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# THE COMMERCIAL

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### WILL ROOSEVELT BE CANDIDATE?

This Question Now Bothering the Minds of Many.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 14.—The question most frequently put to the Washington correspondent by the visitor to the National Capital whom he meets is:

"Will Roosevelt be the candidate again?"

The correspondent, however much he may desire to pose as a know-all, has to dodge and hedge. Everybody is doing the same thing. It is positive that several of the Republican aspirants for the Republican nomination are wrestling with the question as to Mr. Roosevelt's ambitions. Secretary Taft does not know certainly that his chief will not consent to accept the nomination before the convention assembles. Secretary Cortelyou, who is taking his own candidacy with the utmost seriousness, does not know. Secretary Taft told a caller a short time ago that he did not know whether President Roosevelt could be induced to accept the nomination, and intimated that he should like to have some absolute information on the subject.

At least one of the Republican possibilities, with President Roosevelt out of the way, believes there is no doubt of the renomination of the present occupant of the White House. That is Secretary Shaw, who, this time last year, was carefully nursing what he believed to be a most promising Presidential boom, which has since dropped and died, and he has left the position of Secretary of the Treasury to take the place of head of a great trust company in New York.

A close friend of Mr. Shaw who called to see him in his New York office a few days ago, says the former Secretary has not the slightest doubt concerning the trend of the President's ambitions.

SAYS HE IS A CANDIDATE.

"Of course Roosevelt is a candidate," Mr. Shaw is quoted as having remarked. "There was a time when I did not believe he would allow the use of his name. That was some time ago. I have not thought that way for a considerable period. He wants the nomination and will get it."

There is little or no doubt that Mr. Shaw made the remarks attributed to him. It would be interesting to know whether a realization of the ambitions of Mr. Roosevelt caused the then Secretary of the Treasury to abandon Presidential aspirations.

The question as to whether President Roosevelt would accept the nomination if tendered, it is not yet answered. It is impossible to answer it absolutely either affirmatively or negatively. But the fact remains that the great majority of the Republican office holders

in Washington believe that they will have to support Mr. Roosevelt next year. It is a significant fact that many Republican politicians out of office have recently begun to believe Mr. Roosevelt will be nominated again. Only to-day an Indiana Republican, who is very close in several ways to the Hon. Charles Warren Fairbanks, expressed the opinion that every other aspirant had as well clear out of the field, that Mr. Roosevelt was already as good as elected. It is practically conceded he cannot carry Indiana.

REPUBLICAN CLAIMS.

Republicans are claiming that Mr. Roosevelt could get several Southern States. They claim he could carry Missouri, as he did in 1904; that he could carry Maryland, where he got one electoral vote in 1904; that he could carry Tennessee, where there is a strong sentiment for him, and Georgia, where Col. John Temple Graves has been whooping Roosevelt for a year or more. Arkansas is also being counted on to cast its electoral vote for Roosevelt by those who want a third term.

Of course, persons familiar with political sentiment in the Southern States I have mentioned, know that it is impossible for a Republican candidate for the Presidency to carry them. Missouri gave her vote to Mr. Roosevelt three years ago because the Democrats of that State refused to support Mr. Parker, and would not go to the polls owing to their firm belief that trickery had secured the nomination of the New Yorker. But it is admitted that had Mr. Bryan been the candidate, the Democrats would have swept the State by a large majority.

SOLID SOUTH UNBROKEN.

It is doubtful, however, whether the nomination of Mr. Bryan would strengthen the party in the other States of the South which the Republicans claim are doubtful. But there is not the smallest shadow of doubt in the minds of Democrats from those States with whom I have talked in the course of the past few weeks, concerning the ability of a respectable Democrat carrying every Southern State over Mr. Roosevelt or any other man whom the Republicans may name. In Maryland it is claimed that he could not get even one electoral vote were the election to be held to-morrow.

But Democrats would do well not to count too strongly upon the waning of the popularity of President Roosevelt. He is not popular now with the insurance companies and other corporations who helped elect him in 1904, and he has lost much of the popularity he enjoyed soon after that election among many thinking people who have realized that he is great in promise and small in performance, but there is no doubting the state-

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### JOHN D.'S BROTHER GIVES HIM A ROAST.

Says Country Will Be Too Hot to Hold Oil King Soon.

New York, Aug. 11.—The World this morning prints an interview with Frank Rockefeller in which he says they have kept secret for a year and a half his written statement, under agreement with Mr. Rockefeller:

"My father is alive and well," said Mr. Rockefeller. "He is dependent upon no man. He would scorn the proffer of financial aid from John D., and would not take it from me. He has made his own ample for all his needs. But there is a reason why I cannot, at this time, tell you where he is. In a few months I will be ready to tell you a story that will amaze and horrify the whole world."

"No one yet knows that I am writing the story, the real history of John D.'s life."

"Yes," he continued, "when I make John D.'s true life history public and explain the facts about father this country will be too warm for its richest citizen."

"Go ask John D. where our father is; tell him that I sent you and that I dare him to answer."

"But the time will soon come when I can safely speak. Then it will not be safe for John D. to appear upon the streets of any American City. He would be stoned by the people."

"Nothing but flight from the country to some foreign land will save his life when the whole monstrous truth is known."

"Strange talk for a brother, isn't it?" asked Frank Rockefeller,

pausing. "Terrible talk from one brother about another, but what I say is literally true."

"John D. is not a human being. He is a monster; merciless in his greed; pitiless in his cold, inhuman passions."

Urged again to make the facts public, Mr. Rockefeller said:

"I delay because I do not wish to injure my brother William. He was always nice to me—and I will spare him if I can."

"How is he interested save sentimentally in any exposure of John D.?" was asked.

"Easily answered," replied Mr. Rockefeller. "William's fortune is blended with John D. in all his vast enterprise. William always obeyed John in everything, and his millions have gone where John directed. Now, when I tear the mask away, there is sure to be serious trouble in many quarters. John D., once a fugitive from a nation's hate, will no longer be able to hold up certain schemes in which William has poured his wealth. I am going to give William a chance to get out of danger."

THAT FINE.

Twenty-nine million plunklets! If I had such a pile,

I could pack up my trunklets and go away awhile.

That much would tide me over down by the ocean's shore,

And let me live in clover for seven days or more.

Twenty-nine million plunklets! If I possessed that sum,

I could buy several chunklets of sirlon steak, I vum!

I could eat peaches weekly whilst summer lasts, but then

Autumn would hit me bleakly and find me broke again.

HERMAN E. HOWARD.

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