

Palmer and McCormick in Pennsylvania

No state in the country is in greater need of the application of progressive democracy to its governmental affairs than the state of Pennsylvania, and nowhere is a more earnest and vigorous battle being waged for the success of progressive democracy.

It is many a day since the democratic party in Pennsylvania has undertaken a contest with such spirit and optimism as marks the present fight. The battle has been on for a year. The campaign of education has been waged in every way possible, and a vigorous primary campaign, ending on May 19th with the nomination of Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer, for United States senator, and Vance C. McCormick, for governor, both progressive democrats of the highest type, has served to arouse the party as it has not been stirred in a generation.

The democratic party in Pennsylvania is fortunate both in its own candidates and those of its opponents. Congressman Palmer, who seeks election to the senate, is one of the brilliant young progressive democrats who have come to the front in the party's ranks during the last few years. For three terms he has been a member of the house from the twenty-sixth district of Pennsylvania, and his record is clean from beginning to end. He has made his way by force of his own ability, integrity and courage, and in spite of the unceasing bitter opposition of the people's enemies in his own district and state as well as outside. He has been marked for defeat by the great steel interests centered in his district every time he presented himself as a candidate, but he has won brilliantly each time, because of his unswerving loyalty to the interest of his constituents, among whom are numbered thousands of the workmen in the steel plants.

The machine leaders of his own and of the republican party have also opposed him at every step. In Washington, he early rose to prominence as an orator in the house, and the promise shown by his first speeches on the tariff and other public questions was later fulfilled in the very important tasks assigned him by the democratic leaders. He is now chairman of the house democratic caucus, a position second only to the minority leadership, and where he has done splendid service for the administration throughout his term.

He rose to national prominence at the Baltimore convention in 1912, where, as the head and leader of the Pennsylvania delegation, he became the leader of the Wilson forces on the floor of the convention, and was an active and effective factor in placing the stamp of progressivism upon that convention. His latest service and one of his greatest is the authorship of the national child labor bill, now nearing passage in the house. It has the endorsement of every agency of social reform in the country.

A man of splendid presence, a fine speaker, an honest and able statesman, Congressman Palmer is one of those upon whom progressive democracy in the country relies, and his progressive victory in Pennsylvania will bring joy to thousands upon thousands of progressive men of all parties throughout the country.

Vance C. McCormick, the democratic candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, has a splendid record of constructive public service, which has made so convincing an appeal to the voters of the state, that the progressive party candidate for governor has withdrawn from the ticket to make way for Mr. McCormick, who is now the candidate of both the democratic and Washington parties.

Mr. McCormick, who is known by college men throughout the country as a star athlete at Yale and as one of the most conspicuous alumni of that institution, has carried the same characteristics of bulldog determination and fighting honesty and independence into his public service that he exemplified on the gridiron. Following his college course, he immediately took his place as one of the most progressive and capable business men of his own community. Heir to many large interests, he threw himself into the development of the agricultural and commercial interests of central Pennsylvania, and has done perhaps more than any single man for the encouragement of scientific and intensive farming, for the improvement of farm stock and farm methods and of farm life.

In politics he has been a constant factor for good, his course having been marked by independence and clean partisanship. He is the pub-

lisher of the Harrisburg Patriot, and he has used its columns to advance every worthy cause. His influence in the democratic party is responsible, along with that of Congressman Palmer and other associates, for the reorganization of the party, which rid it of evil influences and placed it in the hands of progressive, high-minded men. His nomination in the May primaries followed a contest whose result vindicated his course, and he is today the candidate of the united forces of good government and clean citizenship in the keystone state.

The issue between the democracy and Penrose republicanism is so clear in this fight, that there can be little doubt on which side the good citizens of Pennsylvania will take their stand.

A victory for Palmer and McCormick is of vital importance to the people of Pennsylvania. Every democrat and independent progressive voter should take their place shoulder to shoulder with Palmer and McCormick, and put Pennsylvania in line on November 3 with the Wilson democracy and honest government.

W. J. BRYAN.

JOHNSON OF SOUTH DAKOTA

The state of South Dakota has this year an unusual opportunity to make contribution to the welfare of the country. She is to choose a United States senator.

The state has been recognized as foremost among the progressive states of the union. It has consistently now, for a long period, retired one after another, its reactionary, standpat senators and those who have leaned that way overmuch.

At a primary election in March the democrats were fortunate enough to nominate a man who has been a faithful and powerful supporter of the governor and President Wilson. The republicans, by inattention, permitted the nomination of a standpatter.

In the republican primary only about one-fifth of the total vote of the state was cast. Assuming that the voters of the state have been sincere in their expression for progressive men and policies in the past, it is inconceivable that the four-fifths of them who did not express themselves at the primary, will now sanction the election of the republican to the senate, and so nullify all they have done, and hold as unsound all they have believed.

