

Where the Battle is Raging

COLORADO REPUBLICANS

The Colorado republicans met in state convention at Denver and adopted a platform described by the Denver Times as follows: "Commends and approves administration of President Taft. Reaffirms party adherence to the principle of protective tariff. Favors the development and conservation of all the natural resources of the state. Condemns democratic gerrymander in apportionment of senators and representatives. Favors establishment of experimental agricultural stations in dry farming regions. Favors enactment of parcels post bill. Favors complete revision of national revenue laws. Desires amendment to railway commission law so as to cover all the public utility corporations. Favors principles of direct primary. Indorses Simon Guggenheim. Denounces calling of the extra session of the state legislature. Opposes initiative and referendum, but commends republican senators who voted for it because they gave people opportunity to pass on the question."

WYOMING DEMOCRATS

A Sheridan, Wyo., dispatch says: "Judge Joseph M. Carey, lifelong republican and former United States senator, was this morning nominated by the Wyoming democratic state convention for governor, receiving a large majority. He will run on a platform designed to catch the independent vote of Wyoming. Many old-time democrats threaten to place another ticket in the field as a result of his nomination. The convention has been in session two days and the proceedings have been marked with much bitterness, especially for those who fought for a straight democratic ticket." The platform adopted favors the initiative and referendum and recall, the Oregon direct primary law, corrupt practices act, restoring Australian headless ballot system, publicity of corporation affairs, commission form of government for municipalities, repeal of present tax law, eight-hour labor law for women and children, state labor commissioner, good roads movement and conservation of resources by the state instead of nation. Platform condemns present leasing system of convicts and use of money in political campaigns, especially by corporations. The platform was constructed to meet the approval of Judge Carey, and is notable in the absence of any condemnation of the national republican administration.

MINNESOTA REPUBLICANS

Minnesota republican primaries, held September 21, were made notable by the defeat of James A. Tawney, famous as one of Speaker Cannon's lieutenants. Mr. Tawney was beaten by Sidney Anderson by a majority of 2,500.

ROOSEVELT'S NEW YORK FIGHT

Oneida county, which is Vice President Sherman's home county, went against Mr. Sherman and in favor of Mr. Roosevelt. Schenectady and Albany counties, both in the district supposed to be controlled by William Barnes, Jr., and his home district, declared for Roosevelt. Five days before the convention met Mr. Roosevelt declared that he would have at least one hundred majority in the convention.

BERGER ON ROOSEVELT

Victor L. Berger, the famous socialist of Milwaukee, has given to the New York World an interview relating to Theodore Roosevelt. The interview follows: "Theodore Roosevelt reminds me of a little boy robbing a bird's nest. He doesn't know why he robs. He doesn't think of the pain the robbery may cause the birds. He just robs because he is like a boy with robbery his natural habit. "I think this is so because Roosevelt is naturally superficial. He never takes time to think, and never, therefore, gets to the bottom of anything and romps on careless of any result. "Possibly I may be speaking rather severely about Mr. Roosevelt. I do not want to accuse him of not being sincere. I will give him the credit of being sincere and well meaning, but his great fault is that he is mistaken in all that

he undertakes. He never gets to the bottom of anything. He caused a great financial panic for that reason. He did not know what he was doing, and he played so hard on one string that his orchestra was all out of tune.

"As a politician Mr. Roosevelt seems to me a mistake. What he really ought to be is the advertising man for a department store. There he would be a great success, only the store would soon fail, because instead of advertising the store, Mr. Roosevelt would immediately begin advertising himself.

"What does Mr. Roosevelt know of economic problems? Not one single thing. I have been reading his editorials in the Outlook, and he jumps about so that I do not know from editorial to editorial just where he stands. He says one thing in one issue and another thing in another. He knows nothing of capital, the needs or its wishes. One day he has this idea, another day he has that idea, and when he gets all through he has no idea at all about his subject. Then he gives us another lecture on finances, and we again have a new viewpoint of his lack of knowledge."

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEMOCRATS

The New Hampshire state convention met at Concord. An Associated Press dispatch says: "Immediate downward revision of the tariff in the interest of the consumer; parcels post; adoption of the federal income tax amendments; the election of United States senators by the people; the elimination of one-man control of congress, as expressed by Cannonism; effective trust regulation, and conservation of natural resources. This was the first convention held under the new statute whereby party nominees are chosen by direct primaries, the conventions merely adopting platforms and electing state committees."

