

THOUSANDS GREET COUNTRY'S CHIEF

Pay Tribute to President at Reception.

EXECUTIVE MEETS 5,625

Makes New Record in the Role of Handshaker.

Brilliant Assembly, Including Representatives from Official, Diplomatic, and Residential Sets, Attends New Year's Reception—Mrs. Taft Stands at President's Side During Part of the Reception.

President Taft's second New Year's reception was held yesterday. According to the man who keeps count of the handshakers, just 5,625 persons filed past the President and Mrs. Taft in the two hours and a half that the reception lasted.

The reception began shortly after 1 o'clock and lasted until just before 2 o'clock. The usual fanfare of the buglers from the Marine Band, stationed in the main corridor, the President and Mrs. Taft, preceded by three army and three navy aids, came down the grand stairway to the first floor.

Cabinet Officers Follow. Following the President came the Vice President and Mrs. Sherman, and then Secretary of State and Mrs. Knox, and other Cabinet officers and their wives.

While the Marine Band played "The Star Spangled Banner" the President and Mrs. Taft and the others in the receiving line took their places in the Blue Room. It was noticed that Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Miss Ethel Roosevelt, and Kermit Roosevelt were all present, and all helped in receiving distinguished guests in the Blue Room.

The diplomatic contingent came out in the same glowing colors that they always wear on such occasions. First came Baron Hengelmüller, Ambassador from Austria-Hungary, Baroness Hengelmüller is suffering from appendicitis and was not present. Next came the French Ambassador, M. de Jusserand, James Bryce, Ambassador from Great Britain, was the third diplomat to greet the President. Mr. Bryce just landed in America, after a trip abroad, yesterday, but he hurried to Washington to attend this reception. Russia and Brazil were the only countries who send Ambassadors to the United States who were not represented by diplomats of this rank.

Following the Ambassadors came the Ministers, led by Senator Calvo, Minister from Costa Rica, the Russian Minister, Mr. Chang Yin Tang, the representative of China, with Mrs. Chang and several of their children. Their robes of blue and white, their quaint little caps, and their long queues attracted attention, but they did not excite the interest they caused last year, when they were observed of all Washington in a year had become familiar with the little Changs.

When he came to the Supreme Court President Taft had the rather unusual feeling of shaking hands one after the other with three men whom he has made Justices of that court and the man he has elevated to Chief Justice. Following Chief Justice White came Associate Justices Harlan, McKenna, Day, Holmes, and the newer members of the court, Associate Justices Lurton, Hughes, and Lamar. The latter has not taken the oath of office, but has been confirmed by the Senate in the closing days of the Roosevelt regime, and Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, Chief of Staff, who was a close friend of Mr. Roosevelt. At the head of the long line of naval officers was the Admiral of the navy, George Dewey, and Rear Admiral Richard Wright.

After the patriotic societies, not many in numbers, came the thousands of citizens on foot. The Marine Band, divided into two sections so that each might play, and rest by turns, quickened its tune and the line passed fast beside the President. Before the end was reached Mr. Taft had shortened his salutation to a short jerk of the wrist and a smile.

Arrangements for the reception were as usual in this administration, the receiving party standing in front of the south windows facing the corridor. The diplomats as they passed by returned through the Green Parlor to the Blue Parlor to greet the distinguished guests who had been seated in the Blue Parlor.

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WEATHER FORECAST.

For the District of Columbia—Unsettled and much colder with a cold wave to-day; to-morrow fair and continued cold; brisk northwesterly winds.

HERALD NEWS SUMMARY.

- 1—Thousands at White House.
2—Blizzard Sweeping Eastward.
3—Poison Mystery May be Solved To-day.
4—Crew Execrated by Coroner's Jury.
5—Tris Twice to End Life.
6—Rival Fair Towns Are Active.
7—Issues Reply to Pinchot.
8—Lorimer Opposition Grows.
9—News of the Theaters.
10—In the World of Society.
11—Editorial.
12—New Year Novelties on View.
13—News of the Sporting World.
14—Commercial and Financial.

SHORTAGE IN FUEL AT KANSAS CITY

Natural Gas Supply Yields in Face of the Blizzard.

FIVE DEGREES BELOW ZERO

Trains Throughout the Entire West Many Hours Late—Much Suffering Among the Poor—Two Hundred Men Sleep in the Omaha City Jail. No Relief in Sight for Days.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 2.—With a temperature of five degrees below zero this morning, Kansas City is facing a famine in natural gas, which is generally used for heating and lighting, and coal dealers are swamped with orders.

Because of the holiday to-day the supply was fairly good in the city, but the gas company has warned consumers in the outlying portions, covering an area of probably thirty square miles, that they will be almost without gas.

The temperature fell 50 degrees in eight hours yesterday, and at 6 o'clock this morning the temperature was 5 degrees below zero on street thermometers.

In the cattle country, northwest of Salina, a strong, bitter wind from the north gusted, blowing a light snow into drifts. There is much suffering among the cattle on the ranges. The temperature there fell to 10 below.

Everywhere Below Zero. Omaha, Neb., Jan. 2.—The intense cold wave which struck the prairie States Saturday night prevailed to-day to the southward, and is not a single point in Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota, or Montana reported temperatures above zero.

Railroad traffic is mostly shot to pieces. Trains are from twenty-four to thirty-six hours late, and many are abandoned altogether. At Grand Island, Neb., to-day eight transcontinental trains on the Union Pacific were tied up at one time.

The government weather bureau reports no relief in sight, saying the cold will continue some days yet.

BEGIN WAR GAME ON SEAS TO-DAY

Battle-ship Fleet and Scout on Maneuvres.

The Atlantic coast of the United States is about to be attacked by a hostile fleet. Officers at the Navy Department are on the alert and have made defensive preparations.

From Hampton Roads to-day will leave a formidable fleet to meet the attack. The force is to be headed with, however, is a vastly superior one, and the outcome is purely problematical.

In other words, the United States Navy is just beginning a war game. The problem to be solved is far more spectacular, but only to be compared with the game of chess as played by masters of the art.

When the Atlantic battle-ship fleet left the English channel on December 30 it left as an "enemy," bent upon the outmaneuvering of a defending fleet and upon attack on the Atlantic coast.

The Atlantic battle-ship fleet is scheduled to arrive at Guantanamo, Cuba, on January 15. The problem of the war game is for the scouting force to locate the battle-ship fleet while in midocean and keep in touch with it until it arrives at its destination, and as the Navy Department puts it, "simulating conditions which might exist in time of war as closely as possible."

With the commanders of the two fleets rest the working out of their respective sides of the problem as they see fit, within certain general limitations prescribed by the department. When asked what the latter were, officers at the Navy Department refused to say. "It's war time, now, you know," they replied. "We can't give away information that may help the enemy."

Bell Arrives at Manila. Manila, Jan. 2.—Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, the new commander of the American army in the Philippines, arrived here to-day and was heartily greeted. He will take command of the army on January 15.

Philadelphia Made Life. Baltimore, Md., Jan. 2.—A Philadelphia, about whose identity there is a mystery, killed himself in a room in Kelly's Hotel, North Charles street, this morning. He registered yesterday as C. Johnson. The body was found by a janitor.

DOES IT PORTEND CALM OR STORM?



"HOLD-UP" MEN FLEE.

Five Desperadoes Bind and Gag Guard in Atlanta Jail.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 2.—After knocking out a guard, five desperate "hold-up" men escaped at 5 o'clock to-night from the Atlanta jail, which is considered the strongest prison in Georgia.

The prisoners were Charles Sutton, A. R. Knox, James Woodson, Henry Bowman, and Charles Langdon. All were being held under heavy bonds on charges of highway robbery and attempted murder.

For three weeks they terrorized Atlanta nightly by their hold-ups. A week ago they were captured and lodged in jail. Some friend succeeded in passing them saws, and they cut the bars of a window of their cell, on the fourth floor of the jail, made a rope of their blankets, let themselves down, and escaped.

They were discovered by a guard as they were about to get away, but they sandbagged, bound, and gagged him, and then they descended from the window. The prisoners had been gone an hour when the bond guard was discovered and released. Bloodhounds are being used to track them.

FIVE LITTLE ONES BURNED TO DEATH

Mother Becomes a Maniac When She Sees Bodies.

Pottsville, Pa., Jan. 2.—Five children were burned to death early this morning when the home of John Kosalovic, of Minersville, near here, was burned to the ground with two adjoining houses.

The father and mother were awakened by the shouts of the neighbors and the smoke which filled their room, and got out as safely.

By that time the lower floor was in flames. The excited parents tried to explain to the firemen that the five children were asleep in a second floor room, but could not speak English or make themselves understood.

Then the father tried to rush into the house, but was driven back, badly burned by the flames. The charred bodies of the children were found later.

The mother became a raving maniac when she beheld the corpses.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

"THEM RESOLVES." Nine resolutions, kept right up to date. "A little game" got one, then there were eight. (To be continued.)

