MERCANTILE TRUST CO.
SOLICITS
Collection of Rents.
Sale of Property.
Applications for Loans.

INCREASE NOTED IN UNSOLD STEEL STOCKS.

MISTAKEN IDEA THAT CONSUMERS NEED SUPPLIES.

Dun Finds Boots and Shoes Behind and an Uncertainty in Cotton.

New York, April 12.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade to-morrow will say:

Iron furnaces in blast April 1 produced 289,482 tons weekly, against 293,[illegible] March 1, but unsold stocks increased 7[illegible] tons. A mistaken inference, possibly fatal to many in its consequences, is that stocks held by consuming concerns must be running down. As they contract for their supplies months ahead and such supplies whether delivered and not consumed or waiting their orders at furnaces would not be reckoned in unsold stocks, the surplus owned by consumers may be heavy. For new business in finished products is reported to the Iron Age from Pittsburg as "frightfully small," owing to the belief that high prices cannot be maintained, and no better report comes from Philadelphia.

With No. 1 anthracite $2 lower, railroad bars $1 and steel plates $11 are far lower than in December, it can hardly be called impossible for prices to yield, though many are so far firmly held.

Pittsburg reports a number of the plate mills shut down, and five Pennsylvania and Ohio furnaces have stopped, perhaps, for repairs, more than balancing few which started in March, two in Tennessee, adding 2,500 tons weekly.

Boots and Shoes.

The boot and shoe industry also falls behind in output, and is closing some works and running many others part time, because prices are higher than retailers seem ready to pay.

A heavy wholesale business has been done in dry goods, but the question is now whether retail distribution will justify it. As yet returns are not satisfactory. There is an increase, but not enough to warrant the buying from mills. Woolens and worsteds are dull, with concessions in tones, though staples are well sold up and firm. The material situation further overhanging nearly is a cent lower than April 1.

Cotton Goods Exports.

There is the same uncertainty in cotton goods as in retail distribution, with quite as much doubt whether prices can be maintained, though the material has again been advanced a sixteenth in speculation. But exports in March were at value $[illegible], a gain over last year of $[illegible], to rapidly this Europe supplied its needs.

This enormous gain made exports of the chief staples $[illegible] greater in value in March of last year, despite decreases occurred in other staples, the only exception of the gain was in cotton shipments from New York, leaving the state great harvest here to be explained by manufactured exports mainly.

Money Is Cheap.

In spite of the heavy balance due on merchandise account, there has been talk of gold exports, and a small engagement has gone to Buenos Ayres on European account. Rates of money are abundant here, in banks having again gained larger; rates are low and commercial demands narrow, and the interior is better prepared than ever to do without aid.

Wheat and Flour.

The exports of wheat from both coasts continue larger than last year, though about of the gain is at Pacific ports, not directly affecting Atlantic supplies. Flour bought Pacific exports in two weeks have been [illegible] bbl., against [illegible] last year, the Atlantic exports have been [illegible] bbl., against 2,969,280 last year. In spite of all reports of exhaustion of supply and injury to growing wheat, Western receipts continued large, 7 than last year in two weeks, 8,594,040 bu., against 5,885,[illegible] last year. Corn receipts also continue heavy, 8,[illegible] bu., against 4,[illegible] last year.

WOULD SERVE WITHOUT PAY.

Wealthy Man Who Wants to Clean Kansas City Streets.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Kansas City, Mo., April 12.—Among all the officeseekers that have importuned Mayor-elect Reed in the last few days none has been more generous in his proposal than J. L. Woods Merrill, a wealthy lumber dealer. Mr. Merrill would like to be Superintendent of Streets. He offers to work for nothing, and he promises to keep the streets in harmony with a "clean, pure Democratic government." Here is his letter to Mr. Reed:

Honorable A. Reed, Mayor-Elect, Kansas City, Mo.: My Dear Reed—I will give sufficient of my time, without pay, to see that the streets and alleys of this city are properly kept clean and healthy, providing I can have full charge of the Street Commissioner's office, running my own assistants without any political dictation, and guarantee, with a reasonable amount of funds, clean streets, up to date in every particular, in keeping with a clean, pure Democratic administration.

