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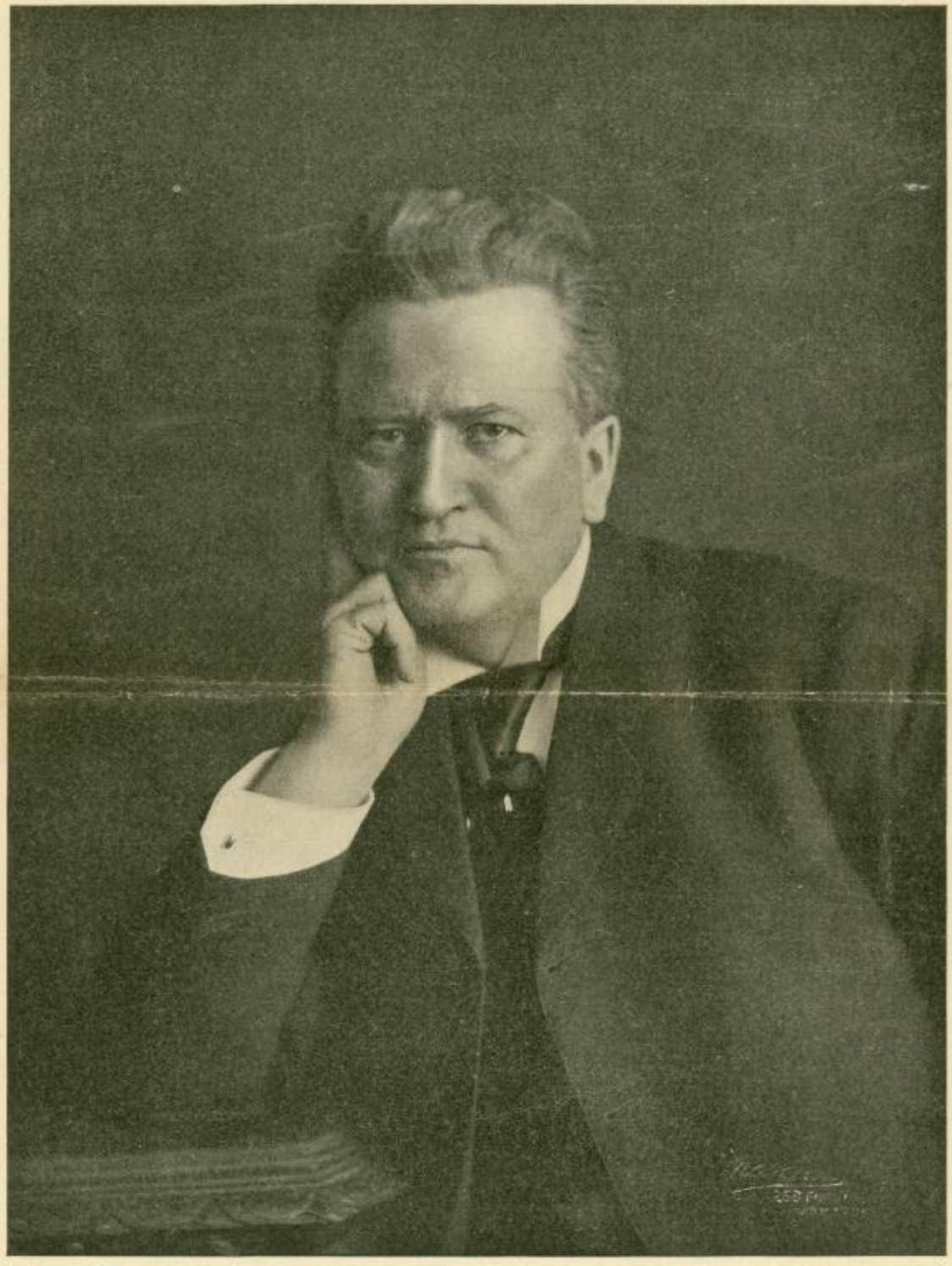


ROBERT MARION LA FOLLETTE

Candidate for Republican Nomination as U. S. Senator

Primary September 6th.

To the People of Wisconsin:

DO YOU ever stop to think of the real constructive work of La Follette in this state?

Do you know that he secured the abolition of that species of bribery so destructive to official morals—the railroad pass?

Do you know that he then secured a law requiring the railroads to pay taxes on the valuation of their physical property at the same rate as you pay taxes on your property?

