

TAFT'S RELIGION.

It Is Made the Subject of a Letter by Roosevelt.

He Says It Is Nobody's Concern But the President-Elect's.

ALL SHADES OF FAITH

Are Represented in His Own Cabinet Now.

Does Not Believe the People Care About a Man's Belief.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Secretary Taft's religious faith is purely his own private concern and not a matter for general discussion and political discrimination, says President Roosevelt in a letter made public in which he answers numerous correspondents.

The letter follows: "My Dear Sir—I have received your letter, running in part as follows: 'While it is claimed almost universally that religion should not enter into politics, yet there is no denying that it does, and that the voters who are not Catholics will not support a man for any office, especially for president of the United States who is a Catholic.'

"Since Taft has been nominated for president by the Republican party, it is being circulated and is constantly urged as a reason for not voting for Taft that he is an infidel (Unitarian) and his wife and brother Roman Catholics.

"If his feelings are in sympathy with the Roman Catholic, I did not answer any of these letters during the campaign because I regarded it as an outrage even to agitate such a question as the man's religious convictions, with the purpose of influencing a political election, but now the campaign is over, when there is opportunity to let the people know what his religious belief is."

I received many such letters as yours during the campaign expressing dissatisfaction with Mr. Taft on religious grounds; some of them on the ground that he was a Unitarian, and others on the ground that he was suspected to be in sympathy with Catholics. I did not answer any of these letters during the campaign because I regarded it as an outrage even to agitate such a question as the man's religious convictions, with the purpose of influencing a political election, but now the campaign is over, when there is opportunity to let the people know what his religious belief is."

"That he is a Unitarian and also that he is suspected by the Catholics. You ask that Mr. Taft shall let the world know what his religious belief is."

"A Private Matter. This is purely his own private concern; and it is a matter between him and his maker, a matter for his own conscience, and to require it to be made public under penalty of political discrimination is to negative the first principles of our government which guarantee complete religious liberty and the right to each man to act in his religious affairs as his own conscience dictates. Mr. Taft never asked my advice in the matter, but if he had asked I should have emphatically advised him against thus stating publicly his religious belief. The demand for a statement of a candidate's religious belief can have no meaning except to injure him."

Eiderdown Bathing Suits \$8.50. The swellest lot of Bath Robes ever in Topeka—none prettier ever displayed, worth \$8.50. Tuesday you can have your pick of these beautiful Gowns—Silk Finished Gowns—Silk Tossed Gowns in Pinks, Blues, Browns and Oriental Designs for \$2.50.

THE ROBE Please Come Early. To Cost Nearly Four Millions. Washington, Nov. 9.—The New York Ship Building company of Cambridge was the lowest bidder for constructing the battleship Utah, but for which were opened at the navy department today. Their proposition is for a twenty and three-quarters vessel at \$3,946,000.

POLICE OUTRAGS.

Officers Devoting Considerable Time to Speeding Autoists.

Eight Drivers Held to Answer for Speeding.

TALES OF FAST TIME.

Detectives Say One Car Was Making 40 Miles an Hour.

Story of an Interrupted Game of Craps.

Eight prominent Topeka autoists were arrested by the police in the last two days for exceeding the speed limit of 16 miles an hour in the city limits. In every case it is claimed the drivers were "scorching" their machines at the rate of over 30 miles an hour, according to the stop watches being held by the officers from whom the complaint was made.

Brother Not a Catholic. So much for your objection to Mr. Taft because a Unitarian, now for your objections to him because you think his wife and brother to be Roman Catholics.

Believe that when you say this you foully slander your fellow countrymen. I do not for one moment believe the mass of our fellow citizens of that considerable number of our fellow citizens can be influenced by such a narrow bigotry to refuse to vote for a thoroughly upright and fit man because he happens to have a particular religious creed. Such a consideration should never be treated as a factor in the support of a candidate for political office.

I should reprobate in the severest terms the Catholics in those states (or in any other states) who constantly vote for the most fit man because he happened to be a protestant; and my condemnation would be exactly as severe for those who constantly vote for a Catholic, in public life I am happy to say that I have known many a man who, in the support of a candidate, has been influenced by the great majority of their constituents of a different religious belief.

I know Catholics who have for many years represented constituencies mainly protestant, and protestants who have for many years represented constituencies mainly Catholic; and among the congressmen whom I know particularly well, was a man of Jewish faith who represented a district in which there were hardly any Catholics.

WANTED HIGHER WAGES. Elk Cows Expected Immediate Benefit From Taft's Election. The election of Judge Taft as president of the United States has already caused trouble in Topeka, and in large bunches for at least one man and perhaps three. When the new Elk lodge quarters were opened several weeks ago, T. L. Barns, steward and general master, economized at great expense two recently imported trench chefs who were guaranteed to be proof against all of the short comings supposed to be possessed by the native talent of this kind.

There has been an epidemic of automobile racing in Topeka during the last month or so, and the chief of police has had to issue orders after warning to the auto owners, also to the innocent pedestrians. Several arrests have been made at intervals, but the chief of police has followed the rules set by the chief and from this time on all "scorchers" who drive their cars over the limit of 16 miles an hour will receive a maximum fine. Judge Urmay has always used the minimum fine, hoping that the drivers would take warning, but since the chief of police has ordered that where the court will have no mercy.

Louis Maze, the man who made such a sensational escape from the police station and the jail yard about a week ago has been recaptured and will be fined doubly to pay for his cleverness. It will be remembered that Maze made a pretense to use the telephone and when the officers were not watching he jumped from behind the desk, ran out into the jail yard, vaulted some beer cases and was through the gate.