Next holiday, "Feb. Double Two." According to the papers, the District Commissioners are going to order ice-proof shoes for their horses. "There's many a slip 'twixt the Capitol and Treasury," think the Comms.

Another day of work. SAYS THE SAGE OF POGGY BOTTOM: "Some people are so stuck on ostermebbeln they'd risk catchin' their death o' cold waitin' half an hour for a herd."

Ever see a herd's time-table? That city directory of our town tells some nice ones. For instance, did you ever know that Mr. Shears is a tailor? Or that Mr. Colman sells that commodity? There's a lot in a name.

ADD NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS. No "jams" about today here. Considering the salary, worry, and incidental "knocks," our notion of the job is to seek a membership on the board of education.

FIGHT MAY SPLIT DEMOCRAT RANKS

Row in Caucus Foreseen by Representatives.

COMMITTEE MAKE-UP CAUSE

Bitterness Brought on Among Delegates by Contests for Places on Committees May Cause Bad Break in Party—Members Already in Jumble, and Harmony is Lacking.

The caucus of the Democratic Representatives-elect, which has been called for January 19, for the purpose of selecting the majority members of the Ways and Means Committee, promises to be lively.

The Democrats are already in a jumble over committee appointments, and everything indicates that the Democratic row predicted by Republicans is not far off.

While the purpose of the caucus will be to select the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee, it is certain that the question of creating a committee on committees also will come before this gathering.

Champ Clark, who will be chosen Speaker of the next House, has declared in favor of a committee on committees, but has refrained from committing himself in regard to details.

A movement was started by members of the present House who were re-elected to make the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee to be chosen on January 19 a committee for the selection of the other House committee.

This movement, however, has failed to meet with approval, and considerable of a muss has been stirred up over it.

Say Tariff Comes First. The opponents of this movement point out in the first place that the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee will have their hands full in preparing for a revision of the tariff.

If the additional burden of naming the committees of the House is imposed upon them, many Democrats doubt if they will have any time or peace of mind to devote to the tariff until after the adjournment of the committee assignments next December.

The feeling engendered by the contests in many cases has become bitter. Those who are backing the so-called slate have been dubbed "the hog combine."

Several prominent Democrats are predicting that the bitterness caused by the committee contests will eventually result in the abandonment of this reform.

"We have made too many promises to retract our steps now," said one of the prominent Democratic leaders yesterday, "but there will never be another committee on committees after this Congress."

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In the Ohio delegation there is a contest between Representative-elect Donnell and Cox for membership on the committee. When the Ohio delegation met to make a selection, several members refused to endorse Cox, and now there is a fine row in that Democratic group.

In the Texas delegation the Bailey and the anti-Bailey feud has broken out anew as the result of proposed committee selections. Many stories of rivalry and bad feeling in other State delegations are current.

In the meantime several candidates are in the field for Speaker-elect, and it is expected that the caucus will be a lively one.

There is a lot of talk of a caucus on committees, but it is not yet certain if it will be held.

GRETNA GREEN ENDS.

Bristol Ministers Put Ban on Marrying Elopers.

Bristol, Tenn., Jan. 2.—The Bristol Ministerial Association to-day adopted resolutions with a view to robbing Bristol of its fame as a matrimonial mecca, and if the plans of the association do not miscarry, it will soon no longer be a Gretna Green for elopers from adjoining States.

The association adopted resolutions condemning the hundreds of "hasty and indecent" marriages of elopers here annually.

The members of the association, representing twenty-odd churches and as many pastors, pledged themselves to marry no elopers on Tennessee soil in cases contrary to the laws of the State from which either or both fled.

For years local "merrying parades" have been holding all trains for the elopers and frequently several couples come on a single train and are hurried from the union station, a few hundred feet, to the meccas on Tennessee soil and married before irate parents at home can prevent it.

SPURNS HER LOVE; GETS ACID SHOWER

Prof. Leon De Vaux, Palmist, Is Badly Burned.

Prof. Leon De Vaux, the "Hindoo" fortune teller and palmist, who is now out on \$1,000 bond, charged with obtaining money under false pretenses from more than one Washingtonian who desired to gain an insight into the future, nearly lost his sight yesterday afternoon when a mischievous woman who is said to have been caroused with him, threw a bottle of carbolic acid in his face.

The "professor" was removed to Emergency Hospital, where his burns were dressed. Albert Carter, a negro, of 307 Sherman avenue northwest, was arrested by the police of the Tenth precinct late last night, charged with the assault. She is at the House of Detention.

According to De Vaux, the woman visited his rooms at 822 P street shortly after noon yesterday. He asked her the object of her visit, and finally ordered her to leave the building.

The "professor" said the woman became infuriated, and drawing from a coat pocket a small bottle, quickly removed the cork, and threw the contents at his face. The greater part of the carbolic acid struck him on the left side. The fact that he closed his eyes when he did probably saved him from blindness.

At the House of Detention, the woman said last night that De Vaux had spurned her love, and that he drove her to commit the deed. De Vaux returned to his home after hospital treatment had been administered.

Negro Drowned in Creek. Indian Head, Md., Jan. 2.—Gilbert Montgomery, colored, aged twenty-three years, living at Ironside, Charles County, was drowned while crossing Mattytown Creek at Indian Head wharf. His body was recovered.

GLOBE TROTTER RELATES INCIDENTS OF HIS TRAVELS

New York, Jan. 2.—Maj. J. O. Hutchinson, who is at the Manhattan, is a globe trotter by profession. That is to say, he is in the tourist business. He has spent the past thirty years traveling about the world. In that time he has crossed the Pacific thirty-one times, made twenty-six or twenty-seven trips around the world, and has crossed the Atlantic so many times that he has lost count.

"I have never had the chance to vote for more than one of presidential candidates in my life," said Maj. Hutchinson to-day, "and that was Horatio Seymour. The last was the first Christmas I had spent in America in twenty-five years, and the first I had passed with my family in twenty-seven years, and the other day I took my first sleep in forty years."

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SIX DIE IN WRECK

Wild Train of Coal Cars Hits Accommodation. Lexington, Ky., Jan. 2.—A wild train of coal cars and an accommodation passenger train collided on the Millers Creek branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, killing six men. The men were riding on the pilot of the engine, and the train was turning a sharp curve, when it met the loose cars, and there was not time for the men to jump, all being caught unawares and crushed to death.

The dead: William Akers, brakeman, Cattedsburg; John Worley, conductor, Louisa; L. E. Vinson, F. U. Fugate, and Lemuel Miles, Van Lear, and L. A. Smeltzer, Ironton, Ohio.

FOG OVER HARBOR HALTS ALL LINERS

Port of New York Most Successfully Blocked.

NOT A VESSEL ABLE TO SAIL

Night Workers in Ellis Island Take Nine Hours to Return Home, and Are Unable to Report for Duty. Staten Island Ferryboats Alone Kept Running by Compass.

New York, Jan. 2.—A fleet of battle ships could not have blocked the port of New York more successfully than did the fog to-day. For more than twenty-four hours the gray pall that overhung the bays and rivers and the sound and extended far out to sea had bottled up traffic by water so well that only one vessel, the El Sol, from Galveston, succeeded in getting by Quarantine, though there were nearly a dozen steamships outside the bar all day waiting for a lift in the fog.

Not a vessel left the port. Monday is always a light day in the sailing list, and there were only three ships scheduled to sail, but none of them dared leave their moorings.

The big Priscilla, of the Fall River Line, with about 500 passengers on board, got as far as the westward side of College Point, on her way to New York, a little after 6 o'clock this morning, and was compelled to come to anchor. There were many anxious inquiries at the office of the line, to all of which the answer was that she would be in as soon as she could get out.

Messages by Wireless. In the meantime the wireless telegraph instrument aboard was kept busy with messages from steamships and husbands who were desirous of being able to prove an alibi.

The Minnewaaks, of the Atlantic Transport Line, was off the bar, where she arrived at 7:30 this morning from London and Southampton, and the Furber, from Havana, Carolina, from Bermuda, which arrived at the bar, but got no farther before dark set in, there were some 30 passengers. Other ships known to be anchored outside were the Havanna, from Havana, Carolina, from Bermuda, from Savannah, from Charleston; Comanche, from Charleston; City of Savannah, from Savannah. The Comanche got in Sunday night, but was compelled to anchor in Gravesend Bay, where she was stuck all of to-day.

Considerable inconvenience was experienced by persons who work nights on Ellis Island and sleep days in New York.

No Return Trip. When they got through work to-day and went aboard the boat which should have left at 8 o'clock, they had no idea that it would be nearly 5 o'clock in the afternoon before they could set foot on Manhattan Island. It was the only boat from Ellis Island all day, and it didn't venture back to-night.

The Staten Island ferryboats were kept running all day on fairly good schedule time, but they had to steer entirely by compass and feel their way carefully in order to keep from piling up on Governors Island and Robbins Reef.

There was little danger of collision in the upper bay, as it was a holiday and there was no attempt at moving freight. Boatmen around the water front said that it had been many years since they had seen a fog so thick, and none of them could recall such a fog at this particular season.

The hoped-for northwest wind that was to clear off the fog delayed its coming, and the night was as bad as the day. Sixty of the Priscilla's passengers could not resist the temptation to come ashore at a dollar a head, although Capt. Brightman, of the steamboat, advised against it. They were landed at Clasons Point, which is just opposite College Point.

Seek to Buy Potash Deposits. Berlin, Jan. 2.—A powerful syndicate is forming here to secure for the German potash trust the great potash deposits which have lately been discovered near Ockerich, Canada. German geologists have recently been examining these beds and report them as among the richest in the world.

DEATH BRINGS IDENTITY.

Mystery of John Smith Rice's Disappearance Cleared Up. New York, Jan. 2.—John Smith Rice, who dropped out of sight five weeks ago, and for whom on last Wednesday the police were asked to look, died this morning in St. Francis Hospital, Jersey City. The report that the police received from the New Jersey authorities to-night was the first definite information concerning him since he left a real estate office at 24 Sixth avenue on November 5.

Rice was found ill in the Pennsylvania Station, in Jersey City, Sunday night. When he reached the hospital he gave his name as James Clinch, of 124 West Eighty-second street, New York, and that was how he was put down in the hospital records. He was suffering from Bright's disease, the doctors said, and from after searching the hospital he passed into a comatose coma. He died this morning.

Authorities at Cumberland Scout Suicide Theory. Cumberland, Md., Jan. 2.—The authorities now believe that the mystery surrounding the death of Charles Edward Twigg and Miss Grace Elloser will be unraveled within a few days, but will give out no facts in their possession, although they claim to have several clues. They are working on a theory of murder in both cases, and scout the idea of suicide.

Coroner's Jury Will Continue Work of Inquest After the Burial This Afternoon—State's Attorney Gathers Evidence, but Declines to Disclose Its Nature—No Credence to Suicide Compact Theory.

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The coroner's jury will continue its work after the burial to-morrow of Miss Elloser, and Mr. Elloser said to-day that his family will tell all they know of the affair. He asserts that they are withholding nothing from the public now, and his daughter, Miss May, vigorously denies that she had any disagreement with the deceased sister other than the little sisterly quarrels which are apt to occur in any family.

Not on Speaking Terms. The police assert that she was not on speaking terms with her sister. Although Mr. Elloser said last evening that he did not believe either committed suicide, to-day the family claimed Mrs. See, the youngest daughter of Mr. Elloser, said that if Grace took the poison Twigg gave it to her, and that she knew nothing about it when taking it. The families of both strenuously assert that it was not a suicide compact.

To-day the rumor came to Cumberland that Mr. Twigg's wife was still living, but members of the family and others in Keyser, well acquainted with Twigg, assert that Mrs. Twigg, formerly Miss Mad Adams, of Cumberland, died four years ago, and that their infant child died three years ago. A will has since been found, made by Mr. Twigg on May 19, 1907, in which he leaves all his property to his mother, sisters, and brothers.

If State's Attorney David A. Robb gathered any evidence in Keyser last evening, he has succeeded in keeping it even from the members of the jury, and will likely give it to them at the inquest after the funeral. He said to-day that he does not believe it was a suicide compact, and that there is nothing to show that either had any reason for self-destruction. Mr. Robb said that where the poison was obtained is not at present known.

Crowds of people from all parts of the city to-day visited the home in South Cumberland to take a look at the remains of the young lady laid out in her wedding garments. When the bodies were found by Mrs. Elloser on Saturday afternoon she screamed, and when Mr. Elloser and his daughter, Mrs. See, arrived in the room they found that Mrs. Elloser had a piano and on the music stand lay open a popular song, "Meet Me To-night in Dreamland."

COLD SNAP DUE. Drop in Temperature in Washington Is Expected To-day. Yesterday's drizzle and rise in temperature will be succeeded to-day with a cold wave of intense severity, extending from Maine to the southern part of Florida, according to the weather man. The cold wave will probably strike Washington during the forenoon.

The temperature in the West is below zero. In the Texas Panhandle the low mark of 35 degrees has been reached. The cold wave is accompanied in the West by snow and high winds. The cold blasts are due to stay in Washington for several days.

VOTE IN BLIZZARD.

Commission Plan of Government Wins in Springfield. Springfield, Ill., Jan. 2.—At to-day's election the commission form of government was chosen by a majority of 708. The people turned out despite the fact that a blizzard was raging. The vote was 1,790 for and 1,080 against.

A nonpartisan organization, composed of business men, principally members of the chamber of commerce, led in the fight for the commission plan.

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