

SIMS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT

Executive Meets Criticism by Publishing Letter.

COMMANDER IS LAUDED

IGNORES IMPUTATION THAT HE IS TAKING CARE OF SUPPORTER.

CORRESPONDENCE IS GIVEN UP IN EFFORT TO REFUTE CRITICISM THAT HIS APPOINTMENT TO COMMAND BATTLE SHIP MINNESOTA WAS MADE WITH THE VIEW OF PROVIDING A BERTH FOR THE NAVAL AID.

Although not directly meeting a criticism that his recent appointment of Commander Sims, his naval aid, to command the battle ship Minnesota, was with a view of taking care of a naval officer who has been one of his staunchest supporters in the fight for a greater navy, President Roosevelt yesterday authorized the publication of a letter which has set at rest any conjecture as to the relation.

Among other things, the President says in the letter, which he directs shall be made a part of Commander Sims' record, "The President simply desires before leaving office to make practical recognition of Commander Sims' really invaluable services during the past seven years in building up a system of gunnery in the United States navy which has won for our seamen a unique and enviable reputation as marksmen; which has made possible a rapidity of hitting at long ranges hitherto undreamed of, and which in every essential that obtains for success in time of war has enormously increased our fighting efficiency as a sea power."

Was Target Inspector.

Commander Sims was formerly inspector of target practice, and the President says officers in whose judgment he has great confidence, including that of Admiral Wainwright, declare that "our fighting power is now at least five times greater than it was before our training was improved by Commander Sims' method."

Further declares that Sims has been largely instrumental by his recommendations in improving the designs of the American war ships, particularly the adoption of the new type of all big gun battle ships.

The letter is as follows:

The White House, Washington, Feb. 27, 1909. To the Secretary of the Navy: The President understands that the many regulations were not changed or amended in order to enable him to appoint Commander Sims, late in the year, to command the battle ship Minnesota. The President simply desires before leaving office to make practical recognition of Commander Sims' really invaluable services during the past seven years in building up a system of gunnery in the United States navy which has won for our seamen a unique and enviable reputation as marksmen; which has made possible a rapidity of hitting at long ranges hitherto undreamed of, and which in every essential that obtains for success in time of war has enormously increased our fighting efficiency as a sea power.

Improved Ship Design.

In addition to this, his specialty, he has been largely instrumental by his recommendations in improving the design of our men-of-war, particularly in bringing about the adoption of our new type of all big gun battle ships, through the cogent arguments presented by him in various papers on the subject.

WILL SAY GOOD-BY.

Farewell Reception to Newspaper Men at White House to-morrow.

A farewell reception to newspaper men will be held by President Roosevelt at the White House at 11:30 o'clock to-morrow morning. At that time the Chief Executive will shake hands with the newspaper correspondents, many of whom are warm personal friends.

Ambassador Barba Presented.

Francisco da Barra, new Mexican Ambassador to the United States, formally presented his credentials to President Roosevelt yesterday. He was introduced by Secretary of State Bacon.

REGISTERED AT HOTELS.

WILLARD-F. M. Balm, Jr., New York; Mrs. Lody; Tappan, New York; Elsie Francoise, New York; J. D. Howell, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. John Fox, Jr., New York City; J. H. Brown, Chicago; G. F. Rickett, London; Mr. and Mrs. George H. Walker, Boston; Henry Ide, New York; Miller Freeman and Mrs. Miller Freeman, Seattle.

322 Standard Beverages.

Honor your visitors with the most reliable pure Wines, PUNCHES, DISTILLATES, etc., from the stock of 322 standard beverages of Christian Xander's House.

TALKS OF TERM.

Continued from Page One.

and prosperous condition, and is on the road to a stable and orderly independence. "The treaty with Santo Domingo has put the affairs of the island on a better basis than they have ever been before."

Improvement of Army.

"A law has been passed improving the administration of the army and of the National Guard. "The law establishing the Department of Commerce and Labor, with the Bureau of Corporations, enabled this country to take the first really efficient step toward exercising proper national supervision and control over the great corporations."

Reorganization of the United States.

