The Sun.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1908.
Rain and warmer to-day and to-morrow; fresh southerly winds, becoming westerly.

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PAWNS MOVE AT PLATTSBURG

COLLECTORSHIP, OF COURSE, IS NOT A TAFT PRIZE,

But You Can't Make Republicans Up That Way Believe It—Witherbee Is Out to Do Up O'Brien—Whichever Can Deliver the Delegates to Chicago Wins?

The recent visits of William Barnes, Jr., Republican leader of Albany county, to Washington and his talks with President Roosevelt have attracted more than ordinary attention, possibly because of the secrecy which has been thrown around them. It was not until last night that the explanation of these visits and talks was touchsafed. They had first to do with the recent conferences in this city between Mr. Barnes and John F. O'Brien of West Chazy, Republican State committeeman for the Twenty-sixth Congress district, which includes the counties of Clinton, Essex Franklin and St. Lawrence. Mr. O'Brien is the Republican leader of Clinton county and has been mentioned for Collector of the Port of Plattsburg, the post which was held so long by Walter C. Witherbee of Port Henry. Mr. Witherbee is now in Florida and the Collector's office at Plattsburg is in the hands of a deputy.

To begin at the first chapter of this political episode, Mr. Witherbee was the classmate and roommate at Yale of Henry W. Taft, brother of Secretary Taft, and from the first mention by the President of the Secretary for the Presidency, nearly two years ago, Mr. Witherbee has been pronounced and eager in his advocacy of Secretary Taft. He was the original Taft man of the Twenty-sixth Congress district, in which two delegates are to be elected to the Chicago convention. Mr. Witherbee and the President had also been friends for many years. Mr. Witherbee had supported Mr. Roosevelt when Mr. Roosevelt was Governor of New York State. He is worth a million or more.

The office of Collector of the Port at Plattsburg is worth from $10,000 to $15,000 a year, but the salary was never the attractive feature with Mr. Witherbee. It was related last night that he has spent a good deal more than his salary in helping the party in his territory. It has been said all along that Mr. Witherbee didn't desire reappointment as Collector of Plattsburg. He had held the place nearly eight years. But the statement was made last night that it was not altogether with the consent of Mr. Witherbee that he retired from this important office in the Federal Government. At least he didn't desire to be succeeded by John F. O'Brien. It was declared that President Roosevelt, while friendly to Mr. Witherbee in a personal and social way, did not believe that Mr. Witherbee could "deliver the goods" in the shape of the two delegates to the national convention from the Twenty-sixth Congress district and for that reason it was necessary to retire him as Collector of Plattsburg.

Mr. Witherbee does not control Essex county, although he is looked upon as probably the most potent factor in the county. His supremacy in the county is dependent upon the friendship of ex-Senator Spencer G. Prime and of ex-Representative Wallace T. Foote. In other words, in order to be the assumed leader of the county he must have either Mr. Prime or Mr. Foote or both at his back.

When John F. O'Brien was a candidate for Secretary of State in 1902 it was mainly through the efforts of Mr. Witherbee that Mr. O'Brien got the nomination. Of course it has been asserted that both Mr. Barnes and ex-Gov. Frank S. Black were backing Mr. O'Brien at the time; but, according to he tale, Mr. O'Brien could not, it was avowed, have got the nomination for Secretary of State if Mr. Witherbee had been opposed to him.

At this stage of the story appears the name of Patrick J. Finn, District Attorney of Essex county. Several years ago Mr. Witherbee saw to it that Mr. Finn was nominated and elected District Attorney. Later on Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Witherbee got into a clash over the nomination of a Senator for the Senate district, Mr. O'Brien favoring H. Wallace Knapp of Malone, Clinton county, Witherbee was opposed to Knapp's nomination. At the crucial moment in the Senate district convention Finn went over to O'Brien and Knapp was nominated by a slender majority. Finn and O'Brien, it was said, had patched up a secret alliance and Mr. Witherbee was chagrined and angered at the conduct of Finn. Since that time there has been a feud between Witherbee and O'Brien and their adherents in that neighborhood. The chagrin of Mr. Witherbee was keen when he learned that President Roosevelt at the request of Representative George M. Malby of St. Lawrence county had practically decided to appoint O'Brien Collector of Plattsburg, although Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Malby were supporting Gov. Hughes from the housetops as their candidate for the Presidency while privately stating that they were for Taft and that the two delegates for the Twenty-sixth Congress district would be at the proper time Taft men.

