

Meaning of the President's Message

From a recent Lecture by Professor George Gunton.

age of President exceptional state message from the a generation has abroad. This does body agrees with it has said, but it body realizes the message is a live man.

end it is a frank, by earnest discoloration. There is no class or caste appeal to popular a partisan motives, ample of the earnest, characteristic of Mr. like a live current, passage. There is us or perfunctory paragraph contains a being been written, extraordinary because circumstances under came to the presiding ushered into all tragedy, he be a time when the nation, important and among the an- which now confront leader of public af- like trusts and cor- the labor ques- our foreign com- are all of far- significance. They tions which tempt play with the pace and make the con- in a timid. Yet, with of trumpet-sounding Roosevelt has a fearlessly discussed es of all these ques- done it in a broad from the point of fare, wholly untaint- party claims. This additional presidential amounts to a depart- setting up a new papers.

ROOSEVELT'S METHOD.

Compare the statement of President Roosevelt on this subject with what I have just read:

The growth of cities has gone beyond comparison faster than the growth of the country, and the upbuilding of the great industrial centers has meant a startling increase, not merely in the aggregate of wealth, but in the number of large fortunes, and especially in the number of very large corporate fortunes. The creation of these large corporate fortunes has not been due to the tariff nor to any other governmental action, but to natural causes in the business world, operating in other countries as they operate in our own.

The process has crossed much antagonism, a great part of which is wholly unwar- rantable. It is not true that as the rich have grown richer the poor have grown poorer. On the contrary, never before has the average man, the wage- worker, the farmer, the small trader, been so well off in this country as at the present time. There have been abuses connected with the accumulation of wealth; yet it remains true that a fortune accumulated in legitimate business can do more good in this country than any other benefit only on condition of conferring immense incidental benefits upon others. Successful enterprise, of the type which benefits all mankind, can only exist if the conditions are such as to offer great riches as the reward of success.

The captains of industry, who have driven the railways systems across this continent, who have built up our commerce, who have developed our manufactures, have, on the whole, done great good to our people. Without them the material development of which we are so justly proud could never have taken place.

Moreover, it cannot be too often pointed out that to stifle with ignorant violence at the interests of one set of men almost inevitably endangers the interests of all. The fundamental rule in our national life—the rule which underlies all other—is that, on the whole, and in the long run, we shall go up or down together. There are exceptions; and in times of prosperity some will prosper more, and in times of adversity some will suffer far more, than others; but speaking generally, a period of good times means that all share more or less in them, and in a period of hard times all feel the stress to a greater or less degree.

The foundation of modern business is so delicate that extreme care must be taken not to interfere with it in a spirit of rashness or ignorance. Many of those who have made it their avocation to denounce the great industrial combinations which are popularly, although with technical inaccuracy, known as "trusts," appeal especially to hatred and fear. These are precisely the emotions which should be excluded from the exercise of cool and steady judgment. In facing new industrial conditions, the whole history of the world shows that "vigilance" is generally both ineffective and unwise, undertaken after calm inquiry and with sober self-restraint.

No student of the labor question or leader of labor unions could more completely state the real relation of labor to its relation to national progress than this. And, in pursuance of this idea, he recommends the re-enactment of the law excluding Chinese laborers, and that it be strengthened wherever necessary to make its enforcement entirely effective. He is equally definite and unqualified in his utterances on the matter of convict labor, and the eight-hour law. On this subject he says:

The national government should demand the highest quality of service from its employees; and in turn it should be a good employer; if possible legislation should be passed, in connection with the interstate commerce law, which will render effective the efforts of interstate laborers to do away with the competition of convict labor in the open labor market. So far as practicable under the conditions of government work, provision should be made to render the enforcement of the eight-hour law easy and certain. In all industries carried on directly or indirectly for the United States government women and children should be protected from excessive hours of labor, night work, and from work under unsanitary conditions.

The most vital problem with which this country, and for that matter the whole civilized world, has to deal, is the need of a standard for the one side the betterment of social conditions, moral and physical, in large cities, and for another side the effort to deal with that angle of free-renting speculation which comes together when we speak of "labor." The chief factor in the success of each man—wage-worker, farmer and capitalist alike—must ever be the moral and physical condition of his own individual qualities and abilities. Second only to this comes the power of acting in combination or association with others. Very great good has been and will be accomplished by association of unions of wage workers, when managed with forethought, when they combine insistence upon their own rights with law-abiding respect for the rights of others.

This is more pronounced recognition of directing public policy in the interest of the whole community than ever before appeared in a president's message. Besides recognizing the fact that it is of national importance that the interests of labor receive special consideration, it recognizes in complete and frank fashion the right and the usefulness of labor organizations.

