

TAFT AROUSED BY ROOSEVELT

Realizing Gravity of Republican Situation, Says Only Death Can Remove Him from Race.

ADMINISTRATION MEN TO BEGIN CAMPAIGN

The President Is Urged Openly to Break With Roosevelt, But He Refuses to Do So.

Washington, Jan. 3.—"Nothing but death can keep me out of the fight now."

President Taft, it is reported, made this statement to White House callers today and added that he had no objection to the statement being made public. It undoubtedly was intended to set at rest reports that Taft might withdraw from the race for the republican presidential nomination in favor of Roosevelt.

President Taft, it is said, is thoroughly aroused to the gravity of the situation in the republican party and is determined to let his attitude be generally understood. He has declared that under no circumstances will he withdraw his name for consideration by the Chicago convention next June and has asserted that his position respecting the nomination has not changed in any particular since he entered the White House. Taft told friends and party leaders from the beginning that should he be called upon to stand for re-election he would be glad to do so; that he felt under obligations to his party for making him president and was willing to abide by its decision in a convention. According to an announcement today, he will not quit the race until the nominating ballots are cast at Chicago.

The president was urged by many of his closest friends to make a definite statement about his position and agreed to do so in language quoted above. With this statement as their inspiration, it is said, Taft supporters will begin an active campaign in his behalf immediately. It is stated that some of Taft's friends have gone so far as to advise him openly to break with Roosevelt and challenge the latter to make plain his intentions. The president has declined to do this.

The White House has been flooded with callers lately bringing word to Taft that Roosevelt so far has declined to say he would not accept the nomination if it were tendered him. It is reported to the White House that Roosevelt believes an organized effort is being made to "smoke him out" and he declines to be "smoked" by either Taft or LaFollette forces. The president listened to all these reports with an indulgent smile but refused to indicate whether he believed them. It is vehemently denied at the White House that President Taft sent "messengers" to Roosevelt relative to any subject whatsoever. The president has been urged for weeks to make a more progressive campaign in his own behalf. He has replied that he did not think political activity commensurate with presidential dignity. He contends that his friends carry forward the fight as vigorously as they desire, and he will lend whatever assistance he properly can.

REALIZE ROOSEVELT SEEKS NOMINATION

Action of Ohio Progressives Removes Last Doubt That He Would Support Taft.

Gazette-News Bureau, Wyatt Building, Washington, Jan. 3.

Suspicion of long standing has crystallized to definite conviction among all factions here that Theodore Roosevelt is a candidate against President Taft for the republican presidential nomination. The conviction exists in Mr. Taft's immediate circle at the White House, but Taft answers that he will fight.

"If death should lay its hands on the president's shoulders," said one of the president's closest advisers, "that would settle it, but let no one entertain for a moment that any other contingency will remove him from the field."

Many things have conspired to bring about the crystallization of opinion upon Roosevelt's attitude. These were created by the action of the republican progressives at Columbus, O., who, with Gifford Pinchot and James R. Garfield present, adopted a "ree whis" insurgent anti-Taft platform, but refused to endorse LaFollette for the presidency. They made it clear that they were not for Taft, but also while they acclaimed LaFollette a great progressive leader, they were not for him. The personality of Roosevelt loomed up in the background of that convention as plainly as a thunder-cloud in an otherwise clear sky.

It is even rumored here in Taft circles that the Taft crowd have themselves besought Roosevelt to remove all doubt about his attitude and that he has refused.

J. R. Cowles, chief clerk to the committee on claims, of which Representative Fou is chairman, reached Washington yesterday and said that Mr. Fou's health is much improved and that he has refused.

LETTERS TO SHOW TRUST'S EXISTENCE

Armour Manager's Correspondence Introduced at Packers' Case Hearing.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Documentary evidence that the price of meat was fixed and the business apportioned on a non-competitive basis by the packers at their weekly meetings was introduced by the government yesterday at the trial of the ten Chicago packers before United States District Judge Carpenter.

Special Counsel Pierce Butler read several letters received by W. D. Mills, manager of the Armour Packing company, Kansas City, in June, 1897, in which the amounts of beef to be shipped to certain eastern markets were given and the price to be charged based on a margin of 50 cents on the uniform test cost estimate used by the packers was named.

The letters also flatly refuted the statements of Henry Veeder on the witness stand that no meetings of the packers to fix prices and apportion business were held between April, 1897, and January, 1898, when a "statistical bureau" was maintained to compile records of meat shipped and prices obtained at different points. Mills, who severed his connection with the Armour interests in 1903, will, it is said, be one of the star witnesses for the government.

One of the letters dated June 29, 1897, read in part: "This afternoon it was agreed that each party will not ship during the current week in excess of shipments agreed upon for last week."

