

Politics and Things

CONSIDER the outlook of the Progressive party in Utah, Iowa and South Dakota have made it impossible for the Taft organization to elect its electors in those states. Progressive electors will be chosen there, as they will in almost a score of other states in the Union where Progressive principles are not misunderstood, where the cause is not stifled by iniquitous oppression of a powerful political clique which operates without principle.

Here in Utah the line-up is different, so divergent from the situation in other states, indeed, that big eastern publications have ventured the suggestion that Taft will carry Utah and Vermont, at least. In this day of new light Utah is counted in the dark. Colonel Roosevelt and many of his local friends, however, take a different view of the situation, claiming that there is sufficient Progressive sentiment in this State to win over the Democrats and the Republican organization.

Here is the true situation in the Republican party in Utah: A great many Republicans and Democrats in this State are in open revolt against the federal bunch which is recognized as the real menace to political liberty in Utah. The perpetuation in power of certain federal office holders in this State gives to them the rule of the minority over the majority, holds the same club over the people of Utah as the national committee held over the people of many states at Chicago. This coterie of politicians which has accentuated the demand for Progressive action in Utah is unalterably opposed to the renomination and reelection of William Spry for governor. In the sunlight these politicians profess friendliness to the governor, but wherever the cyanide and bichloride of mercury can be sprayed in the shadow they have attempted to poison the people against the executive.

There are a great many Progressives in the Republican and Democratic parties who are not only friendly to Governor Spry, but they find a strengthening of this friendliness in knowledge of the fact that the federal bunch is opposed to him. Take the case of Colonel C. E. Loose, for instance. He is one of the leading Progressives of the state. Yet he is for Spry. It was announced by persons who were unauthorized that Colonel Loose would be a candidate for governor on the Progressive ticket. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The Provo man is for Spry.

"There are just two things in the world that count for me," said Colonel Loose the other day. "One of them is my family, the other my friends. My family comes first, my friends next. Governor Spry is my friend and I will do nothing that would injure him. Besides being a good friend, he has made a good governor. I am a Re-

voit man, of course. But in Utah I am for Governor Spry first."

So there you are.

There are many other progressives who think along the same line as Colonel Loose. They are Progressives and they find Governor Spry being opposed for renomination and reelection by such federal office holders as were unable to dictate the policy of the governor's office and the nature of his appointments. Some of the Progressives are in favor of putting only electors on the ticket, leaving blank spaces for state offices. Others want a full third-party ticket from electors down. It is quite likely that the Progressives here will be guided to a great extent by the national organization and if the third-party leaders can be shown that the right way to play politics in Utah is to name only electors and keep the organization together they will no doubt sanction that course.

The call for the National Progressive convention at Chicago August 5 is as follows:

To the people of the United States, without regard to past differences, who, through repeated betrayals, realize that today the power of the crooked political bosses and of the privileged classes behind them is so strong in the two old party organizations that no help in the real interests of our country can come out of either.

Who believe that the time has come for a national progressive movement—a nation-wide movement on non-sectional lines, so that the people may be served in sincerity and truth by an organization unfettered by obligation to conflicting interests.

Who believe in the right and capacity of the people to rule themselves and effectively to control all the agencies of their government, and who hold that only through social and industrial justice, thus secured, can honest property find permanent protection.

Who believe that government by the few tends to become, and has in fact become, government by the sordid influences that control the few.

Who believe that only through the movement proposed can we obtain in the nation and the several states the legislation demanded by the modern industrial evolution; legislation which shall favor honest business and yet control the great agencies of modern business so as to insure their being used in the interest of the whole people; legislation which shall promote prosperity and at the same time secure the better and more equitable diffusion of prosperity; legislation which shall promote the economic well being of the honest farmer, wage worker, professional man and business man alike, but which shall at the same time strike—in efficient fashion, and not pretend to strike—at the roots of privilege in the world of industry no less than in the world of politics.

Who believe that only this type of wise industrial evolution will avert industrial revolution.

Who believe that wholesome party government can come only if there is wholesome party management in a spirit of service to the whole country, and who hold that the commandment delivered at Sinai, "Thou shalt not steal," applies to politics as well as to business.

To all in accord with these views a call is hereby issued by the provisional committee, under the resolution of the mass meeting held in Chicago on June 22 last to each state to send a number of delegates whose votes in the convention shall count for as many votes as the state shall have senators and representatives in Congress, to meet in convention at Chicago on the 5th day of August, 1912, for the purpose of nominating candidates to be supported for the positions of president and vice-president of the United States.

Charles D. Hilles, private secretary to President Taft, will run his chief's campaign. Hilles has been made chairman of the Republican national committee and will doubtless have no difficulty in being the goat for the astute politicians among the "old guard" who were foxy enough not to put themselves to the front since the Chicago hiatus.

Even the Washington correspondents of great disseminators of news are following The Weekly's suggestion that the election of a President might be thrown into the Congress inasmuch as three candidates are in the race and there is a likelihood that none will get the necessary 266 electoral votes in the college.

Taft is having more grief with his appointees. Secretary MacVeagh of the treasury is accused of incapacity to handle the affairs of his department and Secretary Wilson of the agricultural department, is involved in a scandal over the Stanley dam project in Colorado.

Ivor Ajax came in from Tooele county Wednesday to see if the gangway was cleared for the Tooele delegation which is said to be coming solid for Ajax as state auditor. Ajax ran for the Republican nomination four years ago and was beaten out by Jesse Jewkes of Emery county.

The first steps toward the formation of a Wilson Democratic club were taken Wednesday night when it was decided to elect officers Tuesday. The next thing on the program will be a big outing at Lagoon on August 17, when the faithful from all over the state will be present.

THE NEW PARTY.

WILL the new party born in Chicago on June 22 die of malnutrition, asks the Literary Digest, an entirely independent reflector of opinion, or other infantile disease, as the scoffers predict, or will it, as the most sanguine of its friends declare, grow so rapidly to man's estate as to be able to defeat in November the Goliaths of Republicanism and Democracy, together with all lesser antagonists? In any case it is evident that, for an infant not yet even christened, the new party is causing a remarkable commotion among the politicians, and occupying a great deal of space in the newspa-

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pers. Already such influential Republican and Independent papers as the Chicago Tribune and Post, the Philadelphia North American, the Kansas City Star and Times, the Boston Journal, the Washington Times, the Baltimore News, the Pittsburg Leader, the Emporia Gazette, the Spokane Spokesman-Review, the San Francisco Bulletin, the Los Angeles Tribune and Express, the Fresno Republican, the Madison Wisconsin State Journal, the Indianapolis Star, the Muncie Star, the Terre Haute Star, and the Louisville Herald have rallied to the support of this newcomer in the political field, and the same course has been followed, says the San Francisco Bulletin, by two-thirds of the country press of the Pacific coast. While the new party has not yet held its first convention, and is still officially nameless, correspondents report that the work of local organization is proceeding rapidly in Chicago, Boston, New Orleans, and many other cities, while the problems of national organization are in the hands of a temporary committee composed of governors, senators, newspaper proprietors, a judge, an congressman, an ex-cabinet officer, and others, representing in all some fifteen states.