

All of these measures will be published in a pamphlet by the Secretary of State, with such arguments for and against them as may be offered, and a copy of the pamphlet must be mailed to each registered voter. Nothing is left to the chance of newspaper publicity, and wise provision is thus taken against tainted editorial opinions and deliberate misrepresentations by the corporation press.

It is fair to say, then, that the voters have two and a half months to consider the thirty-two measures on the ballot, or a fraction more than two days for each measure.

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Now let us see how much time the legislature has for "careful and intelligent consideration" of measures. In 1909 the legislature was in session exactly 28 of the 40 days allowed by law. The Senate had 626 bills and other measures to consider, which would give a fraction more than 22 measures to be considered each day; the House had 681 measures, or a fraction more than 26 a day for "careful and intelligent consideration." Having reported ten sessions of State legislatures, I have a fairly definite idea of the energy and mental horse-power of legislators. The legislator who actually works for the public four hours a day during a session is as rare as that "day in June," and almost as rare as a Chinaman with whiskers. But, to be generous, let us say the average is five hours a day. That would give 140 hours for a 28-day session. It would be difficult even for a penniless plute to believe that the most intelligent legislator can give "careful and intelligent consideration" to 626 measures in 140 hours, for that is less than 14 minutes to a measure.

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While the corporation newspapers assert that the people don't know what they are voting on, they carefully refrain from giving their readers any information about measures to be voted on. That is, they accept the money paid by the people to give the news, but don't deliver the goods. Which is a sanctum-onlous way of obtaining money under false pretenses.

W. G. EGGLESTON.

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REPUBLICAN INSURGENCY IN THE MIDDLE WEST.

Sioux City, Iowa, July 23.

Insurgent Republicanism has been making its fight in the middle West, and the results are as satisfactory as the more conservative members in the movement could have hoped for. Primaries and conventions have been held in several middle Western States, and in three of them—Indiana, Iowa and South Dakota—the Insurgents have won clean cut victories by capturing control of the party organization.

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Here is a summary of the results:

In Minnesota, the Standpaters controlled the State convention, though the Insurgents were able

to force the adoption of some of their principles in the platform.

In Iowa, the net result was a decided victory for Insurgency, but the regulars renominated their present Governor and held a hotly contested Congressional seat, where a progressive victory would have been of great moral assistance.

In North Dakota, the result was a drawn battle.

In South Dakota, the Cannon Congressmen were renominated, but the Insurgents controlled the State convention and adopted an extremely progressive platform.

In Nebraska, the Insurgents have failed to perfect anything like a good working organization.

In Kansas and Wisconsin, the supreme test is yet to come.

The Insurgents have lost no ground. They have everywhere held what they already had, and have made some gains.

Here in Iowa, one prominent Standpat Congressman was beaten by a pronounced Progressive. In North Dakota, a Democratic Senator, serving by appointment of the Governor, will be superseded by an Insurgent Republican. These two places constitute the tangible gains which the Progressives have made thus far.

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The primary results this year have shown, however, that Insurgency is not yet at the high tide which its advocates hoped. The national Administration has developed great strength in States where it was thought that the feeling against it was overwhelming. The battle is far from won; though, when the situation is squarely faced, the Insurgents have cause to congratulate themselves on the progress they have made.

Two causes have combined to make the work of the Insurgents difficult. One is the hide-bound regularity of the average Republican. His tenacity in clinging to his party organization is amazing. The old appeals still have power to fire his heart in behalf of the "Grand Old Party." He reads and half believes that his party leaders are in league with greedy and predatory interests; but when the time comes to vote he is inclined to submit to party discipline, to acknowledge the supremacy of the regular organization, and to feel a thrill of pride in supporting the program of harmony and solidarity.

The second reason for the difficulty in uprooting Standpatism is the generally prosperous condition of the middle West. It contains few large cities where sharp contrasts are drawn between the very rich and the very poor. The farmer vote dominates in this great region, and farmers are cautious about disturbing the existing status. Even where the motive of caution does not control, the motive of indifference does, and in large numbers the farmers have absented themselves from the primaries.

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Still there has been a tremendous advance in public sentiment—a great quickening of the public conscience. Civic ideals are higher. A better and more honest standard is being exacted in the public

service. The old time outrages committed by the party organization are no longer accepted as a matter of course. Men no longer think in a rut. The platform adopted by the Republicans of South Dakota reads like a Populist output of the early '90's.

