

# BERNBERG STATE CONVENTION OF THE INDEPENDENCE LEAGUE

### Members of New Party Assemble at San Francisco and Hear Masterly Addresses by Polito, Rainey, Williams, O'Connell and Craig.

(Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)  
 San Francisco, May 16.—The people of California who, in their honest hearts really desire freedom from boss rule and yearn for a chance to express their honest opinions in open meeting, or at fairly conducted conventions, would have felt a great feeling of hope could all of them have attended the annual convention of the Independence League party, held today in this city.

There was none of the old methods and few of the old families in the gatherings of the old political parties. The delegates who gathered in that convention were not drawn together by the desire for public office. They were citizens who had come out of their homes to give expression to their varying opinions, but all united in one purpose—to restore to the people of the land the government out of which they have been tricked.

The platform adopted was calm and dispassionate in its wording but obtained greater force from its very calmness and its honest vigor. The convention elected delegates at large to the national convention of the Independence League party, to be held in Chicago and ratified the program by the broader principles of the initiative, the referendum and the recall and particularly for the submission of all franchises that are asked for to a direct vote of the citizens. There were emphatic declarations of the public ownership of railroads, telegraphs and other public utilities.

The most notable of the platform declarations as finally prepared and adopted with a great shout provide for direct nomination by the people of all elected officers; for the popular election of United States judges as well as United States senators; for an income tax; for the broader principles of the initiative, the referendum and the recall and particularly for the submission of all franchises that are asked for to a direct vote of the citizens. There were emphatic declarations of the public ownership of railroads, telegraphs and other public utilities.

### Leaves England for Extensive Tour Through German Possessions in South Africa—Silk Man Sues Woman for Damages.

By Malcolm Clarke.  
 (Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)  
 Berlin, May 16.—The German secretary of the colonies, Privy Councillor Dernburg, leaves England for an extensive tour through the German possessions in southwest Africa. He goes from England direct to Capetown, where he will remain until the end of June, and will then spend more than two months looking into conditions in the colonies with the special purpose of finding out for himself how great a finding of the German territory is fit for the raising of cotton and what the government should do to encourage this branch of farming which is of great interest to German manufacturers, who desire nothing more than to become independent of the American cotton speculators.

Another object of the secretary's trip is to find out how much the colonies have suffered from the long war against the rebellious natives and what may be done to promote the development of the country. Before leaving, Privy Secretary Dernburg came out strongly against Professor Robert Koch's suggestion of exterminating all big game in Africa, in order to get rid of the plague of tsetse fly which lives on their blood and which is the primary cause of the sleeping disease. On this point he declared it was his intention to work for the passage of suitable bills to protect the big game in the German colonies.

Because a well-known actress refused to let him kiss her, the colonel has sued her for damages. The actress, who is a kaiser, a wealthy Berlin silk manufacturer sued the colonel for damages in connection with the loss of his martial face.

The manufacturer after a brief acquitment asked the actress for a kiss. She told that she could not grant his wish as long as he wore a mustache. Though very proud of his mustache, the manufacturer was obliged to let her kiss to have it off, but when he claimed his reward the lady told him that while he was kissing another man, and naturally dared not kiss any one but her fiancé.

Then the manufacturer went to court with the demand that the law procure for him either the desired kiss or its equivalent, \$175.

### MEXICO FACES FINANCIAL PANIC

#### Government Takes Steps to Improve Situation by Adjusting Duties.

(Hearst News by Longest Leased Wire.)  
 Mexico, May 16.—Limantour, the secretary of the treasury, being interviewed concerning current rumors about the intention of the government to take some positive and active measures to improve the financial situation, limited himself to saying that the only measures proposed by the government for any such purpose will be presented to congress for its action and consist in abolishing the duties on the exportation of hemp, for the encouragement of its producers in Yucatan. The secretary added that in reality the economic situation does not inspire either anxiety or fears of any class. There has never been a period during the economic stringency abroad and which has affected the whole world, that there has been in Mexico a moment of the fear of a panic or anything like it. Moreover, the attention of the government of Mexico to the financial condition is not a thing of today or yesterday. It begins at the first sign of a money stringency in any of the money centers of the world; and this constant vigilance has never ceased. The government watches affairs in the money world does not believe any extraordinary measures are necessary in any of the banks, following his instructions has always been in the most prudent and cautious, limiting their operations to affairs that offer ample securities. The solidity of our banks is beyond doubt any they are in condition to meet whatever contingency. The fact that business conditions in Mexico are improving daily is very satisfactory to the government and our financial connections, though there has never been any fear of trouble. We are here an individual, who suffers an attack of indigestion, which does not endanger his life or health, but for the moment annoys and takes away his appetite, obliging him to let his stomach rest a little. This rest is, in both cases, an only necessary, efficacious and beneficial.

