

DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE WITH THE PRESERVATION OF OUR FORESTS IS USUALLY SHOWN BY THE RESULTS OF THEM, SAYS ROOSEVELT

executive, carrying out a federal policy, can never be effective in the nation; it can never be effective in the hands of the courts to be left by law.

There are certain places of peculiar interest under our form of government. Respect for the institutions and the preservation of the law is largely conditioned by the respect for the courts. It is an average that the republic that say any judge can weaken this respect, save the gravest reason and in the most fully guarded manner, and the respect for the law is thereby weakened and the respect for the institutions and the preservation of the law is thereby weakened and the respect for the institutions and the preservation of the law is thereby weakened.

below the former watermark, bear testimony to the good days of the past and the evil days of the present. Wherever the native vegetation has been allowed to remain, as, for instance, here on the ancient forest, the timber is still growing and the ground, there are still huge trees and tangled jungle, fragments of the glorious ancient forest. The timbered forest growth formerly covered the mountains to their summits. All natural factors favored this dense forest growth, and as long as it was permitted to exist, the plains at the foot of the mountains were among the most fertile on the globe, and the soil was rich and deep. It was not the slightest effort was made, however, to prevent the unchecked cutting of the forest. Each family, each community, less for many centuries the tree-cutting by the inhabitants of the mountains worked slowly in winning ax and saw the changes that have now come to pass; doubtless for generations the inroads were scarcely noticeable.

Came a Time of Reckoning.

But when the good day of the past had shrunk sufficiently, the evil day of the present, the native vegetation has been allowed to remain, as, for instance, here on the ancient forest, the timber is still growing and the ground, there are still huge trees and tangled jungle, fragments of the glorious ancient forest. The timbered forest growth formerly covered the mountains to their summits. All natural factors favored this dense forest growth, and as long as it was permitted to exist, the plains at the foot of the mountains were among the most fertile on the globe, and the soil was rich and deep. It was not the slightest effort was made, however, to prevent the unchecked cutting of the forest. Each family, each community, less for many centuries the tree-cutting by the inhabitants of the mountains worked slowly in winning ax and saw the changes that have now come to pass; doubtless for generations the inroads were scarcely noticeable.

The wageworkers, the workingmen, the laboring men of the country by the way in which they repudiated the effort to get them to cast their votes in response to an appeal to class hatred, have emphasized their sound patriotism and Americanism. The whole country has cause to feel pride in this attitude of sturdy independence, in this uncompromising insistence upon acting simply as good citizens, as good Americans, without regard to fancied—and improper—class interests. Such an attitude is an object lesson in good citizenship to the entire nation.

Too Late to Remedy.

In northern China this disastrous process has gone on so long and has proceeded so far that no complete remedy could be advised. The area in northern China from which the soil is gone so utterly that only the slow action of the ages could again restore it, although the shrubs still to be found here still further eastward extension of the Mongolian desert. The Chinese government would act at once to prevent the further destruction of the forests. The photographs show the inconceivable desolation of the barren mountains in which certain of the rivers formerly supported dense forests of larches and firs, now unable to produce wood, and because of their condition a source of danger to the whole country. The photographs also show the same rivers after they have passed through mountains, the beds having become broad and sandy because of the deforestation of the mountains. One of the photographs shows a caravan passing through a valley. Formerly, when the mountains were forested, it was thickly peopled by prosperous peasants. Now the mountains are a stony desert. Another photograph shows a mountain road covered with stones and rocks that are brought down in the rainy season from the mountains which have already been deforested. In the foreground a pebbly river bed in southern Manchuria where what was once a great stream has dried up owing to the deforestation in the mountains. Only some scrub wood is left, which will disappear within a half century. Yet another shows a caravan passing through a valley, an arable mountain side, these valleys being due to the removal of all vegetation. It is in this photograph that the destruction of the forests is still a possibility in places.

