

IV.

REMARKS ON BALLOTING AND COPYRIGHT.

ALL people interested in purifying our politics must realize that one of the questions that demand immediate attention is the substitution of some system akin to that obtaining in Australia for our present methods of printing and distributing ballots at the expense, and by the agents, of the various candidates and political organizations. The ballots should be printed by the State, a sufficient guarantee being required of those who ask that a given set be printed, so as to prevent a needless multiplication of candidates with little or no support ; and they should be distributed without the intervention of ticket peddlers and the like. Each voter should have the various sets of ballots put into his hand, and then should be obliged to rely on his own knowledge in choosing out the individuals for whom he wishes to vote. This, by the way, would provide a very practical "educational test," not only for the illiterate, but also for very many of those who pride themselves upon being "intelligent voters," and who are, nevertheless, afflicted with a singularly dense and profound ignorance of all that goes on in their own districts.

Anent another subject, permit me to record my regret that when we seemed on the eve of at last winning a victory for honest copyright, Mr. Pearsall Smith should have started in to make what I trust will prove to be an ineffectual diversion in favor of the enemy.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.