

Politics and Things

SEVERAL very interesting conclusions have been reached by speakers in the present political campaign in Utah, and some of the things that are pointed to as demonstrated facts may be set down for the edification of the political as follows:

Roosevelt is a demagogue.

Taft is a supinely do-nothing creature who hasn't delivered the goods.

Wilson is a pedagogic dreamer who couldn't be practical.

Debs is a dud.

Spry has grown wealthy through loaning vast amounts of state money.

Morris is a prohibitionist in the guise of a Bull Moose.

Tolton is a tool of the railroads.

The Republican party is shattered to atoms.

The Democratic party is drunk with hope and blinded by the vision of pay a-plenty.

The Bull Moose party is following a forlorn hope.

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This is an outlook for the pessimist wherein the optimist has no part. It would be no great wonder, after all, if the people should become suddenly nauseated at the personnel of candidates and the aspect of political organizations and refuse to go to the polls. Only, the trouble about this calculation is that not all the Republicans believe what is said of the Republican party, Taft and Spry; not all of the Democrats believe half what is said of Democracy, Wilson and Tolton, and none of the Bull Moosers believe what some of the folks say of the Progressives, Roosevelt and Morris. All of which furnishes the elemental reason for horse races and the betting boards.

If every one believed what the Progressives and Republicans say of each other and what they say of the Democrats, at the same time, the election would go by default. Or, maybe the folks would vote Debs or Chafin into the White House, for no one is bothering much about either up to the present moment of cogitation.

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It would take considerable courage for any man to raise his clarion voice at this time and say that Taft has a look-in, or that Roosevelt will get nearer the White House than Pennsylvania avenue. That is, it doesn't require much courage to say those things, but it amounts to audacity when some one asks you to believe it. It matters not to the Progressives whether this campaign is won or lost; the cause will prevail eventually. The election of the instrument of the Progressives to the Presidency would merely hasten the day when the Progressive principles could be put into operation. It is different with the Republican party. This election means

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disaster to the old guard, ruin to the most perfect political organization the world has even seen and calamity to men whose lives have been so shaped that they cannot live comfortably on anything else than a public salary.

"What are you going to do after the first of the year?" I asked an old beneficiary of the system.

"I'm going to get out of politics and stay out," he said. "I am pretty old and I have held political jobs until I know nothing else, but I expect to live the rest of my life away from the sordid atmosphere of politics where I can rest in peace without getting a nervous chill every time election comes around."

If Wilson is elected next Tuesday we expect to see the sun rise on the morning following as Chanteclair saw the sun rise without waiting for his shrill song of awakening. Some folks believe that if the country falls into the hands of the Democrats soup-houses will again be fashionable and the great army of unemployed will be swelled to immense proportions. That is good enough campaign material, but in a practical way it doesn't sound right coming from intelligent citizens.

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For the direct information of those individuals who are looking to these columns for their political guidance, here is an election tip:

The Republican state ticket will be elected, probably by a narrow margin; in that event Governor Spry's popularity will be the vehicle upon which Taft will ride through with the electoral vote.

The election in Salt Lake county is a gamble. The Republican county canvass, before the last day of registration, showed the following line-up:

Republicans	13,500
Democrats	10,000
Progressives	8,500
Doubtful	6,500

If the weather is clear next Tuesday, more than that total of 37,500 votes will be cast, for there are nearly 42,000 names on the registration books in this county. Certainly the Republicans cannot hope to carry Salt Lake county upon the showing of their own party canvass. The number of votes the Republicans claim to have will not elect the Republican county ticket. The winning ticket will have an average of at least 14,000 votes. To show how accurate is this canvass, take the canvass of the Democratic county committee. It is:

Democrats	15,000
Republicans	9,500
Progressives	10,500
Doubtful	4,000

Both parties evidently have included the Socialist vote in the doubtful column. The Democrats reach a total of 39,000 votes to be cast in the county, and they take enough of that to win.

But where is the doubtful vote going? Either the total of doubtfuls is the result of poor canvassing or it is a bona fide silent vote which will

make itself manifest on election day.

A policeman was standing at the Rio Grande depot the other day when a couple of men wearing Bull Moose buttons passed.

"I see you have some Bull Moose out here in Utah," said an eastern man who was waiting for his train.

"There are a lot of them here," said the cop, "and there are more here than dare express themselves."

Maybe that will give you a tip. Here's another:

A Republican canvasser visited a home on the East Side and asked the political complexion of the votes.

"I don't know how my wife is going to vote," said the man of the house, "and I am not saying what I am going to do, except that I am going to vote for Spry."

He was marked as a Republican, whereas it is known he will vote for Roosevelt and the Republican state ticket and probably the Bull Moose county ticket. Quite a combination? Yes, but not inconsistent.

You can look for the great silent vote of Utah and of the country at large to go for Roosevelt and his heroic cause. The silent vote, marked as doubtful, will determine the success of failure of the Republicans in Salt Lake county.

Take a chance, you sporting men, and bet. You won't get anything more tangible than a fleeting chance. If you bet on the success of the Bull Moose or the Democrats or the Republicans in Salt Lake county you have a three-to-one shot. For there is no telling what might happen. After election when a man meets you with the I-told-you-so greeting, you can put him down as a lucky guesser, and not as an astute politician.

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The Greeks, Albanians, Bulgarians, Servians, Montenegrins and a few others have introduced the Turkey trot into the Ottoman empire.

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It is not strange that a man who has had both legs amputated should be unable to foot the bill.

Reciprocity, we're told,
Is good for you and me,
And when applied to kissing,
I'm sure that we agree.

"Pa, what is new—new—neurasthenia?"
"It is the scientific name for a sort of bug, my son."

"Skimpy has broken his engagement to Ethelinda."
"Why?"
"He said he thought he'd do that before the engagement broke him."

Ted—Does he know anything about art?
Ned—Well, he can tell when a girl is pretty as a picture.

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