

CAMPAIGNS OPEN IN MINNESOTA AND NEBRASKA

Airplane in Service

President A. C. Townley Starts Record-Breaking Tour of Minnesota

THE most striking and momentous campaign in the history of Minnesota is now under way in every county of the state. In an effort to speak in every county before the primary, June 21, President A. C. Townley of the Nonpartisan league, disregarding all personal risks, is campaigning in an airplane. Doctor Henrik Shipstead, endorsed by the League and organized labor for governor, is touring the state, greeted by big crowds everywhere, and other candidates and a dozen or more League speakers also are receiving enthusiastic receptions.

The demand of the people to learn more facts about the League is insistent. Demands were sent to League offices from practically every one of the 86 counties in the state asking for a "Townley meeting." In Danube, where Mr. Townley was prohibited from speaking two years ago, business men had raised \$350 to pay all expenses of a meeting. In Fergus Falls the man who, as mayor, prohibited a Townley meeting in 1917, personally invited the League president to hold a meeting and offered to make all arrangements.

When an attempt was made to outline a series of meetings for Mr. Townley in Minnesota it was found that it would be physically impossible for him to travel by train or automobile and make one-third of the counties of the state before June 21. Mr. Townley himself solved the problem.

"If I can't make the meetings by train or auto, I'll make them by airplane," he said. And as a result, as this issue of the Leader reaches its readers, the League president will be touring Minnesota by air, addressing three and four meetings a day, from 50 to 150 miles apart, in the greatest campaign Minnesota has ever seen.

In Minnesota, as in every other state, the only attack made upon the League and its candidates are that they are "socialistic." The opposition press (which includes every large daily in the state) insists that the issue of the campaign is "Socialism or Americanism," "Socialism" meaning the reforms urged by the League and "Americanism" meaning a continuance of the present old-gang politicians in office.

HERE IS THE PLATFORM OF MINNESOTA CANDIDATES

But the League opposition is making little headway with this cry. They are unable to attack the character or records of any of the League candidates. Doctor Shipstead, the candidate for governor, has a splendid record in public life and has thousands of personal friends throughout the state. Captain George H. Mallon, candidate for lieutenant governor, is one of Pershing's "100 heroes" of the World war, and other candidates are equally well known through their devotion to the fight of the farmers and workers of Minnesota.

The candidates have pledged themselves to the following platform, stating the real issues of the campaign:

"1. We believe in orderly progress under our democratic form of government; in reform by the ballot, not by the bullet; in evolution, not revolution.

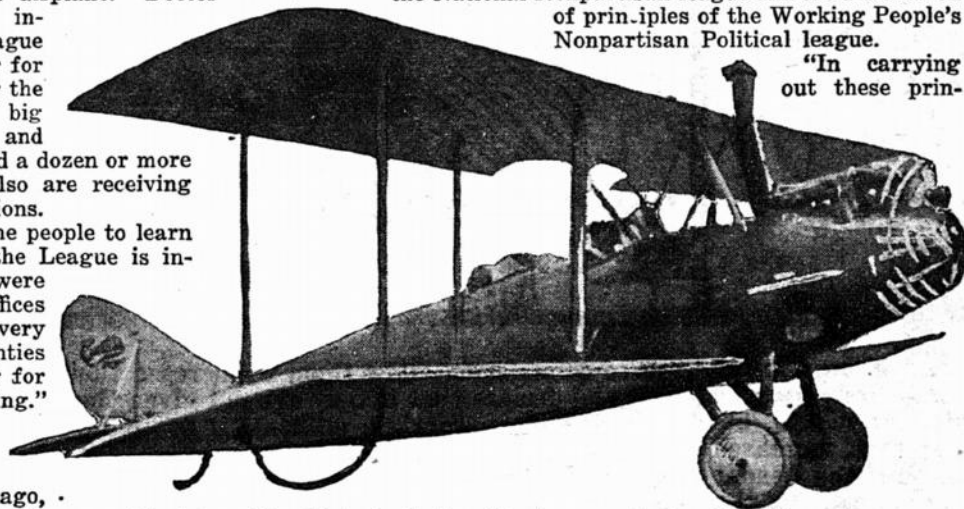
"2. To make democracy workable it is self-evident that the people must preserve their constitutional rights of free speech, a free press and peaceful assemblage. We propose, if elected, to see that these rights are preserved, to substitute law and order for mob rule and to use the police powers of the state for the benefit of all the people and not in behalf of a privileged few.

"3. Our state and nation are heavily in debt and high taxes, paid directly and indirectly by the common citizen, add to the ever-increasing cost of liv-

ing. We demand that taxes on large incomes and excess profits be continued and increased, so that surplus wealth may be compelled to pay the money cost of the war, so that profiteering may be discouraged and the burden of taxes be shifted to those best able to bear it.

"4. The primary purpose of the organizations of the farmers and workers of the state is, as stated in their platforms, 'to take the government out of the hands of special privilege and restore it to the people.' Standing firmly upon this principle we indorse and subscribe to the Minnesota program of the National Nonpartisan league and the declaration of principles of the Working People's Nonpartisan Political league.

"In carrying out these prin-



Airplane with which A. C. Townley is campaigning in Minnesota.

ciples we pledge ourselves, if elected, to take the following immediate steps:

"1. To enact and enforce net profits tonnage tax and royalty tax laws that will compel adequate payment by interests now despoiling our natural resources to build up immense private fortunes, in which course they have been protected by the present administration. Such taxes will relieve other taxpayers from the crushing burden of taxes they now bear.

"2. To stand for the eight-hour day in all industries except where, as in farming, natural conditions will not allow its establishment.

"3. To provide state guarantee of bank deposits.

"4. To revise grain grading and inspection rules in the interests of the producers.

"5. To provide a plan of workmen's compensation, administered by the state, that will bring injured workmen, their families and dependents certain and full relief without recourse to the courts.

"6. To recognize the right of workers to organize and deal collectively with their employers, through representatives of their own choice.

"7. To protect and encourage co-operative enterprises.

"8. To secure full equality under the law for men and women.

"9. To take all other immediate steps possible under the constitution to put into effect the complete Minnesota programs of the National Nonpartisan league and the Working People's Nonpartisan Political league."

There is no doubt what the verdict of the people of Minnesota will be if they have an opportunity to learn the truth. And the League and its candidates are now engaged in the task of carrying the truth to the people.

Pick Strong Ticket

League-Labor Forces Ready for Victory Campaign in Nebraska

A WINNING campaign was started in Nebraska May 4 when Arthur G. Wray, mayor of York and known for years as a leading progressive of Nebraska, was nominated for governor of Nebraska by the farmer-labor convention at Grand Island. Four names were placed before the convention as candidates for governor: James G. Elliot of Morrill, Robert Mousel of Cambridge, E. O. Wood of Bethany and Mr. Wray. Before the balloting began, both Mr. Elliot and Mr. Mousel withdrew in favor of Wray, which left him opposed by E. O. Wood. The result of the vote was: Wray, 128; Wood, 27. A motion to make Wray's nomination unanimous was carried without a dissenting vote.

Robert Mousel of Cambridge received the nomination of the convention for lieutenant governor and F. L. Bollen of Wayne was named for attorney general. No candidates were named for other state offices.

Delegates were present from nearly every county in the state representing the National Nonpartisan league of Nebraska, while other delegates represented the Nebraska State Federation of Labor, the central labor unions of Omaha, Lincoln, Hastings, Fremont and Grand Island, various lodges of the railroad brotherhoods, the Douglas and Hall county legislative leagues, various Farmers' union locals and the Women's Nonpartisan clubs. Enthusiasm ran high.

Mayor John L. Cleary of Grand Island welcomed the delegates and commended their judgment in selecting Grand Island as a meeting place, citing that Grand Island owed its growth and development to the combined efforts of the farmers and laborers. His remark that the convention had come together to settle its disputes at the ballot box in the good old American way was loudly cheered.

Governor Frazier, who had arrived only a few minutes before, was then introduced and addressed the convention for half an hour. He spoke of the fight for honest government in North Dakota and warned the convention to choose men from among themselves, who saw things from their own viewpoint and who would truly represent them.

Mr. Sorensen then read the call of the meeting, which was issued by the state executive committee of the National Nonpartisan league, and the convention proceeded to organize. James G. Elliot, farmer, of Morrill, was chosen chairman, and Frank M. Coffey of Lincoln secretary.

The following platform was drawn up by the combined platform and resolutions committees:

"1. We favor the exemption of farm improvements and farm and workingmen's homes from taxation.

"2. We favor state ownership and operation of packing plants, flour mills, stockyards, creameries, terminal elevators and beet sugar factories, insofar as necessary to restore competition and break monopolistic control.

"3. We favor municipal ownership of cold storage plants, warehouses and of all public service utilities.

"4. We favor state ownership and development of the waterpower of Nebraska, and state or federal ownership and operation of telephone and telegraph lines.

"5. We favor co-operative banks, and better and cheaper credit facilities for farmers and workingmen.

"6. We favor all possible legislative encourage-



Doctor Henrik Shipstead, League-labor candidate for governor of Minnesota, in action.