

XIII.

NEBRASKA DEMOCRATS FIRM.

The Democratic State Convention, held at Lincoln, September 17, adopted a strong platform endorsing the principles of the Kansas City platform, and nominated one candidate for Supreme Judge and two candidates for regents of State University. The convention was one of the largest ever held in the state. The populists met at the same time and the ticket named was agreed upon by both conventions. The candidate for the bench, Judge Conrad Hollenbeck, is a Democrat and J. H. Bayston and L. G. Hawksby, candidates for regents, are Populists. The fusion committees expect to get out a full vote and elect the entire ticket. Mr. Bryan had not met the representatives of the two parties since the last presidential election. In addressing the conventions he avoided partisan politics owing to the death of the President. In the course of his remarks he said that the loss of the state brought more humiliation to him than the national defeat (not that he regretted it more, as some papers reported). He said that he would remain a citizen of Nebraska and help win back the state.

ROOSEVELT ON TRUSTS.

In his speech at Minneapolis on Labor Day, President Roosevelt said:

More and more it is evident that the state, and if necessary the nation, has got to possess the right of supervision and control as regards the great corporations which are its creatures, particularly as regards the great business combinations which derive a portion of their importance from the existence of some monopolistic tendency.

Mr. Roosevelt was then Vice-President and as such had little influence in shaping the policy of his party. He is now President and in a position to give force and effect to his views on the trust

question. As the Chief Executive it is his duty to enforce the law as he finds it. If the present Attorney-General is not willing to carry out his instructions he can demand his resignation and appoint a new Attorney-General. He can give no excuse for a failure to enforce the law. When he was exercising authority in New York City he took the position that a law ought either to be enforced or repealed. It is to be hoped that he will take the same position now.

Not only is he in control of the Executive Branch of the government, but he has a Senate, House and Supreme Court in political harmony with him. If existing laws are not sufficient, he has the power of recommendation and can propose measures sufficiently severe to give to the people the protection which he admits to be needed. It will be interesting to watch the new President and see whether the hostility to trusts manifested by him when he was laying his plans to capture the next republican convention is increased or lessened by the responsibilities of the office to which he aspired.

AN EXAMPLE OF PARTISANSHIP.

Many of the republican papers have been denouncing those who criticised the administration, and some have gone so far as to charge that the murder was inspired by the abuse directed against the President. As a matter of fact, very little has been said against the personal character of Mr. McKinley, and it is evident from the statement made by the assassin that he was not actuated by any hatred of the man or even by lack of respect for him. The blow was aimed at the government and could not have resulted from anything that was ever said or written about the President. However, while the republicans are finding fault with the language employed by democrats or populists who have criticised officials and candidates, it may be worth while to recall the fact that the republicans have gone far beyond the democrats in personal abuse. For the present, one illustration will suffice. The New York *Tribune*, once edited by Horace Greeley and now owned by a man who came near being Vice-President of the United States, contained the following critical editorial just after the election of 1896: