

Democratic Conventions

NEVADA.

The democratic state central committee for Nevada decided not to hold a convention to choose delegates to the national convention. The committee unanimously selected the following named gentlemen to represent the state of Nevada at St. Louis: J. R. Ryan, George B. Russell, Peter Weber, James G. Sweeney, Francis G. Newlands, Reinhold Carter and W. E. Sharon.

OREGON.

The democratic state convention for Oregon met at Portland, April 19. The choice of the convention for delegates to the national convention was Governor George E. Chamberlain, W. F. Kutcher, J. B. Mattlock, F. V. Holman, C. E. Redfield, James Gleason, T. R. Sheridan and Samuel M. Garland. The delegates were not instructed.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The democratic state convention for West Virginia met at Charleston, April 20. The delegates-at-large are Owen S. McKinney of Fairmont, former Senator Henry G. Davis, former Senator William A. McCorkle of Charleston and former Senator Johnson N. Camden of Parkersburg. Alternates: Joseph Murphy of Parkersburg, Berry G. Alford of Lewis county, Alex F. Matthews of Greenbrier and Senator Robert F. Kidd of Gilmer.

The convention did not instruct the delegates. Various claims are made concerning the sympathies of the district delegates. The Associated press dispatch says that the delegates at large are in favor of Mr. Gorman's nomination, and that Mr. Hearst has delegates from one congressional district, while other district delegates are opposed to him. Mr. Hearst's friends claim that he has a majority of the district delegates. Resolutions were adopted as follows:

"We condemn the usurpation of legislative power by the president and declare for a government of law, binding alike presidents, cabinets, legislatures, courts and people and especially restraining encroachments by the executive upon the legislative and judicial departments of government.

"We condemn the spirit of military domination which has led to the disregard of our treaty obligations and to the oppression of weaker peoples, all of which tends to lessen within ourselves a due respect for law and love of liberty and peace. We oppose those trusts and combinations which oppress the people and stifle healthy industrial competition.

"We condemn the failure of the present administration, by reason of its political connections and designs, to enforce the civil and criminal provisions of the law regulating combinations; demand a reasonable revision of the tariff, to be laid under the constitution for revenue adjusted in such manner as to do the greatest good to the greatest number of people.

"We favor the maintenance of state rights and home rule and are opposed to centralization. We demand that

the mutual rights of labor and of capital be impartially maintained with no unequal discrimination nor abuse of the power of law for favoritism or repression."

Judge Grant of Gratton was named to succeed himself on the supreme court bench.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The democratic state convention for Pennsylvania met at Harrisburg, April 19. Delegates at large and alternates were chosen as follows: Delegates at large, James M. Guffey, Pittsburg; J. K. P. Hall, Ridgeway; Robert E. Pattison, Philadelphia; Robert E. Wright, Allentown. Alternates, Jas. S. Rilling, Erie; E. M. Herbst, Reading; George McGowan, Philadelphia; J. Davis Broadhead, South Bethlehem.

The Harrisburg correspondent for the Chicago Tribune says: "Judge Alton B. Parker of New York failed to secure instructed delegates from Pennsylvania. The delegates elected by the democratic state convention will go to St. Louis uninstructed and they will be bound by the unit rule.

"A desperate attempt was made by the friends of Judge Parker in the committee on resolutions to secure an instructed delegation, but they met defeat. An amendment instructing the delegates was voted down, and when the report of the committee was made on the floor of the convention it was adopted unanimously.

"The political managers of the New York candidate were disappointed at the result, but claim the support of the delegation. The refusal to instruct was due to the intervention of the more conservative democrats, who took the position that it was too early to bind themselves to any candidate. They declare a great many things may happen between now and July.

Justice Samuel Gustine Thompson of Philadelphia was nominated by acclamation for supreme court justice to succeed himself for the full term of twenty-one years. He at present is a member of the supreme court by appointment of Governor Pennypacker and his commission expires next January.

"Stanley W. Davenport and Robert W. Irwin were selected as electors at large."

Delegates at large and district delegates to the St. Louis convention go uninstructed, although they are required to vote as a unit. The platform is long and after referring to the evils fostered by the republican party in Pennsylvania, says:

It is obvious that, since the accession of President Roosevelt to the presidency, the thoughtful sentiment of the country has become distrustful of his administration and fearful of the consequences of his extraordinary, erratic and autocratic assumption and exercise of power.

All that conservative men feared as a result of his accession to power has come to pass. Safe, dignified administration has given way to strenuous, spectacular partisanship, national and international problems of vast import have become the sport of personal ambition and have been fashioned and molded as stepping stones to the presidential succession.

