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PREPARES TO MAKE CONGRESS SQUIRM WITH HOT REPLY

Big Stick Overhauled and Congress May Think It Is Handling a Warm Mexican Tamale.

PRESIDENT ITCHING FOR STILL ANOTHER FRAY

Would Teach Solons on Capitol Hill a Good Lesson in Few Remaining Months of Administration.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—President Roosevelt is getting ready for any emergency that may arise in connection with the congress' action in appointing a committee to report what action, if any, that body should take in reference to objectionable words used in the president's message of last Tuesday. When Roosevelt heard of the lower house's action yesterday afternoon he immediately began to smear on the war paint.

Teddy Itches For Fray.

To tell the truth "Teddy" is actually itching for a genuine, old-fashioned tussle with the solons on Capitol Hill, evidently on the theory that he needs a little more practice before tackling the untamed things he encounters next year in the African jungle.

For let no one imagine that Roosevelt intends to go voluntarily or he should intend to an eclipse against his will in the final quarter of the last year of his administration.

It was by a unanimous vote that the house adopted the resolution, although there was no unseemly demonstration. The members seemed to be impressed with the solemnity of the proceeding, the like of which has not been witnessed for 68 years; and on the last occasion John Quincy Adams, the ex-president, who was rounding out his career as a member of the house, played the same role that Mr. James B. Perkins did in presenting the resolution for the appointment of a committee. Possibly the stillness and orderliness could be attributed in part to a subcuticular quiver of apprehension lest the bogey man from the white house suddenly burst into the chamber and start a stampede.

Roosevelt Quick to Act.

The tremulous sigh of relief following the adoption of the Perkins resolutions had scarcely died away when the president began to get busy. He sent for John E. Wilkie, chief of the secret service, whom he directed to prepare some data for use in the immediate future. The chief will get together a mass of information pertaining to the operation of the service, in order to enable the president to demonstrate, if possible, that there was some justification for the earnest though not exactly recherche manner in which he discussed the secret service matter in his message. It is evidently the president's purpose to endeavor to show that he was proceeding upon the right principle in transferring these men to the various departments, and that that was the only way in which irregularities could be detected to a certainty.

There is no doubt that he expects to hand back to congress something as hot as a Mexican tamale. The presence of Speaker Cannon at the executive offices about the time Chief Wilkie was there was responsible for a report, evidently authentic, that the president has asked him to call for the purpose of discussing the contemplated rebuke from congress. It is significant that no one in authority at the white house nor the speaker himself denied that this was the subject of their conversation. What the president said to "Uncle Joe" must be left to the imagination for the time being, although it is intimated that he assured the speaker he was ready for a fight or a frolic.

STATE OFFICIALS TO VISIT DRUIDS

Entertainment for Them at Monday's Meeting.

At a meeting of the Druids next Monday evening a number of the state officials will be entertained. Among those that are expected to be present are Henry Dittmer, of Anderson, noble grand arch; G. M. Gelder, of Indianapolis, grand secretary; Henry Schroeder, grand trustee and Harry Aring, deputy noble grand arch, the last two being residents of this city.

BATTLESHIP GEORGIA HAS SMALLPOX ABOARD

Vessel Arrives at Colombo, Ceylon.

Colombo, Ceylon, Dec. 12.—The United States battle ship Georgia arrived today with a case of smallpox on board. The ship is in one day in advance of the remainder of the fleet.

ROOSEVELT AND TAFT CONFER

Matters Relative to Next Administration Are Gone Over.

TAFT'S PROBABLE CABINET

WEST AND NORTHWEST DESIRE PLACES IN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE—ROOT CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT TODAY.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 12.—President Roosevelt and President-elect William H. Taft had an extended conference last night at the White House. Many matters relative to the present and next administration were discussed, not the least important of which was a general talk regarding the Taft cabinet.

The conference began after 10 o'clock, at the conclusion of a dinner at the home of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Winthrop, attended by Mr. and Mrs. Taft. Before the conference Mr. Taft announced that it would be entirely an executive session, and that he should decline to give any details whatever, aside from the advance announcement that he should talk over many important matters with the president.

Expects Talk With Root.

Besides consulting with President Roosevelt regarding various men who may be available for cabinet positions Taft today expected to have a conference with Secretary Root.

