

slight deviation from that principle, made in the Philippines as the direct consequence of the Spanish War, has since remained like a thorn in the national conscience. The Democratic party, at present in power in the United States, is expressly committed to reversing that act.

The general result is that the United States, a free state which contains more than twice the population of the British Isles, has never advanced beyond the conception of the national commonwealth. Americans have fallen into the habit of treating their continent as a sanctuary to which the people of Europe must come if they desire to enjoy the blessings of freedom. But the presence of the negro in their midst has taught them that a mixture in one country of an advanced with a backward civilization is itself the greatest menace to liberty, and it has become the cardinal principle of their system that this sanctuary is to be closed, so far as may be, to all but the children of Europe. To the question, how the majority of mankind who are not Europeans are to be initiated to the mysteries of freedom, they have never felt themselves called upon to provide an answer.

For the older Commonwealth, it has been left slowly and painfully to feel its way to the truth that the merely national commonwealth is no more commensurate to the needs of the modern world than the city republic in the age of Edward I. The task of creating a system whereby not cities nor classes, but whole peoples, sundered by all the width of the world, and drawn from every level of human progress, can be rendered subject to the rule of a common law, and that law itself rendered amenable to public opinion,

precious of the United States, unfortunately, because they did not know that the one fundamental and unalterable fact of the policy and principle of the United States—that which enched it as a keystone—was that people must govern themselves. There was no receding from that principle. It applied to Mexico and all other Southern States. *The Times*, February 7, 1914.

2 That the Americans have never arisen to the conception of a commonwealth wider than one based like their own on a common nationhood.

The people of the British Commonwealth educated by contact with facts to the conception of a commonwealth which is neither British nor national, but human in its scope.