

John B. Moran, district attorney of Boston (vol. viii, p. 519), candidate of the Independence League, who is regarded as Mr. Hearst's political representative in Massachusetts. George Fred Williams led the Moran forces, and upon his motion a resolution endorsing William J. Bryan for the Presidential nomination was adopted. Another resolution congratulated the Democracy of New York upon the nomination of William R. Hearst.

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The Independence League in Chicago.

Petitions for candidates of the Independence League in Chicago (pp. 580, 586) were filed on the 6th. Among the candidates for Congress are Dr. Willis C. Stone, James T. McDermott and Frank Buchanan. H. H. Hardinge is a senatorial candidate. All the Congressional and legislative candidates are pledged as follows:

Public ownership of those utilities which in their nature are monopolies; ballot reform, which will prevent corruption, insure a fair count and punish bribe-givers and bribe-takers; the enactment of laws which will give the people absolute control of the public servants in office; direct nominations by the people in place of nominations by cliques and party bosses; the abolition of discrimination in railroad rates; good roads to facilitate the transportation of farm products; profitable markets and pure food laws; the recognition of labor unions in all legitimate efforts to properly regulate the pay and working hours of working people; the production of legitimate capital and denying the right of existence for criminal and oppressive trusts; the election of United States Senators by the people; the exposure and prosecution of fraud against the people on the part of insurance companies and other financial organizations and their proper regulation by law; the initiative and referendum that the people may control the making of their laws; the establishment of postal savings banks.

Relative to a rumor that the Hearst papers would abandon the ticket in consequence of a bargain with Roger C. Sullivan at Buffalo, the Chicago Examiner said editorially on the 3d:

A few of the more petty politicians around the Democratic headquarters are industriously circulating the story that the Independence League ticket and the independent judiciary ticket are to be abandoned, or at least left to languish. They attempt to support this yarn by reference to the fact that Mr. Hearst, whose newspapers in this city have been most active in urging the independent movement, has accepted a regular Democratic nomination for governor of New York. The story is unqualifiedly false. The relations borne by the Examiner to Mr. William Randolph Hearst justify an explicit denial of it in this newspaper. Mr. Hearst is first of all the candidate of the Independence League of New York for governor. . . . The Democratic party of New York repudiated its corporation-made bosses and thereby made it possible for independents to co-operate with them. The Democratic party and the Republican party of Cook county are equally dominated by corrupt and criminal bosses, and it is impossible for any honest independent or conscientious voter to co-operate with either

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The Traction Fight in Cleveland.

The struggle between Mayor Johnson and the Cleveland Electric street car system (p. 632), which is locally called the "Concon," is reported to be growing warmer every day. The details are difficult to follow, but the general comment in Cleveland as-

sumes that the "Concon" is steadily losing ground in the Council and before the people and also in the stock market. Owing to the decline in its stock values, now considerably below the price offered by Mayor Johnson last winter, great dissension seems to have arisen among the stockholders and directors. Meanwhile the tracks of the Forest City Railway Company, locally called the "Threefer" because it is the 3-cent fare company, which is under lease to the "holding" company for the city, is placing its tracks and preparing for early operation.

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Considerable interest has been manifested in the question of a referendum. The "Concon" proposed a referendum several weeks ago, but Mayor Johnson opposed it. This opposition was used by the friends of the "Concon" as a basis for charging Mayor Johnson with hostility to the principle of the referendum; but he explained that he was opposed to this particular referendum because an affirmative vote would give the "Concon" a franchise and a negative vote would leave the whole question where it is now. He said he did not intend to favor a "fake" referendum under which the "Concon" would "win if it won and not lose if it lost." But he proposed instead a referendum that would finally decide in favor of one policy or the other—one which would result either in continuing the monopoly of the "Concon" or in ending it. Accordingly on the 3d the City Council voted to refer to popular vote two questions. One proposes a renewal of the "Concon" franchises; the other proposes franchises for the "Threefer." This referendum raises both sides of the traction issue, and its decision will either establish the "Concon" for 25 years longer, or displace it with Mayor Johnson's plan for municipalizing the system by means of the "holding" company which is to operate in the interests of the city.

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The Cuban Insurrection Ended.

The Cuban insurgents have laid down their arms with unexpected alacrity (p. 633). At but few points has there been any serious objection or delay; and before the arrival of the first American soldiers on the 7th, pacification seemed practically accomplished, except in a few towns in Santa Clara province, and in Cienfuegos. Advices from Havana province show, say the dispatches, that amazingly little damage was done as a result of the insurrection. There are no burned houses or barns, no ruined crops, or devastated fields to mark the track of rebels or government troops. In this respect, it is stated, it was the cheapest revolution in West Indian history.

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The new Provisional Governor, Charles E. Magoon, appointed by the President of the United States (p. 633), arrived at Havana on the 9th. Coincident with his coming Governor Taft gave out a general decree proclaiming amnesty not only to the insurgents, but to all persons charged with political offenses or crimes in any way connected with the insurrection. He also issued orders imposing an attitude of neutrality on the American marines and soldiers toward the people of Cuba, except in cases of great emergency.

