

Direct Legislation Notes.

CANADA.

The Patrons of Husbandry is an organization mainly of farmers, started about four years ago on lines similar to the Farmers' Alliance and with a radical political program. It has now spread over the Dominion, and has about 175,000 members; in the present Ontario parliament it has fourteen out of the ninety-four members. It has fifty-five candidates for the Dominion parliament and expects to elect at least forty. It has direct legislation in full operation, as no political demand can be added to its platform by the central body till it has been voted on favorably by the local bodies, and any local body can start a demand. It soon votes on four new demands—direct legislation, proportional representation, woman's suffrage and prohibition—and they'll all probably go through. Many of the members favor making direct legislation the dominant issue.

SWITZERLAND.

Two national referendary votes have taken place since the last Record. On the last Sunday in September the proposition to make the manufacture of matches a public monopoly was rejected by about 40,000 majority. On the first Sunday in November the government's proposal to centralize the control of the militia by taking it from the cantons and giving it to the federal government, was overwhelming defeated.

The next Record will probably contain a detailed account of these from a Swiss gentleman. The question of establishing a national bank without any private capital or control, will soon be voted on.

NORWAY.

The Norwegian law of July, 1894, according to Prof. E. B. I. Gould, applies direct legislation to the liquor problem, as the question of license in any community is submitted to the direct vote of both men and women in that community. Formerly it was decided by their representatives.

If the people vote for license, the licensing authorities are the magistracy acting with the formal assent of the governor. The licensing period is for five years, and by popular vote a reduction in the number of licenses may be affected at the end of this period. The by-laws under which these licensed liquor selling companies act are subject to the approval of the magistracy, municipal council and governor, and the appointments of bartenders and other officers are confirmed by the magistracy and municipal council.—Direct Legislation Record.

NEW ZEALAND.

Mr. E. J. O'Connor was the first to bring the referendum before the house in a practical form, in 1893. His bill, however, met with a sorry fate, members not taking the trouble to debate its second reading, and throwing it out by a majority of thirteen in a thin house—ayes 20; nays 33. In 1894, with a new house, Mr. O'Regan introduced his first bill on the subject, the members on this occasion debating the principle of the measure and finally rejecting it by a vote of twenty-four to nineteen, another thin house. Nine members, however, paired on it. This year Mr. O'Regan scored a win, the second reading of his bill being carried by twenty-eight to fourteen, there being eleven pairs, making a total of sixty-four who recorded their opinions upon the principle of the measure. New Zealand is the first British colony in which a referendum bill has advanced so far. It has been dropped because opposed by the ministers, but will be taken up next session and urged.

ENGLAND.

Samuel Gompers and P. J. McGuire, the two delegates from the American Federation of Labor to the British trades union congress, at Cardiff, Wales, in their report at the federation convention in New York last December, told how the British unions without knowing it by name, are to use a direct kind of direct legislation. I quote from their report:

"In the congress very little, if any, new matter is brought up for consideration and action; other than such propositions which have been duly forwarded to the executive office at least six weeks before the meeting of the congress. These propositions are sent to all the organizations affiliated, which, if they desire, may forward amendments within four weeks of the congress. These propositions and amendments are sent to the delegates-elect two weeks before the meet-

ing. We are aware that our federation has adopted a similar measure, but we are of the opinion that until it is more generally accepted that new matter or measures which have not been regularly proposed and submitted before our conventions, we may be likely to have resolutions for which there is insufficient time for consideration, as well as consultation with the rank and file of our membership."

IS THIS FAIR?

In the recent summer election in Great Britain for a new parliament, the liberal party and its allies polled 49½ per cent of the total vote and got 38½ per cent of the members of parliament. The conservatives and their allies polled 50½ per cent and got 61½ per cent of the members. A majority of 37,000 in nearly 5,000,000 votes, or less than one per cent gives the conservatives a majority in parliament of 152 in total of 670 members.

The election of 1892 was accidentally very fair. The liberals polled 52 1-5 per cent of the vote and got 53 per cent of the members and the conservatives polled 47 4-5 per cent and got 47 per cent of the members. But comparing the '95 election with that of '92, we find that the liberals lost 27 per cent of the total vote and lost 14½ per cent of the members, and the conservatives gained accordingly.

The fairness of the election of 1892 was only accidental as shown by the election of 1886 when the liberals polled 48.6 per cent of the vote and got 36.7 per cent of the members of parliament, and the conservatives polled 51.4 per cent and got 60.5 per cent of the members. Also by the election of 1885, when the liberals polled 55.8 per cent but obtained 62 per cent of the members, and the conservatives polled 44.2 per cent and got only 37 per cent of the members.