Do you know that under that law the railroads paid more than *$700,000* in increased taxes the *first year and have paid an increased amount each year since?*

Do you know that La Follette caused an investigation of the railroads' books and found that the railroads had defrauded the state by making false returns of their income and that La Follette caused suits to be brought against the railroads and recovered $919,491?

Do you know that he secured the law creating the railroad commission and that this commission has decreased the rates in Wisconsin, whereby our citizens are saving more than $2,000,000 a year?

Do you know that by this same law the evils of rate discrimination and rebates were abolished in Wisconsin so that the small shipper and big shipper are treated alike?

Do you remember how the railroads and their servitors villified La Follette and called him an agitator and an anarchist, and how they said he would bring ruin to the railroads and the State of Wisconsin?

Do you know that the railroads were false prophets then as now and instead of bringing ruin to the railroads, they are still earning an honest and adequate return on their property in this state?

Do you know that the railroad taxation law and railroad commission law have been upheld by the highest courts as fair and just?

Do you know that when La Follette went into the United States Senate that the railroads were securing $7,000,000 a year out of the mail contracts in excess of the lawful rate simply because they averaged the weight of the mails by dividing by six instead of seven, the actual number of days in the week that the mails were carried?

Do you know that La Follette stopped this fraudulent practice and thereby saved to the nation every year since this vast sum of money?

Do you know that in the Senate of the United States, he prevented the railroads and other big combinations from exploiting the mineral and oil resources of Oklahoma and saved to the nation more than half a billion dollars?

Do you know that La Follette ever since he went to Congress, has fought for adequate control and supervision by the rate commission over interstate railroads?

Do you know that the real vital provisions of the last rate bill were added by Senator La Follette and his Progressive colleagues in both Houses?

Do you know that the interstate commerce law does not now provide for the valuation of the physical property of the railroads?

Do you know that the efforts of the Interstate Commerce Commission are largely abortive because of the failure of the law to contain this provision?

Do you know that at the next session this amendment will pass when Aldrich, Hale, Flint, Piles and other System Senators step from the public stage and give place to other and better men?

Do you know that Senator La Follette is a candidate for re-election and that he will be voted upon at the Primary on September 6?

Do you know that the railroads and their political servants are organizing and distributing money throughout the state to cause La Follette's defeat?

Do you know that they have announced their intention to carry the fight against La Follette into the Legislature and ignore the will of the people at the Primary?

Well, these things are true! They mean much to you. What are you going to do about it?

What Will the Harvest Be?

THERE was a time in Wisconsin when the boss and representatives of the railroads nominated the candidates for both parties. How? By intervening between the voter and the nomination and "getting" the delegates.

You remember how it was done; railroad passes, entertainment, money, influence. Men who could not be elected as delegates sat in conventions on proxies purchased as merchandise. Delegates honestly elected were unseated by fraud, and contesting delegates seated. These were some of the means.

There was a time in Wisconsin when the railroads ruled and ruled supreme. They openly boasted of their power. For more than thirty years no law was enacted except by consent of the railroads.

La Follette secured the anti-lobby law and drove from the capitol some of the most corrupt and notorious characters of the age. This law must be enforced.

La Follette secured the anti-pass law and thus did away with the common and wholesale bribery of public officials.

La Follette secured the corrupt practices acts designed to purify the caucuses and elections. This law must be strengthened and enforced. It has been flagrantly violated in recent years.

La Follette, with a clear vision, saw then what Roosevelt and Hughes see now---that the people must be freed from boss rule.

La Follette secured the primary election law. Under the primary law you vote direct for your choice, your vote is your own, if there is failure it is your failure. Make the fight for right men and right laws in the open, as you can, and you will win.

This great movement in Wisconsin has given Wisconsin a reputation throughout the nation. It is the Wisconsin Idea and other states are following in its wake.

Now the Interests are seeking to abolish the primary. They openly proclaim they will not abide by the primary. Under false pretences and under a false flag they called the "Milwaukee Convention" to organize against La Follette and the primary. The old crowd planned it, they organized it, they disgraced it. The people were not consulted, bosses were supreme. Some good people were led to attend by fraud and deceit and they were tarred with bad association. The law was violated, party custom disregarded, lawful party officials were ignored, men in high office were treated with insolence and arrogance. They said "Stand by Taft." What they did was to stand by the Interests. They called it a "Republican Convention." It was a convention of the Interests, for the Interests and by the Interests. It was "Trust bred and Trust fed." The convention left behind it a smell of tainted money, it left behind it a pretended Republican Committee whose business is to defeat all Republicans not subservient to the Interests and the boss.

