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The last session of the present legislature occurs today. The Solons will soon all be at home telling how it happened

ANOTHER TARIFF PROMISE.

On the twenty-third day of last June President Taft sent out over his own signature a statement of which the following was a conspicuous part:

"I am elated at the legislation which has been enacted at this Congress. It has fulfilled the pledges of the party. It is a great satisfaction to me that we have accomplished so much. I think the party in power has enacted legislation which will ensure greatly to its benefit. It has kept its contract. The Congress which is now closing its first regular session has done more what it promised the people it would do, and the Republican party has a good record to take to the people in the coming elections."

Consistency of President Taft.

How much or how little of that statement would the President reiterate today? He has given the answer, perhaps, in his reversal of the whole Administration policy on the tariff question. Judging by the terms of the Canadian reciprocity agreement and the vigorous, not to say anxious support, the President has given it. It is evident that were it in his power, he would obliterate rather than reiterate all his past utterances on the tariff question from the beginning of his administration. What Mr. Taft would now do with his Winona speech and other written and spoken evidences of presidential defense of the Payne-Aldrich tariff, is not so material as are the facts surrounding the Republican change of front at Washington since the returns of the late election.

Democrats have been quick and generous, as Democrats usually are, to extend congratulations to the President and welcome him as a convert to the Democratic tariff policy. One sad experience in that line, however, should be, and perhaps will, cause Democrats to go slow in accepting the presidential conversion to Democratic principle. Theodore Roosevelt, when president of the United States sought the refuge and expounded the doctrines of the Democratic national platform, but failed, and proposedly failed we believe, to practice the policy he trumpeted. His conversion to the progressive features of government for which the Democracy had so earnestly fought was professedly complete and sincere; so much so, in fact, that he won the hearts and affection of the masses of the country to an extent greater than most, and as great as any, in the whole line of his illustrious predecessors.

For the Nation and for Roosevelt there was a splendid promise in that situation but time—the great leveler—has explained the failure by convincing the people of the United States that Theodore Roosevelt was a politician, not a statesman.

His forage into the Democratic ranks was not unprofitable to his party, disastrous though it proved to the country and to the Democracy. It enabled him to hold the presidency against the Hon. Alton B. Parker by a tremendous popular vote, and so great was its impetus that it put William H. Taft, a then pledged and constantly reiterated exponent of "my policies," in the White House.

These are easily recognized and admitted facts, and through the luster of the former president's glory is now some what dimmed and tarnished, the lesson of his sway will not readily be forgotten. What Theodore Roosevelt did in a political way, it would not be beyond President Taft to attempt. When the latter expressed on June 23rd, last, complete satisfaction and elation with the record of his administration he spoke from a solidly entrenched Republican position. No word was then heard from the White House that the tariff conclusions of the Payne-Aldrich ring would be disturbed.

But the November vote seems to have put a little fear of God and respect for the people in the Republican heart. Also, President Taft is more directly interested in the coming election than he was in the preceding one, deep as his interest undoubtedly was in that Republican disaster. Democrats and Independents might,

therefore, curb any tendency which may exist to extol the presidential reciprocity fairness as an administration policy. In reality, it is an administration after-thought, superinduced by a fear of the coming Presidential encounter. The evil of the Roosevelt adulation, when it was thought that he had reformed, is still vividly before us. We cannot sufficiently forget the dereliction of the Taft administration in the extraordinary session of Congress on the tariff question, to believe that the Canadian reciprocity agreement will create any estrangement between the special privilege interests and the Republican party. It is, undoubtedly, looked upon as a "good enough Morgan" to tide over a very dangerous situation in the Republican party, but possesses no permanent value.

Democratic Doctrine and the Tariff.

President Taft is entitled to all the credit that naturally accrues to his administration for the application of Democratic doctrine to the tariff situation. Not one word of just censure has been passed on the Canadian reciprocity measure except from those who know that a freer trade and wider markets will serve to reduce and regulate the unfair advantage the protective tariff has given them over the consumer. The

Theyson.

Albert Theyson died Thursday morning, Feb. 23, at the home of Joe Birtser, six miles south of Claffin, where he has made his home for the past three years.

Albert Theyson was born in Bavaria, Feb. 27, 1858. His father and mother died when he was but five years old. He leaves one brother who lives in Germany. He came to this country about three years ago.

The funeral services were held Saturday morning at the Herthel undertaking rooms and were conducted by Rev. Wilson. Chris. Slayter and wife and Otto Slayter, of Delphos, Kans., relatives of the deceased were in attendance. The interment was made in the Claffin cemetery.—Claffin Clarion.

McKeever.

James McKeever, aged about 65 years died at the hospital Saturday at 7 p. m. of tuberculosis. Funeral services were held at the Catholic church in this city Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock conducted by Father O'Sullivan and interment was made in St. John's cemetery.

