

popular vote. In the third place, unless he keeps his mind open on the question of vocational education, on the question of the Lakes-to-Gulf deep water way, and on the question of taxation, he may find himself involved in humiliating embarrassments.



Plutocratic "reformers" are trying to separate vocational from cultural education. A complexity of grafting interests is involved in the Lakes-to-Gulf controversy. The "tax reform," in behalf of which a favorable vote was trickily got at the recent election, is a La Salle-street reform, designed to release stock gamblers from personal property taxation while taxing tangible personal and real estate improvements higher. When these three subjects shall have been thoroughly canvassed before the new Governor and carefully considered by him, and not earlier, will the time be ripe for him to commit himself safely with reference to any of the three.



Governor Sulzer's Administration.

The Governor-elect of New York is a democratic Democrat. He has made a good record as such in a long Congressional career. He has more than one mark to his credit as such in the New York legislature. But never before has he had so free an opportunity to build his record up to a splendid climax.



Not only is his position as Governor so far above the reach of the Interests and the Bosses that they can do nothing to obstruct what he undertakes, but the political weather has set in from a direction which makes it impossible for them to punish him personally or to baffle his public spirited purposes. He is a free officeholder more completely than any Governor of New York has been in a generation.



Intense or unpopular radicalism is not demanded of Governor Sulzer by thoughtful persons. But unless he utilizes his extraordinary political freedom to give as full reign to his Democratic democracy as the advanced and advancing state of public opinion now permits, he will disappoint scores of thousands, both in his own State and out of it, who look confidently to him to place that State well forward in the march toward fundamental democracy.

Socialism versus Progressivism.

At least one remarkably able and brilliant speech was made at the City Club last week with reference to the lessons of the election. It was by John C. Kennedy, the Socialist Party candidate for Governor of Illinois, who polled 75,000 votes at the recent election. To praise his speech is not to agree with it at every angle, but no one who heard it will deny its plausibility as a summing up of election lessons.



Mr. Kennedy treated the regular Republican Party as dead—as dead as the Whig Party was when the Republican Party came into the arena. For the Democratic Party he foreshadowed early disintegration and collapse. With both those moribund organizations then out of the way, he pointed to the Progressive Party as the only combatant left the Socialist Party to meet—the former clinging to capitalism and making it as tolerable as possible, the latter assailing capitalism root and branch.



Whether or not Mr. Kennedy is right in his prophecy as to particular political parties, his general view is not much awry. The Socialist Party does aim at destroying capitalism root and branch, the good of it that belongs to *free contract* as opposed to monopoly, and the bad of it that belongs to *monopoly* as opposed to free contract. The Progressive Party does as yet aim at preserving capitalism with only its rough edges smoothed and polished. But there still remains a third possibility. With law-created monopolies—from tariff privileges to land monopoly—rooted out of capitalism, all that the Socialist Party aims at would at once be peaceably possible through voluntary economic readjustments, and all that the Progressive Party deplores would disappear. Out of the Democratic break-up that is almost inevitable—the very break-up that Mr. Kennedy predicted—might come the political force which, uniting with kindred elements in all the other parties, could realize Mr. Kennedy's prediction, somewhat different in detail to be sure, but in substance much the same as he pictured it forth.



Thomas Wybrants Lodge.

In the early days of The Public its democratic character drew to it one whose friendship has been unwavering for the fifteen years of its life and ends only with the end of his own. Thomas Wybrants Lodge, of Hahatonka, down in Missouri,