

use its streets for traction purposes would be barred "for an indefinite term of years if not forever," the platform demands that—

no grants that would prevent the city from at once owning and operating the street car lines shall be made to these or any other companies.

The recognition of grants that would not "prevent the city from at once owning and operating" is here most obvious.

In the same spirit of recognition of the possible necessity of having recourse to some such plan as that now proposed by the Mayor,—a plan providing for grants that would not prevent the city from at once owning and operating—the platform also declared that the plan would—

resist to the utmost the manifest intention of the Republican party, and certain traction-controlled newspapers, to fasten upon the people of this city the so-called tentative ordinance, or any other ordinance taking the management, control and operation of the street car companies out of the hands of the people.

And in its specific enumeration of the points of its traction policy, when providing for operation pending the full acquisition by the city of the street car franchises, this platform named as a method not only "the police power," but—

other legal authority, to license the operation of the street railways as their street franchises expire, and continue so to license them until municipal ownership can be secured.

In all this platform there is not only nothing at variance with the "contract plan" now under consideration, but everything to justify the adoption of that plan.

What is the essential difference, for instance, between, on the one hand, licensing operation pending full acquisition of ownership by the city, and, on the other, organizing a corporation to acquire and operate as trustee for the city pending such acquisition? None that is inconsistent with Dunne's campaign policy. "Licensee" from time to time, or "trustee" at the will of the city,—there is no difference which does not show the trusteeship to be the more favorable to the interests of the policy of municipal ownership and operation.

And now we come to Judge Dunne's speech of acceptance (vol.

vii, p. 760), which is absolutely conclusive. We cordially commend it to all those cavillers who, in their eagerness to restore the "tentative ordinance," are crying out that Dunne has receded from his immediate ownership policy. In that speech Dunne was so minute and definite on this point, that he almost outlined the specifications for his present "contract plan." After discussing the different possible methods for securing immediate ownership and operation, he said:

There are other ways outside of the issuance of the Mueller bill certificates under which the city could provide means for the purchase of the present street car system or for the building and equipment of new ones. If the city were to offer to a syndicate of capitalists a lease of the car system of the city, providing the syndicate would furnish ready capital for the purchase price of the same, under the terms of which lease the syndicate so furnishing such money should retain and operate such roads under lease by the terms of which they should, first, pay themselves five per cent. upon the money invested and, secondly, provide a sinking fund for the payment of the capital invested, and, thirdly, pay reasonable compensation to the managers of the street car system leased by such a syndicate while operating the property, and after the payment of said liabilities then turn over to the city of Chicago the road free and clear from liabilities, I have no reasonable doubt that wise and prudent financiers would regard such a lease, terminable only at the time when they received their capital and interest at five per cent., as adequate security for the investment. But if a syndicate of capitalists would not be willing to do this there is no question in my mind that if such a lease were tendered to a corporation organized for the purpose of leasing and operating the street car system of the city of Chicago under such an arrangement upon the understanding that the management of the same was to be placed in the hands of competent railway men at decent remuneration, the depositors in the savings banks of Chicago who are drawing but three per cent. interest on their investment would be very glad to back any company organized for such a purpose and under such a management, and exchange their deposits for stock, bearing five per cent. interest.

In his "contract plan," which the traction-franchise touters speak of as an abandonment of his campaign pledge, Mayor Dunne has gone even farther in the direction of the plan quoted above from his acceptance speech. For the

plan of his speech would not allow the city to come into direct ownership of its traction system until the sinking fund of the tenants, or licensees, or trustees, had equaled their investment; whereas under the "contract plan," which he now proposes, the city could acquire direct ownership, not only when the sinking fund should equal the investment, but at any earlier time by making up the difference between the accumulated sum in the sinking fund and the cost of the plant.

What Mayor Dunne has done in his "contract plan" for immediate municipal ownership and operation, is to combine the lessee plan of his acceptance speech with other plans in that speech; and this he has done with such effect as to secure in cooperation the best qualities of all. He has, therefore, thus far redeemed his traction pledges to the people, and dealt the traction-franchise grabbers a blow which they already keenly feel, and from which they cannot recover without further treachery in the City Council.

To accuse him of renouncing his policy is, under the circumstances, too weak a play to count for much or for long in their game. To attack the principle of his plan is to attack the policy for which the referendum vote was cast and upon which he was elected.

## NEWS NARRATIVE

Week ending Thursday, July 13.

### The Russian naval mutiny.

The episode of the Kniaz Potemkin, of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea (p. 213), came to an end on the 8th at the port of Kustendji, in the kingdom of Roumania. After negotiations between the Roumanian authorities and the mutineers, the latter surrendered upon the stipulation that they are not to be extradited to Russia. It was reported on the following day that Admiral Kruger, of the Russian fleet, had received the vessel from the Roumanian authorities and had sailed with her for Russia; but this was corrected on the 10th, when it was stated that the mutineers had opened the sea-cocks and flooded the hold before

delivering over the vessel, and that she was then lying at the bottom of the sea. The Russian government is demanding of Roumania the extradition of the mutineers as thieves and murderers. Over 50 of the crew had voluntarily surrendered to the Russian admiral at Kustenji on promises of clemency, they declaring that they had been forced into the mutiny, and it was reported on the 12th that these promises had been ignored and that the men were to be executed as examples, in consequence of which the whole fleet was bordering upon mutiny.