IMMIGRATION.
A part of this same problem of labor in its practical and sociological significance is the matter of immigration. President Roosevelt recognizes the importance to the national life of doing everything feasible to lift the social standard and wage level of the laboring class. And to this end he clearly recognizes that the immigration into this country of the poor, incompetent, mendicant classes from Europe is an injury to the social life, sanitary conditions and economic opportunities of American laborers. His interpretation of the principle of protection is that it should be extended to anything and everything which is important to the welfare of American laborers. On this subject he says:

Our present immigration laws are unsatisfactory. We need every honest and efficient immigrant fitted to become an American citizen, every immigrant who comes here to stay who brings here a strong body, a stout heart, a good head, and a resolute purpose to do his duty well in every way and to bring up his children as law-abiding and God-fearing members of the community. But there should be a comprehensive law enacted with the object of working a three-fold improvement over our present system. First, we should aim to exclude absolutely not only all persons who are known to be believers in anarchistic principles or members of anarchistic societies, but also all persons who are of a low moral tendency or of unsavory reputation.

The second object of a proper immigration law ought to be to secure by a careful and not merely perfunctory examination, some intelligent capacity to appreciate American institutions and act wisely as American citizens.

Finally, all persons should be excluded who are below a certain standard of common sense to enter our industrial field as competitors with American labor. There should be proper proof of personal capacity to earn an American living and enough money to insure a decent start under American conditions. This would stop the influx of cheap labor, and the resulting competition which gives rise to so much of bitterness in American industrial life; and it would dry up the springs of the pestiferous social conditions in our great cities, where anarchistic organizations have their greatest possibility of growth.

Here, again, the president is both frank and practical. No maudlin sen-

iment about this country being the asylum for the oppressed of all mankind, but he expresses the sturdy principle that the duty of this country is to promote the progress and welfare of our own country; that it is neither good nor statesmanship to permit an alien influence to operate which will tend to lessen or in any way prevent the progress and prosperity of our own people. There will be ever so much hair-splitting opposition to the practical carrying out of the president's recommendation on this subject, but every true protectionist, every friend of labor, every believer in the principle that the way to make the most of our own influences is to protect and everywhere enlarge the opportunities for social improvement among American citizens, should support this recommendation.

We have dwelt with the immigration question long enough. The attempt at law-making on this subject has been to run with the hounds and hide with the hare. It has been to make immigration laws in response to the popular demand, but to make them so that they should have the minimum restricting effect on the importation of cheap labor. If we are really to have the principle of protection endorsed and established for our industry, affording them the opportunity of maximum development, consistency demands that the same protection should be afforded to the laborers against the competition of the drag-down and pestilential influences which our present tide of immigration is introducing into our industrial life, especially in our large cities.

PROTECTION AND RECIPROCIDY.
On the subject of protection and reciprocity the president is equally definite and intelligible. He has correctly estimated the efforts to use President McKinley's last utterance on reciprocity as a means of extending free trade by the increase of the free list, and with a clarion note he declares in favor of "our tariff system as a national policy," and truly says: "The first requisite of our prosperity is the continuity and stability of this economic policy. Nothing could be more injurious than to disturb the business interests of the country by any general tariff change at this time." And, while entirely friendly to reciprocity, he declares:

It must be treated as the hand-maiden of protection. Our first duty is to see that the protection granted by the tariff in every case where it is needed is maintained, and that reciprocity be sought for so far as it can safely be done without injury to our home industries.

He then lays down the sound economic principle upon which all tariff adjustments and reciprocity treaties should be governed, namely, the cost of production in the United States, remembering always, "That every application of our tariff policy to meet our national needs must be conditioned upon the cardinal fact that the duties must never be reduced below the point that will cover the difference between the labor cost here and abroad. The well-being of the wage worker is a prime consideration in our entire policy of economic legislation."

This states the true American as well as the sound economic policy on both protection and reciprocity. The president here lays down a clear scientific principle which is easy to understand and a thoroughly feasible basis of practical policy. If congress will follow this line, tariff adjustments may be intelligently associated with comparative economic accuracy, without disturbing the industrial conditions of the country.

