DEC 2 1909

National Tribune.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1909. VOL. XXIX—NO. 57—WHOLE NUMBER 1476.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

(Copyright, 1909, by John McElroy.)

By JOHN McELROY.

XLV.

Back to Washington.

Back from the abjectly prostrate Confederate Capital, where Wisdom cried aloud from every blackened wall and smoldering wreck as to that pride which goeth before a fall, and haughty spirit before destruction, President Lincoln returned to Washington to receive by every dispatch from the South reports of the rapidly failing heart-beats of the dying Confederacy. From Appomattox came Grant's laconic report of his greatest achievement. That terrible Army of Northern Virginia, which for four years had menaced Washington and the life of the Government, and in battle with which scores of thousands of the Nation's best and bravest had gone down into the night of death, was now dispersed hordes of worn-out, disheartened, despairing men, drifting dejectedly back to their ruined homes and scattered families to begin the struggle of life, far worse off than when the fatal tocsin of war was sounded by the guns opening on Fort Sumter.

The same fate was treading on the heels of all the other armies of the Confederacy, and nowhere, from the reed-bordered rice fields of South Carolina to the arid plains of the Rio Grande, from the clear-flowing waters of the Ohio River to the phosphorescent tides of the Gulf of Mexico, was there a Confederate flag flying or a Confederate sword drawn which was not ready to fall in submission to the demand of the victorious Federals. No mountain fastness, no tortuous maze of swamp, could give shelter to those who still upheld the Lost Cause. The Union troops needed only to be apprized of some lingering thought of resistance, some nucleus of defiant men who had not had enough of fighting, to march at once upon them and force surrender and submission. It was the most complete conquest ever made of one people by another, and the end came with a swiftness almost as unexpected as was its astonishing completeness.

European Generals might criticize our mistakes and belittle our knowledge of war, sneer at our crudities in playing the "great game of Kings," but they could not deny that we had fought more battles than Napoleon, had absolutely conquered far more territory than his hordes had subjected to his rule, and that our conquest of a territory as large as Europe was incomparably more thoro than had been that of the Man of Destiny in any country outside of France.

The joy of the loyal people over the successful finish of the war rolled into Washington and the White House in great waves of glad acclaim. President Lincoln momentarily retired the colossal problems which the return of peace presented, to meet these congratulations in the spirit they deserved, and his happy answers to the kind words which poured in upon him from all quarters, manifested in his speeches to visiting delegations, were among the best efforts of his life, and their perfect exuberant joy had no shadow thrown across them from the rising clouds of Reconstruction. The disbandment of the army, the rehabilitation of the Nation's finances, the work of restoring the South to her fraternal relations, the elevation of the negro race to its proper place in our citizenship, were for the moment forgotten in the heartiness of the President's felicitations over the peace which had come "after the pangs of purifying." The poet Whittier, sweetest and greatest singer of that wartime, set the people's thoughts to music in his beautiful verses:

"Thank God for rest, where none molest,
And none can make afraid;
For Peace that sits as Plenty's guest
Beneath the homestead shade.

"Bring pike and gun, the sword's red scourge,
The negro's broken chains,
And beat them at the blacksmith's forge
To plowshares for our plains.

"Alike henceforth our hills of snow,
And vales where cotton flowers;
All streams that flow, all winds that blow,
Are Freedom's motive powers.

* * * * * *

"Build up an altar to the Lord,
Oh, grateful hearts of ours,
And shape it of the greenest sward
That ever drank the showers.

