CONDITION OF THE TREASURY

SECRETARY MACVEAGH MAKES ANALYSIS IN HIS REPORT.

The Estimates for 1911 Are $42,000,000 Less Than for 1910—But Even Then a Deficit of $12,000,000 Is Likely—The Tax on 2 Per Cent. Bonds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The report of Secretary of the Treasury Franklin MacVeagh is in line with President Taft's declared policy of greater economy in administering the affairs of the Government. Excluding the Panama Canal estimates, Secretary MacVeagh figures that there will be a surplus in ordinary receipts of $35,931,327. When the Panama Canal estimates are added, however, the surplus is turned into a deficit of $12,132,197.

Including the increase in the Panama Canal estimates, the total estimates for 1911 show a decrease of $42,818,969 from the estimates for 1910.

Secretary MacVeagh estimates that the total ordinary receipts for 1910 will be $648,000,000, of which $335,000,000 are expected from the customs, $253,000,000 from the internal revenue, $15,000,000 from the corporation tax and $45,000,000 from miscellaneous sources. He figures that the disbursements for 1910 will be $682,075,620. The civil establishment is expected to cost $175,000,000; postal deficiency, $16,880,620; the War Department, $165,000,000, the Navy Department, $125,000,000; the Indian service, $17,000,000; pensions, $161,000,000, and the interest on the public debt, $22,195,000.

The deficit in ordinary receipts for 1910 is estimated at $34,075,620, but when the Panama Canal disbursements are added and the miscellaneous reductions of the public debt are figured in the total deficit for this year will be $73,075,620.

For 1911 Secretary MacVeagh estimates that the total ordinary receipts will be $672,000,000. He expects $345,000,000 from the customs, $255,000,000 from the internal revenue, $25,000,000 from the corporation tax and $47,000,000 from miscellaneous sources.

The total estimated appropriations, including the $12,000,000 for new warships and not including the outlay for the year on the big canal, are placed at $636,068,672, showing a surplus of $35,931,327. But when the canal is figured in, a deficit of more than $12,000,000 appears.

The total appropriations for 1910, including estimated permanent annual appropriations and deficiencies for prior years, are given at $1,044,658,622. But the Secretary deducts appropriations made for the postal service for 1910, $234,692,370, and deficiencies made therefor for prior years, $1,453,493, which are payable from the postal revenues, except any excess of expenditures over revenues, and gets under the billion mark, making the 1910 appropriations, after some further deductions, $726,951,166.

He gives the total estimated appropriations for 1911 at $684,132,197. For the fiscal year 1910 the naval building programme was not included in the estimates sent to Congress. When the naval programme is eliminated from the estimates for 1910 amd 1911 the total estimates for 1911 are $94,001,492 less than the total estimates in 1910.

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

Reductions in the present estimates have been accomplished, the Secretary states, by improved handling of Government work and the postponement of expenditures which can be delayed in an effort to adjust immediate expenses and receipts. He warns, however, that the reductions in appropriations will be disappointing unless equal attention is given to other important savings.

He recommends that the tax on bank circulation secured by United States bonds hereafter deposited bearing interest higher than 2 per cent. shall be increased in exact proportion to the increase in the rate of interest above 2 per cent. He advises the continuance of the rate of one-half of 1 per cent. for circulation based on 2 per cent. bonds.

"This would complete the availability of the Panama bonds authorized by law on August 5, 1909. These bonds, as the law now stands, if issued at 3 per cent. would have a much better circulation privilege than the outstanding 2 per cent. bonds, the tax being only 1 per cent, and their issue, therefore, would constitute a discrimination against the 2 per cents. that the Government could not justly contemplate.

"The circulation privileges of any new issues should certainly not be better than those of the 2 per cents., but a parity would, I think, be sufficient protection to make good for the time being the imperative moral obligation of the Government to see to it that the market value of these 2 per cents. does not unduly decline because of their abnormally low rate of interest.

"At the same time it is desirable to thus complete the legislation respecting the new authorization of Panama bonds so as to carry out the intention of Congress to make them available. The indebtedness of the Panama Canal to the general fund of the Treasury now amounts to $97,089,649.26, and the continuing outlay for construction adds to the drain upon the general revenues. It is desirable that the settlement of this account should be at least begun, and that the expressed policy of the Government to pay the cost of the canal from the proceeds of bonds in order that the next generation or two shall share with this in the cost of the great enterprise, should be secured and established.

