

sults of the civil war with reference to human rights.

That is a dangerous path for the Democratic party to enter upon. It is a dangerous direction for Southern sentiment to take. The civil war ended 40 years ago, and its animosities ought to be forgotten. Anything like hatred for the South should be denounced by every patriotic citizen. But if the South is fairly represented by Williams's speech, it is the South that challenges a rehearing on the humanity issues of the war, and invites a renewal of its animosities. It is one thing for the people of this country to forget the war; it is a very different thing for them to renounce its most vital results.

Williams's speech was quite in line with the platform he is understood to have drawn in behalf of the "band wagon" contingent which Judge Parker represents. This platform, published today in advance, exhibits some of the kind of handiwork for which David B. Hill is notorious. Like Williams's speech, it contains but little that is at once strong and good. In the main, it is vigorous as to wrong things, and weak as to good ones. It is a plain bid for plutocratic support, garnished with "taffy" for the unsophisticated, and interlined with "weasel words." Like the candidate for whom it is made, it is a "confidence" platform, made by "confidence" men, to bunko the confiding.

Three incidents of the first day's session are worthy of note. When Bryan appeared to take his seat with the Nebraska delegation, he received an ovation of applause. Later in the session, at a mention of Cleveland's name by the temporary chairman, there was long continued and frequently repeated applause, in which many Bryan men joined, supposing it was a demonstration for Bryan. Immediately after the close of the chairman's speech, there were general and persistent calls for Bryan. It is asserted that more than a third of the delegates are pledged not to vote for Parker until he gets two-thirds of the convention; but the general impression now is that Parker will be nominated on the first or second ballot. Whether this is a result of "band wagon" tactics, or a genuine probability, no one can safely say.

L. F. P.

## NEWS

Week ending Thursday, July 7.

The Democratic national convention (pp. 183, 184, 195, 204) met at St. Louis on the 6th. It was called to order by James K. Jones, chairman of the outgoing national committee, and John Sharp Wil-

liams, of Mississippi, was introduced as temporary chairman.

The Prohibition national convention, which met at Indianapolis on the 29th (p. 204) made nominations on the 30th. Until noon of that day there had been a strong movement favoring the nomination of Gen. Nelson A. Miles, but this was dissipated by the following telegram received from him by John G. Woolley, the leader in the Miles movement:

Hon. John G. Woolley, Prohibition National Convention, Indianapolis, Ind.:—Appreciating the good will of yourself and friends, I must earnestly request that my name be not used in the convention and that my letter of June 20 be considered final.

After adopting the platform the convention nominated Silas C. Swallow, of Pennsylvania, for President by acclamation, and George W. Carroll, of Texas, for Vice President, by a vote of 626 to 132.

The platform adopted by the convention describes the destruction of the liquor traffic as the paramount issue in American politics, and demands its abolition. On issues of minor concern it declares in favor of the impartial enforcement of all law, the application of the principles of justice to combinations of labor and of capital, the initiative and referendum, protection of American citizens everywhere and international arbitration, reform of divorce laws, extirpation of polygamy, and suppression of sexual prostitution, mental and moral qualifications for the suffrage, reference of the tariff question to a non-partisan commission, uniformity of laws "for all our country and dependencies," extension and honest administration of the civil service laws, and election of United States senators by popular vote.

The national convention of the People's party met on the 4th at Springfield, Ill. Prior to its meeting ex-Senator Butler, of North Carolina, resigned as chairman of the national committee, owing to inability to attend the convention, and J. A. Edmiston, of Nebraska, called the convention to order. W. H. Weller, of Iowa, formerly a Congressman from that State, was made temporary chairman, and

upon permanent organization J. M. Mallett, of Texas, was elected permanent chairman.

The platform adopted on the 5th declares in substance that—

The issuance of money should be regarded as a purely governmental function, and it should be issued "in such quantities as shall maintain a stability in prices, every dollar to be a full legal tender, none of which shall be a debt redeemable in other money." Governmental postal savings banks should be established. The right of labor to organize should be protected. Legal provision should "be made under which the people may exercise the initiative, referendum, and proportional representation and direct vote for all public officers with the right of recall." "We denounce" "government by injunction and imprisonment without the right of trial by jury." "Land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is a heritage of all the people, and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited." "To prevent unjust discrimination and monopoly the government should own and control the railroads, and those public utilities which in their nature are monopolies. To perfect the postal service, the government should own and operate the general telegraph and telephone systems, and provide a parcels post. As to those trusts and monopolies which are not public utilities or natural monopolies, we demand that those special privileges which they now enjoy, and which alone enable them to exist, should be immediately withdrawn. Corporations, being the creatures of government, should be subjected to such governmental regulation and control as will adequately protect the public. We demand the taxation of monopoly privileges, while they remain in private hands to the extent of the value of the privileges granted. We demand that Congress shall enact a general law uniformly regulating the power and duties of all incorporated companies doing interstate business."

After adopting the platform the convention chose Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia, as the party's candidate for President, and Thomas H. Tibbles, of Nebraska, for the candidate for Vice President. The national committee elected James H. Ferris, of Joliet, Ill., for its chairman, and Charles Q. De France, of Lincoln, Nebraska, for secretary.

At the Republican convention of Michigan, on the 30th, Fred M. Warner was nominated for Gov-