New-York Tribune.

VOL. LXX....No. 23,215. To-day and to-morrow, fair; west winds. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 1910.—SIXTEEN PAGES. ★★ PRICE ONE CENT In City of New York, Jersey City and Hoboken. ELSEWHERE TWO CENTS.

ROOSEVELT A RULER OF MEN, SAYS CURZON

Oxford Chancellor Calls Him Most Conspicuous American Since Lincoln.

ROMANES LECTURE PLEASES

Ex-President Makes Excellent Impression at University—Honorary Degree Conferred Upon Him.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

Oxford, England, June 7.—Theodore Roosevelt's Romanes lecture, delivered in the Sheldonian Theatre to-day, contained nothing inflammable to exasperate the most touchy sentimentalists. If there were in the printed text any hazardous passages about imperialism and racial obligation these were prudently omitted at the lectern.

There were no masked guns in Mr. Roosevelt's battery. The lecture covered safe subjects, such as the relations of science and literature, the development of new species by variations of the ancestral type and the analogies between the phenomena of biology and the dominance and decline of the varying groups forming nations or races. The "big stick" was not shaken either at modern Britain or imperial Rome. The closest approach to the Monroe Doctrine was a description of the unexplained changes in South American fauna toward the close of the tertiary period, and Panama escaped with a bare reference to the upheaval of the land which made a perpetual bridge between two continents.

Mr. Roosevelt was consistently academic. He did not walk about, but stood quietly at the lectern and read his address. There was a meagre use of the tremolo stop in his voice; there were no flashes of humor. Occasionally a word was strongly emphasized, and at times he used his characteristic hammering gesture with the right hand. If he spoke with less animation than at the Guildhall, there was no departure from the dignity associated with the Oxford gown. He was followed with close attention, and there were few interruptions in the way of applause.

His Voice Gave Out.

Toward the close Mr. Roosevelt's voice failed, and he was obliged to leave undelivered a portion of his prepared lecture.

The most remarkable feature of the academic function was the large number of doctors who followed the chancellor into the theatre. Humphry Ward, who has known Oxford long and well, told me he had never seen so many in line here before. Arrayed in a solid phalanx, they paid their visitor the handsomest compliment within their power. Among them were Dr. Warren, Dean Strong, Dr. Goudy and other great scholars. Lord Hugh Cecil's ascetic face was also seen. The organist also rendered a tribute to the notable American by playing "Marching Through Georgia" and other American airs, and when his repertory of these was exhausted reverted to snatches of Bach.

The best touch of comedy came when Lord Curzon, in his chancellor's robes, announced in melodious Latin that the degree of Doctor of Civil Law had been conferred upon Theodorum Roosevelt, and directed the beadles to fetch "virum honorabilem." These officials went out looking rather shamefaced, and the gravity of the great audience was upset. When they returned with Mr. Roosevelt there was another gust of laughter, for the chancellor repeated the Latin tag about "the startled mouths of sevenfold Nile took flight."

Dr. Goudy's presentation speech contained a passage about "Lincoln the emancipator and Roosevelt the conqueror of corruption," which was warmly applauded. Lord Curzon's English welcome was most felicitously phrased when Mr. Roosevelt was standing at the lectern, and there was a round of applause when reference was made to the good use he had been making of his voice.

Oxford evidently liked the Guildhall speech.

Tribute of Lord Curzon.

Lord Curzon in his speech referred to Mr. Roosevelt as "a ruler of men—the most conspicuous figure in America since Abraham Lincoln." After touching on the former President's many achievements the chancellor said: "Although he is now taking a holiday, it is undreamable that such a man will long remain out of public life."

Altogether it was one of the most memorable scenes ever enacted at the university. Mr. Roosevelt's magnetic personality was powerfully felt, and the dignity of his address, coupled with a realization of the manifold activities of the man, produced a profound impression.

The civic welcome and round of sightseeing were interrupted by rain, but the luncheon, at which were 150 Americans, including all the Rhodes scholars, passed off brilliantly. Ambassador Reid being there to propose the health of the King and of the President, and Mr. Roosevelt responding in a jocular speech to the welcome of the Rhodes scholars. After the hospitality of the vice-chancellor had been enjoyed the Roosevelts were carried off to Nuneham Park for the night as the guests of that sound Radical, Lewis Harcourt.