Malby and O'Brien control this Twenty-sixth Congress district, and Malby is to be one of the delegates to the Chicago convention, O'Brien to nominate the other, and both are to be for Taft. At the proper time, after these two delegates have been selected by Mr. Malby and Mr. O'Brien, Mr. O'Brien, it was declared last night, is to be appointed Collector at Plattsburg, the office which Mr. Witherbee has just vacated. To bring this state of affairs about, it was asserted by those informed of the facts, has been the real reason for the recent conferences of Mr. Barnes and Mr. O'Brien in New York, and for the visits of Mr. Barnes and Mr. O'Brien, especially Mr. Barnes, to the President at Washington.

A feud of this character is very intense in that part of the State. Mr. Witherbee is spoken of as a man who desires to avoid quarrels, but who now feels that he has been treated pretty shabbily and he can fight when forced to, and it is added that he has declared war on Finn, the District Attorney, who is a candidate for County Judge to succeed Judge Case Kellogg. Kellogg has been County Judge for twelve years and is a candidate to succeed himself. Mr. Witherbee desires the nomination of Harry E. Owen in place of Judge Kellogg, while Mr. Foote is a hearty supporter of District Attorney Finn for the place.

Mr. Foote has cast in his fortunes with Mr O'Brien in the general mêlée. Mr. Witherbee, however, it was asserted, will defeat Finn's nomination. Ex-Senator Prime may add to the complications by becoming a hopeless candidate for Collector of Plattsburg. It is the opinion of Republicans from that part of the State that Mr. Witherbee has begun a war of extermination against Mr. O'Brien. Senator Platt and Senator Depew are old friends of Mr. Witherbee and are standing by him, but opposed to the two United States Senators and supporting O'Brien are Barnes, Malby and Foote, and behind them is the President.

After all this tale of political intrigue came the statement last night made by friends of Mr. O'Brien that "Gov. Hughes's name will not even be presented by the State of New York at Chicago." In other words, according to Republicans of St. Lawrence and Clinton who gave what they said were the unbiased facts of the situation concerning the Collectorship for the Port of Plattsburg, a huge confidence game on the Presidential situation is being played in those diggings, and it is all to end to the glory of Representative Malby and the selection of Mr. O'Brien to be Collector when Mr. Malby and Mr. O'Brien "make good" in the selection of the two delegates for Taft in the Twenty-sixth Congress district.

NO AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN.

But Negotiations May Stop All Immigration, Takahira Tells Tardieu.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, March 21.—The *Temps* prints an interview between its foreign editor, André Tardieu, and Baron Takahira, the Japanese Ambassador at Washington, who in reply to a query as to whether Japan is satisfied with the understanding on immigration reached last month said:

"It is necessary to speak not of a definite understanding, but of negotiations still progressing at Tokio. Certain elements in Japan will not be satisfied, but on the whole it will be approved.

"My Government at the present time does not desire Japanese workmen to go to America. It prefers that they remain in Japan or go to Corea or Formosa."

M. Takahira believes that the understanding will stop completely the emigration of coolies from Japan to California and Hawaii and that the Japanese emigration companies will not be able to evade the regulations. M. Tardieu asked Mr. Takahira if Japan would eventually be disposed to sign a treaty with the United States which would be analogous to the Franco-Japanese agreement guaranteeing the territorial statu quo for each country's Pacific possessions. The Japanese Ambassador replied:

"America is not accustomed to sign such treaties. If, however, the Washington Government should express a desire to begin pourparlers in that direction I think Tokio would not refuse to examine the problem."

M. Tardieu sums up the situation as quite reassuring, but feels obliged to make two reservations: First, that the existing understanding rests on an agreement of interests which may change, and consequently there is no chance of an immediate conflict. The question remains open for the future. It is not absolutely solved and may come up some day as a reason or pretext for certain difficulties. The second reservation is that the Californians are far from satisfied.

KUROPATKIN ON JAPAN.

Thinks She's Dissatisfied—Deprecates Near East War—Port Arthur Heroism.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 21.—Gen. Kuropatkin, looking aged and slightly unkempt as compared with the days in Manchuria, has been spending the winter in St. Petersburg and mixing a good deal in society. In a recent interview he said little of importance, but when questioned on the situation in the Near East he said it would not do for him, a former Minister of War, to speak freely.

