

Unsettled and Cooler.  
Cloudy Tomorrow.

# The Washington Times

LAST EDITION

NUMBER 6647.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 1910.

PRICE ONE CENT.

## PRESIDENT ROBE COMES TO AID OF PACKERS OF MEAT

### Association Head Says Organization Does Not Try to Control Prices.

## EVASIVE ANSWERS PUZZLE COMMITTEE

### Little Headway Is Made At Senate Investigation Into High Cost of Living.

According to the testimony of President Charles Robe, of New York, the American Association of Meat Packers is innocent of any united effort to control the prices of meat products. For an hour and a half today the Senate Cost of Living Committee interrogated the witness. For the same length of time he professes no definite knowledge of his organization's purposes.

Mr. Robe seemed to be a reluctant witness. He volunteered no information whatever. All that was secured from him was by continual questioning. Even that which he gave was evasive or indefinite. When confronted with the association's minute books and the black and white evidence of the association's purposes, he insisted that he knew nothing concerning them and was in ignorance of what the minute books contained.

From these records it was gleaned, however, that the packers' association was organized for "centralization and cooperation in protecting the interests of the packers, to regulate the profits between themselves and the stock yards, to regulate the price of labor, to bring into closer relations the meat packers and manufacturers, to prevent adverse legislation, to repeal the oleomargarine law, and to discuss meat inspection by Federal authorities."

Answers Are Evasive. While all these objects were learned from an examination of the association's records, Mr. Robe was not familiar with any of them except that relating to meat inspection. He was time and again asked to give the real objects for the bringing together of 90 per cent of the packers of the country. His reply was "to discuss the meat inspection and take up other matters relating to the interests of the packers." He denied flatly that the matter of prices had anything to do with the organization. He said that there was not even a discussion of the price of meat.

Senator Crawford conducted a most vigorous examination of the witness. He would ask him a question and receive a five answer or no answer at all, then would quote from some record of the association to show that President Robe was either not being frank with the committee or else he was entirely ignorant of the workings of the body over which he presides.

After that Senator Smoot led the witness through a maze of questions and the same unsatisfactory results were the result. The Utah Senator, therefore, had to resort to the records and answer the questions for the witness. The committee seemed a bit impatient at first at the process, then the members became amused. It was at that time that the witness said that the packers were members of the association and that he had recommended that the packers shut down their plants during August and September of last year. He explained that they did it not for the purpose of raising prices or holding up the market, but because "the product was not matured at its season."

### To Call Secretary.

The witness was not dismissed when the recess was taken at 12 o'clock. He will be called again this afternoon and then the secretary of the association will be asked to favor the committee with his ideas on the situation.

An anonymous letter was received by Senator Smoot today, saying that the Department of Agriculture had been sending the calves into Washington for sale which they had inoculated for the purpose of securing vaccine virus. This letter was taken seriously, however, by the Senator.

## WEATHER REPORT.

Frosts were general Wednesday night in the South Atlantic States. The temperature has risen during the last twenty-four hours in the Middle Atlantic States, except in New York, and in the South Atlantic States. The temperature will fall considerably tonight in the Middle Atlantic States, and it will rise in the South Atlantic States.

### FORECAST FOR THE DISTRICT.

Partly cloudy tonight; moderate northerly winds.

TEMPERATURE.	
5 a. m.	45
9 a. m.	45
1 p. m.	50
5 p. m.	50
11 p. m.	45
12 noon.	45
2 p. m.	45
4 p. m.	45
6 p. m.	45
8 p. m.	45

### SUN TABLE.

Sun rises.	6:09
Sun sets.	6:32

### TIDE TABLE.

Today—High tide, 12:27 a. m. and 12:36 p. m.; low tide, 6:51 a. m. and 7:43 p. m.  
Tomorrow—High tide, 1:26 a. m. and 1:57 p. m.; low tide, 7:55 a. m. and 8:51 p. m.

### CONDITION OF THE WATER.

MARYERS FERRY, W. Va., March 17.—Both rivers clear this morning.  
Established 1824. 6th and N. Y. Ave. 15 years tells our story.—Adv.

## CHICAGO GIVES TAFT A NOISY WELCOME

### Booming of Guns on Lake Front Announce President's Arrival.

## IRISHMEN CLAIM HONORS AS HOSTS

### Aged Woman Tries to Throw Herself Beneath the Wheels of the Executive's Auto.

CHICAGO, March 17.—An attempt by an aged, infirm woman to throw herself beneath the wheels of the President's automobile as he was being escorted through Michigan avenue today on his way to his stately St. Patrick's Day celebration almost caused a panic by the thousands who were gathered along the thoroughfare to greet the President.