What has thus happened in northern China, what has happened in Central Asia, in Palestine, in the mountain parts of the Mediterranean countries of Europe, will surely happen in our country if we do not act at once. The chief marks of any people calling itself civilized, nothing should be permitted to destroy the forests, and it is criminal to permit individuals to purchase a little gain for themselves, through the destruction of the well-being of the whole country in the future.

INLAND WATERWAYS.

Action should be begun forthwith, during the present session of the congress, for the improvement of our inland waterways—action which will result in giving us not only a means of saving millions of dollars upon these waterways, yet the means of saving millions of dollars upon the preservation of the forests. This condition is the direct result of the absence of any comprehensive plan of waterway improvement, and thus to expand the revenues of the government without return. It is poor business to spend money for inland navigation unless we get it.

Inquiry into the condition of the Mississippi and its tributaries, the upper waterways of the west, the methods which have hitherto obtained for the so-called "improvement" of navigation, the methods which are supplied by the "improvement" of the Ohio, which, begun in 1824, was continued by the act of 1852, and followed for a quarter of a century. In 1902 still a different plan was adopted, which only promises a navigable river in from twenty to one hundred years longer. The methods which have been steadily followed are accompanied by decreasing water-borne commerce and increasing traffic congestion on land by increasing methods by the waste of public money. The remedy lies in abandoning the methods which have so signally failed and adopting new ones which will meet the needs and demands of our people.

Where Defect Lies.

In a report on a measure introduced at the first session of the present congress, the secretary of war said: "The chief defect in the method of improvement lies in the absence of executive authority for originating comprehensive plans covering the country or parts of it, and in the absence of a permanent detail of the corps of engineers to civilian duty necessarily impairing the efficiency of the military engineers. The military engineers have undoubtedly done efficient work in actual construction, but they are necessary and their training and traditions to take the broad view, and to gather and transmit to the congress the commercial and industrial facts which are necessary to the construction of the waterways. It is not the fault of the military engineers that they have not done this. It is the fault of the government that it has not provided for the construction of the waterways. It is not the fault of the military engineers that they have not done this. It is the fault of the government that it has not provided for the construction of the waterways. It is not the fault of the military engineers that they have not done this. It is the fault of the government that it has not provided for the construction of the waterways.

If there is any one duty which more than another we owe it to our children and our children's children to perform at once, it is to save the forests of this country, for they constitute the first and most important element in the conservation of the natural resources of the country. There are, of course, two kinds of natural resources. One is the kind which can only be used as part of a process of exhaustion; this is true of mines, natural oil and gas wells, and the like. The other, and of course ultimately by far the most important, includes the resources which can be improved in the process of wise use; the soil, the rivers and the forests come under this head. Any really civilized nation will so use all of these three great national assets that the nation will have their benefit in the future.

SECRET SERVICE.

Last year an amendment was incorporated in the measure providing for the secret service which provided that the secret service should be no detail from the secret service and no transfer therefrom. It is not to much to say that the secret service should be benefit only, and could be of benefit only to the criminal classes. If deliberately introduced for the purpose of disfranchising the secret service, it would be a crime it could not have been better devised to this end. It forbade the health of the country through the practical heads of various departments for twenty years. To these practices which enabled us to drive great lotteries out of business and secure a quarter of a million of dollars from the sale of the secret service. These practices have enabled us to discover some of the most outrageous frauds in connection with the land of government land and government timber by great corporations and by individuals. These practices have enabled us to get some of the evidence indispensable in order to secure the conviction of the wealthiest and most formidable criminals with whom the secret service has been operating in violation of the anti-trust law and others. The amendment in question was of benefit to no one excepting the criminal classes. It seriously hampers the government in the detection of crime and the securing of justice. It forbids him from preventing frauds upon the government and from seriously crippling him. It prevents the promotion of employees in the secret service, and this further discourages good effort.

To Advantage of Criminal.