London, June 7.—Nine cabins have been engaged for the Roosevelt party on the steamer Kaiserin Auguste Victoria, which will sail from Southampton on June 10 for New York.

The Romanes lectureship at Oxford was named for George John Romanes, who was born at Kingston, Canada, on May 20, 1848, and died at Oxford, in 1894. He gained celebrity as a naturalist and Fullerian professor of physiology at the Royal Institution. The first incumbent of the chair occupied this year by Mr. Roosevelt, was William E. Gladstone, who lectured on "Mediæval Universities" in 1892.

[The full text of Mr. Roosevelt's Romanes lecture is printed on pages 8 and 9 in to-day's Tribune.]

DIAZ'S OPPONENT ARRESTED

Madero in Jail, with Election Three Weeks Off.

According to a private dispatch received in this city yesterday from Monterey, Mexico, Francisco J. Madero, who has been running against General Diaz for the Presidency of Mexico on the tickets of the Anti-Re-election party and National Democratic party, was secretly arrested on Monday night, and is now in prison.

The message was from a friend of Madero to a man who is associated with him in some business enterprises, and read:

"Last night, with inconceivably luxurious arbitrariness, they arrested Pancho, on the pretext that he aided in the flight of Estrada, a thing which is not so. Indignation general. We are all here. There is no danger. He is calm."

"Pancho" is a nickname for Francisco. Estrada is R. Estrada, a lawyer, who aroused the indignation of President Diaz by delivering speeches in favor of Madero, and fled just as he was to be arrested on the order of Diaz.

Madero belongs to a wealthy and prominent family in the northern part of Mexico.

The Presidential election will be held on June 25.

LIGHTNING'S DEADLY WORK

Kills Many in Germany and Ignites Nitroglycerine Plant.

Cologne, June 7.—Lightning struck a nitroglycerine factory at Schlebusch, six miles from Cologne, to-day, causing a terrific explosion, which was distinctly felt here and was thought by many persons to be an earthquake.

The explosion occurred at the noon hour, when the men had stopped work. Some of them were in the dining hall while others had gone to their homes. Twenty were wounded, several of them dangerously, and a large section of the building was destroyed.

The death of many persons by lightning is reported from several places in southwestern Germany. At Redburg three farm hands were killed, at Metz a soldier doing guard duty, and at Rothenbergen the Burgomaster's son were killed.

A whole company of an infantry regiment that was marching into camp at Dresden was hurled to the ground by a bolt. Three soldiers were killed outright and fifteen others were seriously injured.

SUPPOSED FIRE DEVELOPS

Commissioner Demonstrates Box 317—Four Firemen Overcome.

Deputy Fire Commissioner Arthur J. O'Keeffe was showing the members of the Wyckoff Heights Board of Trade how to ring in a fire alarm last night and used a small fire alarm box.

"Now, suppose there was a fire at Box 317," he said. "I would pull this"——

The sentence broke off when his chauffeur rushed in.

"Commissioner," he exploded, "there's a two-alarm fire at Box 317."

The Commissioner left the hall, at the corner of Wyckoff and De Kalb avenues, and went to No. 958 De Kalb avenue, where there was a fire in the cellar of a repair shop belonging to the Borden Milk Company. The fire was a stubborn one, and several firemen were overcome by smoke.

William Hayes and James Prendergast, of Engine Company 118, and Battalion Chief Langan were found, and were being carried out when their rescuers stumbled over a grating. They raised this, and underneath it found two more firemen, Hugh Milligan and Frank Harrison, of Engine Company 130. These men had picked up the grating and gone into the cellar to fight the fire and the grating had fallen and caged them. They were almost suffocated when found.

Dr. De Long, of the Fire Department, and an ambulance surgeon from Bushwick Hospital, attended the men, and they were able to go to their homes. The building was gutted, with a loss of about $5,000.

JACK ABERNATHY HERE

Showed Colonel Roosevelt How to Catch a Wolf Alive.

Jack Abernathy, of Oklahoma City, who showed Theodore Roosevelt how to capture and kill a wolf with his bare hands, registered at the Hotel Breslin last night at 6 o'clock and went to bed at 9 o'clock. He had just come from the West and was so tired when he retired that the hotel men said he would not see newspaper men.

Mr. Abernathy is the father of the "Cowboy Kids," Louis and Temple, who are making the trip from Oklahoma to New York on horseback, having already passed through Washington, where they saw Mr. Taft, and Baltimore.