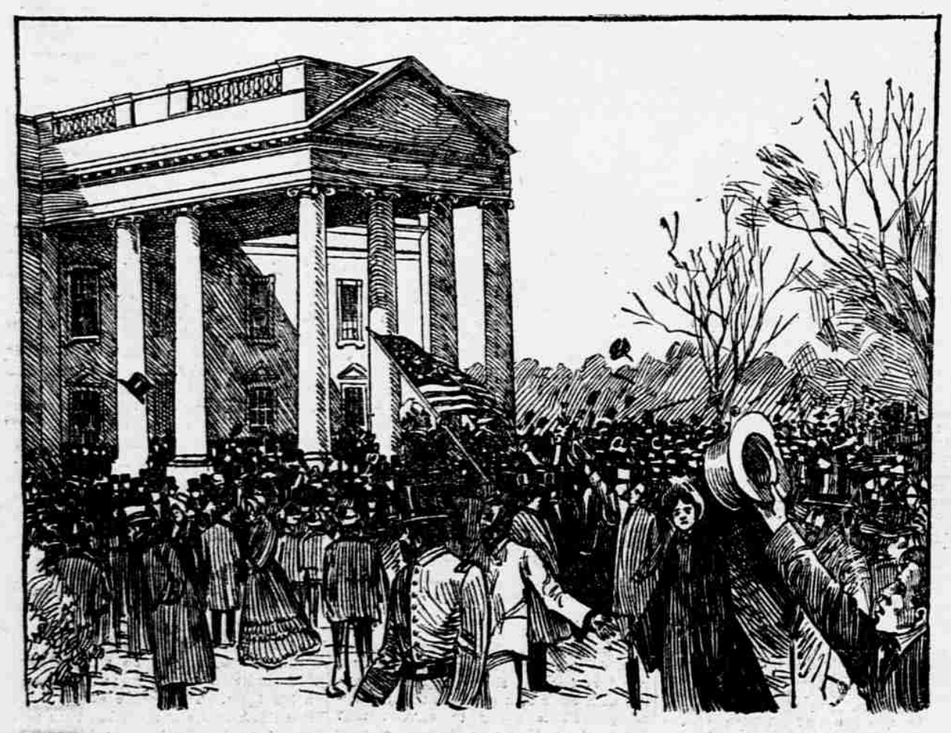
* * * * * *

"There let our banners droop and flow,
The stars uprise and fall;
Our roll of martyrs, sad and slow,
Let sighing breezes call.

"Their names let hands of horn and tan
And rough-shod feet applaud,
Who died to make the slave a man
And link with toil reward.

"There let the common heart keep time
To such an anthem sung
As never swelled on poet's rhyme,
Or thrilled on singer's tongue.

"Song of our burden and relief,
Of peace and long annoy;
The passion of our mighty grief
And our exceeding joy."



SCENE AT THE WHITE HOUSE WHEN THE NEWS OF THE SURRENDER OF LEE REACHED WASHINGTON.

Grant, the Resolutely Practical.

Back to Washington and the President came also Lieut.-Gen. U. S. Grant, thinking most of his country and her condition, even in the moment of dazzling triumph, when he received the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia. In nothing did Grant show his difference from McClellan and that school of Generals than in his absolute indifference to the theatrical side, the pomp, pride and circumstance of glorious war. McClellan seemed to think that war was mainly a magnificent spectacle, and he surrounded it as far as possible with all the trappings and dazzling effects of the stage. It mattered little to him that the Treasury was hovering along the ragged edge of bankruptcy in supplying his demands for mise en scene and paraphernalia.

On the other hand, Grant cared nothing for dramatic possibilities, but everything for the actual business of war. He made war as men build railroads or dig canals, with everybody under his command constantly employed with the strictest attention to the end in view. Grant was keenly alive to the tremendous burdens which the Government was bearing, and he was in the most active sympathy with the solicitude of the President to begin at once a reduction of those burdens. The army had been raised to the strength of 1,000,576 men, while the debt piled up by the war was stupendous, with its figures appalling to everyone who studied them. The bonded obligations had reached a totality of $2,844,649,626, and the interest, which had to be paid in gold, amounted to $150,977,697, or almost $3,000,000 a week. The debt represented nearly one-fifth of the assessed valuation of the property of the whole country by the census of 1860, and the entire interest charge was two or three times as much as the average of the public debt of the country in the years before the war. This gigantic burden was being borne by taxation upon less than two-thirds of the population of the country, since one-third of it was in the rebellious States and paid no portion of the revenue, and upon the other two-thirds had been imposed a taxation which they had cheerfully borne, tho more severe and drastic than any ever before endured by a free people. Everything, from the matches with which they lighted the fires in the morning to the coffins and clothes in which they interred their dead, was taxed to the very utmost. Upon everything they ate, drank, wore or surrounded themselves with the Federal tax collector laid his heavy and remorseless hand.

