

ment of Republican State Senators of Illinois published on the 11th. This pronouncement declares that—

the undersigned, Republican members of the Illinois State Senate, agree to associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming an organization to further such progressive Republican principles as we have endeavored to promote throughout the present session, and we invite all who indorse these principles to unite with us, in behalf of the Republican party, and the welfare of the State.

Then there follows a recital of progressive measures supported, including direct primaries, commission government, the corrupt practices act and the Initiative and Referendum. Referring to the pronouncement, and its signers, the Springfield representative of the Inter Ocean, Charles N. Wheeler, said that that this movement is designed to put the—

La Follette-Merriam-Jones insurgent crusade out of business. Governor Charles S. Deneen is understood to be in sympathy with the latest sensational attempt to control the political situation in Illinois next year. Supporters of Senator Lorimer, Senator Cullom and "Uncle Joe" Cannon have joined with the Deneen "holy alliance" leaders in the new movement, which has for its ostensible purpose the reorganizing of the Republican party in Illinois.

Senator Jones himself signed this pronouncement, but it was explained that he had been tricked into it. Another explanation is Mr. Wheeler's in the Inter Ocean.

The wording of the pledge is such that Senator Jones could not consistently refuse to affix his signature, but he did it with the expressed understanding that it was not in any way to bind him or his actions with reference to candidates that will be in the field in Illinois next spring.

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What is regarded as a political play toward the same king row on the larger national checker board, is the retirement on the 12th of Jacob M. Dickinson as Secretary of War from President Taft's cabinet, and the appointment in his place of Henry D. Stimson, Mr. Roosevelt's defeated candidate for Governor of New York. This change recalls the recent appointment of Walter L. Fisher as Secretary of the Interior, which aroused much political curiosity at the time; and on the 14th Washington gossip was running high on the probability that Mr. Taft is in this manner adjusting his political "fences" for 1912. John Callan O'Laughlin, the Chicago Tribune's Washington correspondent, reported on the 14th another move to get Progressives into the Stand-pat camp:

The man most favored for second place on the ticket by those who have Mr. Taft's interests really at heart is either Senator Cummins of Iowa, Gov. Deneen of Illinois, or Gov. Hadley of Missouri.

The British Parliament.

On the 15th the Lords' veto bill passed the House of Commons on third reading. An amendment rejecting the bill was defeated by 363 to 243, and the bill was carried by 362 to 241. [See current volume, p. 440.]

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The Mexican Revolution.

Juarez on the Rio Grande opposite El Paso, regarded as one of the best fortified cities in Mexico, was taken by the revolutionists on the 10th after the bloodiest fighting of the war. General Juan J. Navarro, commander of the Federal troops, surrendered unconditionally. The revolutionists treated their prisoners with consideration. General Madero himself went to the corral where the prisoners were quartered and made an address full of sympathy and encouragement, lauding them for their bravery and assuring them that in his heart as well as in those of his men there was no feeling of enmity, but of uniform friendliness. "You fought for General Diaz," he declared at the conclusion of his speech, according to the dispatches, "because you had to, because you were a part of that system which we are trying to dissolve. In a few days perhaps peace will be restored. You soon will be free. If the war is to be continued you can have your choice of being paroled or joining the army of liberation. In the meantime we shall treat you as brothers, not as foes." According to dispatches of the 11th, the revolutionary army has proved its character and discipline by the absence of looting and intoxication after the fall of Juarez, and by the quickness with which the shattered city was cleared of its dead and wounded. Immediately upon its capture Juarez was made the provisional capital of the revolutionary government. Provisional President Madero named a cabinet for the new government on the 11th, in which Dr. Vasquez Gomez was made minister of foreign relations and Venustiano Carranza minister of war. The provisional government has proceeded rapidly with its work of organization, extending it well into the States of Chihuahua and Sonora, establishing garrisons, installing local officials and opening railroads and telegraph lines. By obtaining possession of the custom house at Juarez the provisional government began to receive on the 12th its first regular income, the United States custom house officials at El Paso having received word from Washington to pass all arms and all classes of articles through to Juarez. The custom house at Agua Prieta was opened by the provisional government on the 14th. The provisional government has also begun to levy taxes. [See current volume, page 442.]