During an interview between Mr. Taft and Senator Aldrich the result of the work of the monetary commission was thoroughly gone over. Senator Aldrich, it was learned, is a thorough believer in the efficacy of the commission, and is an enthusiastic advocate of legislation which will place into permanent law, some of the recommendations which are to be made.

Many After Cabinet Seats.

Cabinet recommendations are being made to the president-elect by many callers, the northwest and the Pacific coast being especially desirous of preferment. The northwest wants representation in the diplomatic service.

LONG TRIAL LIKELY

Unless Keller, Alleged Murderer, Pleads Guilty, Week May Be Taken.

OTHER CASES POSTPONED.

Beginning with the Keller murder case, there will be sessions of the Wayne circuit court from Monday until the second Saturday following, with the exception of Christmas day. It is probable that if Sherman Keller persists in contesting the charge of first degree murder placed against him, the trial will require the greater part of the week. Keller has retained counsel. Other important cases, which have been docketed for trial and had to be continued, will be called. The court will attempt to get the docket as nearly free from all cases as possible by the time the January term opens.

Wild Ride on Step of Flyer

Ira Swisher Rides Long Distance Clinging to Pullman as Train Travels Through Storm. 50 Miles an Hour.

Loraine, O., Dec. 12.—Locked on the outside of a Pullman sleeper and having but a narrow edge of step on which to cling while the B. & O. flyer cut the storm at the rate of 50 miles an hour, Manager Ira Swisher, of North Bros. Stock company at the majestic this week, had about as thrilling a ride Sunday night as might be depicted in one of his shows on the stage. At least he is thankful to be in little old Loraine, well and alive, even if the white still persists in clinging to portions of his face, the region of his unusually smiling mouth, for instance.

Manager Swisher, as is his invariable custom, went to the baggage section of the train last night at Tiffin

CATHELL SPEAKER AT BIG BANQUET

Richmond Man Touches Upon Life of Lincoln at Feast of Indiana Society.

M'CUTCHEON TOASTMASTER

CREAM OF HOOSIER TALENT IN LITERATURE REPRESENTED IN ANNUAL SESSION ABOUT BANQUET BOARD LAST NIGHT.

"What are we of Indiana going to do to honor the approaching centennial in memory of Abraham Lincoln?" asked the Rev. J. Everist Cathell, of this city, at Chicago, last night. He was speaking before the members of the Indiana Society of Chicago. His remarks turned the minds of his hearers from jest and gaiety to seriousness in response to the toast "A Stateless Citizen of the Republic." He declared himself to be stateless, having been born in the District of Columbia, and reminded his hearers that Abraham Lincoln, also, was stateless.

The men assembled about the banquet tables represented the cream of Hoosier talent in literature. Numbered in the gathering, also, were bankers, manufacturers and merchants who claim Indiana as the state of their nativity. Dr. Cathell is an ardent disciple of Lincoln and probably is better acquainted with the history of the martyred president than any man in this section of the country.

In Response to the Toast Dr. Cathell Said:

"All that Abraham Lincoln ever learned, for the most part, he got on and from the soil of Indiana. There he prepared himself for that leadership which has brought his memory imperishable fame. There should be a Lincoln schoolhouse in every city, village and hamlet in Indiana. This much Indiana should do to honor his memory, and she should lead the states in the observance of his anniversary."

A Chicago dispatch says of the banquet:

Indiana invaded Chicago last night and acquired by annexation for the nonce that portion of the city which is occupied by the Auditorium Annex hotel, in general, and in particular that part of the hotel which is designated as the gold ballroom.

At least, annexation was declared by the 300 members of the Indiana Society of Chicago, who still acknowledge allegiance to the Hoosier state, at the occasion of the fourth annual banquet of the society.

Of the good things eatable there was plenty, of the good things convivial things expressible there was most, and a trip abroad; Meredith Nicholson, well-known author; from Addison C. Harris, former ambassador to Austria, and from the Rev. J. Everist Cathell, just "from Indiana."

Of things observable the chief was a handsome de luxe menu and program, with drawings by Christy from the literary works of Indiana authors and novelists, the plates for which were broken when the edition of 350 was run off.

It was President Joseph H. Defrees who opened the program of speaking and the feast of wit and humor and oratory and star yelling began with the introduction of George Barr McCutcheon as toastmaster. The novelist met with a hearty round of applause, and then with sober face and misanthropic mien proceeded to encourage his fellow Hoosiers to apologetic laughter.

