



TAFT PRAISES ROOT

WOULD LIKE HIM IN HIS CABINET.

Leaders at Hot Springs Think Secretary Will Be Elected Senator—A Conference Held.

Hot Springs, Va., Nov. 18.—There was a conference at the Taft cottage here this afternoon on New York politics and general political affairs, and especially regarding persons and measures pertaining to the next administration.

While no one at the conference wishes to be quoted on the subject, it may be stated as the opinion of all that Secretary Root will be the successor of T. C. Platt in the United States Senate. This, of course, is based on the understanding that Mr. Root wishes the place.

It is the understanding here that one of the principal reasons for Mr. Root's desire to be relieved of Cabinet duty is that he and Mrs. Root may be rid of the somewhat exacting social duties required of the Secretary of State.

MR. TAFT'S EXPLANATION. Further details were not obtainable, the explanation given by Mr. Taft being that "it was a general talk regarding many matters and persons, just such talks as I desire and expect to have with party leaders and those men who had to do with the campaign, and as a result of which in the end I shall be able to form opinions and make decisions."

Mr. Taft to-night sent this dispatch of congratulation to Cuba, through Governor Macgoon: "I congratulate the Cuban people on the supremacy of law and order in the crisis of a national election and upon the peaceable choice, after an honest ballot and a fair count, of the candidate of the majority."

Mr. Taft expressed doubt to-night of his ability to go to Cuba to witness the withdrawal of the American and the inauguration of the Cuban administration. This will take place at a time when he will be engrossed with the affairs of his own administration.

YOUNG DOCTOR SUICIDE. Despondent Over Health and Inability to Help Parents. Penn Yan, N. Y., Nov. 18.—Despondency over the state of his health and his inability to give his parents the financial help they needed were the apparent reasons for the suicide by shooting of Dr. B. A. Venooy, of Pulney, in a hotel here late to-day.

BROTHER KILLS LAWYER. Then Fatally Shoots Himself—Quarrelled Over Estate. Pittsburgh, Nov. 18.—Reuben Crown, whose home until six months ago was in New York City, is dead, and his brother, Joseph Crown, a prominent attorney of this city, is dying here to-morrow.

PANAMA BOND ISSUE. Secretary Cortelyou to Offer \$30,000,000 2 Per Cents. Washington, Nov. 18.—Secretary Cortelyou late to-day announced that he would receive bids up to the close of business on December 5 for \$30,000,000 Panama Canal bonds, or any part thereof, to bear 2 per cent interest.

ANSWERS SPIRITS' CALL. Professor Barnes's Wife Thus Explains His Suicide. Boston, Nov. 18.—Professor William A. Barnes, the psychologist, who took his own life last night, had delved so deeply into the realms of the beyond and knew so much of the occult that he was forced to follow the beckoning of immortal hands and enter the unknown, according to the statement of his wife to-day.

BLAMES EARTHWORMS FOR CANCER. Buffalo, Nov. 18.—The Buffalo Academy of Medicine last night heard a new theory as to the origin of cancer. Dr. Hiram D. Walker said that seven years' experiment had proved to his satisfaction that cancer was a parasitic disease, and that the common garden worm was the source of the parasite which produced cancer.

SEABOARD'S YEAR ROUND LIMITED. Leaving N. Y. 1:25 P. M., commencing Nov. 29th. Will arrive Jacksonville 4:30 P. M. Absolutely quickest Florida train. Office 118 1/2 Bowry, Cor. 23rd. Advt.

DEWEY'S CLARETS AND OLD BURGUNDY. Taken with the meal arrives at the table. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 138 Fulton St., New York. Advt.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER AND COUNSEL GOING TO THE CUSTOM HOUSE.



MORITZ ROSENTHAL.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER.

JOHN G. MILBURN.

BIG DOWNTOWN SALE.

New Office Building at Liberty and Nassau Streets.

According to a report yesterday, the Bryant Building, at the northwest corner of Liberty and Nassau streets, and the Freedman Building, adjoining on the north and fronting in Nassau street, have been sold to a building syndicate which intends to erect upon the premises at the expiration of the present lease an office building to cost \$2,500,000.

The Bryant Building is one of the landmarks of the financial district. It occupies a plot fronting about 56 feet on Liberty street, about 88 feet on Liberty place and about 83 feet on Nassau street. The Freedman Building, which is owned by Daniel R. Freedman, has a frontage of 28 feet on the street and a depth of about 66 feet.

GERMANY DUBIOUS YET

EMPEROR'S ACT NOT CLEAR

Radicals Want Ministry Subordinated to Reichstag.

