

Democratic National Convention Opens

BEN DEACON, Canadian Press Correspondent.

NEW YORK, June 24.—On the eve of the Democratic national convention the most prevalent opinion—and undoubtedly too, the accurate—regarding the big Madison Square Garden assemblage to-day is that "anything may happen."

There are other predictions, of course. Judge David Ladd Rockwell, of Chicago, is predicting that William McAdoo, son-in-law of the late President Wilson and Secretary of the Treasury in the Wilson Cabinet, will be the choice of the convention.

Senator Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama, is predicting that the nomination of Alfred E. Smith, Governor of the state of New York, will be the result.

wood, who at one time had pre-convention booms but who recently have faded from view, and even others who have not been boomed but merely "mentioned" are in a better strategic position than either McAdoo or Smith.

The managers of the big rivals appear to realize that the situation is a critical one. In their eleventh hour statements there is a very noticeable undercurrent of uncertainty. The assurance which marked their predictions of victory a month ago is lacking.

Judge Rockwell, McAdoo's manager, undoubtedly has a majority of delegates pledged to vote for his man, even though their number is variously estimated and the Rockwell tabulation differs widely from that of Tammany. However, it requires a two-thirds vote to nominate under the present rules of the Democratic party.

The Smith forces are credited with enough delegates to prevent McAdoo from getting the necessary two-thirds vote and they declare that when the convention has become convinced that McAdoo's nomination is impossible they can swing it to the New York man.

The New York governor appears to be wearing a bit thin. From both camps there continues to come, of course, the customary predictions of victory, but to the neutral observer there are many indications that both sides are in reality much in doubt as to the outcome.

No Shortage of Candidates. There is no lack of available candidates. The difficulty in the event of a deadlock will be finding the man upon whom the contending factions can agree as a compromise.

There is a formidable list of "favorite sons" and others who are practically sure to receive some votes on the first ballot. Prominent in this list, which very probably contains the name of the coming Democratic nominee, are the following:—

- Senator Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama.
Senator Jos T. Robinson, of Arkansas.
Homer S. Cummings, of Connecticut.
Willard Saulsbury, of Delaware.
Mayor Dever, of Chicago.
Senator Samuel Moffatt Ralston, of Indiana.
Ex-Secretary of Agriculture Meredith, of Iowa.
Governor Jonathan Davis, of Kansas.
Governor Albert G. Ritchie, of Maryland.
Senator Woodbridge N. Ferris, of Michigan.
Governor Chas. Bryan, of Nebraska.
Ex-Governor Cox, of Ohio, nominee in 1920.
Senator Carter Glass, of Virginia.
John W. Davis, of West Virginia, ex-Ambassador to Great Britain.
Senator John B. Dendrick, of Wyoming.
Governor Fred. H. Brown, of New Hampshire.
Senator Royal S. Copeland, of New York.
Governor Silzer, of New Jersey.
Josephus Daniels, North Carolina, ex-Secretary Navy.
Senator Walsh, of Montana.
Governor Pat Morris Neff, of Texas.
Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri.

A month ago Rockwell was predicting that McAdoo would be nominated on the third ballot. He now admits that his man will win the prize only after a long battle. The disclosure during the Senate oil investigation that McAdoo since his retirement from public office had been legal adviser for one of the oil "barons" who figured in the inquiry undoubtedly alienated many prominent Democrats from his candidacy and a familiar declaration in political discussions is that McAdoo cannot be nominated because with him as standard-bearer the Democrats could not win.

The linking of McAdoo's name with the oil scandal undoubtedly gave additional strength to Smith, but some of the leaders of the Smith faction appear to be rather less confident than formerly as the delegates gather for the convention. They maintain that they can block the McAdoo forces, but their optimism regarding their ability to swing the convention to

impress upon Copeland the theory that there can only be one candidate for President from New York this year. It is claimed that some of the Smith leaders, fear that Copeland may become independent, and in the event of a deadlock precipitate a break from Smith. Copeland is a Hearst man and William Randolph has no love for the New York governor who squelched his political aspirations at the state convention at Syracuse two years ago. Copeland, therefore, may prove a factor in the Democratic deal though there is little expectation that he will get within reach of the nomination himself.

Senator Underwood occupies a favorable position among the dark horses by reason of a vigorous pre-convention campaign. This, while it failed to gain him many pledged delegates, focused attention upon his undisputed excellent qualities and brought him favourable mention from a number of the "conservative" leaders of the party. He has a fine political record and would make a strong candidate.

Ex-Ambassador Davis is another potential nominee who has the support of a considerable section of the more conservative element of the party. Such papers as the New York Times have advocated Davis as the party's candidate. Davis, like the majority of the dark horses, has not been much in the public eye in connection with the nomination. The pre-convention campaigning has been done principally by the supporters of McAdoo, Smith, Underwood and Ralston. But in 1920 neither Harding nor Cox had been widely "boomed" previous to the conventions and they came out of the woodwork with the nominations. At Madison Square Garden after the casting of many ballots there may be a similar finale.

The very best prediction is that "anything may happen."

Optimism in Both Camps. In the other camp gossip names Senator Ralston as second choice. The Indiana senator undoubtedly has an advantage over the majority of the other dark horses. His manager, Thos. Taggart, an astute political worker, ran a pre-convention campaign for him upon rather novel lines. From the start Taggart banked on a deadlock in the convention. He devoted his main energies to pledging delegates to vote for Ralston as second choice. Taggart recently was reported to have joined the Smith forces, and, according to current report, will throw his influence in the convention to the New York candidate, although at one time he declared "Smith was impossible. But if it becomes apparent that Smith cannot be put over, it is a fair supposition that the majority of the Smith leaders will reciprocate by boosting Taggart's man."

