

TAFT PLANNING TO COME BACK

It Looks Like Taft for 1912, Probably by Default—He Has Set About the Task With Much Enthusiasm.

HITCHCOCK'S QUIET HAND IS EVIDENT, MANY BELIEVE

The Getting Together of the President and the Progressives of the Party is Probably Being Engineered by Him, It is Said.

Recent communications an effort has been made to give the reader a line on political conditions as they relate to the republican party in the state, and these conditions will doubtless receive the informal attention, at least, of the state executive committee, at the meeting recently called out of season. The effort will now be made to give a survey of the field that takes no account of state lines. In this article the republican situation will be discussed, while the democratic outlook will next receive attention.

Looks Like Taft for 1912. It looks like Taft for 1912, probably by default. This does not mean that Mr. Taft is first in the hearts of his countrymen, but, for that matter, he occupies no such point of vantage at Chicago.

December 10 there was published in the Saturday Evening Post an article written by Sam Elythe under the caption: "Can Mr. Taft Come Back?" In that article the writer expressed the belief that the people would welcome Mr. Taft back to their esteem, if he came to them free from the old, discredited leaders and influences because, as that admittedly observant political writer pointed out, the people do not look upon the president as being the villain in the play.

Planning the Foundation. A few days ago it was prophesied, with assurances springing from the then existing conditions, that the republican party's sole foundation stone for the structure of reasonable hope would be tariff commission legislation. Now it may be said that friends of the president have planned the laying of other stones of size and strength. One is forbidden to put down at this writing just what the stone will be, but within a few weeks, say these friends of the president, the country will be brought to realize that the president knows something about the masonry craft, and that he is a good judge of material. The tariff commission legislation, with the possibilities which it holds of trouble for the democracy, if in the face of the passage they attempt to enact a tariff for revenue only law, has considerable strength in itself, say these supporters of the administration. (Continued on page 2)

French Aviator Laffort And Passenger are Killed

They Lay Foundation, France. Dec. 27.—A French aviator and his passenger were killed in a crash landing near Paris.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT OCCURS AT CANTON

Mr. Mease and Mr. Cook Caught at Railway Crossing Today—Mr. Mease Badly Bruised.

Special to The Gazette-News. Canton, Dec. 28.—R. R. Mease and M. H. Cook narrowly escaped death this morning at the grade crossing at the Canton depot. As it was, Mr. Mease was very badly bruised and Mr. Cook had to jump for his life, while the horse, which was drawing the buggy was probably permanently injured.

It seems the Canton shifter, with Engineer Moneyham and Conductor Harrison, was shifting cars across the crossing when Mr. Mease drove up. It is claimed that they stopped out of danger of the cars and after one car had been cut loose from the string, clearing the roadway for a while, Conductor Harrison motioned for them to cross the track. Acting on this the men started across the track and were caught by the moving train. The buggy was smashed to pieces and Mr. Mease was thrown to the ground under the horse, the buggy piling upon him and being under a box-car.

Both Mr. Mease and Mr. Cook are well known business men of Canton. This is one of the most serious accidents which has occurred at this crossing to the public. Although there is a bridge across the tracks, the circuitous route which must be taken causes more traffic to cross the tracks than probably otherwise would.

WEDDING CELEBRATED TOO HILARIOUSLY, GOV. SAYS

Beauchamp, Paroled by Gov. Hadley and Married in Pen, Goes Back for Two Years.

Jefferson City, Dec. 28.—Clarence Beauchamp, who was paroled Thursday by Governor Hadley and who immediately was married in the penitentiary to Mrs. Ruth Ritch, will have his honeymoon interrupted. He returns to the penitentiary today to serve two years. Governor Hadley revoked his parole because Beauchamp celebrated his wedding too hilariously.

EXPLOSION AT EL PASO KILLS MANY, IS REPORT

Scores Hurt in the Vicinity—Excavation Work Has Begun—Smelter Second Largest in World.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 28.—Many are reported killed by an explosion at the El Paso smelter this morning. The smelter belongs to the American Smelting and Refining company and is the second largest in the world. Excavation work has begun. Scores hurt in the vicinity. The smelting plant is unharmed except for broken windows and roofs. A number of houses were destroyed.

SUPREME COURT SUSTAINS THE BROWN \$3000 VERDICT

Higher Court Also Sustains Judge Council in Non-Suiting the Canadian Damage Suit.

