

qualification which would be, for all but widows and unmarried women renting homes or lodgings in their own names, a property qualification of widely prohibitive dimensions. It would add largely to the class of voters who oppose the extension of voting rights to the working masses, and thereby make harder than ever the extension of suffrage to all women.

The probable electoral program of the Liberal party is more likely, in my judgment, to secure voting rights for all women, than are the tactics of the "suffragettes."

L. F. P.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, September 1, 1908.

Bryan's Speech on Trusts.

Having discussed the tariff in his Des Moines speech (p. 516), Mr. Bryan discussed trusts in his Indianapolis speech of the 25th on the occasion of the notification to Mr. Kern. In the course of this speech he said:

I have, in discussing the tariff question, presented one of our remedies, namely, the removal of the tariff from imports which compete with trust-made goods. This, we believe, would greatly lessen the extortion practiced by the trusts and bring about the dissolution of many monopolistic combines. But we are not satisfied merely with the lessening of extortion, or with the dissolution of some of the trusts. Because the private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable, the Democratic party favors its extermination. It pledges itself to the vigorous enforcement of the criminal law against trust magnates and officials. It is impossible for the Republican party to enforce the present criminal law against trust officials; these officials are intimately connected with the Republican party in the present campaign.

The speech then proceeds to explain that the Democratic platform does not stop with the enforcement of the law, but demands such additional legislation as may be necessary to make it impossible for a private monopoly to exist in the United States; and that it proposes, first, a law preventing a duplication of directors among competing corporations, and, second, a license system regulating corporations doing an interstate business. On the second proposition Mr. Bryan dwelt at length. Both speeches are published in full in the Commoner,—the tariff speech in the

issue of August 21, and the trust speech in the issue of August 28.

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Mr. Kern's Notification.

In the presence of 15,000 persons at Indianapolis on the 25th, Mr. John W. Kern was formally notified of his nomination (p. 467) for Vice President by the Democratic convention. Mr. Bryan was present, and after Mr. Kern's speech of acceptance, he addressed the assemblage.

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Independence Party Notification.

The nominees of the Independence party—Higgen and Graves (p. 417)—were formally notified at New York City on the 31st.

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Negro Opposition to Taft.

The Negro National Anti-Taft League (pp. 362, 519) has established headquarters at 3160 State street, Chicago. The battle ground States, in the view of this organization, are West Virginia, Delaware, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, and reports show that Mr. Taft's cause in these States can be made hopeless by the opposition of the Negro vote. According to a League report of the 29th—

A card canvass was put in operation two days after the Denver convention, and 81 per cent of the colored voters polled in the battleground States declared themselves as unconditionally opposed to the election of Mr. Taft. Volunteer workers, both male and female, are generously aiding the propaganda. Our organizers and promoters are invariably citizens with property and other interests at stake. It has been plain to us that outside interference, no matter how well meaning in purpose, can only result in confusion. Among our workers may be noted 350 clergymen, several Negro bishops, 200 school teachers, 100 lawyers, and nearly 300 physicians. Every profession and industry in which our class is represented is enrolled upon our books. As fast as is practicable, these voters are welded into ward and county organizations, with the voting precinct as the base, thus economizing labor and expense and avoiding useless friction.

Commenting upon the subject, one of the executive committee, Mr. Thomas Wallace Swann, writes:

The Democrats have a splendid fighting chance this year to win the Negro to their cause. The mass of Negroes distrust the Democratic organization, though they manifest the highest confidence in Mr. Bryan personally. Campaign committees are at best like the man from Missouri—you must "show" them! It is, however, a fact of vital importance that all funds used by this anti-Taft bureau, for the period which this report covers, came out of the pockets of Negro men and women. Nearly two thousand dollars was raised by contributions and temporary loans. Not a single Caucasian penny is