Although there are three candidates for the senate in South Dakota, the election unquestionably lies between the Hon. E. S. Johnson, progressive democrat, and Charles H. Burke, standpat republican. The Roosevelt progressive party has no candidate in the field.

Mr. Johnson is representative of the best citizenship in his state. He has been a pioneer in South Dakota and in a large and active business extending over thirty years, has proved himself capable and made hosts of friends. He has been helpful to very many and generous to all. Among his friends and associates he has always been rated a real man. Those who know him best like him best, and are his most ardent champions now.

The great majority of citizens of South Dakota believe that President Wilson has been a conscientious representative of the people's interests at Washington; that he has struggled for peace when the tide was running high for war, and when he might have made use of the popularity of a successful war for his party. It is just as fairly believed by people unbiased by their desire for political preferment, that, as President, Mr. Wilson has stood for their interests in all that he has done.

If Mr. Johnson shall be elected, the safe progressive policies, the wise endeavors, the conscience in administration that has distinguished the Wilson term in a wonderful record of statesmanlike accomplishment, will be strengthened. The way will be made easier for good men and good policies in the future.

Johnson should be elected as a member of the United States senate from South Dakota.

W. J. BRYAN.

HAMILTON OF IOWA

John T. Hamilton, democratic candidate for governor of Iowa, is finishing a campaign which has been a revelation and a fear to the republican party in Iowa.

Mr. Hamilton has made his campaign as a candidate who stands for a businesslike and economical administration of state affairs.

He has vigorously attacked the high taxes

which have come to burden the people under the present administration.

He has shown that these high taxes have been the fault of the state administration and not of the county taxing boards.

He has produced figures which show that the farms of Iowa are paying taxes from thirty to fifty per cent greater than they were last year.

He has shown figures to prove that the main line railroads are paying taxes on an average of fifty per cent less than last year.

His campaign has brought out the real facts about the capitol extension law as a state extravagance involving the expenditure of millions of dollars of the taxpayers' money.

He has shown that the capitol extension law provides for a state house park over eighty acres in extent.

This area is greater than that of the national capitol grounds at Washington, and in comparison with this acreage the capitol grounds of Illinois, Nebraska, Kansas and other states shrink into insignificance.

The entire state of Iowa has been aroused in a storm of vigorous protest against this state extravagance.

This storm of protest has grown in vehemence and volume ever since Mr. Hamilton began to show the true folly of such extravagance.

He says, "repeal the capitol extension law; sell all of the capitol extension grounds except the acreage absolutely needed; build an office building as required by the state, and you will still be saving \$1,600,000.00 of the tremendous cost of capitol extension as railroaded through the last legislature by the present administration."

Mr. Hamilton is impressing upon the people of Iowa his business ability and his courage to do things in the interest of the public. If elected governor, a new era will dawn for the tax payers of Iowa. It is possible to increase the efficiency of an administration and at the same time to greatly reduce the expenses of same. Mr. Hamilton is the man of the hour in Iowa, and The Commoner urges every democrat and independent progressive who wants to see Iowa redeemed from extravagance and placed on the same footing, in the estimation of the people, that the national administration has achieved, to vote for Mr. Hamilton on November 3.

PURCELL OF NORTH DAKOTA

Wm. E. Purcell, who represented North Dakota with such credit and distinction in the United States senate in 1910-11 as an appointee of former Governor Burke, who is now federal treasurer, is the democratic nominee for United States senator in North Dakota. Senator Purcell is a man keenly alive to the needs and requirements of North Dakota. He is a close student of national affairs, and by virtue of political affiliations and personal acquaintance with President Wilson and democratic members of the United States senate, would, if elected, be able to immediately take up the work upon his arrival in Washington, and be of great service to his state and of great assistance in carrying out the platform pledges of the democratic party. During Senator Purcell's short term in the senate he served as minority member of the investigation into the Ballinger land scandals. His uncompromising position during the investigation commanded attention. Mr. Brandeis said of Senator Purcell: "While Purcell was a United States senator, he took front rank in that body; was neither awed by big interests or the great men representing them." Senator Purcell's experience as United States attorney, member of the North Dakota constitutional convention, state senator and as a lawyer, has prepared him as few men have had an opportunity for taking up the work in the larger field offered him in the United States senate and to pursue it with an insight that could only come from years of service in an effort to right the wrongs of the people. Senator Purcell has pronounced views on all public questions, is in complete accord with the policies of President Wilson, and if elected to the United States senate could be depended upon to co-operate to the fullest extent in not only maintaining the advance ground taken by the national administration, but would be a valuable aid in pressing the work forward to completion. Such men as Senator Purcell are needed in the United States senate, and every democrat and independent progressive in North Dakota should give him their support on election day in November.

W. J. BRYAN.

Every voter who believes in cleaner politics and better government should vote for equal suffrage in the states where the issue is presented.