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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

President Roosevelt's message to Congress is unusually lengthy, even for documents of this kind. But those who desire to keep posted on the affairs of their country, can profitably take time to read it carefully. It treats on nearly every subject of public interest.

After briefly referring to the era of prosperity the country enjoys, President Roosevelt recommends a law prohibiting corporations from contributing to the campaign expenses of any political party. Individuals may contribute, but not corporations.

His next recommendation is that a bill, which has passed one house of Congress, be enacted into law conferring upon the government the right of appeal in criminal cases in questions of law. It seems an absurdity, he says, to permit a district judge to declare a law unconstitutional and then deny the government the right to have the Supreme court decide the question. The importance of the enactment into law of this bill is further shown by the fact that the government is resorting to the criminal law in its proceedings against certain violators of the interstate commerce law.

In connection with this matter, attention is called to the habit of setting aside judgments of inferior courts on technicalities, and the recommendation is made that no judgment be set aside, unless it shall appear that the error complained of has resulted in a miscarriage of justice.

The next recommendation deals with injunctions. President Roosevelt expresses the belief that it would be wrong to prohibit the use of injunctions, entirely, but that the power of the courts should not be abused. He also points out that judges do not claim immunity from criticism, but that the opportunity to criticize judicial action is of vastly more importance than the immunity from unjust aspersions and attacks.

On the question of trespass by Japanese vessels engaged in pelagic sealing, the President explains that the Japanese government has given assurance that measures will be taken to prevent recurrence of such trespasses, and that the American guard will be increased. Efforts are further being made to secure the co-operation of Great Britain for the protection of the seals.

Referring to the second Hague conference, the message explains why it was postponed till some future date. This leads to a dissertation upon peace and war, in which the opinion is expressed that war is sometimes necessary, and that it is criminal not to be prepared to fight for the right.

"This leads to recommendations concerning the navy and army. The United States navy is the surest guarantor of peace which the country possesses. But the President does not ask that we continue to increase it, but that we maintain its present strength. As for the army officers, they should be given opportunities to perfect themselves as commanders, by permitting troops to be massed in body and exercised in maneuvers, particularly in marching.

On the race problem the President gives excellent advice to the negroes and denounces lynching as one of the crimes against both present and future generations. Justice, he says, should be sure and swift, but under the law.

Dealing with the subject of capital and labor, the message points out the infinite harm done by the preachers of discontent. "These," the President says, "are the men who seek to excite a violent class hatred against all men of wealth." He goes on to denounce demagogues and agitators in plain terms that are singularly applicable to all individuals of that pestiferous class, and not only to those who infest the labor field.

Recommendation is made for the passage of an eight-hour bill for the benefit of railroad employees, and other laborers as far as practicable. An exception is made for Panama, where an eight-hour day would be an absurdity. It is also urged that Congress provide for an investigation of the conditions under which women and children are employed. The rights of states to settle this matter is recognized, but an investigation would greatly aid in the solution of the problem.

Passing on to the question of labor disputes, compulsory investigation of controversies between employers and employees is recommended. Statistics are given to prove the enormous losses caused by strikes.

The President recommends legislation providing that all coal lands be withdrawn from entry, and that the title to such lands remain in the government. They could then be worked by individuals under a royalty system, the government seeing that no excessive price be charged the consumers. This would include supervision of the rates to be charged by the common carriers.

Further extension of government control of corporations is thought necessary, but it is suggested that the laws already enacted regarding interstate commerce, pure food, and railroad rates be tested before further steps are taken. Some method, it is said, must be found, whereby a stop will be put to the securing of immediate profits by favored individuals at the expense of the public, the stockholders, or the wage workers.

Combination of capital, like combination of labor, the message says, is a necessary element of our present industrial system. It cannot be prevented, but it should be controlled so that it can do no injury to the public.

A graduated inheritance tax and, if possible, a graduated income tax are recommended, on the ground that the man of great wealth owes a peculiar obligation to the state.

Commercial and industrial training in the schools is recommended as necessary to national development. Several paragraphs are devoted to the interests of agriculture, and forestry, and an appropriation is asked for the erection of a memorial amphitheater at Arlington, as a fitting monument to the soldier and sailor dead buried there.

Then the President takes up the question of marriage and divorce, and recommends that it be relegated to the authority of Congress. This, he says, would confer on Congress the power to deal radically and efficiently also with polygamy. A Constitutional amendment is recommended, to transfer the authority to deal with all questions relating to marriage and divorce, including polygamy, from state governments to the Federal government. In this connection the President condemns in strong terms the sin of "race suicide."

