

The Sun

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If our friends who have us managed for publication wish to have their articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

A Democratic Platform.

The executive committee of the Brooklyn Democratic Club has taken the trouble to put together fourteen suggestions for a Democratic national platform.

"The Federal government," says Brooklyn, "shall be preserved in its original simplicity, in its full Constitutional vigor."

"The candidates for the United States Senate shall be nominated in general convention in the several States, and such a change in the national Constitution as will permit the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people."

Preserve original simplicity and full Constitutional vigor by altering them! "The autonomy of the States and the right of local self-government and home rule shall be zealously guarded."

"Every consideration of national morality and regard for the preservation of the American home should be invoked to have Congress exert its power to enact a uniform law governing the subject of divorce."

Brooklyn does not tell us how Congress is to enact such a law until the time honored principles have had another wrench and the old Constitution another patch.

One more treasure and we are done: "The Constitution follows the flag."

And the United States Supreme Court can be overruled at any time by a Democratic national convention.

It is curious that in the very act of announcing their deathless zeal for the Constitution, time honored Democratic principles, a return to "Government according to the Fathers" and so on, so many Democrats calmly borrow policies utterly at variance with their professions.

The Future of Latin America.

Gen. RAFAEL REYES, lately envoy from the Bogota Government to the United States, and a conspicuous candidate for the Presidency of Colombia, expressed the other day at Caracas some opinions which should interest Latin-American peoples, and also ourselves.

The distinguished Colombian was mistaken in asserting that the old programme of "manifest destiny," of which we used to hear a good deal before the civil war, and which aimed, of course, at the gradual absorption of Latin-American countries by the United States, was revived by President McKinley, and has been executed by President Roosevelt.

The influence of the slavery question and the sectional question as between North and South has been responsible for the rise of eight separate religious bodies. Moreover, about a sixth of the whole number of Protestant communicants are colored.

We put the Reformed, or Dutch Reformed, with the Presbyterian family, as being cognate.

The number of Roman Catholics is given by Dr. LAIDLAW as 8,230,114. But the Catholic Directory for 1904 puts it at 11,887,317.

His estimate of the number of Jews in the Orthodox and Reformed synagogues is only 143,000, of whom 62,000 are of the first and 81,000 of the second. It is manifestly without statistical accuracy, as he acknowledges.

European onlookers expected that step to be taken; but they will have noted that again, as in the case of Cuba, we exercised the virtue of forbearance and self-wield, accepting only a zone ten miles wide indispensable for the protection of the interoceanic waterway.

We firmly believe that the Panama Canal zone marks the limit of the southward expansion of the United States. We are convinced that, on that point, Gen. REYES and those South Americans who have shared his misgivings may be reassured. We are aware that our refusal to permit Colombia to stifle by brute force the aspiration of Panama for independence has been misconstrued at Santiago and Quito, if not in other Latin-American capitals, and that apprehensions of an aggressive and absorbent policy on our part have been disclosed by certain representatives of the Chilean Government.

That such apprehensions are now allayed. The letter addressed by the Chilean Minister at Caracas to President CASRRO seems to have had no other aim in view than to promote Latin-American confraternity, and to persuade the Venezuelan Executive that the time has come for all Latin-American nations to have done with civil wars and to unite in the cause of civilization and progress, not for the purpose of organizing combined opposition to the United States, but for the furtherance of the general welfare.

It is not true, as Gen. REYES is said to have asserted, that the only means which Latin-American republics have of saving themselves from dismemberment at the hands of the United States is to put an end, once for all, as Chile, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina seem to have done, to civil war.

The real center of alarming doubt, it seems, has shifted a degree or so westward and is now in Illinois. The urgent clamor that so recently assailed Mr. FAIRBANKS is now assailing Mr. CANNON. Mr. FAIRBANKS said nothing. Mr. CANNON has said "No," with exclamatory points. But there will be a Vice-Presidential candidate all the same, even if somebody has to be detailed peremptorily to the duty.

The religious divisions of the population of the United States and their history are the subject of an elaborate paper by Dr. WALTER LAIDLAW in the quarterly number of the *Federation* just issued, and as he is a distinguished authority on such statistics his facts and conclusions are important for consideration.

His estimate of \$2,000,000 as the population of the United States in 1903 exceeds by a million the recent estimate of the Census Bureau. Of this population, he computes that about 30,000,000 are members of Churches.

The President's head of the Department of Commerce should have the "dumping" problem ready for solution. At least he should have in hand all needed facts. How can Mr. DANFORTH know what Chief Justice PARKER will do, when he knows what his enemy the President will propose?