In its present form the restriction operates only to the advantage of the criminal, of the wrongdoer. The chief argument in favor of the present restriction is that the congressmen did not themselves wish to be investigated by secret service men. Very little of such investigation has been done in the past; but it is true that the work of the secret service agents was partly responsible for the indictment and conviction of a senator and a congressman for land frauds in Oregon. I do not believe that it is in the public interest to create a secret service which is a public service, and exactly as we have again and again during the past seven years prosecuted and convicted the criminal classes in the legislative branch of the government, so in my belief we should be given ample means to investigate the members of the secret service forces in the congress. It would be far better to do this than to do what actually is done, which is to create a secret service to hamper effective action against criminals by the executive branch of the government.

NATIONAL PARKS.

I urge that all our national parks adjacent to national forests be placed completely under the control of the forest service and the corps of engineers. Funds should be provided from current revenues if it is deemed wise, otherwise from the treasury. The essential thing is that the work should go forward under the best possible plan, and with the least possible delay. It would be a new type of work and a new organization for planning and directing it. The time for playing with the waterways is past. The country demands results.

For many of the shortcomings of justice in our country our people as a whole are themselves to blame, and the judges and juries merely bear their share of the responsibility. It is disgraceful to a whole. It is creditable to a few, as a people that there should be difficulty in convicting murderers, or in bringing to justice men who as public servants have been guilty of corruption, or who have profited by the corruption of public servants.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.

I again renew my recommendation for postal savings banks, for depositing savings with the security of the government being supervised by the postmaster general. The advantage of having the thrift and economy in the wage-earner and person of moderate means. In fourteen states the deposits in savings banks as reported by the Federal Reserve Board are \$70,308,543, or 1.4 per cent, showing conclusively that there are many localities in the United States where sufficient opportunity is not given to the wage-earner to deposit his savings. The result is that money is kept in hiding and unemployed. The postal savings banks are now in operation through the instrumentality of the postmaster general. While there are other postal savings banks now in operation in practically all the great civilized countries with the exception of the United States.

PARCEL POST.

In my last message I commended the postmaster-general's recommendation for an extension of the parcel post on the rural routes. The establishment of a parcel post on rural routes would be to the mutual benefit of the farmer and the consumer. The parcel post is a service which the farmer, serving more than 15,000,000 people, should be utilized to the fullest practical extent. An amendment was proposed to extend the parcel post to the rural routes. The postmaster-general, providing that, for the purpose of the rural routes, a special local parcel post system on the rural routes throughout the United States, the postmaster-general be authorized to establish a parcel post system in not to exceed four counties in the United States for packages of fourth-class matter originating on a rural route at the satisfaction of the postmaster by rural carriers. It would seem only proper that such an experiment should be tried in order to demonstrate the feasibility of the proposition, especially as the postmaster-general estimates that the revenue derived from the operation of such a parcel post system would amount to many million dollars.

DENATURED ALCOHOL.

I had occasion in my message of May 4, 1906, to urge the passage of some law putting alcohol, used in the arts, industries and in the household, under the control of the government. The law of June 7, 1906, and its amendment of March 2, 1907, accomplished what was desired in that respect, and the use of denatured alcohol as intended, is making fair progress and is entitled to further encouragement and support from the congress.

PURE FOOD.

The pure food legislation has already worked a benefit difficult to overestimate.

INDIAN SERVICE.

It has been my purpose from the beginning of my administration to take the Indian service out of the hands of the atmosphere of political activity, and there has been steady progress toward that end. The present condition of the Indian service, which has been the result of the politics in that service was the agency system, which had seen its best days, and was a purely evolutionary cause, and like all such survivals, was decaying in that respect, and the use of denatured alcohol as intended, is making fair progress and is entitled to further encouragement and support from the congress.

EDUCATION.

The share that the national government should take in the betterment of the care it rightly deserves. The immediate responsibility for the support and improvement of our educational systems and institutions rests and should always rest with the people of the several states acting through their state and local governments, but the nation has an opportunity in educational work which must not be lost and a duty which should no longer be neglected.