"J. L. WOODS MERRILL."

BAD WEATHER AFFECTS THE MARKET VALUES.

SITUATION HAS APPEARANCE OF IRREGULARITY.

Encouraging Indications of Crops Have Slightly Lowered Agricultural Staples' Prices.

New York, April 12.—Bradstreet's to-morrow will say:

Backward spring weather conditions have lessened considerably in distributive trade reports this week, and, in connection with some weakness in prices of leading staples, have imparted an appearance of irregularity to the general situation. Another one of those downward swings in the prices of agricultural staples is exhibited this week in slightly lowered prices for the cereals, partly because of the bearish position of immediate supplies and partly because of the better than expected Government crop report, which is taken to indicate a possible winter wheat yield in excess of all records.

Crop Outlook Good.

The crop outlook, as a whole, favors the expectation of large yields of wheat, corn and cotton. Corn and oats have sympathized with the reaction in pork products, which reaction, however, has not been universal, as shown by the fact that lard is at the highest point reached on the present boom. Cotton exports in March were three times those of a year ago in value, and for seven months are 7 per cent greater in value, while 21 per cent smaller in quantity.

Steel Products Weaker.

Evidence accumulates that active missionary work in favor of lower prices for iron and steel is at last bearing fruit. Pig iron is no lower, and stocks, as a whole, are claimed to be no larger than a month ago, but steel products have weakened noticeably during the week, billets being the sharpest decline, with corresponding decreases in some other products. The other metals show little change on the week, copper being in continued good demand and firm, while tin is speculatively weaker and lead is strong at previous prices. The hardware trade reports good reports, as a whole, positively best advices coming from Western distributive centers.

Slight Advance in Cotton.

A slight upward swing in cotton is to be noted this week, and Southern mills have stiffened prices. On the other hand, while the mills are active on old orders, new business is reported of smaller volume. Some more inquiry is noted in raw wool, without, however, affecting values.

The movement of raw sugar is a reflection chiefly of the fact that a considerable shortage is looked for in the supplies of cane sugar, not only in Cuba, but in the Far East. The margin between raw and refined allows of no profit at present quotations. Anthracite coal is rather weak at the decline shown from the winter list, but bituminous is strong and active, particularly on foreign account.

Wheat Shipments Smaller.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregate 2,896,[illegible] bushels, against 2,[illegible] bushels last week, 1,[illegible] bushels in the corresponding week of 1899, 3,42[illegible] bushels in 1898, 1,341,[illegible] bushels in 1897 and 2,[illegible] bushels in 1896. Since July 1 this season exports of wheat aggregate 1[illegible] bushels, against 2[illegible] bushels last year and 1[illegible] bushels in 1897-98.

Corn exports for the week aggregate 2,[illegible] bushels, against 4,[illegible] last week, 2,[illegible] bushels in this week a year ago, 4,[illegible] bushels in 1899, 2,[illegible] bushels in 1898, and 1,[illegible] bushels in 1897. Since July 1 this season corn exports aggregate 1[illegible] bushels, against [illegible] bushels in the same period a year ago and [illegible] bushels in 1897-98.

Business failures for the week number 1[illegible], as compared with 182 in the United States last week, 243 in this week a year ago, 216 in 1898, 195 in 1897, and 244 in 1896. Failures in the Dominion of Canada for the week number 2[illegible], as compared with 26 last week and 16 this week a year ago, 27 in 1899, 29 in 1897 and 34 in 1896.

OUTSIDE ORDERS FELL OFF.

Railroad and Industrial Stocks Acted Independently.

New York, April 13.—Bradstreet's financial review to-morrow will say: Last week developed a tendency on the part of the railroad stock list and leading industrial stocks to move with more or less independence of each other. In the present week this has become much more emphasized, decided buying strength in certain railroad stocks taking place, which the heavy liquidation in the steel stocks, while the latter movement seems to have little relation to developments in other parts of the market.

The bear-raiding group also contributed to the irregularity of the situation by developing a measure of strength on their own account. The quotations for some more active railroad stock are the week higher than a week ago, and yesterday Saturday, while many industrials are decidedly lower.