Berlin, Nov. 18.—The German Emperor has given his imperial pledge to hold himself within close constitutional bounds hereafter in matters concerning affairs of state, but, though the situation has cleared, serious questions have arisen in political circles as to the significance of the Emperor's action with respect to the future relations between the Reichstag and the executive branch of the government.

While calm observers interpret the Emperor's surrender of what he had considered his prerogative as registering a remarkable victory for public opinion, they fully recognize the fact that it leaves Germany far removed from popular government. The Emperor, it is pointed out, yielded to the most impressive demonstration of the people's will ever seen in Germany, but an occasion can hardly arise once in a generation when the minds of the whole people are fixed with such unanimity upon a single demand, as in this case.

Yet even under these unusual circumstances, the Reichstag, when the subject of the Emperor's intervention in national affairs came up for debate, was unable to agree upon the simple course of sending an address to the Emperor, setting forth the views of the members of the Reichstag, who were one in their opposition to his majesty's course. No action could be taken because the Conservatives refused to co-operate, on the pretext that the Reichstag did not possess the right to address the Crown.

The Conservatives will present a united front against all proposals of this kind. They have everything to gain and nothing to lose in maintaining the present system, under which they supply the ministers of the Crown by traditional right, and fill all the valuable diplomatic, military and civil positions in the gift of the government. As conditions are now, they are in a position to create an atmosphere of political ideas which can cover the governmental policies, whereas a change to parliamentary government will signify the surrender of immemorial privileges on their part.

FLIGHT FOR LAHM CUP. Millionaire Aeronaut Makes Ascension from St. Louis. St. Louis, Nov. 18.—The balloon Yankee, manned by Albert Bond Lambert, millionaire member of the City Council of St. Louis, and H. E. Honeywell, started on a long distance flight from here to-day in an attempt to win the Lahm Cup.

NEW GUNNERY RECORDS. Battleship Nebraska Makes World's Marks at Manila. Manila, Nov. 18.—It is unofficially stated that the battleship Nebraska, during the target practice now in progress, with 12-inch guns broke all records established by the navies of the world for marksmanship with heavy guns.

SHOT AT MRS. DENT. Sister-in-Law of Mrs. U. S. Grant Hit When Hunters Fire on Auto. Denver, Nov. 18.—Because one of their dogs had been killed by a speeding automobile, two hunters fired their shotguns at the machine of Major L. E. Campbell, one charge striking Mrs. F. T. Dent, widow of General F. T. Dent, whose sister was the wife of the late General U. S. Grant, on the back of the head.

WANT SCALP OF INDIANS. President Roosevelt Appealed To by Denver Football Team. Denver, Nov. 18.—President Roosevelt has been asked to use his influence in having a contract lived up to for a football game between representatives of Denver University and the Carlisle Indian School.

THE LABOR DINNER

WHY PRESIDENT GAVE IT. Further Conferences Held—White House Doors Open to All.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Further conferences at the White House to-day, in which the President and men prominent in labor matters took part, made the attitude of the administration toward proposed labor legislation a subject of keen discussion in Washington to-night.

It is learned from the highest authority that the object of the President in giving a dinner to friends of labor and in holding the subsequent conferences was primarily to bring about a better understanding between representatives of the government and labor leaders, and to impress on the labor interests of the country the disposition of the administration to receive their representatives in conference on an equality with all others.

While the President believes that this attitude of the administration had been demonstrated when labor leaders of Butte, Mont., were entertained at the White House, it is explained that he desired, before he retired from office, to make this disposition of the authorities even more evident.

Men who are in a position to know the attitude of the President on the subject say that he has been deeply impressed with the idea of labor unions employing attorneys of high character and sound legal training to advise them on matters of policy and to represent them in their contests. In order to encourage this practice, by indicating his sympathy with it, he invited several attorneys who have been connected with labor unions to take part in the labor conference held last night.

Mr. Gavegan favors having the time for hearings on the merits of injunction suits fixed by law, instead of by courts; the right of defendants to present evidence orally instead of by affidavits alone, and records of proceedings for purposes of review by higher courts. He would put labor on an equality with other citizens in respect to court hearings.

ENTERED OIL BUSINESS ABOUT 1860. His legal residence Mr. Rockefeller gave as No. 4 West 54th street. His first connection with the oil business was in 1860 or 1862—not earlier than 1860 nor later than 1862; not careful to say. There was laughter when, in answer to Mr. Milburn's question: "You were quite a young man at that time?" Mr. Rockefeller, with a naive expression, said: "Somewhat younger than I am to-day."

On Stand in Government Suit Says Company Did Not Organize the South Improvement Company. John D. Rockefeller, president of the Standard Oil Company, spent yesterday afternoon on the witness stand before Franklin Ferris, the referee in the government suit to dissolve the corporation for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Every conceivable part of the great business has been explained again and again by witnesses for the government and for the defense in rebuttal. Mr. Rockefeller was called so that his story may be put on the records before the expiration of the time. He will be followed by William Rockefeller, John D. Archbold and James A. Moffett, but there are other minor witnesses who will be called, whose evidence, however, can be dispensed with less danger than that of the managing officers.