"The consular service of the United States has been completely reorganized. "A law has been enacted giving vitality to the Interstate Commerce Commission, and for the first time providing some kind of efficient control by the national government over the great railroad."

Work for Juveniles.

"In the matters of social and industrial reform, a law has been enacted creating a juvenile court for the District of Columbia; another providing for the investigation of the condition of women and child workers of the United States; an employers' liability law for corporations engaged in interstate commerce, for the government itself, and for the District of Columbia, where child labor has also been regulated by law."

Alaskan Boundary Dispute.

"The Alaskan boundary dispute has been settled. The Pacific cable has been laid. "The establishment of the army and navy manubars has much increased the efficiency of the army and doubled the efficiency of the navy."

Movement has been started for the improvement of inland waterways.

"A movement is under way for the betterment of the conditions of country life. "Big corporations and labor unions have been brought impartially before the courts, and the most powerful wrongdoers in the land have been brought to justice and been punished by fine and imprisonment. Many successful suits, civil and criminal, have been undertaken by the government."

NEGATIVE SIDE WINS.

Government Ownership of Railroads Not Upheld at Y. M. C. A.

"Resolves That government ownership and operation of railroads is inadvisable," was the question debated last night by the Institute Debating Club of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Each congregation wished its present pastor to be at the head of the new church.

At the time of the rupture members of the New York avenue church would make no statement of their future plans. Rev. Wallace Radcliffe said a statement would be given later.

WOULD RAISE THE MAINE.

State and Navy Departments Anxious to Devise a Way. "Despite the action of the House in refusing to make an appropriation for removing the wreck of the battle ship Maine in Havana Harbor, the State Department, in conjunction with the Navy Department, will attempt to devise some way in which the task may be accomplished."

MISSOURI SOCIETY MEETS.

Representative Russell Makes Address at Pythian Temple. "The Sixtieth Congress" was the subject of an interesting address last evening by Representative Joseph J. Russell, of Missouri, before the members of the Missouri Society at their regular monthly meeting at Pythian Temple.

Fleet Pleased the Lepers.

Rear Admiral Sperry, commanding the Atlantic battle ship fleet, who is now in this city, has received a letter from Joseph Dutton, head of the leper colony, on the Island of Molokai, Hawaii, thanking him for his courtesy in having the fleet steam close to the shore of the island last July, so that members of the colony might review the fleet. The letter was forwarded through Gov. Peear, of Hawaii.

Election by Shamrock Club.

The Shamrock Club held its regular annual meeting at the Commercial Hotel last night, and the following officers were elected: P. F. McMahon, president; John Fitzmorris, vice president; John D. Gallagher, treasurer; D. F. Finerack, secretary. John Becker was appointed chairman of the committee on banquet to be held on St. Patrick's day. M. F. O'Donoghue was appointed chairman of the press committee.

New Academy Department.

By a special order issued at the Navy Department yesterday, the department of naval hygiene and physiology is established at the Naval Academy. The order provides that the senior medical officer at the Academy shall also be a member of the academic board, Surgeon Charles F. Stokes will organize the department.

NEW YORK AVENUE CHURCH TO REMAIN

Congregation Will Continue in Present Location.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXPLAIN

Influenced by Action of Washington Heights Congregation in Refusing to Unite with Downtown Church Because of Differences Regarding Pastors—Property Still on Market.

Plans for the removal of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church from the present site, at the intersection of New York avenue and H street northwest, have for the present been dropped. It is unlikely that any action will be taken toward procuring a new site for months, at least.

Statements made last night by John B. Lerner and Walter C. Clephane, members of the committee appointed to select the site for a new house of worship, are authority for the announcement that plans for removal have been abandoned.

Decided Upon Removal.

At a meeting of the congregation about the middle of January, it was decided that the best interests of the church demanded a removal from the present site. The question of a new location was broached, and officers of the church, in charge of selecting a new site, said the Washington Heights section of the city, in their estimation, was the best place for the proposed new edifice.

Members of the congregation say it is probable the ground would have been bought had not an unexpected complication arisen in the shape of objections on the part of the Washington Heights church to consolidating with the New York avenue congregation.