All of Mr. McKeever's folks and relatives live in Ireland, and but little is known of his family history. He owned considerable property in Albion township and was a law abiding, respected citizen. P. P. Kingston and Joe Johnson were named as his executors in his will.—Hoisington Dispatch.

Rogers.

Jno. Rogers, whose death occurred Monday noon at his home in this city after a several week's illness of the grippe.

He was born in England and when but a young man he came to this country. He was about eighty years old at the time of his death. On Sept. 23 1861 he was united in marriage to Miss Alice Hocking, who preceded him to the other world a few years ago.

Mr. Rogers was a man of good character and respected by every one.

He leaves to mourn his loss two children, Mrs. Will Custer, of this city and Will Rogers of the south side.

The funeral services were held Wednesday at 2:30 p. m. at the Christian church.

Brown.

Mrs. Fanny Brown, colored, died at the family home in this city last Saturday evening. She had been in poor health for some time and death was not unexpected. She was 76 years old at the time of her death.

The Browns were born in slavery and have seen many hardships.

She leaves to mourn her loss a husband, Willis Brown, and seven

children, besides other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held Tuesday at 2 o'clock p. m. from the A. M. E. church.

First. A few days subsequent to the inauguration President Taft said: "Uncle Joe is not a bad sort. I feel sometimes that he has been misunderstood. I like him, and am pleased to have him visit the White House."

Second. Cannon and Aldrich frequent visitors at the White House.

Third. The passage of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill, increasing tariff duties despite a distinctly implied pledge by the Republican party of a reduction in the tariff schedule.

Fourth. President Taft's swing around the country to defend the tariff measure as "the best ever adopted by a Republican Congress."

Fifth. The exonerating of Bal-

linger and the dismissal of Gifford Pinchot.

Sixth. The denial of patronage to the Republican Progressives because of their refusal to be bound over to the Cannon-Aldrich combination.

Seventh. The President's alliance with the worst element of the Republican party.

Measure Needed to Support the Administration.

It is folly to believe that a change in purpose has come over the Republican administration, immediately following election, it was made known by the President's close friends that he had abandoned all thought of again being a candidate for the Presidency. It was reported to be his belief that the popular disapproval of his administration was such as to make certain his defeat.

More recently, however, that determination has undergone a change, for it became apparent that the Republican Progressives were in the field as an organized force, hostile to the present control of the Republican party.

The decision of President Taft to attempt to amend the bill to provide \$4,000 each of these two lawyers instead of the \$2,000 each which the Senate in committee of the whole had recommended. As a result the bill came near being killed, but after considerable debate and several efforts to amend, the bill was passed to pay each of the two men \$2,000.

A bill reorganizing the laws governing building and loan associations, giving the bank commissioner power to grant or refuse permission to organize and operate to new associations at his discretion, and requiring building and loan associations to pay the state bank department for all examinations made of such associations, failed to pass the Senate yesterday afternoon. The bill was introduced by the Senate committee on banks and banking. Few of the senators were familiar with the purpose of the bill and desired to defer action on it until Monday, but Senator Quincy urged immediate consideration. It was late in the afternoon and a number of the senators had been excused for the rest of the day, with the result that the bill could not secure enough votes for passage. In fact, the opponents of the bill outnumbered the friends of the measure. When this became apparent Senator Quincy attempted to have consideration postponed until Monday, but this was defeated. The bill aroused violent opposition from many of the senators who declared that they did not know that the building and loan associations desire such a law. After the bill had failed to pass, Senator Quincy gave notice that he would move a reconsideration on Monday.

Senator Porter yesterday had the Cassin bill to legalize the Pittsburg waterworks bond issue advanced to third reading, insuring its consideration by the Senate tomorrow. This is the "sacred legislative document" which caused the Leahy charges of tampering in the Legislature, although it developed that the bill had not been tampered with. However, the publicity given the bill at that time evidently helped the measure, as a similar bill which had originated in the Senate was killed by the House, after which the Cassin bill was passed by the lower branch.

The Senate yesterday passed a bill appropriating about \$50,000 a year for the next two years for the expenses of the state printing plant. An appropriation of \$25,000 was also made for the purpose of purchasing new equipment for the plant. The Senate killed the House amendment which required the state printer to install a cost system, making certain requirements as to items of alleged expense that should be figured into the cost of work done at the state plant. Senator Price declared that this amendment had been inserted in the bill at the request of the blank book trust. Senator Huffman made the motion to eliminate this amendment, which prevailed.

After the message from Governor Stubbs, which called attention to appropriations which exceed those of two years ago had

been read in the Senate, Senator Francis Price called attention to the section of the state constitution which permits the Governor to veto any part of an appropriation bill without affecting the rest of the measure. Senator J. T. Reed drafted and offered a resolution to call the attention of Governor Stubbs to this part of the constitution, but under the rule it could not be considered yesterday. Senator Reed says he will insist upon action on this resolution tomorrow.