The week has been marked by a further falling off in the amount of outside orders and business, and by increased evidences of manipulation, while London, which was inclined to be dull, in view of the nearness of the holidays, and was also affected by the less promising aspect of the British operations in South Africa and by the increasing firmness of money, showed an inclination at times to sell the stocks it recently bought here.

Americans, however, continued to be a leading feature in London and European buying, was again somewhat in excess of the selling ascribed to foreign interest. Our market has, however, begun to notice the strength of exchange rates, and, though sterling rates are still about 15c below the level at which gold exports found circulation, in fact, $[illegible] gold is going from New York to Buenos Ayres on a London order, it is realized that the relatively firm money market at London and the prospect of further ease here in regard to loans and interest rates may well result in the transfer of considerable amounts of capital from New York to Europe.

The financial situation is certainly not adverse to the stock market. The decrease shown in last Saturday's bank statement had no effect, and the gains of the New York banks from the Treasury and the Interior promise to result in a favorable statement to-day, in spite of a presumable increase in Wall street's borrowing. Offerings of funds on call and time loans are more freely made, and the confidence in the financial position which asserted itself after the currency bill was passed and the Government refunding plan put in operation is unimpaired.

Continued increases in railroad earnings and fair, if not favorable, crop prospects have aided in giving railway shares their strong tone. On the other hand, the fact that the iron and other trades still enjoy uninterrupted prosperity did not seem to bring support to the industrial group, the steel stocks, as already mentioned, being the specially weak feature. It would seem that this is due to the forced liquidation of holdings of the common stock of such companies, brought on by the growing doubts which have lately been excited regarding dividends on that class of the shares of several companies.

Seeking a Well-Known Farmer.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Mount Sterling, Ill., April 13.—William Costello, a well-known farmer, residing two miles from Mount Sterling, left his home Thursday night, April 5, and no trace of him can be found. Searching parties have canvassed the neighborhood, and a pond and wells on the premises have been dragged.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pettijohn.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Clay City, Ill., April 13.—Mrs. Elizabeth Pettijohn died here to-day from pneumonia. She was 68 years old.

The Best Prescription for Malaria

Chills and Fever is a bottle of Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price 50c.

ST. LOUIS MAY BE HEADQUARTERS.

Democratic National Committee Is Not Well Satisfied With Chicago.

PRESS SAID TO BE UNFAIR.

Washington a Candidate for the Honor—New York Democrats Are Busy With Their Local Affairs.

It is believed St. Louis stands an excellent chance of being made the headquarters for the Democratic National Committee. Washington and Chicago have been mentioned a good many times as possible competitors, but it is said if most of the present members of the committee are reelected this city will be favored. So far as heard from, it seems a good many of the old members will be reelected and most of them without opposition.

The chairman of the committee, Senator Jones of Arkansas, has on more than one occasion expressed his disapproval of the treatment the committee received in the past at the hands of the Chicago press, which, in turn, feeds the same information to the various bureaus, and thus disseminates it over the country. So far as the citizens of Chicago are concerned, it seems the committeemen have no cause for complaint, but they insist that the rule of the press of the city, with few exceptions, has been to misrepresent them. Senator Jones has expressed himself very freely on this subject more than once, and so have other members of the committee.

The opinion has been expressed that Senator Jones favors Washington as the headquarters of the National Committee for the approaching campaign, but of this there is no positive proof. Other members, however, many of them quite prominent in the councils of the committee, are known to favor this city. If they are reelected it is assumed they will insist that St. Louis is the most desirable location.

There has been very little talk about the chairmanship of the new National Committee here lately. On the theory that Senator Jones and Governor Stone will both be reelected, mention has been made of their names in this connection. It seems Governor Stone will have no opposition to succeed himself, and it is said the same condition exists in Arkansas regarding Senator Jones. It is thought that even if Senator Jones should resign himself as chairman of the committee he would favor St. Louis over any other city than Washington.

The question of the national headquarters will no doubt be a very lively issue in the near future. Chicago is said to be desirous of retaining the quarters, but it is admitted the Windy City will have to make some very strong promises and give bond to insure the same should most of the old committeemen be reelected, before it will be considered in the contest. New York has been mentioned as a possible competitor, but it does not appear that the Democrats of that State are bothering about the matter. Their local campaigns afford the New Yorkers about all in the way of politics that they care to handle.