The aged woman broke through the police line, dashed through the Presidential automobile. The police finally dragged her back to the sidewalk and off down a side street. Chicago is like a town transplanted from the Emerald Isle today. Everywhere where houses and business buildings are decked with green bunting with countless pictures of St. Patrick and President Taft side by side.

### Meets Newspapermen.

The Chief Executive received the Chicago endorsement of the Red Cross Society at 9 o'clock and an hour later met the newspapermen of Chicago at the Chicago Newspaper Club.

The President addressed the journalists on the merits of the press. He could not tarry long with the scribes, and at noon made a quick visit to the Traffic Club, where he was scheduled to luncheon at the Irish Fellowship Club. The Irishmen will relinquish possession of the President for a time, and at 3 o'clock will be scheduled to attend a conservation mass meeting called to endorse the Taft conservation policies. The President was to be the principal speaker.

### Receptions to Various Clubs Will Occur.

The President's time from 4 until 6, at which hour the "big event" of the day will begin.

### Guest at Big Banquet.

This is the annual St. Patrick's day banquet of the Irish Fellowship Club, at which the President will be the guest of honor. Elaborate preparations have been made for the occasion, and it is expected that the President will be in Ireland "twelve square feet of 'cold sod' has been imported from the Emerald Isle. Upon this bit of soil the President's chair will be placed at 3 o'clock and he will stand upon it when he delivers his address.

This address is expected to be an important utterance bearing upon the popular rubbers. The President's day began like a Donnybrook Fair before he left his private car. The Secret Service men were aroused to action when a man in a telephone booth jumped to the rear platform of the car armed with a revolver and tried to shoot the President. He was allowed to install a wireless telephone for the President. The Secret Service men saw him first, however, and he left the car hurriedly. When the President reached the La Salle Hotel he expressed his sympathy for the woman who tried to shoot him. She was spirited away by the police immediately after the incident.

### Encounters Suffragettes.

Another incident of the strenuous day was the President's first encounter with the Chicago militant suffragettes. When the Presidential party left the train a big automobile, loaded with an Irish band and a group of members of the "No Vote, No Tax Association" was waiting for him. The car attached itself to the procession and throughout the day it sounded its "Votes for Women" signs in the faces of the crowds who greeted the President, while the band blared forth the "Weir of the Green."

When the President reached Chicago he was well-timed to St. Patrick's day. After he left Washington he digested several volumes of Irish history and life of St. Patrick. He also brushed up a little of the Irish language in his speeches at the Hamilton Club and at the conservation meeting.

## SPEAKER GINGS TO REORGANIZATION

### Kipling's red bull in a green field had its living counterpart in a red carnation worn by Speaker Cannon today.

It stood out in striking contrast against a sea of shamrocks. Most every member of the House wore the Irish flower. Speaker Cannon, however, did not do so in his partiality to the carnation, and if anything, the flower he wore this morning was a little larger and redder than usual. The old gentleman, who has been running the private elevator of the House for the last half century or so, and supplying the members of that body with carnations the same length of time, was provided with a box of shamrock.

A call of the House at the opening of today's session sent the members from their committee rooms in a hurry, and most of them went by the private elevator route. The box of shamrocks was exhausted in a remarkably short time, and there was scarcely a member who was not adorned with one of the three-petaled flowers by the time the call of the House was concluded.

Representative Mitchell E. Driscoll of New York, whose brogue becomes most pronounced when he gets angry, furnished an exception, however. He was asked by a colleague why he didn't have a shamrock in his buttonhole. "Why the devil should I wear a shamrock?" he replied. "Look at me face."

## WARNING AMERICA J. J. HILL HOLDS UP DEBTS OF EUROPE

### Declares World Has Turned Away Moderation In Expenditure.

## SAYS DELIRIUM IS WORLD-WIDE

### Believes Train of Public Ills Certain to Follow Rise in Public Debt.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., March 17.—Declaring that the "financial delirium" of today is world-wide, and sounding a warning to the United States that a continuance of the increase in public expenditures is certain to be followed by a plentiful crop of public ill, James J. Hill today stirred a large audience at the second day's session of the Minnesota Conservation Convention.