The Republican leaders cannot now foresee what the President may, any day, blurt out regarding the Dingley law; and so those leaders are in ignorance regarding the next Republican tariff plank.

Only a few days ago Senator BACON endeavored to extract information thereon from Senator ALDRICH, who is the Republican tariff oracle in the Senate.

"Mr. BACON—The question I am trying to direct attention to is as to whether or not there is a duty and obligation upon them to legislate on the abuses of the tariff, which they have failed and refused to perform."

"Mr. ALDRICH—I do not think there is."

"Mr. BACON—Very well. Then I understand the Senator from Rhode Island to say that he thinks the tariff's schedules are right as they stand."

"Mr. ALDRICH—Not by any means. That inference does not follow what I suggested."

"Mr. BACON—Does the Senator mean to say he does not think the tariff schedules are all right?"

"Mr. ALDRICH—That does not follow."

"Mr. BACON—But I want to know what the Senator says. Are these schedules under which these abuses exist right or wrong?"

"Mr. ALDRICH—I will say that the present tariff has been in existence for seven years, and it is utterly impossible for any tariff schedules to be constructed that will be properly adjusted at one time and that may be in its nature either too high or too low seven years from that time."

"Mr. BACON—Easily."

been great, so that in New York alone at the present time they are estimated to number 700,000.

The Unitarians and the Universalists, together, were only 124,538. The Mormons are enumerated at 342,072; the Christian Scientists at 60,283; the communistic scientists, Shakers and others, at only 3,084; Swedenborgians at 7,969; Spiritualists at 45,930; Theosophists at 1,900—all rough and doubtful estimates.

Finally, out of a population estimated at 92,000,000, Dr. LAIDLAW estimates that 60,980,767 are in the Churches or under their influence, and 21,319,233 are "churchless"; but if we take as a standard of judgment the church attendance as enumerated in our large cities, his estimate of the "churchless" will have to be increased greatly.

A Vice-Presidential Candidate By Executive Appointment?

It seems a little queer that Senator FAIRBANKS's alleged deficiencies as a self-binding orator did not occur to somebody a few months ago when the demand for him as the candidate for Vice-President was ardent, almost to the point of fairly commending him into an expression of acquiescence.

Then the President's most intimate political confidants were sure FAIRBANKS was the man above all others for the job. There are statesmen in Indiana, even now, men standing loyally ready, at whatever sacrifice, to close up the Senatorial ranks with their own persons the moment he drops out, who still, after calmly and broadly viewing the question, are of the unqualified opinion that FAIRBANKS, and FAIRBANKS alone, is the man to be Mr. ROOSEVELT's running mate.

But with the others it is different. They have made a discovery. They have found out that on the stump Senator FAIRBANKS is no orator as Uncle JOE CANNON is, but a plain, dull man whose gifts of speech not all the drowsy syrups of the East can match in lulling to peaceful slumber.

If this is a fact, it is a fact demonstrated long ago. It is no new revelation; Mr. FAIRBANKS has given no recent specimens of oratory, soporific or other. Even in all the clamor that he "signify his willingness," he maintained a reserve as to his views that was little less than Parkierian. If he were needed on the ticket because Indiana was doubtful, there are those who believe he is needed for the same reason as much now as then.

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The founder fishing fraternity are already enjoying themselves, especially at the Great Kills of Staten Island, where good hauls of fine fat founders are made every day.

The President shall permit the Republicans to declare that the Dingley tariff is perfect and no modification will be tolerated by the Senate, then none can be made, no matter who shall be in the White House or in the House of Representatives.

Why did not Mr. ELLIOT DANFORTH withhold till after the Republican National Convention had proclaimed its purposes regarding the Dingley schedules and rates, his view of what Chief Justice PARKER will advise the Democratic National Convention to say and do on the subject?

The man remains little for the support of the family, even though his wife and daughter, competing with the other women of the household, are doing their best to keep the household expenses down to a minimum.

This is a sad picture. Doubtless, there are many malicious wives and daughters who work hard to reduce the household expenses as such for instruments, but a national anthem should be one that can be sung by the average audience.

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FOUNDER with his Akron speech of 1902, saying:

"The Republican party will not for light reasons disturb a law that has brought us such prosperity, but it will not hesitate when there is just occasion for doing so to make such amendments as changed conditions may demand."