Recommendations are made concerning the development of American shipping, currency reform, and American outlying possessions. National banks, it is suggested, may be authorized to issue a specified proportion of their capital in notes. The trouble seems to be now that money accumulates too rapidly some times and then there is a lack of it at other times, and a temporary increase would remedy this. As for the Filipinos, their capacity for self-government will be tested soon by summoning the first Filipino legislative assembly, and if they stand the test, their privileges will be increased. The Porto Ricans, the President says, should be given American citizenship, and the affairs of all the islands should be under the direction of one department. The needs of the Hawaiian Islands and Alaska, he adds, should be met.

The Japanese question is discussed at some length. The President emphasizes the necessity of being fair to all nations and treating all immigrants with justice and good will. He criticizes the hostile attitude assumed in some localities toward the Japanese. This, he says, is discreditable to us as a people. The wonderful progress of Japan is pointed out, and our traditional friendship for the Japanese is illustrated. Fair treatment for them and all aliens is asked for in the name of humanity and civilization. The recommendation is further made that an act be passed providing for the naturalization of Japanese. It is also recommended that the President be empowered to protect aliens who have rights under treaties, although it is believed that even in the absence of special legislation, there is no doubt of the power of the Federal government to enforce its own obligations to other nations.

As for Cuba, a brief review of the insurrection there is offered and the assurance is given that when a government with power to keep order is established, the provisional government will be at an end. The United States, the President adds, wishes nothing of Cuba except that it shall prosper morally and materially, and wishes nothing of the Cubans save that they shall be able to preserve order among themselves and therefore to preserve their independence.

After having paid due attention to the pan-American congress and Secretary Root's visit to the South American republics, the Monroe doctrine, as declared by Secretary Root in an address to the pan-American congress is reiterated.

"We wish for no victories but those of peace; for no territory except our own; for no sovereignty except the sovereignty over ourselves. We deem the independence and equal rights of the smallest and weakest member of the family of nations entitled to as much respect as those of the greatest empire, and we deem the observance of that respect the chief guaranty of the strong. We neither claim nor desire any rights or privileges or powers that we do not freely concede to every American republic."

"This," the message says, "will be the world's formal and final acceptance of the declaration that no part of the American continents is to be deemed subject to colonization." The Drago doctrine finally receives attention. This relates to the collection of debts from small nations, by the aid of armed forces.

THE SCHOOL ELECTION.

The Los Angeles Express, in its plea for non-partisanship, points out that a schoolboard of that character was elected two years ago, and that it has proved eminently satisfactory. "School affairs have been taken out of the hands of political bosses and grafters, and the schools, in consequence, have been run without scandal, and in an economical and business-like manner," says the Express.

The same can be said truly of the school affairs of this city. But a change is proposed in the interest of party manipulators. It is proposed to deprive a large portion of the community of their voice in the management of the schools as every citizen is entitled to, in order that places as teachers and other positions may be at the disposal of politicians. Are the citizens of this city prepared to turn the schools over to plotters with such aims and purposes?

Do not suppose that we are exaggerating. They have openly declared their intention of barring every "Mormon" from the office of school trustee. But that is only the first step. The next is to close the school room to all teachers who belong to the Church, and then dismiss every employee who is not in the service of the alleged American party. The voters will have to decide next Wednesday whether they are willing to bar one class of citizens from every privilege of citizenship except that of paying taxes. They must decide whether they want the schools rescued from the vortex of political agitation into which it is proposed to hurl them. It is a dangerous experiment to establish a religious test. If members of one church are ostracized at one time, members of other churches may find themselves in the same predicament at some other time, whenever demagogues

succeed in turning public opinion in the direction they desire. To avoid the flagrant violation of American principles, and the establishment of a dangerous precedent, vote for non-partisan schools, for clean, honest business methods. No attention need be paid to the twaddle about Church control, which is depended upon to make votes for the un-American ticket, although it is well known that that kind of "control" is a spectre without real existence. The constant harping upon alleged Church control ought to have an effect opposite to that which is intended. For, it should be evident to every sane person that a party that relies on fiction and falsehood for support is self-condemned and not worthy of a following. You cannot expect an honest administration from a party that unscrupulously lies itself into power, any more than you can hope to gather "grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles."

FOR REFORM.

It now appears that some of the ministers of this city have made up their mind to make war upon the Sunday saloon business, which is being carried on in flagrant violation of law and defiance of the best sentiment of the community. The conclusion has been arrived at somewhat late, but the stand taken will, nevertheless, commend itself to a majority of the public. What about the Sunday amusement evil? This, too, ought to receive proper attention. In its bad effects upon public morality, it is a near relative of the Sunday saloon evil. We heartily commend the ministers for taking a decided stand, as they ought to have done long ago, in favor of reform, and we hope they will succeed.

It is possible that in the pursuance of this course they will meet with serious difficulties. They must remember that the party responsible for the evils referred to has been placed in power by the aid of the element that is financially interested in the maintenance of those evils, and that it depends upon the continuation in power on the same element. The consequence is that its hired servants will do all in their power to evade the compliance with the laws and ordinances relating to the regulation of the liquor traffic, etc. It is quite possible that the ministerial reformers, supposing that they are honest, in their efforts, will become convinced that the only way of attaining the end desired is by "overturning the party of corruption and graft, and delegating the administration of the affairs of the city to men who can be trusted in responsible places. The citizens of Salt Lake had a similar experience some years ago. The city had been captured by unscrupulous politicians, and the result was that vice and crime flourished, until it became evident to citizens of all parties that there was no other remedy than united non-partisan action, and by that means the city was, for the time being, saved.

"The liquor evil is one, that presents many difficulties. Every community has felt its influence at one time or another. Everywhere the liquor interests are seeking to obtain power. Governor Folk of Missouri has proposed a radical remedy. He found the saloons running wide open Sunday and the breweries dictating politics. In order to overcome this evil he will ask the legislature to give the Governor the power, when a prosecuting attorney fails to enforce the law, to appoint a special prosecuting officer to take charge of the enforcement of that law in the county, and if the neglect is particularly flagrant, to suspend, or remove, the prosecuting attorney or the sheriff and appoint men who will enforce the law. That is a rather drastic measure, and the wisdom of allowing one official to meddle with the duties of another, may be questioned, but the fact that Governor Folk is contemplating it, is evidence that he recognizes the difficulty in dealing with the liquor problem.

THE INDEPENDENT VOTER.

A contributor to Farm and Fireside sees in the general results of the November elections a proof that voters are becoming more independent of party dictation than they used to be. He says:

"It seems to me that the elections of this year plainly show that the average voter is becoming more independent and less bound by party labels and party bosses. The man who owns his home, either in the country or village, and reads the better class of papers is the most independent of all the voters. If the ticket gotten out by his party contains the name of one or more rabid radicals, or of men who are stubbornly opposed to progress and reforms plainly demanded, he does not hesitate a moment about scratching them off and voting for men of another party. This class of voters is steadily increasing in numbers, and they hold the balance of power. They have learned that a party label on a ticket does not make every man on that ticket the best man for the place, but that the other ticket sometimes has men on it that are better, and the frantic appeals of partisan papers and campaign orators have no effect on them. What a grand thing it is for the country to have such a large and powerful conservative class in it, to check the wild career of shallow-brained radicals and self-seeking demagogues, and to quietly set aside short-sighted political autocrats who stubbornly stand in the way of enlightened progress!"

If independent voting ever is called for, it is when the schools are in danger of becoming the prey of grafters. That is the situation in this city at the present time. Every citizen interested in good schools, an honest administration, and non-partisan appointments, should do his duty tomorrow and vote for men who can be depended upon to do what is right. Save the schools from the political strife that is being kept up by demagogues, whose forte is the dissemination of falsehood. Save the children from the influence of hypocritical scandal-mongers!

Throughout his message the President used the reform spelling.

The people who are short of coal, and their name is legion, are heaping coals of fire on the coal companies' heads.

There was never anything rotter in Denmark than the acquisition of coal lands in Utah by some big concerns.

Sarah Bernhardt's finances are said to be sadly reduced. Why doesn't she

or an agent call upon Mrs. Russell Sage?

Terry McGovern, prizefighter, has called at the White House to pay his respects to the President. How this will fill with envy Gans, Nelson and Britt!

Chairman Shonts says that President Roosevelt took the people of Panama by storm. Press dispatches stated that it was storming during his visit to the isthmus.

It is not unlikely that the Congressional Record will contain the old fashioned and the simplified spelling. Why not? It contains all kinds of grammar and rhetoric.

It would be worse than folly to try and make martyrs out of the colored soldiers who "shot up" Brownsville. The men directly concerned were essentially ruffians and nothing else.

There has just been laid in England the keel of a more powerful battleship than the Dreadnought. How this will set our biggest battleship naval authorities scratching their heads. They should be permitted to scratch for some time.