Thomas R. Rollins of Moore & Rollins received notice today from the clerk of the North Carolina Supreme court that the higher court had affirmed the action of Judge Council in directing a non-suit in the case of Canada, administrator, against the Southern Railway company. James Canada, an employe of the Southern, was killed on the yard at Asheville January 21, 1908, by passenger train No. 8 and suit was brought for \$10,000 damages. After the plaintiff had introduced his testimony, Judge Council granted the motion of counsel for the defense for a non suit. The letter also stated that the verdict of \$3000 in favor of the plaintiff in the suit of Brown against the Southern Railway company was affirmed. Brown was killed near Crayg station about three years ago. This clears the Supreme court dock of all of the cases from Buncombe; in fact the court has given out decisions in all cases and faces the new year with a clean docket.

IMMENSE SUM WAS DISBURSED

Office Mr. Britt Presides Over, During Fiscal Year, Received \$224,128,657; Paid Out \$229,977,224.50.

LENGTHY REPORT ISSUED, WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

The Burden of a \$5,848,566 Deficiency Placed on the Publishing Business—Remedies That Are Suggested.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The annual report of Third Assistant Postmaster General J. J. Britt, to the postmaster general, is made public today. The subjects of postal administration within the jurisdiction of this bureau are the following: First, the financial system, including the payment, by warrant, of accounts settled by the auditor; the designation of depositories for postal funds; instructions to postmasters relative to the disposition of the postal revenues; and the disposition of all moneys coming directly to the department. Second, the supervision of the manufacture and issuance of postage stamps, stamp books, stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers, and postal cards; the keeping of the necessary accounts thereof, and the redemption of stamped paper. Third, the money-order system, involving the supervision of the money-order service, both domestic and international, and the preparation of conventions for the exchange of international money orders. Fourth, the registry system, involving the supervision of the registered-mail service, the establishment and control of registered pouches, changes, and the instruction of postal officials relative thereto, and the consideration of claims for indemnity for lost registered matter. Fifth, the classification of domestic mail matter, including the determination of the admissibility of publication of the second-class mail matter; the hearing of cases involving the withdrawal of such rates from publications for non-compliance with law; the use of penalty envelopes; the franking privilege; and the determination of questions involving the limit of weight of mail matter.

The report makes a printed pamphlet of 45 pages, much of which is tabulated and statistical, showing in detail the condition of every phase of this enormous business. The postal revenues from all sources are shown to have been in the fiscal year \$224,128,657.62; the expenditures, \$229,977,224.50, leaving a deficiency of \$5,848,566.88.

The mailings of second-class matter at the postage rate of 1 cent per pound during the past fiscal year amounted to 817,773,900 pounds; the mailings of "free in county" matter amounted to 56,839,177 pounds, a total of 874,613,077 pounds, of which \$69,717,029 pounds were mailed as to subscribers, while the remainder, 12,495,048 pounds were mailed as sample copies. The postage paid on the above amounted to \$5,177,729, which was \$82,348,644.70 less than the service cost of handling and transporting the same, calculated to be 9.23 cents per pound, according to the estimate placed on the special weighing of the mails in 1907.

Comparing the mailings during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1910, with those of the previous year, there was a total increase of 98,610,797 pounds, or 12.73 per cent. Mailings as to subscribers at the cents-a-pound rate increased from 709,844,738 pounds to 805,077,352 pounds, or a gain of 95,232,614 pounds, an increase of 13.41 per cent; "free in the county" mailings increased from 52,866,188 pounds to 56,839,177 pounds, or a gain of 4,072,989 pounds, an increase of 7.89 per cent. However, mailings of sample copies fell from 13,298,444 pounds to 12,495,048 pounds, a decrease of 803,396 pounds, or 6.14 per cent.

In order to check losses on this account, Mr. Britt makes several suggestions, one to the effect that the entire discontinuance of the sample copy privilege at the cent a pound rate be recommended to congress; to provide that a subscription made directly in connection with any premium, rebate, or other similar inducement, be not recognized as a part of the "legitimate list of subscribers" required by the law. He thinks a regulation would be justified, which will provide, in substance, that a person to whom a copy of a publication is sent as a subscriber, when paid for by another.

DRANK LIQUOR CONTAINING WOOD ALCOHOL; TWO DEAD

Tragic Ending to Christmas Celebration in West Side—Others in Serious Condition.

