

known organization in the history of the world, has planned to go out after the world's trade when the war is over and capture the lion share of it. Doubtless the organization will concentrate on, and seek to capture the business formerly controlled by the Teutonic powers. With the lessons Britain has learned during the war, together with the previous share of this trade, and her wonderful shipping connections she will undoubtedly succeed in the attainment of her object. If Great Britain finds it necessary to organize for after-the-war trade, surely Canada cannot afford to sit idly by, and wait Macawber-like for "something to turn up."

Wisdom from Mr. Churchill

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL is not one of the men to whom the public usually look for words of wisdom. His impulsive character has sometimes manifested itself through the making of remarks not calculated to win him a reputation for discretion. It is gratifying to find that Mr. Churchill is improving in this respect. He certainly displayed wisdom in a recent London speech, when he advised the people to be less anxious than some seemed to be respecting the making of after-the-war plans. Of course, there are some things concerning which preparation must be made even now. The problems of the treatment of the sick and wounded soldiers, and the finding of employment for all who return from the battle-fields, are matters that are already in sight, and therefore they demand most careful attention. But other questions which seem to engage the attention of numerous writers and speakers, such as the re-organization of the Empire, and the trade relations that may have to be established with foreign countries, interesting though they are and important as they will be at the proper time, are not matters of urgency now, nor can intelligent policies respecting them be formulated while the war is on. The manner in which some of these questions shall be dealt with may depend upon the terms of peace, and peace time, unhappily, is still far off.

The Presidential Outlook

THE Republicans of the United States feel very much encouraged by the result of the Maine election. They carried the State by a substantial majority, not so large a majority as in the old days when Maine was counted a "rock ribbed" Republican State, but to have carried it, even by a reduced majority at this time is regarded as a triumph by the Republicans, in view of the recent history of the State. Nowhere was the demoralization of the party through the Taft-Roosevelt quarrel more evident than in Maine. The nomination of both Taft and Roosevelt in 1912 so divided the Republican votes that the State was delivered to the Democrats, as respects national affairs, and similar conditions a few months later gave the Democrats temporary control in state affairs. The great thing for the Republicans in the recent State election was to bring about a union of the two branches of the party, and in this they were apparently fairly successful. That all the Progressives are joining the party now headed by Mr. Hughes is by no means certain. Some of them even in Maine prefer to join the Democrats rather than the regular Republican organization. But the great majority of them apparently have followed Mr. Roosevelt into Republican ranks. It has been so in Maine. It will probably be so throughout the union. And unless new issues material-

ly affect the action of the voters, this union of Republican and Progressive forces bids fair to ensure the election of Mr. Hughes. It must not be forgotten that President Wilson's election was won through the Republican divisions rather than through the Democratic strength.

The situation of 1912 enabled a Democrat to win the Presidential contest. To win again in 1916 Mr. Wilson will need to hold his supporters of 1912 and obtain the votes of a large number of electors who were not then his friends. It is possible that he can do this but the fight under such conditions will be an uphill one.

The strongest ground upon which Mr. Wilson's friends claim support for him is that he has kept the country out of war.

This certainly will be a powerful appeal in the view of many men who are not strongly wedded to party. Every feature of the war can be used by the Democratic campaigners as an argument for the President who has managed to keep the nation out of such horrors. The President's critics will say that he has kept the nation out of war by the sacrifice of the nation's dignity and honor. That, however, is the position taken by the strong Republican, who would in any case be against Mr. Wilson, rather than the position of impartial observers. Of the latter, many will, no doubt, respond to the appeal so made on behalf of the President, and this will have a considerable influence upon the November election.

