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## Harding and Coolidge

OUR guess last week as to the probable action of the Republican convention at Chicago came nearer to the results than most guesses do in the field of politics. The outlook, as it then seemed, was that the three candidates who held the foremost places in the race for the nomination—General Wood, Governor Lowden and Senator Johnson, on whose behalf vast sums had been spent in the primary party contests—would have to stand aside, that the candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency would be sought among men further back, “dark horses” as they are called, and that in such a case it was not unlikely that a bid might be made for the independent vote by the selection of Herbert Hoover, with an old guard Republican such as Governor Coolidge of Massachusetts for the second place. Except as to Mr. Hoover this is exactly what has happened. Wood and Lowden, running neck and neck, with Johnson some distance off, left all the other candidates far behind in the earlier ballots. When the fact dawned on the managers that not one of the three could be named, and that a dark horse must be chosen, it was not Hoover but Senator Harding, of Ohio, to whom the delegates turned. Governor Coolidge was chosen for the second place with little dissent.

The ticket will hardly be regarded as a brilliant one, but probably it has the better recommendation of being a “safe” one. Both of the men named have clean and honorable records in various forms of public service. The ticket is likely to grow in strength as the campaign progresses. Apparently there will be no bolt, no independent Republican candidate. The Republicans will be pretty well united, and the prospect is that they will win in the November election.

## A Well Deserved Compliment

THE Irish members—those of Irish origin or having Irish sympathies—of the American Federation of Labor have paid our British institutions a high compli-

ment by introducing, at a meeting of the association on British soil, a resolution expressing sympathy with the so-called Irish Republic and declaring that the British troops should be withdrawn from Ireland. It is probably only under the British flag that such a resolution could be laid before a gathering and received by the public without any official protest. We doubt if a similar situation would be regarded with the same equanimity in the United States, with all the boasted freedom of the Republic. If a society having American and Canadian members, in which the Canadians predominated, were holding a meeting in the United States, and a resolution were brought forward expressing sympathy with the Filipinos and declaring that the American soldiers and officials should be withdrawn from the Philippine Islands, what would be thought of such a proceeding by the American authorities, and what would be said in the American press? Perhaps the government at Washington would hesitate to take formal action on the subject, but it is safe to say that Senator Lodge and many of his sympathizers would make the welkin ring with their cries, and the Foreign Relations Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives would be asked to frame resolutions to adequately express the indignation of the nation. In Canada the Irish resolution proposed at the Montreal meeting of the American Federation of Labor provokes no more than a smile. The Federation, under the presidency of Mr. Samuel Gompers, has declined to consider the resolution. So much to the honor of the association. Nevertheless, the offering of the resolution by the sympathizers with the Irish Republic carries with it a compliment to the freedom of British institutions.

## Will Prices Fall?

AN American despatch tells us that “a wave of price-reduction is sweeping over the country.” There is some little evidence of this in both the United States and Canada, and some people have hastened to a conclusion that an early return to normal price conditions is likely to occur.