"I can only say," he declared, "that for Russia such a war would be a great misfortune, but if such a war is inevitable then it would be better to go the whole way, cost what it will, than to stop when the work is half done, as she did in the Russo-Japanese war."

Asked what he thought of the rumors that Japan was again preparing to attack Russia Gen. Kuropatkin said: "I cannot say whether the rumor is based on truth or not, but I am convinced that Japan is dissatisfied with the results of the recent war."

Gen. Kuropatkin believes that Russia if she intends to remain a great country must have a great fleet, but he lamented the fact that her means were limited and the more money was spent on a fleet the more the army would be neglected.

Speaking finally of the court-martial of the commanding officers at Port Arthur the General said:

"It has been a great hardship for everybody. A great story of heroic defence has been spoiled by all sorts of petty intrigues and calumnies, but the evidence shows that the great bulk of the Russian officers and men fought well."

WATER AND OIL.

Unmetered City Pipe Found in the Standard Oil Building.

Water Register Mike Padden's inspectors have reported finding an unmetered four inch water supply pipe in the Standard Oil Building at 26 Broadway. There are four metered pipes in the building, but Col. Padden said yesterday the unmetered one is of sufficient capacity to furnish the building with all the water it needs. Col. Padden sent a notice yesterday to the company calling attention to the existence of the pipe and insisting upon an explanation. He said yesterday that unless the company consented to negotiate with him with a view to determining what compensation should be paid to the city for the water which had passed through the unmetered pipe he would begin proceedings to compel a settlement.

In continuing their examination of the water supply system of Sing Sing Prison Col. Padden's men have discovered a two inch pipe leading from the prison to a nearby piano factory. The pipe is used by the prison to sell water to the factory, and it is metered for that purpose. Col. Padden said yesterday that the prison charged its patrons $1.50 a thousand cubic feet of water, while the city charged the prison only a fraction over 26 cents a thousand. A cubic foot of water is about seven and one-half gallons. "I am not prepared to talk about this matter yet," Col. Padden said yesterday, "but I intend to find out who gets the revenue of the water supplied to the factory and if it is the city's water that the prison people are selling to the factory."

TAFT IN MOVING PICTURES

CAUGHT BY THE CAMERA, BUT NOT WITH HIS CONSENT.

Maybe the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt Could Tell Something About It and Gen. Bell Surely Could—Latest Thing in Campaigning—Got Him Afoot and Mounted.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—They played it low down on the Hon. William Howard Taft to-day. Aided and abetted by sundry and divers persons said to be now holding or to have held high office under the United States Government a moving picture man was able to train his camera on the Secretary of War while he walked, rode, talked and laughed, all unconscious until near the end of what was happening. At least that was the explanation made.

The thing that was done to Mr. Taft to-day had its beginning shortly after the Secretary of War returned to Washington from his globe circling journey. One day about that time Representative Bennet of New York called at the White House with a moving picture man, and after seeing President Roosevelt threw out some hints to the White House newspaper reporters to the effect that photographs of Mr. Taft in action were to be used for political campaign purposes. Overtures had been made to Mr. Taft on the subject and he had not held aloof in highbrowed state, but when he read in the newspapers that counterfeit presentments of himself in action were to be exhibited on white sheets for the benefit of delegates and voters he kicked over the traces and would have none of it.

But the moving picture man did not give up. He waited a while and then began working under cover. Friends of Mr. Taft were asked to assist in persuading him to let the pictures be taken. He wouldn't consent, however. Then the subtle scheme which was worked to-day was arranged, so it was said after the moving pictures had been taken.

Major-Gen. J. Franklin Bell, chief of the army General Staff, is a great friend of Secretary Taft's. They frequently go walking or riding together. Gen. Bell is a friend also of President Roosevelt's and is much at the White House. In fact he was there this morning—called there on urgent business. What more natural than that Gen. Bell should say to the Secretary of War along about noontime: "It's a beautiful day, Mr. Secretary; let's take a walk around the block"?

And what more natural than that the Secretary of War should answer "Right you are, Bell."

Gen. Bell and Secretary Taft walked around to the south or State Department side of the big granite building which shelters the War Department also. It was nice and sunny there, sunny enough to temper the brisk air of this bracing day. Gen. Bell was talking earnestly, so earnestly that he stopped to get face to face with Mr. Taft, the better to emphasize what he had to say. "Click—click—click—click—click" went something, but if Mr. Taft heard it he didn't indicate that he had.

