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## ROOSEVELT SPEAKS OF MAN WITH MUCK RAKE

### Sensational Address in Which Lying Scribes and Pharisees Are Hit

## ASSAILS CRITICS OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE

Declares That the liar is no whit better than the thief and if his mendacity takes the form of slander he may be worse than most thieves—To Attack Public Evils So As to Include Decent Men, and Great Harm is Done—A Resolves Public Conscience and Great Harm is Done—A Remarkable Speech.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, April 14.—President Roosevelt, at the corner stone ceremonies this afternoon, delivered an address, his subject being "The Man With the Muck Rake." He said:

Over a century ago Washington laid the corner stone of the capitol in what was then little more than a tract of wooded wilderness here beside the Potomac. We now find it necessary to provide by great additional buildings for the business of the government. This growth in the need for the housing of the government is but a proof and example of the way in which the nation has grown and the sphere of action of the national government has grown. We now administer the affairs of a nation in which the extraordinary growth of population has been outstripped by the growth of wealth and the growth in complex interests. The material problems that face us today are not such as they were in Washington's time, but the underlying facts of human nature are the same now as they were then. Under altered external form we war with the same tendencies toward evil that were evident in Washington's time, and are helped by the same tendencies for good. It is about some of these that I wish to say a word today.

In Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress you may recall the description of the Man with the Muck-rake, the man who could look no way but downward, with the muck-rake in his hand; who was offered a celestial crown for his muck-rake, but who would neither look up nor regard the crown he was offered, but continued to rake to himself the filth of the bog.

In Pilgrim's Progress the man with the Muck-rake is set forth as the example of him whose vision is fixed on carnal instead of on spiritual things. Yet he also typifies the man who in this life consistently refuses to see aught that is lofty, and fixes his eyes with solemn intentness only on that which is vile and debasing. Now, it is very necessary that we should be firm in seeing what is vile and debasing. There is filth on the floor, and it must be scrapped up with the muck-rake; and there are times and places where this service is the most needed of all the services that can be performed. But the man who never does anything else, who never thinks or speaks or writes, save of his feasts with the muck-rake, speedily becomes, not a help to society, not an incentive to good, but one of the most potent forces for evil.

There are, in the body politic, economic and social, many and grave evils, and there is urgent necessity for sternest war upon them. There should be relentless exposure of and attack upon every evil man, whether politician or business man, every evil practice, whether in politics, in business, or in social life. I hail as a benefactor every writer or speaker, every magazine, or newspaper, with merciless severity makes such attacks, provided always that he in his turn remembers that the attack is of use only if it is absolutely truthful. The liar is no whit better than the thief, and if his mendacity takes the form of slander, he may be worse than most thieves. It puts a premium upon knavery unthinkingly to attack an honest man, or even with hysterical exaggeration to assail a bad man with untruth. An epidemic of indiscriminate assault upon character does not good, but very great harm. The soul of every scoundrel is gladdened whenever an honest man is assailed, or even when a scoundrel is untruthfully assailed.

Invite a reaction which is sure to toll powerfully in favor of the unscrupulous scoundrel who really ought to be attacked, who ought, if possible, to put in the penitentiary. If Aristides is praised overmuch as just, people get tired of hearing it; and overcensure of the unjust finally and from similar reasons results in their favor.

**Reaction Must Come.**

Any excess is almost sure to invite a reaction; and, unfortunately, the reaction, instead of taking the form of punishment of those guilty of the excess, is very apt to take the form either of punishment of the unoffending or of giving immunity, and even strength, to offenders. The effort to make financial or political profit out of the destruction of character can only result in public calamity. Gross and reckless assaults on character, whether on the stump or in newspaper, magazine, or book, create a morbid and public sentiment, and at the same time act as a profound deterrent to able men of normal sensitiveness and tend to prevent them from entering the public service at any price. As an instance in point, I may mention that one serious difficulty encountered in getting the right type of men to dig the Panama Canal is the certainty that they will be exposed, both without and, I am sorry to say, sometimes within, congress, to utterly reckless assaults on their character and capacity.

