ident Roosevelt Denounces Criticiss of Public Officials.

Washington, April 16. - President Roosevelt, in his speech at the laying of the corner-stone of the office building for the house of representatives, added another number to his program of reforms by advocating the imposition of a federal inheritance tax on "swollen fortunes." He also denounced the detractors of public men in the course of his talk on the "man with the muck-rake." The president's address in part was as follows:

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. The material problems that face us today are not such as they were in Washingtons' time, but the underlying facts of burner, nature are the same now as they 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.

In Bunyan's Pilgrim 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 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 floor. There is filth on the floor, and it must be scraped to the floor, and it must be scraped to the floor, and there are 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 can be performed. But the man who never does anything else, who hever thinks or speaks or writes, save of his feats with the muck-rake, speedily becomes, not a help to society, not an incitement to good, but one of the most potent forces for evil.

#### Liar No Better Than Thief.

They are in the body politic, economic and social, many and grave evils, and there is urgent necessity for the sternest war upon them. There should be re-lentless exposure of and attack upon every evil man, whether politician or every evil man, whether politician or business man, every evil practice, wheth-er in politics, in business or in social life. I hail as a benefactor every writer or speaker, every man who, on the plat-form or in book, magazine or newspaper, with merciless severity, makes such at-tack, provided always that he in his turn remembers that the attack is of use turn remembers that the attack is of use only if it is absolutely truthful. 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 untruthfully to attack an honest man, or even with hysterical exaggeration to assail a bad man with untruth. An epi-demic of indiscriminate assault upon demic of indiscriminate assaut apon character does no good, but very great harm. The soul of every scoundrel is gladdened whenever an honest man is asailed, or even when a scoundrel is un-

Now, it is easy to twist out of shape what I have just said, easy to affect to misunderstand it, and if it is slurred over in repetition, not difficult really to misun-derstand it. Some persons are sincerely incapable of understanding that to denounce mud slinging does not mean the indorsement of whitewashing; and both the interested individuals who need white washing, and those others who practice ud slinging, like to encourage such confusion of ideas. One of the chief counts against those who make indiscriminate assault upon men in business or men in public life is that they invite a reaction hich is sure to tell powerfully in favor which is sure to tell powerfully in favor of the unscrupulous scoundrel who really ought to be attacked, who ought to be exposed, who ought, if possible, to be put in the penitentiary.

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 unfording or of giving inment of the unoffending or of giving im-munity, 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 cre ate a morbid and vicious public senti ment, and at the same time act as a profound deterrent to able men of nor-mal 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 reck-less assaults on their character and ca-

### Hunt Down Criminals.

At the risk of repetition, let me say again that my plea is, not for immunity to, but for the most unsparing exposure of the politician who betrays his trust, of the big business men who makes or spends his fortune in illegitimate or cor-rupt ways. There should be a resolute effort to hunt every such man out of the position ae has disgraced. 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 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 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-rakes are often indispensable to the well being of society; but only if they know when to stop raking the muck, and to look upward to the celestial crown above them, to

the crown of worthy endeavor.

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 the searing of the public conscience. There results a gen-eral attitude either of cynical bellef 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.

At this moment we are passing through a period of great unrest—social, political and industrial unrest. It is of the utmost importance for our future that this should prove to be not the unrest of mere rebelliousness against life, of mere dissatisfaction with the inevitable inequality of conditions, but the unrest of a resolute and eager ambition to secure the better-ment of the individual and the nation. So far as this movement of agitation throughout the country takes the form of a fierce discontent with evil, of a determination to punish the authors of evil, whether in industry or politics, the

feeling is to be heartily welcomed as a sign of healthy life.

It is a prime necessity that if the present unrest is to result in permanent good

emotion shall be translated into ac tion, and that the action shall be marked by honesty, sanity and self restraint. There is mighty little good in a mere spasm of reform. The reform that counts is that which comes through steady, con-tinuous growth; violent emotionalism leads to exhaustion

Advocates Inheritance Tax. It is important to this people to grap-ple with the problems connected with the amassing of enormous fortunes, and the use of those fortunes, both corporate and individual, in business. We should discriminate in the sharpest way between fortunes well won and fortunes ill won; between those grained in an incident to between those gained in an incident to performing great services to the commuity as a whole, and those gained in evil fashion by keeping just within the limits of mere law honesty. Of course, no amount of charity in spending fortunes in any way compensates for misno amount of charity in spending for-tunes in any way compensates for mis-conduct in making them. As a matter of personal conviction, and without pre-tending to discuss the details or formulate the system, I feel that we shall ulti-mately have to consider the adoption of some such scheme as that of a progressive tax on all fortunes, beyond a certain amount, either given in life or devised or bequeathed upon death to any individual—a tax so framed as to put it out of the power of the owner of one of these enormous fortunes to hand over more than a certain amount to any one individual; the tax, of course, to be im-posed by the national and not the state government. Such taxation should, of course, be aimed merely at the inheritance or transmission in their entirety of these fortunes swollen beyond all healthy

limits Again, the national government must Again, the national government must in some form exercise supervision over corporations engaged in interstate business—and all large corporations are engaged in interstate business—whether by license or otherwise, so as to permit us to deal with the far-reaching evils of over containation. This year we are over capitalization. This year we are making a beginning in the direction of serious effort to settle some of these eco nomic problems by the railway-rate legislation

Islation.

The first requisite in the public servants who are to deal in this shape with corporations, whether as legisltors or as executives, is honesty. This honesty can be no respector of persons. There can be no such thing as unilateral honesty. The danger is not really from corrupt corporations; it springs from the corruption itself, whether exercised for or against corporations.

corporations.

The men of wealth who today are trying to prevent the regulation and control of their business in the interest of the public by the proper government authorpublic by the ities will not succeed, in my judgment, in checking the progress of the move-ment. But if they did succeed they would find that they had sown the wind and would surely reap the whirlwind, for they would ultimately provoke the violent excesses which accompany a reform coming by convulsion instead of by steady and natural growth.

On the other hand, the wild preachers

of unrest and discontent, the wild agi-tators against the entire existing order, the men who act crookedly, whether be-cause of sinister design or from mere puzzle-headedness, the men who preach destruction without proposing any substitute for what they intend to destroy, or who propose a substitute which would be far worse than the existing evils—all these men are the most dangerous op-penents of real reform. If they get their way they will lead the people into a deeper pit than any into which they could fall under the present system. If they fail to get their way they will still could fall under the present system. If they fail to get their way they will still do incalculable harm by provoking the kind of reaction, which in its revolt against the senseless evil of their teach-ing, would enthrone more securely than ever the very evils which their misguid-ed followers believe they are attacking.

### ERRATIC ENGINES

Locomotives That Act as Though

They Were Bewitched. You never see a ship launched on a Friday, and similarly a new locomotive hardly ever makes a trial trip on that day or on the 13th of the month. Even though the superintendent may jeer at the superstition, yet he knows too well to set it at naught, for just as sailors consider that some ships are unlucky so do train hands credit certain locomotives with a sort of demoniacal pos-

session. It is certainly very strange the difference that may be observed between two locomotives built from the same plans, at the same time, of similar material. One goes on her way quietly and smoothly, never breaks down, costs little or nothing for repairs. The other causes trouble from the very first, runs off the line, kills the drivers, gets into accidents of all kinds and generally acts as though possessed by some evil

There was a famous instance some years ago on the South Florida railway. A locomotive killed so many people that she got the name of "the hearse," and no fewer than three engine drivers actually left the employ of the company rather than continue driving her. The odd thing was that she never seemed to injure herself. Eventually the owners were forced to break her up, although she was by no means worn out.

Of actual ghosts in trains or railway engines one very seldom hears.-New York Herald.

The Pepper Vine.