Then Gen. Bell remembered that he had to go back to his office. He shook hands with Mr. Taft, which must have surprised the Secretary, for they were to see each other soon, and went his way. Mr. Taft went his way, too, and as he passed out of sight the moving picture man and his assistant took their machine down from its position between two stone pillars. The moving picture man was smiling.

At Gen. Bell's invitation Secretary Taft went out to Fort Myer this afternoon to review the troops there. The first regular monthly outdoor drill of the spring season was to take place and if the Secretary of War came to see it the troopers would appreciate it greatly. So Mr. Taft went, and Gen. Bell went with him. Gen. Bell was in the full uniform of a Major-General, as befitted the occasion, and he wore all the accoutrements of war. Mr. Taft wore a black riding suit, black derby and black puttees. Fort Myer is three miles or so from Washington, over in Virginia, near the Arlington National Cemetery, and Mr. Taft and Gen. Bell decided to make the trip on horseback. Capt. Davis, aide to Gen. Bell, went along. He, like the General, was in uniform.

The sun was bright, but not too warm; the air was crisp and the roads were good. No wonder Mr. Taft and his companions enjoyed their canter. Mr. Taft was mounted on a big black charger built on Mr. Taft's own generous lines and bought under a guarantee that he could carry 300 pounds without the least difficulty. When the party reached a bit of well shaded road Gen. Bell brought the pace down to a walk. A little further on he stopped his horse. It was a nice sunny place, a break in the line of shade.

"What's the matter?" asked the Secretary of War.

"Girth's loose, I think," said the Chief of Staff.

"Looks all right to me," said the Secretary of War.

"Guess I'll get down and see," said the Chief of Staff.

"How's my girth?" asked the Secretary of War.

"Might be tighter," said the Chief of Staff.

"I think I'll dismount, too," said the Secretary of War.

As Mr. Taft got down he caught a glimpse of something strange in the path of woods beside the road. He looked harder, and there, aimed right at him, was a moving picture machine, working away for dear life, while its operator was feeding into it yards and yards of film.

The Secretary of War laughed loud and long, so the story goes. He began to smell a mouse. The story goes that way too.

"Bell, you did this," he is reported to have said.

What Gen. Bell said was not reported.

After that it was easy for the moving picture men. Out at Fort Myer a platform had been erected for his machine and from this he fired away at Mr. Taft, mounted on his black charger, as the troops dashed by in review.

The second squadron of the Thirteenth Cavalry and Batteries D and E of the Third Field Artillery were the troops reviewed. Col. C. A. P. Hatfield of the Thirteenth and the members of his staff surrounded Mr. Taft and got in the moving pictures also. So did Mrs. Taft and Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Taft of Cincinnati, who went to Fort Myer in an automobile. When the review and drill were over the moving picture man put his machine in a motor car and got more pictures of the Secretary of War as he went away to make a call at Col. Hatfield's house.

35c a lb. for the Planters' Gem Bungalow Tea. Cost that to Brew it. At 2609 Broadway.—Adv.

CHARGES OF POLICE GRAFT.

Deputy Police Commissioners Have Captains and Others Before Them.

Deputy Police Commissioners Hanson and Woods conducted an inquiry in their offices at Police Headquarters until late last night into charges of grafting by policemen which had been made by a reporter. The elevator in the building was doing night work for the first time in months.

Early in the evening Capt. Patrick Byrne of the East Thirty-fifth street station was summoned. He remained only a short time. Acting Captain Bernard Keleher of the West Sixty-eighth street station attended with three of his men.

Lieut. Frederick Funston, in charge of the Detective Bureau at night, was with the officials for a time, and after going back to the Detective Bureau and putting Lieut. Fogarty in charge, he returned to Commissioner Hanson's office.

Late in the evening Lieut. Thomas Ryan, Inspector Cartright's chief of staff, went in with two men.

Detectives O'Sullivan and Carmack of the West Thirty-seventh street station got orders in the afternoon to meet Commissioner Hanson at the station house at 7 o'clock. At that hour the station house was in spick and span shape pending the Commissioner's arrival, but a few minutes later the detectives were directed to go to the Commissioner's office.

At 9 o'clock Detectives Bonser, Muller and Horan of the West Thirtieth street station were ordered to report immediately to Commissioner Hanson.

It was said at Headquarters that at least two men before Commissioners Hanson and Woods were under surveillance, and that that was what the Detective Bureau was called on for.

The charges are to the effect that a gambling house established with the consent of the authorities as a trap for the grafters was permitted to run upon payment of protection money.