Referring to conservation of national capital, which he placed next in importance to the conservation of land, Hill said: "I would suggest that the friends of conservation who are everywhere give to this indispensable possession the same protection from the spoiler that we give to the soil, the water, the forest, the water power and deposits of mineral wealth. 'We are living in an age of world-wide financial delirium. Most of the nations have thrown away moderation in the spending of money. 'The people of the United States inherited from its founder a wholesome tradition against debt, which is only disappearing from the conduct of national affairs. This, together with the enormous resources at our command and the consequent ability of our people to pay increasing taxes at a moderate figure. Until the time of the Spanish war and the Panama canal it decreased."

### Debt Tends to Rise.

"It now tends to rise, certified under the polite mantle of certificates of indebtedness to cover Treasury deficits. If the advocates of large bond issues for all manner of internal improvements should carry their point, if that source is not definitely restricted to the emergency of war, we will be in the condition of Europe, where the motto of every chancellor now seems to be 'after us the deluge.'"

After quoting statistics showing the national debt of the countries of Europe, which exceed the annual interest charge to be now over \$1,200,000,000 said: "The new budget threatens to sink the political foundations of England with its revolutionary proposals for raising more money, where borrowing had become impossible without a tax and another drop in the price of consols. Now how about ourselves?"

### The Total Debt.

"Leaving out the debts of counties, municipalities and school districts, the aggregate debt of all the States and the Territories, less sinking fund deposits, was \$74,747,772 in 1891. In 1901 it was \$111,214,847, and in 1907 it was \$234,968,872. The decrease for the first decade was 24 per cent and the increase for the twelve years prior to 1907 was 112 per cent. The figures for 1907, 1908 and 1909 and in addition to the national debt, would probably show an increase of a billion and a quarter to a billion and a half dollars for the last twenty years and a grand total of over two and a quarter billion dollars—about double what it was in 1890."

"The phenomenal increase of expenditures has already produced a plentiful crop of public ill, and one of the causes of income in prison now disturbing the people."

## DEATH OF DANIEL EXPECTED HOURLY

### Condition of Senator Hill At Daytona Reported As Being Worse.

DAYTONA, Fla., March 17.—Senator Daniel is still in a state of coma and seems to be growing worse. His death is momentarily expected. The physician's bulletin is as follows: "The condition of Senator Daniel is not so favorable. He lies in a profound coma, and his strength is gradually ebbing away. Death may come at any moment, although he may linger for some hours. There is absolutely no hope for his recovery."

It was stated that the Senator has not been able to recognize any of the family since yesterday, and it is not believed he can regain consciousness.

### RICHMOND, Va., March 17.—Should United States Senator Daniel die before 12 o'clock tonight, Governor Mann would be without authority to appoint his successor until after March 4, 1911, the date upon which the term Major Daniel is now serving expires.

The Committee provides that when vacancies occur in the Senate during the recess of the Legislature of any State, the executive thereof may make appointments until the next meeting of the Legislature. By its own vote the Legislature is constructively in session until midnight tonight. Should Senator Daniel die before midnight, therefore, Governor Mann could not appoint his temporary successor.

## SINGER WEDS ABROAD.

BERLIN, March 17.—News has reached here of the marriage in London of Frances Ross, an American singer, and Theodore Conrad, of Berlin, formerly a singer, but now a prosperous business man. The marriage occurred in London yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Conrad will make their home in Berlin.

## ADVOCATES OF GAS STRIKERS PREPARING FOR THE BATTLE

### Brown Declares Inaction Will Mean Move For Committee's Discharge.

## OTHERS INSISTENT FOR INVESTIGATION

### Gallinger Displays No Enthusiasm, Declaring Regular Procedure Will Be Followed.

The friends of the Washington Gas Light Company in the Senate will be unable to smother the amended resolution of Senator Brown of Nebraska, calling for a sweeping investigation of the affairs of the company.

Unless the resolution, which at least calculated to get to the bottom of the capitalization question, is reported out of the Senate District Committee in a reasonable length of time, the battle of yesterday in the Senate will be fought over again.

Senator Norris Brown of Nebraska, with the backing of many other Senators, is determined not to allow the District Committee to bury the plan to investigate the gas company. Senator Brown says if the resolution is not reported out of the District Committee in a reasonable length of time, he will, if necessary, move to discharge the committee.