At the risk of repetition let me say again that my plea is, not for immunity to but for the most unsparring exposure of the politician who betrays his trust, of the big business men who makes or spends his fortune in illegitimate or corrupt ways. There should be a resolute effort to hunt every such man out of the position he has discredited. Expose the crime, and hunt down the criminal; but remember that even in the case of crime, if it is attacked in sensational, lurid, and untruthful fashion, the attack may do more damage to the public mind than the crime itself. It is because I feel that there should be no rest in the endless war against the forces of evil that I ask that the war be conducted with sanity as well as with resolution. The men with the muck-rake are often indispensable to the well-being of moral color-blindness; and people affected by it come to the conclusion that no man is really black, and no man really white, but they are all gray. In other words, they neither believe in the truth of the attack, nor in the honesty of the man who is attacked; they grow suspicious of the accusation as of the offender. It becomes well-nigh hopeless to stir them either to wrath against wrongdoing or to enthusiasm for what is right; and such a mental attitude in the public gives hope to every knave, and is the despair of honest men.

**Sears Public Conscience.**

To assail the great and admitted evils of our political and industrial life with such crude and sweeping generalizations as to include decent men in the general condemnation means to weaken the public conscience. There results a general attitude either of cynical belief in and indifference to public corruption or else of a distrustful inability to discriminate between the good and the bad. Either attitude is fraught with untold damage to the country as a whole. The fool who has not sense to discriminate between what is good and what is bad is well-nigh as dangerous as the man who does discriminate and yet chooses the bad. There is nothing more distressing to every good patriot, to every good American, than the hard, scoffing spirit which treats the allegation of dishonesty in a public man as a cause for laughter. Such laughter is worse than the cracking of thorns under a pot, for it denotes not merely the vacant mind, but the heart in which high emotions have been choked before they could grow to fruition.

There is any amount of good in the world, and there never was a time when loftier and more disinterested work for the betterment of mankind was being done than now. The forces that tend for evil are great and terrible, but the forces of truth and love and courage and honesty and generosity and sympathy are also stronger than ever before. It is a foolish and timid, no less than a wicked thing, to blink the fact that the forces of evil are strong, but it is even worse to fail to take into account the strength of the forces that tell for good. Hysterical sensationalism is the very poorest weapon wherewith to fight for lasting righteousness. The man who with stern sobriety and truth assails the many evils of our time, whether in the public press, or in the magazines, or in books, are the leaders and allies of all engaged in the work for social and political betterment. But if they give good reason for distrust of what they say, if they chill the ardor of those who demand truth as a primary virtue, they thereby betray the good cause, and play into the hands of the very men against whom they are nominally at war.

**Quotes Bishop Hooker.**

In his Ecclesiastical Polity that fine old Elizabethan divine, Bishop Hooker, wrote: "He that goeth about to persuade a multitude that they are not so well governed or men in public life, is that they

## CORNER STONE WAS LAID TODAY

### New Office Building is Provided for Congress

## AN IMPRESSIVE EVENT

President Roosevelt Was the Special Orator of the Occasion and "Muck Rake Man" Was the Burden of His Song—The Program and the Cemetery.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, April 14.—In the presence of a distinguished assemblage with the president of the United States taking a prominent part, with the supreme court and the senate, the house of representatives and the diplomatic corps as spectators and before a large concourse of people the corner-stone of the office building for the house of representatives was laid with impressive ceremonies this afternoon. The address of the president of the United States taking a prominent part, with the supreme court and the senate, the house of representatives and the diplomatic corps as spectators and before a large concourse of people the corner-stone of the office building for the house of representatives was laid with impressive ceremonies this afternoon.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, April 14.—Reference to the special order in the house today, eulogies to the late Senator Platt, of Connecticut, was made in the invocation of the blind chaplain when that body met. As soon as the journal of yesterday's proceedings had been read, several members endeavored to take the floor to correct the record of their votes on the Southern Railway mail subsidy.

At 2.15 the eulogies were completed and as a further mark of respect the house adjourned.

## AN EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS JAPAN

(By the Associated Press.) Tokyo, April 14.—A violent earthquake occurred this morning in the southern part of the island of Formosa. The casualties and damage done are reported to be heavier than those of the last earthquake.

As a result of the earthquake in Formosa last month 1,014 persons were killed, 695 were injured and 1,200 houses were demolished. The prosperous towns of Daito, Raishiko and Shinko were completely destroyed. The damage done was roughly estimated at \$5,000,000.

## FAST MAIL WON ON NEW COUNT

### Narrow Escape for Thing the South Demands

## 97 YEARS AND 96 DAYS

When the House Met Today the Record Was Challenged and Corrections Were Made, But It Did Not Change the Result—Some Eulogies.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, April 14.—Reference to the special order in the house today, eulogies to the late Senator Platt, of Connecticut, was made in the invocation of the blind chaplain when that body met. As soon as the journal of yesterday's proceedings had been read, several members endeavored to take the floor to correct the record of their votes on the Southern Railway mail subsidy.

