

leaving to the national government the duty of securing prompt, full and orderly development, a reasonable time limit for the leases, publicity as to financing, and fair rentals for Federal property used, perhaps paying a part of the proceeds to the State.

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Progressive Republicanism in Minnesota.

A convention of the Progressive Republicans of Minnesota is called for January 4, next, at Minneapolis. The call comes from a joint committee of the Progressive Republican Leagues of Minneapolis (p. 657), St. Paul (p. 683) and Stillwater, supported by the signatures of leading Republicans of every Congressional district in the State. The convention is described in the call as "the first political convention ever held in the Northwest solely for the purpose of considering political principles." Other statements in the call, of its character and purpose, are as follows:

The Progressive Republicans of Minnesota are waging a vigorous fight within their party for clean government and popular rule. This is an uprising of the people that is spontaneous and not the result of any pre-arranged leadership or plan. It springs from causes that are deep seated and common to the whole State. The voters of Minnesota are driving special interests from the control of the State government. They are driving business out of politics and politics out of business. They are restoring to themselves the power guaranteed in the State Constitution. The essentials of success in this struggle comprise a complete organization of all the people, together with such progressive legislation as will give the people an equal opportunity with predatory interests.

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New Mexico Statehood.

When the Constitutional convention of New Mexico (p. 1072) adjourned at 5:30 a. m. on the 22d, it had drafted for submission to the people of the Territory as the basis for Statehood an extraordinarily lengthy Constitution (occupying 19 newspaper columns in small type) in conformity to the dictation of the Republican caucus, controlled by corporation agents, but with some concessions to the Democrats to secure unanimity. Eight Democrats voted for it, with reservations, explaining that they did so merely for the purpose of getting the document before the people. A resolution for an eight-hour day for State employes, and one for the protection of railway employes, were voted down, although the support of railway employes seems to have been secured by a provision abolishing the "fellow servant" doctrine in cases of negligence. A resolution for guarantee banks (vol. xii, pp. 326, 350, 1250, 1256) was tabled, and one for the Initiative was killed. Homestead exemptions were voted down; so was a resolution forbidding the leasing of convicts. All the Republican delegates but one voted for the

Constitution, and the one exception did not vote at all. Among the Democrats, 8 voted in the affirmative, 18 in the negative, and 3 refrained from voting. The Constitution carried in the convention by 78 to 18, with 4 not voting.

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On the subject of taxation this Constitution requires that "the rate of taxation shall be equal and uniform upon all subjects of taxation," thereby leaving the way open apparently to the exemption of any kind of property. The control of private corporations is put in charge of a "State Corporation Commission," which, subject to the Constitution and laws, "shall be the department of government through which shall be issued all charters for domestic corporations and amendments or extensions thereof, and all licenses to foreign corporations to do business" in the new State. The right of popular Referendum, but not of Initiative, is reserved on the basis of a petition of 10 per cent changed, altered or abrogated" except by a Consti-counties, provided the aggregate is not less than 10 per cent of the voters of the entire State. To sustain the Referendum there must be a majority of all votes on the question, and not less than 40 per cent of all cast at the election. General appropriation laws, police laws, public debt laws, public school laws, and local or special laws, are excepted from the operation of the Referendum. To amend the Constitution there are exacting requirements. At the first session of the legislature two years after the Constitution goes into effect, and at any regular session after each eighth year thereafter, the legislature may, by a majority vote of all the members of each House, voting separately, submit amendments, which, if ratified by a majority of the people voting thereon, provided this be 40 per cent of all votes at the election in the State and in each of one-half of the counties, the amendment is adopted. At other sessions of the legislature two-thirds of each House, instead of a majority, is required for submission. Not more than three amendments can be submitted at any election. The clauses on voting qualifications (including denial of woman suffrage), and those on public education, are apparently unamendable. No Constitutional convention can be called within twenty-five years without a three-fourths vote of each House and approval by the people, nor after twenty-five years without a two-thirds vote of each House. If any amendment not initiated by a two-thirds vote of each House allows the popular Initiative, any laws adopted under popular Initiative shall be invalid if in contravention of any provision of the present Constitution. The clause regulating amendments must "not be changed, altered or abrogated" except by a Constitutional convention.