### Senator Brown Insistent.

"I do not intend that the plan to investigate the Washington Gas Light Company shall be smothered," was the declaration of Mr. Brown, who has become keenly interested in the local gas situation because of the apparent nature of the abuses from which the people of the District are suffering, and who is convinced the time is at hand for Congress to take hold of the public utilities of the District and regulate them in a fashion that shall serve as an example to the country.

Not alone will there be determined opposition to efforts to balk an investigation on the part of the Senate, but there is strong sentiment on the House District Committee to take the matter up in earnest and prosecute an inquiry of its own.

### Real Purpose Is to Kill.

It is rumored as the general feeling among Senators who want an investigation of the Washington Gas Light Company that the real object of having the resolution referred to the Senate District Committee was to kill it, and it is declared that strong pressure will be brought to bear to smother not only this resolution but anything that bears the semblance of a resolution of investigation or inquiry.

The resolution will go to the subcommittee in charge of public service corporation matters, of which Senator Carter of Montana is chairman. Senator Gallinger, chairman of the Senate District Committee, is not expressing any enthusiasm about pushing the proposed investigation into Washington gas matters, but that his committee would take up the measure in "due time."

### Gallinger on Procedure.

"I cannot tell what will be the fate of the resolution now before my committee," said Senator Gallinger. "I only know that it is definitely restricted to the subject of gas. It is not a bill and it should have been referred to the District Committee, and that it is now ready for consideration by that body. There are various and sundry other matters now pending before that committee, and of course this one must take its proper course."

### Martin Is Silent.

This is all Senator Gallinger wanted to say about the situation. While he won a victory in the Senate in having the inquiry referred to his committee rather than to Senator Brown's committee, he did not seem particularly jubilant over it.

Senator Martin of Virginia had nothing to say on the subject. He is a member of the Senate District Committee. One of the questions referred to the committee over the question of whether Senator Brown's resolution should be sidetracked by referring it to the District Committee was the proposed speech of Senator Martin. It is one of the traditions of the Senate that Mr. Martin rarely shows much concern to be striven to the point of talking about a bill. But in this case he not only talked, but became excited and denounced what he called the attempt at invasion of the jurisdiction of the Senate District Committee.

Senator Smith of Maryland is another Democrat of prominence who lined up against the proposed investigation of the Washington Gas Light Company. This attitude on the part of Senator Smith is likely to be a subject of interesting comment in Maryland. The reason that the city of Baltimore is supremely interested in the gas question itself and is so generally believed to be an equitable figure.

### Interesting Sightings.

The manner in which certain Senators on the Democratic side "ducked" when it came to voting on the question of what to do with Senator Brown's resolution was another of the interesting sightings on the spectacle presented in the Senate when the question of investigation came up.

Senator La Follette, who is a member of the Senate District Committee, insisted on certain of the Democratic Senators coming out of the cloak rooms and voting. Senator Taliaferro, chairman of the Committee on Corporations Organized in the District, which reported out the Brown resolution, made a speech in the Senate in which he took a like-warm position about having the investigation conducted by his committee.

In the course of the debate, Senator Aldrich and Senator Lodge came to the rescue of Senator Gallinger and urged that the resolution should go to the Senate District Committee.

## Dethroned House Czar



JOSEPH G. CANNON,  
Speaker of the House.



## STRIKERS RELYING ON POLITICAL AID

### Senator Penrose and State Senator McNichol May End Trouble.

PHILADELPHIA, March 17.—With the arrival in the city of State Senator McNichol and United States Senator Penrose, and Recorder Vane, who are expected later in the day, the striking trolley men became more hopeful believing that these political leaders will take an active interest in the controversy and find some means whereby the trolley men may be taken back in their old positions, thus bringing to an end the general sympathetic strike and averting the threatened State-wide walk-out.

Confidence is expressed by the labor leaders that under the direction of Senator McNichol, who brought about a settlement of the trolley strike last June, some loophole may be found for an adjustment.

Although it was stated at many points throughout the city today that there had been a steady return to work on the part of men who had been out on sympathetic strike, and the transit company announced that it is steadily increasing the number of cars in operation, the strike leaders fostered the courage of their followers by declaring that a settlement would not be made at any time, and that victory was certain.

## KNAPP AND NEILL BUSY IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, March 17.—Despite pessimistic statements of President Carter of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, it is generally believed here that the threatened strike of the firemen on forty-nine Western railroad lines will be averted through mediation by Interstate Commerce Commissioner Knapp and Labor Commissioner Charles P. Neill.