A painful impression has been created in Cuba by the publication on the 4th, by the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Root, of a cable correspondence which was carried on from September 10 to September 14, between the United States Consul General at Havana, Mr. Steinhart, sending messages from President Palma, and the Acting Secretary of State, Mr. Bacon. We give the first letters of this correspondence only, the later ones being similar in character:

Havana, Sept. 8, 1906.—Secretary of State (absolutely confidential): Secretary of state of Cuba has requested me, in the name of President Palma, to ask President Roosevelt to send immediately two vessels, one to Havana, other to Cienfuegos. They must come at once. Government forces are unable to quell rebellion. The government is unable to protect life and property. President Palma will convene congress next Friday, and congress will ask for our forcible intervention. It must be kept secret and confidential that Palma asked for vessels. No one here except President, Secretary of State and myself know about it. Very anxiously awaiting reply. Send answer to

STEINHART, Consul General.

Havana, Sept. 10, 1906.—Secretary of State, Washington: President here worried because no reply received to my message and asks war vessels be sent immediately.

STEINHART, Consul General.

Department of State, Washington, D. C., Sept. 10.—Steinhart, Havana: Your cable received. Two ships have been sent, due to arrive on Wednesday. The president directs me to state that perhaps you do not yourself appreciate the reluctance with which this country would intervene. President Palma should be informed that in the public opinion here it would have a most damaging effect for intervention to be undertaken until the Cuban government has exhausted every effort in a serious attempt to put down the insurrection, and has made this fact evident to the world. At present the impression certainly would be that there was no real popular support of the Cuban government or else that the government was hopelessly weak. As conditions are at this moment, we are not prepared to say what shape the intervention should take. It is, of course, a serious thing to undertake forcible intervention and before going into it we should have to be absolutely certain of the equities of the case and of the moods of the situation. Meanwhile we assume that every effort is being made by the government to come to a working agreement, which will secure peace with the insurgents, provided they are unable to hold their own with them in the field. Until such efforts have been made we are not prepared to consider the question of intervention at all.

BACON, Acting Secretary.

It will be remembered that although United States warships were hovering in the vicinity of Cuba at the time of the foregoing correspondence, President Roosevelt's letter to the Cuban minister, announcing intervention, was not written until Sept. 14th. Dispatches from Havana state that had this correspondence not been published the impression would have continued there that President Palma yielded to intervention only after Mr. Taft had found it impossible to reconcile the Cuban differences.

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The Russian Constitutional Democrats Meet.

The Congress of the Constitutional Democrats (p. 634) met at Helsingfors, the capital of Finland, on the 7th. There were present 171 delegates, representing forty-three provinces and four territories. Prince Paul Dolgoroukoff was elected president, while M.

Chisniakof and Prince Shakhovski were made vice-presidents. The President stated that the government officially regards the Viborg manifesto which was issued by the outlawed Douma at its dissolution (p. 393), and which called upon the people for universal passive resistance to the Emperor by refusal to pay taxes or serve in the army, as an act of "temporary mental aberration." He regarded the present congress as a great historical and constitutional act which would vastly strengthen the party in the coming electoral campaign. The committee on the attitude the congress should take upon the Viborg manifesto promptly brought in a report formally approving the manifesto, but recognizing the inexpediency of applying the doctrine of passive resistance at the present time. On the 8th the conservative leaders were reported as giving way before the storm of radicalism manifested in the day's debate. A meeting of the central committee was held in the evening of the 8th, at which a strong disposition to accept the radical proposals regarding endorsement of the Viborg manifesto was shown. It is realized that this action will drive many conservatives out of the party into the arms of the "regenerationists." A determining factor in the day's debate was a speech by a peasant from Kursk, who declared that the peasantry was fully in accord with the doctrines of the Viborg manifesto, and would regard its abandonment as a sign of cowardice. The extreme radicals are advocating a bold appeal to the peasantry to refuse to enter the army during the recruiting season, which opens this month.

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According to the dispatches the government is determined to control the next Douma. In order to be sure of this all of the government employes in every grade have been ordered to abstain from aiding the liberals. An elaborate spy system has been developed to watch the state employes and see that they vote for government candidates for the Douma. Every civil service employe will be under espionage, his letters opened, his movements watched, his friends noted. If any employe is found to have disobeyed orders he will instantly be dismissed and his right to a pension forfeited. More than that, the government announces that if the electoral returns show anything like the success of the radical elements contained in the last Douma the evidence will be taken as proof that the junior ranks of the civil service have disobeyed the government's order, the elections will be canceled, and the convocation of the Douma be postponed for another six months. The government's order to its employes is recognized as the opening of an aggressive campaign against its natural enemy, the so-called "intelligentsia," or people who possess higher education, but who are without capital. These include a large majority of the government's enormous army of civil employes.

NEWS NOTES

—The International Wireless Telegraph Conference assembled in Berlin on the 3d.

—The Woman's Catholic Order of Foresters in ses-