Last week we called your attention to the financial benefits you have received and are receiving from Senator La Follette's efforts. We did this because some people have asked: "What has La Follette done?" If a Carnegie or a Rockefeller should endow an institution in the state of Wisconsin with one-fiftieth part of the money that La Follette has saved you, the people would rise up and call him blessed. And yet the money so donated would be money wrung from the people through special favors and trust prices. But La Follette has done more than to save your dollars. He has made it possible in Wisconsin for you, the people, to rule, to govern yourselves, to be represented by men you choose.

Will you exercise that right and be free? Or will you enthrone the Boss and place the interests in the saddle? The primary is September 6.

Shall the People Rule?

THERE is a great movement on foot to make the people's representatives more responsive to the people's welfare.

Time was in this state when public officials looked to the railroads and other public service corporations for official guidance.

But the railway pass was abolished and the railroads lost part of their control.

The anti-lobby law was passed and the legislators were freed from that evil influence.

The Primary election law was passed and the people were given the power to nominate their candidates for office.

Then the civil service law was passed and official traffic was stopped in the state departments.

The Corrupt Practices Act was passed and cleaner politics resulted. But means of evading the Corrupt Practices Act have been found. Excessive sums of money are being spent. The law has been both evaded and violated. There are men, considered respectable, who would be in jail if it were enforced. The time is here when the people demand both amendment and enforcement of our election laws.

This movement has been led by La Follette against the political dictator and boss of the party machine. La Follette has ever sought to give the people greater power over their affairs.

He has favored and now favors the election of Senators by popular vote. The Senate is now known as the Millionaires Club. It is also a Club representing the Interests. Guggenheim represents the Smelter Trust; Aldrich, Standard Oil; Depew, Railroads; Smoot, Sugar; Dryden, Insurance; and so on down the line.

Senator La Follette has favored and now favors the recall.

By the recall, a faithless public official may be retired without waiting for the evil to be fully consummated.

Under such a law the public official will no longer betray his constituency.

Party platforms will mean party performance.

Downward revision of the tariff in the platform will not mean upward revision in accomplishment. The official will no longer rely upon the people forgetting before election day rolls around. He will face the immediate dishonor he deserves.

A Roll Call will no longer reveal party perfidy and dishonor. The Roll Call will ring true.

The "Milwaukee Convention" plans to ignore the Primary and defeat the will of the people. Would such brazen effrontery be thought of with the recall?

Candidates for the legislature, who have no intention of doing so, are promising to abide by the Primary.

Many of them have the money of the Interests in hand.

How about your candidate for the legislature?

Will he stand under fire?

Is he for the People, or for the Interests?

"Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good."