MEANS A NEW REGIME.
If the spirit and character of the president's message regarding the vital subjects of industrial and national welfare are honestly made a part of our public policy, a practically new regime will have begun. The attitude toward corporations would change from that of blind prejudice and envious antagonism to one of intelligent recognition of the economic right freely to use all the natural conditions and organization to improve and increase the productive capacity of every dollar of investment and every ounce of labor energy. It would also infuse into the public policy the recognition of the fact that labor, not merely as an indefinite item in a nation's population and economy, but labor as a distinct interest, has a right to recognition and political consideration. It would recognize the principle that all groups of society have their usefulness, and make their social contribution to the nation's welfare, and that any policy which is good for one group is directly or indirectly good for all, although each group may need special application to its special conditions. It would recognize the principle that organization of both labor and capital is a legitimate necessary feature of the productive capitalist state of industry.

Therefore, while protecting capital from undue foreign competition, and guarding every influence to the development of machinery and economic opportunities that the conditions of our domestic market may afford, it would also recognize that, concurrently with this economic development and progress, the opportunities for social improvement and equipment as intelligent citizens should be vouchsafed to the laborers. This involves a shortening of the working day; educational advantages for children; sanitary surroundings for the workshop and the home, and, in short, the same kind of special policy to secure and enlarge all the opportunities for the personal and social improvement of the laborers that is extended to capital in the shape of opportunities for expansion of profitable business.

TRULY AMERICAN.
In short, the president's message represents a truly American statesmanship which recognizes as fundamental the principle that under republican institutions the top rests on the bottom; that the foundation of safety, welfare and progress of the nation, material, political and ethical, rests upon the permanence of industrial prosperity and social improvement among the laboring class; because, from the welfare of the masses comes the welfare of the whole community. They furnish the success of the factories; they furnish the votes which determine the character of the government. And any policy which ignores that ignores the vital element in the nation's progress. All these economic and ethical truths have for the first time been intelligently and unmistakably recognized in a message of the president of the United States.

A Trip to California or Florida.
Those contemplating such a trip need but to call on the local ticket agent of the Lackawanna railroad and he will arrange every detail, including transportation, baggage, through to destination; also will furnish rates, folders, descriptive literature and any other information desired on the subject. Through sleepers and day coaches to Chicago. Only one change of cars to California.

How could the mother know that last evening, when, at a friend's, they had been whiling away the time with dancing before they must say good-bye to the old year, that this mysterious he had led Carol to one of the windows, opened it a trifle so they might hear the Grace church chimes the more distinctly, and while they stood there in the moonlight he had seemed to her the only other human being in a most beautiful star-lit world?

"This day five years ago," he had said, "I came east, a struggling young lawyer, and today I look back upon the year's work and find I have succeeded beyond my wildest hopes. On this last day of the year I am my own master at last. I see my name at the head of my firm."

"So sorry I could not get here before," he began, a trifle unintelligibly. "So sorry, so sorry, but— Here he stopped as if all ideas had suddenly deserted him, but laughed cheerfully and noisily, as if to make up for all conversational deficiencies by blurt.

Mrs. Kingsland-Cowles shook the proffered hand frigidly, her ideas of the fitness of things shaken by the half-suppressed sob from the girl at her side.

"You will go into the dining-room with Mr. Small, won't you?" turning to one of her attendant cavaliers, instructing him with a glance and a half-concealed gesture, "and let Marion give you some refreshment," she said, anxious to have the unwelcome guest depart at any price before her foolish daughter made a scene; and she sighed with relief as she saw her wise emissary lead the young man out into the

hall in the opposite direction from which the dining-room was situated. She shook off Carol's detaining arm, saying in a severe whisper: "Really, you must go upstairs if you cannot control your feelings better; you are positively disgracing yourself and me." Half-blinded with tears the girl made her way toward the door, not noticing a gentleman who had entered the room until she almost ran into him, and looking up for a moment, stopped still where she stood, with a gasp of fright, then turned and followed him to her mother's side.

He met Mrs. Kingsland-Cowles's look of astonished incredulity with a low, hurried—

"I have to beg you forbearance for the most unforeseen and unpardonable intrusion of my brother, my twin brother, who came here a few weeks ago. I do not suppose you were aware of his existence before. I have never spoken to you of him; it is not a relationship I boast of, I am sorry to have to say. It is because we are so alike that I came to the east; we were always being taken for one another, and it was ruining my career. He came here two days ago on his way to Australia, and has been indulging his weakness for drink ever since he arrived. This morning he escaped from my surveillance, unfortunately with my visiting list, and I have been following him all day, my search fruitless until now. I met him in your hall with Small, who was trying to persuade him to leave. My man has taken him home, and I must follow him, but before I go I wish to express to you my overwhelming grief and mortification that this annoyance should have come to you through me, though indirectly."

