

Discussing this subject the message proceeds:

The death rate statistics show a terrible increase in mortality, and especially in infant mortality, in overcrowded tenements. The poorest families in tenement houses live in one room and it appears that in these one room tenements the average death rate for a number of given cities at home and abroad is about twice what it is in a two-room tenement, four times what it is in a three-room tenement and eight times what it is in a tenement consisting of four rooms or over. These figures vary somewhat for different cities, but they approximate in each city those given above; and in all cases the increase of mortality, and especially of infant mortality, with the decrease in the number of rooms used by the family and with the consequent overcrowding is startling. The slum exacts a heavy toll of death from those who dwell therein; and this is the case not merely in the great crowded slums of high buildings in New York and Chicago, but in the alley slums of Washington. In Washington people cannot afford to ignore the harm that this causes. No Christian and civilized community can afford to show a happy-go-lucky lack of concern for the youth of to-day; for, if so, the community will have to pay a terrible penalty of financial burden and social degradation in the to-morrow.

The Congress has the same power of legislation for the District of Columbia which the State legislatures have for the various States. The problems incident to our highly complex modern industrial civilization, with its manifold and perplexing tendencies both for good and for evil, are far less sharply accentuated in the city of Washington than in most other cities. For this very reason it is easier to deal with the various phases of these problems in Washington, and the District of Columbia government should be a model for the other municipal governments of the nation, in all such matters as supervision of the housing of the poor, the creation of small parks in the districts inhabited by the poor, in laws affecting labor, in laws providing for the taking care of the children, in truant laws and in providing schools.

In this connection the message recommends for Washington, juvenile courts, a systematic investigation into and improvement of housing conditions, and compulsory school attendance.

After dealing with such departmental matters as the work of the Department of Agriculture, including the irrigation of arid lands; the forest reserve policy, the Indian problem, and the postal service, the message disposes

of the currency question as follows:

The attention of Congress should be especially given to the currency question and that the standing committees on the matter in the two Houses charged with the duty take up the matter of our currency and see whether it is not possible to secure an agreement in the business world for bettering the system; the committees should consider the question of the retirement of the greenbacks and the problem of securing in our currency such elasticity as is consistent with safety. Every silver dollar should be made by law redeemable in gold at the option of the holder.

To this is added the following brief recommendation with reference to ship subsidies:

I especially commend to your immediate attention the encouragement of our merchant marine by appropriate legislation.

Immigration, naturalization, honest elections, and Alaskan conditions are then considered and followed with an explanation of the President's foreign policy.

In dealing with matters of foreign policy, the message stands for what it describes as peace with justice, and on the question of regulating the affairs of other peoples says:

All that this country desires is to see the neighboring countries stable, orderly and prosperous. Any country whose people conduct themselves well can count upon our hearty friendship. If a nation shows that it knows how to act with reasonable efficiency and decency in social and political matters, if it keeps order and pays its obligations, it need fear no interference from the United States. Chronic wrongdoing, or an impotence which results in a general loosening of the ties of civilized society, may in America, as elsewhere, ultimately require intervention by some civilized nation; and in the western hemisphere the adherence of the United States to the Monroe doctrine may force the United States, however reluctantly, in flagrant cases of such wrongdoing or impotence, to the exercise of an international police power.

The message concludes with an expression on the Philippine question, after devoting some attention to the rights of citizens abroad, and the strengthening of our navy. Of the Filipinos the message says:

The Philippine people, or, to speak more accurately, the many tribes, and even races, sundered from one another more or less sharply, who go to make

up the people of the Philippine islands, contain many elements which we have a right to hope stand for progress. At present they are utterly incapable of existing in independence at all or of building up a civilization of their own. I firmly believe that we can help them to rise higher and higher in the scale of civilization and of capacity for self-government and I most earnestly hope that in the end they will be able to stand, if not entirely alone, yet in some such relation to the United States as Cuba now stands. This end is not yet in sight and it may be definitely postponed if our people are foolish enough to turn the attention of the Filipinos away from the problems of achieving moral and material prosperity, of working for a stable, orderly and just government, and toward foolish and dangerous intrigues for a complete independence for which they are as yet totally unfit. On the other hand, our people must keep steadily before their minds the fact that the justification for our stay in the Philippines must ultimately rest chiefly upon the good we are able to do in the islands. I do not overlook the fact that in the development of our interests in the Pacific ocean and along its coasts the Philippines have played and will play an important part and that our interests have been served in more than one way by the possession of the islands. But our chief reason for continuing to hold them must be that we ought in good faith to try to do our share of the world's work, and this particular piece of work has been imposed upon us by the results of the war with Spain. The problem presented to us in the Philippine islands is akin to, but not exactly like, the problems presented to the other great civilized powers which have possessions in the Orient. There are points of resemblance in our work to the work which is being done by the British in India and Egypt, by the French in Algiers, by the Dutch in Java, by the Russians in Turkestan, by the Japanese in Formosa; but more distinctly than any of these powers we are endeavoring to develop the natives themselves so that they shall take an ever-increasing share in their own government; and, as far as prudent, we are already admitting their representatives to a governmental equality with our own. There are commissioners, judges and governors in the islands who are Filipinos and who have exactly the same share in the government of the islands as have their colleagues who are Americans, while in the lower ranks, of course, the great majority of the public servants are Filipinos. Within two years we shall be trying the experiment of an elective lower house in the Philippine legislature. It may be that the Filipinos will misuse this Legislature, and they certainly will misuse it if they are misled by foolish persons here at home into starting an agitation for their

Dec. 10, 1904.

own independence or into any factious or improper action. In such case they will do themselves no good and will stop for the time being all further effort to advance them and give them a greater share in their own government. But if they act with wisdom and self-restraint, if they show that they are capable of electing a legislature which in its turn is capable of taking a sane and efficient part in the actual work of government, they can rest assured that a full and increasing measure of recognition will be given them. Above all they should remember that their prime needs are moral and industrial, not political. It is a good thing to try the experiment of giving them a legislature; but it is a far better thing to give them schools, good roads, railroads which will enable them to get their products to market, honest courts, an honest and efficient constabulary, and all that tends to produce order, peace, fair dealing as between man and man, and habits of intelligent industry and thrift. If they are safeguarded against oppression, and if their real wants, material and spiritual, are studied intelligently and in a spirit of friendly sympathy, much more good will be done them than by any effort to give them political power, though this effort may in its own proper time and place be proper enough. . . . Unfortunately hitherto those of our people here at home who have specially claimed to be the champions of the Filipinos have in reality been their worst enemies. This will continue to be the case as long as they strive to make the Filipinos independent, and stop all industrial development of the islands by crying out against the laws which would bring it on the ground that capitalists must not "exploit" the islands. Such proceedings are not only unwise, but are most harmful to the Filipinos, who do not need independence at all, but who do need good laws, good public servants, and the industrial development that can only come if the investment of American and foreign capital in the islands is favored in all legitimate ways. Every measure taken concerning the islands should be taken primarily with a view to their advantage. We should certainly give them lower tariff rates on their exports to the United States; if this is not done it will be a wrong to extend our shipping laws to them. I earnestly hope for the immediate enactment into law of the legislation now pending to encourage American capital to seek investment in the islands in railroads, in factories, in plantations, and in lumbering and mining.

