

MONEY AND THE ELECTION

The statement of Colonel Roosevelt, frequently reiterated, that the money powers are fighting against him exclusively, and are satisfied with both Taft and Wilson, is no doubt a perfectly candid statement of his belief, but it seems to us grossly inaccurate. The president, from some source to us unknown, has recently got plenty of money for his campaign. We happen to know that Mr. Perkins, while making it clear that he can raise all the money needed by the bull moose if he wants to, has held back and indicated that he might step out if things did not go according to his wish. We state this not as a surmise but as a fact. It doesn't mean anything against Colonel Roosevelt's independence, which is well established, but it does seem to us to constitute a reason for not making charges of probable subserviency or helplessness against Governor Wilson. Whether or not big business men would care to help Governor Wilson financially can be scarcely known, as he is so particular about who contributes to his fund. Our guess would be that Mr. Jacob Schiff's support of Governor Wilson might be founded partly on the belief that he was going to be elected, as Mr. Schiff could scarcely take much satisfaction in the governor's intense feelings about the existence of a money trust. We mention this instance, because Mr. Roosevelt has chosen to emphasize Mr. Schiff as an indication that high finance fears only him. As a matter of fact, the Morgan interests in general will probably be backing the colonel even more heavily than they are now before the campaign is over. On the monopoly issue the principal exponents of the colonel's position are Judge Gary and Mr. Perkins. On the tariff issue, the old republican gag of Mark Hanna's day is served up anew, in the idea that the government will see that the tariff graft stops in the pay envelope. Workingmen have heard that story a long, long time, and meantime the price of living goes up, huge fortunes swell, trusts are created by tariff favors, the city grows at the expense of the country, and "prosperity" means plutocracy. To our best belief, Charles R. Crane is the only big business man in the country who has thrown his whole heart into the effort to elect Governor Wilson to the presidency.—Collier's Weekly.

PUBLICATION OF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES

The frank defense made by Senator Penrose in the United States senate as to the charges of receiving moneys from the Standard Oil company, and his explanations of the transactions, will certainly open up a Pandora box of troubles for many public men, possibly not all of them allied with the republican party.

It is seldom that parties who turn state's evidence in such transactions subsequently enjoy the confidence of their associates, or are forgotten or forgiven by the electors of the country, and in view of the fact that republican politicians of the Pennsylvania school have so markedly followed for the past 40 years the maxim of Kemble, "addition, division and silence," these latter-day confessions are very surprising.

The remarks of Senator Penrose, his disclosures of collections for political purposes, the evident control of public men by "big business" interests, can not fail to produce a most profound impression upon the country at large, and to emphasize the demand for complete publicity of all campaign expenditures.

This demand should not be confined to the sums expended upon campaigns after nominations, but should be insisted upon in all cases in which

expenditures have been made to secure nominations by candidates for office.

There exist many reasons why publications of contributions and expenditures for nominations and elections should be made weekly, during the progress of the contests, and it is proper and right that before a candidate is voted for either for nomination or election, the influences which are active in his support be known to the electors, who are to choose between candidates for position.

The various contests for presiden-

tial nominations this past winter, spring and summer would have been better understood by the voters of the United States, more clearly comprehended in their support and purpose if the laws of the United States and of the various states had compelled a public exhibit weekly of the sums received, the donors' names and how and where the funds were expended.

Senator Penrose's admissions and explanations will prove quite a jar to several gentlemen who have been gifted with convenient memories.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

PRECISION

The motto above the great editor's desk read: "Accuracy, Accuracy, Accuracy."

Therefore, the story turned in by the cub reporter contained this statement:

"Three thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine eyes were fixed upon the speaker."

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"One man was blind in one eye," explained the cub.—Tit-Bits.

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