

party organization. It is no reflection upon a railroad attorney or a corporation attorney to say that he can not serve two masters. No one who is not consumed with egotism and inordinately vain would imagine himself able to decide impartially between the people on the one side and his corporation on the other.

Let every aspirant for a position in the party organization be scrutinized. If his present position or his past record is open to objection, let him stand aside. The party has more important work than apologizing for its representatives, and no representative ought to desire to make himself an issue. The corporations will attempt to control the organization, and they will have candidates for every vacancy from precinct committeeman to the top of the organization. The people must have their candidates, and it is well to begin at once and pick out the right man for each place and have him ready.

The party has a splendid chance to win. Its principles have been vindicated. It stands upon the people's side of all public questions. All that it has to do now is to convince the public that it can be trusted, and it can not win the confidence of the public if it loads itself down with objectionable and odorous representatives. Draw the line not in anger but in fairness and justice, and see to it that the party organization is clean and incorruptible.

Organize! Organize now, and put only trustworthy men on guard!

A ROOSEVELT VICTORY, INDEED!

A few days prior to the recent election, the Philadelphia Public Ledger urged the Roosevelt administration to withhold its support from the republican machine in Pennsylvania, pointing out. "Mr. Roosevelt is celebrated as a man who insists that mere talk is fatal and that the doers of deeds are to be the savers of the United States." The Public Ledger said:

"The people of Pennsylvania, at last, after a dreary and long season of shameful acquiescence in the most degrading system of state and municipal government of which the annals of free government have any record, have begun to be doers of the deed. There never was in any republic in ancient or modern times a scheme of government any more dangerous to personal liberty, business health, moral standards or sound administration than the Quay oligarchy, which, as agent for corrupt corporations and the aggregated vice of the commonwealth, had substituted the principle of bargain and sale for free elections and a fair count. The system had proceeded so far that Pennsylvania's government, instead of being the Keystone which contributed strength to the arch of union, was a spot so weak that it elicited concern as to the soundness of the structure of free government. When the people begin to rise and apply the remedy Speaker Cannon, in his brutal commercial way, comes to Pennsylvania and says: 'Behold this state! Its manufactured product is over two billions annually, and shall we incontinently thrust corruption aside? By no means. Vote for the gang and corruption.' The argument is based on false pretense and fraud. It is an impertinence. It is not necessary that the state should be politically rotten in order to preserve its trade. And as for the president and his administration, no words can be severe enough—not even the words which the president speaks himself in and out of season in denunciation of recreant and careless citizenship—to characterize a deliberate attempt to throw the commonwealth back into the arms of an organization and a system of un-American government that exemplifies all that is abhorrent to the professions and ideals of President Roosevelt."

And now in the Public Ledger for November 11, we read an interview with Representative Barchfeld in which that member of congress says "the victory in Pennsylvania was a Roosevelt victory!" The Public Ledger's headline over this interview is: "Representative Barchfeld declares that the president saved Pennsylvania!"

But like the king who, in response to congratulations, said, "another victory like that and my kingdom is gone," Pennsylvania will not thrive upon that kind of "salvation."

The Roosevelt administration may have had much to do with saving Pennsylvania to the republican party, but all that is of dubious advantage to the people of Pennsylvania, when they remember that the party which rolled up a 100,000 majority at the recent election is responsible for a \$9,000,000 graft in the construction of a \$4,500,000 state house.

Keep Your Eye On This Bill

The American Bankers' association, in session at Washington City, has decided to make a determined move in behalf of asset currency. Associated Press dispatches say that Chairman Fowler of the house committee on currency, and Comptroller of the Currency Ridgley, attended the session, and "the plans determined upon met with their full approval." The Washington correspondent for the Chicago Tribune says that "for the first time in many years there is a chance that the long needed reform in the currency may be accomplished." By "reform" is meant asset currency. Whether it is known as emergency currency or by some other harmless sounding name it is the policy against which republican papers preached vigorously several years ago when it was presented in the Fowler bill and the Aldrich bill. Then they told us there was not the slightest danger of such a measure being seriously considered; and now it is plain from the tone of these republican papers that many editors, who heretofore condemned the policy, are now prepared to embrace it; that many editors who are on record as denouncing the policy as absurd are now preparing to call it the "most patriotic and business like proposition that has ever been presented to the people."

It is plain the American people are face to face with a determined effort to force upon them an asset currency, and this effort is to be made by men who, a few years ago, protested vigorously against the restoration of bimetallism. Then they protested against a "fifty cent dollar," but now they are pleading earnestly for a no cent dollar. Then they wanted the money which the people are to use to have "a solid and substantial basis," but now they want money issued on wind—and they want to furnish the wind.

It will be well for the American people to

"LEGALIZED BOSSES"

Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte has suggested "a legalized boss." This "boss" is to be chosen by popular vote, and Mr. Bonaparte thinks that American politics would then be "bossed" in a thoroughly patriotic way.

