

LA FOLLETTE SEES POWER COMBINATION

**Says at Schenectady That the
General Electric Is a Trust Al-
lied With Wall Street.**

COMPANY'S RADIO SENDS IT

**Candidate in Final Talk in State
Cites Examples of Successful
Public Ownership.**

Special to The New York Times.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Oct. 29.—
Senator Robert M. La Follette, Third
Party candidate for President, pre-
sented to the people of Schenectady to-
night his program for the development
of water power by the public rather
than by private effort.

In his final New York address, within
the shadows of the laboratory where
Charles P. Steinmetz spent many years,
Senator La Follette attacked the Gen-
eral Electric Company, the largest in-
dustry in this section, and asserted that
it was "a monopoly closely allied with
Wall Street, with the water-power trust,
which is seeking to secure control of
the water power of America."

The address was broadcast by WGY,
the broadcasting station of the General
Electric Company, which Senator La
Follette criticized. Fully 3,000 people
fammed the State Theatre and gave him
a warm greeting. Most of the spectators
paid from 50 cents to \$2 for admission
and the seats were sold out several days
ago.

Senator La Follette discussed in con-
siderable detail the experiment which
was begun twenty-two years ago by the
Province of Ontario, when it decided
to harness Niagara Falls for public use.

The Provincial Hydroelectric Commis-
sion first purchased 1,000 horsepower
and distributed it to thirteen cities. He
said the commission was fought by the
private power companies "which called
public ownership socialism and they
would have called it Bolshevism if the
word had existed in 1902."

After asserting that the private power
companies used the press to discredit
the commission, "as we have used the
press in this country to discredit Gov-
ernment enterprise," Senator La Fol-
lette said that year after year the com-
mission extended its service until today,
when it furnishes 700,000 horsepower to
360 cities. Today, he added, the prop-
erty owned by the people of Ontario is
worth \$250,000,000 and so successful has
the venture become that "Canada is
now making plans for the development
of \$00,000 additional horsepower on the
Canadian side of the St. Lawrence
River."

During the days of private ownership
Canadian residents paid from 7 to 12
cents per kilowatt hour, he declared,
whereas the residence charge for light
in twelve of the large cities varied in
1923 from 1.1 cents to 2.6 cents.

Saved People \$100,000,000.

"But it is urged by the monopolistic
press that the people of Canada are
carrying a terrible burden somewhere,"
he continued. "Yet the official reports
show that the hydroelectric cities of
Ontario in 1923 were able to set aside
a surplus out of profits of more than
\$1,000,000, even at these extraordinary
low rates.

"This enterprise has cost the people
nothing in taxation. It is supported out
of earnings. The commission asserts
that within a generation this property,
valued at more than \$250,000,000, will
be owned by the Province free of all
indebtedness. It will not have cost
the people a dollar. Sir Adam Beck,
the Chairman, maintains that in addi-
tion to this the people of Ontario saved
in twenty-two years not less than
\$100,000,000 in reduced charges for
electricity. They are that much better
off than they would have been under
private operation. This in addition to
the repayment of the cost of the plant
out of profits from the undertaking."

Already, in Canada, according to Sen-
ator La Follette, farms are electri-
cally equipped, as are homes in the
cities, and the farmers' wives are freed
from the drudgery of household work.
He said they were cooking, washing,
ironing, sweeping and doing their house-
hold work by electric power, which also
illuminated their house, barns and
driveways, milked the cows, pumped the
water, churned the butter, froze the ice
and operated the farm. "All at a cost
ranging from \$6 to \$8 a month."

Cites Panama Canal's Success.

He urged that the same thing could
be done in American cities, pointing out
that the Panama Canal was built with-
out graft and was being operated with-
out graft.

"I am not sure but this is the only
way out of corruption," declared the
Senator. "As I look back over the past
forty years, it seems to me we have
adopted every other means to protect
ourselves from corruption, and year by
year the corruption has grown worse."

After attacking monopoly and monop-
oly privilege as the source of corruption
Senator La Follette discussed Govern-
ment ownership.

"Government ownership involves pos-
sible dangers," he said. "That is true.
It involves a great increase in the num-
ber of Government employes. This is
the menace that the monopolistic press
always raises before our eyes. But
there is this great gain: Public business
is performed in the open, it is under
scrutiny. Every two years or every four
years, the people, have a chance to
vote. We can vote graft out if it should
come into the Government service. The
press will then expose it, for the press
will be free to expose it. Members of
Congress will then expose it, for then,
my friends, there will not be so many
corporation attorneys in Congress, who
at home are attorneys for the very
Government. The light of publicity is
the only thing that keeps Government
clean. But this light does not penetrate
into the private offices of J. P. Morgan
& Co."

As examples of public ownership he
cited the Post Office Department and
asked whether that was a menace. Other
examples "of Government honesty and
efficiency," he said, were the municipal
water plants, the public schools and
public parks, the colleges, universities,
roads, Fire Departments, and Police
Departments.

Warns of "Water Power Trust."

In closing he said "We Progressives
are determined to have public ownership
of the White House, just as we must
have public ownership of Niagara Falls.
It is the private ownership of Niagara
Falls, of our railroads and our national
resources that explains the private own-
ership of the White House. Not of the
White House alone, but of the Demo-
cratic and Republican Parties, of the
Department of Justice, and, unhappily,
too frequently, of the courts as well."

He warned the people that "the water
power trust is seeking to get control of
these resources," and urged them to
pledge their Assemblymen and State
Senators in the coming election against
granting franchises to "privately owned
water power companies."

GENERAL BOOTH SAILS.

**Head of Salvation Army and Duke of
Alba Leave on the Aquitania.**

General Bramwell Booth, head of the
Salvation Army, sailed yesterday on the
Cunarder Aquitania on his return to
England after attending the annual
Army conferences in Toronto, Canada.
Next year he expects to pay an official
visit to the United States. His sister,
Commander Evangeline Booth, head of
the organization in the United States,
went to the ship with other officials.

The Duke and Duchess of Alba and
Berwick and Mrs. Louise Wise Lewis
of St. Augustine, Fla., also sailed on
the liner.

Al Smith Jr. and Bride Lease Home.

Alfred E. Smith Jr. and his bride, the
former Miss Bertha Gott of Syracuse,
have leased a four-room apartment in
Grace Court Chambers, Brooklyn
Heights. The house, which was erected
about two years ago, it—at 30 Grace
Court, just west of Hicks Street, and
overlooks the harbor. It was said yester-
day that Governor Smith would look
over the apartment today.