

how it got there, deeming it impossible that an army could move with such celerity. It may be that is the lost army that there has been so much speculation about.

The republicans of Illinois have been holding a convention for over a week and there are no more signs of a nomination being made than there was at first. It is simply a fight for the offices and the last ballot was practically the same as the first, there not being a change of over thirty votes. While Yates has been the worst boodler of a governor that Illinois ever had, he leads the list. The last ballot stood as follows: Yates, 484; Lowden, 399; Deneen, 433; Hamlin, 111; Warner, 41; Sherman, 2; Pierce, 31.

There has been the most terrific contest between the republicans in Wisconsin that ever occurred in a party. This was not a fight for offices, but it was one of principle. It was the stand pat and strictly corporation republicans against those who wanted the railroads put out of power and made to pay their just share of taxes. Governor La Follette beat the railroads by counting all the contested delegates for his side. At first there was much talk of a bolt, but when it came to the test the stalwarts concluded to submit and vote 'er straight.

Later—The last news received just before going to press was to the effect that one part of the "stalwarts" did bolt the convention which will give Vilas, who was in Cleveland's cabinet, and the other gold bugs of Wisconsin, a chance to carry the state for Parker or some other one of that gang.

Hearst carried California. The day before the convention met, a canvass of the delegates showed that he was beaten by 16 votes. The next morning when the convention got to work quite a number had changed their views and Hearst had 19 majority. South Carolina, Tillman and all, went for Parker. All the republican conventions are instructing for Roosevelt.

**The Vanguard**

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in his state and the poverty of the people, it was deemed best to dispense with holding a state convention to elect the Springfield delegation and to select them by referendum vote. Mr. Piersol has been chairman continuously for the past twenty years, and upon him fell the expense of taking the vote. I give his report in full:

The referendum vote of West Virginia populists, returned to S. H. Piersol, state chairman, for president, vice president, and national delegates to Springfield convention:

For president—Thomas E. Watson of Georgia, 20; Ed Coke of Virginia, 1; Wm. V. Allen of Nebraska, 2; S. H. Piersol of West Virginia, 44.

For vice president—Milton Park of Texas, 19; Jo A. Parker of Kentucky, 25.

The delegates elected are:  
S. H. Piersol, Wood county.  
Dr. Tom M. Stone, Wetzel county.  
W. N. Lucas, Wood county.  
H. T. Houston, Harrison county.  
O. D. Hill, Kanawha county.  
B. Smith, Wood county.  
Dr. R. S. Davis, Hampshire county.  
A. C. Houston, Monroe county.  
A. H. Altizer, Calhoun county.

Mr. Piersol adds a postscript to his report saying that Mr. Altizer, one of the best populist workers in West Virginia, has lately suffered a stroke of paralysis and will doubtless be unable to attend the national convention.

Messrs. Piersol, Smith, Davis, and A. C. Houston are enrolled in the Old Guard of Populism, and invitations

**SEND FOR SAMPLES OF SUMMER SILKS AND DRESS GOODS.**

Lincoln,  
Neb.

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Lincoln,  
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**WHITE GOODS FOR GRADUATING GOWNS AND SUMMER DRESSES.**

Our assortment of these goods is larger than of any previous year. A varied collection of pretty, sheer white goods in the newest and prettiest weaves to select from. You will save on these goods if you send for samples and order from this list.

**French Lawn**, a beautiful, sheer white fabric for dresses; width 45 to 50 inches, ranging in price from 25c to 50c. An especially desirable quality is the grade priced at, per yard... **35c**

**Wash Chiffon**—A fabric that washes and launders beautifully; will make very dainty gowns; width 60 inches; price per yard..... **45c to \$1.00**

**Persian Lawns**—A special Fashion favorite this season; soft and clingy; washes well; 32 inches wide; ranges in price, per yard..... **25c to 50c**

**Paris Mulls**—One of the most popular of this season's importations; 72 inches wide, and is a sheer, thin fabric. Price per yard..... **65c to \$1.25**

**Silk Tissues** in large assortment. Colors cream and white. Price per yard..... **30c**

**Silk Mousseline De Soie** in cream and white, an ever popular fabric, extra good grade, Price per yard..... **45c**

**Dainty Muslins for Summer Wear.**

We show a more extensive line of muslin wear this season than ever before. It seems as though it would be hard to order anything in this line that we do not have. An open order or a careful description will bring you garments that are sure to be satisfactory in style, quality and price. Especially do we solicit your mail orders in this line.

**15 Styles in 25c Corset Covers.**

**Corset Covers** of fine cambric; fancy tucked front, neatly trimmed with lace inserting, lace edge around neck, also in embroidery trimmed. Sizes 32 to 44. Each..... **25c**

**20 Styles in 50c Corset Covers.**

**Corset Covers** made of India linen, nainsook and cambric; tucked front and back; also with the one piece back, richly trimmed front, with lace or embroidery, also hemstitched tucks or ruffle trimmed fronts; sizes 32 to 44; exceptional values, each..... **50c**

A large assortment of high grade corset covers, elaborately trimmed, are priced at 75c, 89c, \$1.25, \$1.39, \$1.50 to..... **\$4 59**

**White Skirts**—An immense assortment with lace or embroidery trimmings, fine tucking, best styles, ranging in price \$1.25, \$1.50..... **\$1 75**