"Boston: At this point it was agreed that each party in interest will not ship during the current week in excess of its proportion of a total shipment of 100 cars, basing such proportion on the average weekly shipments to Boston for the eight weeks ending June 1, 1897. It was also agreed that parties in interest would endeavor to obtain for the current week margins of 50 cents."

"Pittsburg: It was agreed that each party in interest would not ship in excess of 90 per cent of the average weekly shipment for the four weeks ending June 12, 1897."

Witness Veeder said "the statistical bureau" remained in existence until January, 1898, when the packers went back to the old arrangement of holding meetings every Tuesday to determine prices and apportion business on a percentage basis.

In March, 1898, the witness said, Schwarzschild and Sulzberger were taken into the combination and sent a representative to the meetings. The agreement of the witness said expired in 1901, when a new agreement for three years was entered into.

E. J. Martin, Armour & Co.'s representative, died in 1899, the witness said, and after that Arthur Meeker attended the packers' meetings in behalf of Armour & Co.

Continuing his recital, Veeder said was for three years and expired in 1908 the penalty charged for over-shipment was 75 cents per 100 pounds. He said comparative statements of profit margins were furnished members on an application and added that he believed all the agreements of 1895 and 1891 had been destroyed.

"Some time between 1898 and 1902 the agreement in certain territory was applied to fresh mutton as well as beef and the penalty fixed for over-shipment was \$1 a 100 pounds. In 1902 the agreement was extended to include veal in certain territory," continued the witness.

CONGRESS REASSEMBLES AFTER HOLIDAY RECESS

Washington, Jan. 3.—Both houses of congress reassembled at noon today after the Christmas holidays recess, which began December 21. Most senators and representatives had returned but practically no important business was pending for the day.

The first snow of the winter in Washington brought with it a bad cold for Speaker Clark. He had a touch of bronchitis when he reassembled the house after the holidays and his voice was husky. He remained at his post against the advice of friends. The house was in session 15 minutes.

Representative Smith of California, who had been ill since the beginning of the sixty-second congress, was sworn in.

Senator Briskow introduced bills for the government of the Panama canal ship line. Numerous petitions were presented for the ratification of the general arbitration treaties. Senator Raynor announced that he would make a minority report favoring the ratification of the arbitration treaties unamended.

The senate was in session 20 minutes.

Legislators Meet at Albany.

Albany, Jan. 3.—With the senate democratic by 7 votes and the assembly republican by a majority of 4, the legislators convened today. Edwin Martin, jr., was elected speaker.

INQUISITORS WANT MORGAN

Banker Sailed for Egypt as House Committee Planned to Summon Him to Washington.

SAY FINANCIER KNEW OF THEIR INTENTION

Hope Yet to Hear His Story of Steel Corporation's Formation and T. C. & I. Deal.

Washington, Jan. 3.—If J. Pierpont Morgan had not left Saturday last for Egypt he would soon have been called as a witness before the Stanley Steel investigating committee of the house. It is learned authoritatively that at the time Mr. Morgan left the committee was seeking to learn whether he would appear voluntarily.

It has been the policy of the committee to arrange for the volunteer appearance of witnesses where possible, and this has been generally successful in obtaining their presence. Mr. Roosevelt came before the committee as a result of such an informal arrangement and it is understood that the committee desired to follow the same course in the case of Mr. Morgan. Where the voluntary method fails subpoenas will be issued, but thus far the voluntary method has succeeded.

The committee still hopes to have Mr. Morgan as a witness. If he returns at any time before the investigation is ended he will be called, according to the present intention of the committee. "When he left New York, Mr. Morgan said: 'I don't know when I will be back.'"

The Stanley committee may make a report before the winter is over. It is by no means certain, however, that its final report will be made before the end of the session, which the leaders think will last until the summer, or even before the end of the present congress on March 4, 1913. That means there will be plenty of time to hear what Mr. Morgan has to say about the organization of the steel combination after he returns from abroad.

Want First Hand Story. After much discussion, Representative A. O. Stanley, the chairman of the committee, and the other democratic members came to the conclusion that no investigation of the United States steel corporation and allied industries would be complete unless the man who organized the great trust was called to the witness stand. All of the witnesses who have appeared before the committee spoke of Mr. Morgan's part in the organization of the corporation. Again, it was Mr. Morgan who was the guiding genius in the transaction by which the steel corporation took over the Tennessee Coal and Iron company in the fall of 1907.

Judge E. H. Gary, executive head of the steel corporation, who with Henry C. Frick came directly from Mr. Morgan's library in New York to the White House and obtained the approval of Mr. Roosevelt for the merger, spoke of Mr. Morgan's part in the transaction at every turn when he was a witness before the Stanley committee. He said a high tribute to the banker, declaring that had it not been for his activities in the hurry of 1907 the business world would have suffered a disaster from which it would not have recovered for many years.

