

seem like echoes of Bryanism; and while regretting that there is "not a Democratic President and a Democratic Senate to make possible a beginning of tariff revision by striking a first blow at the protection accorded all trust products in the present tariff bill," this platform "points to the reciprocity measure as proof that the Republican party is now abandoning even the pretense that its protective policy is for the benefit of the American farmer." An excellent outline of the situation will be found in our Editorial Correspondence, from the pen of "D. K. L."

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At the Republican convention at Lincoln, also on the 25th, a committee endorsement of Mr. Taft was adopted. The Associated Press reported it in this wise:

The Insurgents lacked a leader and were out-generated by Victor Rosewater and his delegation from Omaha. Before the Insurgents could get a chance to introduce resolutions from the floor, the Regulars had rushed through a motion providing that all resolutions should be referred to a committee which was given power to draw up a final report. A. W. Jeffers of Omaha, chairman of the convention, then named a committee of seven members of whom five were strong friends of Mr. Taft. Mr. Rosewater was made chairman of the committee. From this point the possibilities of the fight on the floor over the indorsement of Mr. Taft went glimmering.

The platform rejoices "in the glorious record of the Republican party which has given the nation the illustrious names of Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft," and reaffirming "devotion to Republican principles," congratulates "the country on its continued peace, progress and prosperity under the wise guidance of our Republican President."

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Republican Progressives in Illinois.

At East St. Louis on the 29th Senator Walter Clyde Jones and Professor Merriam, opened the Progressive Republican campaign for the primaries of next April. [See current volume, page 778.]

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Senator Jones struck the keynote of his campaign on nomination for Governor in these words:

This is a war to restore popular government. It is a war to destroy the boss and his machine based on the power of patronage and pelf. The spoils system must go. This is a war upon predatory business and its lure of lucre. The special interests must go out of politics. The Progressive movement has for its object the accomplishment of three definite results: First, the restoration of popular government; second, the destruction of the spoils system, and, third, the elimination of corruption from political life. These three things are intimately related. . . . The progressive movement proposes effective legis-

lation to destroy each and all of these sources of the boss's power.

Senator Jones mentioned as features of that legislation, the Initiative, Referendum and Recall. He closed by saying:

We have enlisted in this war to win, and we are going to fight until we finish. We are going to fight until popular government is restored in Illinois, as it has been in Wisconsin and Oregon and California and New Jersey and other States where this battle has been fought, where the issues have been squarely presented to the people, as we propose to present them, and where the people have voted at the ballot box overwhelmingly for Progressive measures to take back into their hands the control of their own government.

Professor Merriam, speaking in the same strain, said:

The Senatorial scandal could not have occurred if we had been able to use the system of direct election for Senators. There would have been no secret contributions to the "jackpot" and no secret distribution of that fund of shame if the people of Illinois had been able to use the Initiative and the Referendum. And if the people today could use the Recall the seats of members of the Illinois legislature who opposed the mandate of the voters of Illinois in respect to the Initiative and Referendum or who took cowardly refuge in silence would now be vacant. The Initiative, Referendum and Recall prevent the sale and delivery of political influence and are necessary checks upon the political hucksters who sell public rights for private gain.

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Death of Edward M. Shepard.

After an illness of several weeks, Edward M. Shepard, of New York, died at his summer home at Lake George, at the age of 61. [See current volume, pages 195, 206.]

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Mr. Shepard was primarily a lawyer, and he stood easily in the front rank at the New York bar. But he was also a man of public spirit with the democratic trend. Under more favorable political circumstances, he was the kind of man to have made a great democratic leader in legislation and administration; and notwithstanding his temperament, a popular leader too. In partisan politics he was affiliated with the Democratic party. He came first into national prominence after the Bryan campaign in 1896, in which he was associated with the "gold" Democracy against Bryan. The following year, when Henry George was a candidate for Mayor of New York, Mr. Shepard supported Seth Low, the Republican and "good government" candidate against George of the Jeffersonian Democracy and Van Wyck of Tammany Hall. But in 1898 Mr. Shepard supported Augustus Van Wyck for Governor against Roosevelt, and in 1900 he supported Bryan both for nomination and election. In