Tomorrow the school election occurs. The result intimately concerns every citizen. A desperate attempt is being made by the "Americans," who are open, avowedly and aggressively partisan, to capture them. Their almost fanatical zeal to get control of the schools shows whether or not they would make them partisan if given an opportunity. The schools are and have been non-partisan. Keep them so.

TO KEEP MARRIAGE SACRED.

Indianapolis News.
The Elks of Richmond did a good thing in gracefully acceding to the request of ministers that a spectacular wedding be omitted from their carnival. This popular order has grown greatly in public esteem during recent years, and in this action, as in others, shows itself amenable to consideration of decorum. Everything that organizations of this sort can do to recognize the sacredness of the marriage vow and the solemnity of the wedding ceremony should be done. The vogue of divorce is due to nothing else more than to the low esteem in which marriage is held by numbers of our citizens, an estimate which is reflected in riotous ceremonies in public or private hippodrome weddings and scandalous charivaris. Marriage is not a lark, or a vehicle for the display of wealth or the suitable occasion for hilarious sport and ribald jest. There is no sweeter or more sacred thing in life than the union of a good man to an innocent, loving girl. Many of the uproarious weddings that eventually issue in divorce, or mutual toleration of immorality that is perhaps worse than divorce, are but travesties on this ideal union. The clergy of other cities as well as Richmond can honor their cloth in no more praiseworthy way than to discourage such marriages by every means at their command.

AN ODD STRIKE.

New York Tribune.
Greece is threatened with an odd strike. At a public meeting the physicians and druggists of Athens declared that their profession would soon be reduced to starvation. Many physicians of the city are actually in straits because of the ever-increasing clinics where patients receive free treatment. The disciples of Esculapius intend, therefore, to strike, unless the government prevents the further establishment of clinics and permits them to increase their fees from two drachmas to three drachmas (a drachma is about 15 cents). Although the nation is in effect a combatant of the medical profession, it was finally carried by a great majority and the strike will probably go into effect soon.

THE LOOSE SCREW.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
Somebody advertises "this new apple butter." A screw must be loose somewhere when an apple crop is said to be so large that the owners of the orchards are compelled to sell for less than cost. With proper management not a bushel of apples would be wasted. But the apple trust method is to pay a miserable pittance for the wholesome fruit that everybody wants, and then demand a profit of not less than 200 or 300 per cent.

JUST FOR FUN.

Her Meal Ticket.
Oh pity Bont Castellane
He hath a right to kick, it
Will rattle him to get his meals
Since he has lost his ticket.
—Lewis in Houston Post.

A Large Contributor.

"I have called ma'am," said the man at the front door, "to ask if you can't contribute something to the infant's home."

"I am already contributing nineteen hours a day to an infant's home of my own, sir," she interrupted, closing the door.—Chicago Leader.

Passing It Along.

"Do you give your son good advice?" said the solicitous friend.
"Yes," answered the somewhat sardonic person. "I give him the same advice that my father gave me and that my grandfather gave him. If we keep passing that advice along from generation to generation perhaps we shall eventually find somebody who will take it.—Washington Star.

His Costly Mistake.

"How did Jinx happen to buy his wife that beautiful set of furs?"
"He kissed her in the dark hallway thinking she was the hired girl."
"Geel! I wonder what he bought the girl!"—Houston Post.

When Election Time Comes 'Round.

Fairman—Those ignorant foreigners should not be allowed to vote.
Wardman—Yes, they look so much alike I can't tell which ones I've given two-dollar bills to, and which I haven't.

REXALL BLEMISH SOAP.

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The Rinaldos, Kinodrome.
Every evening (except Sunday) 7c.
Sat. 10c. Box seats \$1.00. Matinees
Daily Except Sunday and Monday 50c
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TONIGHT!
Matinee Wednesday, 3 p. m.
JAMES KYRLE MACCURDY IN
THE Old Clothes Man
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MR. THEODORE LORCH IN "BEWARE OF MEN."

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"The best of all plays."
"THE LITTLE MINISTER"
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No increase in prices. Night 10c,
20c, 30c. Matinee 10c, 20c.
Ladies' Souvenir Matinee Wed-
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Music by Held's Military Band.

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Both men are fast.

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GREAT REDUCTIONS ALL THIS WEEK.
An important sale of Millinery that will gain even greater prestige when you see the styles. Every Hat in the department included in the price-cutting—you will be surprised at the exceptional values offered.
All Pattern Hats, beautiful and exquisite designs, will be sold during the week at.....**HALF PRICE**
One lot of Hats, not many to choose from, so come early, regular price from \$3.00 to \$8.00, while they last.....**HALF PRICE**
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