play the coward as soon as the opposition gave signs of strength.

Every device known to politicians was used by the "Old Guard" to befog the issue and save themselves from the political scrap heap. With the hope of confusing the issue which was clear to the Reorganizers, Guffey brought out one of the most distinguished Democrats in the State, Judge James Gay Gordon of Philadelphia, as a "compromise" candidate for permanent Chairman of the Convention. But the delegates who had met with a clear determination to build the party up were not to be fooled by any such trick. Congressman Palmer and State Chairman Guthrie who led the fight for the Reorganizers firmly resisted all compromises and deals. They knew that the time was past to make any concessions to pretending Democrats who had traded and dealt with Republican bosses for twenty years.

The test of strength came on the vote for permanent Chairman. Judge Gordon is well known throughout the State and had never been lined up with the Guffey crowd before. He pretended to be free from any entangling alliances with Donnely, Ryand or Guffey, but he could not explain to the satisfaction of the delegates why the Old Guard was so enthusiastic for him now. The Reorganization forces pitted against him Joseph O'Brien, a young but prominent lawyer of Scranton. The delegates were determined to take no chances by endorsing the man put forward by the Philadelphia leaders, so they elected O'Brien by a vote of 110 to 73.

The most interesting fight in the convention was between floor leaders of Donnely for the Old Guard and Palmer for the Reorganizers. Donnely, the absolute master of Democratic State conventions for twenty years did not, like Penrose, desert the floor, but remained fighting for every inch of ground until he was forced out of the convention entirely by Congressman Palmer. It was a wonderful battle, typical of the old forces against the new. Donnely, large of stature, shrewd, quick to take advantage of every point, always ready, always prepared. Palmer, a fine type of Quaker manhood, handsome, keen, full of enthusiasm, full of confidence and strengthened by the knowledge that he was the leader of a great cause. These two men were typical of the opposing forces on the floor of the convention. Donnely's delegate in his own district had been defeated at the primaries so he secured a proxy from another district. Palmer was opposed to Donnely's having a seat in the convention under such circumstances. The fight was bitter and Palmer was victorious, forcing Donnely out of the convention. Delegates who had been atending State conventions for years and had witnessed the absolute domination of Donnely were amazed and dumbfounded to see this one time master driven completely out of the convention. Yet after all it was a striking illustration of the new order in Pennsylvania. The people were in control and after their delegates had driven Donnely off the floor they proceeded to conduct the convention as they had been instructed by the voters at the primaries.

After the test vote on chairman the "Regulars" gave up, and from then on the Reorganizers handled things without affiliation. William H. Berry was nominated for State Treasurer and Robert E. Cresswell for Auditor General. The twelve national delegates-at-large elected were instructed to use all honorable means to secure the nomination of Woodrow Wilson as long as his name is before the Baltimore convention.

It is difficult to believe that Penrose and Guffey have been driven out as leaders of their parties. For years the best citizens of the State have said "What is the use of fighting these bosses? Their power is unlimited; you can't beat them."

But that was before the people realized what the direct primary meant to them.

BERNARD B. McGINNES.

"THE UNIVERSITY IN A NUT-SHELL."

Madison, May 10.

The students at the University of Wisconsin have conceived and worked out a bran-new idea in expositions which has out-shone in Madison's public eye the special session of the State legislature and even an athletic contest. It was the idea of Lawrence Washington, a student, and the Students' Union carried it out with the hearty approval, but not the assistance, of the University authorities.

The gym was turned into exposition booths, having electric power, gas heat, etc. The Departments of the University were then given space and each put in its own exhibit, with this common purpose: To show the other students and the general public just what useful and interesting things this particular department had to offer, to give an idea of its province in the field of knowledge. The scheme was magnificently carried out and the "explainers" in charge competed with the exhibits in cleverness and brevity of presentation of their material.

The "Agrics" had the ground floor, and they needed it; for, besides some of their farm machinery, they brought along a dozen or two prize heavyweight animals. A Percheron horse made an enormous Holstein bull look less gigantic, and the biggest hog you ever saw stood near by. Across the aisle from two immaculate Guernsey and Jersey cows, were the latest and best things in dairy implements, and the Babcock tester for amount of fat in milk was being shown off. Here every student who came along had an admiring word for "Old Babcock," "who could have made millions out of this invention and instead just gave it to the world free. His machine's famous all over the world, and in spite of his being seventy-five years old, a big commercial concern offered him last year an enormous salary if he would leave the 'U.' and come to work for them. He just wrote back that he was in the middle of some research work that he could not very well leave." It would be hard—no, not hard, easy—to estimate whether Professor Babcock's invention or his generous spirit about it were the greater good to the students of his university and the citizens of his State.