KINGS REPUBLICANS IN LINE

About 1,200 to Cheer Roosevelt from Position in Fifth Avenue.

Plans for the reception of Theodore Roosevelt were made yesterday afternoon at the meeting of the Republican Executive Committee of Kings County. State Chairman Timothy L. Woodruff was present. In response to a letter from Captain Arthur F. Cosby, secretary of the executive committee of the Roosevelt Reception Committee, the committee decided to apply for a position along the line of march in lower Fifth avenue.

About twelve hundred Republicans will gather in front of headquarters, No. 44 Court street, at 10 o'clock on the morning of June 18, and will march across the Brooklyn Bridge, headed by Charles S. Devoy, leader of the 7th Assembly District; D. Harry Ralston, leader of the 1st Assembly District, and a brass band.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. ROOSEVELT

Representative of Swedish King Compares Him with Great Characters.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Rock Island, Ill., June 7.—Bishop Von Scheele, personal representative of the King of Sweden to a Swedish historical convention here, paid a remarkable tribute to Theodore Roosevelt in an address to-day.

"There is something about him," he said, "that is different from every other character in history. He is perfectly open and honest, fearless in stating his convictions, and I honor him for his virtues and for what he has done for the world."

Genuine pebble eyeglasses, the cool kind that never mist. Spencer's, 21 Maiden Lane.—Advt.

SHOCKS BRING DEATH AND HAVOC TO ITALY

Panic and Suffering the Fate of the Southern Province of Avellino.

RULERS HURRY TO SCENE

Frenzied Mob, Attributing Renewed Disaster to American Clergymen, Seeks to Hang Them.

Avellino, Italy, June 7.—An earthquake, characterized by one severe shock and several minor shocks, which occurred soon after 3 o'clock this morning, wrought great havoc through the province of Avellino, in the Compartment of Campania. The entire region for a radius of fifty miles was thrown into a panic.

While the city of Avellino practically escaped damage, the town of Calitri, some thirty-five miles distant, suffered severely. Reports received here indicate that half the buildings in Calitri have been wrecked. The number of killed in that place is estimated at from twenty-five to fifty, while scores have been badly injured.

From many other towns and villages come stories of fallen homes, death and suffering. At San Sele, in the province of Potenza, six persons were killed and five injured. The convicts in the prison at Benevento became panicstricken and tried to force their way past the guards, but they were overpowered by the troops.

King and Queen Rush Thither.

King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena arrived here at 10 o'clock this evening, but remained on the train, where they spent the night. They will proceed to-morrow morning to Calitri and other stricken towns, and later will be joined by the Duke of Aosta, who is now on his way here.

To-night the people Avellino, although somewhat reassured by the fact that the shocks did not recur through the day, are remaining in the open. Crowds are gathered in the squares and the fields around the town, where fires have been lighted, about which are gathered pitiful groups, who fear to return to their homes.

Ten persons are said to have met death at San Sossio, where the sulphur waters with which the district is rich, were released from bounds by the disturbance and flooded the vicinity. From the flood noxious gases arose.

At Chianche a house fell burying and killing an aged man. One person was killed, and several were injured at Castelbaronia. Calabritto was badly damaged.

Squads of workmen, together with detachments of soldiers, were dispatched from this place to assist the suffering villagers.

From Sleep to Panic.

It was in the darkest hour of the morning when the shock was felt here. The sleeping town was aroused by shaking walls, the rattling of furniture and the falling of plaster from the ceilings. In a moment panic had seized the twenty thousand inhabitants, who live in daily fear of a seismic disaster.

Half naked men, women and children fled from their homes screaming with terror. They had in their minds visions of Messina and the horror of Reggio. Recently there was gossiped about in this region a prediction that the approach of Halley's comet portended the end of the world.

The authorities kept their heads, but they could not stay the mad rush for the squares and open districts outside the city. The wildest confusion prevailed, and the frightened ones could not be reasoned with nor stopped. In the squares hundreds threw themselves upon their faces and implored the mercy of the Almighty. Then the religious fervor found expression in half organized processions to the shrine of St. Andrew, the protector of the town. Others climbed to the sanctuary on Monte Vergine.

Excitement Kills Old Man.

After several hours of frantic entreaty the authorities succeeded in re-establishing a semblance of calm, and relief squads were organized. It was then found that no one had been killed, though one aged man had died on account of excitement. Many houses were damaged, as were the belfries of the churches.

