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UNITED IRISH LEAGUE MEETS FOR ERIN'S WEAL

New York, Aug. 30.—After more than a quarter of a century of parliamentary agitation the Irish cause is to be put on a new footing. The United Irish League of America, which began its convention in the Lexington opera house in this city today, intends to direct its efforts in the future toward securing complete autonomy for Ireland.

The United Irish League of America was organized three years ago, and has grown very rapidly since that time. In the last two years there has been an increase of more than 40 per cent in the number of branches located throughout the country. Its purpose is to act as auxiliary in America to the national organization in Ireland, whose primary declaration is: "This society is constituted for the purpose of forwarding a brotherhood of affection, a communion of rights, and a union of power among Irishmen."

Objects of the League.

The ends which the league strives to attain are: Full national self-government for Ireland; the abolition of landlordism in Ireland by means of a universal and compulsory system of land purchase putting an end to periodical famine in the distressed districts of Ireland; to insist upon the appropriation to strictly Irish national uses of the \$15,000,000 at present annually exported from Ireland for the benefit of England in excess of the contribution stipulated by the act of union; to secure the redistribution of the grazing ranches of Connaught, and the reinstatement of the evicted tenants; to secure complete educational equality for all creeds in Ireland; to secure the compulsory extension throughout Ireland of the law for providing agricultural laborers with cottages and one-acre allotments; to secure the abolition of the

right of the crown to challenge jurors in political cases except for cause shown, and to work for the preservation of the Gaelic language as part of the struggle for the recovery of Irish national freedom.

The problem to be discussed by the present convention are thus tersely set forth in this declaration of principles, but delegates are chary of expressing in advance their views as to the probable action of the convention. It is generally conceded, however, that the situation today is very similar to that which confronted the Irish party in America some 30 years or more ago, when Messrs. Parnell and Biggar were only beginning to be heard from as dissentients in the party under the leadership of Isaac Butt, when Lord Beaconsfield was still Mr. Disraeli, when the Irish church was not yet disestablished, when Lord Randolph Churchill had not yet even been heard of and when the Irish agitation in England was marked by the tragic incidents of Manchester and Clerkenwell. Such is the starting point from which the present convention will base its line of action, but just what direction that action will take none of the prominent participants care to say.

Nearly 1000 Delegates.

The delegates to the convention number nearly 1,000 and represent every large center of population from Maine to California. At the formal opening today a rousing welcome was accorded to the Irish parliamentary delegation, consisting of John E. Redmond, Patrick O'Brien, A. J. C. Donelson and Connor O'Kelly. Among the prominent Irish-Americans of New York who were seated on the stage were Congressman Bourke Cochran, Archbishop Farley, Recorder John W. Goff, Gen. James R. O'Bierne and Police Commissioner William McAduo.

MINNESOTA DEMOCRATS.

Prospects of a Clash Between Hearst and Conservative Factions.

Minneapolis, Aug. 30.—The democratic state convention to nominate candidates for governor and other state officers, was called to order here shortly before 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The early signs all indicate a harmonious gathering notwithstanding the predictions from some quarters that there would be a clash between the element that supported Hearst at the Duluth convention and the conservative faction. For the first time in 10 years ex-Governor Lind is taking no part in the state convention and his withdrawal from the scene of action has served in a measure to

narrow the breach between the opposing factions.

It appears most probable that the gubernatorial nomination will go to John A. Johnson, of St. Peter, though several others are mentioned more or less prominently in connection with the head of the ticket. The convention will pass resolutions indorsing the ticket and platform of the St. Louis national convention.

USE WATSON'S THUNDER.

Republican Headquarters Add Fuel to Democratic Disunion.

New York, Aug. 30.—Considerable interest has been aroused among the politicians of all parties by the report that the republican headquarters here are sending out thousands of copies of Thomas E. Watson's speech of ac-

ceptance of the populist nomination for the presidency in hope of estranging the votes of the Bryan democrats from the national democratic ticket.

Many republicans and democrats, too, do not hesitate to say that Watson's speech is the strongest yet made against the democratic ticket, and that it will do the republicans more good than any, not excepting that of Elihu Root in opening the national republican convention.

Indiana Elks in Session.

Anderson, Ind., Aug. 30.—Scores of members of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks are here from every prominent city of Indiana to attend the annual meeting and reunion of the state organization, which began today and will continue until Friday. Tomorrow there will be a grand parade, in which it is expected several thousand Elks will participate. At the formal opening this evening addresses will be delivered by Frank E. Hering of South Bend and Daniel E. Storms of Lafayette. Mayor Forner, Governor Durbin and Congressman James E. Watson are among the men of prominence who are scheduled to address the convention tomorrow and the day following.

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Vacuum Method of Execution.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 30.—Advices from Tokio state that the Japanese government has abandoned the electric chair method of executing criminals, which was copied after that used in various parts of this country, in favor of a method which is considered more advanced and humane than that employed by any other nation. Under the new method death is dealt out by means of a "vacuum" chamber, in which life is extinguished in record time, and with a minimum of suffering, by the almost instantaneous exhaustion of air.

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