New York, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Maria Cuddehe and Rocco De Marco are dead as a result of drinking liquor containing wood alcohol at a West Side Christmas celebration. Several others are in a serious condition.

WILL RAISE SEA ISLAND COTTON ON LARGE SCALE

New Orleans, La., Dec. 28.—Experiments made with sea island cotton in rich marsh lands along the lower coast of Louisiana have met with such marked success that raising sea island cotton will be pursued on extensive scale next year. Specimen stalks brought to New Orleans during the last few days average 15 bolls in the stalk. Exports of the samples submitted indicated the cotton to be worth \$150 a bale.

Christmas Money Getting Back to Treasury

Washington, Dec. 28.—The flood of small coins which the mints ground out for the Christmas trade, began to find their way back to the treasury today when they were until another holiday shopping season. Twenty million in all, it is thought, and below are coming this Washington to express their thanks for the coin to arrive and the banks quickly sent to back to the treasury.

NOTES OF NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL

Supt. Joyner Ill—Wild Christmas Days in Raleigh—Movements of State Officers, etc.

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Hollenback Building, Raleigh, Dec. 28. Frank Thompson, the well known A. and M. baseball and football player and now engaged in the cotton mill business, is recovering nicely from the severe blow on the back of his head received Sunday night while in an automobile with some friends going up Fayetteville street. A number of young men who were drinking attempted to get into the machine in spite of the protest of the occupants and a conflict followed in which one of the boys trying to get in threw a rock that struck Thompson on the back of his head. He was taken, unconscious, to the hospital. However, he is able to be out now. There is no more prosecution of the young man who threw the rock.

What Is the "Cooches" Method? There are a good many people in Raleigh who are anxious to have an end put to the promiscuous "cooches" method of celebrating Christmas that they say has gone wild in Raleigh. These squads come to be in many instances lawless marauders committing the most outrageous things under the guise of "celebrating." They insist that the Raleigh authorities need to see to it for the future that there are more sane methods of celebrating. People throughout the state will learn with regret that Dr. J. Y. Joyner, state superintendent of public instruction, is confined at his home by sickness. He has been quite unwell for a week, but hopes to be out again in a day or two.

Governor Kitchin spent Christmas day with his mother at Scotland Neck, returning to Raleigh yesterday afternoon. Hon. M. L. Shipman, commissioner of labor and printing, returned yesterday from Hendersonville where he spent Christmas. Last night during the absence of the members of the family, the residence of Mr. De Marco, 412 North street, was invaded by a thief and a quantity of jewelry and other valuables taken. There are clues that are expected to lead to an arrest very soon.

January 10 there is to be, in compliance with an order from Governor Kitchin, an election in Halifax county to give a successor to the late Rev. N. B. Stainback, who died after his election as legislator in the November election. Dr. E. G. Moore of Henderson resigned as a member of the board of directors for the state hospital for the insane at Raleigh, Governor Kitchin commissions Dr. E. G. Moore of Elm City. Dr. Moore was a director for the Eastern hospital at Goldsboro and resigns that directorship to take that for the Raleigh hospital.

COUNTERFEITING PLANT CAPTURED IN BROOKLYN

Largest Secret Service Men Ever Saw—Caught Men Filling Moulds With Hot Metal.

New York, Dec. 28.—Further arrests are expected in connection with the counterfeit plant in Brooklyn unearthed one of the largest and best equipped counterfeiting plants the secret service men ever saw. Large lots of spurious coins were discovered. The men were caught filling the moulds with hot metal. The federal officials have been working on this case for several months.

HEAVY SNOW IN WEST IS COMING EASTWARD

Weather Conditions Threaten Serious Crippling of Telegraph and Telephone Service.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Telegraph and telephone companies reported this morning that weather conditions threaten serious crippling of service in the middle west, with the possibility that Chicago may be cut off from direct communication with the east and west. A heavy snow storm originating in the west, travelling southeast last night, interfering with the transmission of messages on all trunk lines.

Philadelphia Banker Knocked Down—Fecally Hurt.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 28.—R. W. Winder Johnson, aged 46, and head of the banking firm of Lawrence, Johnson & Co., who was knocked down and injured by an automobile ambulance last night, died at the hospital today.

Fern Will Export 55,000,000 Pounds of Cotton

Washington, Dec. 28.—Reports of this year's cotton crop in Peru will reach 55,000,000 pounds, according to an estimate by Gerardo Illaga, director of the Peru experimental station.