This was done at the request of a delegation consisting of most all of the representative-business men of the city who called on the Council in a body to present their claims as to the injustice of this ordinance which has been very unpopular since it has been in effect. Such an abundance of convincing argument in favor of the repeal was presented by C. A. Hooper, E. R. Moses, Fred Zutavern, Henry Born, and others that the Council in order to make the matter a "Show Down," allowed a motion to repeal the ordinance in question to be presented. This motion was carried as stated above.

This matter has been the subject of much discussion and some bitter feeling since it has been in effect and we believe that the representative, broad minded citizen will be glad to know that the matter is settled as it has been and there is not a shadow of doubt but that the move will suit the farmers, upon whom the city depends for support.

Personally we believe that any person should be allowed to spend his time on the Sabbath day as his own feelings in the matter dictate so long as his conduct does not interfere with the rights or privileges of his fellow man. We don't believe it is possible to legislate morality into the mind of any one. We also believe that a city council should be chosen from the ranks of the progressive up-to-date business men in any city of this size and that they should be allowed to make the laws for the government of the city without being compelled to cater to outside influence which is likely to lead to entanglements similar to the one Great Bend has just gotten rid of.

Sold His Business.
Albert Condra today sold his interest in the livery and hack line business of Condra & Sprague to his partner, George Sprague, who takes complete charge and to whom all bills are payable. Mr. Condra has built up a big business here and has made many friends during his residence in the town.

Reward of \$300.
We the undersigned committee appointed at a meeting of the citizens of Offerle, and vicinity, do herewith offer a reward of \$300 to any party or parties or person who will find or produce the body or person of Mr. Otto Reich, either dead or alive. The person above referred to has mysteriously disappeared from his farm south of Offerle in Ford county, Kansas, on or about the 15th of December 1910.
Committee:
Mr. Herrman Wetes.
Mr. Ed. Kurth.
Mr. L. Wezel.
Mr. Thos. Darcy.
By Thos. Darcy, chairman and treasurer of committee.

Geo. Winstead of Hutchinson, was in Great Bend, Wednesday visiting and transacting business.
John Haberman, of Olmitz has purchased through Whitecombe & Werhahn, of this city, the Ed. Harper residence, a fifteen acre tract, in the north east part of town.
Fred Milloway and wife, of Kinsley, visited with Max Moore and family, Wednesday. Mr. Milloway is manager for Moss Bros., at Kinsley and was transacting business here with that firm.

Legislative Notes.

The Senate passed the House bill to appropriate \$70,000 for the year 1912 and \$75,000 for the year 1913 to be divided among the high schools of the state which conduct normal training courses. An additional \$25,000 per year was provided for appropriations of 250 each to high schools maintaining a normal training course in the elements of agriculture and domestic science.

Fifteen thousand dollars for each of the next two years was appropriated by the Senate yesterday to enable the board of regent of the State Agricultural college to investigate the present methods used in growing and distributing agricultural seeds in Kansas, to determine which localities are most in need of improved seed and to assist such localities in securing desirable seed.

When the bill making an appropriation to pay A. C. Mitchell and S. C. Buckman for their services in assisting the attorney general in upholding the bank guaranty law, came up in the Senate yesterday, Senator F. H. Quincy attempted to amend the bill to provide \$4,000 each of these two lawyers instead of the \$2,000 each which the Senate in committee of the whole had recommended. As a result the bill came near being killed, but after considerable debate and several efforts to amend, the bill was passed to pay each of the two men \$2,000.

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To Make Voting Machines Legal.

After having almost killed the bill the night before, the Senate yesterday passed the Stone bill to enable counties, townships and cities to purchase and use voting machines at all general, special and primary elections. A similar bill died on the calendar in the Legislature two years ago, and for a time the bill which was passed yesterday appeared to be in danger of expiring in the same way.

Although a number of states use voting machines and one of the best voting machines in the country is manufactured in Kansas, this state has not legalized the use of these improvements in voting. The Stone bill, which has passed both the House and Senate, makes this possible.

The Stone bill provides for a state voting machine commission, which shall inspect and pass upon any type of voting machine, submitted to it. Any county, township, or city of the state may purchase, if it desires to, any type of voting machine which the state commission may have approved.

The bill provides that such voting machines may be purchased by county or township boards, or the council or commission of cities, only after at least 25 per cent of the taxpayers of the county, township or city have petitioned for the adoption of voting machines. Even after such petitions have been circulated the county or township board or city council or commission may exercise its discretion in buying or refusing to buy voting machines.

Yesterday this bill passed with only three dissenting votes, where as there were a dozen or more the night before. The provisions of the bill which make the adoption of voting machines discretionary was generally understood. Yesterday Senators Fagerberg, Huffman and Smith voted against the bill.—Topeka Capital.

Carr.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Carr, died Sunday morning. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon.