

ent thing. In vain did Mr. Unterman plead for the good old doctrine that all men are created equal; the congress would have none of it. It brought in a declaration advocating 'the unconditional exclusion of these (Asiatic) races' on the score that 'they constitute a drawback, an obstacle and menace to the progress of the most aggressive, militant and intelligent elements of our working class population.' Apart from any question as to the truth of this declaration it is quoted here to point out that it is a complete and total renunciation of the principle of socialism and a distinct adoption of a principle of privilege which would equally apply to the attitude of any privileged class in slamming the door on any other class which it might regard as dangerous sharers of its privileges and not militant enough to insist. With this declaration socialism in principle goes entirely by the board. It is a full confession that the theory will not work.

ROSEVELT TO THE PARISIANS

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the door of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs, and comes short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds. Shame on the man of cultivated taste who permits refinement to develop into a fastidiousness that unfits him from doing the rough work of a workaday world. Among the free people who govern themselves there is but a small field of usefulness open for the men of cloistered life, who shrink from contact with their fellows.

Every man ought to work to maintain himself, to be ready to fight if need be, and to have children. Sterility was the greatest of all curses, and on wilful sterility through love of ease and self-indulgence Nature wreaked in the long run the heaviest punishment. No refinement or development of art and literature could compensate for the loss of the great fundamental virtues, and of these the greater was the race's power to perpetuate the race. Material well-being, Mr. Roosevelt went on to say, was only a foundation, and the mere man of wealth in a way that was a real benefit was he a national asset. There was need of great guiding intelligences in business, and it was good that they should have ample reward. But beyond a certain point material success became a small matter compared with other things. One passage the speaker emphasized by repeating it, amid great applause, in French after delivering it in English. Property rights, he declared must be carefully safeguarded in every civilised society, and usually property rights and human rights were fundamentally identical, but when there was a real conflict between them human rights must have the upper hand. The gift of oratory, like that for making money, and the power wielded by journalists must be estimated solely by the use to which they were put. Mr. Roosevelt pronounced himself a strong individualist, while at the same time he recognised the common-sense fact that there were things that could best be done by the community. He advocated complete liberty for the individual to live his own life, if he did no wrong to his neighbour. A public man should not be supported because he promised supporters. The man who would do that would not hesitate in his wrong interests to wrong his

supporter. Speaking of international relations Mr. Roosevelt condemned any kind of deception, expressed his great hopes of international law, and declared that while all were for peace and justice, a nation must be ready to withstand wrong.

PIT EXPLOSION IN ENGLAND.

Wellington pit, Whitehaven, Eng., was scene of an explosion on the night of 11th inst. and over 130 men are entombed. About eight o'clock shaftmen employed near the shaft heard a terrific report, which came apparently from either the forehead or the vicinity of the workings where the bulk of the men were employed, and very soon smoke commenced to issue from the pit and the fears that an explosion had taken place were confirmed. No time was lost in giving alarm, and very soon rescue parties were on their way to the men below the surface. The main roads, however, filled with dense smoke fumes and consequently progress was painfully slow. A rumour soon gained currency that already two men were dead, but happily this was proved to be incorrect. These two men, Joseph Walker and Stephen Gregory, although much exhausted, did not appear to be in any serious condition and when about midnight they were landed at the top of the shaft they were conveyed to their homes after receiving medical attention. An hour later two more men were brought to safety. They were Joseph Kenmare and John Wear, employed in one of the most remote parts of the colliery, and apparently they were but little the worse for their experience.

PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA.

Their Cost And Their Future.

A Report of great interest has been made by the Australian Royal Commission on Old Age Pensions. The Commission was appointed in 1905 to consider the existing State scheme and to devise a scheme for the whole Commonwealth. The Systems at present in force are:

New South Wales.—Maximum pension 10s. a week; for married people, 7s. 6d. a week each; may be claimed at the age of 65. Income including pension, must not exceed £52 a year. Cost to State of 22,000 pensions, £508,000.

New Zealand.—Maximum, 10s. a week; in case of a married couple, joint income, including pension, must not exceed £90. May be claimed at 65, if claimant has been twenty-years resident. Police magistrates administer, without boards, at trading cost. Pensions, 11,770; total cost, £325,000.

Victoria.—Maximum, 8s. a week; at 65, or earlier in cases of dangerous or unhealthy occupations; twenty years' residence. Income, including pension, must not exceed £26. Pensions, 11,425; cost, £235,000.

The Commissioners recommend a scheme of old age pensions for the whole Commonwealth to be paid out of the consolidated revenue, as follows:

Maximum, 10s. a week, payable at 65, or, on conditions, at 60 in cases of permanent incapacity. Payments fortnightly through post-office. Total income, including pension, not to exceed £52. Estimated cost £1,500,000 a year.