EXTRAVAGANCE IS REBUKED.

Fate of State Legislators a Warning to Ziegenhein.

In the language of the street, St. Louis is practically "broke," so far as the available revenue for running the city government is concerned. This is admitted by Mayor Ziegenhein and other city officers through official communications of quite recent date. They admit they do not know where the revenue is to come from to maintain the necessary public improvements and keep the machinery of the city government running for the approaching fiscal year.

These statements have attracted attention all over the State, and will undoubtedly become a part of local campaign issues this year. That the Democrats will seize upon them to show the incompetency of Republican rule, or the wilful waste of public funds, is no secret. There has been no falling off in the collection of revenues, but, according to the statements of Collector Wenneker, more money has been collected the past year than ever. The valuation of the city has been increased several millions of dollars, and people have paid their taxes more promptly than in past years, but the money has been spent, and the citizens are informed that badly needed improvements must be abandoned in order to keep the machinery of the city government running.

The only excuse offered by the Mayor for this condition of affairs is that the expenditures of the Police Department were increased by the last Legislature, and the city must pay the same. The reference he makes to the enlarged city pay rolls, other than the Police Department, is that the public service would be crippled if this latter army should be cut down. He has not said anything about the exorbitant prices the city is paying for supplies, or intimated that the services of a single politician who has been placed on the city pay rolls under ordinances approved by him, could be dropped.

A year ago there was a great deal of complaint from Jefferson City, because the members of the House appropriated the number of employes greatly, and many of them quartered their relatives on the State during part of the session. Because of these complaints, a large number of employes were discharged about the middle of the session, but it seems this did not operate to save those responsible for placing them there. Up to date not a single Democrat who voted for this increased payroll has been able to secure a renomination. One-eighth of the Republican who voted for it has also been retired to private life. Now, if this same rule is followed in St. Louis, the Mayor and his friends in the Municipal Assembly may expect to be held strictly responsible for the condition of St. Louis finances and the abandonment of public improvements.

WORRYING OVER DAVIS.

Missouri Republicans in Doubt How to Receive Him.

The administration forces in Missouri are speculating on the probable aspect of affairs should Webster Davis, late Assistant Secretary of the Interior, put in his appearance at the State Convention to be held in Kansas City, May 15. If he should attend, and it is more than likely that he will, will he be permitted to make speeches to the delegates. The relations which Mr. Davis has sustained to the party in the State in the past has been most cordial, but his sudden resignation from the President's official family in order that he might be at liberty to criticize the administration, has provoked a sentiment in the State that is not at all friendly to him. Mr. Davis is now at liberty to do just what he pleases, and, being of an independent disposition, it is hardly likely he will consult the Republican bosses as to the advisability of his appearing on the convention floor.

The subject with Missouri Republicans is such a delicate one that it is giving them no end of worry. If Mr. Davis should attend the convention an invitation to speak would inevitably follow. He could not make an address without giving to his friends in Missouri a full explanation of his action in resigning, and this would create a stampede among those administration Republicans in the State who fear the truth. What to do with the problem is yet to be determined upon, and the party leaders in the State are laying awake nights trying to devise some plan to sidetrack the former administration orator.

STATE CONVENTION OF CLUBS.

Arrangements to Be Made for Meeting to Select Delegates.

Colonel John A. Knott of Hannibal will be in the city next week to confer with officers of the Missouri Association of Democratic Clubs relative to fixing a date and place for holding the State Convention of clubs, to name delegates to the National Convention to be held at Indianapolis September 2. Secretary Cortez A. Kitchen says demands for charters for new organizations are coming in rapidly, and within a short time there will be a large number of clubs organized throughout the State.

At a previous meeting of the Executive Committee of this organization it was determined to hold the State Convention of Clubs September 2, but since then the railroad meeting has been fixed for the same date, which necessitates a change in this State. It is the intention that the clubs now being organized shall be of a permanent character and continue their meetings year in and year out as long as there is any political enemy for Democracy to fight. Prior to the organization of these clubs there were but three or four permanent Democratic organizations in the State.