SAVED A LIFE BY WIRE.

Montreal Druggist Uses the Telegraph to Warn a Customer of Poison.

UTICA, March 21.—According to a story that was told at the railroad offices here to-day a fatality was narrowly averted last night when William Brady, a passenger travelling over the Mohawk and Malone division of the New York Central from Montreal to New York city, was stopped barely in time from taking a poison given through mistake by a Montreal druggist. Brady has the telegraph to thank for escaping death.

Shortly before the train left Montreal Brady entered a drug store and requested that a prescription he had be compounded in a hurry, as he was about to leave the city. Soon after Brady had left the store with his medicine the druggist discovered that he had by mistake used a deadly drug in compounding the mixture. The druggist, thoroughly frightened, rushed to the Bonaventure station, and not knowing Brady's destination or the train he left on sent messages to several stations on the Grand Trunk and other roads, informing the man of the mistake which had been made.

One of these messages was sent to Tupper Lake, in the Adirondacks, and as the train stopped at that station the telegraph operator jumped on board and called Brady's name. He was none too soon, as Brady was at that moment standing at the water tank preparing to take the medicine. The mistake was explained and the medicine thrown away.

FEWER MEN NEED WORK.

Interborough Reports That the Applications Are Falling Off.

It was said yesterday on behalf of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company that there is a falling off in the number of applicants who have been coming in large numbers for places in the last six months from the ranks of idle men in the building trades and notably from the ranks of the railroad men. A representative of the company said:

"Judging from the applicants now as compared with a few weeks ago it looks to us as if there were fewer people idle in some of the trades. Some of the applicants who have come constantly are idle waiters, hucksters, teamsters, plasterers, carpenters and railroad men. There have been within the last week or two few if any of the last three classes coming. The stream of the others is as large as ever. We have taken comparatively few men on recently."

Representatives of the carpenters' unions within a radius of twenty-five miles of the City Hall held a conference in this city yesterday to consider the state of trade and the prospects for work. It was stated after the conference that the prospects were that work would soon be more plentiful, as contractors had made arrangements for breaking ground within the next week or two for a large number of flats and apartment houses in the uptown portions of the city.

MISSISSIPPI FOR FORAKER.

Indications That He Will Have the State's Delegates at Chicago.

GREENVILLE, Miss., March 21.—The week's developments in Mississippi, so far as the Republican nomination goes, demonstrate beyond question that Senator Foraker will control the district and State delegations. The negro leaders, and in this State they are the Republican bankers, lawyers and editors, are almost solid for Foraker.

They are insisting that in standing with Foraker they are serving the business interests and the prosperity and happiness of the country.

MRS. PIPER IN LONDON?

Boston Hears That She Has Returned to Deal With Scientists Again.

BOSTON, March 21.—It is reported that Mrs. Piper, the medium who lives at Arlington Heights, returned recently to England to be subjected to further investigation by Sir Oliver Lodge and other scientists. Her first visit to England was made soon after the death of Dr. Richard Hodgson, and until last summer she remained there under investigation of the English Society for Psychical Research.

It is understood that an important message from the late F. W. H. Myers to Sir Oliver Lodge was transmitted partly through an English medium, and that later the complete message was delivered through the mediumship of Mrs. Piper.

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REDHOT BRITISH CAMPAIGN

LIBERALS FIGHTING FOR LIFE IN LONDON CONSTITUENCY.

No Shouting, No Fireworks, Few Big Meetings, but Armies of Canvassers and Scores of Street Debates—Suffragettes Busy—Blue Outlook for the Ministry.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 21.—I have been taking notes at the fountain head of English politics this week and a most interesting experience it was. The hottest contest since the last general election is raging in Peckham, London, a district south of the Thames, where a by-election will take place next Tuesday. The Liberals carried the district in 1906 by a majority of 2,339 in a total vote of 9,467, and so great has been the change of political opinion in the country that the Unionists expect to capture the seat this time.

Peckham has a lower middle class and industrial population. It is a crowded area, where baby carriages monopolize the sidewalks and pedestrians who are in a hurry must dodge the traffic in the streets as best they can. Just now politics is crowding the children into the background. Never in its history has this humble constituency been a recipient of such assiduous attention from every grade of politicians of both sexes from all parts of the country. Both parties, to say nothing of the suffragettes, have poured their canvassers in by thousands, till in the last day or two they probably outnumber the actual voters.