Cutting Down Expenses.

Grant had not remained a day at Appomattox after receiving the surrender, but had hurried as fast as the wrecked railroads would convey him back to Washington. He did not even enter Richmond, the prize for which he had fought such terrific battles for more than a year, nor did he spend any time in revisiting the fields over which his armies had clashed with the foe and where they had so suffered. Assured now that the rebellion was virtually at an end, he began at once dismantling the mighty military establishment as rapidly as he had heretofore built it up. Orders were immediately issued stopping the purchase of horses, munitions, arms and military supplies, discontinuing recruiting, discharging the sick in the hospitals, the recruits, new regiments and the paroled prisoners in camp, mustering out the officers who were rendered superfluous, and in every way cutting down the expenses and reducing the gigantic army to the changed conditions following the termination of hostilities.

Timid people had professed much alarm as to the result of turning loose upon the country the vast hordes of men who had become inured by four years of bloody war to violence and slaughter. These had read in history how disbanded armies had been a greater plague to a country in peace than they had to their enemy in war, and as usual these disseminators of misinformation had occasioned considerable alarm. Neither Lincoln nor Grant shared in this alarm for an instant. They knew their men too well. War was not a trade which Union soldiers loved, but a hard vocation forced upon them by the stern requirements of duty. They longed for peace more earnestly even than those at home, and the happiest days of their lives, having secured the success of the cause for which they fought, would be when they should doff the blue garb of the service, and return as plain citizens to their homes and the girls they left behind them.

The Reconstruction Problem.

Most momentous of all the gigantic problems which peace was bringing to the front of the stage was that of reconstructing the South and restoring its citizens to their relations to the General Government. This overshadowed even the question of what was to be done with the negros, what was to be done with the colossal army, and the relief of the people from the onerous taxation while meeting honorably the financial obligations upon the Government.

As from the first, the President was intensely embarrassed by the divisions in his own party. The Radicals, led by Sumner, who announced his theory of "State Suicide," were in favor of reducing all the States again to Territories, and governing them indefinitely by officers appointed from Washington. Sumner, a doctrinarian to the bone and a book philanthropist, a man intoxicated with his own fine-sounding phraseology, wanted not only to deprive those who had participated in the rebellion of all share in the Government, but he would give the vote to their late slaves, and place the loyal negros above the rebellious whites. From this extreme point of view different factions led by able men shaded all the way down to the Copperheads, who demanded that the white men of the South should be at once restored to their full rights as American citizens. Lincoln represented as always the "common sense of most." He was meditating, as well as we can learn, a course equidistant between both these extremes, feeling to the utmost that every step that he should take would involve mighty consequences. While repelling Sumner's doctrine of "State suicide" yet there had to be found some purgatorial middle course for these States. It would have been folly of an unimaginable character to have rehabilitated the government of the Southern States and placed them where they could, whenever the time seemed opportune, renew their resistance to the Government.

The matter went deeper than this even. To have restored the State Governments would have been to recognize that they had the rights and powers to make war upon the General Government, consequently the right to borrow money, issue certificates of indebtedness and contract other financial obligations in carrying on this war. Not only had every Southern State, County and municipality mortgaged itself to the utmost in fitting out troops, building fortifications, warships, etc., but in the dire straits for money which the Confederates soon found themselves they flooded the country with every description of notes, certificates and bonds which the people could be forced or persuaded to accept at any price. As the war went on the Confederate money and also its bonds and other securities ran down rapidly in valuation until the last year of the war it brought little more than 10 cents on the dollar. The Confederacy tried to make up for this by an old device of financial charlatans, by issuing still more notes, certificates and bonds, and thus no one but the Recording Angel could tell just what was the amount of the paper indebtedness of the cities, Counties and States of the Southern Confederacy. It must, however, have figured far up into the billions.

If it should be conceded that the Southern States as States could make war upon the Government, then they would either have to repudiate the whole debt, as at the close of the Revolutionary War the 13 Colonies repudiated the Continental money, or else they would have to stagger along for a century under taxation which would stifle every activity and enterprise.

