

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE IS VIGOROUS

REPRESENTATIVE PAYNE APTLY DESCRIBES TAFT'S FIRST ANNUAL DELIVERANCE.

DEMOCRATIC APPROVAL

Text of Important State Paper Closely Scrutinized by Members of Both Branches of Federal Law-Making Body—Suggestions as to Economizing Indorsed by Opposition.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Having assembled and received the president's annual message, congress today found itself literally "out of work," and in consequence both houses adjourned until Friday, when, if some of the various committees fail to provide something to do, adjournment will be taken until Monday. The formality of reading the message aloud consumed an hour and a half in each house. When the conclusion was reached, the house immediately adjourned, but the senate went into executive session.

A little fruit was found with the message among republicans, who seemed to agree that it was as satisfactory a document as the president could prepare and remain consistent with the party's campaign pledges. The democrats approved the president's effort to economize, but deplored his suggestion that the Monroe doctrine had practically become obsolete.

"The message is written in the president's customary terse, vigorous style," commented Representative Payne, majority leader in the house, while Representative Clark, minority leader, thought about all that could be said about the message was that it was comparatively brief, "as discussion of almost all important matters is relegated to special messages."

In both houses the message was subjected to most careful scrutiny. Following the custom, the message was referred to the committee of the whole, to be prepared for "division by various committees," whose business is to deal with subjects discussed by the president in his message.

The senate adjourned at 2:30 o'clock, out of respect to the memory of Representative De Armond of Missouri and Representative Lassiter of Virginia. The house adjourned at 1:45 o'clock.

(The full text of the message will be found on pages eight and nine.)

BILL TO OPEN CROW RESERVATION

SENATOR DIXON ALSO OFFERS RESOLUTION TO STOP FUR SEALING TEN YEARS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—(Special.)—Senator J. M. Dixon today introduced a bill opening the Crow Indian reservation, in northeastern Montana, to settlement.

Senator Dixon also introduced, at the request of the American Zoological association, a resolution calling on the United States government to act in conjunction with England and Japan for the immediate closing of fur seal hunting for a period of 10 years.

In the list of nominations sent by President Taft for census supervisors was that of Leon S. Helms of Helena for the second district of Montana.

Representative Pray introduced a bill for postoffice buildings at Anaconda and Miles City and also for an additional judicial district in Montana.

COURT'S QUICK WORK STAYS HAND OF MOB

Williamstown, Ky., Dec. 7.—Within a few hours Earl Thompson, a negro, accused of criminal assault, was indicted, tried and sentenced to death here today. The extraordinary rapidity with which the authorities acted probably averted a lynching as a mob of several hundred had gathered.

MANY INCINERATED IN GAS FIRE IN HAMBURG

EXPLOSION OF TANKS SENDS GLOWING COKE FAR OVER CITY AND HARBOR.

Hamburg, Dec. 7.—The explosion of two gas tanks in the so-called "Kleines Grasbrock" on the Elbe front, this forenoon, was followed by an extensive fire and the loss of many lives. The explosion was due to a leak in a new gasometer. Escaping gas entered the restaurant house, where it came in contact with the fires, causing a terrible explosion.

A large number of workmen were engaged in re-building and enlarging the plant. Twenty-five men were working near the gasometer. They disappeared in a mass of flames, which shot to a great height. Firemen appeared quickly, but were unable to approach in large force because of the isolated position of the establishment.

Ten Dead, Twenty-Seven Missing. Late tonight 10 men were reported dead and 17 missing. It is almost certain that all these are dead. Forty men were dangerously injured, several perhaps fatally. The fire spread rapidly and threatened the old gasometer, containing 50,000 cubic meters. So intense was the heat and so dangerous their position that the firemen were compelled to withdraw.

A terrific explosion soon occurred, and the tower became a mass of flames, which leaped hundreds of feet in the air, sending fragments of glowing coke far over the city and harbor. After strenuous efforts the fire was not under control and rescue work began. There is little hope of finding the bodies of the missing as they would undoubtedly have been incinerated.

