

Cabinet has full information for acting and the people are informed of all that is done, while the members of the American Cabinet cannot sit in Congress or otherwise get in direct touch with the people. The Cabinet is therefore isolated from the people, and must be undemocratic. Thus the English Cabinet, which owes its appointment to the people and ceases to exist as soon as it fails to express the will of the people, must be more democratic than the American Cabinet which is appointed by the President and is in no wise responsible to the people.

If you will compare the functions of the Prime Minister and President, from the standpoint of democracy you will see that the Prime Minister is more democratic for the following fundamental reasons. First, the Prime Minister is allowed to remain in office only just so long as he expresses the will of the majority of the people. To show this I need only refer to Premier Asquith who was forced to resign because he was out of harmony with the people. He was replaced by Lloyd George, a man in favor with the majority. The President, on the other hand, holds his office for four years regardless of whether he expresses the will of the people or not. He can be removed only by impeachment, and past experience has shown that this is but an empty menace.

Secondly, the Prime Minister is more democratic than the President because he cannot block the expressed wishes of the people by vetoing any bill which they wish passed. The only veto in England today lies in the hands of the people, through a general election. That is where it should be in a democracy. The royal veto is absolute, not having been exercised for over two hundred years. Contrast with this the veto power of the President, which makes him equal in legislative power to 85 representatives of the people and States. For, he can veto any bill, and if he does it, will require 85 representatives of the people and States to make the majority required to pass the measure against him. In fact, the bill regarding the educational test for immigrants, which passed both Houses, has been successively vetoed and prevented from becoming law by Presidents Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson. The will of the people has been blocked for twelve years. Whether the bill was beneficial or otherwise does not matter. The people wanted it and they did not get it. In democracy the people rule, but a one man rule is called an autocracy.