In the closing hours of the session H. B. Fergusson, a leader in the opposition, declared war against this Constitution. As reported by the *Albuquerque Tribune-Citizen* of November 23, Mr. Fergusson said on the floor of the convention:

As far as I am concerned, New Mexico shall not enter the Union in chains. States were created for the purpose of permitting the inhabitants of the States to rule themselves. I was elected on a platform which pledged self government in the most direct form which experience has produced—that of the Initiative and Referendum. I stand on the platform on which I was elected, and were there no other reasons save the absence of these provisions from the proposed draft, I would still oppose it. Even were I to waive this most important feature, the document as it stands is such that I could not support it. The desire for Statehood springs from a hope of our people to escape from a condition of political peonage. We want to be free from a government whose seat is thousands of miles away, from rulers who have little knowledge and little care for the best interests of this vast district and its patriotic, home loving, ambitious people, who are giving their toil and their lives to create a prosperous community. This document simply changes masters. Instead of the central power at Washington, it gives the powers of government into the hands of holders of special privileges. Our government will be directed from the offices of railroads and great industrial corporations instead of from the bureaus of the national government. Our citizens will still be ruled. They will still be without the power to rule themselves. Instead of tax levies directed by a "government from above," our people will be taxed for the private profit of those to whom the reins of government have been given. This is the era when the rights of men are becoming paramount. The object of every patriotic citizen should be the restoration of power to the people. A Constitution which thwarts or hinders this purpose should be defeated. I believe in democracy, but it must be that democracy which has, as its foundation, the will of the majority. It must rest on a majority of citizens—not on a majority of dollars. It must be a democracy in which the rights of the humblest are as sacred as those of the most powerful. This Constitution, as it stands, is simply a clever instrument to enslave, politically, the people of this new empire to favored aggregations of dollars. It was written in the interests of these special interests. It is designed to keep the people from ruling themselves just as a Territorial form of government was designed to prevent that very condition. I do not know what others will do. As for myself, I shall fight its adoption.

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Settlement of Chicago Garment Workers' Strike Hoped For.

One fatality has occurred in the restless conditions in Chicago caused by having 40,000 garment workers out on strike (p. 1137). On the afternoon of the 2d Charles Lazinskas, a strike picket, was shot and killed by Tony Yacullo, a special policeman employed by the Royal Tailors. A coroner's jury held Yacullo to the grand jury. Sev-

eral witnesses testified that Lazinskas was backing away from Yacullo when the latter fired the fatal shot. Yacullo pleaded self-defense. The painful impression created upon the strikers by the report of the death of Lazinskas, intensified by his public funeral on the 5th, has delayed the progress of settlement undertaken by the committee appointed by the Mayor last week (p. 1138). The leading employing firm—Hart, Schaffner & Marx, in whose shops the strike began—has made the following offer of agreement:

All of the former employes of Hart, Schaffner & Marx (except those who have been guilty of violence) who are now out on strike shall be taken back and shall return to work within fifteen days from the date the strike is terminated. Whether any of such employes have been guilty of violence shall be the first matter to be determined by the arbitration committee hereunder. And should such employes who are not taken back because of the charge of violence be found not guilty by the arbitration committee, Hart, Schaffner & Marx shall pay them for the time they have lost.

There shall be no discrimination of any kind whatever against any of the employes of Hart, Schaffner & Marx because they are or are not members of any union.

An arbitration committee of five shall be appointed. The employes of Hart, Schaffner & Marx who are on strike shall select two, Hart, Schaffner & Marx shall select two, and the four so chosen shall select a fifth. The finding of said committee or of a majority thereof shall be binding. Subject to the provisions of this agreement, said committee shall take up and consider whatever grievances, if any, the employes of Hart, Schaffner & Marx, who are now on strike, shall have, and shall devise a method for the settlement of grievances, if any, in the future.

The joint conference committee on the strike, consisting of representatives of the Chicago Federation of Labor, the Women's Trade Union League, the District Council of the garment workers, the United Garment Workers of America, and representatives of the strikers themselves, has endorsed this agreement, and has commended it to the strikers. The Chicago Federation of Labor has also endorsed the agreement, and one group of clothing cutters accepted it on the 5th. It has been necessary, however, to have the agreement printed in nine different languages for distribution among the strikers, before votes can properly be taken upon it in all the different shop groups, and a final decision upon it is therefore not looked for for several days.

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Unrest in Mexico.

President Porfirio Diaz was inaugurated for the eighth time on the 1st (p. 731). The insurrection (p. 1138) continues to show its head here and there. President Diaz is reported to have sent out a peace commission from Chihuahua on