

Suffrage Matters.

Women participated in the primaries at Chicago on February 24 to the number of 47,424, being slightly less than thirty per cent of the registration. The number of male voters was about the same proportionately, but in actual numbers nearly three times as much. The law debars those participating in the primary of a party from voting in the primary of another party for at least two years. For this reason some prominent suffragists advised the women to stay away from the primaries. This undoubtedly did much to reduce the vote. According to parties the woman's vote was as follows: Democrats, 33,381; Republican, 10,189; Progressive, 3,297; Socialist, 557. Two women received Progressive party nominations for alderman, and five Socialist party nominations. Among these is Miss Marion Drake, who will be the Progressive candidate opposed to the Democratic nominee, "Bathhouse" John Coughlin. Two Democratic woman candidates were defeated. [See current volume page 178.]



The New Jersey Senate, by a vote of 14 to 4, passed on February 24 the resolution for a constitutional amendment granting suffrage to women. It has already passed the House. It must now pass the next legislature and then be submitted to the people.

**U'Ren for Governor of Oregon.**

Announcing himself as an independent candidate for Governor of Oregon, W. S. U'Ren has issued the following address to the voters:

I have decided to be an independent candidate for Governor, though for many years I have been a Republican, and voted for the party candidates when they were even moderately progressive. But for the following reasons I shall not seek the party nomination:

(1) The measures necessary to complete what is called the Oregon System are essentially people's measures rather than the property of any political party, many of them opposed to the Republican party. These measures provide for conduct of the government by officials who are directly responsible to all the people, instead of to a party organization for their first allegiance.

(2) All the standpatters and reactionaries who made up the anti-Statement No. one and assembly crowd in 1910, and who, as they boasted in 1909 in the Oregonian, would "put the knife into each and all who declare for Statement one," are as anxious now as ever to put that same knife into me. They are as bitterly opposed now as they were in 1910 to the actual use of the initiative and referendum, to the corrupt practices act, to the recall, and to all the people's power measures, at which they still sneer as "Urenism" and the "Urenic" theory of government.

(3) I would rather have those gentlemen fighting

me from the front as open enemies because of the measures I stand for, than knifing me from my own ranks, as they have done for many years past with all Republican candidates who were known to be progressive.

As his platform Mr. U'Ren announces a good roads proposition, the expenses to come from a graduated inheritance tax. In building these roads employment to be given to all citizens of Oregon applying therefor. He further advocates the short ballot, abolition of unnecessary offices, free school books and exemption to the extent of \$1,500 of personal property and improvements of each taxpayer.

**Denver Defeats a Franchise Grab.**

A proposition to grant a twenty-year franchise to the private water company at Denver was overwhelmingly defeated at the polls on February 17. A very bitter campaign preceded the election. The franchise was opposed by advocates of municipal ownership. [See vol. xvi, p. 560.]

**The Cleveland Foundation.**

The organization is announced of the Cleveland Foundation, for the purpose of making a social survey of that city. The founder is Mr. F. H. Goff. The work will be in the hands of a board of trustees whose acceptance was announced on February 25. These are Miss Myrta Jones, Thomas G. Fitzsimmons, Bascon Little, Charles E. Adams, Samuel Mather and Arthur D. Baldwin, secretary. Mr. Goff will be president. A suggestion of one line of investigation has been made to the trustees in the following letter from Edmund Vance Cook, David Gibson and O. K. Dorn, officials of the Singletax League:

Desiring to compliment the unselfish impulse and the diligence which has made possible a survey of social conditions in Cleveland, we would propose a form of inquiry which, we believe, will lead to more valuable results than those attained in surveys elsewhere.

Such surveys have usually given disproportionate attention to the symptoms of poverty as represented in vice, crime, disease and kindred specific evils. We believe that undeserved poverty cannot be studied intelligently without equal attention to undeserved wealth. We would therefore suggest inquiry into the incomes of Cleveland's rich as well as its poor, considering the sources of these incomes and what their recipients are doing to earn them.

This is not suggested in a spirit of censorship for the possessors of wealth, but in the belief that poverty exists as the result of a few simple flaws in the formula of human relationships, and that the discovery of these flaws and the promulgation of a formula for economic justice will be the most monumental accomplishment with which any citizen can endow society.