The new gasometer which exploded was the largest in the world, having a capacity of 200,000 cubic meters. The city appropriated 14,000,000 marks (\$2,200,000) for its construction.

LOSES HIS TITLE FOR LOVE OF WOMAN

Berlin, Dec. 7.—The renunciation by Frederick Von Svan Wittgenstein of his princely rank with all the privileges associated with the same has been gazetted. Emperor William, as king of Prussia, has conferred upon the experience the title of Baron Von Allenburg.

The renunciation was at the direction of the other male members of the family and in accordance with the family law established in 1867 which provides that any member marrying beneath his rank shall lose his inherited right of title. In 1903 Frederick married Marie Louise Vertling, a woman of the middle class.

BOARD OF EDUCATION COMPLETES ITS WORK

Helena, Dec. 7.—(Special.)—The state board of education completed its work today and adjourned until June.

The committee on accredited schools reported that it had restored Havre to the accredited list and that it had admitted the Butte parochial school and the Academy of the Sacred Heart of Missoula. The Virginia City school was notified to make improvements in accordance with the recommendation of the inspector and to show by the June meeting that this had been done.

President Duway of the state university reported that institution as being in excellent condition.

"BIG TIM" STAKEHOLDER.

New York, Dec. 7.—State Senator Timothy D. Sullivan, better known as "Big Tim," has been appointed permanent stakeholder for the Jeffries-Johnson match. All the forfeit money, \$40,000 has been deposited with Sullivan by consent of all interested parties.

REFORM DEMANDED.

Berlin, Dec. 7.—A demand upon the government for a reform of the Prussian three class property qualification electoral system was published today. The demand is signed by 600 persons of standing and representing the principal cities of Prussia.

WAITING GAME IN BRIDGEPORT STRIKE

Bridgeport, Ohio, Dec. 7.—The strike of the employees at the Aetna Standard plant of the American Sheet & Tin Plate company, which has caused the serious injury of half a dozen men, the calling out of 1,500 state soldiers and an estimated loss to workers, plant owners and the state of Ohio of more than \$100,000, reduced itself tonight into a waiting game. It is now generally believed that the dispute will be arbitrated before Saturday.

TO REFORM THE ENGLISH TARIFF

BIRMINGHAM POST OUTLINES PROPOSED CHANGES IN EVENT UNIONISTS WIN.

IMPOST TO GO ON WHEAT

Colonies to Be Given Preference Under New System of Raising Revenue—Cotton and Wool Still to Pass Free, While Flour Will Pay Higher Rate—Bill to Be Simple in Form.

London, Dec. 7.—The Birmingham Daily Post tomorrow will publish an article from inspired sources outlining the tariff reform proposals that are likely to be made by the unionist government if the unionists are successful at the elections, prefacing it with the remark that the country's financial necessities are much greater than they were in 1906, when Joseph Chamberlain started the movement. The article continues:

"It is proposed to establish a general tariff, placing duties on practically all goods that are not deemed raw material, with the object, first of raising revenue; second, of assisting the home producer against foreign competition; third, of giving preference to colonies; fourth, of securing better terms from foreign countries, and fifth, of mitigating unemployment by encouraging the home producer."

"The tariff will be of simplest possible form, not protective in the sense that it is understood in Germany and the United States. There is no intention of having multifarious rates which would throw open the door of parliamentary intrigues."

Wheat Two Shillings Per Quarter. "Foreign wheat will be liable to a duty of 2 shillings per quarter, with preference to the colonies, but not the removal of the whole duty. Flour will pay a higher rate to encourage home grinding, while bacon and maize will also be excluded from the free list. Important raw materials, such as cotton and wool, will enter free."

A tariff framed thus, it is estimated, would produce a revenue from 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 pounds. If the unionists are returned every possible effort will be made to embody the new duties in the budget of 1910, or at the latest 1911, but the maximum duties will be withheld for two years to give time to negotiate commercial agreements with foreign countries."

