

for today to set it down that no President of the United States ever came to greater opportunities amid so great an outpouring of popular trust and hope.

LOOKING TO MR. ROOSEVELT.

Americans are a people of invincible hope. Often they have given quadrennial proof of this. But seldom can their eagerness to see a new President inaugurated have equaled that of this year. It is a delayed realization of what they have been carrying in their hearts since last November. Meanwhile, along with their confident looking forward, they have exhibited an extraordinary patience in enduring hardships which millions of them have somehow come to believe will be mitigated or removed by the mere fact of Mr. ROOSEVELT's entering the White House. Thus it is not only in an atmosphere of unaffected good-will that he will take office: he will be thought of as something of a miracle-worker. In his person thousands of his anxious and longing fellow-citizens will look to see verified their dream of the "expectancy and rose of the fair state."

Rightly used, this attitude of the public mind toward the new President ought to be a great asset for him. Mr. ROOSEVELT has, whether deliberately or unconsciously, encouraged such hopes. He himself has, ever since his election, radiated good cheer and confidence. He has given an impression of buoyant optimism in the face of a great complex of knotty problems awaiting him. This is not a bad thing as he sets about solving them. The country will approve a man who puts a cheerful courage on as he faces enormous difficulties. Even citizens sunk in gloom, and knowing not which way to turn, will preserve a remnant of admiration for a President who begins his term by acting on the belief that "nothing is impossible for the United States." So the very spirit of smiling audacity with which Mr. ROOSEVELT begins today to work at his arduous tasks will be a help to him, at least to the extent of winning him, to start with, a generous measure of applause and offers of cooperation from all sorts and conditions of his countrymen.

He is not the man to forget, however, that with these great expectations go great responsibilities. The people are ready to pledge fealty to him from the very beginning, but they also want to hold up his hands and provide him a loyal following. This implies leadership on his part. He promised it, in general terms, when making appeals for election last year. Now the time is near when he will have to make it positive, definite and concrete. Perhaps never before has the public so intensely craved a leader in the White House. But good-will toward him will not suffice. People must know where he is going before they permit him to lead them.

On this Inauguration Day no hesitations or doubts need cloud the rejoicing over the coming to the Presidency of such a man as FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. His character and his career contain much to fascinate. High-bred in all his fundamental instincts, yet unpretentious and even homely in his contacts with the varied humanity no part of which he feels alien to himself, an Executive who has given full proof of his capacity, a skillful politician, one able to bind to himself for many years troops of loving friends, Mr. ROOSEVELT goes to his high duties under the brightest individual auspices. Time will show whether his genial personality has the necessary admixture of cold steel. But it is enough