"If the sale of any part of these bonds for the repayment of the general fund should produce more cash than the Treasury balance needs, there might be bought in the market for the sinking fund some of the 2 per cent. bonds. Such a purchase—though of no great amount—should tend to keep the market price of these bonds, now unduly depressed, above par, a favorable condition to which the Government cannot be indifferent.

"It might also have effect as an approach toward some present elasticity in the national bank currency. The 2 per cent. bonds are nearly all held by the banks, mostly as a basis for circulation, and the banks would face so much loss in an attempt to dispose of them in addition to the heavy sum, estimated at $25,000,000, which they have already lost on them, that the influence of the situation is decidedly against the retirement of circulation. The present condition of the national bank circulation is, therefore, as unresponsive as it has ever been at any time, and any influence, however limited, that should tend to relax this currency rigidity would be an advantage.

"The introduction of the 2 per cent. Panama bonds and the withdrawal of even a small amount from the surplus of the 2 per cents. would substitute for bonds that are almost wholly used as a basis for circulation purposes bonds that might be used for circulation purposes if there should be a real need for them, but which would have the advantage of a broad competition created by the demand of investors.

"The 2 per cent. bonds as a basis for circulation have no elasticity, but are practically stagnant and unchangeable in amount. Being at their low rate of interest only desirable for circulation, there is no demand for them in the market from investors; the banks cannot buy and sell them at will, and the effect is one of rigidity on their own part and rigidity of the currency created by them. Therefore even such a slight change in the conditions as I suggest would be at least in the right direction."

In discussing the customs frauds and the rehabilitation of the customs service Secretary MacVeagh says:

"The revelations made and proved were so startling that opposition was silenced, and in this silence the necessary, clear cut measures could be carried out without meeting serious objections. While the recovery of evaded duties and the prosecution of individuals have been of large significance, the greatest asset to the Government of these disgraceful conditions is the knowledge and the light which guarantee in time a wholesome reorganization.

"It is clear for instance that the influence of local politics and politicians upon the customs service has been most deleterious, and has promoted that laxity and low tone which prepare and furnish an inviting soil for dishonesty and fraud. Unless the customs service can be released from the payment of political debts and exactions and from meeting the supposed exigencies of political organizations, big and little, it will be impossible to have an honest service for any length of time.

"It is also clear that the widespread disposition of returning American travellers to evade the payment of legal duties has greatly helped to create the conditions which have become intolerable. * * * The fact that in so many instances these travellers are willing to defraud the Government out of considerable, or even small, sums, creates an atmosphere on the docks that strongly tends to affect the morals of the entire customs service. And when to this is added the frequent willingness of these responsible citizens to specifically corrupt the Government's men, then the demoralization is further accentuated.

"All these revelations and the efforts to carry the revelations further, the prosecutions and the reorganizations, so far as they have gone, have occupied but a few months. None of this difficult work is complete or nearly complete. The Treasury Department, having the firm support of the President, will continue it without pause. The undertaking is not primarily one of punishment.

"Prosecutions are but unavoidable incidents of the purpose to rehabilitate the service. We must have the facts, and the facts necessarily lead to prosecutions. But they will lead in the end to the establishment of an administration of the customs service that is fit for the government of a great nation."

Secretary MacVeagh said he hoped that Congress would take up and consider favorably one of the various forms of law that are proposed to give a system of retiring pensions for employees of the civil service. The United States is the only nation without a general legal retiring pension for its civil service employees.

Of the new corporation tax the Secretary says:

"It could only be assumed by the Treasury Department that the single purpose of the law is to tax at 1 per cent. the actual net profits of a corporation as net profits are commonly understood, and that the term 'net income' was used in the law instead of 'net profits' in order that there might be no confusion as to this—that net profits mean not merely the actual net earnings from the operations of the business but also net revenues received from the corporation's investments and from all other sources."

The Tariff Board has begun its work, the Secretary reports, and he looks with confidence to the establishment of the board in the confidence of the country.

Of the national banks he reports that improvement in bank examination is already considerably advanced, an essential feature of the improvement being that the examiners themselves shall be exclusively identified with the service. Examiners will not be permitted to take any part in practical politics. The lessons of 1907, the Secretary said, have been used with profit. Cooperation is being established between examiners of State banks and examiners of national banks, to the improvement of the service.

