

The Public

**A National Journal of Fundamental Democracy &
A Weekly Narrative of History in the Making**

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EDITORIAL

Government by Experts.

Woodrow Wilson's analysis of government by experts is characteristically pithy and eminently sound. "Experts don't see anything," he said at Sioux City, "except what is under their microscope—under their eye." Whether or not he meant by his use of the singular instead of the plural form to imply that they see with only one eye, it is the fact. Just as the microscopist falls into habits of sensing nothing except through the eye he glues to his microscope, though he keep the other open, so do all experts tend to lose perception of relative values between their own specialties and the rest of the universe. This makes them good witnesses on the particular facts of their respective specialties, but it detracts from their judgment on general relations. Though they be good witnesses, they may be bad jurors. Useful as advisers on particular points, they are apt to be worse than useless as arbitrators, legislators or executives. This is a reason why, while needing experts in government, we should beware of government by experts.



The Campaign for Governor in Illinois.

It is easy enough to understand why Illinois Republicans, outraged at the rotten condition in which they find their party, should vote for a decent "bolting" Republican in preference to any Democrat. The career of the Democratic party in Illinois is not of a kind to make it an inviting

refuge for Republicans disgusted with their own party. Nor is it difficult to understand why Democrats who have borne the stench of their party with almost perfect patience, should turn toward the Progressive Party of Illinois with a long drawn breath of relief. Yet it is possible for both, by following this course, to disappoint by their own inconsiderate action their own highest hopes.



In so far as there may be no choice, or not much of a choice, between Republican and Democratic candidates, the impulse to have a good clean political picnic of a time during the campaign, no matter what happens at the election, may be indulged with good conscience. But when the choice is between a Deneen and a Dunne, as is the case with the next Governorship of Illinois, the propriety of that kind of self-indulgence may be fairly questioned.



Edward F. Dunne is worthy the support of democratic Democrats and of democratic Republicans alike. It is reported that he was weak as Mayor of Chicago; his weakness consisted in a conscientious inability to yield to the temptations that were thrust before him. It is also reported that he is a Catholic, and therefore under ecclesiastical influence. Well, there are Catholics and Catholics; and Mayor Dunne was never dominated by the ultramontane machine. His defeat for re-election as Mayor was attributable more to that very machine than to any other single influence, the cause of it being his refusal while Mayor to yield political obedience to it. The other enemies he made as Mayor should make his election as Governor sure. They were spoils politicians to whom he refused allegiance where public interests were at stake. They were the newspapers whose shameless orders he refused to obey. They were the "underworld" exploiters whose filthy bribes he spurned. They were the Big Business combines whose destructive graft he exposed. Trace any of the assaults upon Mr. Dunne's administration as Mayor, any of the attacks upon his ability or his character, and if you reach the true source you will find it in the directors' rooms of big monopolies and the sanctums of parasitical newspapers.



For the public interests, Dunne was the best Mayor Chicago has had for many a year. For the public interests, he is a man to make the best Governor since Altgeld. Shall the slanders of

disappointed private interests defeat him? Whatever "bolting" Republicans may do, will democratic Democrats aid those private interests? The election lies between Dunne and Deneen. Those who do not vote for Dunne will in effect be voting for Deneen. If they really want Deneen, this is well enough—is at any rate not to be condemned. But if they do not want Deneen, it were well for them to take a lesson from *those who don't want Dunne*. As those who don't want Dunne intend to vote for Deneen, those who don't want Deneen will get Deneen unless they vote for Dunne.



Mixing Religion and Politics.

An example well worthy of wide imitation has been set by the North Shore Congregational Church of Evanston, Illinois. Under the supervision of a church committee, meetings are to be held in the church building for the orderly discussion of live political questions. This is indicative of the true relation of religion to politics. It is a very intimate relationship. So intimate is it that the religious or the political organization which separates religion from politics, thereby puts a question-mark upon its own genuineness. But the true relation is not one of command and obedience. It is such a relation of intelligent intercourse between religious-hearted and civic-minded men and women as this Evanston church has undertaken to promote.



Federal Taxation.

Here is an inquiry from Frederick Z. Marx, the Chicago lawyer, which may not improbably have occurred to other readers of The Public. Quoting from The Public of September 20th at page 890 as the text for his inquiry, Mr. Marx writes:

You say, "If you support Wilson's policy of tariff for revenue only—the furthest point possible in the direction of international free trade without amending the Constitution," etc., etc. I do not know why a Constitutional amendment is necessary in order to have international free trade. Can you find time to enlighten me?

This Constitution does not forbid international free trade in precise terms. Neither does it in precise terms require the taxation of imports. Consequently, no Constitutional amendment is necessary as mere matter of Constitutional expression. But it has long been considered necessary as a practical matter.



By the Constitution, paragraph 1 of Section viii, Congress has power "to lay and collect taxes,