ILLINOIS DEMOCRATS

The Illinois democratic state convention met at East St. Louis. Lee O'Neil Browne, recently acquitted of bribery in connection with the election of Senator Lorimer, was a delegate. When Browne was named as a member of the resolutions committee by the members of his delegation his name was greeted with hisses and cheers. The convention adopted a platform declaring that while Lorimer was elected by the votes of some democrats the party repudiates him and deplors his election. The tariff plank adopted was as follows: "The democratic party is unalterably opposed to the giving or to the taking of bribes by those seeking legislative favors, and we condemn in unmeasured terms any person or persons, democratic or republican, who may have been guilty of any participation therein, and declare in this connection that we favor election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people." A plank in favor of home rule for cities and towns was adopted.

MINIE BALLS

In accepting a re-nomination to congress Speaker Cannon made a fiery speech in which he defended the tariff and declared himself to be a standpatter. Woodrow Wilson, democratic nominee for governor of New Jersey, in a speech delivered at Jersey City, said: "When public men flout at the law they retard the wheels of progress. Our courts may be imperfect and some of them undoubtedly are; some of our judges may be imperfect, but they are the instrumentalities of law, and for the moment you flout at the instrumentalities of law you flout at the instrumentalities of order, and therefore at the instrumentalities of progress. Are some of your leaders growing impatient at the slow progress of law? The characteristics of all great governing peoples has been poise, patience and ability to have progress by these virtues." This is generally interpreted as a thrust at Mr. Roosevelt. In a speech delivered at Cincinnati President Taft attacked the "pork barrel" and insisted that the time for rigid economy is at hand. Representative Ollie James of Kentucky has announced his candidacy for the United States senate. Speaker Cannon delivered a speech at the republican state convention at Illinois, praising the tariff law and denouncing the insurgents.

"STATESMEN OF THE CORNCROWS"

The American Economist says: "When the American people are again ready to listen to emotional oratory, and to believe those who appeal to envy and prejudice, rather than to the plain facts in trade, commerce and industry, the statesmen of the cornrows will be invited to make tariffs, and the intelligence, experience and proficiency which gave wise and adequate protection to American industries, through the tariff laws of the country, will be relegated to the rear. We shall then have a period of frequent and radical changes in our tariff laws; industries kept in suspense and fear, and workmen in idleness, while ignorance toys with the laws and policies of the republic. That spells disaster."

"Statesmen of the cornrows" has a familiar sound. But even a "statesman of the cornrow" sometimes knows enough not to undertake to tax a people rich; sometimes he has sufficiently profited by experience to know that in our fearfully and wonderfully made tariff system the foreigner does not pay the tax; sometimes he has sufficient perception to understand that the generous contributions made by highly protected manufacturers to republican campaign funds are not given in the public interest; sometimes it occurs to him that "all of the people can not be fooled all of the time." Then it dawns upon the "statesman of the cornrow" that when the load upon the people becomes well-nigh unbearable it may be just as well to permit the people to have something to say in the arrangement of the government under which they are trying to live.

"FREAK CONSTITUTIONS"

The Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch says: "The fear seems to be general that Arizona will follow in the footsteps of Oklahoma and adopt a freak constitution, full of the political fashions of the day."

By "freak constitutions" the Times-Dispatch means constitutions made by men who are zealous for the public interest and who understand that in these days of trusts "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." The Arizona democrats may be depended upon to frame a constitution that will be serviceable to the people of that state. It is very likely that this constitution will not meet with the approval of the Richmond Times-Dispatch, and possibly that very fact will be one of the many certificates of its high character.

ARKANSAW

Arkansaw's beauty we're proclaiming to the world, 'Tis an Arkansawer's duty, no matter where he's whirled, And it surely is a pleasure to obey this simple law, And be a boosting booster for our grand old Arkansaw.

Chorus— Glory, glory, hallelujah! Arkansaw, I'm glad I knew you, Boosting, boosting is our motto, As we go marching on.

We will knock the knocking knocker every time he bobs his head; Yes, we'll knock the knocking knocker till the knockers all are dead, And when the knocking knockers all are laid to rest, We will sing hallelujah with the knocking knocker's zest.

If you want to grow the truck, the grasses, fruit and grain, You'd better buy a ticket on the Arkansawer's train; It's a golden opportunity you'll never see again, As we go marching on.

—Little Rock (Ark.) Gazette.

The American Homestead, a monthly farm journal of national scope, will be sent to all Commoner subscribers, without additional cost, who renew their subscriptions during the month of October. Take advantage of this offer at once and send in your renewal.