

izations, including a committee of the striking freight handlers and headed by James H. Bowman, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, called upon the general managers of all the roads, at their joint meeting, but were refused an audience. They then delivered a communication to the board of managers, asking: "Will the general managers agree to meet a committee of their own employees and talk over plans of a settlement?" The board returned an answer that the proposition could not be considered. Subsequently, however, it was agreed that a committee of five employees of each road should meet the general managers individually in their separate offices on the 9th. This was done, and the managers offered an ultimatum confirming the raise in wages as per the scale announced by them on July 1; declining to pay extra rates for extra work; insisting upon a 10-hour day; promising that no work shall be done on holidays or Sundays; offering to take back all strikers who apply by noon on the 10th; and agreeing to make no discriminations against union men.

The western railroads are also involved in strikes by their mechanical employees. Eight of the leading roads have been notified by the International Association of Machinists that they must adopt the union scale of wages and establish a 9-hour working day. Meanwhile the boiler makers' union has demanded of the Chicago and Northwestern railroad and the Great Northern railroad an increase of pay and has met a refusal with a strike which was called on the 1st. A local strike of machinists threatening to become general, is in progress on the Baltimore and Ohio road. And on the Union Pacific a strike of all the machinists and their helpers on the line has been in progress since the 28th. The latter strike is for a 10 per cent increase of pay, no piece work, discharge of nonunion men, and reinstatement of machinists "locked out" by the company on the 21st.

Although the Democrats of Ohio have not yet made their nominations, the Democratic campaign opened on the 1st at a clambake in Beulah park, Columbus. John R. McLean of Cincinnati was among the guests

invited, and so was Mayor Johnson of Cleveland.

Mayor Johnson had recently referred in a newspaper interview to Mr. McLean in these terms:

My interest in politics is to further certain principles which have been put forward in this state during the past year, and which were incorporated in the platform of the last Democratic state convention. We are desirous of securing the reaffirmation of these principles by the Democratic convention in September. All the opposition which we encounter to the Democratic party standing for these real Democratic principles comes from the friends and followers of John R. McLean. McLean stands for nothing in Ohio politics. His opposition would be of more benefit to the party than his support. Great numbers of independent voters will be attracted to the Democratic party if it is known that the party is not supported by McLean, men who would never vote with a party which was known to be controlled by such a man. We expect no help from McLean and his newspaper; in fact, most of our friends welcome his opposition.

Alluding to this characterization, Mr. McLean, in writing his letter of regret to the managers of the Columbus clambake said:

I am unable to cancel or postpone engagements made prior to receiving an invitation to the Democratic clambake at Columbus on the 1st of July. This, though, does not keep me from taking pride in the success of your celebration. With the excellent management it has, with the well-founded hope of victory that now inspires the Democracy and with the spirit of unification now pervading, it cannot be a failure. I trust the proceedings will be of a character to stimulate the party to unite on sound doctrines, to employ all legitimate forces and to work earnestly and intelligently for a triumph which may glorify every true Democrat in the land. The enduring principles of Democracy are those upon which we must rely. No expedients or irregular innovations are required. If there ever is a time for apologies for Democratic existence, or for trifling with the cardinal faith, or for doubtful alliances, the present is certainly not that time.

Mayor Johnson attended the clambake and was the principal speaker, his subject being "The Mission of Democracy." In the course of his speech he commended the supreme court of the state, saying:

I have known supreme courts about which I had doubts, and have had very

little knowledge of our own except that the judges were all of the other political faith from myself. But I have come to love this supreme court, that had the courage to say: "No; we will not pull down the government of Cleveland, but we will pull down the whole fabric of fraud in municipal government," I say "Amen" to that decision. Though the federal plan of Cleveland is the best plan of government yet got up for cities, still I say, pull it down because of the fraud in its inception. Let the legislature in a plain constitutional way provide a general outline of city government, uniform for all cities, and let each city under its own home rule, by its own people, determine the matters of detail.

On the subject of the general political situation, both within and without the party, Mayor Johnson said:

We have the taxation question and we have this question of home rule in our cities. Can you imagine a better issue for the Democratic party? I cannot. And to those who call these questions fads, I say they do not know the temper of the people. To those people who say they are new-fangled notions, I say they are as old as the hills. Home rule is a principle of the Democratic party, and equal taxation is one that everybody of every political faith can stand for and fight for. Those are the questions before the people of Ohio. Harmony! I hear the cry of harmony. It is all right. I say harmonize when you can, but don't harmonize by taking men among you that may disturb you. Don't try to harmonize the free traders of Ohio with the protectionists of Louisiana, and expect they will accomplish anything. Let the free traders, or the protectionists, win out. The best way to have harmony is to drive out hostile people who only want to harmonize you with themselves, and make room for those that will help you. I believe in the old Irish proposition: "We will have peace if we have to fight for it."

#### NEWS NOTES.

—The National Educational association met on the 8th at Minneapolis.

—The Socialist Labor party of Colorado met in state convention at Denver on the 4th.

—The Rhode Island street car strike (p. 171) was declared off on the 5th. The strikers were beaten.

—The Socialist party of Illinois held its convention at Peoria on the 4th, and nominated A. W. Nelson, of Streator, for governor.

—A petition from Cape Colony asking for a suspension of the constitution establishing representative co-