

Now that President Roosevelt has got beyond the reach of the brother of the assassin of McKinley, it may be no longer lese majeste to note and comment upon the action of the authorities in southern California with reference to this unfortunate man. John Czolgosz is not known to have committed any crime. Nothing is known against him except that his father and mother were also the father and mother of the Czolgosz who killed McKinley. He is an American by birth, by education, by association, and by continuous residence. Yet, he was arrested, when President Roosevelt came into California, not for any crime he had committed or was suspected of intending to commit, but solely as a "precautionary measure" for the protection of the President. The only difference between this sort of thing and what they used to do in France just before the great revolution is in the number of victims. When the police can arrest American citizens without any other cause than that a dead brother was once a criminal, and simply as a "precautionary measure," it is evident that we are getting perilously near to a state of affairs calculated not to suppress anarchy but to produce it.

A curious petition for relief has been addressed to President Roosevelt. It is a bitter plaint from manufacturers of agricultural implements, and is curious because it reads so much like a trade union "tirade" or a "calamity howler's" speech. According to this petition, the great trusts on which the petitioners are dependent for materials, are using these manufacturers as errand boys to collect trust prices of farmers and turn over the proceeds to the trusts. They are able to keep none of the high profits for themselves. It seems, however, that one farm implement manufacturing concern has been able to circumvent the trusts, and the way in which it has done so is instructive. It has made its raw materials secure by providing them for itself.

To that end it has purchased mills, factories, furnaces, etc. But its managers have realized that this would not be enough. Producing plants do not yield raw material. To be quite out of the reach of trust dictation, you must get closer to the earth than that. And so thought the agricultural implement concern which circumvented the trusts, for it also bought timber lands and iron mines. For this reason it is now able to boast that it is no longer dependent upon any trust for its raw materials. The other agricultural implement manufacturers are unhappy calamity howlers who know not how prosperous are these very prosperous times. But they have done a wise thing. By appealing to Mr. Roosevelt they are certain either to get prosperity out of his bountiful horn of plenty, or to learn that they are missing it because they are incapables.

And now it transpires that the whole of Gen. Miles's report on conditions in the Philippines (pp. 49, 56), has not been published. The same policy of suppression and falsification that has prevailed from the beginning over the Philippine business is maintained to the last. A garbled report was published by the press after two months of total suppression; but whenever Herbert Welsh has applied for a copy of the report itself he has been told, first, that the report is not published, and second, that it is an inspector's report, and therefore confidential. There is a particularly ripe flavor about the excuse that a report of the commanding general of the army is an "inspector's" report; and, besides, this excuse has been removed by the garbled publication. No legitimate reason remains for suppression. It is a sensible suggestion, therefore, that Mr. Welsh (whose record entitles his suggestions to respectful consideration) makes when he proposes that the proper authorities be bombarded with courteous letters asking for a full copy of Miles's report. Such letters ought to be addressed to the

President, to Hon. Elihu Root, secretary of war; to Adjutant General H. C. Corbin, to Judge Advocate General George B. Davis, to Assistant Adjutant General W. P. Hall, and to Assistant Adjutant General William Ennis. As Mr. Welsh truly says, "either the hidden and suppressed report will at last see the light in response to popular demand, or the ominous fact will be demonstrated that the people of the country do not wish to meet intelligently and fairly a grave responsibility resting upon them."

The astonishing action of Postmaster General Payne, with reference to the revelations of a former cashier in the Washington city post office, need excite no wonder. Neither need anyone be at the fond trouble of imagining that the President will rebuke the postal member of his cabinet in his effort to suppress exposure of postal corruption. The Postmaster General is protecting the honor of the service in one department, precisely as the Secretary of War is protecting it in another. If President Roosevelt supports Mr. Root in guarding the "honor of the army" by suppressing exposures of savagery on the part of some of its officers and shielding them from punishment, why should he rebuke Mr. Payne for guarding the honor of the post office by suppressing revelations of corruption on the part of some of its officials and shielding them from punishment?

Human nature is pretty much the same wherever you find it. Here are Russian officials explaining the necessity for mobbing Jews in Russia, with the same kind of arguments that white men use to justify the mobbing of Negroes, and which American patriots bring forth to excuse water torture in the Philippines. "Give a dog a bad name and kill him," the old adage has it; a new version might run, "Call a race inferior and torture it."

In Cleveland a racket has been raised over the announced intention