

of the detective agency in this case is said to be the National Manufacturers' Association.

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In Congress.

Congressman Underwood, chairman of the ways and means committee, began the argument in the lower house of Congress on the 25th on the free list tariff bill. After an hour's speech in favor of the bill he was followed by Congressman Mann, the Republican leader, in opposition. The debate has continued since then, and on the 29th the bill was given right of way daily until voted on, the House to meet an hour earlier than usual each day.

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A keen controversy between progressive and standpat Republicans in the Senate has been going on for several days over their proportionate representation on committees. On the 28th, when the committee on committees, controlled by "standpatters," had reported, Senator La Follette and 12 others filed a statement of protest. [See current volume, p. 394.]

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Progressive Republican Organization.

Since Minnesota began it last January, the organization of progressive Republicans has extended widely. In Illinois the organization recently started in Cook County has been made Statewide by the incorporation on the 28th of the Progressive Republican League of Illinois, with Charles E. Merriam, Charles M. Thompson and Harold Ickes as incorporators. [See current volume, pp. 34, 347.]

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Meanwhile the National Progressive League, with headquarters at Washington, is energetically extending its work. Senator Bourne of Oregon is the president of this League, and Frederic C. Howe is its secretary. The vice presidents are Congressman Norris of Nebraska and Gov. Osborn of Michigan. Charles R. Crane is treasurer, and the executive committee is composed of Senator Clapp of Minnesota, Senator Bristow of Kansas, E. H. Hubbard of Iowa, Irvine L. Lenroot of Wisconsin, Congressman Kent of California, George L. Record of New Jersey, and Gifford Pinchot. In a statement just issued, wherein the League declares its sole purpose to be the promotion of popular government, these explanations are made as to the work of the League:

It is carrying on an active agitation in every State for the direct election of United States Senators, direct primaries, popular selection of nominees for President and Vice-President, a corrupt practices act, and the Initiative, Referendum and Recall. These agencies will establish accountability on the part of the official and a responsive and responsible government by the people. . . . Some of our

States, and many of our cities, have improved their conditions. Oregon has secured the best direct primary law in the United States, the direct election of United States Senators, the Recall, a measure for the popular selection of Presidential candidates, home rule for cities, a corrupt practices act, and home rule in the matter of taxation. In Oregon the people rule, they have the machinery of popular government. Wisconsin has driven out the boss, the party machine, the caucus, corruption, and special privilege in all its forms. In a few years' time Wisconsin has perfected her educational, political, municipal and taxing machinery. Wisconsin, like Oregon, has secured most of the reforms for which other States are still struggling. Wisconsin has achieved these results by popular government. Denver, San Francisco and Los Angeles have broken the power of the boss and the party machine, amended their charters and secured control of the agencies of government. A hundred other cities, scattered over the country, have adopted the commission form of government, with the Initiative, Referendum and Recall. Through these agencies of popular government they have secured honesty, efficiency and real representative government. . . . The National Progressive Republican League is organized to promote— (1) the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people; (2) direct primaries for the nomination of all elective officers; (3) the direct election of delegates to national conventions with opportunity for the voter to express his choice for President and Vice-President; (4) amendments to the State constitutions providing for the Initiative, Referendum and Recall; (5) a thoroughgoing corrupt practices act. The League believes that political conditions are not due to the indifference of the people, but to our complex political machinery. It seeks to correct these agencies of government so that the people can control and hold their officers responsible to the public will. . . . Once Popular Government is achieved, other reforms will be easily possible.

Literature will be freely sent, upon application, by mail or otherwise, to the League at its headquarters in the Union Trust Building, Washington, D. C. [See current volume, p. 155.]

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Furling the Battle Flags.

The Chicago Peace Society gave a dinner at the Congress Hotel on the 29th, with its first president, George E. Roberts presiding, and the Baron d'Estournelles de Constant and William J. Bryan as principal guests and speakers.

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Peace Conference in Mexico.

The armistice between the Government of Mexico and the revolutionists in a limited area in the north of the country for consideration of peace proposals, having been accepted by both parties, El Paso has been agreed upon as the place of conference, and Judge Francisco Carabajal of the Mexican Supreme court has been appointed Federal peace commissioner, while Dr. Francisco Vasquez Gomez, Francisco Madero, Sr., and José