The same thing is true about our legislatures.

If each party had been represented in the fifty-third congress in proportion to the number of votes cast for that party, there would have been 153 republicans instead of 127, 164 democrats instead of 218, 31 populists instead of 9, and 8 prohibitionists instead of none.

Representation does not represent. It is essentially unfair. It can be remedied by allowing the people to vote separately on any measure, whether it is passed by the legislature or not, which has been petitioned for by a minority of the voters substantial enough to show that it has some backing, and then letting a majority of the people decide. This is direct legislation.

Eight Hour Herald.

OKLAHOMA.

Last March I was the only "Loyal American" in Oklahoma, but now I have nine county organizations. Our country is poor, and during the summer I have camped on the open prairie without shelter many nights. I could not find shelter, because many of our people live in dug-outs, which consist of but one room. I carry a haversack made of half of a fifty-pound flour sack, slung across my shoulder, and this filled with biscuits. My pony and I share these. This summer has won Oklahoma for the A. O. of L. A. and the next legislature will pass my bill or a better one unanimously.

We have annuals in October for each brigade. There are nine regiments in each county, and the governor and his staff and the mayor and his turned out on our annual. They all know what the referendum means now.

Mrs. Mary Ellen Lease has been initiated and has accepted a commission as a national organizer and starts out soon. This winter I go into Kansas to storm the school houses. We will win there, too.

COLORADO.

Last fall the Denver common council was elected on the sole issue of forcing a reduction of the water company's rates. When they got in office they did not do it. Boedo was the cause, much agitation of municipal direct legislation one of the results.

A tax-payers association was formed and a ticket put in the field. At convention in September the following resolution, slightly condensed, was passed: "We, the committee of one hundred, representing the tax-payer's party, censure the methods pursued by those whom corporation influence has placed in our local offices. Such methods have brought us to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Our city is controlled by bribed and perjured agents of corporation greed, our county

treasury looted, our citizens intimidated by an army of irresponsible deputies, and people held up and robbed in sight of a subsidized police force. We are promised reform at every recurring election. As vote-catchers these promises have succeeded, but the elected have refused to redeem their pledges. A public office has become a public disservice a curse which a community already overburdened by taxation has been compelled to support, a channel through which robbery by a few powerful corporations is being legalized, and is using them to escape their just share of taxation."

And the third plank in their platform reads:

"The securing to the people of a larger share in their own government by direct legislation.

CALIFORNIA.

Readers of the Record will remember the account in the June number of the adoption by the trustees of the town of Alameda of an ordinance by which they agreed; on a petition signed by 10 per centum of the voters, to submit any measure to a poll for advice. Without a change in the charter, difficult to obtain, they could not delegate the law-making power. The first question submitted was the addition of 20 cents to the tax levy to provide \$25,000 for a public library. It was carried. But behold, some of the trustees did not want to follow the advice of the people. Public-spirited citizens had to get up a big mass meeting to overrule their own trustees before they would carry out the will of the people. Advisory referendum is good if you can't get any better, but the vote of the people should be final.

A Wall Street Black List.

The New York bankers have prepared a black list of the U. S. senators who displease them, and have sent word to the republican and democratic committees of eighteen states notifying the committees of their displeasure. The republican and democratic conventions hereafter must submit their nominations to Wall street for confirmation. A better way perhaps would be for Wall street to furnish the nominations for both parties in the first place. The following are the blackened names:

Democrats—August O. Bacon, Ga.; William B. Bate, Tenn.; James F. Berry, Ark.; Joseph S. C. Blackburn, Ky.; Wilkinson Call, Fla.; Horace Chilton, Texas; Francis M. Cockrell, Mo.; John W. Daniels, Va.; James Z. George, Miss.; Isham G. Harris, Tenn.; John T. Morgan, Ala.; William N. Roach, N. D.; George G. Vest, Mo.; Daniel W. Voorhees, Ind.; David Turpie, Ind.

Republicans—Lucien Baker, Kan.; James Donald Cameron, Pa.; John H. Mitchell, Oregon; George C. Perkins, Cal.; Richard F. Pattigrew, S. D.; Henry C. Hansbrough, N. D.; Francis E. Warren, Wyo.; Clarence E. Clark, Wyo.—Joilet, (Ill.) News.

Danger of the Trusts.

