

BALLINGER-PINCHOT INVESTIGATION

First Step Taken in Paving the Way for a Thorough Congressional Inquiry.

TAFT EAGER FOR A MERCILESS PROBING

President, it is Said, is Now Convinced that Behind the Attack on Ballinger Lies an Organized Movement to Discredit the Taft Administration—Mr. Ballinger Himself Urges an Inquiry of the Widest Scope.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Any doubt that the whole force of the Taft administration is to be behind the investigation demanded by the office of the so-called Ballinger-Pinchot controversy was dispelled by events in and out of congress today. There is now no question that President Taft himself is as eager for the merciless probing of the whole matter as hitherto he has been reluctant to admit the necessity for it.

Taft Sees Sinister Motive.

A motive much deeper than willingness to do justice to Secretary Ballinger is ascribed to President Taft by senators, representatives and others active in politics. It is said at last Mr. Taft has become convinced that there lies behind the attack on Mr. Ballinger a more or less definitely organized movement to discredit the Taft administration, especially by spreading the impression that the so-called "Roosevelt policies" are in unfriendly hands; that Mr. Ballinger was made the target only on the theory that he offered for the present the most vulnerable point in the administration.

Because he was loath to believe that such a propaganda was under way Mr. Taft opposed every suggestion from Mr. Ballinger or his friends that attacks upon the land office should be met with a determination to reach and expose those responsible for the attacks upon the secretary and other officials of the interior department and the general land office.

The First Move Toward Investigation

The first step in paving the way for a congressional investigation was taken today. Senator Flint introduced

a resolution in the senate, directing the attorney general to send to the senate all of the papers in his possession which relate to the case. These include the report of H. Davis, the dismissed special agent of the general land office, who sought to connect Mr. Ballinger with the Cunningham coal case in a manner reflecting upon his integrity. These records are the ones on which the president based his exoneration of his secretary of the interior.

The Flint resolution was adopted and some time later it was learned that it had been drafted by Attorney General Wickesham, and that it was one of the matters considered at the White House conference yesterday.

Adoption of the Flint resolution was followed by the presentation by Senator Jones of Washington of a letter from Mr. Ballinger urging an inquiry of the broadest scope. Republican leaders in the senate have practically agreed that Senator Nelson, chairman of the committee on public lands, shall be at the head of the probing today. A joint committee of the senate and house is not favored on the ground that it would be cumbersome and a special committee is opposed because it is feared that there would be precipitated a scramble to have placed thereon men who are prejudiced either for or against one of the principals in the controversy. It is considered likely, therefore, that the decision, if the senate determines the selection, will fall upon the senate committee on public lands. This committee is made up of men who understand the public lands question in all its phases, and the republican members include adherents of both of the parties of the controversy.

FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF "WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC"

Representative Mann's Bill Reported to the House—Congress Adjourns for Holidays.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Congress adjourned today until Jan. 4. In the senate important initial steps were taken towards a congressional investigation of the long existing controversy between Secretary of the Interior Ballinger and Chief Forester Pinchot.

A resolution by Senator Flint calling for legislation upon hearing on the case was adopted. Senator Jones read to the senate a letter from Secretary Ballinger, practically demanding an investigation which he said he courted, and also expressing the belief that any investigation should be broad enough to cover the "pernicious activity of officials" in the forestry service as well as the "unscrupulous" charges against the administration of the interior department.

A resolution by Senator Gore naming an investigating committee, which members of each that senate and house and including on that committee several of the so-called "insurgent" senators, was successfully introduced by Senator Jones who has been referred to the committee on public lands. The house was in session but ten minutes. Representative Mann, as chairman of the committee, reported his bill for the suppression of "white slave traffic," and Representative Richardson of Alabama filed a minority report against the Mann bill for the reorganization of the government of the isthmus of Panama.

Among other things the report on the white slave traffic says: "The use of interstate commerce in sending prostitutes from one state to another in connection with this traffic in women would seem to be as directly connected with interstate commerce as the sending of tickets from one state to another in furtherance of operation of a lottery. So far congress has not passed legislation to prevent the carrying out of the provisions of the international treaty for the suppression of the traffic."

The proposed legislation is needed to put a stop to a villainous interstate and international traffic in women and girls not needed or intended as an aid to the states in the exercise of their police powers in suppressing or regulating immorality in general. It does not attempt to regulate the practice of voluntary prostitution, but simply to prevent panderers and procurers from compelling thousands of women and girls against their will and desire to enter upon and continue in a life of prostitution.

"These women are practically slaves in the true sense of the word. Many are kept in houses of ill fame against their will, and if necessary force is used to deprive them of their liberty. The victims are poor women and girls who if given a fair chance would in all human probability have been good wives and mothers and useful citizens. Liquor, trickery, deceit, fraud and the use of force are resorted to by the procurer to place the girl under his power."

Chairman Mann said today that he did not know just when the bill would be brought up on the floor of the house. He declared there was no reason for any clash between the committee and that proper legislation to meet the evil in general, and which he believed was through his bill, was all that was sought.

Chairman Mann asked and was granted unanimous consent for setting aside of sufficient time for the minority of the committee to file objections to the bill. His report will be presented to the house by Representative Richardson of Alabama, supported by Representatives Adamson, Bartlett and Peters of the committee.

THE FUR ROBED LADY

And the Wistful Boy on a Cold Day Looking Into a Christmas Window.

