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Recommendation and Law.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer tabulates the recommendations made by President Roosevelt to the Fifty-eighth Congress, and finds that of twenty-six specific propositions urged upon that body, only two, the Philippine tariff bill and the increase of the navy, have become law. Unfavorable conclusions are drawn to Mr. Roosevelt's influence with Congress.

This method of argument, if argument can be called, is unfair. Mr. Roosevelt did his duty and pleasure in making recommendations. Congress had its own duty to perform, in its own time and way.

A Congress which should be the puppet and echo of the Executive would be perhaps a dangerous, and certainly a despicable, body.

The country will not suffer loss, even of sleep, because Congress, which is supposed to be deliberative, is deliberate.

The Santo Domingo treaty, perhaps the most important measure proposed by Mr. Roosevelt, is being pondered by the Senate with the care the subject demands. That is one of the twenty-four propositions catalogued as rejected addresses by our Cleveland contemporary.

Another is the railroad rate bill. The impulsive passage of that bill by the House of Representatives was, next to "constructive mileage," the suffocation of that bill by the Senate was one of the Senate's many and most useful services to the country.

A President ought not to have too much "influence" upon Congress. But Mr. Roosevelt's influence cannot be guessed from the failure of a dying Congress to stick all or many of his recommendations into the statute book.

One of Labor's Fallacies. The strike of the Interborough street cars serves to illustrate a prevailing fallacy. There is a widespread belief that corporation treasuries are plethoric pockets, owned by individual proprietors whose right hands are kept busy robbing the public while their left hands are actively occupied in oppressing labor and robbing it of its just dues.

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Should a Sea-Level Canal be Cut at Panama? Although it has long been taken for granted that the canal to be constructed on the Isthmus of Panama would be provided with locks, of late a disposition has been evinced in influential quarters to advocate the substitution of a sea-level waterway.

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They are, in fact, regulators who adjust the relations of cost and selling price. They protect the wage earning public against itself by preventing an extravagant increase in the cost of living.

Mr. JAMES J. HILL, of the Great Northern Railway is quoted as having said, in a recent interview, that "the present standard of wages is artificial."

Secretary SHAW has measured prosperity by high prices. Mr. GOMPERS measures it by high wages. So do Mr. PEPPER and Mr. JENCKS. Both views are narrow and unsound.

The strikers who think that his raid is made only on the moneybags of an individual will some day be forced to realize that it is actually made on his own pockets and on the pockets of his kind.

An Opinion From the Far East. The following comment on the situation in the Far East is taken from a personal letter just received from Tokio.

"I do not think the Japanese will follow KUROKAWA beyond Mukden or Tieling. After they get those places, in the spring, they will probably go for Vladivostok by sea, landing a large force north or south of it, and isolating it by cutting the railroad between it and Harbin.

Senator Frawley's Boxing Bill. The last law under which boxing bouts were allowed in New York State was repealed, not because of public opposition to the sport itself, but on account of the scandals which the managers of exhibitions allowed to exist.

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Theatre in New York was acquired through the years when he brought from Germany the dramas of VON MOSEN, VON SCHOENHAYN, BLUMENTHAL and the other farce writers whose plays had so much in common with polite life in our own country.

It has been the experience of almost every theatrical manager to find his chief success in some particular school of the drama. When that is once exploited, prosperity rarely comes again in the same full measure.

More Chicago Sociology. Prof. JAMES H. TUTTS of the University of Chicago has asked of his class in ethics certain questions which some of its members call "personal."

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had at its service a greater wealth of devotion than of money. About ten years ago a woman of slender means, but with the heritage of a great name, gentle nature and a tender heart, went down to the lower East Side to nurse and comfort indigent sufferers from cancer, the most hopeless and terrible of diseases.

Moved by her zeal, a number of women joined in the work of mercy. Some followed her in consecrating themselves wholly to it. A sisterhood was formed, calling itself the Servants of Relief.

It is for the purpose of paying off the small debt on the modest buildings in which these institutions are housed that the lectures are given. This way of going about it is unostentatious and old-fashioned, like the virtues on which the charity is founded.

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MY BUNTING, RIGHT OR WRONG? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: I wish to be correct, and if the term "flag waver" which I used was not the right one I would beg leave to substitute "coasty of Jingkok."

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