

Tribune (which favors the proposed compromise ordinance), as saying:

The negotiations are in progress and I think there is no doubt that in four or five days they will reach a consummation which will serve as a basis for an offer to the stockholders of Chicago city. I cannot say that there will be no discrimination among the stockholders as has been reported. The offer will be made to all the shareholders, big and little, and all who wish to sell their stock at the figure offered will find a ready purchaser.

The probable effect of this merger on the proposed compromise ordinance, was suggested by an interview in the same Tribune report, with one of the receivers of the Union Traction system, Henry A. Blair, who said:

In my opinion whatever negotiations the new company has with the city should be on the "clean slate" basis. The Chicago city ordinance is unfair to the street car company. It should be ignored in all future consideration of a franchise covering the entire city. No company could afford to operate its lines on the terms embodied in the tentative ordinance. In the first place the ordinance is unfair in the particular of the commuted term in exchange for the 99-year rights. The new company should get better terms than that. I should say that the commuted term should be at least twenty years, and I would advise that nothing short of this term be accepted. In the second place, the compensation named is unfair. I am pretty familiar with the finances of the north and west side companies, and I know that they could not make a red cent over and above the 5 and 10 per cent. compensation. The company which may result from the merger of the two systems will not be able to pay any compensation at all during a certain period of time, to be determined by financial and physical considerations. I am convinced that the reconstruction of the lines so as to give Chicago an adequate service will take at least four or five years, and during that period the company could not afford to pay compensation. As for municipal ownership, I say let the city buy the lines at any time, provided the city pays for them. Let us have no confiscation of the property. I would be willing to see the city take over the lines to-morrow if the investors could get back thereby what money they have put into the property. The city can afford to be more reasonable with a company covering the entire city than it has been with the south side company in the tentative ordinance. The clean slate is the only proper basis on which the new company, if formed, should meet the city.

In American politics the most

important event of the week is the Democratic convention of New York, its importance being due to the possible effect of its action upon the electoral vote of that State. The convention met at Saratoga on the 20th. A stubborn struggle at once began between McCarren, the Brooklyn "boss," supposed to be a political agent of "the Standard Oil crowd," and the supporters of Edward M. Shepard, who was the most radical candidate before the convention. McCarren's candidate was Comptroller Grout, who was opposed by Tammany Hall because this organization is resisting McCarren's pretensions to leadership. A compromise was effected on the 21st by the nomination of D. Cady Herrick, of Albany. Herrick was at one time active in supporting Cleveland against Hill, but for several years he has been a Supreme Court judge. His term as judge expires with the year. This nomination has produced some curious effects. For one thing it has attracted the support of the New York Sun to the Democratic State ticket, although that paper continues to support the Republican national ticket. For another it has driven the New York Evening Post from the support of the Democratic State ticket, although the Post continues to support Parker for President. The Sun supports Herrick because the Republicans "turned down" Platt; the Post opposes Herrick because it holds him to be a mere wire-pulling politician.

Next in importance to Herrick's nomination was the Republican convention for New York, which met at Saratoga on the 14th and completed its work on the 15th. Its nomination of Frank W. Higgins for governor is regarded as a victory for the Odell wing of the party over the Platt wing. The latter were understood to favor Lieut. Gov. Timothy L. Woodruff, who withdrew his name at the last moment and moved that Higgins be nominated by acclamation.

On the following day, the 16th, the State committee of the People's party of New York met at the city of New York and named a full State ticket, with Alfred J. Boulton at the head of it as candidate for governor.

Several State conventions besides that of New York were in session on the 15th. The Democratic convention of Montana refused, by 22 votes out of a total of 500, to make a fusion with the People's party, and nominated J. K. Toole for Governor. The People's convention of Indiana nominated Leroy Templeton for Governor, making a fusion with the "middle of the road" wing (p. 342) of the party. The Democrats of New Jersey nominated Charles C. Black for Governor. The Republicans of New Jersey nominated Edward C. Stokes for Governor on the 20th; and on the same day the New Hampshire Republicans nominated John McLane for Governor of that State. The Colorado Democrats on the 21st nominated Alva A. Adams for governor.

The letter of acceptance of the Presidential nominee of the National Liberty (Negro) party, George E. Turner, was published from Ottumwa, Ia., on the 15th. It describes the Negroes of the United States as numbering more than 12,000,000; asserts that their rights are utterly disregarded and they excluded from citizenship to the extent of subjecting them to taxation without representation; argues that there is no hope of redress from either of the prominent parties; and demands complete recognition of their Constitutional rights, pensions for those that were slaves, and independence for the Filipinos.

Out of the lynching of Horace Maples, a Negro accused of murder, at Huntsville, Ala., (p. 358) have come legal proceedings calculated to discourage this species of mob lawlessness. A special grand jury has returned indictments against several participants in the lynching. It has, moreover, impeached the sheriff for incompetency and neglect of duty in failing to resist the mob; the mayor for neglect of duty in permitting the mob to organize and break the peace of the city; and the chief of police for refusal to disperse it. Owing to threats made to rescue the indicted persons if arrested, Gov. Cunningham has stationed two companies of militia at the Huntsville jail. He has also summoned a court of inquiry