Martin Bluback and Oliver Laseley are back again. As regular as the Saturday nights come around and as regular as the Rock Island trains run from Holton to Topeka, the two Indiana boys are in this city for booze. Every time they get happy they get in the way of the police and they always are caught in the long run. They are always arrested by the same officers except when shifts are made and they are always sleep the same night in the same hotel. Their fine is always paid by the Indian sympathizer from their home, who makes his regular weekly trips to the city and always brings a box of candy in the store. Each boy or girl bringing in 10 or more will receive 10c worth of candy and a 25c point box of candy. These cards will count for the big prize too.

THE IDEAL BAKERY The Place That's Different. Phone 190 121 West Sixth.

U. C. T. WOULD DO IT.

Propose to Take Hold of Midwinter Fair.

In the matter of the Midwinter fair for Topeka, there is now no doubt at all but that the exhibition will be held as per schedule the last week in February, and the first week in February, by the Midwinter company, then by the Commercial Travelers of the Topeka council of the United Commercial Travelers of America.

The Commercial Travelers of the city have come forward with a definite proposition to pull off the fair next winter on a big scale and allow only Topeka exhibitors to display their wares, only goods and wares handled by Topeka retailers and jobbers or made by Topeka manufacturers.

Following the footsteps of her girl friends and doing a series of street walking stunts, Ethel Smith, a young 19-year-old girl, was arrested by Officer Fribance. Ethel has never been before the police matron before and her occupation is a new one to her. The police are picking up these stray girls every night on the streets and a majority of them are good at heart but they are in the wrong place and are kept moving in the right direction. Another chance for the "home missions" of the local churches.

The sanitary laws are being watched closely by the police and arrests are being made every day for offenses along this line. William Anderson, a rich citizen of the Quinlan district, was arrested yesterday for allowing stagnant water to stand in his alley. Some people have an idea that the police are not doing their duty and are other things that affect the welfare of the city.

The finding of a box of shoes under a temporary trestle on the Union Pacific down near the foot of Madison street will help the police officers in clearing up a little mystery that has been hanging about the case for some time. Sergeant Ross and Detective Summers found a big box of shoes under a trestle on the Union Pacific and the material was brought to the police station at once. The shoes are of the B. B. style and were stolen from a shipment on the Union Pacific from Kansas City to Chicago.

About two weeks ago a car on the Union Pacific was broken into and the shoes were stolen. Later a pile of empty boxes was found in a nearby cornfield but the railroad detective could find no clue. It was thought at first that the car had been opened by passing buses but the boxes were found by the police it is thought that there is a guilty party in the city. Several clues are being worked out by the police and they think the men will be caught. The shoes found two weeks ago were discovered by the two little sons of a former officer on the Union Pacific and empty boxes were found. However, they were of the same shipment and were the same make shoe found by the police. The shoes were found in the Bottoms lately and the cause will be investigated.

The railroad company reports several bottles of cold foaming beer on every table at the ice chest bubbling over with the long necks. A gay drinking party was raided by the police at 211 East Second street last night and the bottles were found under the management of three women, strangers to the police. These women, Mrs. H. Ward, Mrs. F. A. Carson and Mrs. E. J. Clark, were charged with keeping and maintaining a nuisance.

Officers Ross, Summers, England, Wyatt, Mead, Bryant and Fribance made the captures and surrounded the premises. Martin Bluback and Oliver Laseley are back again. As regular as the Saturday nights come around and as regular as the Rock Island trains run from Holton to Topeka, the two Indiana boys are in this city for booze. Every time they get happy they get in the way of the police and they always are caught in the long run. They are always arrested by the same officers except when shifts are made and they are always sleep the same night in the same hotel. Their fine is always paid by the Indian sympathizer from their home, who makes his regular weekly trips to the city and always brings a box of candy in the store. Each boy or girl bringing in 10 or more will receive 10c worth of candy and a 25c point box of candy. These cards will count for the big prize too.

Again Tob Tobias, colored, made the wilds of the Bottoms shake with fear. Last night he and Mrs. Tobias marched the barricade through the dead districts and terror and horror followed in their wake. Judge Urmay will give them an extra little boost this time.

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Market Gossip. (Published by J. E. Gail, Commission, Grains, Provisions, Cotton and Stocks. Office 110 West Sixth St. Phone 484.)

New York Stock Market. (Published by J. E. Gail, Commission, Grains, Provisions, Cotton and Stocks. Office 110 West Sixth St. Phone 484.)

time, but the heavy realising in the active railroad stocks ultimately dragged down the whole list. Great Northern preferred and Missouri Pacific showed some resistance at times. Losses running from 1 to 1 1/2, were registered in some important stocks, including St. Paul Northern Pacific, Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, Reading, New York Central, Atchafalaya, United States Steel and American Smelting. Utah copper touched 52, and then advanced to 54. The New York Central, Great Western preferred advanced 3 points, Atlantic Coast Line American Lumber and International Paper stocks. The government's suit. Aggressive buying up of the Gould stocks was used as a vigorous support of the market and prices recovered almost and Missouri Pacific showed some resistance on the rebound continued on a large scale but began to diminish around the level of Saturday.

Bonds were irregular. American Tobacco sixes broke 3/8 and the four 7/8. A reaction in Reading caused selling of other stocks and the whole list went off a sharp fraction but a later rise in Reading and Union Pacific to their top prices held the market. Topeka stockholders were met on the advance and prices fell back again a fraction. Reading rose to 100. Topeka also moved up 1/2 and Lackawanna 7/8.

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