Today the country finds in Theodore Roosevelt a standing menace to constitutional government, to international peace and to business stability. It turns to the democratic organization for safety and relief—to that party of conservatism which from its birth and through so many years was the bulwark against which the spirit of sectionalism, fanaticism, radicalism

and the crude, wild theories of experimentalists dashed in vain.

The democratic party is to be congratulated on the fact that we are now able to unite upon the cardinal tenets of our party faith and their application to the vital, pressing questions of today.

We declare our adherence to the fundamental principles which democracy has taught from the foundation of our government and which are essential to the preservation of our constitutional system.

We stand for a strict construction of all grants of power that militate against the liberty of the citizen and for a liberal construction of all reservations of his rights—for home rule and local self-government and against centralization of power—and for the largest liberty to the individual consistent with law and order, with protection of person and property and the maintenance of government. We are opposed to paternalism in government, to needless interference with the rights, the liberty or condition of individuals and to all legislation that may hamper the capabilities of the citizens or that may press one individual or class with privileges or power or restriction not affecting others.

With Jefferson we believe that the best government is that which governs least.

We declare our opposition to all schemes of taxation that bear unequally upon individuals or interests, or that tend to increase the profits of one class at the expense of another. We are for lightening the tax on the necessities of life and increasing it if need be, only upon luxuries, always bearing in mind that the constitutional power to levy duties on imports exists only for the purpose of raising revenues.

We commend the declaration of Mr. McKinley in his last public address when he said: "A system which provides a mutual exchange of commodities is manifestly essential to the continued healthfulness and growth of our export trade. We must not repose in fancied security that we can forever sell everything and buy little or nothing—the period of exclusiveness is past. The expansion of our trade and commerce is the pressing problem, commercial wars are unprofitable; a policy of good will and friendly relations will prevent reprisals."

While we recognize the right of capital in all legitimate lines of enterprise to combine for the increase of business, we believe that by wise legislation, rigidly enforced against such combinations, their evil tendencies can be prevented, without needless destruction of the capital upon which labor must depend for employment and compensation. We believe that a majority of the unlawful trusts now in existence are the direct and natural result of excessive republican tariff duties, which destroy competition, and inevitably breed combinations for monopoly. To remedy this evil should be one of the first purposes of tariff revision. To such revision our party stands pledged.

Federal taxation of all kinds should be reduced. The enormous surplus accumulated by the government has not only brought extravagance, but has become a standing menace to the financial stability of the country. The currency conditions today, affecting all business interests, are made to depend upon the mood and whim of the secretary of the treasury in his manipulation of the government deposits. This condition has become intolerable and should be remedied by reduction of taxation.

Our national strength should rather be exhibited in resisting the aggressions of great powers than in browbeating the weak American republics, whose guardianship and protection we have so long assumed and maintained. We favor the speedy completion of the Panama canal, but re-

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gret that our government should have permitted this great project to be stained with evidence of dishonorable intrigue against the integrity of a friendly republic.

We deplore the continued existence of labor troubles affecting important industries and vast numbers of people, and express the earnest hope that through concessions, arbitration, moderation and fair dealing early adjustments may be reached.

Labor unions organized for the betterment of the condition of wage-earners, acting within the limits of law and not subversive of public order or individual rights, are not only lawful, but commendable, and should be met, recognized and dealt with accordingly.

NEW YORK.

The democratic convention for the state of New York met at Albany April 18 and instructing the New York delegation to St. Louis to vote for Judge Parker, adopted a platform to which Bourke Cockran referred as "a mass of platitudes." Delegates at large were elected as follows: Delegates at large, David B. Hill, Albany; Edward Murphy, jr., Troy; George Ehret, New York; James W. Ridgeway, Brooklyn. Alternates, C. N. Bulger, Oswego; W. Carlyl Ely, Buffalo; C. H. Ackerman, Brooklyn; Francis Burton Harrison, New York.

District delegates were chosen as follows: 1st, Philip J. Cronin, Perry Belmont; 2nd, P. H. McCarren, Geo. H. Lindsay; 3rd, M. W. Littleton, Jas. D. Bell; 4th, Lewis L. Happ, Denis Winters; 5th, Edward M. Grout, A. L. Sullivan; 6th, James Shevlin, M. E. Dooley; 7th, James Kane, Luke D. Stapleton; 8th, Tim D. Sullivan, John Fox; 9th, Lewis Nixon, H. Worley, Platzek; 10th, Bird S. Coler, William McAdoo; 11th, John J. Delaney, Thos. C. O'Sullivan; 12th, Charles F. Murphy, W. Bourke Cockran; 13th, Robt. H. VanWyck, Franklin Bartlett; 14th, Charles A. Towne, Joseph Cassidy; 15th, Thomas F. Grady, Jas. W. Gerard, jr.; 16th, Samuel Untermyer, Diatado Villamena; 17th, Chas. W.

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