

interest in it were convinced of the importance of direct legislation.

Questions were sent to the candidates asking them if elected whether they would vote for the proposed measure. Answers were received in the affirmative from 20 per cent. of the candidates, and the rest did not answer, except in one case where a candidate answered no. This candidate was not elected. During the heat of the election period little was done besides writing letters to the newspapers, which are thought to have produced considerable effect.

The measure was introduced in the Senate by a Republican. After its introduction Mr. J. Z. White was asked to make a special visit and address the members of the legislature on the subject. An appointment was made, and Mr. White addressed both Houses just after one of the sessions, making an address of about 15 minutes. All members seem to have been pleased with what he said, and many expressed regret that he did not speak longer.

Following this, the bill was brought to a vote. It passed the Senate by 11 yeas to 4 nays. One of the Representatives who was known to be favorable to the measure, also a Republican, was asked to look after the bill in the House. The bill was brought before the House and was passed unanimously. It may be said, however, that the best friend the measure had in the Senate, and, in fact, in the legislature, was one of the Democratic Senators, and it was at his suggestion that a Republican Senator was asked to introduce it. Care was taken all along not to make it a Democratic party measure.

The Governor having, much to his honor, signed the bill, what remains to be done is to create a sufficient interest in direct legislation between now and the next general election, about 18 months hence, to insure a general popular vote in its favor.

Ways and means of accomplishing this end have been carefully considered, but plans have not as yet been definitely formulated. In general, the following observations may be made. It is a mistake to assume that men of the leading classes are opposed to democratic ideas. Such an assumption frequently has the effect of making them oppose those ideas when under normal conditions they would not. It is very easy to associate democratic ideas with agitations distasteful to persons brought up as they are. As a rule, the great average of these people will adopt anything which is the fashion, and it is just as easy by proper management to make a democratic reform fashionable as not. At any rate it is well to repeat that it is altogether unnecessary and of no advantage whatever to excite their opposition.

When it came to the actual work to be done, it was found that the only persons who would go into it and do anything were single tax men, and perhaps one or two socialists. But contributions could be obtained from almost anyone with the usual difficulties.

F. I. DU PONT.

NEWS NARRATIVE

Week ending Thursday, June 10.

Norway and Sweden.

Since Norway's declaration dissolving her union with Sweden (p. 150), voluminous news dispatches have been cabled from both countries, but they have reported little but gossip and rumors. The future relations of the two countries are still unsettled and doubtful.

One specific event in furtherance of the dissolution occurred on the 9th. The Norwegians formally substituted for the union flag, the distinctive flag of Norway. At Akershus fort, Christiana, the ceremony of lowering the union flag which had floated there since 1814 and running up the Norwegian tri-color, was attended and applauded by 30,000 people, including the members of the Norwegian Storting.

Another event of significance was an informal declaration by the Swedish prime minister, published at Stockholm on the 12th, that the Swedish government will refuse to recognize the independence of Norway, and that motions to this effect will be submitted to the Swedish Diet when it meets in extraordinary session. This indication of the probable attitude of the Swedish government was confirmed on the 13th in a formal announcement by King Oscar in the nature of a defense, in which he said:

It remains for Sweden and for me as king of the union to decide whether the attack by Norway on the existing union shall lead to the legal dissolution of that union.

It was further confirmed by the publication, also on the 13th, of the following official circular which had been sent to all the Swedish and Norwegian consuls representing the union abroad:

After the Norwegian Storting had established a provisional government for Norway and in connection therewith declared the union with Sweden dissolved, the Swedish government decided not to recognize said provisional government. You are therefore instructed to continue the exercise of the functions constitutionally devolving on you as Swedish as well as Norwegian consuls, with this restriction, that you must not enter into communication with the illegal Norwegian government or obey its orders. In all emergencies you must apply to the ministry of foreign affairs for instructions.

Protests against recognition of Norway were filed by Sweden about the same date, with foreign nations. The King had already, on the 9th, refused to receive an official deputation from Norway. His telegraphic reply to the president of the Norwegian Storting was as follows:

As I do not recognize the revolutionary steps which the Storting in violation of the constitution and act of union and in revolt against its king has unfortunately taken, I decline to receive the deputation.

Russia.

The Zemstvo congress in illegal session last week at Moscow (p. 151) has adopted an address to the Czar, which, though suppressed in the regular newspapers of Russia by orders of the police, has been privately circulated throughout Russia, and parts of it have gone abroad in news dispatches. It is said to be a long document, describing the danger of the present situation both in foreign and in domestic affairs, condemning the bureaucracy, warning the Czar that the police are preventing the truth from reaching him, and petitioning as follows:

Sire, before it is too late for the welfare of Russia, command a convocation of representatives of the nation, elected by equal franchise, and let these elected representatives decide with you the vital question of war or peace, thus transforming the war into a national one. Let them establish an agreement with you, a renovated national organization.

A deputation of ten delegates, headed by Count Hayden and Mr. Shipoff, was appointed by the congress to present the address to the Czar. No indication of its presentation has yet been reported, although some dispatches mentioned the 13th as the day on which the Czar had agreed to re-