In order to move to Washington Heights, it was found necessary for the two congregations to consolidate. Overtures were made to the Washington Heights congregation, and arrangements were practically completed, when the town congregation announced its determination to stand alone. In giving this decision the congregation said it was done because of "the arbitrary actions of Rev. Wallace Radcliffe, pastor of the New York avenue church."

Each Wanted Its Pastor.

Each congregation wished its present pastor to be at the head of the new church. No compromise could be effected, and the Washington Heights congregation withdrew from the practically effected alliance.

Nothing is Being Done.

"For the present," said Mr. Clephane, "nothing is being done. When the consolidation with the Washington Heights congregation fell through, active steps to secure a new site practically stopped. The committee is now 'resting on its oars.' It is probable the church will move to a more suitable location in the future, but when or where I cannot say."

WEDDING OFFICERS.

Retiring Board Has Been Busy in the Last Week.

The wedding out process resulting from President Roosevelt's physical test is having disastrous effects upon the list of higher officers of the army. In the last week a retiring board has been busy and the record of casualties is greater than ever followed a conflict on the field.

FUND SLOWLY GROWS

Dr. Wilmer Adds \$2,000 to Auditorium Project.

HOLDS IT SHOULD BE BUILT

Several thousand dollars were added to the auditorium fund yesterday. Dr. William H. Wilmer, the oculist, contributed \$2,000, and accepted the chairmanship of one of the subcommittees of the finance committee.

Oculist Takes Committee and Will Give Portion of His Time to Enterprise—D. J. Kaufman and Ralph Lee Assume Similar Duties—New Subscriptions.

Speaking of the movement to erect in this city an auditorium which may be used for large events, such as conventions and the like, Dr. Wilmer said: "I regard it as my duty to aid in the movement for the establishment of the auditorium. It is the duty of every public-spirited man to come to the front and lend his energy in support of the project, which, to my mind, is a commendable one."

Washington Needs Structure.

"There is a need for such a structure in the National Capital, and I mean to devote as much time as I can to devote to the matter to the front. I am delighted to see that many of the most eminent men in Washington have put their shoulders to the wheel and are exerting every effort to place Washington on a par with other large cities."

D. J. Kaufman and Ralph W. Lee yesterday accepted the chairmanship of subcommittees of the finance committee.

Milton Alles, one of the prime factors in the movement for the establishment of the auditorium, received from friends in Denver yesterday a circular describing the advantages which have been derived by the erection of a large auditorium in that city.

How It Was Done in Denver.

Mr. Alles said: "The auditorium in Denver was built and paid for by property owners, and since its dedication more than 500,000 persons have attended conventions and meetings in it. Inquiries have been received from large and small cities regarding the methods observed by the authorities of Denver in constructing the auditorium by bond issue. The auditorium is self-sustaining, and no rental is made for large conventions held in it."

WELCOMED BY PAINTERS.

Four Hundred Delegates and Their Wives Arrives from Baltimore.

Nearly 400 delegates, wives, and friends from the twenty-fifth annual convention of the International Association of the Master House Painters and Decorators of the United States and Canada, which adjourned in Baltimore on Friday, visited Washington yesterday.

CHARGED WITH SHOPLIFTING.

Police Arrest Middle-aged White Woman and Negro.

Two alleged shoplifters were arrested in downtown stores yesterday afternoon by detectives detailed to investigate complaints of thefts in the last week.

MARY FORD, forty years old, who says she is a servant employed in Washington, was arrested by Detectives O'Dea and Evans. The police say the woman had a feather box, a silver belt buckle, combs, lace, and a quantity of soap hidden on a short black coat. She is held on charge of petty larceny.

ARREST OF JOHN COOK, alias: William Waring, a negro, twenty-three years old, by Detectives Barbee and Vermillion is considered one of the most important made by detectives in weeks. Two charges of petty larceny had been placed against him before he was under arrest three hours.

MAXIM RIFLE INSPECTED.

