

NORTH SHORE NEWS-LETTER

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OUR SIDE WALKS.

When ancient Jerusalem made a law that every man should keep his own door way clean and so secure a clean city they had no piles of snow to urge the increasing value of such a law. But in those North Shore cities and villages there is an imperative need of united action on

the pathways.

We sympathize warmly with the appeal of certain citizens who are asking for an ordinance compelling the owners and residents of property to clean off the snow within a reasonable time after a storm.

The chief trouble is with vacant property, especially when the owner is absent from home or a resident elsewhere. But we can trust the men of the city council to provide for this difficulty.

Who knows but Mr. Brace might now have been amongst us had there been prompt and adequate attention to such a necessary provision of law?

Our Outlook

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Defiance of wealthy opponents,—no retreat from positions already taken,—attack on other forces of evil and corruption,—fearless advocacy of needed reforms,—these were the war notes of President Roosevelt's latest and most aggressive message.

When he said "the people will tolerate no backward step," he put himself in the place of the people and staked his entire political influence present and future, on his own masterful conviction and energy.

There is so much in this address that it cannot be summarized in a few paragraphs. Every sentence rings with the sound of a general's commanding orders.

This is the text of the aggressive and attacking features of the address and from beginning to end that thought is never lost sight of.

RESPONSIBILITY OF EMPLOYERS.

Mr. Roosevelt does not speak of the responsibility of the employer for the employed in any doubtful measures. He begins with the government in his announcement and says:

"Under the present law an injured workman in the employment of the government has no remedy, and the entire burden of the accident falls on the helpless man, his wife and his young children. This is an outrage. It is a matter of humiliation to the nation that there should not be on

our statute books provision to meet and partially to atone for cruel misfortune when it comes upon a man through no fault of his own while faithfully serving the public."

We looked for a further statement here, however. Perhaps, it has not come under President Roosevelt's notice that the government does not care for its sick employees. A letter carrier subject to stress of weather may suffer and his family starve—for the government makes no provision for him when sick.

When the President says:—

"Our proposition is not to confer a right of action upon the government employe, but to secure him suitable provision against injuries received in the course of his employment. The burden of the trade risk should be placed upon the government. Exactly as the workingman is entitled to his wages, so he should be entitled to indemnity for the injuries sustained

the same basic principle which should apply to the government should ultimately be made applicable to all private employers."

This is a mere illustration of many provisions which the President would make in the interests of men and women of the nation.

"It is where he proclaims the punishment of the rich thieves that the President displays his characteristic courage and energy. In this one respect we see in his message something approaching the bold denunciations of the ancient prophets. He is not to be dismayed or arrested from strong measures by the implication of men who try to fasten on him the causes of business flurries and financial stringency.

WOULD USE THE KNIFE.

"If it were true that to cut out rottenness from the body politic meant a momentary check to an unhealthy seeming prosperity, I should not for one moment hesitate to put the knife to the corruption."

"We attack only the corrupt men of wealth who find in the purchased politician the most efficient instrument of corruption and in the purchased newspaper the most efficient defender of corruption."

These are flashes from the sword of a warrior. They reveal an arm that is mighty for war against organized iniquity. They sound like a trumpet proclaiming liberty for the oppressed and relief for the nation from the corrupt men who have sold their corrupt men who have sold their country for gold.

"When we are able to put the real wrongdoer in prison this is what we strive to do; this is what we have actually done with some very wealthy criminals, who, moreover, represented that most baneful of all alliances, the alliance between the corruption of organized politics and the corruption of high finance."

There is the sword struck home. The enemy is not only warned but smitten, and men must learn that no quarter will be given them when they sell their country for gain any more than there would be for another Aaron Burr or Benedict Arnold.

Nor is it inconsistent with true economy and the commercial good of

the nation as Mr. Roosevelt points out in the following sentence:

"The 'business' which is hurt by the movement for honesty is the kind of business, which in the long run, it pays the country to have hurt."

Here is a program of legislative measures suggested in this remarkable document.

1. Immediate re-enactment of the employers' liability law.
2. Compensation for civilian government employes injured in the line of duty.
3. Compensation for the injured employes on the Panama Canal.
4. Checks against the abuse of the federal injunction.
5. Power to the interstate commerce commission to take the initiative in passing upon a railroad rate or practice.
6. Power to interstate commerce commission to make a physical valuation of railroads as a blow at stock watering.
7. Power to interstate commerce

change of interstate commerce laws.