On currency reform the Secretary says that he does not care to discuss a plan of banking and currency reform. The Treasury Department will have an open mind on the subject until the monetary commission makes its report.

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BONDS FOR RECLAMATION.

Senator Borah's Bill Providing for the Issue of $32,000,000 of 3 Per Cents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Following the recommendation made by President Taft in some of his Western speeches recently and in pursuance of a recent conference held with the President, Senator Borah of Idaho to-day introduced a bill in the Senate authorizing the issue of $32,000,000 worth of 3 per cent. bonds to provide funds for carrying on reclamation work.

The bill provides that the bonds shall be issued in denominations of $100, redeemable after ten years and payable after twenty years, to be sold at not less than par

Army and Navy Orders.

ELEVEN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—These army orders have been issued:

The following officers of the Medical Corps, from Philippines division to San Francisco: Capts. Ernest L. Ruffner, Paul S. Halloran, James M. Phalen and Charles C. Billingslea; First Lieuts. Robert E. Stevers, Frederick T. Koyle and William H. Myers.

Capt. Josephus C. Cecil, Eighteenth Infantry, from Whipple Barracks to Fort Mackenzie.

Capt. John H. Hunt, Twenty-fifth Infantry, to Walter Reed General Hospital, District of Columbia, for treatment.

Capt. William H. Wilson, Coast Artillery, to fill vacancy in Quartermaster's Department.

These navy orders have been issued:

Commander G. W. Kline, from command of the Castine to duty as inspector of ordnance at Cramps, Philadelphia.

Commander W. W. Gilmer, from inspector of ordnance, Midvale Steel Company, Philadelphia, to command the Castine.

Commander J. O. Leonard, from Cramps, Philadelphia, to the South Carolina.

Lieut. S. C. Rowan, from aide on staff of commander third division, Atlantic fleet, on the Georgia, to inspector of ordnance, Midvale Steel Company, Philadelphia.

Ensign A. K. Atkins, from aide on staff of commander third division, Atlantic fleet, on the Georgia, to home and wait orders.

Midshipman A. B. McNeill, from the Idaho, and when discharged treatment Naval Hospital, New York, granted sick leave two months.

NO OPPOSITION TO LURTON

NOMINATION FOR SUPREME COURT EXPECTED SOON.

New York Republicans Willing to Wait for Another Vacancy and Also That a Democrat Shall Be Chosen to Fill It—Chief Judge Cullen's Prospects.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—All opposition to the appointment of Judge Horace H. Lurton of Tennessee as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States to succeed the late Rufus W. Peckham appears to have vanished and Judge Lurton's nomination is expected to reach the Senate very soon. There is no opposition among Republican members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and other Republican Senators because Judge Lurton is a Democrat.

Senators generally have come to the view that the appointment of Associate Justices of the Supreme Court is not a political matter. It is understood that Senator Root, who is a member of the Judiciary Committee, joins with other Senators in the idea that there should be no opposition to the confirmation of Judge Lurton's nomination.

Mr. Root's interest in the matter arises not only from the circumstance that he is a member of the Judiciary Committee but because the late Justice Peckham was from New York State and the appointment of Judge Lurton to preside over the circuit within which New York State is embraced will leave New York without a representative on the Supreme Bench.

The New York Senators and Representatives believe that their State should not be long without a New Yorker as a member of the Supreme Court, but it is the prevailing opinion among them that owing to the advanced age of some of the members of the court who are eligible to retirement vacancies will be created soon which will enable the President to appoint a New York man. When the proper time comes they will insist on this.

It is not going beyond the fact to say that the New York Republican delegation in Congress would prefer to see a Democrat appointed in Justice Peckham's place. Mr. Peckham was a member of the Democratic party and his death leaves only two Democrats among the members of the court out of a total present membership of eight. Chief Judge Cullen of the New York Supreme Court of Appeals is regarded with the highest favor by the members of the New York Congress delegation, but in view of President Taft's desire to appoint Judge Lurton his name will not be pressed. Nor is there any prospect of success for the effort to have the President appoint United States Circuit Judge Coxe of New York. Leaving aside the fact that the President has Judge Lurton only in mind, the knowledge that even with Judge Lurton eliminated the President will appoint a Democrat takes Judge Coxe, who is a Republican, out of consideration.

