

not afraid. Some one has said that no one need be a slave who has learned how to die. He was willing to risk his political future—and only those who are willing to die for a cause are worthy to live with it. He says that he will stand with President Wilson—he promises that his administration will be progressive but the pledge is unnecessary—his record is sufficient pledge.

Governor Wilson is another illustration. He had prepared himself through years of study and investigation. He was ready when circumstances opened the way for him to enter the White House—and circumstances are more potent than individuals in the selection of candidates for high office. The harvest was ripe—the hour had arrived and the man was at hand—no one was ever better equipped for the position. I have no doubt that he will reflect the wishes of the people.

In marking a boundary the other day I was reminded of a fact with which one becomes familiar in surveying, namely, that two points must be fixed before a line can be run. So with a public man, there are two points which must be established before we can feel sure as to the course he will pursue. He must be conscientious and he must be in sympathy with the people. Unless an official is conscientious—unless he prefers the approval of his own conscience to the applause of those about him you never know when he may draw aside from the path of duty.

There are only a few questions upon which a platform can touch—on most questions, as also upon persons, the official must decide for himself what he should do, and a man without a conscience is like a ship without a rudder. But to be conscientious is not sufficient—the aristocrat may be conscientious. He may be just as honest as the democrat, but if, instead of believing that society is built from the bottom, he believes it is suspended from the top, he will conscientiously do what the people do NOT want done. If, however, a man is both conscientious and in sympathy with the people he will do what the people WANT done. Such a man can be trusted; he can not go very far wrong and when he does make a mistake he soon corrects it.

It is because I believe our new president to be such a man that I expect him to so improve the great opportunity that has come to him as to win a high place for himself in history and greatly strengthen his party by benefiting the country. No president during the present generation has entered upon his duties under such favorable conditions or had behind him such unanimous good will. He has the support of a united democratic party—that is a great advantage, and he was the second choice of all the republicans—the followers of Mr. Taft preferring him to Mr. Roosevelt and the followers of Mr. Roosevelt preferring him to Mr. Taft. What superlative good fortune!

To democracy, also, an opportunity has come—an opportunity for which our party has been waiting and which it is ready to improve. It has already put its victory to splendid use. It has proven to the country that the panic argument used by the republicans was false. With a democratic president, senate and house there is no sign of business disturbance. Those who willfully deceived the public have been rebuked; those who were innocently misled have been instructed. There was no reason for any one to be frightened. The democrats have more reason than the republicans to guard against a panic. They could not stand a panic as well as the republicans could—they have less money laid up. If our opponents admit that we are interested in prosperity but question our intelligence I reply that for nearly two decades our party has had to furnish ideas for both parties. Nearly every good policy now urged by either branch of the republican party had its origin in democratic platforms.

The very fact that the two republican candidates, by opposing each other, insured democratic victory ought to have convinced the most conservative that our party can be trusted with authority—would they not have stood together if they thought that a democratic victory would jeopardize prosperity.

The country has come around to the democratic position; things that used to be regarded in the east as dangerous are now considered as not only safe but necessary. The income tax used to be denounced as dangerous but New York is one of the thirty-four states that have ratified the constitutional amendment. The popular election of senators used to excite alarm down here, but I predict that your legislature will, at its next session, ratify the amendment providing for it. The primary has been spread-

ing over the country and the power of the boss is waning. Before another national campaign rolls around the people will be in position to select their presidential candidates at home where politicians can not trade and barter, and presidents, when elected, will be obligated to the whole population and not to a few.

Light is entering the dark places; investigations are multiplying information; decisions rest upon a surer foundation. We are finding that our dangers came from the business centers rather than from the country. Your thousand and stock gamblers disturb business and invade property rights more every year than all the agitators in the country do in a generation.

The command, "forward, march," has been given and the nation moves forward with a progressive president pledged to a progressive platform—a platform which your own distinguished citizen, Senator O'Gorman, had a large part in writing. And to still further insure against any backward step more than half of the republican party is camping on our rear, fully armed and ready to attack us if we attempt to retreat.

A glorious outlook opens before our party: we have cause to rejoice and it adds to my enjoyment of the situation to know that New York's governor stands by the president-elect, and that New York's democracy keeps step with the democracy of the nation.

BRYAN IN THE ADMINISTRATION

St. Louis Republic: Mr. Bryan is going to Bermuda. Mr. Bryan is not going to Bermuda. Mr. Bryan has been offered the ambassadorship to England and has declined it. The post has not been offered to him. Mr. Bryan will be the next secretary of state. He will not be in the cabinet.

The newspapers are busily fixing Mr. Bryan's place in the Wilson administration. It is obvious he has not declined places that have not been tendered him. Neither would it be convenient for him to act as premier and ambassador to the court of St. James at the same time. The exaggerated speculations of the press, however, serve to depict the popular expectancy as to Mr. Bryan's position during Woodrow Wilson's White House tenancy.

