

had been great expectations of serious controversy, but none appeared upon the surface. Bryan, Wilson, Folk and Clark were among the principal speakers. Hearst also spoke and Underwood staid away. Bryan's reception of Governor Wilson's speech is thus described by Sumner Curtis, Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald: "Evidence of Mr. Bryan's leaning toward Wilson was given at the Jackson day dinner to-night, when the Nebraskan applauded with vigor that attracted attention almost every utterance of the New Jerseyite."



#### Progressive Democracy in Ohio.

The Progressive Democratic League of Ohio was organized at Columbus on the 2d, with ex-Congressman John J. Lentz as president. Newspaper dispatches make a point of their statement, that Mr. Lentz, when elected temporary chairman of the conference, preliminary to organization of the League, named William J. Bryan as candidate for the Democratic nomination for President, and that this was received with great applause. The resolutions of the League declare for the Democracy of Ohio—

That to protect the Progressive Democrats of Ohio against the possibility of any traitor among their 48 delegates to the national convention, it is imperative that no advocate, associate, protector, ally, agent, counsel, attorney, receiver, champion, or hireling of Wall street or other predatory interest be chosen as a delegate.



#### Governor Foss to the Massachusetts Legislature.

In his official message of the 4th, Governor Eugene N. Foss of Massachusetts made the following Progressive recommendations:

To strengthen the direct primary law enacted last year the fixed party enrollment should be done away with, as the voter is entitled to the same secrecy at the primaries which is now accorded him at the polls.

The Initiative and the Referendum and the Recall, advocated in inaugural address last year and reaffirmed at the recent election, where the popular verdict was an approval of this position.

Direct election of United States Senators, and a law enabling the voters to express their choice of candidates for nomination for President and Vice-President.

Distribution by the State, at the expense of the State, of an election pamphlet in which each candidate shall be allowed space to state his claims, to the end that opportunity to attain public office may be equalized.

Submission to popular vote of the question of extending the franchise to women.

Submission to popular vote of a provision to prohibit by Constitutional amendment all special and local legislation, in order that the principle of mu-

nicipal self-government may be given full operation.

Public ownership of docks and water terminals; also public ownership of railroad terminals if necessary for securing the entrance of the great trunk lines of Canada into Boston.

Reciprocity with Canada and reciprocal trade relations with other countries, not only on the North and South American continents, but also throughout the rest of the world.

On the subject of taxation Governor Foss says:

The tax laws of the Commonwealth ought to be thoroughly revised. The Tax Commissioner says that our present system has broken down, and that "we are now imposing the heaviest burdens upon the poor, the helpless and the ignorant." The immediate reform of the tax system is, therefore, the most urgent need of the Commonwealth. I shall later communicate to you a tentative plan to which I shall ask your consideration.



#### The Arbitration Treaties.

A new line of attack upon the Taft arbitration treaties with France and Great Britain was made in the United States Senate on the 3rd by Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska. It was, in effect, that the treaties would operate to check the treaty-making power of the Senate and leave this power where it rests in monarchical countries—wholly with the Executive. [See current volume, page 12.]



On the following day, the 4th, the majority report of the Senate committee on foreign relations was filed, through Senator Raymer (Democrat). It favors ratification of the arbitration treaties, unamended. The Root amendment, favored by ex-President Roosevelt, specifies the Monroe doctrine, control of immigration and indebtedness of States as not arbitrable.



#### Report of the Monetary Commission.

The report of the National Monetary Commission, of which ex-Senator Nelson W. Aldrich is chairman, was made to Congress on the 8th. This Commission was created by an act of Congress of May 30, 1908, for amending the national banking laws; and its report is made pursuant to section 18 of that Act, which requires the Commission to report "what changes are necessary or desirable in the monetary system of the United States or in the laws relating to banking and currency." The members of the Commission, besides Chairman Aldrich, are Edward B. Vreeland, Julius C. Burrows, Eugene Hale, Henry M. Teller, Hernando D. Money, Theodore E. Burton, James P. Taliaferro, Boies Penrose, John W. Weeks, Robert W. Bonynge, Lemuel P. Padgett, George F. Burgess, Arsene P. Pujo, George W. Prince, and James McLachlan. Their report sub-