

said:—

"We began with an unapproached heritage of forests; more than half of the timber is gone.

"We began with coal fields more extensive than those of any other nation and with iron ores regarded as inexhaustible, and many experts now declare that the end of both iron and coal is in sight.

"The mere increase in our consumption of coal during 1907 over 1906 exceeded the total consumption in 1876, the centennial year.

"The enormous stores of mineral oil and gas are largely gone.

"Our natural waterways are not gone, but they have been so injured by neglect, and by the division of responsibility and utter lack of system in dealing with them, that there is less navigation on them now than there was fifty years ago.

"Finally, we began with soils of unexampled fertility and we have so impoverished them by injudicious use and by failing to check erosion that their crop-producing power is diminishing instead

position where it had to engage in the gutter brawls of the bullies of Europe.

You had to enlarge your army and navy, and as you proceeded the inevitable consequence is apparent. "It is human for a nation to overexalt itself in the flush of victory. I notice that your Congress has not been swept away by this trend of thought and that, after all, there is a hope for America to continue along its original lines of material development.

That is a note worthy of reflection. It is to be regretted that President Roosevelt seems to follow Admiral Evans' view of a nation's strength rather than the greater and nobler view expressed by the Irish Cardinal.

PRURIENT CURIOSITY.

The love of the merely curious, whether a secret not our own, or a revelation of the horrible and inhuman seems to be a very common trait among men

OUR NAVY—CONTRASTING VIEWS

Commodore "Bob" Evans—retiring from actual duty—an invalid, is yet full of the spirit of fight. Born fighter that he is, he is impressed with the idea that a nation's security lies in the potency and strength of its fighting forces. On arrival at Chicago on Wednesday he said:—

"At the present time we have a navy to be proud of. It was never in better condition before in the history of this country. And the fleet at San Francisco is in better condition than when it left the Atlantic.

"But we are not prepared to fight any country in the world. What we need is a fleet of forty-eight battleships. We have twenty-nine now. With sixteen ships to defend each coast, and a reserve fleet of sixteen ships for an emergency, we could defy the world.

"I contend that we have the best navy for its size in the world. But it isn't big enough. What's the use of having a fleet of battleships that some other country can come over and lick any time it gets ready.

"A navy of that sort is only a temptation for other powers and a useless expense for us. If we are going to have a navy, let us have one that will size up with any other in the world. In that, and that only, does our safety lie." So the redoubtable "Bob" thinks our safety is in a fleet of forty-eight ships. If he lives to see some other country increase their navy to fifty or sixty then he would have to revise his figures.

AN IRISH CARDINAL SPEAKS

But a visitor to our country has been looking on. Cardinal Logue says:—

"The United States should not foster a large standing army and tremendous navy. I do not pretend to understand the American situation so thoroughly that I should consider myself in a position to criticize its vital policies," but I have been a student of events that have made history, and in my three-score years of reason I have seen the world's progress accentuated by great happenings.

"There is no need for a monster army and a formidable navy in the United States. Your position in world affairs is recognized abroad. You are respected for your material and intellectual accomplishments. Those whom one respects are invariably free from assault.

"It was the fortune of war that the United States should have reaped the spoils of carnage at Manila. "With the retention of those possessions came an added responsibility. This was of such a range that it at once placed America in a

position where it had to engage in the gutter brawls of the bullies of Europe. You had to enlarge your army and navy, and as you proceeded the inevitable consequence is apparent. "It is human for a nation to overexalt itself in the flush of victory. I notice that your Congress has not been swept away by this trend of thought and that, after all, there is a hope for America to continue along its original lines of material development. That is a note worthy of reflection. It is to be regretted that President Roosevelt seems to follow Admiral Evans' view of a nation's strength rather than the greater and nobler view expressed by the Irish Cardinal. PRURIENT CURIOSITY. The love of the merely curious, whether a secret not our own, or a revelation of the horrible and inhuman seems to be a very common trait among men and women. Thousands of women and children are daily pouring into Northern Indiana to witness the wreck and ruin of the notorious Guinness farm. If ever there was a crime that all humanity should desire to bury out of sight it is the awful series of murders which shock us, as each new victim is announced. We have no wish to contribute one jot to the notoriety of this horror, but we do protest that it is a sad sign of moral weakness that teams and vehicles of every description were tied up to the fence and to every available post within half a mile of the scene of the ruins of the Guinness home. A newspaper report states that

"Enterprising liverymen are reaping a harvest out of the tragedy. In addition to rigs hired to people to drive to the scene, the liverymen have stationed busses on prominent corners and 'barkers' shout continually, 'Direct to the scene of the murder mystery for a quarter.' The same is true at the railroad station."

It is the same spirit of curiosity which leads to many another form of evil. The miserable dime museums would have no support but the curiosity, to see secrets or to view the monstrous.

The trouble at Gray's Lake grows out of a mild form of the same appetite. The postmistress of that little village is a person of general good character long esteemed and trusted. But she seems to have allowed her curiosity to pry into the secrets of other people to such an extent that she opens their letters to read the "love affairs" and other matters which make first-rate material for gossip.

F. W. Schumacher still has a few gallons of that fine Maple Syrup on hand. Don't miss a chance to buy a gallon.

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