The public cannot be educated in a day. The average Republican, however progressive his ideas, is not a fundamental economic thinker. He is still wedded to the Protective heresy, and that heresy muddles up his whole current of political reasoning. Indeed it is greatly to be doubted if any permanent step toward real reform will ever be taken by a party which acknowledges as orthodox this monumental scheme of plunder. The result, in all probability, of the progressive Republican movement, will be to educate its adherents out of the Republican party and into a new party, yet to be formed, which will stand for real progress.

Insurgency, however, has roused the fighting blood of its enemies. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, raging in senile and impotent anger from the stump in Kansas, is merely the expression of how all the mossbacks regard this new movement. Several Democrats are going to ride into Congress this fall with the aid of Standpat votes. The scheme to elect one in place of Judge S. F. Prouty of Des Moines, the militant Insurgent named by the Republicans in the Seventh Iowa district, is already well under way. Standpatism has its back to the wall, and will fight in or out of the party to defeat the men who have raised the standard of revolt against ancient methods and time-honored corruption.

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But the Insurgent movement was not born to die.

If its adherents find that they are to be overwhelmed by the forces of reaction in their own party, they will not permanently remain in the party. Just now they are timid about any suggestion of bolting. It is a point of sensitive pride with them to assert their party regularity. The iron has not yet fully penetrated their inner political consciousness. But they will not submit indefinitely to the control of the old guard of plunder, corruption and spoils. This is particularly true of the younger generation, which has not the pride of party tradition.

Insurgency has been defeated at some points in this year of grace; but these defeats simply show that the war is not to be so easy as some Insurgents hoped. Final victory is not to be achieved in a single campaign; but the Insurgent movement continues to be the most portentous factor for good in American politics.

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D. K. L.

Cannon hurled threats at them,
Cannon shook fists at them,
Cannon in front of them
Volleyed and thundered;
Stormed at them for a spell,
Gave Mr. Bristow—well.
Anyhow, from Cannon's lips
Words that were sizzling fell!
All Kansas wondered.

—Chicago Record-Herald.

A LOCAL GLIMPSE OF CANNON IN KANSAS.

Winfield, Kansas.

When Speaker Cannon stepped from the train at Winfield, dressed in a cool, light gray suit, he looked comfortable and well and happy. He was greeted by Dr. Jarvis, Superintendent of the Chautauqua Assembly here, and by Representative P. P. Campbell, Joseph Laffrey his host, a group of reporters and several others. His voice rang out cheery and clear. The careful habits and genial personality of the man were shown in his gracious manner of meeting strangers. If he failed to catch a name in introductions, he asked it over and gave attention until he got it.

A full hour before the time for his speech, the large tabernacle was almost filled. By 2 o'clock it was packed, and many were standing on the outskirts. Illinois people were invited to the platform and came several hundred strong. Mr. Cannon was introduced to the audience by P. P. Campbell in a short speech praising the Speaker for a tremendous amount of legislative business transacted under his Speakership as compared with other Speakers.

When Speaker Cannon rose he was given a round of rousing applause, but there was no wild demonstration. The Chautauqua audience received him cordially, and respectfully, not to say tolerantly, as their distinguished guest, but their Insurgent temper was plainly expressed. At one time, when Mr. Cannon began a sentence thus: "In the words of William Allen White"—and paused, the crowd broke into cheers. It was at the mention of Mr. White's name. At another time when he asked if there were any admirers of Bryan present, there was a hearty response of affirmative applause.

The Speaker deviated from the speech given out in advance by the Associated Press, and it has been remarked by many here that the written speech was much the stronger and more logical. While speaking he often turned and addressed "Phil Campbell" by name.

The day was intensely hot, and he was evidently suffering. When near the close of his address he collapsed and was unable to finish. The crowd remained quietly in their seats while a few friends came near and offered assistance. The Speaker soon recovered, and coming forward, thanked the audience. He was then driven in an auto to the home of Mr. Laffrey, and later in the day it was announced that he was himself again.

Taken all in all the meeting undoubtedly disappointed the Standpatters and gratified the Insurgents. It was an idly curious crowd, serene in the strength of its own Insurgent position and kindly tolerant of the long-enthroned and mighty enemy whom it evidently felt is soon to be deposed.

DORA KERSHNER.

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JERRY SIMPSON'S SPIRIT IN KANSAS.

On the Road, July 22.

I met at Emporia, Kansas, that great man—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Allen White. Walt Whitman used to wish he were a cow that he might stand in the