

Senator Dixon. These were the nominations: For Governor, L. Whitney Watkins of Jackson; for United States Senator, Theodore M. Joslin of Adrian. Friends of Gov. Osborn protested against the indorsement of a candidate for Governor, and when the convention indorsed Senator Watkins, Osborn petitions were put in circulation immediately. The platform demands the Initiative, Referendum, and Recall in both State and nation; direct election of Senators; government ownership and operation of express and telegraph service; physical valuation of railroads; equalization of taxes on a property basis; universal parcels post; extension of postal savings banks; extension of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission; "maintenance of the protective tariff for the benefit of the industries and the laboring men of the United States, except where competition in trade has been destroyed by monopoly and the tariff is used to exact an unjust tribute from the people and unjustly increase the cost of living"; conservation of natural resources and rescue of public property and public rights from private hands; adoption of the equal suffrage amendment to the State Constitution; a Statewide primary law for all offices; the right to vote directly on the choice for Presidential candidate; election of national committeemen of political parties by direct vote of the people, and for removal of the judiciary from politics. [See current volume, pages 658, 682.]



In Illinois the question of a straight-out new party, such as that now organized in Michigan, has given rise to serious dissensions. A committee in the interest of the new party having asked a statement from Governor Deneen regarding his position, he replied on the 22d to the effect that as he had been regularly nominated for Governor at the direct primaries last winter by the Republican party, and had accepted the nomination and endorsed the platform, he has no moral right to change his status as a candidate, and that it seems to him a strange conclusion for Illinois Republicans who feel that they cannot support the national ticket to think that therefore they must also oppose the election of State candidates "whose nominations they do not question and who derive their credentials directly from themselves." Lieutenant Governor Oglesby, the Republican candidate for lieutenant-governor, makes a like response and so does Cornelius J. Doyle, the candidate for Secretary of State. This decision of Governor Deneen and his co-candidates seems to assure a full third party ticket in Illinois, State as well as national.



Democracy in Delaware.

The city of Wilmington, Delaware, has recently had an experience which indicates the trend of

public sentiment toward direct legislation. Five years ago the people of Wilmington voted on the following question:

Shall the Mayor and Council memorialize the next legislature of the State to enact a law enabling the people of Wilmington to govern themselves, delegating to the Mayor and Council subject to the Initiative and Referendum as full powers of government for municipal purposes as are vested in the Governor and legislature for State purposes?

This proposal was carried, 10 to 1, indicating that the people of Wilmington very decidedly wished their charter to contain the Initiative and Referendum. But the legislature of 1909 paid no attention to their wish. The Legislature of 1911, however, passed a law authorizing the Governor of Delaware and the Mayor of Wilmington to appoint a charter commission to draft a charter for the city. This commission was accordingly appointed, five Democrats and five Republicans, but all reactionaries, and it held its meetings behind closed doors. After considerable labor it presented a charter which did not contain any provision for the Initiative and Referendum and did cut out the rather imperfect form of Initiative which the people of Wilmington already had. After it was too late, according to law, to make any amendments, the Commission announced that they were prepared to educate the people as to what they had done, and called a meeting for that purpose. The result was a tremendous meeting at which public disapproval was expressed from beginning to end of the meeting, the objections of nearly all who spoke being directed at the arbitrary methods adopted in preparing the charter and at the fact that the popular will had been disregarded. Other meetings of the same general character were held subsequently, and on June 1st of this year the charter election was held. The charter was defeated by 7,699 noes to 991 yeas.



The Referendum in Oregon.

The Initiative petitions for county or municipal local legislation, filed in Oregon on or before July 4, the last day of filing for the November election, are on the following subjects:

(1) To establish the Singletax in Clackamas County under the local option amendment of 1910; (2) to prohibit the building of a proposed Harney County courthouse; (3) to establish a national bank in Jackson County to assist in financing the construction of good roads; (4) to abolish the county high school in Wallowa County; (5) to amend the law providing for the method of electing members of the Port of Portland Commission; (6) to establish the Singletax in Multnomah County (the Portland City county), under the local option amendment of 1910, and (7) to establish the Singletax in Coos County under the same local option amendment.

For Statewide direct legislation there are