

THE MUCK RAKE MAN

President Roosevelt Scores Professional Scandal Mongers.

SAYS WORLD GROWS BETTER

World Not Shield Rogues But Objects To Wholesale Denunciations Now So Popular In Magazines.

"In Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress you may recall the description of the man with the muck-rake, the man who could look no way but downward, with the muck-rake in his hand; who was offered a celestial crown for his muck-rake, but would neither look up nor regard the crown he was offered, but continued to rake to himself the filth of the floor.

"In Pilgrim's Progress the man with the muck-rake is set forth as the example of him whose vision is fixed on carnal instead of on spiritual things. Yet he also typifies the man who in this life consistently refuses to see aught that is lofty, and fixes his eyes with solemn intentness only on that which is vile and debasing. Now, it is very necessary that we should not flinch from seeing what is vile and debasing. There is filth on the floor, and it must be scraped up with the muck-rake; and there are times and places where this service is the most needed of all the services that can be performed. But the man who never does anything else, who never thinks or speaks or writes, save of his feats with the muck-rake, speedily becomes, not a help to society, not an incitement to good, but one of the most potent forces for evil.

Should Denounce Defamation.

"There are, in the body politic, economic and social, many and grave evils, and there is urgent necessity for the sternest war upon them. There should be relentless exposure of and attack upon every evil man, whether politician or business man, every evil practice, whether in politics, in business, or in social life. I hail as a benefactor every writer or speaker, every man who, on the platform, or in book, magazine, or newspaper, with merciless severity makes such attack, provided always that he in his turn remembers that the attack is of use only if it is absolutely truthful. The liar is no whit better than the thief, and if his mendacity takes the form of slander, he may be worse than the most thieves. It puts a premium upon knavery untruthfully to attack an honest man, or even with hysterical exaggeration to assail a bad man with untruth. An epidemic of indiscriminate assault upon character does no good but very great harm. The soul of every scoundrel is gladdened whenever an honest man is assailed, or even when a scoundrel is untruthfully assailed.

Sensation Ineffective.

Now, it is easy to twist out of shape what I have just said. easy to affect to misunderstand it, and if it is slurred over in repetition, not difficult really to misunderstand it. Some persons are sincerely incapable of understanding that to denounce mudslinging does not mean the indorsement of whitewashing; and both the interested individuals who need whitewashing, and those others who practice mudslinging, like to encourage such confusion of ideas. One of the chief counts against those who make indiscriminate assault upon men in business or men in public life, is that they invite a reaction which is sure to tell powerfully in favor of the unscrupulous scoundrel who really ought to be attacked, who ought to be exposed, who ought, if possible, to be put in the penitentiary. If Aristides is praised overmuch as just, people get tired of hearing it; and overconfidence of the unjust finally and from similar reasons results in their favor.

Excess Brings Reaction

"Any excess is almost sure to invite a reaction; and unfortunately, the reaction instead of taking the form of punishment of those guilty of the excess, is very apt to take the form either of punishment of the offending or of giving immunity, and even strength, to offenders. The effort to make financial or political profit out of the destruction of character can only result in public calamity. Gross and reckless assaults on character, whether on the stump or in the newspaper, magazine or book, create a morbid and vicious public sentiment, and at the same time act as a profound deterrent to able men of normal sensitiveness and tend to prevent them from entering the public service at any price. As an instance in point I may mention that one serious difficulty in getting the right type of men to dig the Panama canal is the certainty that they will be exposed, both without, and I am sorry to say, sometimes within, congress, to utterly reckless assaults on their character and capacity.

Sanity Necessary to Success.

"At any risk of repetition let me say again that my plea is, not for immunity to but for the most unsparring exposure of the politician who betrays

his trust, of the big business men who makes or spends his fortune in illegitimate or corrupt ways. There should be a resolute effort to hunt every such man out of the position he has disgraced. Expose the crime and hunt down the criminal; but remember that even in the case of crime, if it is attacked in sensational, lurid and untruthful fashion the attack may do more damage to the public mind than the crime itself. It is because I feel that there should be no rest in the endless war against the forces of evil that I will ask that the war be conducted with sanity as well as with resolution. The men with the muck-rakes are often indispensable to the well being of society; but only if they know when to stop raking the muck and to look upward to the celestial crown above them, to the crown of worthy endeavor. There are beautiful things above and around them; and if they gradually grow to feel that the whole world is nothing but muck, their power of usefulness is gone. If the whole picture is painted black there remains no hue where- to single out the rascals for distinction from their fellows. Such painting finally induces a kind of moral color-blindness; and people affected by it come to the conclusion that no man is really black, and no man really white, but they are all gray. In other words, they neither believe in the honesty of the man who is attacked; they grow as suspicious of the accusation as of the offenses it becomes well nigh hopeless to stir them either to wrath against wrongdoing or to enthusiasm for what is right; and such a mental attitude in the public gives hope to every knave, and is the despair of honest men.

Cynicism Despair of Reformers.