When the Potemkin was delivered to the Roumanian government the crew of her accompanying torpedo boat refused to join in the surrender. They declared that they had been forced to follow the Potemkin and were therefore not mutineers. On the 10th they arrived with the torpedo boat at Sevastopol, where they were arrested by the Russian authorities and placed upon a transport.

#### The Russian-Japanese war.

Official announcement was made at St. Petersburg on the 8th of the capture by Japanese troops of the island of Sakhalin. This is the long island lying between the Gulf of Tartary and the Okhotsk Sea, to the north of Japan. It is a convict island of the Russian government. Part of it once belonged to Japan, by whom that portion was in 1875 ceded to Russia, which owned the other portion. The area is 29,336 square miles, and the population about 28,000. The population includes probably 3,000 free settlers, 7,000 hard labor convicts, 8,000 released convicts and exiles, 1,500 wives of convicts, and 5,000 children. Japanese occupation of the island is not yet complete, but that it will be made so is conceded in St. Petersburg.

It was announced on the 10th that all meetings of the Russian-Japanese peace envoys not held at Washington (p. 214) will be at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in the new building of the United States navy yard. Muravieff, one of the Russian envoys, resigned on the 12th and it is regarded as certain that Witte will be appointed in his stead.

#### United States jurisdiction over local crime.

A new Federal question has been raised in the United States by the attorneys for Caleb Powers, formerly secretary of State of Kentucky, who is charged with complicity in the murder of Gov. Goebel (vol. vii, p. 569) in 1900. Powers has been convicted of this crime four times and been sentenced to hang; but he has in each instance secured a new trial from the highest court of the State. About to be tried again, he applied to the Federal court for the district of Kentucky for the removal of his case from the State to the Federal courts. The grounds stated for removal were, first, that Powers is denied the equal protection of the laws by the State court by reason of a false construction of the criminal code, and, second, that the State court refuses to recognize a pardon granted before conviction by Gov. Taylor, who is under indictment for complicity in the same offense. The Federal court decided on the 7th that the second ground does not warrant the removal but that the first ground does. Jurisdiction is therefore taken by the Federal court, and the defendant has been transferred by Federal habeas corpus to the custody of the United States marshal to await his trial in that court. An appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States has been taken by the State, which has also instituted proceedings in the Supreme Court to remand the case to the State courts.

#### Conflict in the National Educational Association.

The conflict between two great forces in educational circles, which has heretofore come to the surface most prominently in Chicago (p. 195), broke out with unexpected violence at the forty-fourth annual convention of the National Educational Association at Asbury Park, N. J., on the 7th. The immediate cause of this outbreak was the Congressional charter which one faction of the association proposes. The preparation of this charter was ordered at St. Louis (vol. vi, pp. 215, 230, vol. vii, pp. 205, 252) a year ago, the present charter, granted by the District of Columbia nearly 20 years ago, being about to expire.

The new charter so prepared was unsatisfactory to the opposing faction, and at the meeting on the 6th of the National Council, a governing department of the Association, an objection to its adoption was made. Margaret A. Haley, of the Chicago Teachers' Federation and president of the National Federation of Teachers, raised the point of order that the proposed charter would "turn over to a corporation hereafter to be created by Congress, but not now in existence, the rights and the property of this Association, a thing the board of trustees of this Association has no power or authority to do." The point of order was not sustained, and the proposed charter for submission to Congress was adopted by viva voce vote, the chairman refusing to allow a division upon Miss Haley's demand.

The defeated faction was reported on the 9th by the New York correspondent of the Chicago Tribune to have been supported by the teachers from ten States. In describing the situation and transmitting an interview with Miss Haley, the correspondent said:

That the public school system in all parts of the United States has become a mine for graft is the bold assertion of Miss Margaret Haley, representative of the Chicago Federation of Teachers, in the convention of the National Educational Association, just closed. Miss Haley made a determined effort to defeat the new plan for the incorporation of the educational association at Asbury Park last Thursday, but was defeated. She attributed the defeat to the employment of unfair tactics by Superintendent Maxwell, chairman of the meeting. Miss Haley has appeared in the past at conventions of the Association held in Boston and St. Louis, and in each place has successfully advocated reforms for the rank and file of teachers. In explaining her position in the recent convention Miss Haley bitterly arraigned the leaders of the Association.

"The National Educational Association, which steadily has grown year after year through the efforts of the teachers of this country," said Miss Haley, "is in immediate danger of being placed under the absolute control of a small clique of men unless the teachers take speedy action to prevent it. The Association is composed of 18 departments; one, as it chooses to style itself, the 'National Council of Education,' is composed of such well-known educational leaders as Dr. Harper of the University of Chicago and Dr. Butler of Columbia university. The