The Right Hon. George Wyndham, member of the house of commons for Dover, speaking in London tonight, also intimated the intention of the unionists to propose a 10 per cent duty on manufactured articles and 2 shillings on wheat.

WALSH'S LAST CHANCE.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—The petition of John R. Walsh, convicted banker, for a writ of review from the United States court will be filed in Washington, December 29. This will mark the last attempt of the former financier to escape five years' imprisonment in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kas., imposed on the convict finding him guilty of misappropriating the funds of the Chicago National bank while he was its president.

PIERCE IS FOUND TO BE NOT GUILTY

Austin, Tex., Dec. 7.—The jury in the case of H. Clay Pierce, charged with false swearing, returned a verdict of not guilty today.

Judge Calhoun, in a special charge to the jury, sustained the contention of Mr. Pierce's lawyers that he was immune from trial under the laws of Texas, as the counsel for the state sought to use testimony given by Mr. Pierce on the witness stand in Missouri with the intention, he said, of securing his conviction.

The sale of the Waters-Pierce Oil companies' property was postponed by Judge Wilcox until late today.

This was done, it was stated, in order to permit Pierce's lawyers to intervene in his behalf.

STRIKE SITUATION SLOWLY IMPROVING

Two crews of strikers went on in the local Northern Pacific yards in the local Northern Pacific yards yesterday and greatly facilitated the movement of freight. The situation is unchanged and presents the same prospect as on the third day. Regarding the strikebreakers the striking switchmen would say nothing. "We will follow instructions," they said, "and remain within the law. That is all."

More strikebreakers are expected within the next few days and the freight traffic will probably be normal in another week.

WALKER'S NAME NOT SENT IN FOR SUPERVISOR

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—(Special.)—In the list of census supervisors sent to the senate today for confirmation the name of L. A. Walker of Butte for the western Montana district was withdrawn by the president owing to the improbability of his confirmation. Congressman Pray will submit a new name for the place immediately.

TAFT AGAIN HEADS RED CROSS SOCIETY

THE PRESIDENT MAKES HAPPY SPEECH AT ASSOCIATION.

Washington, Dec. 7.—President Taft was re-elected president of the Red Cross today and presided for a time over the fifth annual meeting of the association. The president made a brief address in which he expressed the hope that someone might present the Red Cross with an endowment of \$5,000,000, to place its beneficent work on a more permanent basis. Mr. Taft also presented in person a gold medal voted by the Red Cross to Lloyd C. Griscom, former American ambassador to Italy, for his work at the Messina earthquake and silver medals to Alva K. Herber, H. Davis and Samuel L. Parrish, who assisted in the Italian relief work.

Among other officers re-elected were Robert W. DeForest, vice president; Peckham Winthrop, treasurer, and Henry M. Hoyt, editor of the Red Cross Society. The hall where the meeting was held this afternoon was only partly filled when President Taft arose to speak.

"These meetings," he said, "do not seem to grow in numbers and they do not by any means represent the growth and usefulness of this organization and the demonstration that it has made from time to time each year of the necessity for its continuing life and of the need for a permanent foundation, that shall make it one of the American institutions. Last year the society has shown what it could do in its assistance to Italy after the earthquake; to eastern Turkey after the massacre, and to Mexico after the floods. It seems to be necessary in some way to fill the American eye and to fill the American ear before you can arouse their contributions, and when you have a disaster such as that in Italy, which appealed to all, we are most generous."

Hopes for \$5,000,000 Endowment. "And so it is with respect to the Christmas stamp. It seems to fill the eye of the public, and its connection with tuberculosis carries a good revenue with it. But when it comes to the contributions of \$1 a year, when it comes to the increased membership, and when it comes to the establishment by those substantial contributions of a large endowment fund, the matter moves slowly. I am sure somebody is going to be born, and I hope he is born already, who will give us a large endowment. In our imaginations we might as well make it as large as we need. I think we ought to have an endowment of \$5,000,000. We have been modest and have asked for only \$2,000,000, but if anyone has an extra \$3,000,000 he need not be restricted by the limitation put in and caused by our modesty."

"It gives me great pleasure to come here and preside. I am in the preceding business at present and any variety, from the burdens of a particular presidency, I am only too willing to accept."

HAMILTON PLEADS FOR WOMAN

GOVERNOR HAY DETAILS HOW HE SECURED ADJUTANT GENERAL'S CONFESSION.

Olympia, Wash., Dec. 7.—Governor Marion E. Hay was cross-examined today in the trial of former Adjutant General Otis Hamilton, who is alleged to have embezzled \$50,000 from the state military fund. The governor gave details of his conference with Hamilton in the governor's office, when Hamilton is alleged by the prosecution to have made a confession. Governor Hay testified:

"I started in by asking 'Have you got away with \$25,000?' and Hamilton said 'Oh, no.' I asked him '\$15,000?' and he said 'No.' Then I asked him '\$10,000.' He said 'No, as much as that,' and then I had him."

Governor Hay testified that Hamilton begged that Hazel Moore, of Oakland, Cal., on whom he is alleged to have spent most of the money taken from the state fund, be not brought into the case. The governor said:

"Hamilton wanted to know whether we would protect the woman if he owned up. He said that she was a respectable woman, and that he had not spent any state money on her."

HANDS OFF IN CUSTOMS FRAUDS

CONGRESSMEN BELIEVE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS CAN HANDLE SUGAR CASE.

MUCH TESTIMONY READY

Representative Campbell Calls on Attorney General Wickersham to Discuss Attitude of That Gentleman on Resolution for General Investigation—Campaign Probe Bill Presented.

Washington, Dec. 7.—While the impression seems to prevail among members of congress that there should be a thorough investigation of the customs service as a result of the sugar frauds at the port of New York, their seems to be no disposition to take the matter out of the hands of the treasury department and of the department of justice.

Three resolutions bearing upon this subject, introduced in the house yesterday, were referred to the committee on rules. Representative Campbell of Kansas, author of one resolution, called at the department of justice today to ascertain the attitude of the department towards his measure. In conversation with Attorney General Wickersham he heard emphasized the desire expressed by the president in his message, that congress should keep "hands off" at present.

Mr. Campbell said afterward that he told Mr. Wickersham that there was a mass of testimony to be had bearing upon frauds in the customs service which would be irrelevant in a lawsuit, but which would be pertinent for the country to know and could be brought to light only by means of a congressional inquiry. Mr. Campbell assured Mr. Wickersham that there was no desire on the part of himself or other members to interfere with the work of the executive departments. Mr. Campbell said he intended to have a conference with the committee on rules in regard to his resolution to ascertain prospects for an inquiry.

To provide the campaign contributions of the so-called sugar trust and show to whom they gave and how much, in effect, the direction of a bill introduced today by Representative Gillespie of Texas. It calls for a congressional investigation of the sugar frauds.

PRESIDENT SENDS 1,200 NOMINATIONS

Washington, Dec. 7.—President Taft today sent to the senate a list of about 1,200 nominations to federal offices.

Practically all are recess appointments that have been announced from time to time as made, and the greater part of the list is made up of postmasters in the smaller cities and census supervisors.

One of the important new announcements is that of the reappointment of Franklin Lane as a member of the interstate commerce commission.

Sanford D. Dole, former governor of the Hawaiian islands, has been named as United States judge for the territory of Hawaii.

MORE WITNESSES DENY COAL-LAND AGREEMENT

Spokane, Dec. 7.—Two more claimant witnesses testified today in the Cunningham coal land cases—W. W. Baker of Walla Walla and Francis Jenkins of Moscow, Idaho. Both denied that they had ever entered into any combination or agreement involving their titles. Baker showed by his testimony that he had been careful to examine all statements and affidavits before signing them. Neither Baker nor Jenkins signed the so-called Glavis affidavit. Both testified that they consented to the Guggenheim negotiations, but not to the proposed Guggenheim contract.