To Mr. Root's way of thinking it would be better from every standpoint to have more Democrats on the Supreme Bench. He contends that the ability of the court would be strengthened through having its membership distributed among jurists of differing views as to questions of public policy; in other words the court should not be composed of men all of one way of political thinking. Mr. Root, it was said, had discussed the matter at great length with President Taft and had given voice to the ideas attributed to him in this despatch.

One thing, however, that has caused considerable comment among members of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and other Senators is that the Supreme Court has now no representative for the great territory along the Atlantic and Gulf seaboard between Massachusetts and Louisiana. That this condition should not be permitted to exist for any great length of time seems to be the prevailing opinion among Senators from the States embraced within this area. It is apparent from what was said that when the next vacancy occurs on the Supreme bench the New York Senators and Representatives will be inclined to urge that a New York man be chosen without regard to his politics. It is quite likely that the New Yorkers of the Republican persuasion in Congress will be perfectly willing to accept a Democrat.

As to the Chief Justiceship the New York Republicans in Congress hold a decided view that when this appointment is at the disposal of a Republican President a Republican should be selected. That has been the custom always, they say, and they admit that should Chief Justice Fuller retire the New York Senators and the Republicans among the New York Representatives would join with other Republicans in the Senate and the House in contending for the appointment of a Republican Chief Justice.

INSPECTOR BALDWIN GOES.

Official Accused of Taking Money From Chinese in Port of Baltimore Is Dismissed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—George H. Baldwin, Chinese immigration inspector of Baltimore and Washington, who was suspended from office on December 1, has been dismissed by order of Secretary Nagel of the Department of Commerce and Labor "for the good of the service."

Beyond this Secretary Nagel declined to make any statement concerning the case. The charges against Inspector Baldwin were the result of a joint investigation of Chief Clerk Theodore Weed of the Department and Commissioner-General Keefe of the Immigration Bureau. It was alleged by nine witnesses that Baldwin gave out information from the Department and accepted various sums of money from the Chinese. It was also charged that Mr. Baldwin was caught in a trap set by an official in the Immigration Department at Baltimore in October last for calling off certain charges which he had brought against persons who are alleged to have been engaged in the white slave traffic.

Mr. Baldwin appeared on Wednesday last before Secretary Nagel to answer the charges. Following his appearance before the Secretary he gave out a statement in which he said:

"It is impossible for me to refute the statement of the Chinese other than by word of mouth. I cannot bring witnesses to prove that on a certain specified day I did not accept money at a designated place. I know I didn't take any money. But a man can't chronologically recount his actions months after they have taken place. I think I can prove that I am not guilty. And if they press me too hard I have several cards left which I will play—and they are good."

It is understood that the information which led to the investigation which was undertaken by Messrs. Weed and Keefe came from a clergyman in Baltimore. It is understood that the Rev. Dr. Robert S. Coupland, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Ascension, was the prime mover in the collection of the information.

HELD UP AN EVANGELIST.

U. S. Immigration Officials Made M. Davidson Prove He Wasn't Undesirable.

OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—Another complaint is made regarding the United States immigration officials. The Rev. T. Davidson, a well known Belfast preacher, who has been conducting evangelistic services at Winnipeg, left there for Ireland via the United States.

He was stopped at the international boundary by immigration officials and was compelled to return to Winnipeg to have his papers made out to show he was not an undesirable.

MACVEAGH FIGURES NOT FULL.

Chairman Tawney Says $293,000,000 in Two Items Was Omitted.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Representative James A. Tawney, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, says that the Secretary of the Treasury in submitting the apparently reduced estimates to Congress omitted two items, one for $233,000,000 and the other for more than $60,000,000. Mr. Tawney said to-day:

"The exhibit of the Secretary of the Treasury shows a reduction in the estimated expenditures of the Government for the fiscal year 1911 of $55,063,091.19 under the appropriations made for 1910 and a reduction of $94,001,492.92 under the estimates submitted to Congress for that year. This result will tend to relieve the Congress in large measure of the burdensome duty that has occupied much of the time heretofore through committees and otherwise in adjusting expenditures to the sum of national revenues.

"During the last eight fiscal years the sum totals of estimates submitted by the Executive have exceeded expenditures authorized in appropriations made by Congress by $274,948,657.