### CHICAGO FACES DRIVERS' STRIKE

#### Commission - House Drivers Ask for Wage Increase and May Insist.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
 Chicago, May 16.—A strike of 5,000 teamsters, which may involve 35,000 other union men in Chicago, is imminent as the result of the attempt of the commission-house teamsters to get a wage increase. A repetition of the scenes of 1905 is feared, should the strike be declared.

Urgent negotiations which have been in progress for some time reached a crisis tonight when the team-owners tried to frame a final refusal to grant the wage increase. Tomorrow the drivers will vote on the question of a strike, and it is believed that the vote to go out will be unanimous.

The permission of the national board of the teamsters union to strike has already been granted.

### CONGRESS TO SETTLE DATE OF ADJOURNMENT

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
 Washington, D. C., May 16.—If an agreement can be reached on the currency bill, the session of congress may end at midnight Thursday, May 23. A bill of adjournment and senate leaders will be held Monday. The final day for adjournment will be settled.

### GREEN BILL BEFORE HUGHES COMMISSION

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
 Albany, N. Y., May 16.—The Green bill, providing for the adoption of the Torrens registration system of land titles in the state, being the result of an investigation into the subject last year by a special commission appointed by Governor Charles E. Hughes, was given a hearing by the governor this afternoon.

Opposition developed from title guarantee companies, whose representatives declared the measure impractical and unconstitutional. They argued, too, that the system would prevent borrowing money on real estate, as the lenders would not depend upon registered titles.

Those favoring the bill replied that registration is not new, and that members of the commission pointed out that the system has worked successfully in other states and a way with the present cumbersome Torrens system involving a search of the titles each time property changes hands.

### WOMAN KILLS SELF AND BABY DAUGHTER

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
 Los Angeles, May 16.—According to a telephone message received at the Central police station in this city, Mrs. Lulu Harcourt, living in a suburb, mid-way between Los Angeles and Pasadena, killed herself and her nine-month-old daughter this morning at her home. It is believed that Mrs. Harcourt was suffering from a mental aberration due to dependency because of the inability of her husband to secure employment.

### HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA

#### Will Cure You of BLOOD HUMORS

Manifesting themselves in pimples, boils, eczema, scrofula and other eruptions—and of all Spring ailments, nervousness, biliousness, indigestion, headache, loss of appetite, lassitude and that tired feeling.

Its great record of cures establishes the fact that it is the best blood-purifier, appetite-restorer, nerve-strengthening, liver and stomach tonic.

"My father has taken Hood's Sarsaparilla as a blood purifier and tonic in the spring, and other members of the family have also taken it when run down and out of order generally. It soon makes them feel all right again, and they regard it as excellent." Mrs. Rilla Hixcox, Toulan, Ills.

In usual liquid form or in chocolate-coated tablet called Sustiva. 100 Doses One Dollar.

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### Sanitary Couches \$3.98

This is the lowest price ever quoted in Portland. None sold to dealers; only one to any customer; no telephone orders; mail orders will be filled at \$4.48, being 50c extra for packing and shipping.

### Sanitary Davenport \$4.89

Like illustration; lowest price ever made in Portland. No phone orders; none to dealers; only one to a customer; mail orders \$5.39, being 50c extra to pay for packing and shipping.

### Couch Sale

To keep our workmen busy we continue the Couch sale of last week for one week longer.

Handy Couch, hard edge, made with fancy stripe covering, \$5.00 value—this week ..... \$3.98

Handy Couch, spring edge, fancy stripe covering, regular \$7.50 value—this week ..... \$4.75

Velour Couch, hard edge, raised hem, moulded frame; \$8.75 regular price—special this week ..... \$5.75

### 85-191 EDWARDS CO HOUSE FURNISHERS

#### A GOOD PLACE TO TRADE

### Southern Idaho Wastes Watered

#### First Section of the Great Boise-Payette Project Nearly Complete.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
 Caldwell, Ida., May 16.—The great federal reclamation project on the south side of the Boise river, that is attracting great numbers of people to this part of the country is now nearly complete. Farmers who have for years held the dry land homesteads and tried to eke out an existence have begun the great system of lateral construction that will water the vast tract on which they have founded their homes. They are working under contract with the government and have the privilege of working out the water right to their farms to the aggregate value of \$120,000. This they may do as fast as they can do the work.