The fact that the State campaign will be opened so much earlier than usual has aroused political sentiment generally throughout the State, and hence the officers of the Missouri Association of Democratic Clubs have decided that no time should be lost in pushing their organization as rapidly as possible.

MISSOURIANS HEADQUARTERS.

Rooms Leased for Convention Week at Kansas City.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Kansas City, Mo., April 13.—The national headquarters for all Missourians who come to Kansas City during the Democratic National Convention will be in the big storeroom at No. 1[illegible] Baltimore avenue, just across the street from the Hotel Baltimore. The room has twenty-five feet front on Baltimore avenue and extends back to the alley. It is the office of Louis Curtiss, the architect, and Mr. Curtiss will surrender it for a few days during the convention.

The room has three entrances. The front office will be used as the private office of the committee, which will have charge of Missouri headquarters. The large room will be the main lobby for the delegations, and there will be reading places, easy chairs, an information bureau, and other conveniences for the visitors. In the rear of the office is a large room, which will be used as a private committee-room for the thirty-four Missouri delegates. It will be a place where all Missourians may have a common meeting place.

Arrangements were made by former Governor Stone for the use of this room. He made the contract with Mr. Curtiss, but the details of the arrangement of the room will be planned by the Missouri delegation when it meets at Jefferson City. The Missouri delegation and all Missourians who come to the convention will make their own arrangements for hotel accommodations. There is no "Missouri party" as there are parties from other States. Former Governor Stone will occupy a room in the Baltimore during the convention.

A note of warning regarding extortionate hotel rates again was sounded by former Governor Stone, who said that complaints will still be heard by the National Committee. The best Convention Committee is now engaged in an effort to put the question of hotel rates and to protect the interest of extortion. Several members of the National Committee are indignant as a result of the complaints made against a few Kansas City hotelkeepers.

DOWNTOWN QUARTERS OPENED.

Jefferson Club Has an Office in Lincoln Trust Building.

The Jefferson Club yesterday opened downtown headquarters in room No [illegible], Lincoln Trust building, and placed Patrick J. Fitzsimons in charge. He will be aided by the various campaign committees, and it is announced the quarters will remain open until after the municipal election next spring. For the present, however, attention will be paid chiefly to the present campaign, both city and State. Those in charge will make arrangements for speakers to attend meetings in the city, and otherwise act as a political clearing-house. Notices of ward and other Democratic meetings will be posted and attention paid to notifying the public of the same.

Yesterday the following Democratic meetings were posted at headquarters: Meeting of the Hebrew Democratic Club at Harugari Hall, Tenth and Carr streets, Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock. The Democrats of the Eleventh Ward will hold a meeting Saturday night at No. 720 Michigan avenue. Good speakers will be in attendance.

DISSATISFIED NEGRO VOTERS.

Object to Their Exclusion From Republican Caucuses.

The Wright Casey Club proposes to go after the Republican organization until it receives its just deserts and forces the party to treat the negroes with some consideration after having secured their support and votes. At the meeting to be held at the club headquarters Sunday afternoon, Francis Dorsey, one of the members, will present the following resolution:

"Whereas, It is established beyond question that the negro Republicans are excluded from all Republican caucuses; therefore, be it

"Resolved, We severely condemn such practices as being unrepublican and against the common interests of the Republican party. We demand as a condition to our further support upon local issues that such practices be departed from, and that we be allowed representation in said caucuses."

TO ELECT THREE SENATORS.

Terms of Mott, Schweickardt and Busche Expire.

St. Louis will elect three Senators at the coming election. The terms of Senators Mott, Schweickardt and Busche expire. Senator Mott is a candidate for renomination and seems to have a good chance, although Charles A. Smith, who served the last two terms in the lower house of the Legislature, is also a candidate for the place. Senator Schweickardt, having removed to Forest Park, is outside of his district. This will prevent his renomination. Colonel P. J. Carmody may become a candidate for his place. This district is Democratic, but was carried by the Republicans because of factional fights in the Democratic party. Senator Busche has served two terms in the Legislature and is again a candidate. The St. Louis holdover Senators are Drabelle, Rollins and Martin.