President Roosevelt Examines Noiseless Firearm at White House. The noiseless rifle invented by Hiram Percy Maxim was examined by the President in the White House yesterday. The occasion was a luncheon in the state dining-room, at which the President had as guests Mr. Maxim, William Crozier, chief of ordnance of the army; Rear Admiral Sperry, commanding the Atlantic fleet; Rear Admiral Wainwright, Commander Sims, and Lieut. Commander Long.

To Lecture on "Japan."

Cameron Johnson, traveler in the far East, will lecture in the ballroom of the New Willard Hotel Tuesday afternoon under the auspices of the women of Beta Circle, of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, on "Japan." Prominent matrons will pour tea, assisted by debutantes.

Michigan Men in Session.

The regular monthly meeting of the Michigan Society was held last evening at Pythian Temple. More than forty former residents of the State were present. A musical and literary programme was given, followed by a social hour and refreshments. Jason Waterman presided.

Run Over by a Buggy.

Robert Pitzer, aged four years, who lives at 142 U street, Anacostia, was run over by a horse and buggy yesterday afternoon and received injuries to his head and neck. The boy does not seem to be worried about his injuries. He is more concerned over the loss of his tricycle, which was demolished. His condition is not serious.

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Taft Pays Visit TO A CHIROPODIST

Curious Crowd Rushes and Blockades F Street.

PRESIDENT-ELECT ONLY SMILES

Athletes Climb Poles in Effort to Get a Glimpse of the Coming Chief Executive with His Shoes Off. Others Craned Their Necks and Tiptoeed to Places of Vantage.

President-elect Taft realized more forcibly than ever, since his election, the extent to which he has become "a servant of the people" yesterday evening. At that time he learned that Presidents—especially new Presidents—may not even attend to personal needs without having a crowd of the curious looking on; for Mr. Taft, in preparation for the inaugural ceremonies, went to a chiropodist, and while having his corns removed watched a seething throng of hundreds of people who blocked the street in front of the office, craning their necks to get a glimpse of him "with his boots off."

Drove Up in an Automobile.

It all started when the President-elect drove up to the chiropodist's office in a large white touring car. Some of the people crowding F street at that hour, shortly after 5 o'clock, recognized the next Chief Executive. The little knot of men and women who stood on the sidewalk opposite the office into which Mr. Taft was to go, was soon reinforced by hundreds of promoters.

Word that the President-elect was having his corns shaved spread rapidly, and in a few minutes the thoroughfare was blocked. A few of the curious climbed to the tops of vehicles standing near the office, hoping to see through the windows of the doctor's office. Others, young and more athletic, scaled awning poles. But the main body of the crowd simply stood on the curb and in the streets. They tiptoeed and stretched their necks.

When Mr. Taft emerged from the building he was greeted with cheers and a few pertinent questions. "Can you walk any better?" was one of the appropriate queries propounded by a daring gambler.

A Pertinent Question.

"Can you walk any better?" was one of the appropriate queries propounded by a daring gambler. "Bet he can do the inaugural dance now all right, all right," confided another youngster to an acquaintance.

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BUSINESS HOURS: 8 A. M. TO 6 P. M. LANSBURGH & BRO. 420 to 426 7th St. 417 to 425 8th St. Only Three Days to Prepare for Inauguration. Flags and Decorations. 5c, 10c, and 19c

LINENS. 18x26 Huck Towels, Special, per dozen, \$1.00. 18x35 Hemmed, Double-stitched, per dozen, \$1.50. 18x25 All- linen Hemstitched Huck Towels, Special, per dozen, \$1.25. 5-8 German Napkins, hemmed, ready for use, per dozen, \$1.25. 18x38 Union Huck Towels, 15c quality, Special, 12 1/2c each, per dozen, \$1.50. 20x35 extra fine Huck Towels, 22c quality, per dozen, \$2.25.