The great Deer Flat valley, which contains about 200,000 acres, is one of the finest tracts in the northwest and when watered will furnish fine homes for the many ambitious homeseekers who are coming to this place. The land has already been entered and the land is now being subdivided into small tracts of from 40 to 80 acres as homestead relinquishments from those who have entered 160 acres and have been compelled to relinquish the other half since the "farm unit" has been established at 80 acres.

Reservoir 23 Square Miles.

This valley is particularly adapted to the raising of fruit. The families who have settled there are of the best class of agricultural people and are doing their work on the farms much the same as if they already had water. Good houses are in many instances built. The land is tilled and sometimes creditable crops are raised by dry farming.

The gigantic reservoir that is to store water for this great tract is finished and when full will have a water surface of about 23 square miles. In the deepest place the water will stand about 82 feet deep and it is thought it will hold much more water than will ever be necessary for the irrigating of the land below it, although the canal coursing down the center of the valley has a bottom of 40 feet for the first 12 miles and is 36 miles long. Above and on each side of this are numerous lateral canals, which will be fed from this one reservoir. The main canal from the Boise river, which will bring water to the reservoir in the season when the snows are melting, is about 28 miles long and has a 70-foot bottom. This ditch will carry 10 feet of water and it is thought to be of sufficient capacity to keep the big reservoir in full water supply.

In addition to the great project of the south side of the Boise river it is the intention of the government to construct as soon as possible a great system on the north side, which will open a tract almost as great and which is considered even finer land. This will also be in the fruit belt, and the water will come from the Payette river, which carries an unlimited supply of water all the year round.

Eastern people are coming into the country every day and they are of the opinion that the rush into this country has only just begun. They say that when the water is turned into the big pond and the project is found to be a success there will be a great rush to this section in an effort to secure the best land while it is cheap.

Both these great irrigation projects are adjacent to Caldwell. The town will have two more electric lines finished and running this summer. A link in a transcontinental steam line is in course of construction. It is thought this will lower freight rates here, giving to the Oregon Short Line a vigorous competitor. The people in this section have full assurance that the town, now in its twenty-fourth year, will enjoy a rapid and substantial growth.

Successful Private Enterprise.

The work on the Canyon canal, a private enterprise, situated above Emmett, about 30 miles from Caldwell, will be in full operation almost immediately. This canal is about 18 miles long and will carry a large volume of water, though it is only about four feet wide on the bottom. There are 75 men and about 60 teams on the work, besides a crew of concrete workers under a superintendent who will keep them at work all summer, putting concrete foundations under all the flume supports. In doing this work excavation will be made to solid rock, upon which a concrete base two feet thick will be placed. Nine stringers, each composed of two 3 by 13-inch timbers bolted together, underlie the structure and form a most secure foundation.

### RAILROADS NEED NOT FENCE THEIR TRACKS

#### Attorney-General Finds Nothing in the State Laws Requiring This Safeguard.

(Salem Bureau of The Journal.)  
 Salem, Or., May 16.—In a written opinion submitted to the railroad commission the attorney-general holds that the commission has no power under the act of 1907 to require railroads to fence their tracks or inclose their right-of-way. The opinion was asked owing to the great danger of damage to livestock along those railroads that have not fenced tracks.

"Long sections of railroad in this state," writes C. B. Aitchison in behalf of the state, "passing through a well-settled country are unfenced. In our opinion the omission to fence tracks is in many cases a menace to the safety of the public as well as causing great damage to stock. While the damage to stock is compensated in money damages, this does not eliminate the objection, on the ground of endangering safety. Besides, the damages are charged to operating expenses and thus all profits of the roads must pay the damages caused by the company's failure to fence tracks."

The act of 1907 makes it the duty of the commission to inspect the railroads with reference to their physical condition and to the safety of the public. The same act provides that upon complaint or in case the commission shall believe that any service in connection with the transportation of persons or property is inadequate the commission may investigate and make an order directing adequate service, equipment and facilities.

In his opinion, Attorney-General Crawford holds as follows:

"The railroad commission act of 1907 does not include the matter of fencing railroad tracks, nor authorize the commission to order such tracks to be fenced, nor do I find any general law which seems to require the fencing of tracks, excepting in particular cases."

### SHIPPERS NOTICE

Account Oregon City locks closing one week for repairs no freight received for Willamette river points until Friday, May 23. Oregon City Transportation Co., Taylor street dock.

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