The hostess, full of smiles and kindness, in a few well-chosen words sought to put the embarrassed brother at ease before she turned to a guest who had just entered, then left him to follow her daughter to the piano, where she stood noisily touching the keys.

"Carol," was all that he said, but his tone spoke volumes. She looked up, her eyes suspiciously bright.

"I am very glad it was not you; I thought it was," she answered pitifully.

"And you cared?"

For a moment the desire to tease fought with her love of truth. She paused a moment, then suddenly catching sight of the worried, anxious expression his face wore, she answered quietly:

"Yes."

"Last night, when I spoke to you of my love, I thought you were trying, in as kind a way as possible, to let me see you did not care for me, and I did not intend to worry you further with my importunities—but for this unfortunate brother of mine I should not have come here today; but my heart speaks louder than my reason. I cannot go until I ask you to tell me in words how you feel toward me. Indeed, with a little laugh, "I think you might comfort me a trifle for my brother's crime by taking me under consideration at least."

A smile broke over Carol's pale face. "I may," she said, "if you assure me that though being a twin you do not have to have the same sins as your brother." And so the reproach of having an old maid in the family was forever lifted from the house of Kingsland-Cowles.—Commercial Advertiser.

Linotype Composition

Book of News

Done quickly and reasonably at The Tribune office.

Cubanola

5cent Cigar

is now known to be of superior quality. It isn't our say-so that proves it:— but your judgment, your own knowledge of the difference between the ordinary, every-day "five center" and the new thing in cigars, responsibly guaranteed by the largest cigar business in the world.

Its excellence is really remarkable, and is not imaginary, because it is

Hand Made All Havana Filler

Made by the American Cigar Co.



Imperial Cigar Co. 109 Franklin Avenue. The Only Wholesale Tobacconists Distributors of Cubanola Cigars

The New Year's Guest.

IT WAS one New Year's Day in the seventies, before the flat of Dame Grundy had gone forth to the effect "that it was 'bad form' to be 'at home' to one's men friends the first day of the year," that Mrs. Kingsland-Cowles stood before the great mirror between the windows of the long drawing-room surrounded by an animated circle of maudlin satellites. By her side, almost unnoticed, except for a few stereotyped, though well meaning words from a gray-haired swain near her, stood Carol, the youngest daughter of the house. To her mother this daughter was a constant source of anxiety and wonder to the ambitious Mrs. Kingsland-Cowles. Her older daughters had followed in their mother's footsteps in beauty and dash, and were safe in the matrimonial fold before their second season was over. Nearly, in the dining-room, they were holding their court, surrounded by their friends and admirers, who it was safe to say, would make their longest visit of this day at the Kingsland-Cowles mansion. This was Carol's fourth season, and Mrs. Kingsland-Cowles held up her hands in horror when she thought of the reproach that having an old maid in the family would bring upon. An unheard-of misfortune it was that one of her daughters should linger so long unclaimed on the "ancestral timber," and so today she had determined to keep Carol near her, that she might find out what was lacking in her youngest powers of entertaining.

Outwardly serene, though each moment becoming more vexed, the mother noticed the girl's entire absence of interest in the guests that came and went.

How could she tell from her daughter's calm exterior that her heart beat hard as each new face appeared at the door? How could she tell that for Carol life had moved to a merrier strain all this winter, that every concert, dance or reception had been a success or a failure in just so far that a certain person was present?

How could the mother know that last evening, when, at a friend's, they had been whiling away the time with dancing before they must say good-bye to the old year, that this mysterious he had led Carol to one of the windows, opened it a trifle so they might hear the Grace church chimes the more distinctly, and while they stood there in the moonlight he had seemed to her the only other human being in a most beautiful star-lit world?

"This day five years ago," he had said, "I came east, a struggling young lawyer, and today I look back upon the year's work and find I have succeeded beyond my wildest hopes. On this last day of the year I am my own master at last. I see my name at the head of my firm."

"So sorry I could not get here before," he began, a trifle unintelligibly. "So sorry, so sorry, but— Here he stopped as if all ideas had suddenly deserted him, but laughed cheerfully and noisily, as if to make up for all conversational deficiencies by blurt.

Mrs. Kingsland-Cowles shook the proffered hand frigidly, her ideas of the fitness of things shaken by the half-suppressed sob from the girl at her side.

"You will go into the dining-room with Mr. Small, won't you?" turning to one of her attendant cavaliers, instructing him with a glance and a half-concealed gesture, "and let Marion give you some refreshment," she said, anxious to have the unwelcome guest depart at any price before her foolish daughter made a scene; and she sighed with relief as she saw her wise emissary lead the young man out into the