

nection with the "Titanic" disaster as to call for verbatim publication as widely as possible. They are as follows:

Whereas, the enormous and appalling loss of life resulting from the recent sinking of the White Star Line steamer Titanic has again furnished proof in the most terrible manner of the inevitable result of sending ships to sea with insufficient life boats and not enough trained seamen to handle even the inadequate number of life boats now carried; and whereas, on Oct. 1, 1911, the grievance committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor reported upon an investigation made by said committee regarding the manning of passenger steamers, showing the employment of an overwhelming percentage of inexperienced and utterly incompetent men in the deck crews and that the lifeboat drills were of no practical value in that the boats were seldom, if ever, put into actual service, and the crews therefore received no real training in the proper handling of such lifeboats; and whereas, a copy of this report was submitted to the committee on merchant marine and fisheries of the House of Representatives and also sent to a number of congressmen; and whereas, there are a number of passenger steamers trading out of Chicago carrying thousands of men, women and children, especially during the excursion season, that have on board lifeboats only sufficient in many cases to carry less than 10 per cent of the maximum number of passengers allowed on board; and whereas, there is now pending in Congress a bill known as H. R. 11372, to which attention has several times been called by this Federation, by the Seamen's Union and others, which seeks to require that 75 per cent of the deck crew on every American steamer shall be able seamen;

Therefore, resolved, that the Chicago Federation of Labor does hereby again call attention of the United States Congress to said bill H. R. 11372, urging its speedy enactment into law without lowering or reducing the percentage of able seamen to be required on every steamer under its provisions; and, be it further resolved, that Congress is hereby urgently requested to enact a stringent law requiring a sufficient number of lifeboats on all vessels and to require the holding of regular, effective and practical boat drills during which the lifeboats and crews must be actually put into service.

Irish Home Rule.

In the British House of Commons on the 16th, the home rule bill for Ireland passed its first reading by 360 to 266. The debate was bitter in tone, and by the Tory side it was in expression more than usually bitter for British parliamentary proceedings. "The Prime Minister," said the new Tory leader, Bonar Law, "gave a solemn pledge that he would reform the House of Lords, but that debt of honor must wait until he has paid his debt of shame." [See current volume, page 367.]

The Presidential Contest.

Preferential primaries for Presidential nomina-

tions were held in Nebraska and Oregon on the 19th. [See current volume, page 368.]

In Nebraska, the Democratic vote as far as reported, gives Speaker Clark first place, Governor Harmon second, and Governor Wilson third; the Republican vote gives ex-President Roosevelt first place, President Taft second, and Senator La-Follette third. The specific returns come in slowly, but there seems to be no doubt of the relative strength of candidates.

In Oregon, where also the returns are slow, the Democratic lead appears to be with Governor Wilson, and the Republican clearly with ex-President Roosevelt.

Final returns from the Illinois primaries of the 9th show a plurality of 138,410 for Roosevelt over Taft and 139,864 for Clark over Wilson.

Oscar W. Underwood was named on the 17th by the Democratic convention of Alabama as the choice of the party of that State for President, the national delegates being instructed to vote for him "until a nomination shall have been made."

Presidential Corrupt Practices Act.

The Henry bill, requiring publication before conventions or primary elections of the sums contributed to campaigns of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates and the sums expended by their managers, passed the lower house of Congress on the 20th, and without opposition on the final vote. This measure imposes a penalty of \$5,000 or three years' imprisonment for failure of candidates or managers to comply with its terms. If passed by the Senate and signed by the President it will also require each candidate for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency on any ticket to file with the Secretary of the United States Senate, both before and after primaries, nominating conventions and general elections, "full correct itemized statements of all money and things of value received by him or by any one for him with his knowledge and consent," the names of all persons contributing more than \$100 to his fund, and a statement of all promises and pledges of office made by him, with the name of the persons involved. It requires further that managers of political committees, or of voluntary organizations supporting the campaigns of candidates and all persons working in behalf of such candidates, file with the Secretary of the Senate similar statements. Amendments requiring individual contributors to file statements were incorporated in the

bill on the motion of Representative Kopp of Wisconsin. [See current volume, page 371.]