Whether in the cabinet or in diplomacy, or in unofficial relation, the Bryan influence during the next four years is bound to be big. It ought to be. Had there been no Bryan at Baltimore Mr. Wilson would not have been nominated. Everybody knows that Woodrow Wilson's debt to Bryan is the biggest debt possible in American politics. Proper acknowledgement of that debt is expected. Popular belief is it will be paid.

As to Mr. Bryan's fitness for the premiership or the ranking ambassadorship opinion may differ. All are agreed, though, that his career is unique in our politics. His three nominations for the presidency and his three defeats are, after all, just simply events. His power has been wielded between campaigns. He has been tireless, fearless and at all times commanding. Had he been a mere agitator, a favorite of circumstances, a gentleman of only superficial gifts, he had long since disappeared. Instead he is the most indomitable figure of his times. Loved by many, hated by some, but acknowledged by all.

The people elected president the man whom Bryan nominated president. It is inconceivable that Wilson should turn his back on Bryan now. Such an attitude would be abhorrent to politics, to justice, to plain manliness.

Whatever Mr. Bryan wants he should have. He has earned it. This is, or ought to be, the sentiment of every democrat in the country, from the president elect to the most obscure private in the ranks. And whatever Mr. Bryan chooses to take or refuse the democracy of the nation will be at one with him in making the Wilson administration a success.

American democracy is united today, not as a matter of expediency, but as a matter of stern national necessity.

WAR ON POVERTY

The International Lyceum Association of America, with headquarters at 122 South Michigan boulevard, Chicago, has adopted as its slogan, "War on Poverty." The very fact that the association calls attention to this subject is helpful, and it adds to its service by bringing the subject to the attention of those who, through the lyceum and chautauqua, address those, estimated at six million, who patronize these meetings.

The crusade in which the association intends to participate is one large enough and of sufficient importance to enlist the sympathies of all,

and out of a study of the situation will come suggestions that will be of advantage. The subject naturally divides itself into four parts:

First. What can be done by individuals to increase production, to prevent waste and to secure justice in distribution?

Second. What can be done by co-operation, in the creation of public opinion?

Third. What can be done in the way of remedial legislation?

Fourth? What can be done to afford temporary relief while better permanent conditions are being established?

It might be well for those having ideas upon the subject to communicate them to the officers of the Lyceum association, and thus aid in the splendid work undertaken.

THE POPULAR VOTE

The common belief that the presidential vote in 1912 was less than the presidential vote in 1908 is incorrect. According to the official figures compiled for the World Almanac the total vote this year was 15,033,669, as against 14,888,442 four years ago, an increase of 145,227.

But only the socialists profited from this larger vote. They alone made gains, and very significant gains. The Debs vote in 1908 was 420,793; in 1912 it was 900,672, an increase of more than 100 per cent.

As for the democrats, Wilson polled a total of 6,293,454, as against Bryan's total of 6,409,104 in 1908, a decrease of 115,650. Stranger still, the total vote cast for Taft and Roosevelt was less than the total republican vote in 1908. Taft's 1912 vote was 3,484,980 and Roosevelt's was 4,119,538. Together they polled 7,604,518, which falls 74,390 under Taft's total of 7,678,908 four years ago.

Even the prohibitionists offered from apathy. Their vote in November was only 206,275, compared with 253,840. This loss of 47,565 is nearly one-fifth of the 1908 total.

It is a curious fact that with the exception of New Hampshire all the New England states cast more votes in 1912 than in 1908. The middle states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania cast fewer votes in 1912 than in 1908. Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Nebraska and Iowa also took less interest in the 1912 campaign than in the 1908 campaign. The same is true of the border states, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri.

There is no uniform rule applying to the south. Alabama, for example, cast more votes than in 1908 and Georgia cast fewer votes. Texas showed a large increase and South Carolina a large decrease, while Virginia's slump was exactly 70 votes and Oklahoma's was 839.

The mountain states all showed an increase. Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho cast more votes than they did in 1908. By reason of woman's suffrage California's vote should have doubled, but her 1912 vote was only 673,527, as against 386,517 in 1908. Apparently nearly 100,000 qualified citizens of California remained away from the polls.

The most significant fact in all these returns is the increase and distribution of the socialist vote. It is not a sectional vote, for the banner socialist states in this election were Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, California, New York, Oklahoma, Washington, Indiana, Wisconsin and Missouri in the order named, while in Idaho more than 10 per cent of the total vote was socialist. This is something for democrats and republicans to think about seriously.—New York World.

NEW SENATOR FROM ARKANSAS

Governor Donaghy of Arkansas, has appointed J. N. Heiskell, editor of the Arkansas Gazette, published at Little Rock, to be the successor to the late Senator Jeff Davis. Mr. Heiskell will serve until the expiration of the present term which ends March 4th. The legislature will elect a senator for the full term. Mr. Heiskell says he will not be a candidate before the legislature.

GOVERNOR SULZER ACTS

Governor Sulzer sent a special message to the New York legislature urging the ratification of the proposed constitutional amendment providing for the election of senators by popular vote.

PROGRESSIVE CONTROL

In the Nebraska democratic house of representatives the progressives controlled the democratic caucus by the selection of Dr. P. C. Kelly, of Hall county, for speaker of the house.