Throughout the day the police were busy bringing together the scattered members of families and reassuring the frightened ones. Word that the King and Queen were on the way here served to afford new courage to the people and had a good effect in restoring order.

Naples, June 7.—An earthquake of unusual intensity was experienced throughout Southern Italy, including the island of Sicily, at 3:07 o'clock this morning. The extent of the damage wrought had not been determined this afternoon, but it is believed that some thirty-seven persons were killed and that property losses in certain districts will be heavy.

The disturbance disrupted telegraph communication generally in the provinces most affected, and further details are awaited with apprehension.

A report received from Avellino described the narrow escape from death at the hands of a superstitious mob of a party of American clergymen who happened to be in the province when the earthquake occurred. Some of the panicstricken populace believed that the calamity was due to the presence of the clergymen, and attacked the latter with the avowed purpose of hanging them. Fortunately, the police learned of the assault and rescued the ministers, afterward escorting them to a safe distance from the village.

The shock was felt for ten seconds in the province of Avellino. It was also felt strongly for a shorter period at Cozenza, Paola, Catanzaro, Reggio, Potenza, Benevento, Capua and Melfi, but

Continued on second page.

$2.50 TO ATLANTIC CITY AND RETURN. Pennsylvania Railroad, next Sunday. Special train leaves 6:45 A. M.—Advt.

KILLS HIMSELF IN CROWDED THEATRE

Manufacturer a Suicide in Columbia Theatre as Show Is Ending.

THOUGHT IT STAGE SHOT

Audience, Save for Few Who Saw Man Fall Dead on Chair, Files Out Quietly as Orchestra Plays On.

While orchestra and chorus were flooding the house with sound last night at the Columbia Theatre, Broadway and 47th street, Charles Talbert, a corset manufacturer, of No. 568 Park avenue, stood up in one of the stage boxes and, placing a revolver to his right temple, fired a bullet into his brain. As he fell across one of the seats those in the box with him and a party in an adjoining box became panicstricken and tumbled over one another in their efforts to escape from danger.

Talbert had entered the box early in the evening and to those who observed him his actions seemed peculiar. Several times during the performance he left the box and paced up and down in the corridor. Then he would return, mopping his forehead with a handkerchief and sit fidgetting in his seat. He attracted more than usual attention because of his height—he was well over six feet. Besides, he was faultlessly dressed.

Largely because of the noise made by the orchestra and the chorus—it being the finale of the performance—many of those in the theatre did not realize that a man had killed himself. Most people thought the revolver shot was part of the performance. Those in the boxes, however, who had a clear view of the dramatic climax to the evening's entertainment, knew that it was no stage death that they had seen.

Fireman Prevents Panic.

Men and women fell over chairs in their wild rush for places of safety. They were marshalled into some semblance of order by Fireman John McKennedy, who was on detail at the theatre. He opened all the exits and led the women in the boxes and the first balcony out into the street, telling them not to raise an outcry. In spite of these precautions, however, many joined in the rush for the doors.

William Hickey, the leader of the orchestra, when he witnessed Talbert's act urged the principals on the stage to greater efforts, trying to quell the fears of the audience. Although the man's body lay in full sight of those on the stage as they swung through the strains of some comedy hit they never wavered, but continued to sing and dance.

Just as it appeared that the entire audience would leave the theatre in orderly fashion the house was electrified by the shouts of a man apparently in trouble. He was screaming for help. The ushers and Patrolman White, who had run in from the street, immediately tried to make their way through the crush of people on the second landing to the box where Talbert had killed himself.

When they finally succeeded in fighting their way to the box they found a man lying near the body, trying to escape from a dozen men who were aiming kicks and blows at him. It appeared that those who were trying to get at the man thought that he had fired the shot, and their shouts of "Murderer! Catch him!" and similar cries filled with dread those still in the theatre.

It was only after a desperate fight with those about him that the police were able to rescue the man from the clutches of those who were intent on wreaking vengeance on him.

Talbert Died Instantly.

As soon as the theatre had been cleared Patrolman McLaughlin, of the West 47th street station, called an ambulance from Flower Hospital. The surgeon said that Talbert must have died almost instantly. While awaiting the arrival of the Coroner Captain Fennelly, of the West 47th street station, took charge. He had the body searched, several letters and cards being found. It was from these papers that Talbert's identity was learned.

