

would have been the Democratic candidate if Henry George, Jr., had failed of the nomination. That man is John Jerome Rooney, whose writings on the tariff have done so much to open the eyes of the voters. He was scarcely less effective on the platform in his bold, lucid and witty exposures of tariff iniquities.

In a short speech to his supporters on the night of election, when the returns from a majority of the districts showed that he was elected, Mr. George took occasion to thank Tammany for its loyal support, pointing out that the men of the organization had much more to lose than he, for whatever it was possible to lose by radicalism he had lost long ago. In the same speech Mr. George expressed his indebtedness to Mr. Hopper and the independent Republicans who had supported him.

In the campaign that had been carried on from 101st street to Spuyten Duyvil and from Hudson River to Fifth avenue the truck speakers—and there was never any lack of them—preached free trade and administered telling blows to the protection fetish. Among the speakers were Hon. Lawson Purdy, Hon. Robert Baker, Dr. Marion Mills Miller, Joseph Fink, Fred C. Leubuscher, James Macgregor, Geo. Von Auer, Leonard Tuttle, Augustus Weymann, and many others.

Mr. Bennet's failure to accept Mr. George's challenge to debate the causes of the high cost of living was made much of by the George speakers, and undoubtedly influenced many voters. Had Mr. Bennet accepted, the result would have been all the more disastrous, and Mr. Bennet probably knew this. He is not a poor speaker, but he is not entirely devoid of discernment, so the challenge was not accepted.

An interesting feature of this unique campaign were the articles from the pen of Charles O'Connor Hennessey, which appeared in the papers morning and evening in prominent type, paid for at advertising rates, and written in popular style as only such an old and experienced newspaper man could write.

But one of the chief causes of success was the candidate himself. His speeches were strong appeals, manly, dignified and free from the arts of the politician. Something of the loving simplicity of heart and mind that come to him from his great father were manifest to the voters of his district and drew to him the support of independents. In the high minded and honorable treatment he accorded to his opponent, refusing to take advantage of certain openings which a less punctilious swordsman might have eagerly availed himself of, he took to himself the high knightly counsel:

'Tis not in mortals to command success,

But we'll do more, Sempronius; we'll deserve it.

Mr. George goes to Congress with the prestige of a great name, a world-wide reputation as a student of public questions, and a personal acquaintance with many of the leaders in both parties. He can do much, because of the unique position he occupies, to advance the principles which his father formulated and which in his own best known and admirable work, "The Menace of Privilege,"* he has

sought to popularize in terms of the latest economic development. It is certain that others of like convictions will follow him into Congress in the elections that are soon to come among a people fast awaking to the need of fundamental revision of prevailing social and economic creeds.

JOSEPH DANA MILLER.

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LABOR IN LOS ANGELES.*

Los Angeles, Cal., November 10.

The terrible disaster here, which destroyed half a million of property and more than twenty human lives, and was heralded as a labor union outrage, occurred while the Federation of Labor was in annual session here, and preparations were under way for the biggest labor demonstration in this part of the world. The terror, the hysteria, the vicious and unfounded charges against organized labor were paralyzing. These charges were made before any investigation and without any evidence except the hysterical statements of prejudiced partisans. The City Council, the police, most of the press, were alike swept into insane antagonism by sheer force of the accusations. But organized labor behaved with fairness and dignity in the face of the fact that scores of its members were in jail or on bail upon charges under the drastic anti-picketing ordinance passed by the City Council a short time before, and of the unwarranted and insulting conduct of the police department in surrounding the Labor Temple with policemen, thereby subjecting national guests to indignities as if they were dangerous criminals.

More than a month has now passed. The hysteria has given place to returning sanity. The terror is gone. But the Friar Tucks of the Plunderbund still fulminate from their pulpits against "anarchy",—though there are notable exceptions among the churches. The City Council has passed an ordinance permitting any one to run steam boilers and engines without a license or any evidence of fitness, in order to forestall a possible strike of stationary engineers in sympathy with the brewery men and the structural steel workers and metal workers, who are still on strike. The Mayor vetoed this ordinance. But he appointed a partisan committee to investigate the disaster, refusing the labor people any representation; and the District Attorney appointed the most notorious criminal lawyer of southern California to represent the county before the grand jury.