FOR THE STATE CONVENTION.

Chairman Cook Says Kansas City's Plans Will Be Examined.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Kansas City, Mo., April 13.—Sam B. Cook, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, who is in the city, says that he and other members of the committee will come to Kansas City in a week to look over the situation in reference to the Democratic State Convention. It was planned to hold the convention in Convention Hall, but representation was found which gave too many delegates. It is an unwieldy number for an ordinary meeting place, and the committee wants to see what sort of a place is next best for the gathering. Arrangements have been made by Kansas City to use the Auditorium, and the committee doubtless will indorse the plan.

Senatorial Convention Set.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Hartville, Mo., April 13.—The Senatorial Convention for the Republicans of the Ninteenth District was set by the committee to meet at Forsyth, Taney County, May 28. Following will be the number of delegates: Christian County, 16; Ozark, 9; Stone, 9; Taney, 8; Webster, 14; Webster, 13; Douglas, 13. Total, 83. Senator A. Burkhead of Douglas is a candidate for renomination and is opposed by H. S. Wilson of the same county. Stone is instructed for W. P. Sullivan of Christian County.

Wright County Republicans.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Hartville, Mo., April 12.—The Republicans of Wright County will meet in their voting precincts on April 21 and elect delegates to meet in Hartville April 28, for the purpose of electing seven delegates to the Kansas City convention. At the same time and manner, delegates will be elected to attend the Republican Convention of the Thirteenth District at Salem, May 5, to elect a Presidential elector and two electoral delegates to the National Convention.

Has Forty Delegates Pledged.

T. V. Mitchell, Jr., member of the Democratic State Committee from the Springfield District, was in the city yesterday. He is a very enthusiastic supporter of Robert L. Goode of Springfield for Judge of the St. Louis Court of Appeals, and expressed the opinion that the latter was making a most creditable race, with good chances of capturing the prize. Mr. Mitchell said Mr. Goode now has some forty delegates to his credit.

Sixth Ward Democrats.

There was a meeting Thursday night of the East End Democratic Club of the Sixth Ward, at No. 221 Lombard street, the object being to change the name to the East End Jefferson Club of the Sixth Ward. The following officers were elected: President, J. J. Mestres; vice president, R. J. Gibbons; secretary, S. Eddleman; treasurer, Henry Steiert; sergeant-at-arms, L. J. Mestres. The club indorsed the delegation to be voted on at the primaries, headed by E. E. Gulon and Charles J. Denny.

INSTRUCTED FOR BRYAN.

New Mexico Democrats Loyal to the Nebraskan.

Denver, Colo., April 12.—A special to the Republican from Albuquerque, N. M., says: The Territorial Democratic Convention today elected six delegates to the National Convention and instructed them to vote for William Jennings Bryan for President. Ex-Delegate Ferguson was chosen as national committeeman.

Mr. Bryan arrived here to-night and will speak twice to-morrow. The Santa Fe shops will be closed to-morrow to permit the employes to hear Mr. Bryan.

NEBRASKA LEADERS AGAINST FUSION.

Democratic Ticket Regardless of Populists' Action Is Said to Be Favored.

BRYAN, OF COURSE, TO LEAD.

Towne and Dewey Are Regarded as Strong Candidates for Second Place—Strong Free Silver Plank.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Omaha, Neb., April 12.—An important conference has just been concluded by which it is said, on undeniable authority, the conduct of the National Democratic Convention at Kansas City, July 4, is largely determined. One of the results is the decision that there shall be no fusion on the presidential ticket this year.

Your correspondent is permitted by the Democratic leaders to give this statement of the course of action decided upon by the Western Democrats:

W. J. Bryan, of course, is the choice for President. The Democrats will conduct their convention at Kansas City just as if they never heard of a Populist convention or Populist candidates. The candidate for Vice President will be a Democrat or Silver Republican, the latter preferred for obvious reasons.

There is no denying the fact that Judge Henry C. Caldwell was believed to be the strongest man for second place on the presidential ticket, and his withdrawal from the race for a time created some consternation. He was regarded favorably by the Populists as well as the Democrats and Silver Republicans. Now that Caldwell has disposed of himself, Western Democrats have considered other possibilities, and their choice has practically narrowed down to Charles A. Towne of Minnesota.