"It will be observed that the Secretary of the Treasury in his report states the 'total estimates for 1911' as amounting to $671,288,075; in this sum he does not include $60,935,000 that will be required under the statute to meet the requirements of the sinking fund during the next fiscal year, nor is there included in the secretary's figures the amount estimated at $233,058,572 that will be paid out of the postal revenues for conducting the postal service.

"The first sum is an exact one under the provisions of law, and while it may not be applied in its entirety during the year to the retirement of the national debt it should for purposes of comparison be considered. The amount to be paid from the postal revenues will have to be met by appropriations and will probably not be materially reduced.

"Adding both sums to the $671,288,075 stated by the Secretary of the Treasury to be the aggregate estimated expenditures for 1911, we have in fact the sum of $965,281,647 to be considered as "total estimates for 1911.'

"This last sum will approximate closely the amount that will be used at the close of this session of Congress when the tables will be presented in explanation of the total appropriations actually made for the expenses of the Government for the next fiscal year."

Mr. Tawney gave out this statement at this time to prevent the public getting the impression when the last tally is made that Congress of its own motion boosted the appropriations to the billion mark over the recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury and in spite of the economical attitude of the President.

NAMED BY THE PRESIDENT.

Lane, Democrat, Renominated to Be Interstate Commerce Commissioner.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The President sent to the Senate to-day a batch of nominations. Franklin Lane was renominated as Interstate Commerce Commissioner. Mr. Lane is a Democrat and was first appointed by President Roosevelt.

Other important nominations were:

Chandler Hale, to be Assistant Secretary of State; James F. Curtis of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Lee McClung, Treasurer of the United States; Royal E. Cabell, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue; Benjamin Stickney Cable of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor; James L. Davenport of New Hampshire, to be Commissioner of Pensions.

Edwin N. Curtis, to be Collector of Customs, and George H. Doty, to be Assistant United States Treasurer at Boston; W. Cameron Forbes of Massachusetts, to be Governor-General of the Philippines.

CONDITION OF THE CROPS.

Big Increase in Winter Wheat, According to Government Estimates.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Government crop report, issued to-day, makes the condition of winter wheat on Dec. 1 95.8, against 85.3 on Dec. 1, 1908; 91.1 on Dec. 1, 1907, and 94.1 on Dec. 1, 1906.

The newly seeded area of winter wheat is estimated at 33,453,000 acres, an increase of 2,449,000 acres. The Department at this time last year placed the area sown to winter wheat at 29,884,000 acres.

The condition of winter rye on Dec. 1 was 94.1, against 87.8 on Dec. 1, 1908; 91.4 on Dec. 1, 1907, and 96.2 on Dec. 1, 1906.

The newly seeded area of winter rye is estimated at 2,155,000 acres, an increase of 25,000 acres, and contrasted with 1,935,000 acres on Dec. 1 last year.

According to the old method of figuring, the report on winter wheat indicates a yield of 589,301,000 bushels, against 432,920,000 bushels harvested this year, 437,908,000 bushels in 1908, 409,442,000 bushels in 1907 and 492,884,000 bushels in 1906.

AGAINST MORE ARMY OFFICERS.

Chairman Hull Opposes Legislation Providing for 700 New Ones.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Representative Hull, chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, is opposed to enacting legislation at the present session of Congress for the 700 additional officers requested by the War Department.

"In 1901," Mr. Hull said, "we gave the army all the additional officers they said would be necessary for an army of 100,000 men. Now they want 700 additional officers. How long will this number be sufficient?"

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The tender Castine has arrived at Newport, the tugs Rocket and Standish at Norfolk, the gunboats Albany and Yorktown at Acapulco, the hospital ship Solace at Hampton Roads and the torpedo boat Flusser at West Point.

The cruiser Salem has sailed from Tompkinsville for Provincetown, the battleship Vermont from Newport for Southern drill grounds and the transport Dixie from Philadelphia for Cristobal.

Bill to Tax Airships Flying Over Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—A bill to impose a penalty of $10 on airships flying over the city of Washington was introduced today by Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire, chairman of the Committee on District of Columbia. The bill is evidently designed as a license tax on aerial navigation, but is silent as to the method of collecting the tax.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE READ

"SANE," SAY REPUBLICANS; "MUSHY," SAY DEMOCRATS.

