

TAFT TAKES OATH AS PRESIDENT IN SENATE; WEATHER MAKES CHANGE OF PLANS NECESSARY

BUSINESS ASSURED CONSIDERATION BY PRESIDENT TAFT

Inaugural Address of New Executive Gives Word to Legitimate Concerns.

ROOSEVELT POLICIES TO BE CONTINUED

Ohioan Declares He Will Carry Out Program of Predecessor During Four Years.

Reforms Continue Under Taft's Term

I should be untrue to myself if I did not make the maintenance and enforcement of these reforms (Roosevelt's) a most important feature of my Administration.

I believe that with the changes to be recommended, American business can be assured of that measure of stability and certainty in respect to those things that may be done and those that are prohibited, which is essential to the life and growth of all business.

Legitimately conducted business interests in the country may rest assured of consideration at the hands of the new Administration.

That was the all-important note sounded today by President William Howard Taft in his inaugural address delivered at the Capitol shortly after he had been sworn into office by Chief Justice Fuller.

This assurance is coupled with the announcement that the reforms initiated by President Roosevelt are to be carried on by the new Administration.

The President declared, however, that he has some views on anti-trust and interstate commerce laws which he will submit to the next regular session of Congress.

Industries Safe.

He expressed the opinion that with the enactment of his recommendations into law, American industries can be assured of stability and certainty. Along this line, the President declared that railroads in interstate commerce should be relieved from certain restrictions of the anti-trust law.

The policies which are to be adhered to in the Administration just begun were set forth clearly but briefly. President Taft talked business from the moment he stepped forward and called the vast and struggling through "My Fellow Citizens" until in conclusion, he fervently invoked the aid of God in the discharge of his responsible duties.

No Oratory Attempted.

He made no attempt at oratory. Every paragraph of his address was a straight-from-the-shoulder proposition.

WEATHER REPORT.

The storm that was central over northern Ohio Wednesday morning has moved southeastward off the New Jersey coast with increasing strength, and heavy rain or snow from the Virginia coast northward.

FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT. Clearing this afternoon; fair tonight and Friday; diminishing northwesterly winds.

SUN TABLE. Sun rises..... 6:29 Sun sets..... 5:56

TIDE TABLE. Today—High tide, 6:35 a. m. and 6:48 p. m.; low tide, 12:45 a. m. and 12:57 p. m.

TAFT'S CARRIAGE LEAVING COURT OF HONOR



NEW EXECUTIVE ON WAY TO TAKE OATH OF OFFICE.

ROOSEVELT GOES OUT MIDST CHEERS

Last Day of Retiring President One of His Busiest.

Two men, both of the type to attract attention in any crowd, dressed in conventional frock suits and glossy, well-polished silk hats, one of ponderous bulk, but not ungraceful or unwieldy, the other shorter of stature but broad of shoulder and of erect, manly bearing, passed through the door of the White House executive office this morning and stepped into a waiting carriage.

The face of each man wore a kindly, winning smile, and, as the driver, heeding the signal to go ahead, laid his whip across the flank of one of the impatient horses, and the carriage moved smartly down the driveway leading to the street, one of these men, the smaller of the two, turned to wave a farewell to two blue-coated policemen and a group of newspaper men who stood watching in the rear.

A wave of his hand, a bow of his head, an answering wave from the group, and the carriage with its occupants was swallowed up in a moving, jostling mass of humanity that jammed in the Avenue fronting the White House waiting to greet with deafening, excited cheers the coming of these two men.

Who They Were.

One of them—Theodore Roosevelt—had held the reins of this Government for seven years, had been the moving force in the destiny of \$5,990,000 of American people; the other—William Howard Taft—was about to become clothed in this governmental authority with its responsibility, its burdens, and its triumphs.

In this manner began the final chapter of Theodore Roosevelt's last day as President of the United States. Today, though it was over for him as far as the Presidency was concerned when the sun reached its meridian, will remain long fixed in his mind as one of the most noteworthy of his remarkable career.

From the time he arose in the morning until the special car bearing the Roosevelt party moved from the Union Station shortly after 3 o'clock bound for New York, it was a continuous round of handshaking and good-byes with old friends and White House employees, who have served there during Mr. Roosevelt's seven years as Chief Magistrate.

Although the day opened a tremendously busy one in other respects, Mr. Roosevelt, who retains a strong regard for all the many loyal White House workers who have done his bidding so faithfully and well, let no one who came forward to say good-bye be neglected or forgotten.

Gets Up Betimes.

President Roosevelt, though not an early riser in the accepted sense, was up betimes this morning. There were yet a few official things to do, and he desired to have them over quickly.

He had breakfast shortly after 8 o'clock with Mrs. Roosevelt and Mr. and Mrs. Taft.

SMILES OF CROWDS BREAK PAST CLOUDS

Despite Disappointment, Following Abandonment of Open Air Ceremonies, Thousand of Spectators Along Avenue Have Their Fun.

Undeterred by the slush under foot and the driving snowstorm that did not even partially lift its discomforting mantle until past the noon, amid the blare of bands that bade defiance to the elements and the cheers of thousands of winter, one of the most imposing military and civic pageants in the history of inaugural parades is swinging up Pennsylvania avenue this afternoon.

Before the falling of dusk becomes the signal for the flash of the countless electric lights that are to hold sway during the festivities of the evening, nearly 40,000 men will pass in review before William Howard Taft, the new President of the United States.

Nothing save the good humor of the multitudes has redeemed the distressing features of the Taft inaugural. Despite the one supreme disappointment in the matter of clear weather, and the abandonment of the open-air inauguration on the east portico, the throng has managed to smile through it all.

First Disappointment.

One disappointment came when it was necessary for the President and the President-elect to ride down the Avenue in a closed carriage. But occasional glimpses of the retiring and the soon-to-be Presidents could be obtained, this when the thousands who had already gathered along the side lines were especially enthusiastic in their cheers.

Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt would peep out of the windows upon such occasions and acknowledge the greetings. The Black Horse Troop of Cleveland and the veterans' division, principal escorts, were also conspicuous. They seemed oblivious to the flying snowflakes about them.

The second disappointment of the day came at the Capitol when it was announced to the 5,000 persons who had already gathered, that Mr. Taft would take the oath of office in the Senate chamber and that there would be no outdoor inauguration.

The disappointed ones picked their wet way back uptown, seeking places on both sides of the Avenue, where at least a part of the show could be seen.

The indomitable spirit that has made America was in evidence on every hand today. Undeterred by the slush under foot, by the wind and snow above,

Trains All Delayed and Only Flag and Block System Used—Many Spend Night in Big Union Station.

Two thousand persons have spent the day in the Union Station without getting as much as a glimpse of the inaugural parade. An equal number have been city on the few trains that have been run out as the various railroads. It is estimated that from five to ten thousand people are on the delayed trains, which have not yet reached the city and probably will not arrive until late tonight.

CAPITAL ISOLATED BY FIERCE STORM

Blizzard Rages During Night, Cutting Off All Communication.

Never in the history of the United States has such a pelt as that held in Washington today been carried through without the outside world being in direct communication with the scene of the exercises. For the first time the nation knows nothing about the movements of its President and its President-elect on inauguration day.

But today, from early morning, Washington had the President, the President-elect and a collection of visitors estimated at something more than 100,000, all to herself, because the blizzard which began early last night put all telegraph and telephone wires out of commission.

With the wires down, of course the trains were delayed. Union Station was crowded the night long with visitors who had no place to go, and Washingtonians who had come to meet trains that were from eight to ten hours late.

Street car service was crippled, although the companies kept men and sweepers at work all night long.

Trains Blocked. Many trains have not arrived yet, being delayed by scores of telegraph poles, blown down across the tracks because of the heavy weight of the snow on the wires.

The Norfolk and Washington boat was hours late getting in, delayed by the blinding snow. Of course, the first consternation came to the leaders with the realization that because of the weather the exercises would be curtailed, and a sigh of relief went up from the crowds when the Times extra informed them that the parade would be held as scheduled, and that the fireworks tonight will be set off just as has been planned, if it is possible to do so.

Carried by a west wind that blew at a rate of twenty miles an hour, the city was covered with snow about four inches deep when it awoke this morning. It was almost impossible to make progress against the teeth of the gale in places where the wind had a clean sweep.

Troops and marching clubs, quartered in their cars on the sidings in the Fourteenth street yards southwest, spent a miserable night and got out as soon as possible this morning in the search for food and warmth.

Gen. J. Franklin Bell, grand marshal, was sought by everybody interested in the parade, and a hurried meeting was called at the New Willard Hotel. Shortly after 9 o'clock came the announcement from President-elect Taft that he would deliver his speech in front of the Capitol, as had been scheduled.

Ten Hours Late. As an instance of the lateness of the trains, the Federal Express from Boston, due here last night at 9:30, arrived this morning at 7:35. Thirty trains were more than an hour late.

At 10 o'clock the cloudy sky began to break a little, and when the President and the President-elect left the White House for the Capitol at that hour there was quite a crowd collected about Pennsylvania avenue. Underfoot there was slush on the sidewalks more than an hour late.

THOUSANDS ARRIVE TO RETURN AT ONCE

Trains All Delayed and Only Flag and Block System Used—Many Spend Night in Big Union Station.

Two thousand persons have spent the day in the Union Station without getting as much as a glimpse of the inaugural parade. An equal number have been city on the few trains that have been run out as the various railroads. It is estimated that from five to ten thousand people are on the delayed trains, which have not yet reached the city and probably will not arrive until late tonight.

Never in the history of the railroads companies whose lines enter Washington has there been as completely paralyzed as today. With wires down and telegraph poles blown across the tracks, every train has been forced to pick its way along by means of flag and block signals and without orders from the dispatchers.

Trains Delayed. Trains which should have reached Washington before 10 o'clock last night did not arrive until after 7 o'clock this morning. On the various systems from the North, East, South, and West thirty special trains have been delayed on an average of eight hours each, and all local trains have been from two to three hours late in reaching the city.

Pa. R. R. City Ticket Office Open at Night. The Pa. R. R. Co. announces that during inauguration week and until March 10, its city ticket office at 15th and 45, will be kept open for the sale of tickets and reservation of Pullman accommodations, until 10 o'clock p. m.—Adv.

CROWDS PACK THE GALLERIES TO THEIR LIMIT

New Plan Put Through—Cause of Fear for Health of Aged Chief Justice Fuller—Lodge Causes the Change.

SECOND TIME IN HISTORY OF THE NATION

Grant Only Other Executive to Become Official Head of the Country in the Upper Chamber—Scenes Are Impressive.

William Howard Taft was inaugurated President of the United States today under the most extraordinary circumstances that ever attended this ceremony.

The day dawned with the Capital in the grip of such a severe snowstorm that army officers, in many instances, objected to their men marching, and the committee on arrangements was uncertain as to whether or not the parade could be held, or Mr. Taft take the oath of office on the grandstand on the east plaza of the Capitol.

In spite of the new President's expressed wish to have the program carried out to the letter, he was prevailed upon to take the oath and read his inaugural address in the Senate chamber, instead of in the open air.

LODGE PERSUADES HIM.

He was persuaded to do this by the argument of Senator Lodge, chairman of the committee on arrangements, who said that it would be cruelty to compel the aged Chief Justice to administer the oath in the open air with the storm at its height.

It was an inauguration unique in the history of the country. Only once before had it been found necessary to have the ceremonies indoors. This was the case at the first inauguration of Grant.

The National Capital is today cut off from all telegraphic communication with other parts of the world. Trains which should have brought thousands, tens of thousands, of sightseers here this morning, will not arrive until late this afternoon and this evening.

So fierce was the fall of the snow and so keen the force of the wind that until 11:30 o'clock none of the grandstands were occupied, the people preferring to keep to the sidewalks and the exercise of walking.

Taft Is Cheered.

Notwithstanding the weather, from the throngs which packed the sidewalks, filled the windows, and clung to the balconies of every building from the Capitol to the White House, President Taft heard the loving acclaim and the cheering which foretold the strength he will have as the new President.

At 10 o'clock this morning, when he and Theodore Roosevelt entered their carriage, drawn by four splendid bay horses, the storm was at its height. The wind blew clouds of snow through the carriage windows, and it was bitter cold. But the band of the Philippine Constabulary struck up a quick-snap tune, the Black Horse Troop from Cleveland fell in as escort, and were followed by regulars and the members of the G. A. R., and the trip to the Capitol had begun.

Along Fifteenth street and down Pennsylvania avenue, where as yet the crowds were small, swung the procession, receiving cheers from all who were on the streets. Arrived at the Capitol the party, consisting of Mr. Taft, Mr. Roosevelt and the retiring Cabinet, had but a little while to wait for the beginning of the ceremonies.

Sherman Sworn In.

James S. Sherman took the oath of office for the Vice Presidency, which was administered by Vice President Fairbanks, as soon as Mr. Taft had agreed to the plan of also taking the oath in the Senate chamber.

There the galleries were packed to their capacity, while more than 2,000 people stood in the corridors and committee rooms after making vain attempts to gain admission. While Sherman was being sworn in Taft and Roosevelt sat in high-backed chairs facing the dais of the Vice President.

Following this ceremony, Mr. Taft went forward, and, in slow, solemn tones, repeated the oath of office as it was read to him by the venerable Chief Justice Fuller, of the United States Supreme Court. Then Mr. Taft read his inaugural address, and was interrupted with frequent bursts of applause.

Roosevelt Congratulates Him. The address concluded, he was congratulated first by Mr. Roosevelt, and then by members of his family, and a host of friends.

Mrs. Taft rode with the new President from the Capitol to the White House, and their carriage was followed by that of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman.

By the time the parade of the regulars up the Avenue began the fall of snow had greatly lessened, and the new President came up the Avenue to find the grandstands well filled with people.

It was one of the greatest parades from a military point of view, Washington has ever seen. Back of it was the fact that Taft has for many years been connected with the Army and War Department.

For Mr. Roosevelt, on the way from the Executive Mansion to the Capitol, there were many cheers. On that ride he was shown that, while all were there to see Taft inaugurated, they were also anxious to show their admiration of Roosevelt.

Taft Is Cheered. But on the drive back the cheering was uninterrupted, prolonged, insistent, and sounded the name of Taft. The new President was evidently delighted with the ovation. Incessantly, he had to remove his hat and acknowledge the earnestness of the demonstration.

And Mrs. Taft, who rode beside him—the woman whose ambition has been one of the great factors in his success—laughed happily, making no attempt to conceal her pleasure.

It was a fitting beginning of an administration.

Taft on Roosevelt. "Theodore Roosevelt: A Personal Appreciation by W. H. Taft." Inauguration number, March 4th, biggest issue ever published by Collier's. 42 pages of articles, verses, pictures and cartoons by Gov. Folk, Frederic Remington, Kobbie McCutcheon, Elias Carman, Robert Erldiges, George Fitch, Wallace Irwin, Henry Beach Needham and others. On sale today.—Adv.