

tion of the prohibition or restriction of the export of any article. In the case of coal the question seems to be one of transportation as much as one of supply—indeed in some respects the transportation is the chief trouble. It is well therefore that our Board of Railway Commissioners are in close touch with the American railway authorities with a view of securing not only a fair supply of coal but the cars that are needed to carry it to the consumer.

### Judge by their Associates

The old saying that a man is judged by the company he keeps is being illustrated in the American political campaign. If General Leonard Wood had not been unfortunate enough to have rich friends who spent a vast sum in promoting his interests in the primary party contests, it is altogether probable that he would now be the Republican candidate, with a fair prospect of becoming President of the United States. When it became apparent, through an inquiry into such matters, that a very large sum of money had been spent on his behalf, the public—even the Republican public—turned upon him, and his nomination at the Chicago convention became impossible. Although it was not shown that any of the money had been spent corruptly, the public jumped to the conclusion that the people who spent so much have illegitimate aims and would have undue influence over General Wood if he became President. So General Wood was dropped and Senator Harding became the nominee of the Republican party.

In the Democratic field the most serious charge against Governor Cox is that he is the nominee of Tammany Hall, the New York Democratic organization of unsavory repute. It is not alleged that Mr. Cox has in the past had any particular association with Tammany. His record in Ohio politics has been good. But it is claimed that the Tammany men at the San Francisco convention were the chief advocates of his nomination and that without Tammany's support he could not have been chosen. Other Democratic Presidential candidates—Cleveland, Bryan and Wilson—had been nominated against the evil influence of Tammany, and Tammany had to be content to accept them. This year, it is alleged, Tammany laying its plans to have a candidate of its own choice, selected Mr. Cox and stuck to him until the end. The pretty general impression that Governor Cox is more in sympathy with the "wets" than with the "drys" on the prohibition question is believed to have been in a large degree the cause of Mr. Cox's nomination. The cordial support of Tammany will have a powerful influence in determining the vote of the great State of New York.

But there is another side to the question. Although Tammany Hall has not to answer for so many sins as in the old days of Boss Tweed, the methods of the organization are

not such as commend themselves to independent voters. Tammany is still a name with which to scare timid voters. It will be the policy of the Republican to picture Mr. Cox as the candidate of Tammany and "booze," and such a cry will have influence in many quarters.

### Canada and the Treaties

A cablegram to the press states that the proposed new treaty with Japan will be submitted to the Canadian Parliament. The publication of the item may create the impression that there is something unusual in the course proposed, but there is not. Not for many years has Great Britain made any important treaty without stipulating that, so far as Canada is concerned, it shall be subject to the approval of the Parliament of the Dominion. There was a time when this consideration was not shown to the Overseas Dominions, and at the same time some treaties were made which in later years became very embarrassing to Canada. With the growth of the larger colonies, however, came very properly a higher appreciation of their rights. Where Canada's interests are immediately concerned Canadian Ministers are invariably appointed to represent Canada. Where Canada's interests are less direct, the now established custom is to insert in a treaty a clause providing that it shall not apply to Canada, until the Canadian Parliament resolves to adhere to it.

### Porch or Platform?

Whether it is better to remain at home and make the campaign speeches from one's own porch, or "swing round the circle," addressing the people in all parts of the country, is a problem now engaging the attention of the Presidential candidates and their chief managers across the border. Senator Harding, the Republican candidate, has intimated that he will probably stay at home and content himself with making speeches from his porch to such delegations as assemble from time to time on his lawn. Governor Cox, the Democratic nominee, is disposed to make a nationwide travel campaign, and the intimation that he is likely to adopt that plan has caused some of Mr. Harding's friends to advise reconsideration of the porch plan. On first view it may seem that the tour of the country is the better plan. But it is questionable whether the history of Presidential campaigns supports that view. A writer in the New York Sun, who has been studying the subject, comes to the conclusion that the stay-at-home policy is the effective one. General Winfield Scott in 1852, Stephen A. Douglas in 1860, Andrew Johnson in 1868, Horace Greeley in 1892, General Hancock in 1880, James G. Blaine in 1884, and William J. Bryan in 1896, all made speaking tours, and all were defeated, in most cases by men who remained at home. "If," says the writer, "the doorstep was good enough for

McKinley it should be good enough and safe enough for Harding?" It is another illustration of the old proverb, "Speech may be silver, but silence is golden."

### Campaign Expenses

In the recent discussion of the Franchise Bill, in the Dominion Parliament, much was said concerning the payment of election expenses and the manner of accounting for them. One member made the advanced suggestion that in the future consideration of the question it would be found expedient not only to exercise a fuller control over such matters, but that Parliament, while restricting expenditures to strictly legitimate purposes, would forbid private contribution and make all the lawful expenses of an election campaign a charge on the public treasury. So long as individuals are expected or allowed to provide election funds there will be disputes concerning the extent and propriety of such expenses. If the Dominion Treasury, which now bears a large part of the expenses of an election assumes responsibility for the whole, while of course strictly limiting the amount and character of the outlay, there will be no excuse for private contributions. This idea is, no doubt, an advanced one and will not at once find universal favor; but there is much to be said for it, and in all probability it will one of these days be seriously taken into consideration.

A similar notion is now put forward by Mr. G. W. McAdoo, President Wilson's son-in-law. Mr. McAdoo, it will be remembered, when he was being freely talked of as a Democratic candidate for the Presidency caused a notice to be published to the effect that he was not a candidate and could not afford to be one. Notwithstanding this his friends presented his name at the San Francisco convention and he received many votes. A few nights ago, Mr. McAdoo, in speaking at a gathering in New York, urged the revision of the elections laws to allow the treasury of the United States to pay the legitimate expenses of Presidential candidates. "One thing America can never stand for," he said, "is the purchase of the Presidency of the United States. There is no menace so great to our nation as the corrupt use of money for campaign purposes."

### Wheat crop and Wealth

All accounts suggest that the agricultural industry of Western Canada is in for a very big year. If the increase in capital value of Western farm property could be indicated in stock exchange quotations as visibly as, say, that of the pulp and paper industry, it might be found that the wheat-growers were entitled to as much gratitude as the paper men for adding to the capital wealth of the Dominion.