

abundantly illustrated in the operations of the British system. * * A part in the life of Congress, on the contrary, though the best career opened to men of ambition by our system, has no prize at its end greater than membership of some one of numerous committees, none of which has the distinction of supremacy in policy or of recognised authority to do more than suggest."*

And now, in conclusion, which system most conduces to creating an intelligent and an educative interest in the general public about the affairs of the country ?

In America, says Bryce, politicians do not aspire to the function of forming opinion. There is less disposition than in Europe to expect light and leading on public affairs from speakers or writers. Oratory is not directed towards instruction, but towards stimulation. The structure of the Government, he says, provides the requisite machinery neither for forming nor for guiding a popular opinion, disposed of itself to recognise only broad and patent facts, and to be swayed only by such obvious reasons as it needs little reflection to follow.†

*Congressional Government, pp. 199, 203, 206, 214.

†American Commonwealth, vol. 2, pp. 230, 249.