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## THREE KILLED AT GRADE CROSSING

(By the Associated Press.) Greenville, Pa., April 14.—As a result of a grade crossing accident at Atlantic, Pennsylvania, near here on the Erie road today three persons were killed and two others injured.

Mrs. Maud Calvin, aged 27 and her two daughters, one an infant and the other six years old. A daughter, aged three, had an arm and leg broken and a young son was badly cut and bruised.

## PICKPOCKET STOLE BUNCH OF JEWELRY

(By the Associated Press.) New York, April 14.—A pickpocket stole \$20,000 worth of jewelry early today in the Tenderloin district by feigning need of charity. Emilio Serge, a diamond cutter, reported to the police that while he and another man were walking together through west Twenty-Seventh street, near Sixth Avenue, they were spoken to by a negro, who appeared to be in distress. Serge says that she took hold of his coat while asking for money. After she had disappeared he found that an inner coat pocket had been picked of its contents, including the jewelry which was in a small package. He says that he received the jewels a short time ago from Italy as his share of the estate of his father, who was also a diamond cutter. The police after an investigation arrested a negro woman and two negro men on suspicion.

**A Handsome Mantel.** The handsome new mantel being installed in the executive office of Governor Glenn is of white marble. It has fluted Grecian pilasters with Ionic capitals. There is a fascelle of the great seal of the state. It is an especially handsome mantel and imparts a pleasing and appropriate tone to the executive office.

## COMPLAINTS ARE POURING IN

### Records of Commission Show Freight Congestion

## PHENOMENAL INCREASE

Railroads Paying Heavy Penalties Because of Inability to Deliver Freight Within the Time Limit Fixed by Last Legislature—A Typical Case from Wilmington—Companies Effect.

An unusually large number of complaints are coming in to the North Carolina Corporation Commission as to delays in the movement of freights by the railroad companies in all parts of the state and it is said that the only plausible explanation of the situation is that the freight shipments are increasing to such a phenomenal degree that the roads in many instances find themselves absolutely unable to move the freight as fast as it is tendered by the shippers.

The last legislature passed an act providing that railroads shall be allowed four days within which to deliver freights to destinations within 100 miles. For the fifth day a fine of \$25 is prescribed and \$5 for each additional day's delay. The only way for the railroads to avoid the payment of these fines is to come into court and plead an unavoidable congestion of freight for which they are not to blame.

The statement was made in the office of the commission today that the railroads are paying out large amounts in these forfeitures, the settlements being reached with the individual shippers outside the courts. This would indicate that the railroads are simply overwhelmed with the volume of freight being offered for transportation.

## MISTRIAL IN MENGES SUIT.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, April 14.—The jury, before which Morris C. Menges suit to recover \$100,000 from General Louis Fitzgerald has been on trial, announced today that it had disagreed and was discharged. The jurors stood ten in favor of Menges and two against him. He claims the money in payment for an alleged contract for services in the Western Maryland Railroad deal.

## SIX MINUTES FOR SENATE.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, April 14.—The senate met at 2 o'clock today and adjourned six minutes later, the only business transacted being the receipt of the postage-free appropriation bill from the house of representatives. The early adjournment was taken to permit the senate to attend the corner stone laying of the office building of the house of representatives.

## SHAW LENDS GOLD TO NATIONAL BANK

New York, April 14.—Announcement that Secretary of the Treasury Shaw has permitted the National City Bank to draw gold from the United States treasury department pending the arrival here of gold engaged by this bank for import from London was made today. The bank was allowed the use of this government gold upon depositing bonds sufficient to cover the amount of the import. Gold engaged by the National City Bank for importation from London amounts to over \$10,000,000.

An engagement of \$5,000,000 gold in London for importation in the United States was announced today by the National City Bank.

## MR. TOWNE WILL EXPOSE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

### 300 HORSES ROASTED Burned to Death in Fire in Baltimore Today

Flames Started in Pile of Hay and Spread So Rapidly That Animals Could Not Be Saved—Terrible Scene as Slaughter Continued.

(By the Associated Press.) Baltimore, April 14.—About three hundred horses and mules were burned to death in a fire of unknown origin that completely destroyed the auction stables of Moses Fox, 318 and 322 North street early today. The damage is estimated at about \$55,000.

## BACK FROM WASHINGTON Gov. Glenn Had Pleasant and Successful Trip

Expected to Save Several Thousand Dollars to North Carolina National Guard—Heard Discussion of Southern Fast Mail Appropriation in Congress—Democracy in Splendid Trim.