these changes, Mr. Shepard was governed by his financial views in 1896, by his municipal government views in 1897, and by his anti-imperialist views in 1900. He was a candidate for Governor of New York last fall, and would doubtless have been nominated and elected but for his connection as a lawyer with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, of which fact the friends of special privilege corporations availed themselves to defeat him at the convention; and in the legislature last winter he was a candidate for the United States Senate, but failed through the same kind of opposition. Mr. Shepard will be remembered in his profession as long as great lawyers usually are remembered. But his most enduring monument is likely to be one that he erected while yet a young man. It is his story of Martin Van Buren, in the "American Statesmen" series—a veritable oasis of democracy in a "strong government" desert.



Commission Government in Passaic.

Passaic has followed Trenton's example, not Jersey City's, in its action on adopting or rejecting the commission form of city government under the Governor Wilson plan (the Walsh act of last winter) with Initiative, Referendum and Recall safety appliances. The referendum election on the question of adoption came off on the 25th. It showed 59 per cent of the vote last fall for members of the lower house of the State legislature, which was 4,506. In fact, the total percentage was over 60 for there were 96 defective ballots. As the affirmative vote was more than 30 per cent of the vote of last fall, the minimum affirmative percentage required by the New Jersey commission-plan law, the conditions of adoption were secured, provided the negative vote fell below the affirmative, and it did. Following are the returns as reported by the Passaic Daily News of the 26th:

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| Vote for Assemblyman last fall..... | 4,506 |
| Minimum therefore necessary for adoption..... | 1,352 |
| Affirmative vote | 1,789 |
| Negative vote | 859 |
| Affirmative majority | 930 |

The opposing vote was cast under the leadership of party Democrats, party Republicans, and party Socialists. [See current volume, page 779.]



War Shivers in Europe.

The Mohammedan, barbarous Moorish state of Morocco, in the northwestern corner of Africa, with one short seaboard on the Mediterranean and another long one on the Atlantic, is once more a bone of contention to the European Powers.



In 1904 Great Britain and France came to an

agreement over Morocco, Great Britain recognizing France's right to assist in the administrative, economic, financial and military reforms in Morocco, but reserving the rights by treaty or usage that she was herself already exercising; Great Britain's especial interest in the matter being that on the other hand her interests in Egypt needed conservation against possible interference on the part of the other Powers. A more general agreement as to foreign rights in Morocco was entered into by representatives of a number of European Powers, the United States and Morocco itself, at Algeciras, Spain, in the spring of 1906. Since then France has exercised all powers permitted to her in policing and controlling Morocco, spurred on to activity by the necessities of the development of the contiguous state of Algeria, now a dependency of France. Latterly she has taken a hand in trying to reduce the disorders of the country consequent upon the inability of Mulai-Abd-el-Hafid, Sultan since 1907, to hold his throne against revolting tribesmen. When at last this summer French intervention seemed to approach French dominance, Spain, which has stations and business interests, especially upon the Atlantic side of the coveted country, put out a tentative hand; upon which Germany, also anxious for ports and hinterlands, if not for permanent occupation at least for material with which to dicker for Congo or other desirable African regions, also stretched out her hand—or her mailed fist, since she sent gunboats—to Agadir on the Atlantic coast. [See vol. viii, p. 692; current volume, page 638.]



On July 21 Lloyd George, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a speech at the annual banquet of the Lord Mayor of London—a speech the serious portions of which were read from manuscript—gave what was regarded as a warning to Germany to go slow in interfering in Morocco. In the House of Commons on the 27th the Prime Minister, Mr. Asquith, read carefully from a manuscript what is regarded as a similar but plainer warning to Germany in regard to keeping hands off for the sake of preserving the balance of power in Europe. A sensitiveness on the part of Germany to this not undiplomatic but positive coercion of program, has raised fears of European war, in which Great Britain and France would be pitted against Germany. Activity in the war offices of Europe immediately resulted, and anxieties and war risks were augmented thereby. As yet the German government has made no official response to the British warnings.



Russia an Enemy to Constitutional Government in Persia.

The ex-Shah of Persia, Mohammed Ali Mirza, backed by tribesmen of the neighborhood of Astra-