Come here, little boys and girls, and I'll tell you a really, truly Christmas story. It was told me one night last week by a man in this city, and the people in it are as true as the stars, and they live for a century more. Once on a time, about 30 years ago, there was a family that lived on John street, down the side of the Transcript office, and the father and mother and the family was hurt in a mill one day, when he pulled a fellow workman off a belt where he was caught, and was himself badly injured by falling down a flight of stairs doing it. It was in the early winter and when Christmas time came around that family was in such a state of destitution that I hope you and I may never know of it. There were a lot of children, the oldest not yet old enough to work, and it looked as if they might not have even enough to eat on that day of days in all the year.

At that time there was a store on High street, opposite The Transcript office, called the 99-Cent store, or something like that, and at Christmas time the store windows were a blaze of glory, filled with things that tempt the pocketbook of any person. One bitter cold day, just before Christmas, one of the boys in the John street family stood in front of the store windows with his nose glued to the cold glass and his heart filled with bitterness that he could not have some of them in his stockings on Christmas morn. Just then a sleigh drove up to the door and a lady wrapped in furs stepped out and started to enter the store. She stopped when she saw the wan face peering through the frost-covered window and asked the little boy what he thought of the display. The boy dug the toe that stuck out of his broken shoe into the snow, and said it looked fine to him.

"I suppose that you'll have some of those things in your stocking tomorrow, won't you?" said the lady.

"No, I guess not," replied the boy. The look on his face as he said it, told some of his inner distress to the kind-hearted lady of the fur coat and she finally got the story of his little family tragedy out of him. She opened her purse and took out a two-dollar bill and his inner distress to the kind-hearted lady of the fur coat and she finally got the story of his little family tragedy out of him. She opened her purse and took out a two-dollar bill and his inner distress to the kind-hearted lady of the fur coat and she finally got the story of his little family tragedy out of him.

"Nature makes the cures after all. Now and then she gets into a tight place and needs helping out. Things get started in the wrong direction. Something is needed to check disease and start the system in the right direction toward health. Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with hypophosphites can do just this. It strengthens the nerves, feeds famished tissues, and makes rich blood.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS

See the name of paper and this ad. for our beautiful Savings Bank and Child's Sled Book. Each book contains a valuable plan. SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl St., New York.

that family except for the dinner which was paid for out of that gift. The years rolled by and the little boy became a successful business man in the city and the lady went on her way doing similar kindnesses until there came a time when she wanted some work done that only the boy of 30 years could do. She came to him in an automobile this time and gave her order and when the work was done she asked the amount of the bill. The man said that instead of giving her a bill that he wanted to tell her a story and he told of the little boy, the fur-robed lady and the two-dollar bill. The incident had passed completely from the mind of the lady and when she had listened to the story she thought that the lady was good at heart at least. The man told her that she was the lady and that he had waited all these years to do something for her that would express his gratitude for her simple act of kindness. The lady understood and left without asking for his name with a smile on his face.—Holyoke Transcript.

MEETING OF MABEL AND MIKE.

Love at First Sight Between Actress and Ballplayer.

"The love romance of Mike Donlin and Mabel Hite," said a gray haired, jolly man from Hot Springs, "has, I think, never been told, and it was quite original. Mike was at the Springs a few years ago, getting off weight in advance of the playing season. Miss Hite was also at the Springs, spending a vacation, but they had never chanced to meet. One afternoon Mike came up to me as I sat on the veranda of the hotel.

"Who is the young lady over yonder?" he demanded. "She is way in advance of anyone I've ever seen."

"That," I responded, "is Mabel Hite, a very clever soubrette."

"Which I knew her," said Donlin. "Can't you fix me an introduction?"

"I'll try," said I, and Mike departed. A few minutes later Miss Hite approached me.

"Who," said Mabel, "is that athletic looking young man?"

"Mike Donlin, the ballplayer," I answered.

"He looks like a grand fellow to me," said Miss Hite, smiling.

"That's odd, Miss Hite," I exclaimed, "in view of the fact that he was just expressing himself as wild to meet you."

"Well, what was the answer? Of course, I introduced them, and they rushed into love and matrimony by

fast express. Love at first sight was the sure clinch for Mike and Mabel."—New York Morning Telegraph.

MINIATURE RINGS.

Fashion of the Season Displays Likenesses of Your Friends.

Miniature rings are a new fashion of the season. It started in England and was brought to New York by an English artist.

The rings take the place today of the hair rings of our grandmothers' time, and in many cases the same setting is used, the bit of hair being replaced by a tiny ivory likeness of some friend or relative. In these days the fashion of wearing an ivory miniature as a brooch is regarded as a little too much like blowing your family affairs before an unsympathetic public, but so inconspicuous are the miniature rings that they escape this criticism.

In a studio in a remodelled stable in East Fortieth street there is an interesting collection of the miniature rings in various stages of completion. This work is of a very tedious character, since it all has to be done under a powerful glass.

For the most part the miniatures are the size of your thumb, though for dinner rings they may be as large as a big marquis. As it is first necessary to have the mounting before furnishing the likeness, the town is being searched for antique settings originally used for hair. These are not easy to find.—New York Sun.

Better Stand Aside. The Kaiser and the mikado are said to be behind Zelaya. It is also said that a twelve-inch shell will penetrate ten men and sink a battleship.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Goodness of Barney Shaw. Mr. George Bernard Shaw declines to come over to visit us at Christmas, thus brightening the prospect of peace on earth, good will toward men.—Boston Globe.

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