OUT OF QUARANTINE.

The family of B. A. Kennepohl, of South Sixth street, has been released from quarantine. A little daughter of Harry Kennepohl had been ill with scarlet fever.

PUGILIST DIVORCED.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 12.—John L. Sullivan, champion pugilist, was today granted a divorce from Annie Sullivan his wife.

GERMAN SHIP GOES AGROUND

May Be Gotten Off New York Sand Bar.

New York, Dec. 12.—The German Steamship Harburg with a crew of forty men and a cargo of five thousand tons of pipe clay, ran aground on the sandbar off Belport, Long Island, this morning. The ship may be safely gotten off, if a storm don't break out. A dense fog prevails and work is hampered.

POLITICS MAY ENTER IN FIGHT

County Local Option Fight to Present Unusual Situation.

REVENGE IS SOUGHT.

CLAIMED BY SOME REPUBLICANS THAT TEMPERANCE WORKERS FAILED TO KEEP THEIR PLEDGES LAST ELECTION.

Those who are behind the movement to drive the saloons out of the county are greatly alarmed over the prospects of the movement, principally because of the attitude taken by a large number of republicans. Every effort has been made by the county local option workers to keep politics out of the campaign against the saloons but this now appears to be a hopeless task.

"We lined up with the temperance people this fall and were defeated at the polls because many of the temperance voters who promised us their support turned us down and voted the prohibition ticket. They turned us down—now we will turn them down and vote wet." It was many staunch republicans throughout the county are saying. This is where politics is creeping into the anti-saloon campaign.

To these disgruntled republicans the mention of the Indiana Anti-Saloon league has about the same effect a red flag has on a bull. They say that the league promised to deliver the temperance vote if a county local option plank was embodied in the republican platform. They say the republican party carried out its agreement but the league failed to produce the strength it claimed to have—and Marshall was elected governor.

Situation in Franklin Tp.

A well known young republican of Franklin township was in the city last evening. He stated that the dregs would carry the township in the event of an election but that they would only have a small majority. He said many republicans would vote wet because of the feeling against the temperance people.

"No petition has been circulated in Franklin township asking that a county local option election be held. Several of the temperance people in Franklin township have attended temperance meetings in Richmond but that is the only sign of interest displayed in the campaign so far," remarked the man referred to. He is known as a liberal. Temperance people in Franklin township state that that township has always been dry and it will give a large temperance majority.

WOMEN MURDERED IN NEW YORK

Body of One Found in Room With Throat Cut From Ear to Ear.

NO CLUE TO IDENTITY.

THE SECOND VICTIM WAS FOUND ON STREET CAR TRACKS, BODY EVIDENTLY HAVING BEEN PLACED THERE AFTER CRIME.

New York, Dec. 12.—Two mysterious murders, both victims being young women, are baffling the police today. In a padlocked room at 337 East Eleventh street, a pretty girl was discovered this morning with her throat cut from ear to ear. The police are seeking a man who rented the apartment and lived as man and wife with the victim for a month, but disappeared two weeks ago. At this time it is supposed the murder was committed. Handsome gowns and diamonds were included in her wardrobe, but nothing assists in the identification.

The second victim was discovered in a horribly mutilated condition on the Third Avenue street car tracks, where the body had evidently been placed after the crime was committed. The body shows evidence of refinement, but the remains are as yet unidentified.

KNIGHT OF DEATH AT LAST CAPTURED

Chicago Butcher Boy Wrote Blackmailing Letters, Using Threat of Death.

"DID IT JUST FOR FUN."

WILLIAM J. POLLARD ROBBED CEMETERY OF BONES TO BE SENT WITH LETTERS—IS THE YOUNG MAN BRIGHT?

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 12.—William J. Pollard, a butcher boy of Evanston, last night confessed the authorship of the mysterious "Knights of the White Death" letters which have been received by five prominent Chicagoans at intervals during the last four months.

The confession was obtained by Chief Postoffice Inspector James E. Stuart, who made the arrest with the aid of the Evanston police after two weeks of personal work on the case. Pollard said he got human bones and coffin handles and other trimmings from old graves at Calvary cemetery, where his father was sexton for twenty years. These he attached to the letters, which in each case demanded large sums of money on pain of death.

He alone, he declared was "The Knights of the White Death." He never had breathed a word of his plot to a living soul.