The police informed Talbert's wife, Mrs. Lina Talbert, of No. 568 Park avenue, of the death of her husband. She immediately hurried down to the station and identified the body. She said that her husband had suffered financial losses lately, but did not seem unduly depressed on that account.

Other letters found on Talbert were addressed to the police and the Coroner, and to Dr. Andrew J. Fox, of No. 566 Park avenue. All the letters were of a rambling nature and showed that the man was mentally deranged. His body was taken later to the West 47th street station.

A ROCKEFELLER BABY

Born Ten Days Ago, Boy and His Mother Are Doing Well.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, jr., are receiving congratulations at their home, No. 13 West 54th street, on the birth of a boy, who was born ten days ago at their home in this city. Dr. Allen M. Thomas, of No. 35 West 54th street, who attended Mrs. Rockefeller, said last night that mother and son were doing well.

Up to about a month ago Mr. and Mrs. Rockefeller had been at their country home, at Pocantico Hills.

This is the third child that has been born to the Rockefellers. A little girl named Babette was born on November 2, 1903. Three years later John D. Rockefeller, 3d, was born. Before her marriage, in 1901, Mrs. Rockefeller was Miss Abby G. Aldrich, daughter of Senator Nelson W. Aldrich, of Rhode Island.

YALE-PRINCETON BASEBALL GAME. At Princeton, Saturday, June 11. Special trains via Pennsylvania Railroad leave New York 8:25, 9:26, 10:55, 11:55 A. M. and 12:55 P. M., returning thirty minutes after game. Round trip tickets, $2.15 from New York.—Advt.

MAP OF THE SOUTHERN PART OF ITALY.

The shaded section indicates where the greatest damage was done by the earthquake.

HOT PRIMARIES IN IOWA

Carroll, Stalwart, Apparently Leads for Governor.

HULL MAY BE DEFEATED

General Drift Favors "Stand-Patters" and Against Cummins Forces.

Des Moines, Iowa, June 8.—All hope of making any definite announcement on the Republican nomination for Governor was abandoned at midnight, only 150 voting precincts out of 2,300 in the state having sent in unofficial returns. On the basis of returns received, however, Governor B. F. Carroll, "stand-pat" Republican, has an indicated majority of 10,000 over Warren C. Garst, progressive Republican, for the Governorship.

In the 1st and 7th Congress districts the returns are sufficiently heavy apparently to give sound basis to claims of the election of Prouty, progressive, over Congressman Hull in the 7th, and Congressman Kennedy, "stand-pat," over S. W. Brookhart in the 1st.

While Congressman Smith's supporters in the 9th District insist that the election is assured, progressive leaders assert that the returns in Smith's territory are far too scant to justify the claim that the progressive candidate, Attorney General Byers, has been defeated.

The contest between N. R. Towner, "stand-pat," and J. H. Darrah, progressive, in the 8th District, is in doubt, owing to insufficient returns.

No returns have been received as to Democratic contests.

The following unopposed Congressional candidates were nominated by the progressives. All the standpatters had contestants:

2d District—Charles Grilk, of Davenport.

3d District—Charles E. Pickett, of Waterloo.

4th District—G. N. Haugen, of Northwood; D. D. Murphy, of Elkader (Democrat).

5th District—James W. Good, of Cedar Rapids; S. C. Huber, of Tama (Democrat).

6th District—N. E. Kendall, of Albia; Daniel W. Hamilton, of Sigourney (Democrat).

11th District—Elbert H. Hubbard, of Sioux City.

Of the foregoing all the Republican are incumbents, except Grilk.

Congressman Frank P. Wood, progressive, was nominated in the 10th District, defeating Lewis H. Mayne, "standpatter." The Democrats made no nomination.

"The Des Moines Capital," regular Republican, in a midnight extra edition claims the nomination of Congressmen Kennedy and Smith and of H. M. Towner, all "stand-pat" candidates for Congressional nominations, and of Carroll for Governor. The extra makes the Hull-Prouty contest doubtful. Towner was a candidate to succeed Jamieson in the 8th District.

There were Republican contests in the 1st District, where S. W. Brookhart entered the lists against Congressman Kennedy, a "stand-patter"; in the 7th, where Judge Prouty for the fourth time sought to vanquish Congressman J. A. T. Hull; in the 8th, the old Hepburn district, where the progressives and stalwarts are fighting against each other in the respective persons of John H. Darrah and Judge H. M. Towne, and in the 9th, where Attorney General H. W. Byers ran against Congressman Walter I. Smith.