All these overwhelming possibilities presented themselves in clear outline to Lincoln's farseeing, lucidly-reasoning mind.

The Virginia Proposition.

While in Richmond and at the house of Jefferson Davis, which Gen. Godfrey Weitzel had taken for his headquarters, Lincoln was visited by Judge John A.

(Continued on page three.)

THE MESSAGE AND THE PROGRAM.

The President Delays Commencing the Message—Cabinet Officers Behindhand With Their Share—Subjects of Great Interest to Be Treated—The Legislative Program to Be Modified—The Speaker Gaining Ground.

Callers are swirling around the White House offices. The statesmen, the near-statesmen and the mere politicians throng the President's portal. They elbow one another for the opportunity of an audience. Congress is only a few days off. The gavels will fall in Senate and House on noon of next Monday. Senators and Representatives possess the town.

The President is counting the days. As the count narrows he grows more and more uncomfortable. That terrible annual message haunts him. He hastens out of an afternoon for a game of golf, and tries to forget it, but he is aware that he cannot escape the long-deferred task of composition. The newspapers are grumbling. The delay means big telegraph bills, instead of a two-cent stamp to carry advance copies by mail. The Congressmen are wondering whether he will recommend this or that thing in which they are interested. They are wondering how his formal official utterances to the legislative branch will sound to the contending factions, whose leaders are now on the ground ready for the fray.

Up to Saturday night the President had hardly put pen to paper in the preparation of his message. He kept postponing the effort from day to day. The weather was fine out of doors, and he yearned for fresh air and blue skies after a few hours of weary conferences in the forenoon with the neverending procession of callers.

The Way It Is Done.

It was so late when the President returned to Washington that many plans he had in mind for shaping up his recommendations to Congress have not fully developed. He has been waiting for such matters as that. Then, it always happens that members of the Cabinet write substantial portions of the annual message. The Secretary of State, for instance, prepares the material pertaining to foreign affairs. The President goes over it, changes a line or a sentence here and there. These contributions from the Cabinet materially reduce the labor imposed upon the President in getting the message ready. But the members of the Cabinet were nearly all off on prolonged holidays. They wanted opportunity to talk with their official chief before they drew conclusions, and so they, too, are behind.

Attorney-General Wickersham will have the more important Cabinet contribution to make to the message this year. That is because he has been preparing the plans for amending the Sherman law and the interstate commerce law. For a couple of months Mr. Wickersham has been working industriously, but nevertheless he has been unable to get ready early. The decision of the United States Circuit Court for the Eighth Circuit, decreeing that the Standard Oil Company must be dissolved, put a new face on the aspect of proposed changes in the Sherman law. As the public grasped the effect of that decision a great sentiment speedily developed against amending a law that was strong enough to grip the greatest of the trusts. Then Wall Street, very unwisely from its own standpoint, began to talk about the imperative necessity of repealing the obnoxious statute, which, of course, simply accentuated public sentiment against making any changes in it at all.

The President speedily became aware that the country would be suspicious of the amendments thereto which President Roosevelt recommended and which he himself favors. People might think crafty legislators would pull some of the teeth out of the law, and that it would not be as good a weapon as of yore in fighting trusts and combinations in restraint of trade. The arriving Congressmen have reflected that sentiment, and while thus far there has been no official pronouncement it can be taken for granted that Congress will not amend the Sherman anti-trust law this Winter. That prospect removes from the arena of controverted legislation a very big and time-consuming proposition.

Incidentally it might be explained that some of the Congressmen may have been moved by other sentiments than those of the popular fear lest the law in the course of proposed modifications be emasculated. For the suggestion to leave the law alone for awhile till the Supreme Court has disposed of the appeal which the Standard Oil Company has already prepared and the appeal of the Tobacco Trust, also involving the validity of the Sherman law and now before the court for consideration, means that Congress can also leave alone the matter of legalizing boycotts. The inhibition against boycotts is a part of the Sherman law. A great number of Senators and Representatives think it would be very unwise to legalize boycotts, and prefer that that clause, as interpreted by the Supreme Court last Spring, should stand exactly as it is.