Governor R. B. Glenn returned this morning from Washington where he says he effected the preliminary steps for a settlement of the differences between the accounts of the United States war department and the North Carolina National Guard that will result in the saving of several thousand dollars to the North Carolina Guard.

While in Washington the Governor attended the sessions of congress and heard one of the most heated discussions of the Southern fast mail appropriation. He says he found the democratic forces there in splendid trim and the prediction is freely made and not denied by the republicans that there will be big democratic gains in the next congress.

## CONTEST FOR DECLARER'S MEDAL.

W. B. Truitt of Leazer Literary Society, won the medal last night at the annual declaimer's contest between the Leazer, the Pilen and the Tenarian societies of the A. & M. College. His subject was "The Impenitence of Warren Hastings." There were two speakers for each society, the second one of the Leazer being J. S. Stroud, subject: "Affairs in Cuba." For the Pilen Society the speakers were L. R. Tillett, "The New South," and C. P. Gray, "The March of the Flag." Tenarian: S. Eldridge, "The Unknown Speaker," and F. P. Ferguson, "George Washington As the Father of His Country."

The judges for the occasion were D. H. Hill, W. C. Riddick and C. W. Burkett, members of the college faculty. Each of the speakers came in for high commendation at the hands of the judges.

## J. W. ALEXANDER WILL RECOVER.

(By the Associated Press.) Deerfield, Mass., April 14.—An official statement given out today in the case of James W. Alexander, formerly President of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, who is ill at a private sanitarium here, shows that Mr. Alexander is slightly improved, though his progress toward recovery is not rapid. The two surgical operations which the patient underwent in New York not long ago weakened Mr. Alexander, but it is expected that he will recover his health.

### "Greatest Promiser Since Days of Judas Iscariot," He Says

## FILCHED RATE BILL FROM THE DEMOCRATS

New York Congressman Delivers Bitter Speech in St. Louis in Which He Praises Bryan and Denounces Roosevelt—Says He Will Attack the President When He Returns to Washington and Will Show the True Character of the Man.

(By the Associated Press.) Kansas City, Mo., April 14.—Representative Charles A. Towne of New York, responding to a toast here last night at the Jefferson Day banquet, went outside his speech to eulogize William J. Bryan and to bitterly attack President Roosevelt. Both sentiments aroused the most intense enthusiasm, reference to the Nebraska ending in a demonstration that amounted to an uproar. Mr. Towne did not refer to Mr. Bryan by name.

"Your toastmaster has put upon me the duty of referring to our great standard-bearer of 1896 said he, 'I feel almost that he himself in far away India must be catching the enthusiasm of your homage tonight.'"

Mr. Towne then read from an editorial in which sympathy was offered to the democratic editor who was wont to write columns on imperialism and free silver.

"I am as thankful as any one that the money question has worked itself out so satisfactorily," resumed Mr. Towne. "But I cannot accept in silence the popular version of why the predicted panic that was to follow the adoption of gold standard did not materialize. The panic did not occur because since 1896 the country has produced enough gold to supply the money market without material increase in the silver output. We owe our prosperity to providence, not to a policy. When men refused to open the mint God opened the mines."

Then Mr. Towne attacked President Roosevelt. "I'm going to take you into my confidence this much," said the speaker, telling you that I am going back to Washington with the avowed purpose of exposing President Roosevelt. He is the greatest promiser and smallest performer since the days of Judas Iscariot. He filched his rate legislation program from a national democratic platform and has now laid down on his own bill; he sends for legislators and lectures them like boys, and his tools—consider them for a minute. They are a speaker and a degenerate horse. Nowadays there are three steps in national legislation—getting the permission of 'Uncle Joe' to introduce a bill and then securing its passage in the house and the senate. I get no show in the house. I might as well make a power of attorney to the speaker and go back home and get to work. I wouldn't stay in congress or in the democratic party if I did not believe that democracy will eventually triumph in national affairs."

It was far after midnight before the speech making was finished and Mr. Towne's response was to one of the last toasts on the program.

## COMMITTEE AFTER CLEANER ELECTIONS

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, April 14.—The house committee on election of president, vice president and representatives in congress began today a series of executive meetings to be continued Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays for the consideration of legislation which will prevent election frauds. It is understood that no further hearings are to be held with reference to the matter. Today the consideration was confined to the bill introduced early in the session by Mr. Bonyng of Colorado. This bill gives the United States courts jurisdiction in all descriptions of frauds relating to the election of representatives or delegates in congress and provides heavy penalties for the use of any of the fraudulent means named.