The national bureau of education was established more than forty years ago. Its purpose is to collect and disseminate information "as shall aid the people of the United States in the establishment of their educational systems, and to otherwise promote the cause of education throughout the country." This purpose in no way conflicts with the educational work of the states, but may be made of great advantage to the states by giving them the fullest, most accurate, and most helpful information and suggestion regarding the best educational systems. The nation through its bureau of education has the opportunity for obtaining information from all the states and from foreign countries, and to disseminate the same to the states and to the people. It is an invaluable source of information that should be made available to the states and to the people.

which is so inadequate as to make it impossible properly to do the work authorized, and it is unfair to the great educational interests of the country to burden them of the value of the results which can be obtained by proper appropriations. This recommendation is urged by the director of the census, and is supported by the United States bureau of fisheries, and by the several state universities and the leading educators, who all unite in requesting the congress to take action by the congress upon this subject.

CENSUS.

I strongly urge that the request of the director of the census in connection with the decennial work be extended to include fish. New federal fish hatcheries should be established. The administration of the Alaskan fur-seal service should be vested in the bureau of fisheries.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

This nation's foreign policy is based on the theory that the nation is composed of two nations precisely as between individuals, and in our actions for the last few years we have in this matter proven our faith by our actions. We have been and are behaving towards other nations, as in private life an honorable man would behave towards his fellows.

LATIN-AMERICA.

The commercial and material progress of the twenty Latin-American republics is the result of the careful attention of the congress. The United States has shown a greater proportionate development of its foreign trade during the last few years than any other nation. The claims on the interest of the United States. It offers today probably larger opportunities for legitimate expansion of our commerce than any other nation. The international bureau of American republics is doing a useful work in making known to us and its resources better known to us, and in acquainting them not only with us as a people and with our purposes towards them, but with what we have to exchange for their goods. It is an international institution supported by all the governments of the two Americas.

PANAMA CANAL.

The work on the Panama canal is being done with a speed, efficiency and entire devotion to duty, which make it a model for all work of this kind. The magnitude has ever before been achieved by any nation; and no task of this kind has ever been better performed. The work has been done with the most skill and his fellow commissioners through the entire list of employees who are faithfully doing their duty. It is a credit to the United States and to the gratitude of the American people.

OCEAN MAIL LINES.

I again renew my recommendation for the extension of the ocean mail act of 1891 so that satisfactory American ocean lines to South America, Africa and Australia may be established. The creation of steamship lines should be the natural corollary of the voyage of the battle fleet. It should precede the opening of the Panama canal. Even under favorable conditions several years must elapse before the work can be completed. It is cordially urged that the congress act promptly where foresight already shows that action sooner or later will be inevitable.

HAWAII.

I call particular attention to the Territory of Hawaii. The importance of these islands is apparent, and the need of improving their condition and developing their resources is urgent. In recent years the conditions upon the islands have radically changed. The importation of coolie labor has practically ceased, and there is now developing such a diversity in the interests of the islands as to make it imperative that the congress act promptly where foresight already shows that action sooner or later will be inevitable.

URGES STATEHOOD.

I advocate the immediate admission of New Mexico and Arizona as states. This should be done at the next session of the congress. The people of the two territories have made it evident by their action that they wish to be admitted as states.

Real damage has been done by the tariff and conflicting interpretations of the commerce law. Control over the great corporations doing interstate business can be effective only if it is vested with full powers in the hands of the executive department, a branch of the federal executive, carrying out a federal law; it can never be effective if a divided responsibility is left in both the states and the nation; it can never be effective if left in the hands of the courts to be decided by law-suits.

INTERSTATE FISHERIES.

I call the attention of the congress to the importance of the problem of the interstate waters of the Great Lakes we are now, under the very treaty of April 11 of this year, endeavoring to come to a settlement for the preservation and satisfactory use of the fisheries of these waters which cannot otherwise be achieved. Lake Erie, for example, has the richest fresh water fisheries in the world; but it is now controlled by the statutes of two nations, four states, and one province, and in this province by different ordinances in different counties. All these political divisions work at cross purposes. In no case can they achieve protection to the fisheries, on the one hand, and justice to the localities and individuals on the other. The case is similar in Puget sound.

