

The proportion of Regulars and Insurgents in the New Jersey delegation, therefore, if the Republicans are successful in every district, will be unchanged. The State Convention last week nominated for Governor, by an overwhelming majority, Mr. Vivian M. Lewis, the present State Banking and Insurance Commissioner. His chief opponent, Mr. William P. Martin, the candidate of the Progressives, received only 115 votes in a convention of 972 delegates. Mr. Lewis is a young man of high character, agreeable personality, and considerable experience in public life, but he is intimately allied with the Republican machine. His speech in acceptance of the nomination indicated that he is not a man with strong convictions for which he is ready and eager to fight, but a man who, as Governor, would lay more emphasis upon the limitations of his office than upon its opportunities. His speech was in keeping with the platform adopted by the Convention, which dealt chiefly in broad and vague generalities, and which, with the exception of one plank, was depressingly unprogressive. That plank favored a statute giving the Public Utilities Commission of the State the power to fix rates. A fight was made by the Progressives, not only in committee, but upon the floor of the Convention, for other Progressive planks, but their proposals were rejected curtly and cynically. Mr. Record, who presented the minority report from the Committee on Resolutions embodying these planks, and Mr. Edmund B. Osborne, who nominated Mr. Martin, were greeted throughout their speeches with jeers and insults. The vast majority of delegates not only were zealous "stand-patters," but evidently gloried in it. The Convention, in the opinion of many hitherto stanch Republicans of the State, did a great deal to insure the victory of Dr. Woodrow Wilson in the coming election.

MAYOR GAYNOR AND YELLOW JOURNALISM

Mayor Gaynor's letter to his sister, written without any idea whatever of publication, is an intensely human piece of descriptive writing. It has also aspects of public interest and importance which go far to justify the recipient in allowing its publication in the New York "Even-

ing Post," with the comment that it is "a letter which belongs to the whole people and the publication of which will do much good." The first part gives a vivid account of the attempt to assassinate Mayor Gaynor as it appeared to him. It is written with such graphic narrative force as to show conclusively that even in this moment of sudden attack Mayor Gaynor retained in a marvelous degree his power of observation, and to show equally that his intellectual powers and his gift of quick and shrewd characterization were at their very best at the time when this letter was written, some three weeks ago. We need not quote this part of the letter here except that paragraph in which Mayor Gaynor says: "I was not a bit afraid to die if that was God's will of me. I said to myself just as well now as a few years from now. No one who contemplates the immensity of Almighty God, and of his universe and his works, and realizes what an atom he is in it all, can fear to die in this flesh, yea, even though it were true that he is to be dissolved forever into the infinity of matter and mind from which he came." In the latter part of the letter, and apropos of the impression that its writer had the moment he was shot—namely, that the assault was probably made as the result of the anonymous threats he had been receiving and the vile newspaper abuse to which he had been subjected—Mayor Gaynor, through a simple and calm statement of this matter, presents a terrible indictment against mendacious journalism. Most intelligent people know that Mayor Gaynor held, and was advised by counsel, that he had no power as Mayor to forbid the exhibition of pictures of the Reno prize-fight. Action to prevent this had to be sought in another direction. Intelligent people also know that Mayor Gaynor is one of the last men on earth to have any sympathy with brutal exhibitions of any sort. Nevertheless, one of the Hearst newspapers (to quote a single instance of this offensive application of yellow journalism) printed a cartoon of the Mayor entitled "The Barker," in which he was represented as standing outside a prize-fight ring, dressed as a ruffian, and urging people to come in and see the sport. Even lower than this was the refusal of one newspaper to

retract a statement that the Mayor had told an officer of the Christian Endeavor Society, who had urged him to stop the pictures, that he "was a fool, and was sent by fools," although the officers of the Christian Endeavor Society had promptly denied the statement. There is just one effective remedy against such journalistic atrocities, and that is such a revulsion of public taste and public feeling as will ostracize and drive out its perpetrators. Mayor Gaynor points out that this kind of thing is in absolute defiance of the criminal law, and that by it New York journalism has been brought to the lowest depths of degradation. We hope that others will urge the Grand Jury and the District Attorney to do their duty in such cases, and that the result may justify Mayor Gaynor's declaration that "the time is at hand when these journalistic scoundrels have got to stop or get out, and I am ready now to do my share to that end." Ultimately, however, the best hope for improvement lies in his further declaration that "if decent people would refuse to look at such newspapers, the thing would right itself at once."



THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

France has been celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the organization of the Government of National Defense. On September 4, 1870, was born the third French Republic, with General Trochu as its chief executive. To be sure, it was only a government of national defense and not a republic in the sense which we know it to have been under Thiers and his successors. But popular rule, in a comprehensive sense had begun. The Commune—the expression of the passion of a few demagogues and agitators in temporary power—had collapsed, and had given place to the expression of all France for law and order. As has been well said, the Republic had to struggle with a temper throughout France bred not only by the humiliations of the Franco-German War and by the communistic ebullitions following it, but also by a century of revolutions. The temper was all the more stubborn because most Frenchmen realized that their revolutions had been more or less inevitable. Certainly this was true of the first,

that of 1789; and when, in 1792, the Monarchy was finally overthrown and the First Republic came into existence, there came a feeling which was never to die away—that self-rule must somehow replace the old oppression. This persisted, though France was to come under the domination of an Empire in 1804, and of a restored Bourbon King in 1814. Some progress was made by the Orleans monarch after 1830, and more might have been made by the Second Republic, which came into being in 1848—that year of revolutions for all Europe. Alas that it must have been followed by the Second Empire in 1852, good as that Empire was in many ways! In 1870, however, there came an expression of French feeling which has endured to this day. It is, of course, an expression of republican, of democratic, France protesting against monarchical rule. But we do not always realize that it is also a characteristically French expression in the sense that the present government, like the three monarchies and the two empires, is very centralized. Indeed, the present government—liberal and modern as it certainly is—may be said to be the logical successor of the close centralization developed by Louis XIV and remodeled by Napoleon. As opposed, therefore, to the federated system in vogue in Switzerland and the United States, the French Republic is intensely centralized, and as such is better adapted to the peculiar character and genius of the people than would be the Swiss or the American forms. Nevertheless, the Republic has endeavored to diminish undue centralization; for instance, independent life has been granted to the provincial universities. Provincial life has recently received a new emphasis by reason of the introduction of automobiles, an industry in which France has led the world.



OLD AND NEW FRANCE

If the centralization feature is apt to escape the cursory observer, however, the feature of adaptability does not. Many present-day travelers in France remember their experiences in monarchical days when the French aristocracy was proving its real worth in many ways. Nowadays France must necessarily be different. Some of the old glamour has gone. France is not so