Governor Carroll made his campaign on his state record, ignoring national topics, but his support came largely from the Iowa Taft Club, which is organizing in every precinct to obtain an indorsement of the Taft administration at the state convention next August. Garst was supported by Senator Cummins and Dolliver on a progressive platform.

Burlington, Iowa, June 7.—The progressive Republican cause went down in defeat in the 1st District primaries to-day. Congressman Kennedy's majority over S. W. Brookhart, progressive, will reach 2,000 on the basis of fairly complete returns.

LABOR BEATS BASEBALL CLUB.

Cleveland, June 7.—The labor boycott against the Cleveland Baseball Club was ended to-day by an agreement by which the baseball company is to employ only union labor, and only union goods are to be sold in American League parks. The Cleveland team is to play a game for the benefit of a charity to be designated by the union.

"WILL LEVEL THE BLUFF"

Dubuque's Commander Threatens to Use Cruiser's Guns.

REPLY TO MADRIZ GENERAL

Situation in Bluefields Becoming More Critical and Consul Moffat's Life Is Menaced.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, June 7.—"At the first shot fired against the American flag or an American vessel I will level the bluff."

This is the reply made to-day by Commander Harold K. Hines, commanding the American gunboat Dubuque to a threat made by General Rivas, of the Madriz force holding Bluefields Bluff, to stop by force any vessels of whatever nationality entering the harbor.

General Rivas has practically defied the United States, declaring that he will disregard the proclamation issued from Washington on May 31 to the effect that the United States government denies the right of either faction to seize American owned vessels or property without consent of and recompense to the owners.

He has warned Commander Hines that he will prevent by force, regardless of flag, any further vessels from entering he harbor. In response to this the American commander immediately sent to him the above message, which would mean the annihilation of the handful of Madriz troops now remaining in this neighborhood.

A critical situation has thus arisen which may involve the United States, but the American officers here are of the opinion that General Rivas will not attempt to make good his threat in an effort to collect customs duties.

There are constant rumors of threats against the life of Thomas P. Moffat, the American Consul here, and the whole situation at Bluefields, instead of quieting, has assumed a more serious aspect.

General Carton, who has followed up the retreat of General Chavarria, one of the commanders of the Madriz army, has overtaken him at a mining point some distance from Rama.

The prisoners who were taken at the time of the defeat of General Lara have been put to work on the streets of Bluefields, under the charge of sanitary officers and marines. General Estrada is showing a firm hand. He is opening up the banana trade, which is helping business in other directions. General Lara is still in flight in the swamps, pursued by General Saenz, who is sending prisoners from the Madriz forces back daily.

Washington, June 7.—The news that Commander Hines threatened bombardment of Bluefields Bluff in case the Madriz force attempted interference with American shipping entering the harbor did not occasion surprise here.

At the request of the State Department the Navy Department some days ago issued comprehensive orders to the commanders of the American naval vessels standing guard off Bluefields, and the State Department simultaneously served notice on President Madriz that this government would not recognize the right of the Managua government to collect customs duties after the Estrada party had removed the custom house to the city.

That a clash might come sooner or later was the general fear when the orders were issued.

AN APPEAL FROM ESTRADA

Wants Cartago Court to Sway Madriz Toward Mediation.

Washington, June 7.—General Estrada, the Nicaraguan insurgent chief, has appealed to the Cartago Court of Justice, asking its influence to obtain from President Madriz a reply to Estrada's offer of March 14 last, proposing that the United States mediate between the two, and that an election be held for President, at which neither Estrada nor Madriz shall be candidates.

The following is the text of the letter sent by Estrada to the president of the court, through the United States Consulate at Bluefields:

Now that we have totally destroyed the armies of Generals Lara, Godoy and Chavarria, which were arrayed against Bluefields and Rama, with the loss of all their essentials of war and hundreds of lives, the provisional government believes it to be its duty, animated, as always, by these sentiments for peace, to insist on the negotiations pending with Dr. Madriz, who has not as yet replied to our message dated March 14 last.

To accomplish this end, which will terminate the misfortunes which affect the nation, permit appeal to your honorable tribunal, which has nobly expressed itself as interested in the peace and tranquillity of this poor country, that it may interpose its valued influence with Dr. Madriz to the end that he accept our proposals, which consist principally in the friendly mediation of the American government and other bases already brought to the knowledge of your high tribunal. JUAN ESTRADA.