The Primary is Sept. 6th. A vote for Ryan is for La Follette

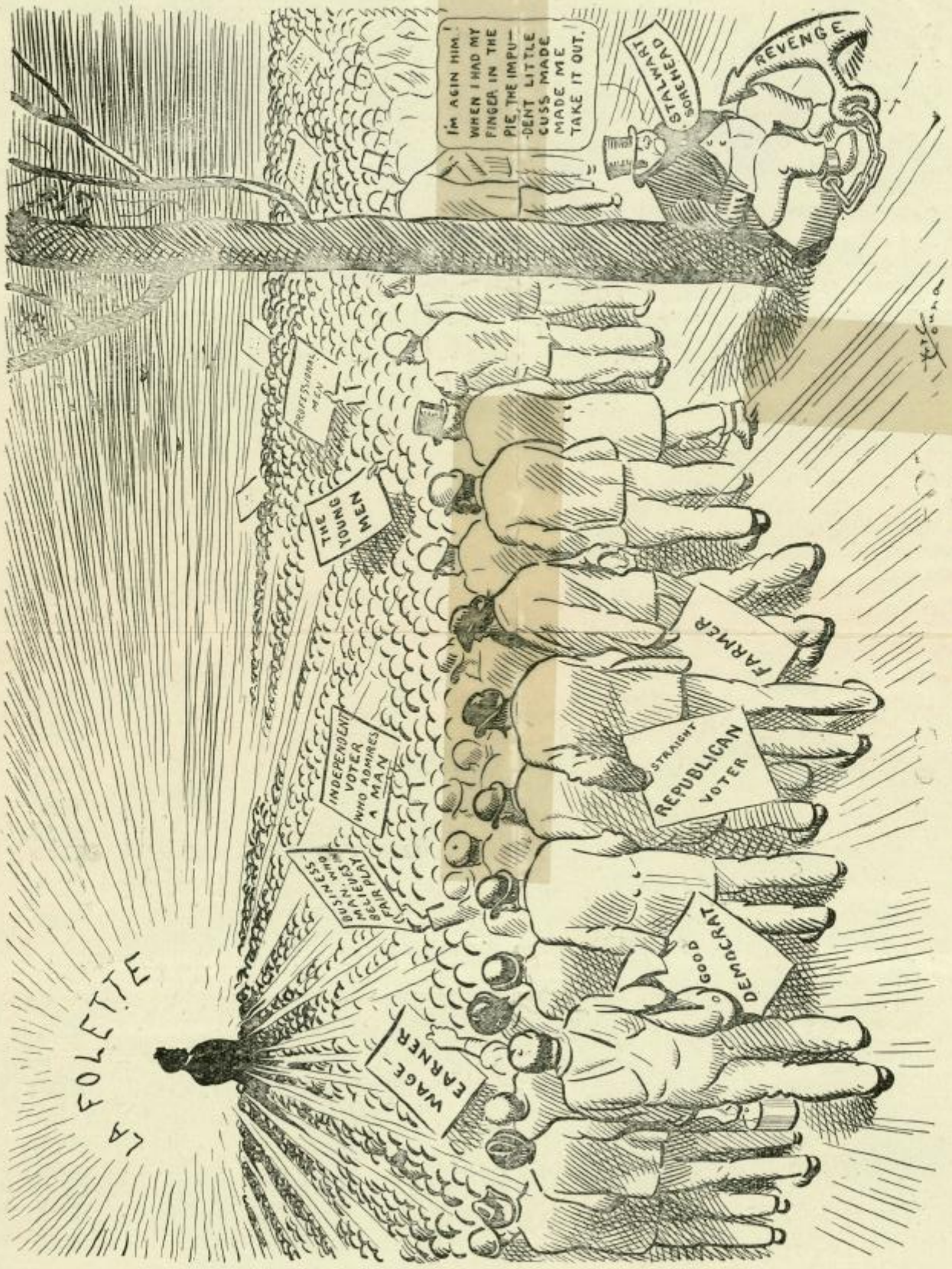
F902.1
1908?
1904
Fair-Banks

THE SITUATION
IN WISCONSIN
TOLD IN PICTURES

F902.1
1908

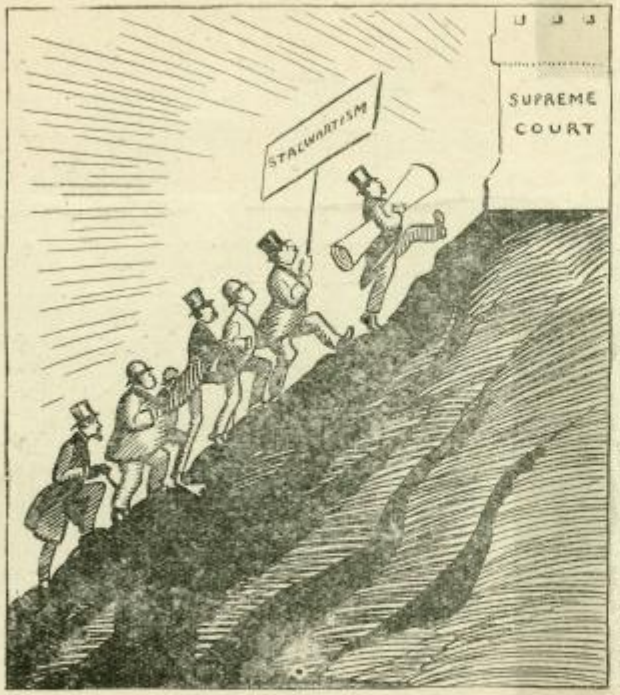
THE COHESIVE FORCE

He Draws Together All who Believe in Principles That Make for the Betterment of a Majority of the People.



"There is no likeness or similitude between a political organization that appeals to every voter in the party and a machine that appeals only to the most skillful and unscrupulous workers of the party.—LA FOLLETTE.

"It is as much the interest and as plainly the duty of the state to as carefully protect and guard a system of nominating candidates as it protects and guards the system of electing them."—LA FOLLETTE.



The Stalwart Band went up the Hill
A Crowd of Angry Men.

The Stalwart Band Came Down the Hill
And Ne'er Went Up Again.

M. C.

ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE

CHAMPION OF PRIMARY ELECTION IN WISCONSIN

[OVER]

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Do you favor a Secret Ballot at the Primaries?

State Historical Society
OF WISCONSIN
WISCONSIN - MADISON

Wis. Historical Soc.
NOV 8 1904
RECEIVED

— IF SO —

Vote for Primary Election on Election Day

To do this place a X in the ☐ under the word "Yes" at the bottom of the Ballot.

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1904

[OVER]

F902.1
1904

F902I (1909) no. 56 - 1080
1905

PROGRESSIVE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES

Take this list with you to the booth to remember who the progressive candidates are. Every one of them is a staunch supporter of Senator La Follette.

U. S. Senator
ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE

Governor
FRANCIS E. McGOVERN

Lieutenant Governor
THOMAS MORRIS

Secretary of State
JAMES A. FREAR

State Treasurer
ANDREW H. DAHL

Attorney General
FRANK T. TUCKER

Commissioner of Insurance
HERMAN L. EKERN

Rep. in Congress, 2nd District
JOHN M. NELSON

Member of Assembly,
CORNELIUS A. HARPER

Wisconsin Historical Library.
F902I
1905

1902 W. C. Pam 56-1080

THE GREAT STRUGGLE.

Three weeks ago, in an editorial entitled, "Whom Shall We Serve," the Union called the attention of its readers to the coming great struggle between the people and the corporations for the control of the powers of government, both state and national. It should be clearly understood that the first clash of arms in such a fight is always for the possession and control of the leading political parties. It is through the agency of political parties that we are governed. Politics in the end means law, and the execution of law. In that editorial we spoke of the situation in New York, and how Senator Platt, who is a corporation representative, was proposing to turn the Republican party of his state against President Roosevelt. The Republicans of New York held their state convention last week and the preliminary battle came off, resulting in a clear victory for the people. Platt desired the nomination of Sanford for the office of lieutenant-governor. Gov. Odell, who, like Gov. La Follette, has stood resolutely for the right of the people, opposed Sanford, because he was a representative of the great trusts. The convention stood by Odell and President Roosevelt.

This is indeed encouraging, coming as it does from a state like New York, which has been so long harassed and dominated by corporation influence. It shows that the voters are getting their eyes open and we are twice glad that the Republican party of New York has shown itself true to the cause of the people. No such position will be taken by the Democratic party. All they are after in New York or Wisconsin is the offices.

The editorial we printed last week from the Catholic Citizen of Milwaukee, shows the situation up in its true light. Rose is the creature and obedient tool of the grasping corporations to-day as mayor, and they know on which side their bread is buttered. A boy was asked about his sick father. "Oh," he replied, "he won't live twenty-four hours. The doctor said so, and he knows what he gave him."

The struggle has been on for over a year in Wisconsin. The people are not blind. They have seen the assaults that the corporation politicians in the Republican party have made on Gov. La Follette. They know what it all means. It is a fight for the possession of the Republican party, as well as the control of the powers of the state government. The Democratic party in this state has surrendered to the corporations without a struggle. But the corporation politicians who control it, will yet learn that there are thousands of patriotic Democrats who cannot be fooled or misled. They know what this fight means. They know that it means more to them than the holding of a few state offices. They know that it means justice to the common people, and that is a great deal.—Ex-Gov. [illegible]rd in Ft. Atkinson Union.

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VOTERS

Don't Be Deceived

A scheme is on foot backed by the railroad companies to defeat R. M. La Follette for governor. The railroads know that La Follette is determined that they shall pay their just share of taxes. These corporations that have so long evaded paying taxes will under the plea of Spooner, Quarles, Cook and Baensch, etc., try to mislead the voters and get them to vote for delegates favorable to railroad interests. The present law WILL COMPEL railroads to pay

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One Million Dollars

more taxes each year into the state treasury than ever before. If they can defeat La Follette they hope to repeal this law. Then they will defeat the bill to REDUCE FREIGHT RATES and RAISE THE RATES enough to make you people PAY ALL THE MONEY THEY ARE SPENDING in THIS CAMPAIGN to defeat the governor. Do the voters want to make up this vast amount? If not, vote for

La Follette Delegates