Their methods furnish an interesting contrast to an American campaign. There is no shouting nor are there any fireworks in an English election. There are some public meetings, of course, but the real work is done in the streets and by house to house canvassing. At almost any hour of the day you will find in the side streets and other public places groups of from twenty to two hundred men gathered around a speaker, who does not attempt to orate, but carries on a warm debate with his auditors, who usually are inclined to do most of the talking.

The debate is almost always good natured, for these people love dialectics. They will applaud a good point by either side quite impartially. There is a significant change in Peckham in the treatment of the suffragettes, who have been roughly handled at some former elections. Peckham is now treating them with entire respect and, moreover, is listening to their arguments.

I worked my way to the centre of a crowd of 200 people yesterday where an attractive young woman was having a warm discussion of the suffrage question. Her audience was pushing her to the logical conclusion of her arguments.

"You know perfectly well that nine women out of ten would prefer to go before a man than a woman judge," a well dressed workingman was saying.

"Well, perhaps you are right to-day," the suffragette wisely conceded, "but give women the necessary training and experience and they will settle a dispute or administer justice just as capably as men."

So the discussion went on, give and take, a dozen participating in it. Liberal and Unionist debaters are doing the same thing all over the district morning, noon and night, and it is this sort of work that will win or lose Peckham next Tuesday.

It is the Liberals only who show signs of losing their temper. Their campaign is purely defensive, for the present Government seems to have few friends at this stage of its programme. Balfour summed up the dilemma of the Liberal cause when he wrote to the Unionist candidate at Peckham yesterday:

"We see the Cabinet curtailing the opportunities for religious teaching in the name of religious liberty, raising the price of coal in the name of social reform and confiscating property in the name of temperance."

So the task of the Liberal canvassers has been the same as President Roosevelt's in his series of interviews with Villiers of the Paris *Temps* which are attracting much attention this week. They are struggling to explain that their policies do not mean what they seem to mean—what they seem to mean to every ordinary man. They have succeeded so poorly that impartial observers believe the big Liberal majority of two years ago will have entirely disappeared by next Tuesday. H. R. C.

BATTLESHIP IDAHO COMPLETED.

When in Commission There Will Be Three New Battleships on This Coast.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The new battleship Idaho, which was built by the Cramp Shipbuilding Company at Philadelphia, will be delivered to the Government at the League Island Navy Yard about March 26 and be placed in commission as soon as practicable thereafter. She will be commanded by Capt. S. D. Diehl, who until recently was Judge Advocate General of the Navy. The Idaho will probably go on her shakedown cruise to Guantanamo, Cuba.

With the Idaho in commission the Department will have three new battleships on the Atlantic coast. The other two are the Missouri, in command of Capt. J. C. Frémont, which has just returned from her maiden cruise, and the New Hampshire, in command of Capt. Cameron McR. Winslow, which was recently placed in commission at the League Island Navy Yard, and will soon go to the New York yard to complete her turret fittings.

KILLED WALKING IN HIS SLEEP.

That Supposedly Was How William E. McLean, Princeton, '07, Met His Death.

PHILADELPHIA, March 21.—William E. McLean, a graduate of Princeton last year and member of the baseball and basketball teams, was found dead early this morning on the railroad tracks near the North Philadelphia station.

He developed insomnia while in college and is thought to have been struck while he was walking on the track in his sleep. He was 22 years old and a brother of John R. McLean, Jr., former member of the State Legislature and a leading lawyer of this city.

TRAIN DITCHED BY DESIGN.

Accident on High Embankment Near Springfield, Ill.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 21.—The Illinois Central Diamond Special, from Chicago to St. Louis, was ditched three miles southeast of this city this morning at 4 o'clock. A crowbar alongside the track and other evidence indicate that spikes had been pulled for the purpose of wrecking the train.

RHODE ISLAND UNPLEDGED.

Democrats There Refuse to Sanction Bryan by Formal Vote.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 21.—The Democrats of Rhode Island withheld indorsement of Bryan after a hard contest in the State convention held here to-day. The resolution prepared by a commitee authorized by the State committee was referred to the State delegation. Opposition to the indorsing of the Hon. George W. Greene of Woonsocket to succeed himself on the Democratic national committee failed.

The State delegation will go to Denver unpledged. The majority of the delegates, however, are looked upon as Bryan men. The action of the convention in declining to give Mr. Bryan the State party approval came as a distinct surprise, as there had been little disposition to oppose the Nebraskan.

