

THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT
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SOME KIND WORDS FOR A GOOD CITIZEN.

Down in the Nation's Capital is a Club that you seldom hear about. It's President is a genial person who though along in years is young in spirit. Once upon a time, he was a secretary to a United States Senator. Later he ventured into the practice of law in Washington and has been at it ever since. He has given two boys to the naval service. This Club is his hobby. He spends his own time and money on it. It has accomplished much. This Club is the National-Get-Out-The-Vote-Club and it's President is Simon Michelet, formerly of Minnesota and now of Washington D. C. Truly, he deserves a word of praise for his quiet, self-effacing effort to stimulate political consciousness and get the citizens to the polls on election day.

RESULTS.

In the year 1920, when Harding and Cox were contesting for the Presidency, the total vote of all parties was less than 27 million and less than 50% of all the potential voters 21 years of age. It was in 1924, that the Get-Out-The-Vote Club was organized and first began to urge the electorate to go to the polls. There was some improvement in our election consciousness for in 1924, about 53% of all eligible voted. Year in and year out, Simon Michelet, compiled statistical election data and sent it over the country. He compiled data on absentee voting, third party votes, election laws, vote records, growth of the stay-at-home vote, and many other things to stimulate interest. His efforts got results.

THE LAST FOUR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

In 1928 there was a substantial and healthy increase in interest because slightly less than 37 million or about 56% of all eligibles exercised the right of the ballot. By 1932, there was a total of 39 3/4 millions, representing 60% of the eligible vote. The year 1936 proved the high-water mark of election interest when 64 out of every 100 eligible voters cast a ballot. In 1940, the total was 49.8 millions, representing 62.4% of all eligible voters. What will it be in 1944 and in years ahead? It will be whatever, we make it. In any event, the quiet and persistent efforts of a good citizen named Simon Michelet have been helpful. Hat's off to a national service. Suppose there were 3072 Simon Michelet's - one for each county in the nation. What amazing results could be achieved.