BEDWEAR. Single bed or cot size Comforts covered with a substantial grade of silkoline, tufted, dark colorings, therefore durable, \$1.79c. Full size Silkoline Comfort, filled with new white processed cotton-wool quilting, feather-proof ticking, Oriental designs, \$1.99c. Full size All- feather Pillows, steam cleaned and dusted, absolutely odorless, soft, fluffy, and resilient, feather-proof ticking, \$1.50 per pair. Inauguration 49c. 11-4 full size White California Wool Blankets, made from high quality, long staple wool, each and every pair thoroughly shrunken; a splendid value at the original price; like all borders and ends, \$5.00. Full size, extra weight, fine Silkoline-covered Comfort, stitched all through, white cotton filling; all in one sheet; a substantial large size to select from; regular \$1.75. Inauguration Sale price, \$1.75.

MRS. RUTH B. BROWN DIES. Was Wife of Lieut. Wilson Brown and Prominent Socially. Subscriptions Announced by Washington Monument Association. News of Alexandria. Alexandria News Agency, 92 King street, Alexandria, Va., authorized agents and carriers for The Washington Herald. The Herald will be delivered daily and Sunday to any address in Alexandria for 50 cents a month. WASHINGTON HERALD BUREAU, 903 King Street, Alexandria, Va., Feb. 27.—Mrs. Ruth Bryant Brown, wife of Lieut. Wilson Brown, U. S. N., died at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the Alexandria Hospital. Mrs. Brown was taken to the institution about six weeks ago, and up to yesterday hopes were entertained for her recovery. She was a daughter of Capt. Herbert Bryant, and well known in social circles in this city and vicinity among the younger set. The funeral will take place Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock from St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Burial will be in Ivy Hill Cemetery.

FINEST IN TOWN. WASHINGTON DRESSED BEEF. To be had only at the THOS. T. KEANE CO., 43 to 51 Center Market. DIED. BIRNE—Suddenly, on Saturday, February 27, 1909, at 2 a. m., MATTHEW, son of the late Matthew and Lucy Birne. Funeral from St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Second and C streets northwest, Tuesday, March 2, at 9 a. m. Interment private. No flowers. COWAN—On Saturday, February 27, 1909, at 10:30 p. m., at his residence, Eighth street, Congress Heights, D. C., ROBERT HART COWAN, in the thirty-seventh year of his age. Funeral from the church of the Holy Comforter Monday, March 1, at 9 a. m. Friends invited. Interment private. HORGAN—On Saturday, February 27, 1909, at 8 p. m., at 224 New Hampshire avenue northwest, JEREMIAH HORGAN, in his thirty-fourth year, son of the late Michael Horgan and beloved brother of Mrs. P. P. O'Connor. Funeral will take place from 617 D street northwest, Tuesday, March 2, at 10 a. m. MCGINNELL—On Friday, February 26, 1909, at the residence of Mrs. Maria John McTammany, 115 Dittmar avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., PATRICK P. MCGINNELL, youngest son of the late Patrick and Mary McGinnell, of Washington, D. C. Interment in Brooklyn, N. Y. PIERCE—On Saturday, February 27, 1909, at 10:30 a. m., at the residence of Maria A. Pierce, aged seventy-three years. Funeral from her late residence, 419 R street northwest, Tuesday, March 2, at 10 a. m. STORY—On Friday, February 26, 1909, at 1:30 a. m., Mrs. MATTIE A. CRIPPEN STORY, in her thirty-third year, daughter of John and Mary Story, of Pennsylvania avenue northwest, Sunday, February 23, at 2 p. m.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS. GEORGE P. ZURHOEST, 301 East Capitol Street. J. WILLIAM LEE, Funeral Director and Embalmer, 1277 I street, N. E. Chapels and Modern Equipment. Home office, 32 Pennsylvania ave. or Telephone Main 1383. FURNAL DESIGNS. GEO. C. SHAFFER, FLORAL DESIGNS; REASONABLE PRICES. "Floral" Mail, 100 and 120 ave. n. w. FUNERAL FLOWERS. Of Every Description—Moderately Priced. G. U. D. E., 224 F ST. N. W. Largest Morning Circulation.

Deutsche: Massen-Versammlung im Saengerbund heute. Ein Jeder sollte es sich zur Pflicht machen anwesend zu sein, um die deutsche Abteilung in der Parade eine erfolgreiche zu machen. Nachmittags 3 Uhr.