So the word has come from the White House that while the President will still recommend the proposed changes in the Sherman law, he will, at least, indicate that it might be well to wait till another session of Congress, when the atmosphere will have cleared a little.

Making Railroad Rates.

Another big feature of the President's legislative plans has to do with the Interstate Commerce Commission and the increase of Government authority in the making of railroad rates. About a week or 10 days ago President W. C. Brown, of the New York Central Railroad, came down to Washington to tell the President he believed the railroads could get together and agree upon a program which would be acceptable to him and would incorporate about all he wanted. This naturally interested the President, who told Mr. Brown to go ahead and see what he could do. He was directed to co-operate with Attorney-General Wickersham, who has been studying that phase of prospective legislation, including the regulation of issues of stocks and bonds and the enactment of a Federal franchise tax.

But the railroads directorates are large bodies, whose officials move slowly, and President Brown apparently has encountered obstacles, and Attorney-General Wickersham is delayed in making final report to the President. That also retards the preparation of the annual message, long deferred in the writing.

The Postal Savings Bank.

The President has been very much in earnest, too, about the enactment of a postal savings bank law. It was one of the measures specifically advocated in the Chicago platform, where it was placed on the insistence of Secretary of the Navy Meyer, then Postmaster-General, and of President Roosevelt. At Beverly last Summer the President let it be known that he was for a postal savings bank bill, whether the Senate and House leaders wanted it or not, and that he should try to get it at the coming session. The big wigs of the Capitol, however, have been coming down upon him of late with protests. They tell him that such legislation would interfere with the plans of the Monetary Commission, whose members have been studying the matter in connection with other financial problems, and that when the comprehensive financial bill is made up in a year or two or three there will be a provision for a postal savings bank in it or something equally good.

This talk of the Monetary Commission's members has been so strong that the President is represented as hesitating about his recommendation to Congress. Unless it has been done within two or three days the paragraph about postal savings banks has not yet been written; but, as matters stand now, it looks as tho the President would not press Congress to hasten and as tho there certainly would be no postal savings bank legislation during the coming year.

Therefore it is that quite a readjustment of the President's legislative plans are expected. He had a long list of expected recommendations, but as the outlook is now that list will be materially curtailed by the time he gets his message into type.

The pressure upon him this week is very great, because many of the leaders whom he must consult with are coming to town. Speaker Cannon, fresh from his energetic campaign in the West against insurgents, is just arriving. The President will want a long talk with him, and the Speaker will want a long talk with the President. Their relations are of vital interest in carrying out legislative plans and in keeping a semblance of harmony within the Republican Party. The Speaker has well-defined political ideas about the program of the party this Winter and next year, when the Congressional elections come. Co-operation between him and the President will have a direct bearing upon National politics. The Speaker has said that he favored the recommendations which the President made on his Western tour, and presumably he and the President are to proceed in thoro accord. But this will mean repeated consultations and conferences, especially if the President is to follow the Speaker's idea of forcing the insurgents right out into the open and fighting them as the advocates of un-Republican ideas. The President has indicated that he thinks very much as the Speaker does on that subject, but a very important political question arises as to whether he will care to be as aggressive as the Speaker is.

The Speaker Wins Out.

The reports show that the Speaker has been recovering ground in the West, where there has been a disposition to criticize him for a vast deal which he cannot properly be held responsible for. The issue was made pretty sharply the other day at a Congressional election in a Chicago district, where a Republican was elected to succeed William Lorimer, chosen a few months ago as a United States Senator. Speaker Cannon went into the district to defend himself against his critics and the critics of the House organization as conducted by him. Champ Clark and other Democrats also happened into the district, seeking to make as much capital as possible out of the Republican dissensions. But the Republican candidate, who stood by Speaker Cannon and whom the Speaker also stood for, won handsomely. The result at the polls is accepted as a good indication of the popular attitude when the voters are informed as to what the so-called issue of Cannonism really signifies.