INVESTIGATING BANK'S AFFAIRS

Experts Under Superintendent Cheney at Work on Northern Bank of New York Which Closed Yesterday.

BANK AND NINE BRANCHES HAD DEPOSITS \$7,000,000

Fact That Man in Control of Bank Was in Sanitarium Not Brought Out Until the Suspension.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Experts under Bank Superintendent Cheney are investigating the affairs of the Northern bank of New York, whose suspension yesterday brought to light the news that Joseph G. Tobin, who held control of the bank, was committed the night before to a sanitarium. The bank's condition will not be known for three weeks. Depositors probably will be paid in full. How the stockholders will share is speculative.

Had Nine Branches. The Northern bank had nine branches with deposits aggregating \$6,912,502, according to its last published statement. Joseph G. Tobin, cashier of the executive committee of the bank and a shareholder and director in many other corporations, is in a private sanitarium at Central Valley, N. Y., to which he was committed last Saturday by Justice Amend of the state supreme court at the request of his sister on a certificate of two physicians.

James H. Gifford of counsel for the bank and one of its directors, stated last night that the examining physician had diagnosed the case as acute paranoia, and that Tobin tried to kill himself in his apartment last Saturday night but was restrained by a nurse. Although Tobin was committed Saturday he was not conveyed to the sanitarium until yesterday. Yesterday Mr. Gifford and another director visited him at his apartment here in an effort to obtain collateral.

Found His Irrational. "On Friday night," said Mr. Gifford, "after the irregularities had been discovered, another director and myself went to the apartment of Mr. Tobin. He was in great agony from kidney trouble, and it was plain to be seen that he was out of his mind. We could not get a statement from him. It was plain that he did not realize the seriousness of our mission. "Not succeeding, we left him, and returned on Monday night. His mental condition then was awful. He was suffering from paranoia, and I understood that after being examined by eminent alienists he was sent to a private sanitarium. On Saturday while in this condition he tried to kill himself, but was frustrated by a watchful nurse.

"I knew nothing about the alleged irregularities, nor do I think either of the other four directors did until they were revealed by the examining of the banking department, and our own investigation. We held out hopes that conditions would right themselves until Monday night when at a meeting we called upon the state banking department to step in."

Superintendent Hotchkiss was drawn into the case through the fact that Tobin held a controlling interest in the Astor Indemnity company of Hartford, capitalised at \$50,000, which does business in this state.

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CHANGE SCHEDULE ON TOXAWAY ROAD

Under New Schedule No. 5 Will Leave Toxaway at 8:25 a. m.; No. 6 Will Leave Here at 3:40

Effective Sunday there will be a slight change in the schedule of the trains on the Toxaway line; also to avoid confusion with the new trains on the Toxaway line; also to avoid confusion with the new trains 7 and 8, known as the "Carolina special," the Toxaway trains will become Nos. 5 and 6. Under the new schedule No. 5 will leave Lake Toxaway at 8:25 a. m.; leave Hendersonville at 10:25 and arrive at Asheville at 11:30 a. m. Train No. 6 will leave Asheville at 3:40 p. m.; Hendersonville at 4:40 and arrive at Lake Toxaway at 6:40 p. m. To present schedule provides that No. 5 leaves Toxaway at 8:10 a. m. and arrive at Asheville at 11:20 a. m. and returning No. 6 leaves at 3:20 and arrives at Lake Toxaway at 6:35 p. m. While no official announcement has been made it is rumored here today that the schedule of train No. 21 from Goldsboro which arrives here at 7:45 p. m. will be changed so as to arrive here a few minutes earlier to make connection with the westbound Carolina special which leaves for Cincinnati next Monday and daily thereafter at 7:40 p. m., eastern time.

AFTER SEEING MR. TAFT PAYNE MAKES STATEMENT

Forecasts the Passage by Congress of Permanent Tariff Commission Bill Before March 4.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Carrying out his program of informal conference with republican leaders in congress, President Taft had a long talk today with Representative Payne, the republican floor leader. The president discussed with him various features of the legislative program for the current session. Following the interview, Mr. Payne made the announcement that he was quite sure a bill for a permanent tariff commission, acceptable to congress and to the president, would be put through the senate and house before March 4.