Official Presidential election returns, (p. 551), show that Parker's plurality in New York county, New York, was 34,631. The plurality against Bryan in 1896 was 36,984 and in his favor in 1900, 28,

766. The Socialist vote (not including Socialist-Labor) was 16,472, and the Prohibition, 526.

The official vote reported from Pennsylvania (p. 519) as compared with 1896 and 1900 is as follows:

	1904.	1900.	1896.
Republican	840,949	712,665	728,300
Democratic	335,430	424,222	433,328
Prohibitionist	33,717	27,908	20,144
Socialist	21,863	4,831	.....
Socialistic Labor	2,211	.....	1,683

Vermont's (p. 356) official returns, are:

	1904.	1900.	1886.
Republican	46,459	42,368	51,127
Democrat	9,777	12,849	10,637
Socialist	859	.....	.....
Prohibition	792	368	733

Official returns from Illinois (p. 551), as corrected on the 1st by the State board of canvassers, are as follows:

	Vote.
For President:	632,645
Roosevelt, Rep.	327,606
Parker, Dem.	69,225
Debs, Soc.	4,698
Corregan, Soc. Lab.	37,770
Swallow, Pro.	6,725
Watson, Peo.	830
Holcomb, Cont.	.....
For Governor:	634,029
Deneen, Rep.	334,880
Stringer, Dem.	59,062
Collins, Soc.	4,970
Vall, Soc. Lab.	35,309
Patton, Pro.	4,364
Hogan, Peo.	786
Specht, Cont.	.....

Returns from Congressman Robert Baker's district in Brooklyn, N. Y., (p. 520), make possible the following comparison on the Congressional and Presidential vote:

	1904.	1902.
Baker (D), for Cong.	19,432	17,888
Parker (D), for Pres.	18,889	.....
Calder (R), for Cong.	22,121	.....
Roosevelt (R), for Pres.	22,359	17,421
Bristow (R), for Cong.	.....	467
Baker's plurality	.....	.....
Baker's adverse plurality	2,689	.....
Baker over Parker	543	.....

One of the local surprises of the Presidential campaign was the reelection of Levi McGee as judge of the seventh circuit of South Dakota by a majority in round numbers of 400, although the Republican majority for President in the same territory was about 800. What makes this discrimination politically significant is the fact that Judge McGee is a pronounced and well known single tax advocate.

Another incident of the campaign is the election of a woman, Mrs. Lucy Cole, to the office of county assessor of the county of Owsley, in Kentucky. Her husband had held the office, and upon his death last Spring the county

judge appointed Mrs. Cole as his successor. Having served under that appointment she became a candidate before the people at the November election, and won, after a hard fight in which she canvassed every precinct of the county.

The official results of the referendum "public opinion" vote in Buffalo, N. Y., (p. 455), are just at hand. The question was: "Shall an ordinance be adopted by the Common Council permitting the use of public school buildings by citizens for the discussion of public questions, under proper restrictions." Although the affirmative polled a majority, the total vote on the question, 11,510, was small in comparison with the total vote cast for candidates—70,382. For the affirmative the vote was 6,983, and for the negative 4,527—an affirmative majority of 2,456. The vote is regarded as encouraging because the campaign was short, and the question was obscurely placed in the voting machines.

The referendum movement has been advanced by the action of the Federation of Labor at its convention in San Francisco (p. 553), which, prior to adjournment unanimously adopted the following resolution introduced by H. F. Sarman, of Jefferson City, Mo.:

Whereas, Experience demonstrates that the line of least resistance for the enactment of measures in the interest of the people is the establishment in them of a right to a direct ballot, as has been accomplished in Switzerland, Oregon, South Dakota and promised by all the parties in Montana; and, whereas, the line of least resistance for the establishment of the proposed system of government in State affairs is that throughout the State there be circulated for signature petitions to the legislature, asking that a constitutional amendment be submitted in order that the petitioners (the people) may vote upon the question of establishing their own sovereignty, urging upon the legislature the fact that it is the unquestioned right of the people to amend their State constitution whenever they so desire; this campaign of petitioning for the educational effect and interest that it will create should be followed by the questioning of candidates for the legislature, thereby preventing an evasion of the issue, and the candidates' self-interest will compel them to pledge; therefore, be it

Resolved, That each of the coming State conventions of organized labor is