Many people are predicting that the Speaker will have a thorny path to travel this Winter, because of the insurgents. These predictions may fail in important particulars. The Western insurgents will not have much help from an important coterie who were of great assistance to them at the extra session of last Winter. For the Westerners are essentially low-tariff insurgents, and they are making their fight in good part now, because they hope to force a further revision of the tariff during the last half of the present Administration. But there are insurgents from California and from the East who do not believe in a further revision of the tariff. There is one Californian, for instance, Representative Hayes, of the San Jose district, who is well satisfied with the tariff as it stands. There is Representative A. P. Gardner, of Massachusetts, too, one of the strongest insurgent Republicans, who says he is a high tariff man, and does not believe in the tariff campaign the Western insurgents are waging against the Speaker. Others might be mentioned, but this handful of dissenters will prove a big defection to the insurgents, who at best are barely enough, when all are voting as a unit with the Democrats, to overturn Speaker Cannon's following of regulars.

Because the Far Eastern and Far Western insurgents do not want the tariff tinkered with any more they are not likely to encourage any sorties against the Speaker for the present, for if sorties against the Speaker proceed the low-tariff insurgents will say it helps their cause for revision along. Representative Gardner is very pronounced against any "bushwhacking" against the Speaker on account of the rules, and that view is shared generally by the insurgents who flock with him.

Accordingly, the developments with regard to the House organization and the insurgent cause promise to be something of a feature in the next two or three months, and probably will not follow strictly the prophecies of the "progressives." They have been talking much among themselves without coming to any definite plans. It would be little surprise if they failed to make any decisive movement that would attract public attention, at least for the present, because of this sharp division within their own ranks. The Senate insurgents are more likely to command attention, for the situation there is somewhat different, and the insurgent Senators are all low-tariff men. However, there has been much comment about the remarkable quiet Senator Cummins, their leader, has observed since he came to Washington for a talk with President Taft.

Senator Cummins.

The agitation which he revived against Speaker Cannon before he journeyed to Washington has gone on without his active participation, and the question has arisen whether the Senator also has not decided to do no bushwhacking and to wait the trend of affairs till he can see an opportunity to fight a decisive battle. It is even suspected that the President may have had some influence in causing the Senator to desist from a campaign that was making wide breaches in the party ranks.

A New Stunt for His Party.

NICARAGUA.

Secretary Knox Saying Nothing But Sawing a Great Deal of Wood.

Secretary Knox, with a little Central American war upon his hands, is pursuing a Fabian policy with the vengeful President Zelaya, of Nicaragua. His prayers every night are said to be that something direful will happen to the Zelayan warriors. He would be satisfied if Zelaya were beaten in battle or forced to abdicate the Presidency, or if he would flee to Europe and live on the interest of his ill-gotten gains.

Meanwhile Zelaya is hanging on, with the indications, according to the best information in Washington, that he is having a pretty hard time. Fate is probably against that Central American since Secretary Knox began to camp on his trail. For an increasing number of American warships are gathering along the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts of Nicaragua, and Zelaya's communication by sea with the outside world has been summarily cut off. Furthermore, according to the most reliable reports, war stores and ammunition have been going into the country for the insurgents.

The United States is not required to institute a search for such shipments till complaint is made, and just at present Zelaya shows no fondness for getting into communication with the State Department. He is, above all things, trying to avoid that, for he would be peremptorily asked why he has not responded to our demands for information about the execution of Cannon and Grace, the two Americans who held commissions in the revolutionary army, and were shot because they had been laying some mines for the destruction of Nicaraguan ships.

Secretary Knox has done a heap of cabling to Commander Shipley, commanding the Des Moines, and to others in authority for the United States down that way. It was reported recently that one night he sent a cablegram of 5,000 words by wireless. Nevertheless, the details of his communications have been kept very secret. He has been very anxious to get into touch with Vice Consul Henry Caldera at Nicaragua, and it was many days before he succeeded. Finally, after long waiting, a message was delivered to Mr. Caldera and a reply received. Hostilities between Zelaya and the revolutionists are in full swing at Managua, the Capital, and in the vicinity thereof. It was suspected that Zelaya was grabbing off dispatches from the State Department and preventing dispatches from our Vice Consul being sent here. That was not at all unlikely, for Zelaya is the kind of tyrant who is given to such acts.