But not all of them. Even before the deadlock stage is reached it may be impossible for Norman E. Mack who will not act as spokesman for the New York delegation, to keep his 30 delegates solidly in line for Smith. Senator Copeland has a minority following in Tammany and if he decides to put himself forward he may cause no little trouble. Had Charles F. Murphy lived the New York delegation would undoubtedly have remained solid, but with Murphy dead and Tammany leaderless it may be impossible to

Colonial Cotton EXPECTED TO RELIEVE BRITISH DEFICIT. LONDON, June 4 (A.P.).—In nearly every part of the British empire where cotton is grown conditions were satisfactory last year, according to the annual report of the British Cotton Growing Association.

It is generally admitted, says the report, that 1923 was one of the most unprofitable ever experienced in the history of the cotton milling industry in Great Britain, due to shortage of raw materials. The great bulk of the mills using American cotton worked on short time, and the earning power of the operatives was seriously curtailed. This condition is being overcome by the increased production of the British colonies.

After detailing the progress made in cotton growing in various parts of the empire the report concludes: "The increased quantities of cotton produced during the year in many parts of the empire is very gratifying especially at a time when the prospects for a greater production in America appear to be getting more remote every year. It cannot be de-

AT THE MAJESTIC TO-DAY AN ASTOUNDING STORY. OUT WHERE WEAK MEN SUCCUMB TO THE STRONGER and LOVE TRIUMPHS OVER ALL. "THE VALLEY OF SILENT MEN" JAMES OLIVER CURWOOD'S GREATEST STORY. THRILLING DRAMATIC SOUL-STIRRING THE CAST: Murette Radison, A Canadian Girl... Alma Rubens Corporal Jas. Kent, of the Royal Northwest Mounted... Lew Cody "Buck" O'Connor... Joseph King Pierre Radison, the father... Mario Majeroni Inspector Kedsty, of the Mounted... George Nash Jacques Radison, the brother... J. W. Johnston Coming by S.S. SILVIA, Thursday: MR. BEN REDDEN, Tenor. Highly recommended by Keith Vaudeville Exchange, Boston.

DO YOU KNOW the coupons are ALWAYS valuable. The Box Fronts are valuable until September 30th. Better cigarettes at the price cannot be made, and for the Box Fronts we are giving away prizes to the value of \$600.00 Get busy Save the Box Fronts THAT'S ALL Imperial Tobacco Co.



Bankrupt Stock LADIES SWEATERS Seven Hundred Pull-over Sweaters worth up to \$3.50 each All One Price \$1.69 each Wonderful Assortment Shades to select from MILLEY'S June 25, 31

YOUR GIRL Will take a real interest and make a success of the fine art of cooking if you provide her with the necessary equipment at home. Just because her grandmother used an old-fashioned coal stove is no reason why the young generation should be burdened down with it. If your kitchen is equipped with a "SMOOTHTOP" VULCAN GAS RANGE, fitted with a Modern Heat Regulator, perfect results are certain. Try this recipe for NUT BREAD: 4 cups flour, 6 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup English walnuts, 1 cup milk, 2 eggs. Mix and sift dry ingredients and add the chopped nuts. Add milk and well beaten eggs. Put in two buttered pans and let stand 20 minutes. Set your oven heat regulator at 375 degrees and bake for 20 minutes. Estimates and full particulars gladly furnished by St. John's Gas Light Co. Phone 81.

Star Movie To-day Reference to the ad. on another page will show that the popular Star has for to-night Peter B. Kyne's screen triumph entitled "A Motion to Adjourn," and funny Jimmy Aubrey in a comedy riot entitled "Squabs and Squabbles." Next week is Earl Haig week, and as this theatre is recognized as the theatre of the Returned Soldiers it behoves them to fall in line, with the result that they have arranged for next week three most appropriate shows. On Monday is an all English; Wednesday an all Irish and Friday an all Scotch, further particulars will appear in this paper Saturday. What is probably the biggest booking announced for some time is the picture "Let No Man Put Asunder," which is to be screened at this theatre at an early date. Just a suspicion of chopped onion is nice in corned beef hash.

JEFF NARROWLY AVERTS A DUEL IN SU NNY SPAIN. By Bud Fisher. DON JEFF, YOUR JEALOUS SPANISH RIVAL IS STILL OUTSIDE WAITING FOR YOU TO STICK YOUR BEAK OUT OF THE DOOR! IT LOOKS LIKE YOU GOTTA FACE THAT WILD BABY SOONER OR LATER! DAN CUPID CERTAINLY GOT ME IN A NICE MESS! LISTEN! GO OUT AND REASON WITH HIM! APPEAL TO HIS SPORTING NATURE! SUGGEST FLIPPING A COIN TO SEE WHO WINS THE DAME! NOW YOU'RE TALKING, DON MATT! SIGNER, YOU AND I ARE PRACTICAL MEN! LET'S FLIP A COIN FOR THE FAIR. SENORITA! HEADS YOU WIN - TAILS YOU LOSE - ARE YOU GUYS? BAH! WE SHALL FIGHT TO THE DEATH FOR HER LOVE! TAKE THIS AND BE ON YOUR GUARD! I'LL FIGHT YOU BUT NOT HERE! I PREFER TO FIGHT IN ENGLAND - A NEUTRAL COUNTRY! PIG! YOU DON'T WANT TO FIGHT! YOU WANT TO TRAVEL!

Get the Best Lawn Tennis Balls We have received superior English made Lawn Tennis Balls. Regulation size, weight and bound, and suitable for either grass or hard courts. Prices: 70c., 75c., 95c. each. Bussey's world-famed Tennis Balls 70c. each. GARRETT BYRNE, Bookseller and Stationer.