

# WORK OF ORGANIZATION BEGINS

The democrats of Kansas, on February 22, organized what is to be known as "The Kansas Democratic Club." A constitution and laws were adopted as follows:

The name of this organization shall be the Kansas Democratic Club, and its object is to promote the principles of the democratic party and to give a banquet in the city of Topeka on the 22d day of February in each year or on the following day when that day falls on Sunday.

The officers shall consist of a president, eight vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and an executive committee of seven. The secretary, treasurer and executive committee shall be residents of the city of Topeka.

A vice president shall be elected from each congressional district.

Following are the officers for the first year:

W. P. Dillard—President.

W. W. Hooper—Vice President First Congressional District.

Thomas W. Morgan—Vice President Second Congressional District.

J. R. Charlton, Caney, Kan.—Vice President Third Congressional District.

W. H. Carpenter—Vice President Fourth Congressional District.

Thomas L. Bond—Vice President Fifth Congressional District.

Charles M. Sawyer—Vice President Sixth Congressional District.

Riley Lake—Vice President Seventh Congressional District.

F. P. Hettinger—Vice President Eighth Congressional District.

A. M. Harvey—Secretary.

A. F. Horner—Treasurer.

George P. Ashton, A. L. Green, W. H. Kemper, W. J. Black, L. M. Penwell, R. W. Blair, W. T. Taylor—Executive Committee.

The president, and in his absence the vice president from the district in which Topeka is located, shall preside at the banquets.

Each vice president shall suggest to the president suitable men in his district to serve as speakers and shall also furnish the secretary with the names of democrats in each county in his district to whom invitations may be sent.

The executive committee shall elect one of

their members chairman and shall meet at his call. The committee shall select a place to hold the banquets, make all arrangements therefor, appoint necessary committees and have charge of all the affairs of the organization except as otherwise provided herein.

One speaker of renown shall be selected from abroad and the others from the different parts of the state.

No resident of the state shall be twice selected as a speaker.

The president shall select the speakers and shall furnish the secretary with their names at least thirty days before the banquet.

At least thirty days before the banquet the secretary shall send invitations to at least ten resident democrats in each county of the state, and persons desiring tickets shall notify the secretary and remit the price fixed, at least seven days before the banquet. The treasurer shall have custody of all the funds and shall pay all bills on the order of the secretary, approved by the chairman of the executive committee.

The secretary shall provide a book in which each person attending the banquet shall register and they shall then have a vote for officers, except members of the executive committee, for the following year.

The election of officers shall be held on the day of the banquet at such place and in such manner as shall be determined by the executive committee.

The executive committee shall on the day of the banquet elect a new committee to serve for the following year.

No officer except the secretary and the members of the executive committee shall be eligible for re-election for the following year.

Any of the foregoing provisions may be changed by a majority vote at any annual meeting of the club.

## In Maine

The democratic club of Auburn, Me., adopted the following resolutions:

"We, the Auburn Democratic club, do hereby affirm our belief in the following creed:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created with equal and inalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that all men may be secured in these rights,

we declare ourselves opposed to anything that tends toward class legislation, imperialism, special privilege, private monopoly, protective tariffs, government partnership with national banks and railroad corporations, and a large standing army and navy in time of peace.

"We declare for municipal ownership of municipal franchises, for government ownership and control of all natural monopolies, for local option in taxation, for local option in the prohibition of the liquor traffic, for the initiative and referendum, and for the election of United States senators, postmasters, United States judges and the president by direct vote of the people.

"W. K. DRAKE, Secretary."

## In Kentucky

The people of Crittenden, Ky., met recently in a town meeting and adopted resolutions as follows:

"At a called meeting of the citizens of the town of Crittenden and vicinity, there being quite a number in attendance, the following officers were duly elected: Chairman, G. F. Byland; secretary, O. Vallandigham. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, It is the sense of this meeting that the written exposure of the iniquities of the 'system' of the Standard Oil company, contributed to the public press of this nation by Mr. Thomas W. Lawson of Boston, is a public service of unparalleled value to our people. Therefore, be it

"Resolved, That we tender our grateful thanks to Mr. Lawson for his timely and matchless service to the people of these United States.