They have found "bombs" dramatically set to clocks that stopped at a safe time, and dynamite that didn't go off. They have chased to the north of the State and threatened the South Seas, and for thirty days have had "arrests a few hours off," but none ever on. All this under the patronage of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association,—labor's chief enemy. It is composed of small business men dominated by "Big Business," big estates, the Southern Pacific, the Harriman and Huntington interests and high class land gamblers, whose prime purpose is to bend every civic movement to enhancing the values of their speculative holdings. Its

*Published by the Macmillan Company, New York.

*See The Public of November 11, page 1058.

mouthpiece is "The Los Angeles Times," the most insanely violent Laborphobia paper on the Coast.

In the face of all this the labor men of Los Angeles informed the public that on November 3 they would have the deferred parade. Much apprehension followed. Fears were revived. Advice was given. But the night came and the parade is a matter of history. "The Record" truly said: "The greatest demonstration ever made by organized labor in southern California, and the most impressive parade ever witnessed by the people of Los Angeles, took place Tuesday night, when 15,000 loyal union men and women marched through the down town streets to Fiesta Park, where they were addressed by J. Stitt Wilson, Socialist candidate for Governor, and by Stanley Wilson, Editor of "The Citizen" (labor paper). Every union in the city was represented, and the parade was especially significant as tending to show the strength in Los Angeles of the man who works."

EDMUND NORTON.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, November 15, 1910

The Elections.

More significant than any individual triumphs at the recent elections (pp. 1035, 1036, 1057) is the steady march of the democratic principle they have shown, in the vote directly on measures regardless of men, wherever there was opportunity for such voting. We shall not attempt to give figures until official returns are reported, but general results may be stated.

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Oregon takes the lead in direct voting. There were 32 questions to vote upon there, some of local and others of general interest. That the people of Oregon are strongly in favor of their system of direct legislation is evident from their vote on the proposal for a Constitutional convention. The intention was to have this convention revise the Constitution and incidentally to abolish direct legislation, but the people have defeated that proposal overwhelmingly. Most important, however, of all the referendum votes in Oregon, were those on questions of taxation. The local option tax amendments are reported as carried. The prohibition amendment was defeated, and so was the amendment giving suffrage to taxpayers regardless of sex.

In Washington the women's suffrage amendment without limitation was carried. Thus Washington joins Wyoming, Utah, Idaho and Colorado, as a State allowing equal suffrage regardless of sex.

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In Oklahoma and South Dakota the women's suffrage amendment was defeated.

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In Colorado, the direct legislation amendment (p. 1035) was carried by about 25,000 majority. Under this amendment, now part of the fundamental law of Colorado, the legislative power of the State is vested in the legislature but with the reservation to the people of the power to propose laws and amendments by means of the Initiative and Referendum.

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The Initiative in Illinois was advisory only (p. 1035), there being no mandatory direct legislation law yet in this State. The questions submitted were for an Initiative and Referendum amendment to the Constitution, a civil service law and a corrupt practices law. All were carried by overwhelming majorities.

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A prohibition law under the Initiative and Referendum was defeated by a tremendous majority in Missouri.

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The county option law for the liquor traffic in Nebraska, on which Bryan was defeated in the Democratic convention (pp. 801, 973), was virtually carried by the election of the Republican candidate for Governor, the Republican convention having adopted the policy that Bryan unsuccessfully urged upon the Democrats.

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The Dupont subway plans were adopted by popular vote in Cleveland. Under these plans subway construction is greatly reduced both as to time, cost, expense of operation and comfort of service.

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Of the 100 representatives and 38 senators composing the Rhode Island legislature, 38 of the former and 13 of the latter were elected on the Democratic ticket. Pledged in writing to the Initiative and Referendum for constitutional amendments are 32 representatives and six senators—most of them Democrats. All of the Democrats are so pledged by their party platform. A few members-elect are committed against this form of direct legislation. The chief advantage of the agitation is that for the first time in Rhode Island the issue has become a live one.