"To assail the great and admitted evils of our political and industrial life with such crude and sweeping generalizations as to include decent men in the general condemnation means the searing of the public conscience. There results a general attitude either of cynical belief in and indifference to public corruption or else of a distrustful inability to discriminate between the good and the bad. Either attitude is fraught with untold damage to the country as a whole. The fool who has not sense to discriminate between what is good and what is bad is well-nigh as dangerous as the man who does discriminate and yet chooses the bad. There is nothing more distressing to every good patriot, to every good American, than the hard, scoffing spirit which treats the allegation of dishonesty in a public man as a cause for laughter. Such laughter is worse than the crackling of thorns under a pot, for it denotes not merely the vacant mind, but the heart in which high emotions have been choked before they could grow to fruition.

Many Working for Good

"There is any amount of good in the world, and there never was a time when loftier and more disinterested work for the betterment of mankind was being done than now. The forces that tend for evil are great and terrible, but the forces of truth and love and courage and honesty and generosity and sympathy are also stronger than ever before. It is a foolish and timid, no less than a wicked thing, to blink the fact that the forces of evil are strong, but it is even worse to fail to take into account the strength of the forces that tell for good. Hysterical sensationalism is the very poorest weapon wherewith to fight for lasting righteousness. The men who with stern sobriety and truth assail the many evils of our time, whether in the public press, or in magazines, or in books, are the leaders and allies of all engaged in the work for social and political betterment. But if they give good reason for distrust of what they say, if they chill the ardor of those who demand truth as a primary virtue, they thereby betray the good cause, and play into the hands of the very men against whom they are nominally at war.

"In his Ecclesiastical Polity that

fine old Elizabethan divine, Bishop Hooker, wrote:

"He that goeth about to persuade a multitude that they are not so well governed as they ought to be, shall never want attentive and favorable hearers; because they know the manifold defects were unto every kind of regimen is subject, but the secret lets and difficulties, which in public proceedings are innumerable and inevitable, they have not ordinarily the judgment to consider.

Danger in Social Tendencies.

"The truth should be kept constantly in mind by every free people desiring to preserve the sanity and pose indispensable to the permanent success of self-government. Yet, on the other hand, it is vital not to permit this spirit of sanity and self-command to degenerate into mere mental stagnation. Bad though a state of hysterical excitement is, and evil though the results are which come from the violent oscillations such excitement invariably produces, yet a sudden acquiescence in evil is even worse. At this moment we are passing through a period of great unrest—social, political and industrial unrest. It is of the utmost importance for our future that this should prove to be not the unrest of mere rebelliousness against life, of mere dissatisfaction with the inevitable inequality of conditions, but the unrest of a resolute and eager ambition to secure the betterment of the individual and the nation. So far as this movement of agitation throughout the country takes the form of a fierce discontent with evil, of a determination to punish the authors of evil, whether in industry or politics, the feeling is to be heartily welcomed as a sign of healthy life.

"If, on the other hand, it turns into a mere crusade of appetite against appetite, of a contest between the brutal greed of the 'haves,' then it has no significance for good, but only for evil. If it seeks to establish a line of cleavage, not along the line which divides good men from bad, but along that other line, running at right angles thereto, which divides those who are less well off, then it will be fraught with immeasurable harm to the body politic.

Wealthy and Poor Alike.

"We can no more and no less afford to condone evil in the man of capital than evil in the man of no capital. The wealthy man who exults because there is a failure of justice in the effort to bring some trust magnate to an account for his misdeeds is as bad as, and no worse than, the so-called labor leader who clamorously strives to excite a foul class feeling on behalf of some other labor leader who is implicated in murder. One attitude is as bad as the other, and no worse; in each case the accused is entitled to exact justice; and in neither case is there need of action by others which can be construed into an expression of sympathy for crime.

"It is a prime necessity that if the present unrest is to result in permanent good the emotion shall be translated into action, and that the action shall be marked by honesty, sanity, and self-restraint. There is mighty little good in a mere spasm of reform. The reform that counts is that which comes through steady, continuous growth; violent emotionalism leads to exhaustion.

(Continued in next issue).

For Sale—1 large house and 4 lots in East Denison. Call on Mrs. Susan Melton.

Living indoors so much during the winter months creates a sort of a stuffy, want-of-ozone condition in the blood and system generally. Clean up and get ready for spring. Take a few Early Risers. These famous little pills cleanse the liver, stomach and bowels and give the blood a chance to purify itself. They relieve headache, sallow complexion, etc. Sold by LAMBORN DRUG CO.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the contract for the grubbing and removing of certain trees, also for grading and removing dirt on Court House square will be let on Tuesday May 1st., 1906 successful bidder to furnish a Five hundred dollar bond. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

For particulars of grades see Morris McHenry County Surveyor. Edw. Theobald, Co. Auditor.

LOW RATES TO LOS ANGELES.

Via the Northwestern line. An excursion rate of one first class limited fare for round trip, will be in effect from all stations April 25 to May 5, inclusive, with favorable return limits, on account of Imperial Council, Nobles of Mystic Shrine. Three fast trains through to California daily. "The Los Angeles Limited," electric lighted throughout, is the new Salt Lake Route, with drawing room and tourist sleeping cars. "The Overland Limited," electric lighted throughout, less than three days enroute. Another fast daily train is "The China & Japan Express" with drawing room and tourist sleeping cars. For itineraries and full information apply to agents Chicago & Northwestern R'y.