United States Senator Thomas P. Gore of Oklahoma was the guest of the convention and gave an interesting address on party policies. He spoke of Gov. Johnson as Mr. Bryan's most formidable opponent for the nomination. Senator Gore favored Bryan.

MAY BE OLDEST OF TEMPLES.

Building Unearthed in Babylonia Contains Bricks of 4500 B. C.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 21.—The oldest temple in the world, so far discovered, has been unearthed by excavators at Bisya, in central Babylonia.

The walls of the tower were first uncovered and the summit cleared. The first inscription on the surface was on a brick stamped with the name Dungi, which goes back to 2750 B. C. A little lower appeared a crumpled piece of gold with the name Param Sim, who lived in 3750 B. C. Just below were large square bricks peculiar to the reign of Sargon, 3800 B. C. and who was probably the first Semitic King of Babylonia.

A large platform was discovered two and a half yards below the surface which was constructed of peculiar convex bricks such as were used in building material 4500 B. C.

SENATOR TILLMAN ILL.

Return of a Nervous Trouble Brings Him Down—May Be Serious Sickness.

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 21.—Senator B. R. Tillman, who left Washington on Monday last to attend a meeting of the board of trustees of Clemson College, went to his home after a two days session of the board and on Thursday night he was stricken seriously ill. During the last twenty-four hours, however, his condition has improved.

About three years ago the Senator had a nervous attack and suffered from numbness and a tingling in the left side. The present illness is a return of the old trouble. His physicians, Drs. Hunter and Babcock, say there are now no indications of organic trouble and are hopeful that after a few days rest the Senator may be well enough to return to his duties in Washington.

Dr. Babcock said this afternoon: "Senator Tillman has an attack evidently due to hard work and the unusual heat which produced nervous trouble similar to those from which he suffered three years ago. At that time he consulted specialists in Philadelphia, who found no signs of organic disease. After a short rest the Senator was soon at his post again. In his present attack symptoms of the old numbness and tingling of the left side have returned, but they are lessening in the last twenty-four hours."

THE CONGRESSMAN POET.

Watkins of Louisiana Has a Campaign Song Which May Be Set to Music.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Mr. Watkins, a Louisiana Democrat, entertained the House of Representatives one day last week by reciting a bit of political verse comprising ten stanzas. It was a matter of wonder to those who heard or read it that any one could get so many different meters in so short a composition. But he has surpassed himself in a campaign song of only four stanzas (with a chorus, however). As this is copyrighted a sample may not be given in print, but his associates in the House have been permitted to peruse the production. He has sent them copies containing this sentence:

"Being requested by a music house for permission to set this to music I ask your opinion first."

So far as can be learned responses to the note must have also been copyrighted, as none can be secured for publication.

TAFT GETS NEW MEXICO.

All Sweetness and Light in Republican Territorial Convention.

SILVER CITY, N. M., March 21.—The Territorial Republican convention to-day adopted resolutions indorsing Taft and instructing its delegates to Chicago to vote for him. Other resolutions indorse the Roosevelt administration and ask for Statehood, further reclamation of arid lands and protection of forests.

The convention was harmonious and there was only one contest. These contestants split a vote in half.

ROBBED COUNSEL PENDLETON

Of Ancient Pistols and Such and Left Spots of Candle Grease.

Corporation Counsel Francis J. Pendleton's brace of Revolutionary pistols, gold cardcase and pair of cuff buttons, which were taken from his house by a discriminating burglar early on Friday morning, are still missing. Detectives from the East Eighty-eighth street station and Headquarters were busy yesterday trying to figure out just what kind of a burglar it is that spills candle grease on carpets, is a connoisseur on ancient firearms, enters a house by climbing a plank to a second story window, picks up trinkets like cardcases and cuff links and leaves behind him bric-à-brac, china and pictures.

Furrows of thought and perplexity were still visible at a late hour last night. The burglar was not.

Hackenschmidt Calls on Roosevelt.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The champion wrestler, Hackenschmidt, was introduced to President Roosevelt to-day by Representative Stafford of Wisconsin. The President made no engagement to wrestle with Hackenschmidt but talked with him some time, recalling that while he was Governor of New York he wrestled with some of the best athletes.

TARIFF REVISION NEXT YEAR

PART OF PROGRAMME ADOPTED IN WASHINGTON.