In a neighboring section—on soils—the marvelous effect of potassium upon soil-fertility was realistically shown by great glass jars full of corn growing in soils treated with combinations of fertilizing agencies with and without potassium; this being all care-

fully explained by a student from the South where they have worn out their soil. Around the corner sat the student editor of the University's agricultural magazine, ready to tell of the process of "making-up" his paper, and to show how successful the members of the class in agricultural journalism had been in profitably placing their articles.

"Up-stairs for the Heavy Work!" said the sign on the stairway which lead away from the Agric exhibits. And one of the first things to greet you was a big sign in one of the engineering sections: "Let George Do It"—"George" being a modern little gasoline engine put to the most fascinating household and farm uses. Close by, an enthusiastic physicist—with a "patter" worth money on the stage—was freezing dandelions and crumbling ice in liquid air, while a high school parent and his children looked on and asked questions. The University Extension section over in the big corner showed an immense map of the whole State of Wisconsin, surmounted by the sign "Our Campus," and lighted and unlighted with tiny vari-colored electric bulbs to show "one week's extension work."

The attendance was as interesting as the Exposition. The students came in shoals, and critically inspected the whole affair. They asked questions of the explainers, talked over each other's work, mingling genuine, outspoken admiration with hearty laughs at all the fun going. The law student had to stand criticism because his school did not exhibit; and the "Hill"exhibits—from the regular academic school—were magnanimously praised by the usually scornful "engineers."

Why did that afternoon's experience feel so exceptionally important? wondered a chance out-of-town visitor. Universities are not unfamiliar; good times not uncommon; trips, even short ones, always offer new bits of knowledge. The reasons lay deeper and slowly rose to consciousness.

In the first place, the spirit of comradeship was a very real presence. The atmosphere was one of joyful, human, social life and work together, men and women, "grad" and "freshie," student and townsman—for admission was open to everybody on the same terms—twenty-five cents. (Their expenses, by the way, were $900, which meant that during the two days first planned for—Friday and Saturday, from 2 until 11 p. m.—they must have 3,600 paid admissions. By Saturday evening they had more than paid expenses, and the enterprise had proved so popular that its time was extended into the next week.) The democracy of this great State University had somehow succeeded not only in making itself strongly felt, but in setting forth clearly the real democracy of learning.

Secondly, there came boldly to consciousness in this exposition the great fact that the student who really gets anything out of his college course, learns more of it from his fellow students than from his professors and books. Here were the students all busily engaged in enthusiastically teaching one another. And the fun they had doing it, as well as the magic short-cuts in their methods, could revolutionize Pedagogy if she were not dizzy now.

This First University Exposition will surely not be the last at Madison; and other universities, if they have any of Wisconsin's spirit, would do well to imitate her exposition.

ANGELINE LOESCH GRAVES.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

SUPERIOR POWER OF THE COURTS.

Duluth, Minn.

Don't be too hard on the courts. It is our fault, too.

The average man has come to think that a new law doesn't count until it has been re-enacted by the courts. Officials don't pretend to enforce a new law till it has been reviewed. A test case has come to be a matter of course whenever any new proposition is embodied in legislation. A statute is presumed to be invalid till the courts have sanctioned it.

The law-making power has been taken from the legislatures and given to the courts by this process. It can be restored by effectually believing that the law-making body is the law-making power, and that courts may be invoked only to interpret, enforce or reconcile the statutes and not to ratify or reject the acts of the legislature.

When we cease to believe that the courts are the final power in making laws, the courts will cease to exercise it.

J. S. P.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, May 14, 1912.

Labor Strikes.

In the Chicago newspaper strike the orders of James J. Freel (International president) to the Chicago stereotypers' union to withdraw from the newspaper strike were disobeyed. He consequently ordered the charter revoked and proceeded to organize a new local union. The old union has appealed to the convention to be held in San Francisco on the 10th of June. Meanwhile the local typographical union had been called in special meeting to pass upon the question of their joining in the strike. No action was taken at the first meeting, but on the 12th, at an adjourned session of the same special meeting, they adopted the following resolution by a vote of 1,099 to 655:

Resolved, that Typographical Union No. 16 again reiterates its declaration, as often made in trying situations, that it maintains inviolate contracts entered into and underwriten by the International Typographical Union, and that, as regards the issues in the controversy between Pressmen's Union No. 7 and Stereotypers' Union No. 4 and the Chicago pub-