

lie at the root of our present discontent. It is the duty of every good citizen to lend his intelligence to the uttermost for the solving of these problems, which are now facing us, and by an honest effort endeavor to bring form out of chaos.

I am frankly afraid of the future. It would be rash to deny that all sorts of heterodoxy is being preached throughout the land, socialism, extreme radicalism and the doctrines of the Bolshevik find their expounders in every place where men are gathered together, on the street corners, in the corridors of our public buildings, in our railway carriages ; every day, may be heard, outspoken exponents of these ideas, and our country requires the service of the large brains, and level heads, of her foremost men to curb the dangerous propaganda. Masonry as Masonry, must not, and I trust will not, enter into this turmoil of unrest, but that her teachings will be made manifest in individual Masons who, acting in their capacity as citizens, of this great country, must set themselves against the cry of the mob, which howls to down those who are responsible for direction of affairs and they must be equally resistant to the arrogant assumption of power in the hands of a few. Pure Democracy is the Government of the people, by the will of the people, and any departure from this law leads to Autocracy or mob rule.

A country can become too prosperous and suffer from dry rot, because the people in their prosperity become slothfully, indolent and indifferent to the manner, in which they are governed, and it is proved to be true in the history of all nations, that designing men seize the reigns of power for their own personal aggrandizement, and to the profit of a certain class or set, to which they may belong. On the other hand, a country may become too poor, owing to the indifference and ignorance of the population, which condition always leads to rebellion, murder and destruction. It is not my intention to say that our country is, at the present time, at either extremity, but great countries have been destroyed by the indifference of its people, and I would ask you to pause and think upon the future and where we are drifting.