The committee feels that it has had enough of this second hand information about Mr. Morgan, and the time has come to hear from the financier himself. The members are greatly disappointed that he should have gone away. They believe he was aware of the plans to call him, but had not intimated that he arranged the trip to Egypt in order to avoid service of a subpoena.

Andrew Carnegie, before leaving for Europe last summer, told the committee that he would willingly appear this winter and tell what he knows of the formation of the steel combination. He probably will be called soon after the holidays.

BANK FAILS; FORGED NOTES TOTAL \$144,698

Washington, Jan. 3.—Comptroller of the currency Murray announced today that the forged notes which caused the failure of the Albion National bank of Albion, Mich., amounted to \$144,698. The notes the comptroller announced, were placed in the bank by the cashier.

TO PROBE ACQUISITION OF THE CANAL ZONE

Washington, Jan. 3.—Chairman Sulzer of the house committee on foreign affairs announced today that his committee soon would begin hearings on the Hainey resolution authorizing an investigation into the acquisition of the Panama canal zone by the United States. The resolution mentions the fact that a former president of the United States has declared that he took Panama from Columbia without consulting congress.

Underwood, Ill. Won't Attend Banquet.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Representative Underwood of Alabama will not participate in the Jackson Day banquet here Monday night. Underwood ordered the engagement to speak by the order of his physicians because of his recent illness.

180 Girls and Women Disappeared During 1911

Kansas City, Jan. 3.—The desire for a good time is the cause of girls leaving home more often than anything else, states Chief of Police Griffin, whose annual report today shows 180 girls and women reported as missing during 1911 have not been accounted for.

"Fifteen seems the most popular age for girls to run away," Griffin said. "Four-fifths of those who leave are between the ages of 15 and 17."



I must be candid, in my judgment the republican party in North Carolina would be much stronger as a voting party if all the federal offices were filled by democrats.—President Taft's speech at Greensboro, July 10, 1906.

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION WRECKS JUDGE'S HOUSE

This Political and Personal Enemies of Kentuckian Suspected of Crime.

Tyrone, Ky., Jan. 3.—The home of Police Judge John Lancaster was blown up with dynamite here yesterday and practically wrecked. No one was injured. It is believed that revenge was the cause for blowing up the house. An investigation is being made.

That Judge Lancaster has some political and personal enemies who are suspected of knowing something about the cause for and the perpetrators of the explosion is the belief of detectives who arrived here to work on the case late yesterday afternoon. The house was practically blown to pieces. Furniture was tossed into the air and blown to small bits. No one was seen to run from the house at the time of the explosion and the detectives believe a bomb was operated by clock mechanism.

Bloodhounds brought to the scene were unable to find a trail.

FAVORS FEDERAL AGENCY TO CONTROL THE TRUSTS

Secretary Nagel Says Recent Decisions Show Other Measures Necessary.

Washington, Jan. 3.—"The mere breaking up of large combinations into a number of separate parts by no means meets the whole trust question," says Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor, in his annual report transmitted yesterday to President Taft.

Secretary Nagel declares that the Sherman law has been proved to be an effective statute beyond all doubt and that a degree of combination of capital is quite necessary, but he adds that the Supreme court decisions in the Standard Oil and tobacco cases have demonstrated that the next step in the control of great industrial corporations will be the creation of a permanent federal agency.

How such control shall be exercised, whether by commission, federal incorporation or other means, which have been advocated recently by Judge Elbert H. Gary, George W. Perkins and other financiers before the senate committee, which has been conducting hearings to determine what changes would be desirable in the antitrust laws, Secretary Nagel does not definitely say.

TRAINS CRASH; 20 HURT

Engineer Potter Killed and Many Passengers Hurt in Head-on Collision on Checktow.

El Reno, Okla., Jan. 3.—A head-on collision occurred on the Rock Island railroad near here today when the "Firefly" southbound, and passenger train No. 41 crashed together. James Potter, engineer on the "Firefly" was killed and 20 passengers and members of the train crew were injured.

INDIANAPOLIS, JAN. 3.—NATIONAL LABOR OFFICIALS AFFILIATED WITH SAMUEL GOMPERS AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WERE INFORMED TWO YEARS AGO BY CHARLES A. BOOKWALTER, WHO AS MAYOR THEN CONDUCTED A SECRET INVESTIGATION, THAT JOHN J. McNAMARA DIRECTED A SERIES OF DYNAMITE EXPLOSIONS.

Bookwalter declared this today when informed that the government's investigation embraced an inquiry into the circumstances of four explosions directed against Albert Vonshreckelsen, a contractor, because of labor troubles. Bookwalter expects to be subpoenaed by the federal grand jury.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Without referring to Governor Osborn's suggestion in his Lansing speech that LaFollette withdraw from the presidential race, the LaFollette national headquarters today issued a statement denying that LaFollette intended withdrawing.

