

sacrifice the city for their own profit, who have opposed, ineffectually, the effort to get salt water instead of fresh, because the latter was on the east of the city and the salt on the west, who, on one occasion after midnight, induced the city council to authorize the mayor to sign a contract with the gas company, which, contrary to all precedent, was signed by that worthy before morning, men who take a wholly selfish interest in the affairs of the city, it is safe to conclude that their support is based on a thorough knowledge of the candidate and the likelihood of his response to the demands their large interests may require them to make on him in the future.

All men are selfish, but some have no appreciation of society as a whole. They are like ex-Auditor Moore who never stole from anybody as long as he was a private citizen, but who took the money belonging to the people of the state as soon as they placed him in reach of it. They are honest enough when dealing with a man but regard an aggregation of men as a pirate does the merchant ships of the seas.

Whenever the support of these land pirates is unequivocally sincere it is perfectly safe for the people to vote the other way because the interests of the pirate and other mariners on this sea of troubles are never identical. Taxation in Lincoln which has destroyed half of the value of real estate to pay for rotting wooden blocks, a preposterous lighting contract, and the expense of a water department run for politics only is the result of the supremacy of these men. These three functions improperly and extravagantly performed, according to the dictation of a few men, have come near bankrupting two-thirds of the population of this city. The two thirds, of course, are in the majority and they can throw off the burden which they have been freighting for cute politicians as soon as they can agree to any concerted action.

When Kaiser Wilhelm II ascended the throne of Germany he addressed his first words to the army. "We belong together," he said, "I and the army. Thus are we indissolubly united, whether God sends peace or storm. I vow to remember that the eyes of my ancestors are looking down upon me from the other world, and that it is to them I must be responsible for the glory and honor of the army." The eyes of his ancestors, according to Wilhelm, direct him to throttle constitutional expression wherever there is the slightest sign of weakness; the eyes of his ancestors direct him to reiterate the divine right of kings, to be Germany incorporate, to deify himself, and to defeat the reichstag. The directing eyes do not include a pair (if a spirit still has a pair) belonging to the present emperor's father, Frederick III who a hundred days before the accession of Wilhelm II, issued a proclamation emphasizing in the most solemn way the legal and constitutional limits of sovereignty. But even if they did, the eyes of his ancestors would not be selected as a guide for their king by a people who have already secured a constitution. The constitution, that record of the slow experiments of a people in conquering the privilege of governing themselves, is a better guide for a young king than the eyes of ancestors long dead and gone to dust. Poultney Bigelow in "Ten Years of Kaiser Wilhelm" in the current Century proves the emperor's bravery but hardly his judgment or statesmanship. He says he is not sensitive to criticism, but refutes it in the following: "At the opening of this year (1898) Germans

have become so accustomed to seeing men sent to jail on charges of *lese majeste* that no riots occur when their most esteemed editors are sent to prison for having expressed sentiments shared by the bulk of intelligent readers."

The kaiser's exaltation of his own position, even of his own person, above that of the whole people, is an evidence of a common enough form of insanity wherein the victim claims to be the ruler of the universe. Over here we shut these people up.

The popularity of Major Stotzenburg among the soldiers of his company is a tribute to his thoughtfulness for them. His education has taught him the needs of a soldier's life and the dangers which threaten his health, and every private in the command is in better condition by reason of Major Stotzenburg's care. The Nebraska boys, who are somewhere the other side of Honolulu, according to the letters which they write, appreciate the major's unselfish watchfulness and ascribe their good health to his precautions and arrangements for their comfort. The strife among politicians to secure a commission which the privates have a right to demand shall be bestowed on a man who has been taught how to look after a regiment, has resulted in starvation and sanitary horrors at Tampa and Chicamanga. Luckily the army of the west is better officered and there have been few complaints of the commissary or of the condition of the camp grounds.

The immediate result of the Bourgoigne tragedy is the unpopularity of the French line of passenger boats. Travellers do not wish to give their lives into the keeping of a captain whose crew will not obey him in time of an accident or who has not sand enough to shoot everybody who refuses immediate obedience. The American and English captains are autocrats whose authority on board ship is unquestioned. In calm or storm there is no discussion about their divine right to rule. The captain who knows his business and the dangers of the sea may be democratic enough on dry land but when his feet feel the spring and roll of the quarter-deck no absolutism so complete as his rule. For abandoning discipline the French line of steamers are deserted even by Frenchmen who wish to return to their own country. The passengers who have heretofore been content with a French boat, a French captain and a French crew, are suddenly Anglicised, or Americanised and the French wharf is deserted.

The republican papers which have been sanctimoniously advising president and congress that it is the duty of the United States to give back what territory the army and navy have conquered are, since the passage of the Hawaiian annexation bill undetermined as to the best way to get back into entire harmony with the administration and with the course of events. They have been forced to recognize the inexpediency of making expensive island presents to France or Germany or Spain. But having announced that it was inconsistent of the United States to keep them and finding themselves contradicted by the policy of congress and the president, events and by the best contemporary authorities on what is best for America in these new circumstances, they are at present unable to treat of the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico with the authority of ignorance which helped them in their first disquisitions on the tropic islands.

