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COAXING PROSPERITY.

(Literary Digest.)

Prosperity associations, reemployment days, and other organized efforts to accelerate the country's industrial and financial recovery do not escape the suspicion of an ulterior political motive which so readily attaches itself to any movement in a peaceful time. An one paper publishes "prosperity" has taken to itself wings and flown away but it is to be credited for campaign purposes.

In a newish name via is the ex-emption of democratic possession upon secret Cort Lyon's explanation that the \$60,000,000 deficit shown by the treasury reports for the last year, not closed is apparent rather than real, being due to an antiquated and misleading system of bookkeeping. Less cynical observers, however, note with satisfaction that the New York banks are showing the highest surplus reserve for many years; that the department of Agriculture reports the crop outlook better than it has ever been before at this time of year; that the railroads are re-employing men by the thousands, and that commercial activities are increasing.

No less an authority than Mr. Morgan has declared the future for finance and industry in the United States "very bright." A number of encouraging news items for the present month are grouped to gether in the following sentences from the St. Paul Pioneer Press:

"Announcements were made on the first of the month that the Illinois Central will put 8000 men to work, principally on construction and improvements. The Santa Fe opened its shops with a full force, giving employment to 3500 men who had been out since the retrenchment began. The Missouri, Kansas & Texas took 1000 men back into its shops. The Pennsylvania opened its Altoona and Pittsburg shops. The Mobile & Ohio restored the cut it had made in office salaries, and the Southern Railway abandoned its plans for a reduction in wages."

Likewise J. W. Van Cleave, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, in reviewing the industrial conditions in "American Industries," finds reason for gratulation. He says, in part:

"Re-employment days' are becoming general. St. Louis had one on June 1, when fifteen hundred idle persons were put to work. On a far larger scale the Pittsburg district had one on July 6, when every plant of the United States Steel Corporation, the largest concern in the world in its field, resumed operations. The other shops of that corporation all over the country will, it is expected, all be running by August 1. All the independent steel concerns in the Pittsburg district, it is announced, will be at work with a full force by the first week in August."

The San Francisco Call believes that "the marked improvement in business conditions is due to a prospect of a great crop this year." And the New York Tribune estimates that "the value of the country's farm products of 1908 will reach the \$8,000,000,000 mark"; adding: "This will leave all records far behind. It will be more than double the value of the farm yield of 1900, which was \$3,744,000,000. Big crops have always heretofore meant good times for the

country, and they will mean the same this year."

The New York Evening Post, however, although acknowledging "a certain improvement already visible" in the industrial world, grows suspicious of so much organized effort to stimulate recovery. We read:

"One can not hear the talk of those deep in republican councils without becoming aware that a plan of this sort enters into all their political reckonings. Ask them what are the signs on the horizon of politics, and their answer is: 'Just now, of course, the party outlook is dark. With all these men out of work, the railroad business bad, so many manufacturers either shut down or running on part time, we are not sure of anything. If the election were to be held tomorrow, we should expect a jolly good thing. But all this is going to be radically changed before September is over. It has just got to be. The mills will be open, prices will go up, stocks will boom. We will attend to that. The party needs it and is bound to have it. You will see.'"

"The theory is one of engaging sympathy. Money is now abundant and cheap. The railroads can borrow all they need. Banks are still plentiful and at a lending rate which attracts a few investors and men entering concern, but when the time comes, he goes on rails will be set flowing to those dire those, too, and then the republican will begin will flow on as the rose. Political orders will issue to the timid or reluctant. 'We have provided you the money, haven't we? Then use it to make employment and to create at least a semblance of good times, and we'll ask no other campaign contribution from you this year.'"

"If the scheme works, the republican party will not be so shrinking as not to step forward and claim all the credit, again reminding the intelligent voter that, if he wants a chicken in the pot, or forty acres and a cow, he knows how to cast his ballot so as to have all those things added up to him."

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FERGUSON LEADS RIFLEMEN.

Houck Pressing Him Close, Though, in Individual Match.

CAMP RUGE, Salem, Or., July 22.—Firing in the individual match has taken up all of today in the state rifle competition of 1908 and half of tomorrow forenoon will be required to complete the event. The competitors have finished all ranges up to 800 and 1000 yards and are now firing at these distances.

At this time it appears more than likely that the Fourth Infantry will get away with the individual match, as two Southern Oregon men have a strong lead. Corp. Alex Ferguson of Roseburg, is ahead of all the 95 competing riflemen. He has a total of 228 points out of a possible 300. Eight points behind him is Capt. Geo. E. Houck, also of Roseburg, and just two points in the wake of Captain Houck is Corp. Romaine, of Portland. Private Ben Shields, of Roseburg, is in fourth place with 198.

New Ammunition Defective.

Victory will very likely fall either to Captain Houck or Ferguson, as they are good men at the long range and already have the lead. Romaine, however, has a fighting chance. Captain Houck made 48 out of 50 at 800 yards a year ago in the state competition, so that his work on that range and at 1000 yards will be watched with great interest.

Scores continue lower throughout the competition than last year's shoot and the blame for this is now laid to the door of inferior ammunition.

Interest in Governor's Match. In the rapid fire work this morning the first place and rapid fire medal went to Corporal McCormick, of Eugene, with a score of 49 out of 50. A year ago this range was taken by Private Ben Shields with a score of 50. The falling away is proportionate throughout.

Interest in the governor's trophy match, which occurs tomorrow, is now at a high pitch and is being

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LOST—A bunch of keys, between Roseburg and Duaneville, name of John East on tag. Finder please leave at this office. dtf

LOST—On Jackson street, a black silk scarf. Finder please return to Review office; reward. dtf22

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