NEW COMET FOUND BY PRINCETON MAN

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 7.—Zaccheus Daniel, a graduate student in astronomy at Princeton university, announced today that he discovered a new comet last night from the Princeton observatory.

The position of the comet, he says, is in right ascension six hours 16 minutes, and the declination is north about 34 degrees. It is in the constellation Auriga.

Mr. Daniel describes the comet as round and says it is moving almost directly north and is visible through a three-inch telescope.

IRISH ARE NEUTRAL IN POLITICAL CRISIS

REDMOND SAYS SITUATION FOR HIS PARTY IS BOTH CRITICAL AND HOPEFUL.

London, Dec. 7.—John E. Redmond, leader of the Irish party, has forwarded a manifesto to T. P. O'Connor, president of the United Irish league of Great Britain, who is now in New York, addressed to the friends of Ireland in the United States and dealing with the British political crisis. Mr. Redmond congratulated Mr. O'Connor on the success of his mission in America and expresses the gratitude of the Irish party at the warm response of the American people to Ireland's appeal. The manifesto says:

"Never has the situation confronting Ireland been at the same time more critical and more hopeful."

Then outlining the broad principles of the struggle that has arisen between the house of lords and the house of commons, it continues:

"As between the two great English parties in this contest, the Irish party stands absolutely independent. Not for 130 years has such an opportunity been offered to Ireland. The lords' veto has been recently described by Rosebery and Lansdowne as the only remaining safeguard against the granting of home rule to Ireland. All that is necessary to enable Ireland to profit by this opportunity is that the unity, discipline and efficiency of the party be maintained."

Great Dangers Threaten Party. "But the Irish party is threatened with grave dangers. Against it are arrayed great and wealthy interests, and unionists have declared their intention of naming candidates in every constituency in Ireland with the avowed purpose of exhausting the party's funds. This policy was tried against Parnell in 1896 and failed ignominiously, thanks to America's generosity. So far as voting is concerned, it will fall more ignominiously now than in 1896, but the extra expenditure involved will severely tax the party's resources. We therefore would welcome the ever-generous support of our friends in America and trust it will not fall us until victory has been won."

CAUGHT IN ACT OF PLACING DYNAMITE

New Orleans, Dec. 7.—A weekly newspaper published at Mangrove, Nicaragua, November 19 has just been received containing an account of the execution of the Americans, Cannon and Groce. The paper states that two men were caught in the act of trying to blow up the steamer Diana. It says that when the men were captured they had in their possession dynamite, fuses and machines for causing the explosion, and that after a trial at Fort Eleastillo they testified to having set the mine.

TWO COPPER MERGERS ARE NOW POSSIBLE

New York, Dec. 7.—The recent federal court Standard Oil decision is said today to have changed the plans of the proposed copper merger, and there may be some delay in affecting the combination. It was stated that the new plans provide for separate amalgamations, which will embrace the Cole-Kyan and Amalgamated properties on one hand and the Guggenheim copper properties on the other.

These two combinations, it is stated, will be preliminary to the greater consolidation.

FIRST PRESIDENTIAL HOME BEING RAZED IN NEW YORK

New York, Dec. 7.—What is believed to have been the first presidential mansion in the United States is being torn down to make way for a structure paying larger revenue. It was known as the old Van Alstren house, and stood under one of the immense arches of the Brooklyn bridge, on Cherry hill.

It was to this house that President Washington returned after taking the oath of office.

DENVER MAYOR CUTS OFF GRAFT OF CITY BOSSES

Denver, Dec. 7.—Mayor Speer of Denver today issued a manifesto against the practice of city employees giving their bosses Christmas presents. Pasted conspicuously about the city hall is the notice:

"City employees are forbidden to make contributions for gifts to others who receive a higher salary than themselves. No objections will be made to city employees making gifts to persons receiving less salary than themselves."

(Signed) R. M. SPEER, Mayor.