Mayor Pingree, of Detroit, not a populist, but a republican, in a speech made a few days ago at Ypsilanti, spoke as follows regarding trusts. We command it to the consideration of our republican friends, and hope they will ask themselves what their party is doing to save the country from such dangers:

"A trust fears neither God nor man. It is merciless and arrogant. It laughs at the law. Whenever the officers of the government have dared to prosecute a trust, the proceedings of the court read like a farce. The time will come, if things continue as at present, when the profits of the merchantile business of the United States will go to less than 100 persons, and all others will act simply as agents and consumers

"These vast accumulations of wealth are more dangerous to the liberties of our republic than if all the anarchists, socialists and nihilists of Europe were let loose on our shores. It will not mend matters, nor can it stifle the conscience of those who, after having become wealthy by robbery and wrong doing, try to compromise with the Almighty by endowing a university or building a library. These will be but monuments to tell future generations that the income of such a man was \$10,000,000 a year, and that to reach this figure he had desolated more homes and ruined more men than Goth of Vandal. The poor and honest laborer is more to be envied than such a man.—Progressive Farmer.

"We, the committee of one hundred, representing the tax-payer's party, censure the methods pursued by those whom corporation influence has placed in our local offices. Such methods have brought us to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Our city is controlled by bribed and perjured agents of corporation greed, our county

BEHIND THE SCENES.

An Allegorical Conference of the Old Party Leaders.

SHERMAN: The two living fundamental principles—free trade and protection—have kept our two parties alternately in power for the last twenty years. You gentlemen of the south have enjoyed the honors and emoluments of office on account of your devotion to free trade. We of the north have been especially aggrandized and enriched by our devotion to protection. As long as we can make this the paramount issue our parties are safe. But these are perilous times. The passage of the tariff bill at the last session threatened the destruction of both of our parties by the loss of our main issue. The skill of Mr. Reed and his friends at the other end of the Capitol have furnished a way out. They have sent us two bills—a bond bill and a tariff bill. The bond bill is not of the slightest consequence. Nobody wants it, the Rothschilds are opposed to it, and why should we be for it? But it will serve a good purpose. We are on the finance committee. Let the bond bill be reported, and you put your free coinage amendment on that. When it comes into the senate all free coinage men can vote for it and make free coinage speeches on it for home consumption, because it will do no harm and aid them at home. When it is passed through the senate that is the end of it. In that way our friends both in the west and south who must be for free coinage to come here, will have given evidence of the faith that is in them and will have made themselves solid with their constituents. The tariff is the important question to keep before the people, because one-half of them are educated to free trade and the other half to high protection, and it is very easy to make them fight on that issue, and when they get to fighting on that issue they will forget all others as they have for the last twenty years. The silver men of the west can very well vote against putting silver on the tariff bill, because that bill gives them protection on wool, lead, lumber and coal, which the people of the west attach much importance to, and with their votes we can keep the tariff clean from any amendment, and then there will be a fair issue on the tariff between you of the south and us of the north, as it has been from the beginning, and it is easy to fire the American heart on that issue. Without that issue the populists would take the country, and consequently I have called this caucus for the purpose of determining a policy for the committee.

HARRIS: You have spoken wisely. We must use both silver and the tariff in my country or the "Populi" will snow us under. The people are in earnest about silver, but they are getting a little of the tariff which has done them no good, and we have got to be vociferous for silver. We will vote for silver on all the bills and denounce any man that votes against it, and we are forced to be particularly severe on all of you good standard men, which you always pardon on account of our common motive to keep our parties in line.

ALDRICH: I fully concur with all that is said by my brother from Ohio and my dear friend from Tennessee. We must keep the tariff issue alive or both of our parties will die. There is no other issue upon which we can divide the people and prevent them from joining the populists and overthrowing our friends in Wall and Lombard streets. Everything is at stake in raising the war cry of freedom over the tariff. On that the north and south have always come together with a great crash that attracted the attention of the whole country. Let us strip the tariff bill of all embarrassments by the plan suggested in the wise remarks of the senator from Ohio I agree.

JONES (of Arkansas): I am surprised to find my sentiments echoed and re-echoed by each one of you. Arkansas is in a perilous condition. The populists are in earnest for silver, and our people are in earnest, and the only way we can get their votes and keep the democratic party alive, is to make them think we are really for silver, which we can do on the plan suggested by Mr. Sherman. The plan suits me exactly. Carry out that program.

VOORHEES: I have always been profoundly impressed with the wisdom and patriotism which has developed in these joint cau-

cuses. They reflect the essence of good sense and statesmanship of both of our parties. And theirs combined is the highest wisdom which the republic or any other country on earth can produce. I am so thoroughly convinced that the senator from Ohio is sincere in all he says, and that he speaks the truth on all occasions, that I can without hesitation indorse anything he may say, in advance. I have equal confidence in my associates on the committee, and I am delighted that they follow the wise counsel of the great senator from the state adjoining my own. I have found it during my entire political life to be advantageous proper, and wise to be for every sound principle. I am for the single gold standard and I am for the free coinage of silver. I am for a high tariff and I am for free trade and I am for protection but I only use one of these principles at a time.