EASTERN ROADS ADOPT TAFT'S TERMS

No Rate Increases Until Commerce Commission Passes on Reasonableness.

RATE BILL IN CONFERENCE

House and Senate Act on President's Request to Make Measure Immediately Effective.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, June 7.—President Taft rounded out his victory of yesterday by obtaining a similar concession to-day from the managers of the Eastern railroads, as a result of which no rates in the entire section of the Atlantic seaboard to Chicago and north of the Ohio River will be increased until the Interstate Commerce Commission has had an opportunity to investigate in advance the reasonableness of any proposed advance. Moreover, President Finley of the Southern Railway assured the President that his road will make no increases except under the provisions of the new law and expressed the belief that all other roads in the Southern territory will be guided by the decision of the Southern.

This means that as a result of the personal negotiations of the President the shippers throughout the entire country are protected from immediate advances in rates and from all advances until the reasonableness thereof shall have been determined by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The saving to the shippers of the country is incalculable, while the railroads also benefit in that they are saved from the great expense of extensive litigation and the uncertainty which would have attended the value of their securities had they entered into a judicial conflict with the government. Congratulations poured into the White House all day on yesterday's victory, and when the details of to-day's conference became known the enthusiasm of the shippers in every section knew no bounds.

Mr. Taft's Diplomacy Wins.

The President made it clear to-day that the administration had in mind no prosecution of the Eastern railroads under the Sherman law, but by diplomacy he brought the executives of the railroads to see the wisdom of the course he advocated. The heads of the railroads do not believe it will take the Interstate Commerce Commission anything like the eleven months provided in the pending railroad bill to determine the reasonableness or the reverse of proposed increases in rates. They assume that the commission will approve or disapprove in principle great numbers of rates en bloc, or, in other words, that it will determine the equity of certain key rates, to which all other changes will be made to conform.

Those present at to-day's conference were President McCrea, of the Pennsylvania Company, with Judge Massey, general counsel; President Brown, of the New York Central, and President Finley, of the Southern Railway. The government was represented by the President and the Attorney General. The conference was entirely friendly, and lasted only an hour and a half, the railroad men having come with a pretty clear understanding of what was expected of them from yesterday's agreement.

When the conference ended the following statement was given out at the White House:

At the invitation of the President, James McCrea, president of the Pennsylvania companies, with Judge Massey, general counsel; W. C. Brown, president of the New York Central lines, and W. W. Finley, of the Southern Railway, met the President at his office for a conference with respect to the proposed advance of rates, which had already been filed by the trunk lines and central freight lines with the Interstate Commerce Commission, to be effective July 1 and thereafter.

At the conference it was agreed that if the amendment recommended in the message of the President this morning to the pending railroad bill was adopted, and if the bill became a law on or before July 1, no agreement was necessary to bring the rates in question before the Interstate Commerce Commission for investigation and decision before they became effective. But it was further agreed that if the enactment of the railroad law was deferred, or it should otherwise become necessary, the railroad companies would submit the proposed advance in rates to the Interstate Commerce Commission in accordance with the provisions of the new law.

Mr. Finley, the president of the Southern Railway, stated that as to Southern territory his company, while recognizing the necessity for some increase in some of the rates, had taken no action as yet, so that there was no need of any stipulation by his company.

It appears that the first suggestion of a conference between the President and the railroad executives came from President Cutter of the Pere Marquette Railway who saw Mr. Taft on his recent Western trip. Mr. Taft indicated his entire willingness to confer with the railroad presidents, and President W. C. Brown then wrote him asking if such a conference would be agreeable, the President replying in the affirmative.

No Promise of Immunity.

In neither to-day's nor yesterday's conference did the President make any promise of immunity from prosecution under the Sherman law other than the promise that proceedings pursuant to the injunction against the Western Traffic Association would not be pressed.

There is obvious relief among the railroad men over the settlement of what at one time threatened to be a serious conflict between the government and their roads. They feel that a grave crisis has been passed, and while they declare that the shippers have obtained the best of the bargain they are loud in their praises of the diplomacy of President Taft. The situation was one where a false step or a lack of tact and judgment might have worked incalculable harm, and now all dangers have been averted and an agreement reached which is to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. This was well expressed by George W. Perkins, of J. P. Morgan & Co., who said to-day:

The railroad question affects managers and owners of railroads, the govern-