But the problem is quite as pressing in the interstate waters of the Great Lakes. The salmon fisheries of the Columbia river are now but a fraction of what they were twenty-five years ago, and what they would be if the interstate waters were under the control of the United States government had taken complete charge of them by intervening in the activities of Washington. During these twenty-five years the fishermen of each state naturally tried to take all the fish they could get. The result has been that the fisheries have never been able to agree on joint action of any kind adequate in degree for the protection of the fisheries. The interstate fishing on the Oregon side is practically closed, while there is no limit on the Washington side of any kind, and no one can tell where the courts will decide as to the very statutes under which this action and nonaction result. Meanwhile the new salmon reach the spawning grounds, and probably four years hence the fisheries will amount to nothing, and this comes from the struggle between the associated, or gilt-nod, fishermen on the one hand, and the owners of the fishing rights on the other. The fisheries of the Mississippi, the Ohio, and the Potomac are also in a bad way. For this there is no remedy except for the United States to control and regulate for

What has thus happened in northern China, what has happened in Central Asia, in Palestine, in North Africa, in parts of the Mediterranean countries of Europe, will surely happen in our country if we do not exercise that wise forethought which should be one of the chief marks of any people calling itself civilized. It is disgraceful to a whole. It is creditable to a few, as a people that there should be difficulty in convicting murderers, or in bringing to justice men who as public servants have been guilty of corruption, or who have profited by the corruption of public servants.

FOREST PRESERVATION.

There is any one duty which more than another we owe it to our children and our children's children to perform at once, it is to save the forests of this country, for they constitute the first and most important element in the conservation of the natural resources of the country. There are, of course, two kinds of natural resources. One is the kind which can only be used as part of a process of exhaustion; this is true of mines, natural oil and gas wells, and the like. The other, and of course ultimately by far the most important, includes the resources which can be improved in the process of wise use; the soil, the rivers and the forests come under this head. Any really civilized nation will so use all of these three great national assets that the nation will have their benefit in the future.

EVIL OF SHORTSIGHTEDNESS.

Shortsighted persons, or persons blinded by the future by desire to make money, speak as if no great damage would be done by the reckless destruction of the forests. They speak in this way with the arguments of these persons. Thanks to our own recklessness we have already crossed the verge of a timber famine in this country, and no measure we now take can, at least for many years, avert the great danger which is already upon us. But we can prevent further damage being done, and it would be in our interest to do so. We can prevent further damage being done, and it would be in our interest to do so. We can prevent further damage being done, and it would be in our interest to do so. We can prevent further damage being done, and it would be in our interest to do so.

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It is earnestly to be desired that some method should be devised for getting away with the long delays in the decisions of the administration of justice, and which operate with peculiar severity against persons of small means, and favor only the very rich and powerful. It is earnestly to be desired that some method should be devised for getting away with the long delays in the decisions of the administration of justice, and which operate with peculiar severity against persons of small means, and favor only the very rich and powerful. It is earnestly to be desired that some method should be devised for getting away with the long delays in the decisions of the administration of justice, and which operate with peculiar severity against persons of small means, and favor only the very rich and powerful.

THE LESSON OF CHINA.

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AS FAR AS POSSIBLE I HOPE TO SEE A FRANK RECOGNITION OF THE ADVANTAGES CONFERRED BY MACHINERY, ORGANIZATION, AND DIVISION OF LABOR, ACCOMPANIED BY AN EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT A LARGER SHARE IN THE OWNERSHIP BY THE WORKER OF THE RAILWAY, MILL AND FACTORY.

As far as possible I hope to see a frank recognition of the advantages conferred by machinery, organization, and division of labor, accompanied by an effort to bring about a larger share in the ownership by the worker of the railway, mill and factory. In farming, this simply means that we wish to see the farmer own his own land, and we do not wish to see the farmer become an absentee landlord who farms by tenants, nor yet so small that the farmer becomes like a European peasant.