It is not likely that Mr. Bonaparte's suggestion will appeal to a considerable number of people. Under popular government the people need no bosses. Under any circumstances it would be difficult for a boss to labor so as to advance the public interests rather than his own selfish interests. It would be difficult for him to throw away the ambition to be a real boss and to pile up wealth through his boss-ship; it is true also that anything which tends to deprive the individual citizen of the realization that great responsibility rests upon him is a great evil.

Not only must the government be brought closer to the people but it must be kept there, and to that end the individual must not be permitted to surrender any larger proportion of the duty of participating in the government than he has already surrendered.

The evils with which we are confronted are not to be remedied by putting the people to sleep under the impression that public interests will be cared for by any one to whom the people may have delegated the authority to think and act for them. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" now, as heretofore, and the man who is too lazy to think and to discharge the duties devolving upon the citizen of a great government like ours, needs to be shaken out of his lethargy.

If the rank and file of the American people will think for themselves and attend the primaries of their party, voting as they think, and driving out the little bosses that have so long wielded influence in American politics, the problems attending popular government will be solved in a patriotic way and public evils will be reduced to a minimum.

RETIREMENT OF SECRETARY HITCHCOCK

The approaching retirement of Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock is calling forth numerous and deserved words of praise for the splendid administration of the department under his charge. Secretary Hitchcock has been so busy looking after the real work of his department that he has had no time to indulge in "spell-binding tours" and the giving of advice to the public. And during his incumbency a tremendous amount of work has been done. Fraud has been disclosed in high places and has been relentlessly pursued and punished. This, too, has been done without any flourish of trumpets or roll of drums.

prepare for a systematic campaign along these lines. Soon Americans will be hearing—if, indeed, they have not already heard it through their local sages—that there is something radically wrong with our currency, and that "a more elastic currency" or "an emergency currency" is necessary to meet the demands of "business." "Elastic currency" or "emergency currency" or by whatever name it may be known, it is the same old asset currency for which Congressman Fowler has for years contended; the same currency provided for in the Fowler bill, in the McCleary bill, in the Aldrich bill and in similar measures, every one of which measures was condemned by republican editors and repudiated by republican orators, the people being assured that there was not the slightest danger that the republican party would adopt such measures. But the advocacy of such measures after election day is eminently characteristic of the republican party.

The national banks have altogether more power than they should have. The enormous advantages now enjoyed by national banks should be withdrawn, rather than increased. The asset currency is the thing for which the money trust has for years contended and one of the things it most desires. It will be a sorry day for the American people when they sleep so soundly as to permit these money gamblers to place upon the statute books such a measure as is contemplated by the American Bankers' association.

Do not forget to drop your representative and your senator a line to let him know that your eyes are upon him. Tell him frankly that the man who goes on record with a vote in favor of asset currency places upon himself an indelible brand—the brand of Wall Street.

Secretary Hitchcock has avoided the spectacular, and has conducted the business of his office like any careful and prudent business man would conduct his private business—a method that will appeal to a people who have grown infinitely weary of the spectacular, which accomplishes nothing. In short, his work has been such as to attract attention to the work more than to the man who has accomplished it, and the public is well satisfied with the results of that work. Well nigh universal regret will be felt that Secretary Hitchcock finds it necessary to retire, but when he does retire he will be followed by the sincere thanks and well wishes of a people whom he has ably and consistently served.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATORSHIP

Winston Churchill's campaign against railroad domination in New Hampshire has resulted in no election of governor at the polls, the New Hampshire law requiring that a candidate in order to be elected must receive a clear majority. As a result Mr. Floyd, the republican candidate, must go to the legislature for his certificate of election. It is now rumored that Mr. Churchill will appear before the legislature with the proposition that it would be well to side-track Mr. Burnham, whose affiliations with the Boston and Maine railroad are entirely too close to make him of much service to the people in their revolt against corporation rule. The inference is that Mr. Churchill will offer himself as a senatorial candidate. This may be all well enough, but if the people of New Hampshire insist upon having a republican senator who is really opposed to railroad control, why not solve the problem by returning William E. Chandler. The return of Chandler to the senate would be just what the Minneapolis Journal calls it—"poetic justice." He was defeated by the Boston and Maine railroad influence because that corporation could not control him. He possesses ability of a high order, he wields an influence that is felt, and he is no man's man. No one doubts Mr. Churchill's sincerity of purpose, but why experiment when the opportunity affords to make doubly sure?

MORE TOM JOHNSONS

The Lincoln (Neb.) Journal, republican, admits that "Tom Johnsons with an interest in street car affairs are not found in every community." That is true, but Tom Johnson's fight will encourage imitators so that there will be likely to be more of his kind in the future than there have been in the past. One brave fighter is worth a regiment of cowards.