

The Public

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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