Both Sides Happy That the Document Was Comparatively Brief—No Special Interest in the Message—The Comment on It Entirely Perfunctory.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—A peaceful message from the President of the United States reached Congress to-day through Assistant Secretary Latta. It caused no excitement and found favor in some quarters because it was comparatively brief and took only an hour and a quarter to read. Republican leaders in both Senate and House spoke of it as "sane" and "sensible" and "conservative," while the Democrats called it "inconsistent," "mushy" and "meaningless," and regretted the relegation of the Monroe Doctrine to the "obsolete" class.

Representative Tawney of Minnesota, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, was especially insistent that the message was extremely "sensible" and "good." A colleague who was standing near by at the time explained Mr. Tawney's activity in the use of these expressions by suggesting that he had been belted over the head so often and so hard by President Roosevelt in special messages that any Executive document which omitted this looked good to him.

The harshest comment on the message made for publication came from Representative Fitzgerald of New York, who is accused by his Republican colleague, Herbert Parsons, of having led a bunch of Tammany Congressmen to the support of the distressed House machine during the fight on the rules last session. Mr. Fitzgerald mentioned the document as "inconsistent," expressed the idea that the country wouldn't like President Taft's characterization of the Monroe Doctrine as "obsolete," and ventured the opinion that the message wouldn't appeal to a certain eminent citizen of the United States now collecting specimens in East Africa.

Champ Clark, the Democratic floor leader, suggested the same thing in a milder way after he had seen the statement made by Mr. Fitzgerald. Other Democrats, leading and otherwise, blew off steam along the same lines. Representative Thetus Willrette Sims of Tennessee, the Anti-Automobilist, waxed epigrammatic with the remark that the message was "pacific but not specific." He declined to spoil this gem by elaborating it.

The Republican leaders contented themselves with the one word indorsements mentioned, although one of them who sincerely hoped his name would be kept a profound secret, ventured the thought that maybe Mr. Taft had been "pressed for time" while preparing the document to which Congress listened to-day. Speaker Cannon, Chairman Payne of the Ways and Means Committee, and John Dalzell of Pennsylvania, contented themselves with a "good" or a "just what might be expected of a sensible man like Mr. Taft," while the smaller fry with pending patronage, wanted to go into details in explaining that this was the grandest message since McKinley's time.

Representative Keliher of Massachusetts, an intelligent Boston Democrat with a sense of humor, expressed the prevailing idea very well when he said there was all "the difference between picking up one of Theodore Roosevelt's messages and this first one from President Taft that there was between fondling a hot stove lid and a refrigerated shad."

The insurgent Republicans did not like the message at all. They were inclined to be critical. One of them, who gave voice to his views in the understanding that his name was not to be used, said that he was disappointed because the President had not included in the message his programme for the enactment of legislation amendatory of the interstate commerce act. He said that it was customary for the Presidents in their annual communications to Congress to indicate clearly what line of policy they intended to pursue, even when they contemplated transmitting to Congress special messages amplifying their views on certain policies in which they were interested particularly.

Although Mr. Taft promised to send a special message soon, advocating amendments to the interstate commerce act, this Senator held that such a promise did not excuse the President for failing to give the national legislature at this time a clearer insight into what he intended to propose.

This was an extreme view, even for an insurgent, but it served to indicate that the insurgents generally had decided in advance to be disappointed with the message and were willing to seize at almost anything that would give them an opportunity to pick flaws in it. The satisfaction which the message appeared to give to other Republicans may have been responsible in part at least for the disposition of the insurgents to find fault.

One thing that attracted attention was that more than sixteen pages were devoted to the affairs of the Department of State, which has charge of the conduct of the foreign relations of the United States. President Taft made a semi-apology for devoting so much space to the transaction of the State Department, giving as his reason for so doing that the Secretary of State, unlike all the other members of the Cabinet, does not submit a formal report to the President or the Congress, and a Presidential message was the only means by which an explanation of the condition of the Government's foreign relations could be brought to the attention of Congress and the public.

In that part of the message devoted to State Department business most attention was attracted to Mr. Taft's references to the Monroe Doctrine. He said that the apprehension which gave rise to this doctrine may be said to have nearly disappeared and indicated that it was the intention of the Administration not to permit the principles laid down by Monroe or any other principles "to operate for the perpetuation of irresponsible government, the escape of just obligations or the insidious allegations of dominating ambitions on the part of the United States."

