

the mature judgment of an intellect that is comprehensive and ripe, and is proof against being influenced by the machinations of the vicious, or the clamor of the ignorant.

Therefore, it is not difficult to detect the intellectual from non-intellectual among public men after such attain positions that call for publicity of their views, because the opinions they give to the public under the circumstances are always a correct measure and index of the intellectual capacity of such men.

Theodore Roosevelt, as president of the United States is the head of the greatest and most enlightened nation of the earth. He is ambitious to achieve undying fame. He is of a strenuous nature and a man of untiring industry. Never before did opportunity offer to child of earth such a prize as now lay across his path, but which because of insufficient intellectuality he is unable to claim, namely, the plaudits of the good and true men of the earth and the praise of unborn generations, as the greatest, bravest and wisest man that was ever privileged to influence the direction of the iron helm of fate. His opportunity is great because of the great power and influence his high office gives him to mold opinion and give direction to events, at a critical juncture in the life of the mightiest nation of the earth.

But who can peruse the crude and illconsidered intellectual feast he spreads before the nation in his late message, without being overcome by sorrow and shame. He speaks of fortunes swollen to unhealthy proportions, forgets to mention the robber tariff and then recommends congress to subsidize men to own and sail ships over the trackless ocean.

Only men of great initiative embark in such enterprises as shipping. And does the president expect our Vanderbilts, Goulds, Hills, Harrimans, Carnegies or Rockefellers to forego the swollen fortunes that wait upon law sheltered monopoly here upon the land and accept in lieu thereof the comparative pittance that can be acquired in open competition upon the trackless ocean. If he does not expect these prime ministers of high finance to flee from the opportunities that are thrust upon them by law and reject the golden harvests that are overwhelming them, and seek instead the recompense that world wide open competition offers on the seas, what does he mean?

The proposition to subsidize shipping, under existing conditions, is a proposition to continue the fortune swelling tariff, the manufacture of billions of dividend paying stocks and bonds out of wind and water, and extortionate freight rates, telegraph and express tolls to pay interest on a capitalization based upon earning power under conditions of monopoly, and then have the United States treasury put up the difference between the advantages of such investments and the earning power of ships upon the sea, in order to divert capital from the fortune swelling law sheltered monopolies on land into whitening the seas with sail. Such a proposition is on a par with that other absurdity of advocating protection for American labor while surrendering

millions on the islands of the Pacific in an attempt to build up trade with China, which spells doom to the white labor of the nations of the earth as soon as it is accomplished. Because, regardless of any narcotic concealed under the euphonious term of trade extension, trade with China has but one meaning, namely, the breaking down of the dam that holds confined a vast reservoir of cheap human labor in China. Consider what a calamity it would be for the white man if the avowed purposes of our invasion of the Orient should meet with success. The men who are beneficiaries of law sheltered monopolies understand well the source of their incomes and are not only diligent but strenuous in defence of the same. The dream of untold wealth and power, through the exploitation of China, has vanished and the dreamer is disillusioned, but forces of dire portent have been put in motion that challenge the statesmanship of the present and the future. The times demand statesmen that are well rounded intellectually and morally. The exhibition of incapacity that is furnished by the president in his recent message ought to serve as a warning of the danger of placing at the helm of state men of mediocre abilities.

DEPEW'S SWELLED HEAD

(From the Times, Buffalo, N. Y.)

"For fifty years," says Senator Depew, "I had nothing but flattery and praise from the press; during the last two years I have had nothing but unlimited criticism."

It took a long time for the press to find the senator out. The truth came out at the investigation of the insurance business in this state. It developed that the senator was one of a crew of land pirates who had been preying upon widows and orphans for years, diverting money which had been entrusted to them to wrongful purposes. It shocked the press when it found that behind the mask of respectability and honor was cunning and duplicity.

"I am curious to know," muses the senator, "just how long it will take for the criticism to reduce entirely the feeling of gratification—the swelling of my head—that was created by the fifty years of flattery."

That the head of the senator was swelled to enormous proportions no one doubts. It has been reduced somewhat by the disclosures at the insurance investigation. Of course, no one can be expected to say just how long it will take to get it back to its normal size. That the senator still believes in himself to some extent is apparent, but probably the estimation in which he held himself up to the time the press and public began to learn things about him and express its opinion of him has lessened considerably. If the press and public had the chance it would reduce the swelling of his head a great deal more by throwing him out of the United States senate.

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Poor congress! It stands under the threat of an illustrated essay on the

Panama canal and a communication upon the tariff question from the prolix head of the government. Cannot the Massachusetts society with the long name intervene in this matter.

An insistent demand that more power be conferred upon the president runs all through the recent message of the imitation kaiser who presides over the White House at Washington.

If the extra volumes of the message that are yet to come had been dumped upon an unoffending public all at one time, the consequences might have been serious.

Congress is now in session, and the state legislature will soon assemble. The Independent will keep its readers posted regarding the doings of both state and national governments.

Of course the purpose of the president was to allay jingoism in Japan and show a tender regard for the national pride of the little brown man. But the talk about military force sounds somewhat harsh to the proud Californian.

By the time congress has digested the big chunks of superior wisdom contained in the president's recent message, it will be time for that body to adjourn in order that the members may take treatment at sanitariums so as to be prepared for future work.

If you want to know the truth regarding the conduct of your member of the incoming legislature during the session of 1907 subscribe for The Independent. This paper will give each member the praise and blame that is his due regardless of which political party he represents.

The Independent prayerfully suggests to President Roosevelt that his messages to congress be issued as a serial in the future. Fortnightly editions throughout each session of congress would enable the press to find space for them and allow congressmen and the public time to read them.

The brotherhood of man does not mean that the different races shall reside together in the same state, or in the same house, upon terms of equality. But it does mean that each are entitled to their own state and their own house where they may live in security and in the full and free enjoyment of life after their own peculiar notions. Brotherhood does not mean amalgamation of the races, and a world of hybrids.

A comparison of the treatment accorded by President Roosevelt to the little republic of Colombia, with his recent utterance on the Japanese trouble in San Francisco plainly shows that the president carefully scrutinizes the size of the vehicle he meets before determining how much of the road he will give. But he demonstrated his ability to get out of the way when he meets a big wagon as well as to make the fellow with the little wagon get out of his way.

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