The German-American vote is large enough to be a factor of some importance. Just what its effect may be is not yet clear. Since Col. Roosevelt has warmly identified himself with the Republicans, his anti-German attitude may serve to hold for Mr. Hughes the support of those who have been strongly in sympathy with Great Britain and her allies. Mr. Hughes himself, while not in any way appealing directly to this foreign element, seems to have taken some pains not to antagonize it. Mr. Wilson, on the other hand, seems disposed to take it for granted that the German vote will be against him. In his speech of acceptance of the nomination there is a notable sentence in which he declares that he neither seeks nor fears the vote of any class who desire to serve the ends of a foreign government rather than to discharge their duty as American citizens. Apart from the electors of German origin, and perhaps a small anti-British element among the Irish voters, the mass of the American people are clearly in sympathy with Great Britain and the Allies. German policy as exemplified in the case of the Lusitania and other outrages decided independent American opinion against the Central Powers. If it can be made clear that the Republicans are pandering to the German vote, many who might otherwise be expected to support Mr. Hughes will go over to Mr. Wilson.

Another thing that may now play a considerable part in the contest for the Presidency is the attitude of the labor leaders, consequent on the proceedings connected with the recently threatened general railway strike. If President Wilson had not endeavored to bring about a settlement of the question, it is certain that he would have been denounced as one neglecting his duty. Having taken up the subject, it was inevitable that he would be charged with using the situation for his party ends. Failing to secure an adjustment by agreement of the parties, the President sought to compel a settlement, for the time at least, by securing legislation in which he went far to grant the demands of the train men. What may be called the conservative interests of the United States feel that in this the President went too far, yielding too much to the men's demands, and leaving too little of the matter at issue to the commission of inquiry about to be created. This

may operate against Mr. Wilson in some quarters; but on the other hand there will be a strong inclination on the part of the labor unions generally to regard the President's action as something that calls for their substantial recognition and support.

Other issues, of course, will play their part in the campaign. The old Republican cry for a high protective tariff has been revived, and Mr. Hughes has given it a prominence which indicates that he has faith in it as a vote getter. A Republican victory will, therefore, mean a return to something like the McKinley tariff, a fact which gives the contest a considerable interest for us in Canada. "Preparedness," so much talked of in recent months, will be in evidence in the campaign, but as all parties favor a large expenditure for naval and military purposes, there is not likely to be any change of votes on that score. Mexican affairs occupy less attention now, since the difference between the United States and Mexico have been referred to a joint commission.

In the presence of these questions, some of them creating new and disturbing issues, and with two such eminent men as Mr. Wilson and Mr. Hughes at the heads of their respective parties, it would be unwise to speak too confidently of the outcome of the Presidential contest in November. The most that can be said at present is that the apparent union of the Republicans and Progressives, as shown in the Maine election, strengthens the hopes and expectations of those who are endeavoring to place Mr. Hughes in the President's chair.

One of War's Troubles

WHEN Winston Churchill, in the course of a tariff reform debate, said the proposed changes would operate against the interests of his constituents of Dundee, who were largely interested in the preserving industry, Mr. Chamberlain contemptuously replied that the kind of Empire he wanted could not be built on jam and pickles. But jam and pickles are not to be treated lightly—especially jam. The British breakfast would be sadly demoralized if there should be any failure in the supply of jam. Jam, too, is playing quite a part in the food supply of the soldiers at the front. The supply is so liberal that Tommy Atkins, regarding it no longer as a luxury, is becoming critical about it. One of the comic papers recently had a picture showing Tommy about to open a can labelled "Plum and Apple," and remarking, "When in — will they send strawberry." The fruit crop is now being gathered in Great Britain and a very plentiful crop it promises to be. There is anxiety concerning the sugar supply. In a reference to the subject the Sugar Commissioners—the Government controlling the whole sugar supply—happened to remark that the sugar required for household preserving operations was a negligible quantity. Against this declaration there is a widespread protest. Housewives in all parts of the Kingdom are hastening to inform the public through the press that the art of fruit-preserving is still flourishing in British homes everywhere, and that an abundant supply of sugar for this purpose is one of the things most necessary for the peace, order and good government of the nation. No doubt every possible effort will be made to supply these excellent house-keepers, as well as the many jam factories, with the necessary sugar. But the possibility of a shortage is still suggested. An intimation is given that it will be well to economize by using a portion of glucose, a corn syrup, and the authorities issue directions as to the proportion of the substitute article that may properly be used.

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