Committees of Congress to Investigate in the Meantime—No Anti-Injunction Bill, Leaders Tell Roosevelt—Other Measures as O. K.'d for This Session.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—President Roosevelt is getting along very well in his conferences with those Republican Congress leaders whom he asked to put through at this legislative session certain measures to be recommended in the special message to be sent to Congress next week. There has not been a complete agreement by any means, however, for the Congress leaders will not consent to the enactment of any anti-injunction legislation and are not willing to say that they will support the bill drawn at the White House to amend the Sherman anti-trust law. They want to see the bill in its final shape before making any decision, and the bill has not been completed owing to differences over some of the suggested provisions with reference to labor unions.

Up to this time the legislative programme which the Republican leaders of the Senate and the House are willing to adopt and to use their best efforts to have Congress carry out includes these four measures:

A financial bill along the lines of the Aldrich currency measure.

An employers' liability bill.

A joint resolution for an inquiry into tariff conditions by the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Ways and Means, with a view to the revision of the tariff in the Sixty-first or next Congress.

A bill regulating the employment of child labor in the District of Columbia.

It was arranged to-day between the President, Senator Aldrich, Representative Payne and Representative Dalzell that the tariff inquiry resolution should be put through without delay. The present intention, as a result of the conference between these four, is to have a special session of the Sixtieth Congress, probably as early as March, 1909, for the purpose of tariff revision.

The Beveridge child labor bill, which excludes from interstate commerce all articles produced by child labor, will not be pressed. The District of Columbia child labor bill is intended to serve as a model for States and to induce States to enact such legislation. The anti-injunction propositions have met with so much opposition already that none of them will in all probability be included in the legislative programme, but it is expected that Mr. Roosevelt will say a good word for the anti-injunction cause in his special message.

The President is anxious to get on the statute books an act amendatory to the Sherman anti-trust law, and it was with that purpose that he has been holding conferences with representatives of the Civic Federation and others. Mr. Roosevelt desires to have the law amended in several respects. He wants it so changed as to permit railroads and industrial corporations to make combinations under certain restrictions. The latest proposal considered by the President and those with whom he has been conferring is that the Sherman law shall be so amended as to insert the word "unreasonable" among the first few words of section 1, which now reads as follows:

"Every contract or combination in the form of a trust or otherwise, or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States or with foreign nations, is hereby declared to be illegal."

The modifying effect of the word "unreasonable" as applied to a contract, combination or conspiracy is in accordance with the principle laid down by Justice David J. Brewer of the United States Supreme Court in the Northern Securities case. Justice Brewer voted in the affirmative in that 5 to 4 decision that the Northern Securities Company was a combination in restraint of trade and should be dissolved, but he disagreed with the reasoning of the other four Justices of the affirmative side. He held in a separate opinion that a combination which was not unreasonable in restraint of trade was not subject to the anti-trust law.

If the law is amended as suggested at the White House conferences it will be left to a jury in all criminal trials under the Sherman act to determine whether any particular boycott affecting interstate trade is reasonable or unreasonable. This is not wholly disagreeing to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, but Mr. Gompers has not given his assent to the White House bill because it does not include a provision exempting labor unions from prosecution as combinations in restraint of trade.

Such a provision was acceptable to Mr Gompers and to corporation lawyers with whom Mr. Roosevelt conferred, but Mr. Roosevelt declined to agree to it.

Another important provision of the amendatory bill eliminates the section in regard to the recovery of triple damages from a combination in restraint of trade and gives authority to collect actual damages only. This is regarded as a concession, mainly to the labor people, who have been thrown into confusion by the decision of the Supreme Court that the American Federation of Labor was a combination in restraint of trade in its boycott against a firm of hatters in Danbury, Conn.

There was a conference at the White House to-day between President Roosevelt, Senator Aldrich and Representatives Payne and Dalzell, at which it was agreed that a resolution for an inquiry into tariff conditions, with the idea of furnishing material for a revision of the tariff, should be adopted at this session, the inquiry to be made by the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Ways and Means.

According to the idea advanced the revision will be undertaken at a special session of the next Congress, to be called immediately after the adjournment of the present Congress on March 4, 1909.

DRY ORDERS COME DIRECT

Over the Inspectors' Heads to the Captains for This Sunday.

An order was telephoned from Police Headquarters yesterday afternoon to all precincts requiring the captains to enforce particularly to-day the theatre and excise laws. The usual procedure is for the inspectors of the various districts to call in the captains and give them instructions.

Many of the captains construe the order to be of unusual importance and will act accordingly.