

given to one reform as compared with another, the reason is that we desire to have time to carefully consider the best way of giving effect to the principles I have enunciated, and which I think all here hold in common, and in particular to review the subject in relation to all its bearings upon the general question of local taxation and local expenditure. I believe we are more likely to produce a satisfactory and permanently adequate remedy if we allow ourselves a little time for the consideration of the problem than if we at the moment introduce a comparatively small and piece-meal installment of the reform which we all desire. I do not think I need say more to-day on behalf of the Government. I assure you we are in hearty sympathy with the objects of your movement, and as time and opportunity offer, we shall be ready to do everything we can to put these objects into legislative form.

Mr. Bryce, Chief Secretary for Ireland, said—

they were all agreed in the principles laid down by the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but, clear as the principles were, some little care was required in working them out in the most convenient form, and therefore he was sure the deputation would not ask for any hasty disclosure of what the Government might find it necessary ultimately to adopt.

Mr. Burns, President of the Local Government Board, added that—it was neither necessary nor relevant that he should add much to the practical, sympathetic, and direct observations which Mr. Asquith had addressed to the deputation. The Government sympathised with and desired to help the deputation in their objects and do adequate justice.

The new French Ministry.

Immediately following the resignation of the Rouvier ministry of France (p. 821), President Fallieres asked Jean Marie Ferdinand Sarrien to form a new ministry. Mr. Sarrien accepted on the 10th. The Ministry he formed is as follows:

Premier and Minister of Justice, Sarrien; Minister of Interior, Clemenceau; Foreign Affairs, Bourgeois; War, Etienne; Marine, Thomson; Instruction and Worship, Rand; Commerce, Dumergue; Public Works, Barrou; Finance, Poincare; Colonies, Leygues; Agriculture, Ruau.

The new Ministry outlined its policy on the 14th by declaring its intention regarding the separation of church and state, of carrying out the law firmly; and

concerning the Morocco question, of following the policy of the preceding Ministry.

Further fighting in the Philippines.

Another battle with Moros (p. 489) was reported officially from the Philippines on the 9th. The battle occurred at Mount Dajo, a lava cone with a crater at the top, near Jolo; it lasted two days, from March 6 in the afternoon until March 8 in the morning.—and the American loss was 18 killed and about 40 wounded. The Moros left 600 killed; no wounded are reported. Gen. Wood describes these Moros in his report to Washington as "a band of outlaws who, recognizing no chief, had been raiding friendly Moros and, owing to their defiance of the American authorities, had stirred up a dangerous condition of affairs." Owing to the horrible slaughter of the Moros, including their women and children, the Senate of the United States has ordered an investigation.

Progressive Democracy in New Jersey.

Pursuant to a movement for the revival of genuine democracy in New Jersey (p. 695) a conference to meet at Newark on the 20th has been called by representative democratic Democrats from all parts of the State. The call is led by ex-Congressman Allan Benny, and is signed by James F. Minturn, Charles H. Ingersoll, A. C. Pleydell, James E. Martine, Charles O'Connor Hennessy, John Moody, Joseph R. Buchanan, Albert Brandt, George White and other leaders among the progressive Democrats who think "the time has come for the citizens of New Jersey to take charge of their own affairs" and dismiss the public utility corporations which now control both parties in that State. In the call it is declared that—

The machinery of the two old parties has fallen completely under the control of corporate influences and other privileged interests, and the spirit of independence has reached its highest point in the history of American politics. While this statement is true of the country as a whole, it is peculiarly descriptive of the condition of New Jersey. In this State party leadership has been and is completely dominated by corporation influence. Party principles have been trampled under foot, party honor has been bartered for corporation pelf, party banners have

been trailed in the filth of political corruption. . . . It has been said that "when things get thoroughly bad they will right themselves," implying that, in public affairs there is a point in the decline at which the people will revolt, and inspired by the spirit of honor and pride will rally at the call of duty and check the downward course. We believe that New Jersey has reached that point. Dishonored in our party councils, betrayed in our legislative sanctuary, chained to the wheels of unbridled monopoly, a butt for the jokes of one-half the world and commiserated by the other half, the citizens of New Jersey have come to the time when they must assert their manhood and their patriotism.

In further explanation of this call, its sponsors state:

The movement is being started not in the interest of any men or set of men in or out of the State of New Jersey. It is the particular purpose of those who are starting the movement to make distinctively an organization for the promotion and propagation of what they feel to be the principles of fundamental democracy. It cannot, therefore, be said that the movement is in any sense inspired by, or organized in the interest of any particular individual. It is not a Parker movement, nor a Cleveland movement, nor a Black movement, nor a Hearst movement, nor a Bryan movement. It is, however, a distinctively State movement, which is calculated to crystalize and put into definite action the present more or less dormant but vital sentiment of true democracy in the State of New Jersey.

Progressive Democracy in Illinois.