He Just Wants to Annoy Police.

The boy claimed his only object in writing the letters was to start trouble for the police, get his name in the newspapers, and prove he had a cunning mind—something which many of his friends appear to have disputed. He had no knowledge of or enmity against the persons to whom he addressed the letters. Never, he said, did he receive a cent of money, or expect to. It was all a joke.

The postoffice officials do not consider it a joke, although they have not decided what disposition to make of the young man. He is 22 years old.

He was traced through his handwriting, after a long search by Inspector Stuart, through the north side and Evanston public schools. He gained his letter writing idea from reading one of Conan Doyle's stories and modeled his letters from a series of stories about the "Red Hand," which appeared in a Chicago morning newspaper.

Boy Names His Victims.

He confessed writing letters to these persons:
The Rev. D. P. Roberts, pastor of Quinn chapel, demanding that \$500 be placed in the entrance to the public vault at Oakland cemetery, or death would follow.

The Rev. A. C. Dixon, pastor of Moody church, demanding that \$1,000 be placed at the entrance to the church or the church would be blown up.

Dr. Adolph Gehrmann, 3816 Ellis avenue, demanding that \$500 be placed in a cigar box and put in the confessional at St. Jariath's Roman Catholic church. Failing to do this, Dr. Gehrmann, his mother and father were to be killed and their home destroyed.

This letter was written on Sept. 29, the day after Dr. Gehrmann killed Louis Louterbach, a burglar.

Assistant Chief of Police Herman F. Schuetler, demanding that \$700 be left in the confessional of St. Ambrose's Roman Catholic church, or a bomb would end the assistant chief's life.

The Rev. William O. Waters, rector of Grace Episcopal church, demanding that \$500 be placed in the middle of the bridge over the Lincoln park lagoon. Otherwise Dr. Waters was to be killed and his church made unsafe.

IS WAYNE COUNTIAN

Man Convicted of Rifling-Mail Sacks Sent to Fort Leavenworth.

BROTHER OF C. B. HUNT

Four years of hard labor at the federal prison at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., is the fate of a former resident of Richmond and Franklin township, this county, Daniel B. Hunt, who is a brother of Clayton B. Hunt and an uncle of Lester Hunt, of this city.

The offense committed by Hunt was the rifling of mail sacks and taking money from letters, which crimes he committed while employed in the postoffice at Hammond, Ind.

He was arrested about two months ago and Thursday of this week he was arraigned in the federal court at Indianapolis. Hunt entered a plea of guilty and was promptly sentenced to a long term in the Ft. Leavenworth prison.

Hunt was well known in this city and in Franklin township, and had many friends, who were shocked to learn of his acts and the terrible punishment meted out to him. He left this county several years ago, but last fall attended a family reunion held in Franklin township. It is not known how much money he obtained by stealing from the mails.

REBELS Routed BY PERSIAN TROOPS

Insurrection Culminates in a Battle Today.

Odessa, Dec. 12.—The insurrection movement throughout Persia, culminated in a battle with loyalists today. The rebels were put to rout with many killed and wounded.

INSURGENTS PLAN TO REVISE RULES

Congressmen Meet in Secret And Appoint Committee to Draft Changes.

NOTHING AGAINST CANNON

ALTHOUGH IT WAS CONSENSUS OF OPINION THAT PRESENT SYSTEM SHOULD BE CHANGED, UNCLE JOE ESCAPED LASHING.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The fight for a revision of the rules of the house of representatives was inaugurated last night at a meeting of the so-called "Insurgents," attended by 25 republican representatives.

Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, presided, and was authorized to name a committee of five, with himself chairman, to draft the proposed amendments to the rules and report to the organization on Tuesday night.

The "Insurgents" met in the interstate and foreign commerce committee room about 8 o'clock, and were engaged in considering the various suggestions for more than two hours.

Those interested in the movement have been proceeding quietly with their plans, with the apparent purpose of increasing their numbers sufficiently to be able to control the situation by joining the democrats in a fight on the rules.

Claim of Insurgents.

The "Insurgents" claim that in the present congress they need but 27 republicans to join the democrats in order to bring about a change in the rules, while in the Sixty-first congress, they say, they will need but 24 republican members.

While several of those present at the "insurgent" meeting are for Cannon for speaker, they made it plain that they greatly desire a change in the rules.