Knapp and Neill arrived here from Washington today and went to the Congress Hotel, where they arranged for conferences with the firemen's strike committee and the committee of neutral managers representing the railroads. The two committees will meet in separate rooms, Knapp and Neill acting as "go between" in the negotiations.

It is expected that a cold wave will sweep over Washington tomorrow, the thermometer dropping to the freezing point. This morning at 2:30 o'clock the mercury hovered around the 4-degree mark. As far as the forecasters can see, for some time to come, this will be the case, the forecasters assert, if the wind, now from the northwest, continues in that direction. The wind today is slight, and will probably moderate or die away in the next twenty-four hours.

## SLATER JURY DISAGREES.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 17.—The jury in the case of Mark Slater, charged with uttering false vouchers while State printer, has disagreed and is discharged.

## CANNON IS SHORN OF POWER; INSISTS HOUSE IS SUPREME

### Is Beaten By Insurgent and Democratic Combine Upon a Ruling.

## VOTE SHOWS HE IS NO LONGER "CZAR"

### Forty-two Republicans Mustered By Opposition When Vote Is Taken.

By JOHN SNURE.

Speaker Cannon's hold on the House of Representatives has been broken as the result of developments in that body in the last two days. In one vote after another, it has been demonstrated that the Speaker has practically lost control of the House. As the situation stands today, he is no longer the Czar of that body.

Mr. Cannon and his lieutenants are making herculean efforts to rehabilitate themselves. Whether they can do so is doubtful. Unless they can regain the ground they have lost in three votes on Tuesday and Wednesday, it looks now like a practical certainty that legislation in the House from this time until the end of the session will be dominated by the insurgents and Democrats.

### Speaker Is Overruled.

The Speaker was overruled by a vote of 311 to 183 Wednesday evening on a proposition that would have meant the breaking down of calendar Wednesday. Had he been allowed to have his way, against this the House rose in such protest that forty-two Republicans voted with the Democrats to override the Speaker. This is the hardest blow yet struck at "Uncle Joe's" leadership.

What the consequences of the breaking down of the Cannon control of things in the House will be it is not yet possible to estimate. They are likely to be far-reaching. Railroad legislation and postal savings legislation will undoubtedly be affected and whatever bills are put through on these subjects will probably not be fashioned by the Cannon forces.

It is not impossible that the votes of the last two days may drive Mr. Cannon to announce that he will not again be a candidate for Speaker.

### Full Attendance Demanded.

Confronted by three decisive defeats within two days, the Republican leaders of the House today are more determined than ever that there shall be a full attendance of Representatives upon all roll-callings in the future. In fact, Representative Dwight, the Republican whip, declares frankly that he will insist that hereafter there shall be a full quorum of the House present when any question, however trivial, is voted upon.

The Speaker's defeat followed the presidential inauguration, taken in order to summon every member to his seat. Practically all the unpaired Republicans were in attendance when the Speaker's ruling was set aside.

### Fight Is Precipitated.

A comparatively unimportant and non-partisan amendment to the census appropriation bill, proposed by Representative Crumpacker and held to be of a privileged character by Speaker Cannon, precipitated a party-line fight, and the subsequent overthrow of the Speaker's ruling. The final vote was taken after the venerable "Uncle Joe" had made the House a heart-to-heart talk, almost pleading in his nature.

In this impassioned speech Speaker Cannon disavowed any personal interest in the amendment or his adherence to House precedents. If the House wished to reverse him, he declared, he would be content with the will of the majority. Were he of smaller caliber, he added, he might find gratification in such a reversal, because it would demonstrate that he had no more power than any other Speaker who had preceded him and would disprove the statement that he "like a Colossus, set astride the world."

It was calendar Wednesday, and under the new rules, no business was in order except that of the calendar. Representative Crumpacker asked, in the interest of expediency, that the House should give its approval to a slight amendment to the census act.

### Started by Trivial Matter.

This amendment provided simply that in questioning an alien, census enumerators should ascertain the "mother tongue" of the alien. In itself the amendment might have been agreed to without a moment's debate or by unanimous consent, under any other circumstances. As it was, Representative Fitzgibbon disavowed any personal interest in the amendment or his adherence to House precedents. If the House wished to reverse him, he declared, he would be content with the will of the majority. Were he of smaller caliber, he added, he might find gratification in such a reversal, because it would demonstrate that he had no more power than any other Speaker who had preceded him and would disprove the statement that he "like a Colossus, set astride the world."

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