The pepper vine grows best in a wooded valley where there is plenty of moisture and abundant foliage to protect it from the heat of the sun. It is given a rude sort of cultivation. The growers plant it, keeping the grass from its roots, and when the tree near which it is planted has no lower branches strings or poles are placed in proper position to enable the vine to climb the tree. It needs no further at-

"Yes, my dear; I believe in transmigration of souls. I may be a brute in

my next life." "Wouldn't that be discouraging-or don't you care for a change?"-Houston Post.

tention.

In Plain Words. "What," asked the judge, "was the cause of the altercation?" "I didn't see anny, yer honor, but it was him callin' me a liar that shtarted the fight."-Chicago Record-Herald.

The Bengal canal, 900 miles in length, is the longest artificial water course in the world.

### VESUVIUS SUBSIDES

Troops Recoverng the Dead From Zone

of Devastation. Naples, April 16.-The somewhat threatening condition of Mount Vesuvius Saturday night having subsided with the ejection of enormous clouds of sand and ashes, the elements have begun to settle slowly, again enveloping the mountain in a thick haze and cutting off the view from Naples, only the outline of the base being visible.

The gravity of the situation has now shifted to Ottajano and San Giuseppe, where the recovery of the dead from the debris goes on amid the misery of thousands of homeless refugees. A sensational development occurred during the work of salvage at Ottajano, when the searchers unearthed two aged women, still alive but speechless, after six days entombment. They were among the hundreds who were crushed beneath the falling walls during the rain of stones and ashes last Sunday and Monday. Hope had been abandoned of finding any of these persons alive. The women were protected by the rafters of the house which they were in and had managed to exist on a few morsels of food which they had

in their pockets. The loss to property by the volcanic outbreak is estimated at \$20,000,000, and it is estimated that 50,000 persons have been rendered homeless.

Fight Typhoid In Sick Room. Harrisburg, Pa., April 17. - Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, state health commissioner, impressed with the gravity of the typhoid fever situation in Pittsburg addressed a letter to the boards of health in all towns along the Allegheny river above the in-take of the Pittsburg water system which pour their sewage into the water the Pittsburg people drink. Dr. Dixon says in his letter that he fully realizes that for these towns to discontinue discharging their sewage into the Allegheny river is impracticable of immediate attainment. "The typhoid baccili contained in the discharges of the patient can, however," says Health Commissioner Dixon, "be killed before these discharges are carried out of the sick room. Hence the sick room is the first place to combat the spread of this dread disease, and all typhoid discharges should be thoroughly disinfected.

Girl Drowned While Cangeing. Washington, April 14.-Elsie Wood, 25 years of age, was drowned in the Potomac river while canoeing with G. R. Frey, an 18-year-old student at the Georgetown University, their boat having been overturned by the swell of a passing tugboat. The woman sank before aid could reach her. Frey was rescued. Miss Wood's body has not been recovered.

#### TRAINING DOGS.

Poodles the Easiest to Teach, Dachshunds the Most Difficult.

and the dachshund is the most difficult, the latter not because he is too stupid, but because he is too smart. A dachshund readily understands what you want him to do, and he can do it, but he thinks he knows a better way, and he invariably tries his way first. As a result, he is never trained in anything that is really difficult. A dachshund seems to be always poking fun at one and getting no little amusement out of it for himself. Collies are easily trained, but they are more or less unreliable, and they are such flatterers. They make you think things are all right and then they run away at the very first opportunity. In preference to other dogs, collies are trained almost exclusively in the militia of Vienna for carrying, in time of war, messages and medicine to and from the camp and the sick soldiers, but they are chosen more for their speed than their faithfulness. Fox terriers are natural acrobats. Within a few weeks one can be trained to turn a somersault. A few weeks more and he will do a double turn. 'To teach him to do this the trainer calls the animal to him, and as he comes jumping playfully against the trainer he is caught and turned quickly in the air, much to his surprise. He thinks it is play, and he comes jumping up again. After each turn he is given a small piece of meat. In a few weeks he will run up and try independently to do the turn over in the air for the meat, and if he is encouraged it will not be long before he is an accomplished acrobat.-Leslie's Weekly.

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