8. Power to the interstate commerce commission to determine schedules for the transportation of perishable commodities.

9. Permission to railroad companies to form traffic pools, but with open books and government inspection and supervising.

10. An act forbidding the use of the mails, telegraph or telephone lines for the purpose of stock gambling.

11. Federal supervision of all interstate corporations.

NOT VENGEANCE BUT DELIVERANCE.

This is an age of awakenings. For many centuries there have been vast active forces for evil, without even an attempt to remedy them. The best that has been done, even during the past fifty years, in our own and other civilized countries, is to give some little help to ease the effects without any attempt to deal with causes.

This has been true of what is called the social evil. An occasional victim has been rescued from the final death of the body after the soul has been already in the flames of an awful hell.

But there is a beginning of awakening towards suppression of the traffic which fatten on the ruin of girls and men and women are alert to this end—both by legislation and by active co-operative philanthropic agencies.

So with the army of criminals. Once in a while we rescue some perishing one whose special case arouses attention but the great army of crime is daily recruited from the ranks of the innocent and weak.

Seldom has there been a more telling appeal addressed to any body of thoughtful men than that of Judge

gregational ministers of Chicago on Monday, February 3.

What the Judge calls "the waste of our fellow beings who are sent to jail" without opportunity to redeem themselves, is the most fatal policy of our criminal courts.

Taking as the suggestive text of his theme the treatment of Jesus Christ toward the woman taken in adultery, the Judge pointed out that the woman was not declared innocent, but was sent away "on parole."—"Go and sin no more."

A large percentage of crime arises from similar conduct as of those men who sought to condemn the women. They are worse criminals than the

creatures whose condemnation they seek. "The prosecuting witness is often a guiltier criminal than him they accuse."

"Again," says Judge Cleland, "the State makes provision to promote crime and also provide temptation to commit crime. The legalized saloon is a most prevalent temptation to crime."

"American people," said he, "have the happy faculty of beginning at the wrong end. Thus they take the Bible out of the school and put it in the penitentiary."

It is a sad step backward that the policy of this thoughtful and humane Judge should have been suddenly checked. "Personally," said Judge Cleland, "I am much more at ease, I have gained sleep and time since I was removed from the Maxwell street Court, but I regret that I could not continue to give opportunity to the falling to recover themselves by the parole system, which is perfectly legal and it is, I believe, not far distant

DRAMATIC NOTES.

Augustus Thomas' delightful play, "The Witching Hour," unanimously praised, has entered upon its third week of popularity at the Garrick Theatre, Chicago, and the sale of seats has been extended four weeks in advance. The phenomenal hit scored by this play is easy to understand for no more exciting incidents or more thrilling story of heart interest has been told before the footlights in a long time and the Thomas dialogue bristles throughout with such clever lines, such human interest and such flashes of spontaneous comedy that the audience is kept applauding and laughing throughout while certain high climaxes of tragic intensity or pathos to thrill them as the action of the main theme develops. The background of Kentucky politics and of the Goebel assassination affords a striking setting for the drama of inherited prejudice and crime committed in a single moment of almost insane frenzy.

The novelty of all the types and the originality of the play makes indeed an entertainment far beyond the average and Mr. Thomas will net from "The Witching Hour" a fortune in royalties equal to those won for him in his "Alabama" and "Arising" put together.

McVicker's—The coming of Mr. James O'Neill to McVickers is regarded with pleasure and anticipation. Mr. O'Neill's impersonation of Virginius has earned for him a great reputation in New York. Chicago people will probably look forward to the presentation of Monte Cristo and Julius Caesar with equal pleasure. In the New York American Mr. Alan Dale says:—Mr. O'Neill is a reverent actor—with much dramatic force and good taste—an actor whom you accept gratefully in these days of slouches and slovens."

PUBLIC NOTICE:—Public notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the stockholders of the Craftsman's Guild Kitchen held on January 3rd, 1908, the capital stock of said corporation was increased from Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$2500.00) Dollars to Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars, and certificates of such increase have been filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, and the Recorder of Deeds of the County of Lake, Illinois.

B. C. TAYLOR, President.
A. R. WILLIAMS, Secretary. 456

Bird's Fond of Mice.
Gamecocks sometimes take to catching mice, which they devour.