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realized the impossibility of doing anything with the islands, when we get them, except our United States best. The worst would be to return them to the country which has made the lives of the inhabitants miserable, or to present them to Germany, France or England. The first would be cruel and the inhabitants do not deserve it. The second would be a voluntary confession that other nations had a better form of government than ours and could administer an island more acceptably to the inhabitants thereof than Americans. Both of these courses are unamerican, inconsistent with the tenets of our government and disgustingly unpalatable to our national bird, the eagle.

We must hereafter keep a large standing army and part of it might just as well be sent to lean up against the palmetto trees of Cuba, Porto Rico and Manilla as to stand all alone on the treeless plains of the west. The troops will cost no more on the islands than they have on the plains and foreign travel will give them an air which will, in time, enable them to lick the German soldiers, although Mr. Petersen says it can't be done now.

Public sentiment in England in regard to the rights of workmen, the effectiveness of strikes, the duties of employers, etc., in fact all questions relating to industry and capitalists is much in advance of American opinion. An English manufacturer is educated to the point where he admits that a single workman and he are not in a position to make a free contract, and that the union raises its members to within speaking and reasoning distance of the employers. In this country manufacturers and large employers of labor are apt to regard all unions as impertinent, anarchical and unreasonable. The right of the laborer to the largest share of the product of his labor is still an unreasonable demand. The steady growth in membership and in the loyalty of the members to the various trades unions is one of the most hopeful signs of industrial progress in this country. The legislation which has withdrawn children from competition and placed them in the public schools is inspired by workmen and is the direct result of tradesunion discussion and study of industrial conditions. The unions are transforming the laboring man from a drudge into a philosopher, from the slave of capital to an intelligent partner.

Yet there is rarely any sympathetic treatment of the labor question in the daily newspapers. The man with the dinner pail has the press as well as the capitalist against him when he strikes. However fair his demand when a strike is ordered the public is informed that the tyrannical workmen have seized a moment when production can not be interrupted without great injury to the public and loss to the employers, all of which may be true without affecting the justice of the workmen's demands.

In the case of the stereotyper's strike a greater number of extras were issued than there was any demand for. Newspaper rivalry, which is as reckless as that which used to exist between the captains of steamboats on the Mississippi, and causes as many explosions, was the reason for the very unreasonable number of extras issued. The news between the morning and evening editions does not accumulate so rapidly that the general public can not wait for its publication at one or the other time. The demand of the stereotypers to be paid in proportion to their extra labor on the extras is not tyrannical or unfair. Everything else on the extra is paid for by the pub-

lisher, why not the stereotyping? The publishers say the extras don't pay. Then why get them out at the expense of the stereotypers? They cannot afford it either and ought not to be called upon to pay the price of publishers' rivalry. To sum up the case the publishers since the age of stereotyping began have been in the habit of issuing extras on the occasions of war, fire, murder, or of any sudden or unexpected calamity. Such extras doubled the work of the day force of stereotypers, such service has never been paid for, therefore the stereotypers' demand for work heretofore donated, at a time when papers can be sold every hour, though containing nothing really new, is preposterous, and the publishers of Chicago will not grant it. From the workmen's point of view the length of time they have submitted to the unreasonable demands has nothing to do with the case and they applied the philosophy learned at the meetings of the trades unions and through their president ordered a strike at an opportune moment. An unprejudiced examination of the situation must result in the conclusion that the stereotypers have their quarrel just.

The present war with Spain was undertaken for a little starved and tortured Cuban humanity. It would be inhuman on the part of the United States, after subduing our enemy to return the Cubans or the inhabitants of Manilla into the hands of their exasperated enemy. If we should give their colonial islands back to Spain we should have to keep an army there to keep the Spanish soldiery from retaliating their humiliations upon the inhabitants. This being so we might as well keep an army of occupation there on our own account and in order to help the inhabitants to the particular kind of freedom enjoyed in the United States. Not that it has reached an ideal development yet, but it is the best on earth, and far in advance of the sea island variety. George Washington seems to be a stumbling block in the minds of some, to the absorption of islands by the United States. George Washington was a conservative. When the Revolution began he had no idea that the dissolution of our colonial relations to England would be the result; but events and his own victories convinced him that we were sufficient unto ourselves. It is given to no man, not even to the Father of his country, to define the boundaries of his country after his death. Abraham Lincoln committed himself to no definitions restricting the geographical extension of the United States. But he was willing to give his life for the union of the states however distant they might be from the capital of the country. Having detached an island people from Spain it is humane, it is imperative to see that those people have the best form of government there is. It can not be found in Spain, nor in France, nor in Germany. The type which exists in the United States is crude, it has been corrupted, applied to cities it is a tyranny, but it is the best there is and we have no right to offer the islanders anything but the best, however unsatisfactory that may be.

A few writers and orators urge that this war is the only one since nations began to fight, undertaken for unmixed humanitarianism and that, if we acquire any territory, the United States will lose an ideal Sunday school opportunity of teaching the world a lesson. In the first place the immediate cause of war was the sinking of the Maine. The antecedent causes were the suffering of the Cuban women, children and non-belligerents, and the corrupt and oppressive colon-