**White Skirts**—A special value, skirt is trimmed with 2 rows of lace insertion, 3 cluster tucks, with six fine tucks, ruffle lace trimmed with 6 fine tucks above; entire



depth of flounce is 20 inches; specially priced to mail order patrons at..... **\$2 25**

**White Skirts**, same as above in more elaborate effect; 25 inch flounce; are priced at \$3.25 \$4 and..... **\$4 90**

**High Class Novelties** in skirts are priced at \$5.50 to..... **\$15 00**

**Drawers** of fine muslins with cambric hemstitched ruffle, per pair..... **25c**

**Cambric Drawers** of extra fine cambric with hemstitched and tucked ruffle of India linen per pair..... **29c**

**Drawers** made of muslin and cambric, trimmed with hemstitched tucked ruffles, some trimmed with embroidery or lace and lace inserting; trimmed flounce, per pair... **50c**

**Drawers** in the more elaborate styles and of finer materials are priced at 75c, 85c, 89c, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, to..... **\$3 75 per pair**

**Extra Size Drawers**—Open style; sizes 23, 25, 27, are priced at 50c, 59c \$1.25 and **\$1 85**

**Drawers** come in open and closed styles, and in sizes 23, 25, 27-inch lengths.

**Please Mention This Paper When You Write.**

have been sent to the other members of the delegation.—D.

West Virginia has set the example for a number of states where it will be inconvenient to hold a state convention to elect delegates to Springfield. Start the ball rolling. Begin a referendum vote to select delegates; instruct them, too, by the same method if thought best. It's a good thing to bring out candidates that way.

I expect to give a picture of Mr. Piersol and a sketch of his life in a short time.

**A NEW ASPIRANT.**

The Independent predicted that by the time the Springfield convention meets there will be no dearth of presidential timber. The latest aspirant for the populist nomination is Geo. DeVany "of Ohio, Texas and Tennessee," whose tag in the "New York Merchants' association" bears the cabalistic number 22,207. Some time

since Mr. DeVany was engaged in booming the Tammany Times, but his latest move on the political chess board is to address typewritten letters to the Old Guard of Populism, in which he modestly says: "I would be pleased to have the nomination of the people's party as the representative of the great masses and with much honor I will guarantee success in 1904. This no other independent man in America can do."

Hurrah for DeVany! There's the chance of a lifetime for band-wagon climbers—he will "guarantee" success.

**ILLINOIS.**

Editor Independent: Joseph Hopp, our state chairman, has just issued a call for state convention, to meet in the city of Springfield, June 1. This is a joint call to all committees and populists in the state to meet in mass convention to select delegates to the national convention and to transact such other business as may come before the meeting.

COL. J. S. FELTER.

**THE CINCINNATI PLAN.**

Editor Independent: I wish you would in an early number of The Independent give a full description of "the Cincinnati plan" of direct nominations of president and vice-president by the people's party with a sketch of the origin and history of the plan.

I am a delegate to the national convention and feel that I do not know enough of this plan (or any other "plan" of direct nominations) to act intelligently. I believe emphatically in direct nominations of all elective officers from president down and some other officers. I favor direct nominations under public laws. This is in line with the initiative and referendum, right of recall proportional representation and preferential ballot.

J. C. RUPPENTHAL.

Russell, Kas.  
(Will Bro. Streeter send Mr. Ruppenthal printed matter on this subject?)

The Cincinnati plan seems to be in two parts—Bro. Streeter's "division and subdivision by sevens," and the Michigan plan of precinct clubs, which Bro. McBride might explain. The plan was printed in The Independent of Dec. 17, 1903.—Associate Editor.)

Cherokee county, Ala., populists will have a full list of county candidates in the field for the November election, says J. W. Brassell, one of the Old Guard there. By the way, what steps are being taken to secure Alabama's 52 delegates to Springfield? Who knows?

Dr. John M. Logan, Oceana county, Mich., in response to a letter asking him if he desires The Independent, says: "Yes, I do. Why? Because I am still carrying pop chips on both shoulders—ask the neighborhood!" Good for Dr. Logan. There are some populists in Michigan trying to tote socialism and Hearst democracy along with their populism.

John T. Craig, chairman county central committee, Pawnee, Okla., sends in a club of subscribers and says: "The populists are few, but as loyal as ever in Oklahoma, and will be at Springfield with a full quota of delegates for populism and the Omaha platform." By the way, what action has Oklahoma taken?

David G. Ashley, Copiah county, Miss.: "I am afraid the movement will not materialize. We have been sold out twice and I have lost faith. I am not the very enthusiastic admirer of Mr. Bryan that some people are." (Admiration for Mr. Bryan is a personal matter and has little to do with a belief in the justice of populism. If the more than a million men who were "sold out" in 1896, as Mr. Ashley suggests, were really sold out, they had a chance to show their displeasure in 1900 by voting for Wharton Barker—but did they do it?—Associate Editor.)

**The Vanguard of Populism.**

Believing in the justice of the fundamental principles of populism as enunciated in the Omaha platform of 1892, the Denver conference address of 1903, and the St. Louis address of Feb. 22-24, 1904; and desiring the enactment of those principles into law and an honest enforcement of the same, I hereby promise to pay, on or before the first day of August, A. D., 1904, to the order of

**The Treasurer of the National Committee of the People's Party of the United States,**

The sum of \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars,

my contribution, as a member of **The Vanguard of Populism**, to help carry on the battle for economic freedom.

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