Towne or Dewey.

Mr. Towne is most favorably regarded in the West, and there is but this one objection to his candidacy—he is not an Eastern man. The Democrats of the West desire to allow the East to name the candidate for Vice President, but they hope the East will name Mr. Towne.

As to Democratic candidates, the names discussed by Western Democrats are numerous, but it is believed that unity can be obtained on only about five prominent national affairs. Former Governor Pattison of Pennsylvania has a host of friends throughout the West and is believed to be strong in the East. Senator John W. Daniels of Virginia is also favorably regarded in the West. A third candidate that would please both East and West is Former Congressman Shively of Indiana, who, while not so prominent, is believed to be a strong and able man and politician. Senator Fettus of Alabama is still another possibility.

Admiral Dewey is last but by no means the least to be considered in this connection. It is believed that Bryan and Dewey would be an invincible ticket. In spite of the Admiral's persistence that he is after the presidency, it is believed by Western Democrats and the national leaders that when Bryan's strength is shown at Kansas City he will be content with second place.

There is one drawback to Dewey's candidacy with Bryan. It is feared he will not subscribe to the Chicago platform. In event that he will not, the Bryan leaders declare he will not be a formidable candidate. The Nebraskan's forces are unwavering in their determination to make the silver plank as prominent and specific as ever. It is complained that this is not good politics, but the argument has no effect on the Bryan men. A prominent leader said in this connection:

Outspoken for Free Silver.

"You can put it as strongly as words can make it, that free silver will be strongly represented in the Kansas City platform. There will be no yielding on this score to the gold Democrats. The convention will not be satisfied with a mere allusion to the Chicago platform, but the silver plank will be reiterated stronger than ever."

This statement is from unquestionable authority and events will prove it. A minority is hoping to gloss over the silver issue, arguing that to dwell upon it is but to insult the gold Democrats who wish to come back into the fold. Mr. Bryan's friends say that such efforts are futile and that Bryan himself would not subscribe to them. They say that any such compromise with the gold Democrats would but weaken the party and that they will not be content with anything but a declarative statement on the silver issue, as it appeared in the Nebraska platform.

That the influence of Mr. Bryan has largely shaped the councils of these majority leaders of the Democrats is true. He will stand or fall by the Chicago platform with the new issue of imperialism added. And on this stand, it is confidently asserted, he will carry the convention easily, with some good Democrat or silver Republican as his second.

FUSION IN OREGON.

Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans Are Together.

Portland, Ore., April 13.—The State Convention of the Democrats and Populists, after being in session for two days, effected a fusion of the two parties and adjourned this evening. The Silver Republicans also joined in the fusion movement, though they held no convention.

Both the Democrats and Populists indorsed William J. Bryan for the presidential nomination, but the Populist delegates to the National Convention were instructed to vote for no other Democrat for the nomination for President, and to vote only for a Populist for Vice President.

The following is the fusion ticket complete:

Justice of the Supreme Court—William Ramsey (Dem.).

Food and Dairy Commissioner—William Schulmercher (Pop.).

Congressmen—First District, Bernard Daly (Dem.); Second District, William C. Smith (Pop.).

Presidential Electors—Ernest Kroner (Pop.), John Whittaker (Pop.), Del. Stuart (Dem.), William Pearce (Dem.).

The Populists receive three and the Democrats six District Attorneys in the State.

The fusion platform, as adopted, reaffirms in its entirety the Chicago platform of 1896 and the money plank adopted by the fusionists of Oregon in 1898, which declares for free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. The platform favors an income tax, the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people and the initiative and referendum and opposes government by injunction.

On the Philippines it says:

"The Filipinos cannot be citizens without endangering our civilization, they cannot be subjects without endangering our form of government. We favor an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to give to the Filipinos a stable form of government, and protection from outside interference. We favor the expansion of trade by every legitimate and peaceful means, but we are opposed to purchasing trade at the cannon's mouth with human blood." Sympathy is expressed for the Boers and the Porto Rican tariff bill is condemned.

