

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