Illinois Politics.

Final returns from the primary of the 9th show the following results on the Governorship in Illinois:

Republican—

Deneen	149,406
Small	88,369
Wayman	59,935
Yates	41,895
Brown	31,613
Hurburgh	29,597
Jones	21,747
Davis	6,952

Democratic—

Dunne	128,248
Alschuler	87,916
Caldwell	71,967
Dickson	9,027

State Conventions of both parties were held on the 19th, the Republican at Springfield and the Democratic at Peoria. [See current volume, page 347.]



At the Republican convention the following delegates at large to the national convention were elected: Charles S. Deneen, Lawrence Y. Sherman, Chauncey Dewey, Roy O. West, Walter A. Rosenfield, Bernard A. Eckhart, Robert D. Clark and Louis L. Emmerson.



On the eve of the Democratic convention the State committee chose Fred J. Kern of Belleville for temporary chairman, a nomination which made a test in the convention the next day between the Hearst-Harrison faction and the Sullivan, each faction probably drawing support from delegates who disliked it less than they disliked the other. Mr. Kern was elected by 669 to 0, all the Cook county delegates passing their vote and all but 77 of the delegates from other counties voting for Kern.



At the time of nominating Kern for temporary chairman the State Committee, by a vote of 21 to 3, recognized only 70 Hearst-Harrison delegates from Cook county, to 334 in opposition to the Hearst-Harrison faction, and this action was affirmed by the convention. Thereupon the Hearst-Harrison faction, with delegates from other parts of the State who co-operated with them, met in separate convention, electing Congressman Henry T. Rainey as temporary chairman. They were visited by a conciliation committee from the regular convention, which proposed a joint committee with a view to submitting the Cook County con-

tests to the delegates from outside districts. These overtures were rejected, but a peace committee was appointed. No terms could be agreed upon, however, and the Hearst-Harrison convention proceeded to name delegates at large to the national convention, although its attendance could not have exceeded 492 out of a total of 1,150 elected delegates, even if all contests had been decided in its favor. The delegates at large named by the Hearst-Harrison convention were Carter H. Harrison, Henry T. Rainey, John E. Owens, Owen P. Thompson, A. M. Lawrence, J. M. Gray, A. E. Isley and Walter Watson. Judge Owens, who was named without his knowledge, has promptly declined on the ground that he is judicially involved in the controversy. The delegates nominated by the regular convention were Roger C. Sullivan, Elmore W. Hurst, Fred J. Kern, George W. Fithian, Harry M. Pindell, Ira N. Wheeler, Free P. Morris, James R. Williams, John M. McGillen, Robert M. Sweitzer, Robert Hunt, B. F. Weber, William B. Schofield, Samuel Alschuler, B. F. Caldwell and W. B. Brinten, each with half a vote. The regular delegation, at a meeting on the 19th selected Charles Boeschstein to succeed Roger C. Sullivan as Illinois member of the next National Committee.



The split convention at Peoria is an outcome of the controversy at the Cook county convention which we reported last week at page 368, wherein County Judge Owens, disregarding an injunction by Superior Court Judge McKinley, took control of the convention. Judge McKinley has begun proceedings in contempt before himself against Judge Owens and others, the hearing being set for April 29. On the other side, Judge Owens has begun proceedings in contempt before himself against Judge McKinley and others, this hearing being set for April 24.



Direct Legislation in Illinois.

The following plank in the Republican platform was urged by Hugh S. Magill at the Republican convention at Springfield, Ill., on the 19th:

We favor a Constitutional amendment providing for the Initiative and Referendum with a view of making our representatives more responsive to the will of the people.

It was voted down in the resolutions committee, was then pressed on the floor of the convention but ruled out of order by the Chairman (State Fire-Marshal Doyle), and upon an appeal from this ruling was defeated by the convention. The platform, reported to have been drafted by Governor Deneen, makes no demand for the Initiative and Referendum, although the Republican platform of two years ago advocated this reform. [See vol. xii, p. 922.]