This was taken to mean that the Taft Administration will give no protection to Latin-American republics which fail to pay their debts to European creditors and that it will resent the charge that the United States is seeking to obtain control over Latin America.

Another thing in the message that excited interest was Mr. Taft's virtual promise to send a message to Congress on the subject of the Nicaraguan situation. The declaration of the President of his desire to reduce Government expenditures met with general approval, although some of the Democratic leaders said that they did not believe that a Republican Administration would be economical.

The message was submitted in both Houses of Congress shortly after noon. The reading of it in the Senate, which was a two hours job, began at 12:13 o'clock.

There was only a passing interest in the reading. Most of the Democratic Senators went away to lunch. Republican Senators, as a rule, remained, and with a printed copy of the document in hand followed closely the reading, a Senator turning occasionally to a colleague to whisper a comment on some particularly striking passage.

LONDON ON THE MESSAGE.

Taft Less Interesting Than Roosevelt—The New Monroe Doctrine.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—So much editorial space is filled with domestic politics that little comment is made on President Taft's message. Its brevity and moderation compared with Mr. Roosevelt's voluminous communications are remarked upon, the *Chronicle* finding that inasmuch as it is less flamboyant and sententious than Mr. Roosevelt's it is less interesting. Mr. Taft's special knowledge of foreign questions is held to account for so much space being devoted to external affairs.

The *Morning Post* says the expectation that under the guidance of President Taft the United States will play a more active part in the international sphere is justified by the message. The *Chronicle*, taking the same line, notices that the President no longer speaks as the Chief Magistrate of a self-centred community, but as the head of a world Power.

The *Standard* says it is satisfactory to be assured, not for the first time, that the Monroe Doctrine will not be invoked for the perpetuation of a Government which seeks to escape its just obligations.

DISCRETION IN TALKING.

Dickinson's Instructions About Giving Information to Congressmen.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Secretary of War Dickinson has issued a circular order to all army officers to carry out the instructions contained in President Taft's recent executive order which forbids bureau chiefs from furnishing information to members of Congress. After quoting the executive order Secretary Dickinson adds this interpretation of the intention of the order:

"Chiefs of bureaus and the chief of staff are hereby given general authority to respond directly to any request for information from either house of Congress or any committee or member of either house of Congress on all ordinary and routine matters pertaining exclusively to their respective offices; but information bearing on such questions of policy or on important or unusual matters or of a character which sound judgment would indicate as coming properly within the discretion of the head of the department whose views Congress, its committees and members are entitled to know in their consideration of questions affecting the department or information which a chief of bureau or the chief of staff would wish brought to his knowledge if he were the head of the department, should not be given out without first being submitted to and authorized by the Secretary of War."

Date Set for Accepting Shoup Statue.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Both houses of Congress to-day adopted a resolution setting apart Saturday, January 15, for the exercises incident to the acceptance by Congress of a statue of the late ex-Senator George L. Shoup of Idaho, which is to be placed in the Capitol as one of the contributions by the States of Idaho to the collection of statues in National Statuary Hall.

A gray cat

ran into an elevator in the Park Row Building the other day. The elevator was pretty full, but the cat didn't mind. It wanted to get upstairs.

It reminded us that there are men who still climb the made-to-order stairs to reach the floor of comfort and fashion. The elevators of the ready-to-wear—Brill's especially—get others to the same point on less expenditure of time, energy and money.

OVERCOATS, $13.50 TO $50.
SUITS, $13.50 TO $45.

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Brooch of Rich Design, knife edge scroll with 9 fine cut diamonds. Special at..... $120

Magnificent Princess Ring of 21 steel blue diamonds; a glorious ring, at..... $175

Round Cluster Ring of 8 fine cut diamonds and one very fine centre diamond; a rich ring; special at..... $130

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Magnificent Brooch, knife edge scroll designs, with cluster of 15 fine cut diamonds, at $175

Cuff Buttons in elaborate designs, many beautiful subjects, in rich, artistic, dumbbell styles, set with cut diamonds; special at, pair..... $8.75

Large Variety of Rich Cuff Buttons, new novel effects in green, rose or Roman gold, with fine cut diamonds, special at $10.75 to..... $56

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Long and medium Coats of Seal, Mink, Broadtail, Persian Lamb, French Dyed Seal, Caracul, etc.

Muffs and Neck Pieces of Sable, Mink, Lynx, Fox and other fashionable Furs.

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