

steel, he could not last long. Unable to read, at the end of two hours he quit, expecting Stone to resume his speech according to the agreement. But Stone was not there. Whether unavoidably absent, or influenced to stay away by the United and Ancient Order of Judas Iscariots, will never be known, but he was not there when needed. Aldrich was quick to take advantage of the situation, and demanded a roll call on the bill. Just as the clerk commenced, La Follette entered, refreshed and ready for the fray. He did all in his power to open the fight, but it was too late. The battle was lost. The war was not ended though, and this champion of the people, this hero and Knight of the Twentieth Century, is still in the field. Therefore the people have hope. Wisconsin placed his name before the Republican National Convention for President, and here is what happened according to the press:

"It was late in the afternoon before the convention now literally sweltering with the intense heat and weary after nearly seven hours of continuous session, reached

the end of the flood of eloquence and decks were at last cleared for the culminating act. But no, just as the last swell of oratory, the seconding speech for La Follette had died away, like a cyclone from a clear sky burst a La Follette demonstration which swept the convention from its very bearings. It was the same deafening wave of sound that had greeted Roosevelt Wednesday and Taft a little while before, intense and maddening and with the vital ring of genuine enthusiasm. It seemed as though Wisconsin had suddenly peopled every foot of the galleries. The delegates sat calm and awaiting except the frantic Wisconsinites, but the convention for the time being was in the possession of the galleries."

The galleries represent public sentiment. They were not peopled by "Wisconsinites," but by men and women who admire real worth from every state in the Union. This capture of the galleries by La Follette is a significant thing. The thunder of applause which greeted his name, sounds the death knell of Monopoly, and monopoly owned political parties.

THE FARMER TO THE RESCUE

(From the Literary Digest.)

A leader of Israel, according to a scriptural historian, once received a promise of better times for his country by signs given on the threshing-floor. It is there, likewise, that our financial authorities are now looking for signs of better times for the United States. "Indications at the present time are for great crops," says Chief Statistician Clark, of the Department of Agriculture, and the newspaper observers are hailing the approach of prosperity from every editorial aerie. "For eight years," says Mr. Clark, "the American farmer has enjoyed unprecedented prosperity, and now the ninth promising harvest is practically assured. Never in the history of the United States have there been nine such years—years of big yields and high prices."

The wheat crop is expected by the New York Journal of Commerce to reach 737,270,000 bushels, a figure surpassed only by the great yield of 1901; and oats, rye, and barley are also thought likely to endanger their former records. Indian corn, which usually yields a billion bushels more than all these grains combined, is to be reported on later. As the world's stock of wheat is 50,000,000 bushels below the figure for last year, our big crop is expected to bring a good price.

"There is absolutely not a leg for the pessimist to stand on."

"Prosperity for the farm, big freight receipts for the railroads, more beef at a lower price, a bounteous breakfast, and a 'full dinner-pail' are all included in the promise of the fields. Nature has done her part toward a business revival; the rest is up to us. If this promise is disappointed, it will be a case where every prospect pleases, and only the politician is vile."

The Philadelphia Inquirer observes similarly:

"Agriculture is still the chief source of the national wealth and the basis of the national welfare. If the crops are good the times can not longer continue bad, and the farmer with his barns full of grain and his pockets bulging with money is the most efficient advance agent of a business boom. He is the American manufacturer's best customer, and when he has the means wherewith to supply his needs he is able to supply a market which for extent and profit has no equal in the world.

"It is because the farmer, thanks to a succession of good seasons, had unusually large reserves on which to draw that the consequences of the late reaction were not more serious, and with his circumstances still further improved there is sure to be something doing. And the

greater the crops the greater will be the Republican majority next November."

James J. Hill, who is something of an authority on the crops himself, thinks, however, that the yield will not be anything stupendous. "There will be no car shortage because there will be no long crop," he said to a reporter in Washington a few days ago. The Wall Street Journal is able to see compensations even in this. It remarks:

"James J. Hill says we are not to have any bumper crop this year. Whether he is correct or not in his prophecy, it will take a few months more to decide the question. If it turns out according to his way of thinking, there are large compensations for the failure to get a bumper crop. Bumper crops are by no means an unmixed blessing. They lower prices to the consumer, but they are apt to lessen the reward to the producer. When crops are super-abundant, people are apt to spend to excess, so that bumper crops often stimulate the extravagances which are hard to correct when things take a different turn.

"Yet the want of a bumper crop is no cause for pessimism. On the contrary, moderate abundance is better than wasteful superfluity, and at least moderate abundance is assured this year. If nature is too prodigal, man is apt to take chances which a more prudent regard for means and ends would never assume. To live in a land of plenty and peace is far better than to be intoxicated by the feeling that economy can be cast to the winds without reaping the reward of wastefulness."

CO-OPERATION IN ITALY

Schools of design have been formed through the instrumentality of which the artificer will not only find her intelligence quickened, but will be freed from the dictation or tyranny of the designer. One of the most important objects of the society has been to provide, where necessary, workshops in which proper provision will be made for "the health, the salary or wages, and the morality" of the operatives. These wages "have everywhere been higher than before." On this point we read:

"The Co-operative Society of Industries for Italian Women has so arranged the scale of remuneration paid out that such workers as receive least pay (such as hand-weavers, etc.) shall be those who work in regions where the cost of living is lowest, while skilled workwomen, who produce more difficult work, which fetches higher