ROCKEFELLER TELLS STORY OF STANDARD FOUNDATION OF SUCCESS WAS \$2,000 LOAN.

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John D. Rockefeller, president of the Standard Oil Company, spent yesterday afternoon on the witness stand before Franklin Ferris, the referee in the government suit to dissolve the corporation for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

"We did not think that it was a desirable scheme; it never went into operation. There never was any business done under the South Improvement Company's name. I believe there never was any money paid in and no stock issued. That was a result we had expected. We did not think it could be worked out, but we did not wish to break with the powerful Mr. Scott."

"The South Improvement Company was to favor all interests in freight rates, and when Mr. Milburn asked whether Mr. Rockefeller or his associates had negotiated the contract with the railways or had anything to do with it, the witness said firmly: "Absolutely not. The men back of it were all refiners, but I shared the views of Mr. Flagler that it was a plan we should not approve of."

"Absolutely not. The men back of it were all refiners, but I shared the views of Mr. Flagler that it was a plan we should not approve of. Thomas A. Scott, then a potent factor in the Pennsylvania road, was not to be disregarded, however. We did not wish to break with Mr. Scott. We lacked confidence in this division of railway rates of the country."

"NO COERCIVE MEASURES USED." When asked about the purchase of competing refineries, whether any coercive measures were used, he said, with an impatient gesture with the right hand: "None whatever; none whatever. The negotiations were fair, very fair; the kind I have always made."

Mr. Rockefeller began to tell the story of the corporation of which he is the head at 2 o'clock in the Custom House. The little room on the fifth floor was crowded. Men stood back of the reporters' tables six deep, staring intently at the Standard Oil president. Three policemen were stationed so that they could control the spectators. Mr. Rockefeller sat at the south end of a small table, back of which Mr. Ferris was seated. An open window near by gave ventilation, and it was necessary. At another table at angles with the first was the counsel. Mr. Milburn asked the questions for the defense, prompted by Moritz Rosenthal, who has been active in the case almost since its beginning, nearly two years ago in St. Louis.

The prosecution has rested its case, but Frank B. Kellogg, federal attorney, is all ready to take the witness as soon as the defense is through with him. The defense has until December 1 to get all its evidence in.

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GOES TO NO. 26 BROADWAY FIRST.

Mr. Rockefeller began his day with a call on his physician, Dr. Henri Moeller, of No. 241 West 57th street. He got there at 10 o'clock, remained about fifteen minutes, and for then was hurried down to No. 26 Broadway in his automobile. There the finishing touches were given to a record of the company, a record which he frequently consulted at the hearing. He had luncheon in his office, and with Mr. Milburn and Mr. Rosenthal started for the Custom House at 1:45 o'clock, stopping long enough at the entrance to permit a score of photographers to snap their cameras at him. It was 1:52 o'clock when he entered the little room on the fifth floor.

A less ostentatious setting for a great hearing could not well be imagined. Mr. Rockefeller was not at all nervous as he entered the room. Mr. Milburn and Mr. Rosenthal bringing up the rear. The Standard Oil president waited for directions where to go, and walked around the counsel's table and was rubbing elbows with Mr. Kellogg before he knew of the proximity of the federal counsel. They were introduced and a smiling conversation was held. The stenographer was moved to the side of Mr. Ferris, and Mr. Rockefeller sat at the end of the table.

Before the taking of testimony was begun Mr. Ferris called attention to the restricted space, and cautioned all present not to move chairs or make any other noise. All the windows were opened, and the ventilators leading into the hall were tilted. But so rank did the atmosphere become that a recess of five minutes was necessary at 3 o'clock, and the room was partly cleared.

It was in the recess that Mr. Rockefeller told a group of reporters of his start in business. In 1858 he went to a banker, explained his knowledge of refining and his business experience and methods. He wanted \$2,000. He had no collateral. The banker let him have the money. To that loan Mr. Rockefeller lays all his great success in life.

To-day the hearing will be held in a large room in the eastern part of the building, on the same floor. It was just 2 o'clock when Mr. Rockefeller was sworn in by Mr. Ferris, and the story of the great corporation was begun.

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The witness answered all questions readily, frequently adding to the necessary answer, and never at a loss for an answer. He told of the first business, when he was associated with Morris, James and Richard Clark and Samuel Andrews in a copartnership under the name of Andrews, Clark & Co. This was at Cleveland, where they constructed a refinery. He could not tell just when the construction was begun nor when it was finished, nor the capacity of