In passing it might be said that the State Department is very sorry its Consul-General at Managua, Jose de Olivares, has not been on the job during the progress of the troubles of this Government with Zelaya. He is an American with a Spanish name, who has been long years in the Central American Consular Service. During the years he remained there nothing very exciting occurred, and some weeks ago he applied for a leave of absence, which was granted, and came on to the States, visiting Washington among other cities.

Feverish Dispatches.

With preparations for war on the part of the United States advancing, there have been exciting rumors about the landing of marines, the blockade of ports and about Zelaya committing fresh atrocities against Americans, but most of these rumors have been without any foundation. A batch of feverish dispatches come in almost every night at New Orleans, written by high-strung correspondents down in the neighborhood of Bluefields, and filter northward to be published by the more sensational journals.

It is certain that Secretary Knox has a well-defined program in mind, and that he is pressing earnestly toward the circumvention of the terrible Zelaya, but the Secretary steadily refuses to disclose his plans, and goes on sawing wood. He was somewhat disappointed because the country refused to get much excited over Nicaragua, but that has been the general experience of Administrations in dealing with Central American crises. The Senate found that out some years ago when trying to enforce its plans regarding San Domingo and Haiti. People of the United States are interested in such matters, but refuse to lie awake of nights when a Central American tyrant gets upon his ear.

Now Secretary Knox is getting a commission to work to study the entire Central American problem and to ascertain whether plans cannot be laid for a new deal down there. The leading idea is to obtain authoritative information about the political conditions, not alone in Nicaragua, but in other Central American Republics that have been more or less involved in the series of Zelayan quarrels extending over the last five or six years. Horace G. Knowles, the new Minister to Nicaragua, who is still in this country, has been summoned for a conference on the subject of the Commission. He will probably head it. An effort will be made, it is understood, to have Mexico join in this enterprise.

NAVAL REORGANIZATION.

Sweeping Changes in Navy Yards and Bureaus—A New System of Control.

The new scheme for the administration of the Navy goes into effect this week, and accordingly there is a great hubbub in the Department. Secretary Meyer has promulgated regulations modifying the government of navy yards and materially changing methods of handling business in his office and in the office of the Bureaus.

And while the machinery of the Navy is being rapidly adjusted to the new order of things the tongues of thousands of naval officers are wagging and Congressmen are taking note. There are always divers opinions about any changes in the Navy, and this promises to be no exception.

The essential features of the consolidation of shops in navy yards, which Truman H. Newberry while Secretary brought about, are retained. On the whole, Mr. Newberry's plan has worked successfully, but in some particulars it was experimental. "The new plan," says Secretary Meyer in commenting upon Mr. Newberry's work, "starts with the idea that the consolidation of related trades in a group is correct in principle. The rest is a matter of detail."

Mr. Newberry established a single manufacturing department at each of the navy yards. While that may not sound to the average man as a very important proposition, it is, because the manufacturing and repairing for the Navy costs many millions of dollars annually. New Secretary Meyer goes a little farther. He divides the manufacturing establishment at each of the navy yards into two divisions—a hull division and a machinery division. Secretary Newberry put a Naval Constructor in charge of each manufacturing yard. Secretary Meyer will retain a Naval Constructor in charge of the Hull Division and will put a line officer of engineer experience in charge of each Machinery Division. This is in accord with the almost universal practice in the private shipbuilding establishments in this country and in the naval dockyards of England and Germany. The consolidation of manufacturing features aimed at in the plan of Secretary Newberry is not sacrificed; the change merely lies in grouping shops for purposes of control in such a manner as to obtain the best expert knowledge of their direction.

The eight Bureaus of the Navy Department will have no representatives at the navy yards except the Commandant. The engineer officer, who is the manager of the Machinery Division, and the Naval Constructor, who is the manager of the Hull Division, are the agents of the Commandant in carrying out manufacturing work and repair work of the Bureaus. The inspection officers, who will be stationed at each yard, are to examine and pass upon the character of the work, and the accounting officer, proceeding under the new accounting system recently installed at the Boston yard and soon to be installed in other yards, will determine the cost. The accounting system is entirely independent of the manufacturing departments. Secretary Meyer believes his new plan, "with little change from the existing Newberry system, will produce better business methods, a more effective consolidation of trades and shops,