A conference of the Majority Rule League of Illinois (p. 103) was held at Chicago on the 12th, to perfect details for ousting from control in the Democratic party of the State the so-called "Hopkins-Sullivan crowd," who also control the gas monopoly of Chicago. Representatives from every Congressional district but one were in attendance. Millard F. Dunlap, of Jacksonville, presided. Referring to the "Hopkins-Sullivan crowd," now in control of the party machinery, the resolutions adopted declare unalterable opposition to the continued management of the party business by those men or by any men who are directly under their control. A specification of particular acts of perfidy follows, including their gavel rule at the State convention in 1904 (vol. vii, p. 482). The address continues:

Capable, reliable and sincere Demo-

crats must be placed at the head of our party in this State if we would command the respect and confidence of the people. Defeat and disaster were the inevitable result of the outrages perpetrated at the last State convention. By the action of the next State-convention the success of the Democratic principles will be advanced or retarded. Democratic candidates in close counties will gather hope or find discouragement. If by practicing their customary frauds and deceptions these men, who have been characterized as "train robbers," retain their grip on the party organization, Democratic hope and courage will completely vanish. Democrats must not be deceived when these men talk of harmony. They urge harmony in the hope of frightening county candidates and timid Democrats to remain quiet while they are plotting new schemes of diabolism to make certain their power over the new State committee. We therefore invite the co-operation of all true Democrats to aid in placing the party machinery in worthy hands.

To give practical effect to this declaration, the conference adopted the following resolution:

That this League recommends to its members and all Democrats in favor of majority rule that they have presented and adopted at their county conventions a resolution instructing the delegates to the State convention to vote for Congressman Henry T. Rainey for temporary chairman of the next Democratic State convention, at Springfield, May 11, 1906.

Progressive Democracy in Oregon.

At the Democratic mass convention of Oregon, held at Portland on the 7th, a declaration of doctrines was adopted which advocates municipal ownership of public utilities; the abolition of the protective tariff as a special privilege, an unwarranted interference by government in the laws of trade for the benefit of a few and at the expense of the many, one of the causes of those dangerous aggregations of capital called trusts, and a denial of the right of the common man to buy where he can buy cheapest; and the repeal of the ten per cent. tax against private banks as a special privilege and an interference by government with the right to issue notes on good and absolute security and for free banking under proper supervision and direction. Proceeding, the declaration further avows:

We believe the Democratic party exists for the benefit of the masses of

the people, and that one of the monopolies which keep the many poor and make the few rich is the monopoly of valuable lands for speculative purposes by nonusers. It is a monopoly by nature, and any system which results in unborn generations finding themselves barred from the use of lands which lie idle awaiting a speculative profit from the growth of the community must be worthy of examination, and we call the attention of the Democratic party and the whole people to some system of taxation or land title by which the evils of land monopoly may be lessened in the interest of the masses of people, and in this connection we declare in favor of a State law limiting the right to the use of appropriated water to the quantity actually put to a beneficial use.

We declare that the principle which lies at the root of regulation of railroads and municipal ownership of public utilities is that the public corporations are only trustees for the people, and may be regulated or wholly ousted from their management and control on paying them for the values which they themselves have created; which would exclude the value of franchises, they being created by gift of the people themselves. So long as the present system of private management of public corporations exists we are in favor of a tax on gross earnings and franchises.

We believe it false to the very foundations of this Republic and wholly opposed to Democratic principles to govern by military force colonies and inferior races. We believe this opens the door to exploitation of these races by the few. That none of our plain people can ever make their homes in the tropics and that our colonial system is an excuse for military expenditures.

These avowals were put forth not as a binding platform, but as a declaration of Democratic doctrine. In accordance with it Gov. Chamberlain was invited to become the candidate of the party for Governor at the primaries under the direct nomination law. Other persons were invited similarly to become candidates for other offices. C. E. S. Wood was a leading figure in this unique mass meeting of a State party. He was invited to become a candidate for United States Senator, but declined.

The striking printers of Chicago.

A curious outcome of the contempt case of the striking printers of Chicago (p. 804) is reported. On the 9th Judge Walker, before whom the habeas corpus proceed-

ings were pending, decided that Judge Holdom had the jurisdiction to imprison the defendants. But he also held that inasmuch as Judge Holdom had ordered them to be imprisoned "forthwith" for 30 days, that their imprisonment began at once constitutionally, and they had served their full term, notwithstanding that the committing judge had issued no writ and the defendants had not been actually in prison until arrested when the prescribed time of their imprisonment had about expired.

NEWS NOTES

—Eugen Richter, the Freisinnige leader of Germany, died at Berlin on the 10th at the age of 68.

—Dr. Manuel Quintana, President of the Argentine Republic, died at Buenos Ayres on the 11th.

—In a gas explosion in the coal pits of the Courrieres district in Pas-de-Calais, France, on the 10th, over 1,000 miners lost their lives.

—Senator Frederic C. Howe's bill for the establishment of civil service in the State charitable and penal institutions was defeated in the Ohio Senate on the 13th.

—The second annual banquet of the Iowa Democratic Club (H. C. Evans, Des Moines, president, and A. R. McCook, Elma, secretary) is to be given at the Savery Hotel in Des Moines on the 2d of April.

—The New Jersey Single Tax League has called its second annual convention, to be composed of New Jersey single taxers of both sexes, for March 20. It is to meet at Achtestetter's, 844 Broad street, Newark, and is to be opened at eight in the evening.

—In the Senate on the 9th the Statehood bill (p. 803) was cut in two, Oklahoma and Indian Territory being granted Statehood as one State, and Arizona and New Mexico being denied it. In this condition the measure goes back to the House.

—Susan B. Anthony, the celebrated leader in the equal suffrage movement of the United States, died at Rochester at midnight on the 13th. She was 86 years of age and had devoted 60 years of her life to the public service in a private capacity, principally in advocacy of the extension of voting rights to women.

—Among the decisions of the United States Supreme Court on the 12th was one holding that while officers of corporations may have immunity from self-crimination in criminal cases, as individuals, the immunity does not extend to their corporations. They