..Announcement..

Having purchased the M. M. Bamford stock of Dry Goods and Millinery, we extend a cordial welcome to all our old friends and patrons, and ask a share of your valued patronage in the future. We will have new and up to date goods on sale from now on, and as our expenses are very low, and as we get the advantage of very liberal discounts for cash, we can sell you Dry Goods and Millinery at very low figures. We thank all our patrons and friends for their liberal patronage in the past and assure you we appreciate it and ask you to come in and make our store your stopping place when in town.

Our Millinery Department is now complete and with new novelties coming every Friday. We can give you the best at the lowest prices.

On Saturday, April 21, we place on sale

ONE LOT Also 50
Remnants in Wool Dress Goods LADIES WOOL DRESS SKIRTS
at Prices that will at \$2.98
astonish you while they last

Watch this space every week and see the Special Sale every Saturday

Apprentice Girls Wanted At BAMFORD'S
MILLINERY AT JURGEN SCHROEDER'S STORE, SCHLESWIG, EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

WEATHER-CROP BULLETIN

The first half of the week was generally fair and seasonable, but the latter part was showery and much colder, ending with heavy frost. The average temperature was about normal for the state, but there was considerable excess of rainfall in all districts, causing still further delay in farming operations.

On well drained lands some progress has been made in seeding oats, spring wheat and barley, and considerable grass lands have been turned preparatory for planting; but for the state at large the season is late, and conditions have been unfavorable for field work. Several days of sunshine and drying winds are needed to put the soil in condition for tillage and seeding. Grass in old meadows and pastures

has made a good start. The reports as to all kinds of fruit are generally favorable.

"Hints, Suggestions, Devices and Condensed Letter 'from Correspondents'" is the title of one of the many interesting and attractive departments of The Iowa Homestead, of Des Moines, Iowa. Like all the departments of this excellent farm paper, "Hints, Suggestions," etc., is edited by a practical farmer, who lives on and operates his own farm and knows from experience whether a suggestion is on a common-sense basis. These suggestions are explained and made clearer by illustrations, adding immensely to their value to the farmer. The Review is glad to recommend The Iowa Homestead to the

farmers and breeders of this section, and has a low clubbing rate of which we give our subscribers the benefit. Already, The Iowa Homestead has an excellent circulation among our best farmers, who value its contributions to practical and scientific agriculture very highly. Many of them say that single suggestions in The Iowa Homestead have saved them enough to pay for the paper for a lifetime. It certainly pays to take a farm paper of this character. Subscribe for it at this office the next time you are in town.

ADVERTISED LETTERS

Joe Hunter Mart O'Connell
Louis Jays Rice Bros. (parcel)
F. W. Meyers, Postmaster.

Merchandise and Price Talk of the Denison Clothing Co. for Spring of 1906.

Below we quote you prices on a few lines of merchandise as space is not sufficient to enumerate our large and complete stock of Clothing, Furnishing Goods, Hats, Caps Trunks, &c.

Men's Suits
in worsted and cassimere, the latest shades and styles, at
\$7.50, 9.00, 10.00, 12.50, 15, 16.50, 18.50, 20.00 and 22.50

our Cravenetts and Top Coats
are beauties and range in price from
\$6.50 up to \$22.50

There is nothing new in the Clothing line that we did not get onto as to quality, style and fit. The styles are simply marvels this spring—everybody will know that you have a new suit. The make-up is so entirely different—they are beauties and fit like a glove. We have looked into every detail of manufacture and there is nothing that we could add to them to make them better. This is a broad statement, but call and see for yourself and you will agree with every statement here made.

our Hats
are varied in style and color and are the newest and best that the maker affords. Prices from
50 cents to \$3.00

In all our lines you will find a Complete Assortment

In our Shirt Department
you will find all the new shades and makes. Prices
50c. \$1, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50
made by good, reliable shirt manufacturers and are protected by
MY OWN GUARANTEE

In fact this store has never shown such good and complete lines since its opening.

OUR MERCHANT TAILORING DEPARTMENT under the efficient management of W. R. Kirkup, is always busy. If in need of anything in this line you will do well in looking our line of samples over.

YOURS FOR SPRING MERCHANDISE

Denison Clothing Co. CHAS. C. KEMMING Proprietor.

For the Children

To succeed these days you must have plenty of grit, courage, strength. How is it with the children? Are they thin, pale, delicate? Do not forget Ayer's Sarsaparilla. You know it makes the blood pure and rich, and builds up the general health in every way.

The children cannot possibly have good health unless the bowels are in proper condition. A sluggish liver gives a coated tongue, bad breath, constipated bowels. Correct all these by giving small, but active doses of Ayer's Pills. All vegetable, sugar-coated.

Made by J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass. Also manufacturers of
Ayer's HAIR VIGOR, AGUE CURE, CHERRY PECTORAL.