"There were no expressions except those of friendly feelings to the speaker," said Mr. Hepburn, after the meeting. "No one said anything against Mr. Cannon." He said the general feeling was that if under the rules the house must have a despotic leader there was no one they would rather have than "Uncle Joe."

To Regulate Rules.

The election in like manner of a committee on committees, to perform duties similar to a similar body in the senate, also has been proposed by the leaders in the movement. Another plan proposed is to set two Thursday's apart each month for the consideration of bills on the house calendar and the remaining Thursday's for the consideration of measures on the union calendar.

None of those at the meeting would state whether it was intended to bring the matter to an issue in the present session of congress or not until after the new congress is convened. No Indiana congressmen were at the meeting.

SANTA CLAUS' MAIL PROBLEM

Disposition Not Determined By Meyer.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Postmaster General Meyer, has not decided whether he will issue an order similar to the one he issued on Dec. 13, last, which provides that letters addressed unmistakably to "Santa Claus" may be delivered to any regularly organized charitable society. The postmaster general has received numerous communications both for and against the resumption of the order and is now giving consideration to them before taking any definite action.

THE WEATHER PROPHECY.

INDIANA—Fair Saturday night and Sunday; moderate temperature; west winds shifting to southwest and increasing.

OHIO—Fair Saturday night and Sunday; moderate temperature; fresh west winds becoming variable.

REPUBLICANS IN HOUSE WILL NOT REMAIN IDLE

Democrats Will Be Kept on Alert or They Will Find They Will Lose Out on Many Propositions.

BETTER POLITICS PLAYED BY G. O. P. MEN

Party, However, Can Do But Little on Election of Speaker and Senate—More Judgeships Planned.

By Special State Correspondent.

Indianapolis, Dec. 12.—Announcement was made today that the republican members of the house of representatives will hold a conference in this city on Wednesday, December 23. It will be the purpose of this meeting to talk over plans for the coming session of the legislature and to outline the policy to be pursued by the minority side of the house.

Of course, the republicans in the house, as far as numbers is concerned, will amount to about as much as the democratic minority in the senate. But there are some good fighters among them and they will at least be able to keep the democrats from getting sleepy during the sessions. It is a notable fact, and has always been, that the generalship of the republicans in the legislature has been better than that of the democrats. It seems that the republican members are more keen to grasp a situation and to work a trick to their own advantage than are the democratic members. In other words, the republicans play better politics. This is the reason why it is pointed out that unless the democratic majority keeps its best eye open, it will find itself shoved in a hole a dozen times a day.

There is little, in fact, practically nothing, the republicans can do on the important questions of who shall be speaker or who shall be United States senator. All they can do is to vote for the losing candidate, and there is not much consolation in that.

The call was issued by Luman K. Babcock, representative from LaGrange and Stenshen counties. Babcock is private secretary to Governor Hanly.

Mayors' "Love Feast."

The meeting of mayors of Indiana cities, which has been called by Mayor Becker, of Hammond, for the fifteenth of this month in this city, will probably be a love feast more than anything else. The call states that the purpose is to start a movement for the repeal of that part of the cities and towns law which prevents a mayor from being elected to succeed himself. As the law now stands a mayor serves a term of four years and cannot be re-elected for a succeeding term, though he be again elected after a four years wait.

Many of the mayors of the cities in the state are of the opinion that they should not be bound up in this manner. They argue that they are just as competent to fill the office at the end of four years as they were at the start, and that they should be allowed to hold the office another term if they can be elected. They are satisfied to hold on if they have the chance.

It is expected that when they come together here next week the mayors will all take kindly to the proposition and line up for such an amendment to the law.

Halleck May Start Something.

Senator Abe Halleck, of Reusselaer, has up his sleeve a bill which he says he will introduce that will probably raise a lot of smoke. Halleck wants each county to have its own circuit court judge. But he would not have any judge serve in the county in which he resides. This would make it necessary for a judge to leave home and remain away in another county during all the time he was holding court. But, Halleck, argues, it would fix things so that no one could say that any judge was prejudiced or biased because of local conditions.

Halleck's plan would create about twenty-five more judgeships in the state and while many of the counties affected will surely favor the passage of such a bill in order to get a court of his own, there will be raised the cry of extravagance, and this may hurt the bills chances. But Halleck says he will push it, just the same.



Ellis Searles.