

Why the Democrats Have an Excellent Chance of Winning

A former chairman of the national committee of one of the two great political parties was asked a short time ago if the Democrats had any chance of winning the next presidential election.

"Nobody is for anything in this country," he replied. "Everybody is against something. On that basis alone, and without regard to the merits of the case, I think the opposition has an excellent chance."

He went on to say that the attitude of complaint, criticism, opposition and negation seems to have very little to do fundamentally with political parties, but that it is merely a circumstance that, might well work

for the benefit or injury of particular parties.

Politics aside, there is no denying the injury wrought by the prevailing attitude of chiding and stricture. Specific criticism aimed at proved and actually remediable abuses is one thing; mere grousing against everything in general is what damages and destroys. Nothing is more common than a sort of composite attitude of dissatisfaction, discontent, spleen and suspicion, which is nearly always divorced from constructive and practical working suggestions for improvement.

Those who are rich or in other respects fortunate too often look upon labor unions and their leaders, to-

gether with most workmen, domestic servants and employees generally, as robbers and loafers. Those whose work is manual look upon the rich and otherwise fortunate in exactly the same way. Inventors and others in search of capital regard the banks as thieves, and bankers quite often look upon those in search of capital as unbalanced cranks. Landlords and retailers are generally supposed to be profiteers. To those, outside of it Wall Street is a den of iniquity. To the city man the farmer seems to be asking for special privileges. The farmer often sees every one else turned against him. Everyone suspects everyone else of raiding the public treasury in the form of tariffs, bonuses, subsidies or other special privileges.

It would be possible to go on in this way indefinitely. Perhaps there will be more straight thinking as the war recedes into the distance and the hysterias that it set in motion are slowly calmed. Mental disturbances and economic fallacies were stimulated also by the business depression of 1920 and 1921. A more reasoning attitude may accompany a less disturbed business movement. But responsibility for the carping, grousing attitude of mind cannot be wholly laid at the door of the war or of the great economic movements over which the individual has no control. There is no such ready escape for any given man or woman. No one is exempt from the biting truth of this passage from A. S. M. Hutchinson's novel *If Winter Comes*: "She thought charity meant giving jelly and red flannel to the poor; she thought generosity meant giving money to some one; she thought selfishness meant not giving money to some one. She had no idea that the only real charity is charity of mind, the only real generosity, generosity of mind, and the only real selfishness, selfishness of mind."—Saturday Evening Post.

RAIN WORTH MILLIONS TO COAST FARMERS

WALLA WALLA, Wash., June 9.—Southeastern Washington was rejoicing today in a general rain which started early today and was continuing through the forenoon. There has been a deficiency of rainfall in this section this season, although it is not believed the grain has suffered as a result, and today's rain is expected to be of immense benefit to all crops.

Reports received here this morning from surrounding towns, indicated that the rain covered Umatilla county, Oregon, and Columbia, Franklin and Garfield counties, Washington, in addition to Walla Walla county. Crops everywhere had been greatly increased in value. Light showers fell yesterday, but the rain did not become general until today.

Tariff Sensation Over.
WASHINGTON, June 9.—The incident created by the public discussion of tariff questions by Ambassador Ricci of Italy, which brought criticism of the floor of the senate has been definitely closed so far as the American government is concerned. The ambassador saw Secretary Hughes late yesterday in relation to the matter and it was learned authoritatively today that the conference ended the matter.

Official Organ of Masonry Condemns the Ku Klux Klan

(From the National Trestle Board—Organ of Masonry.)

The Grand Master of California has joined with those of Iowa and Texas and other jurisdictions in denouncing an organization that some, in despicable propaganda, have sought to connect with Masonry. It should not need the pronouncement of these authorities to convince the people that the very nature of the Ku Klux Klan is utterly foreign and repugnant to the real Mason. Many of the brothers may have joined such society, unaware of its meaning. But now they must choose between the two. And that one who may prefer the night-riding and disguised association will benefit Masonry by leaving. "Freemasonry," says Grand Master Burke, "stands for law and order and decent government. It stands now and always and openly for the orderly conduct of society, and for the upholding of the lawful and regular administration of the legal processes of our courts." He contrasts it thus with the Ku Klux: "Its practical workings appear to be to interfere with the orderly and lawful administration of the processes of our courts; a society that skulks and strikes in the dark, under cover of masks; an organization so un-

American and un-Masonic as to merit the disapproval of all thoughtful, law-abiding, order-loving men." Further the Grand Master has stated, beyond his edict, that Masons who are Klansmen "must get out of either one order or the other. The oath of the Ku Klux Klan absolutely subverts everything that Masons are taught as their first and highest duties." One may wonder at times if some of the outrages committed have not been the work of Agents Provocateur, and if some of the lurid stories told are not part of an adverse propaganda. But that law can be flouted by any, and blame thus attached to others, only serves to prove the danger. The connection of Masonry with this society was seized upon in certain quarters and spread with avidity. It is well that Grand Masters are thus emphatic in dissociating Masonry from any such entanglement, and in making plain to the world that the great fraternity is in the open in all things.

BOSTON.—Johnny Wilson, middle-weight champion, is ready and willing to meet Harry Greb in New York or anywhere else at any time if Greb will agree to make 158 pounds ringside, according to Marty Killilea, Wilson's manager.

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