EXPRESS TRAIN ENGINEER DIES AT POST OF DUTY

Train Was Going 50 Miles an Hour When Fireman Moore Discovered Engineer Beck Dead.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—With the train running at 50 miles an hour, H. C. Beck, engineer of the Pittsburgh express, was found dead in his cab today by the fireman, while the express was nearing Bird-in-Land, Pa. Walter Moore, the fireman, noticed Engineer Beck leaning too far out of his cab window. The engineer was about to fall out of the window. The fireman brought the express to a standstill. A physician on the train said that death was due to heart disease. Beck was 62 years old.

GOVERNMENT MAY DEMAND A RETURN OF \$1,000,000

Treasury Department in Position to Dictate Terms of Compromise in Sugar Frauds.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Recent disclosures in "drawback" frauds against the government have put the treasury department in a position practically to dictate the terms of compromise with the Sugar Refining companies. The American Sugar Refining company's recent offer of \$750,000 may not be accepted. The government, it is said, has evidence to compel the return of \$1,000,000.

1500 People Idle

Low Mass., Dec. 27.—Fifteen hundred persons are idle as a result of idleness in three local shoe factories.

CUDAHYS MAY BE REUNITED

Mrs. Cudahy With Her Four Children Visits Her Husband and Rumor Has it That They Will Re-Marry.

PARENTS UNDER THE SAME ROOF AT PASADENA, CAL.

"Tragedy" in Which Lillis Figured Largely, It is Said—Cudahy, After the Lillis Incident, Came Here.

PASADENA, Cal., Dec. 28.—Mrs. Edna Cudahy, who divorced "Jack" Cudahy, the wealthy meat packer, arrived here late yesterday and took up her residence at the Cudahy summer home. There her former husband, who has been ill recently, has been living since his arrival last Wednesday.

Every circumstance goes to show that Mr. and Mrs. Cudahy have been reconciled through their mutual affection for their four children. Mrs. Cudahy, who is accompanied by a chaperon, will remain here her former husband, their friends assert confidently. Their young children, Edna, Catherine, Marie Cecilia, Anna Elizabeth and Michael, are in the Roman Convent, near Alhambra, Cal. There will be a happy family reunion before New Year's Day, it is predicted. The Affair With Lillis. So will end, probably, a dramatic tragedy, in which jealousy, however ill founded, had served to destroy true love. Young Mr. and Mrs. Cudahy lived in a fine residence at Thirty-sixth and Walnut streets, Kansas City. He was a "high-flyer" son of Michael Cudahy, one of best business men in the city. A woman's voice of the telephone called the police. Arriving quickly they found Lillis on the parlor floor; he had been slashed with a sharp knife on the face, arms, body and legs. But the wounds seemed to be intended to inflict injuries more disgraceful than dangerous. Lillis was taken to a hospital, he recovered in a short time. Jack Cudahy never returned to his home; his father, Michael, a stern but religious man, and charitable, as far as giving money is concerned, seemed to sympathize with his son. Last August young Mrs. Cudahy divorced him in Kansas City. "You have always been a dutiful wife," her counsel, Mr. Cowherd, asked. "I have," she replied in a low voice. "Did your husband ever use abusive language to you?" "Often. Sometimes vile language." And so on.

The maid corroborated everything Mrs. Cudahy said. She got her divorce, but it took away her children and gave them to their grandfather, who out of court allowed Mrs. Cudahy \$5000 a year as long as she lived or until she married.

Rich Man's "Poor" Son. The decree gave permission to father and mother to visit the children at "any reasonable time." Almost immediately after she gained the divorce Mrs. Cudahy was quoted as saying: "My marriage with Jack Cudahy was a love match. People thought Jack Cudahy had money. Perhaps I should not be talking about his affairs, but, really, he is only a rich man's son and has nothing of his own. "I do not believe we were entirely unfaithful to each other. We got along beautifully for years and their people began to meddle. Michael Cudahy died recently, his son "Jack" shared equally in the fortune he left, estimated at \$25,000,000 at least. "Jack's" children inherited \$120,000 each. Mrs. "Jack" is sure of \$5000 as long as she lives or until she marries.

Sheet Furnish Cotton Crop. Bombay, Dec. 28.—The cotton situation is causing disquietude. Receipts to date are 325,000 bales behind last season. A total crop of 2,300,000 bales is expected as against 2,500,000 last year. Local mills and probably higher than prices in the United States. Traders are advised to sell.

Mother Returns Home to Find Children Suffocated

New York, Dec. 28.—Mrs. John...