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Special Articles

An Approach Towards Peace.

By W. W. Swanson, Ph.D.

Impulsive Social Action.

By J. W. Macmillan.

Conditions in the West.

By E. Cora Hind.

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Tammany's Victory

THE overwhelming victory won by Tammany Hall's candidate in the New York Mayoralty election will bring sorrow and anxiety to the best classes of the citizens, and will have a depressing influence on American public opinion generally. An American orator, attacking the Democratic party years ago, said: "I will not say that all Democrats are horse-thieves, but I will say that all horse thieves are Democrats." It would be a gross slander, of course, to say that the many thousands of New York citizens who followed the Tammany leaders are less reputable than their neighbors. Doubtless the majority honestly thought they had good reasons for not supporting Mayor Mitchell. But it is not too much to say that the less reputable class of citizens find Tammany's methods more congenial than those of other organizations and therefore rally to the support of Tammany's candidates. A Tammany victory consequently can hardly be regarded as the expression of a desire of the people of the great metropolis to conform to the highest standards of citizenship. While thousands of patriotic electors gave their votes to Tammany in all good faith they are not the ones who are likely to mould Tammany's policy. It is almost certain, in the light of experience, that the leaders of the other class of voters, which has had such a large part in the winning of the victory, will be the most active and influential in the making and carrying out of policies for the government of the city.

The control which the Tammany Hall organization manages to exercise over great numbers of the citizens is one of the strange things about New York politics. While unquestionably there are many good citizens who at times allow themselves to become followers of Tammany, it can hardly be denied that the general record of Tammany and the officials whom it places in power has not been praiseworthy. At the best Tammany's ideals are not high. Too often the system of municipal affairs built up by the Tammany leaders has proved grossly corrupt and in every way unworthy of public confidence. Occasionally independent citizens are aroused to vigorous action. Democrats of high standing join their fellow-citizens in protest. For a little while Tammany may seem to be over-ruled. But the Tammany machine is constantly in operation and after the "reform" movements have won spasmodic success the machine is found resuming its control over the affairs of the great city. The substitution of a Tammany Mayor for such a vigorous chief magistrate as Mr. John P. Mitchell does not bode well for good government in New York. Under a Tammany Mayor nobody will look for an excess of uplifting measures.

The Washington Commissionership

A GENTLEMAN whose name had been prominently mentioned in connection with the proposed high salaried position of Canadian Commissioner at Washington has been appointed to another office at home. Let us hope that this fact indicates a reconsideration of the subject at Ottawa, and the abandonment of the Washington scheme.

The more the matter is considered the stronger the case appears against any such appointment for service at Washington. Not a particle of reason has been given to the public in support of such an appointment. The present situation respecting Canada's interests at Washington leaves nothing to be desired. Sir Cecil Spring Rice, the British Ambassador, following the example set by his predecessor, Lord Bryce, comes up to Ottawa frequently for consultation with the Canadian Ministers and to meet public men generally. He is thus kept well informed as to Canada's interests and wishes in relation to Washington business. When any matter of real importance arises, a Minister can in a few hours go down to Washington and act for Canada with much more influence than any resident Commissioner could have.

So far as information is at present available, the appointment of a Canadian Commissioner at Washington would not only be a waste of public money, but would probably do harm by creating trouble between the British Embassy and the Canadian Government. We hope to find that the proposal has been dropped.

To Keep Our Industries Going

EVEN at this late date there is some misapprehension regarding the uses to which the Victory Loan will be placed. Every cent of this money will be expended in Canada in the payment of munitions, clothing, foodstuffs, and the hundred and one other necessities used in the prosecution of the war. This means that munition factories will be kept going at full speed, that workers in clothing factories will not be deprived of their jobs, that the farmers, the miners, the lumbermen, the fishermen, and all others engaged in production will receive high prices for their output. In other words, the money secured through the Victory Loan will be used to keep the wheels of industry going in the Dominion.

Ever since the outbreak of hostilities, Great Britain has been providing the money for her own huge requirements, and also has been fin-