The platform demands that articles controlled by trusts shall be placed on the free list, and that laws be enacted that will effectually suppress and destroy all trusts. Government ownership of the telegraph is indorsed.

The Middle-of-the-Road Populist Convention with nine delegates present nominated a ticket and elected seventeen delegates to the National Convention at Cincinnati.

ELKINS IN THE FIELD.

He Launches His Boom for the Vice Presidency.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, April 13.—The certainty that Governor Roosevelt will not be considered as a candidate for Vice President leaves the Republican leaders at sea. They have nobody immediately in mind as an available candidate, although many names have been suggested. Senator Hanna has been looking West and South, but thus far without result.

There are two aggressive candidates—Woodruff of New York and Elkins of West Virginia. Senator Elkins has been on the waiting list for some time, but was not encouraged to push his candidacy while all eyes were turned to Roosevelt. Now that Roosevelt is out of consideration, the West Virginia Senator has begun an active canvass, and members of the National Committee have been approached by him with requests that they advance his interests.

Representative Sherman of New York was trotted out by the Platt machine in the Empire State to-day, but his candidacy has not yet assumed importance. It is believed in Washington that Mr. Sherman will be used to kill off the boom of Lieutenant Governor Woodruff, whose candidacy is obnoxious to the President.

WILL MEET AT DES MOINES.

Iowa Silver Republican Convention Set for May 3.

Des Moines, Ia., April 13.—W. A. Spurrier, National Committeeman for Iowa Silver Republican party, announced that the party will hold a convention in Des Moines May 3 to name delegates to the convention of the national organization at Kansas City.

The State Convention will be held on the same day as the National, and although the formal call is not announced, Judge Spurrier says it will probably be a mass gathering. The National Convention, he says, will be held at Kansas City the same day as the Democratic Convention, and the expectation is that the same candidates will be named by both organizations.

BRYAN WILL MEET DEWEY.

Two Distinguished Men to Be Guests of a Chicago Club.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Chicago, Ill., April 13.—Admiral Dewey and William Jennings Bryan will meet Tuesday evening, May 1, for the first time since the hero of Manila announced he was a presidential candidate.

All doubt as to Mr. Bryan's presence on the anniversary of Montojo's defeat was dispelled yesterday when the Lake Side Club received a telegram from him, saying that he would cancel previous engagements in order to be present at that organization's celebration, which is a part of the general programme.

More than ordinary interest is attached to the meeting of these two men, particularly since the recent utterances of the Admiral in reward to the presidency.

Both of the distinguished guests are aware of the prospective meeting. The officials of the club did not arrange that they should be present at the same event until each had been consulted. In reply, Mr. Bryan and the Admiral said that so far from being objectionable the meeting would give them great pleasure.

The attitude of the Democratic leader is regarded by his admirers as an indication that he rather courts a chat with the famous sailor.

Mr. Bryan was not present in New York when the Admiral was given his welcome there. Several weeks later, when he had business in Washington, he made it his business to call on Dewey and renew his acquaintance. It is reported that the two were first friends when Dewey was detailed at the Ordnance Bureau at Washington and the Nebraskan was a Member of Congress.

CAST 1,251 BALLOTS.

Ohio Republicans Adjourn Without Nominating a Congressman.

Wellington, O., April 13.—The attempt to nominate a candidate for Congress to succeed Representative W. S. Kerr was abandoned by the Republican Convention of the Fourteenth District this afternoon, after 1,252 ballots had been taken.

The convention met on Tuesday morning and it was in session day and night, with short intermissions, for nearly four days. At noon today a Conference Committee of representatives from each county in the district was appointed, and the report of the committee that the convention adjourn to meet in Norwalk on May 17 was adopted. There was no change in the vote from the seven hundred and fifty-ninth to the one thousand three hundred and fifty-second ballot.

This deadlock is a record-breaker so far as Ohio is concerned.

South Side Democratic Club.

The South Side Democratic Club of the Twenty-ninth Ward has been organized, with headquarters at No. 988 Clayton avenue. William A. Cannon is president, Michael Crowley vice president, Alfred How secretary, Jean B. Largentie treasurer and James Kelly sergeant-at-arms. The club will hold a public meeting Saturday night, April 21, to which all Democrats are invited.

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