"Resolved, That we hereby urge all good citizens, everywhere, to follow our example to be up and doing to the end that oppression may be annihilated, and that truth, equity and justice may prevail in our great republic. And be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Mr. Lawson; and other copies furnished the press, hoping in this way to show Mr. Lawson that our sentiments are in accord with his; and that our sympathies are with him in this great fight against the so-called 'system.'

"Done at Crittenden, Ky., February 28, 1905.

"GEO. T. BYLAND, Chairman.

"O. VALLANDIGHAM, Secretary."

## JUST LIKE THE LITTLEFIELD BILL

A Montgomery, Ala., reader writes: "Do you consider the Esch-Townsend bill as a 'record-maker' for those who voted for the measure? If the vote in the lower house was sincere, then we may reasonably expect Mr. Depew to support it in the senate. I would be glad if you would expose some of the inconsistency of the vote in the lower house."

While the Esch-Townsend bill was not exactly what the friends of reform preferred, it was a move in the right direction and so far as individual members were concerned, it was a "record-maker." But the failure of the republican senate to pass the measure places responsibility upon the republican party. It has been claimed by many Washington correspondents and by many men in public life that had there been any probability that the senate would pass the Esch-Townsend bill, many of the republican members of the lower house, whose votes were recorded in favor of that measure, would have found some excuse for defeating it.

President Roosevelt may recommend measures designed for the public interests and one branch of congress may adopt those recommendations. But the people, being interested in results, will judge the party by the legislation actually accomplished and the reforms actually established. The failure of the senate to give the people relief from railroad imposition places the responsibility upon the republican party and that party will not be relieved of accountability before the people on the plea that some of the reforms desired by the people were recommended by the president and concurred in by one branch of the congress.

This is not the first time the republican party has sought to make a record through the action of one branch of congress under the pretense of

responding to public sentiment. At the beginning of the Fifty-seventh congress, which met in December, 1903, it was said that the administration had determined upon an anti-trust campaign and that Mr. Littlefield of Maine had been selected to lead the fight against monopoly. Mr. Littlefield seems to have been in earnest for he prepared a bill which Attorney General Knox and other republican leaders concluded was "entirely too drastic." The bill was amended and among the amendments was the provision that it should affect only corporations hereafter organized, leaving the existing trusts to continue their depredations. The Littlefield bill passed the house by unanimous vote February 6. The democrats were not permitted to amend the measure. They voted for it, not because it exactly suited them, but because it was a step in the right direction.

When the bill went to the senate, it was referred to a committee which held it until the democratic members of the committee, together with a minority of the republican members, reported the bill over a protest of the majority of the republican members of the committee. By the same vote the committee added an amendment making the bill to apply to existing corporations as well as to future ones.

But when Senator Blackburn, acting under instructions from the democratic caucus, moved to take the bill up for consideration in the senate, only two republicans voted with the democrats to consider the measure.

In a dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald, under date of Washington, February 11, William E. Curtis said that Mr. Littlefield was surprised to learn that he could not expect any encouragement from Mr. Roosevelt in the effort to push the Littlefield anti-trust bill through the senate.

The Littlefield measure failed of passage in

the senate, just as the Esch-Townsend bill failed. In the latter case history repeated itself.

It remains to be seen, however, whether Mr. Roosevelt in the presence of the strong public sentiment favorable to reforms on the railroad question, will relax his efforts in that direction now that republican senators have shown a determination to refuse relief to the people on that line.

In an address delivered before the graduating class of the Albany Law School, June 1, David J. Brewer, associate justice of the United States supreme court, said: "Senators and representatives have owed their places to corporate influence and that influence has been exerted under an expectation, if not an understanding, that as lawmakers the corporate interests shall be subserved."

It is not likely that senators who owe their official places to corporations will do anything to protect the people from corporation imposition. But it is the duty of men who profess to serve the people and who publicly champion measures designed for the people's relief to exert every possible effort for the accomplishment of practical results.

The defeat of the Littlefield anti-trust measure was readily forgotten, but public attention is now so thoroughly aroused that it will be much more difficult to persuade the people to close their eyes to the failure of the republican party to do something—not by the recommendations of the president or the action of a single house—but by legislation that will be effective and that will require justice to the people at the hands of influential men who have not only defied law with impunity, but have actually obtained control of the law-making power.