CONTRACTION MACVEAGH'S KEYNOTE

SECRETARY OF TREASURY SUBMITS ESTIMATES ON COUNTRY'S NEEDS FOR 1911.

BELOW THOSE OF 1910

In Line With President Taft's Policy of Greater Economy in Governmental Expenses Budget Put Up to Present Congress Pares to the Bone Everything Possible—Figures in Report.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Retrenchment is the keynote in the estimates of expenditures for the executive departments of the government for the fiscal year 1911, embodied in the annual report of Franklin MacVeagh as secretary of the treasury, made public today. This is in line with President Taft's declared policy of greater economy in administering the affairs of the government.

The total estimates for 1911 are \$881,132,197 and include the naval building program. Including the increase in the Panama canal estimates, the total estimates for 1911 show a decrease of \$57,244,092.89 under the appropriations for 1910, including the increase in the Panama canal estimates, the total estimates for 1911 show a decrease of \$42,818,969.19 under the appropriations for 1910.

The ordinary estimated receipts for the current year are \$648,000,000 and the ordinary disbursements at \$692,975,696, leaving a deficit in ordinary receipts of \$34,975,696. When the payments on account of the Panama canal and the public debt are added, the total deficit of the fiscal year 1911 is estimated at \$72,975,696.12.

The estimated ordinary receipts for 1911 are \$672,000,000 and the estimated ordinary appropriations \$635,068,672.51, or a surplus in ordinary receipts of \$36,931,327.49. When the Panama canal estimates for 1911 are added the surplus is turned into a deficit of \$12,132,197.21.

For the fiscal year 1910 the naval building program was not included in the estimates submitted to congress. When the naval program is eliminated from the estimates for 1910 and 1911 the total estimates for 1910 are \$91,492,525 less than the total estimates for 1911.

Secretary MacVeagh, emphasizing the "hard rigidity of the present revenue system, with its recurrent economical agitations and its long intervals of fixity," says it will be necessary to meet these deficits to "sell either bonds or certificates of indebtedness. "In due course," he adds, "it would seem that it must be made practicable to both estimate receipts, with a close approximation to the actual, and to provide for their annual rise or fall by some flexible factors in our annual taxation."

Reductions in the present estimates, Mr. MacVeagh declares, result from improved handling of the government work and the postponement of expenditures which can be delayed in an effort to adjust immediate expenses and receipts. He sounds a warning, however, that the reductions in appropriations will be disappointing unless equal attention is given to other important savings.

Secretary MacVeagh reviews the organization of the fiscal responsibilities of the executive and legislative branches of the government and the reorganization thereof now in progress. He voices the hope that there will be "constant progress away from the extreme disorganization of the past" and observes that "even if our country is rich it cannot afford to be wholly inefficient in its appropriations."

Probably the most important recommendation made by the secretary is that the tax on bank circulation secured by United States bonds hereafter deposited bearing interest higher than 2 per cent, shall be increased in exact proportion to the increase in the rate of interest above 2 per cent. He advises continuance of the rate of 1 per cent for circulation based on 2 per cent bonds. Mr. MacVeagh says that if the Panama bonds, authorized by the law of August 5, 1909, should have a much better circulation percentage than the outstanding 2 per cent, the tax being only 1 per cent, Mr. MacVeagh would make the tax on them 1 1/2 per cent, otherwise the ready low market value of the 2 per cent would unduly decline.

At the same time, Mr. MacVeagh says it is desirable to complete the legislation respecting the new Panama bonds to make them available so as to bring the settlement of the indebtedness to the general fund of the treasury of the Panama canal. He suggests that if the sale of any of these bonds should produce more cash than the treasury balance needs, some of the 2 per cent might be bought in the market for the sinking fund, thus keeping the market price of the latter class above par. Declaring that the government has not and never has had a 2 per cent borrowing power, Mr. MacVeagh says it possibly would have been better never to have issued 2 per cent bonds or bonds at any rate below the government's borrowing power in the open market. He says that as a basis for circulation they have no elasticity that they are practically all held by the banks as a

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