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A clash between the civil and the military leadership of the revolutionary party came on the 13th,

between the Provisional President and General Orozco, in command of the troops at Juarez. Reports have it that Orozco ordered the arrest of Madero and the resignation of his cabinet, but that Madero appealed to the soldiery and received their support, whereupon harmony followed. Among the demands of the military had been the life of their prisoner of war, General Navarro, and after the clash was over, President Madero, fearing for the continued safety of Navarro, himself whisked him away in his motor car to a point on the river bank where the prisoner forded the Rio Grande and took refuge with the American troops on the other side. Navarro is reported to have given his word of honor that he will return to Mexican soil when required to do so by Madero. If the feeling against Navarro among the insurgents because of alleged acts of cruelty in previous battles becomes stronger it may be that a court-martial will be ordered, say the dispatches.

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A new peace conference between Francisco I. Madero and Judge Francisco Carbajal, who brought new propositions, was opened on the 15th. [See current volume, page 442.]

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One of the reforms promised by President Diaz in his message at the opening of the Mexican Congress on April 1, has been given form by the introduction on the 13th in the Chamber of Deputies of a bill providing for a division of the public domain and of private estates, and the distribution of the land in small tracts among the people. The bill was referred to a committee. According to the Chicago Tribune's dispatch, in general terms— it authorizes the division and sale of such national lands as possess the requisite conditions for distribution in small parcels, being either "arable, pastoral, or capable of being brought under irrigation, and situated near some route of communication." It is provided also that "if in places where it is desirable to divide up lands there are no national lands suitable for the purpose, the executive may acquire lands belonging to private individuals, provided there are facilities for irrigation and the owners do not care to subdivide such estates themselves." To assure the productiveness of the tracts so acquired suitable measures will be taken in the way of constructing irrigation, sanitation, and drainage works, and transportation lines conducive to successful cultivation, and agencies and offices for the sale of the tracts will be established.

[See current volume, page 322.]

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Butitaint.

**Sincetheyleadedoutthiscolyum
We'venotnearlyroomenough.
Ifthethingwasprintedsideways
Wecouldcrowdinlotsmorestuff.**

—Independent.

NEWS NOTES

—Sunday afternoon single tax meetings have begun on Boston Common for the summer. They are held from 2 to 4 o'clock.

—Chas. Frederick Adams will lecture at Seattle, Wash, June 4; at Bellingham, Wash., June 8; at Everett, Wash., June 9; again at Seattle, June 10, and at Tacoma, Wash, June 11 and 12.

—The Western Federation of Miners has been granted full affiliation with the American Federation of Labor. News of the issuance of a charter was made public on the 12th. [See current volume, p. 86.]

—The Senate joint resolution providing for a Constitutional convention for Illinois was defeated in the lower house of the Illinois legislature on the 16th by 74 yeas to 69 nays, a majority falling far short of the necessary two-thirds vote.

—In a decision by the Supreme Court of Tennessee on the 13th an amendment to the State child labor law, making it unlawful to employ children under 14 years of age in factories, mines or workshops, is held to be unconstitutional.

—The American Federation of Labor has issued an appeal to organized labor and all its friends to contribute promptly and generously toward a defense fund for the McNamara trial in Los Angeles, asking that contributions be sent to Frank Morrison, Secretary, 801-809 G Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. [See current volume, pp. 416, 435.]

—Prince Lidj Beassu, grandson of Menelik, the old Negus of Abyssinia, was proclaimed Negus, or King, on the 15th. Prince Lidj had been proclaimed Menelik's heir two years ago, at the age of 13. Although his death has been reported many times, Menelik appears to be still living, but to have become wholly incapacitated for ruling. [See vol. xiii, p. 298.]

—President Juan J. Estrada of Nicaragua, elected on December 31st last, after forcing Dr. José Madriz out of the Presidential chair, himself resigned the Presidency to the Vice-President, Adolfo Diaz, on the 9th, and has tried to leave the country. Dr. José Madriz, who had fled to the City of Mexico when driven from Nicaragua by the Estradas last August, died there on the 14th. [See current volume, page 12.]

—A "Festival of Empire," the first of the many ceremonies planned in connection with the approaching coronation of King George and Queen Mary, was opened at the Crystal Palace, London, on the 12th, by the King and Queen in person. The festival is a combination of an industrial exhibition with pageantry illustrative of the striking periods and episodes in the history of the different parts of the British Empire. [See vol. xiii, pp. 684, 758.]

—Mrs. James Lynch, who died at San Francisco on the 10th of March, was a sister of the late Kate Kennedy who left a trust fund several years ago with James G. Maguire for the promotion of social justice, a subject in which Mrs. Lynch also was profoundly interested. Her body was buried May 2, at Tierra