

missioner told them they must forswear their allegiance. They were very much embarrassed as to what allegiance they would forswear, and they told him that they had none except that of the United States. In other words, the naturalization laws do not allow one to forswear allegiance to the United States in order to give allegiance to the United States and become a citizen.

Naturally, it would appear from the Anglo-Saxon point of view that the solution of the economic question by itself alone would appease the complaint of the Islanders. The history does not present a single case of an upheaval in a Latin country where economic reasons have been the principal factor for a collision between the people and the men in power. Political reasons are stronger in the mind of the people than the pangs of hunger from an empty stomach.

D. COLLAZO.

New York, March 15.

MAJORITY RULE LEAGUE

The declaration of the Democratic Majority Rule league of Illinois, is as follows:

The overwhelming defeat visited upon the democratic party of Illinois at the last general election is largely traceable to the disgraceful and lawless methods which characterized the conduct of the men who were in control of the party organization at that time, and who still dominate the state committee. Believing that all suggestions of "getting together" and all plans for "harmony" that are being urged by those who were responsible for the outrages committed are but part of a deliberate plan to perpetuate the power of those who have injured the party and brought dishonor upon the great name of democracy in this state, we assert that the cause of true democracy requires that active preparations be instituted among all democrats of the state who are in favor of honest methods for the purpose of giving assurance to the rank and file of the party that their voices shall not be stifled and their rights trampled under foot by any combination of unscrupulous politicians at the next state convention of democrats.

"If it were merely a matter of party policy that was in issue there might be reasons offered which would be sufficient to justify even greater effort to bring together the contending element of the party. But when the issue is one of principle or of honesty there can be no middle ground on which an honorable compromise can be effected.

"To harmonize with fraud and crime would bring honest democrats into deserved criticism and weaken the cause they thus foolishly sought to strengthen.

"This organization will not assume to make declarations of party policy, nor will it attempt to foster the ambitions of any candidate for party favors. It will deal with the questions that relate to fair primaries, honest procedure in conventions and the selection of a state organization that will be worthy of confidence and capable of honest leadership.

"Many of the present members of the state committee are holding their places through force, fraud and forgery and are thus wholly discredited as party representatives. They can effect no organization among the true members of the party because they are believed to be lacking in sincerity and good faith.

"Some of the members of the committee, a minority, were fairly selected and are not in sympathy with the ruling spirits and as to such we invite their co-operation in this undertaking to free the party from the baneful influences of dishonest and selfish political bosses."



Washington dispatches say that J. Pierpont Morgan will likely be given the work of financing the proposed system of railways for the Philippines.

It is announced that the Swedish government will refuse to recognize the revolution in Norway, and will submit to the Riksdag motives conformable to this point of view.

The negotiations carried on under the direction of President Roosevelt looking toward the establishment of peace between Russia and Japan seem to be in a fair way to meet success. Whether peace is to be established at an early day seems to depend upon the character of the demands which Japan will make. It is not believed that Russia will be able to postpone for an indefinite period the settlement of the trouble. In the meantime the Japanese soldiery shows a disposition to push the advantage they have obtained, and other battles are likely to occur unless some formal agreement looking towards peace is very soon made.

It is reported from Washington that President Roosevelt is inclined to believe that the Chinese exclusion law should be interpreted with a marked degree of liberality "in order that our cordial relations with China may not be impaired."

London dispatches say that an expose has been made revealing a huge scandal relating to the improper disposal of military stores at the conclusion of the South African war.

The democratic congressional convention of the First Nebraska district met at Lincoln June 15, for the purpose of nominating a congressional candidate for a special election to be held July 18. The election is held to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of Elmer J. Burkett who, after his election to the lower house was chosen United States senator. The democratic convention nominated Francis W. Brown, now mayor of Lincoln, and adopted resolutions as follows:

We, the democrats of the First congressional district of Nebraska, in convention assembled, send greetings to the Nebraskans whose duty it will be to select a representative in congress July 18, 1905.

We reaffirm our faith in democratic principles as enunciated by Thomas Jefferson and defended by William J. Bryan.

We condemn the free pass system. We demand not only that public officials be prohibited under heavy penalties from accepting such favors, but that the entire free pass system be abolished. The free pass to the public official places him under obligation to the corporation extending the favor. The free pass to individuals generally not only enlarges the burdens upon the general public in maintaining the corporation, but tends to bring the private citizen accepting the favor under the political control of the corporation granting it.

We demand the enforcement of all anti-trust laws, and particularly the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law. "Private monopolies are indefensible and intolerable."

We congratulate President Roosevelt in that he has recommended the adoption of the democratic plan of doing away with railroad discrimination and rebates and giving to the interstate commerce commission the

power to fix rates. The right of appeal should not, of course, be denied, but when the commission has fixed the rate it should go in force immediately and remain in force until rejected by a court of competent jurisdiction.

We congratulate President Roosevelt upon his rejection of the tariff barons' plea that protection should be employed as a guise for extorting unfair prices from the American consumer. We commend him for his order that supplies for the Panama canal will be purchased in other markets if such a course be necessary to avoid the imposition on the part of the special interests so long protected by the republican party.

We pledge the people of the First congressional district of Nebraska that the nominee of this convention will not accept favors—in the form of free transportation or otherwise—at the hands of corporations or at the hands of any individual whose interests may be affected by his vote; that in every effort made to obtain the greatest good for the greatest number his vote will be cast upon the side of public interests; that he will faithfully discharge his duties in the effort to obtain immediate and effective relief in every particular where the people suffer; and that he will cordially co-operate in every effort—with whomsoever it may originate and by whomsoever it may be urged—that is designed to give to the American people relief from corporate imposition.

The republican nominee for congress in the First Nebraska district is E. M. Pollard of Cass county.

Governor Mickey, of Nebraska, on June 15, reprieved for two years Frank Barker, who was to be hanged at the state penitentiary June 16. This reprieve will expire during the term of Governor Mickey's successor, and those who favor the abolition of capital punishment say that Barker's death warrant will never be signed, and that capital punishment in Nebraska is a thing of the past. Their opponents, however, declare that the final execution of Barker will depend upon whether Governor Mickey's successor believes in the inflection of the death penalty. If he does they have no doubt that he will sign the death warrant.

The Associated Press says that the Russian experiment in parliamentarism will begin in September, and that the emperor has given his approval to the scheme. The elections will take place during the coming summer.

The Cuban house of representatives has unanimously appropriated \$100,000 for the benefit of General Maximo Gomez. General Gomez died June 17, on the day when the check for that amount was delivered to his representatives.

Frank G. Bigelow, the Milwaukee banker, has been sentenced to ten years in the federal prison at Leavenworth.

United States Senator Mitchell demurred to the indictment against him at Portland, Ore, but the demurrer was over-ruled and the senator will be required to undergo trial.

An Associated Press dispatch, under date of New York, June 12, says: "The organization of the largest trust company in the United States and one of the largest financial institutions

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