ALLISON: I would have made some suggestions earlier in the debate, but my sentiments were so well expressed by all of you that it seemed unnecessary to say anything. I am a bimetallist and am for the free coinage of silver whenever Great Britain says the word. I am apprehensive, however, that it would be unpleasant to Wall street for me under the present circumstances to vote for free coinage or any bill presented, but I can see the great propriety in having a bill upon which a free coinage amendment can be placed voted for and against without offending anybody, that is, those who have been in the habit of voting that way. As for the tariff issue, I have always been in favor of that issue, and I have judiciously balanced on that issue to the entire satisfaction of the people of Iowa. I and no difficulty is adapting my course to what frenzied traders there are in my state and those who are protectionists. They understand me. I harmonize these matters and that is the way to do. Now with the tariff issue in the next campaign as the paramount issue, we can sort of harmonize all our silver friends and protection friends in our party, and you can harmonize all your free trade men and all your free silver men in your party, and we will continue to remain in power and see to it that the conservative, liberty-loving sentiments of Wall and Lombard streets are not outraged.—Progressive Farmer.

The Peoples Party.

The most important meeting the reform forces have ever held in this country was that which met at the Lindel Hotel in St. Louis last Friday morning. It was strictly a business meeting of business men, and they went about their work in a business way. All seemed to realize that the day of mere sentiment with the peoples party is over, and that henceforth it must take upon itself the responsibilities of a great political party, a shaper of the destinies of a great country. Even the great news papers, the men of business and wealth, and the city officials seemed to share this feeling, and attention was paid to the meeting that was never accorded the peoples party before.

We need not discuss the meeting at length. That has been done by the daily papers. Suffice it to say that it did its work well. The national convention will meet soon after the two old parties will have held their conventions. It will invite all honest people who desire the overthrow of the present ruinous policy as carried out by both of the old parties, and who are willing to unite in an effort to secure prosperity once more for our country and people.

The basis of representation is so fixed that not only all sections of the country will be fairly represented, but the peoples party votes will be represented in such a way as to give them deserved power, and so that no interest or section can dominate the convention.

The old party manipulators regard this meeting with keener dread than any that has yet been held.—Progressive Farmer.

Cure for Headache.

As a remedy for all forms of headache, Electric Bitters has proved to be the very best. It effects a permanent, cure and the most dreaded habitual sick headaches yield to its influence. We urge all who are afflicted to procure a bottle, and give this remedy a fair trial. In cases of habitual constipation, Electric Bitters cures by giving the needed

medicine. Try it once. Fifty cents and \$1.00 at Frank B. Meyer's drug store.

WANTED—A girl to do general house work. Enquire at this office.

LOST.—Between the postoffice and depot on Friday morning, Jan. 3, a ladies gold watch. Five dollars reward. Leave at Pilot office.

LOST.—Ladies' gold watch chain with two charms attached—one a horn of plenty charm. Finder please call at this office and receive a liberal reward.

IT not only is so, it must be so, One Minute Cough Cure acts quickly, and that's what makes it go. A. F. Long, Druggist.

For Sale.

Two fresh cows for sale, one-half mile east of Kniman. FRED S. MEISER.

For Sale—Lumber.

All kinds of Oak lumber at the mill Pierce farm 2½ miles south of Rensselaer. J. W. PIERCE.

Cheap Farm Loans.

Call on Valentine Seib, Rensselaer, for the cheapest farm loans offered in Jasper county. Large or small accounts.

For Sale—Posts.

2,000, burn oak and white oak, for sale at 6¢ each, 3½ miles west and one mile south of Rensselaer, by Carr Bros.

Wanted.

C. W. Coen wants 25,000 bushels of corn within the next 30 days and will pay the highest market price for the same.

Texas Land For Sale or Trade.

I have 1,920 acres of bottom land in the Pan Handle district which will sell at a bargain or trade for property nearer this locality. For information address Anson Stewart, of Rensselaer.

Farm Loans.

We are prepared to make farm loans at a lower rate of interest than any other firm in Jasper county. The expenses will be as low as the lowest. Call and see us. Office in the Odd Fellow's Building, near the Court House.

WARRREN & IRWIN.

To Teachers.

Prof. Chas. A. McMurray of Normal, Ill., F. A. Cotton, Deputy state superintendent, will address the teachers at the high school building in Rensselaer, Saturday, February 1, 1896. Session commences at 10 a