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THE PRESIDENT'S OPPORTUNITY

At the Chicago tariff revision convention Editor Rosewater, of the Omaha Bee, pointed out that it is necessary to reform the methods of electing United States senators before anything can be done toward securing economic reform. He said he had called the president's attention to the subject. Mr. Rosewater has struck the keynote. The popular election of senators is the gateway to other reforms. Two democratic national platforms have demanded this reform, but this should not keep the republicans from favoring it. Two populist platforms endorsed the change before the democratic conventions acted on it, but that did not deter the democrats. Two democratic congresses (the Fifty-second and Fifty-third) passed the necessary resolution through the lower house and afterward two republican houses the (Fifty-sixth and Fifty-seventh) did the same. More than two-thirds of the states have already endorsed the reform through their legislatures.

Thus it will be seen that no party can claim it as a partisan movement. The president has a great opportunity to strike a blow at corporate domination. Let him send a ringing message to congress recommending this reform and with the democrats already for it his personal influence would be sufficient to force it through the senate. If it did fall of passage through the senate the president's action would insure a plank in the next republican national convention endorsing the reform.

Will the president improve the opportunity? This reform is so important that the credit of securing it would be glory enough for one administration. Will the president act or leave his successor to secure the honor?

STRENUOUS

A Chicago judge declares that the boy who fights and scraps—the "rough house" boy—will "under proper restraint" make a better citizen than the "good" boy. There are two objections to this logic. First it may be difficult to bring him under "proper restraint" and no parent is willing to risk the ruin of his son in the hope that his fighting qualities may finally be turned to advantage. And, second, it is not true that a useful life can be grafted upon a bad character easier than upon a good character. The judge seems to adopt the strenuous view of life which assumes that one will become a degenerate unless he engages in a fight every few days.

AND WHAT DOETH THE LORD REQUIRE
OF THEE BUT TO DO JUSTLY, AND TO LOVE
MERCY, AND TO WALK HUMBLY
WITH THY GOD? MICAH, 6: 8



TIME FOR REPENTANCE

Bishop Fallows thus speaks of the possibilities of a Rockefeller conversion:

Governor La Follette, my fellow university student, has declared, according to report, Rockefeller is the greatest criminal of the age. Miss Tarbell has said he is money mad. Taking it for granted that his conduct has been correctly stated, there is not a doubt that money madness has seized him through and through.

In that madness he has bitten tens of thousands of youths and grown-up men. I cannot help believing that the graft madness so widely prevailing has an intimate relationship to the baleful influence he has so widely exerted. There are insane persons and criminally insane characters. We make a fundamental distinction between the two. Which class of money mad people does Mr. Rockefeller belong to? The ordinary insane person has lost the faculty of judgment. He can not discern correctly. He can not distinguish between right and wrong.

I believe Rockefeller to be mentally defective and color-blind in his makeup. He is a religious man. He is a member in good standing in the Baptist church. But he has put religion in one compartment of his being and business in another. He has seen no moral connection between them. St. Paul's eyes were opened to the fearful mis-

take he had been ignorantly making. From being a red-handed murderer by law he went to the front rank as a benefactor of mankind. But he confessed his guilt, incurred through ignorance. Let Mr. Rockefeller do the same. Let him boldly and at once say "the things I have done were wrong." Let him use his immense wealth at the same time in undoing that wrong as far as possible and in blessing his fellowmen. Fully forgiven, both by God and man, he will rise at once to be the St. John of the twentieth century. No other man now living has such an opportunity.

What a prospect! Rockefeller repentant and endeavoring to atone for the sins of the past! And yet such a reformation is not without parallel. The conscience can do wonders when aroused. The heart is ever in search of peace and it can not find it except in "the conscience void of offense toward God and man." Rockefeller is growing old; he realizes that he has but a short time to live. He is a believer in immortality and he is beginning to think more and more of that future life whose realities he must soon try. When he was younger he may have derived some pleasure from bankrupting a rival. Even the suicide of a broken hearted competitor may not have disturbed him, but he is soon to meet some of his victims. Will he enjoy the