Then Senator BACON asked the meaning of the foregoing. The Senator from Ohio replied:

"Mr. FORAKER—I think the Senator will find, if he will look at the record, that the Republican party has from time to time reduced the rates of duties imposed on imports that came into competition with domestic products. He is talking about steel rails. My recollection is that the first tariff duty on the importation of steel rails into this country was 25 per cent. After a time, after the industry was started here and the home competition had begun to have some effect, it was reduced to 10 per cent, and then to 5 per cent."

"Mr. BACON—Seven dollars and eighty-four cents, about, I think."

"Mr. FORAKER—Say seven or eight dollars a ton. That is what I had in mind, and the history of tariff duties on steel rails is but an illustration of what is the history of the duty on imported products of every kind coming into competition with our products."

Senator BACON then read to Senator ALLISON, who sat silent, this declaration in his Marshalltown speech:

"Our political enemies demand a defence of the details of present tariff laws, and they charge us with standing pledged to the maintenance of existing rates. It is not the Republican position, even now, men standing loyally ready, at whatever sacrifice, to close up the Senatorial ranks with their own persons the moment he drops out, who still, after calmly and broadly viewing the question, are of the unqualified opinion that FAIRBANKS, and FAIRBANKS alone, is the man to be Mr. ROOSEVELT's running mate."

Has Mr. DANFORTH foreknowledge of what the President will, by Executive order, command his convention to affirm regarding the Dingley tariff and dumping?

It is a standing bet among their constituents down in West Virginia, that two of the boys in the Republican nomination convention will be ex-Senator CAMDEN and HENRY G. DAVIS. Both will be delegates from West Virginia. Mr. CAMDEN is 78 years old, and Mr. DAVIS is 82. It is twenty years since Mr. DAVIS finished his twelve years term of service in the United States Senate, and he has taken hold of politics with a fresh grip. It is also twenty years since he passed the recently established official age limit for the office of Senator.

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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

A Reply by a Woman to the Criticisms of Mrs. Flora Macdonald Thompson.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: Your interesting and suggestive statements, that several diverting points in Mrs. Flora Macdonald Thompson's contribution to the *May North American Review*.

Women who have not withdrawn from industrial competition, of whom Mrs. Thompson disapproves, experience a pardonable difficulty in solving the self-contradictions of her essay.

It can scarcely seem to Mrs. Thompson a derogatory extension of the women should work for such has been her historic, even her prehistoric, habit. There have indeed been periods when they have monopolized industry. It is the alarming novelty, then, that a few have taken to the work of men.

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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

ment in the concluding paragraph that when a married woman does work for wages outside the home she is willing to share her earnings with the husband would seem to have very little foundation in fact. When we realize that the average earnings of a woman in industry are less than \$1 a day, and that many men live on a practically good salary, it is not surprising that in view of the fact that large numbers of women have proved their success as writers, artists, actresses, and in numerous other branches of industry, nor can we be utterly cast down by the final proposition of the author, that the only way to promote pauperism is by robbing men of the opportunity of supporting their families. It is true that many women have made in the industrial field, there seem to be many more men left who are practically good fellows; nor has pauperism increased by the advance of women in the industrial world, as the author would have us believe.

However, after all these solemn warnings and denunciations of the advance of the female sex into the industrial world, the facts still remain that the emancipation of women cannot be delayed and that despite the few who are so severely and bitterly attacked, the majority of women who are engaged in industry are not only self-supporting, but are also contributing to the support of their families. It is true that many women have made in the industrial field, there seem to be many more men left who are practically good fellows; nor has pauperism increased by the advance of women in the industrial world, as the author would have us believe.

NEW YORK, MAY 11, WILLIE DEVEREUX BLAKE.

CLEVELAND DEMANDED.

A Democrat's Argument That His Nominations is Essential to Success.

To the Editor of THE SUN—Sir: It is apparent that the Democratic State convention blundered in its attempt to influence the action of distant States by a premature declaration in favor of Judge Parker. It is not probable that the strong popular candidate for President. The local Democratic organization acted wisely in refusing to lend itself to the selfish purposes of those in charge of the Parker boom, and an early withdrawal from the race would have been a prudent course.

I have taken pains in the course of business correspondence to inquire of prominent Democrats in twenty counties of this State as to the sentiment toward Judge Parker's candidacy. The answers I have received indicate that his popularity is not so great as is generally supposed. It is not surprising that many of the answers would not be rebuked by Mr. Hill.

The lukewarm reception of Judge Parker's name is largely due to the feeling that success with any other candidate than Cleveland is uncertain. The activity of mere politicians like Mr. Sheehan and his kind, all of whom were haters of the straightforward methods of Cleveland, and were backed by the fear of Cleveland's nomination and election accounts for their zeal