL OF THE AUNTIES
Keppler & Schwarzmann
*Puck*, May 10, 1899

The Anti-Imperialists, derided as “aunties” by the pro-expansionists, throw flowers and kneel before a demonic caricature of President Emilio Aguinaldo.
OUR BUSY OLD WOMEN
Keppler & Schwarzmnn
Puck, March 22, 1899

The Anti-Imperialists in Congress and the press were mocked as old women by the pro-imperialists. Here the anti-imperialists attempt to pull down a proud statue of President McKinley and the U.S. Army and Navy.