CHILD LABOR LAW SOUGHT BY SWIFT

Newly Elected Secretary to Confer With Mill Men and Others.

Greenboro, Jan. 3.

W. H. Swift, who was elected field secretary by the North Carolina child labor committee at a meeting held in Raleigh last Friday night, is losing no time in setting to work to secure a crystallization of sentiment in the state regarding child labor, and with the first day of 1912, he started a canvass for members for an organization of public spirited men in Guilford county, which will be a nucleus to the statewide organization he hopes to accomplish in the ensuing year. Mr. Swift will visit counties of the state, and he is now engaged in formulating his plans.

Mr. Swift said yesterday that his purpose is to conduct a campaign of education throughout the state. "North Carolina," he said, "is way behind many of the states in giving protection to her children." He believes that the remedy of this is by the enactment of a law, and that law is the only way of bringing it about, and that the securing of a law is possibly by making the people of the state see the necessity of action.

"If we just show our people of the state," he continued, "what is necessary, they would immediately say for it to be done." The average man, says Mr. Swift, realizes the necessity of proper rest for children, and the harmfulness of overwork, and the main thing now is to crystallize public sentiment.

Mr. Swift will first go to the mill men and hold conferences with them one by one and if possible have an agreement with them so that they will be in favor of the plans which are desired to be put through.

A negro giving his name as John Scott is in jail here as a suspect. The negro was arrested yesterday afternoon and is suspected of being one of Henry Bushnell of Reidsville, who is wanted in Rockingham county, charged with a murderous assault. "Scott" (Continued on page 5)

SAYS HE TOLD LABOR MEN OF DYNAMITINGS

Indianapolis, Jan. 3.—National labor officials affiliated with Samuel Gompers and the American Federation of Labor were informed two years ago by Charles A. Bookwalter, who as mayor then conducted a secret investigation, that John J. McNamara directed a series of dynamite explosions.

Bookwalter declared this today when informed that the government's investigation embraced an inquiry into the circumstances of four explosions directed against Albert Vonshreckelsen, a contractor, because of labor troubles. Bookwalter expects to be subpoenaed by the federal grand jury.

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FINDS HOOKWORM IN 95 COUNTIES OF TENNESSEE

Nashville Specialist Investigating Conditions Learns Disease is Widely Prevalent.

Nashville, Jan. 3.—Ninety-five of the 96 counties in this state are infected with the hookworm disease, according to the annual report of Dr. Olin West, a specialist. Dr. West has been investigating conditions for the board of health. Lewis county is the only one in the state unaffected.

LULU GLASER GIVEN DECREE OF DIVORCE

Testifies Her Husband, Ralph C. Herz, Choked Her, Calling Her 'Barmaid' and 'Bowery Woman.'

Chicago, Dec. 3.—A divorce decree has been ordered in the suit of Mrs. Lulu Glaser, known on the stage as Lulu Glaser, against her husband. The plaintiff testified her husband choked her and called her "barmaid" and "bowery woman." Herz did not contest the suit.

The couple were married in New York five years ago.

TO STAY IN RACE

Denial is Made That Wisconsin Man Intends to Withdraw from Presidential Contest.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Without referring to Governor Osborn's suggestion in his Lansing speech that LaFollette withdraw from the presidential race, the LaFollette national headquarters today issued a statement denying that LaFollette intended withdrawing.

MME. CURIE VER YILL

Discoverer of Radium Suffers from an Acute Attack of Appendicitis—Worry Aggravates Illness.

Paris, Jan. 3.—The condition of Mme. Curie, discoverer of radium, because of an acute attack of appendicitis, continues serious. Her illness, it is believed, was aggravated by worry during the recent suit in which her name was connected with that of Prof. Langevin in divorce proceedings.

FIRE LOSS \$500,000

Smokehouse of Swift & Co., at Chicago is Burned—Three Firemen are Injured.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Fire destroyed Swift & Co.'s smokehouse, a five story building today. The damage was \$500,000. Three firemen were injured.

Seaboard Flagman Injured.

Walker Elks, a white flagman employed by the Seaboard fell from the top of a car between two cars at Wake Forest today and probably sustained fatal injuries. He is in the college hospital. His home is in Raleigh.

A WARM YEAR IS IN PROSPECT

Politically Speaking—Survey of Entire Field From Local Viewpoint—A Democrat Gives Opinions.

MANY POSSIBILITIES IN RACE FOR CONGRESS

War of Proportions Likely to Break Over Various Local Questions—The Contest For The Senate.

With the opening of the new year there is increased discussion of politics in Buncombe county and affairs political in the state, leaders and those interested in party success.

Hitherto speculation and prophesy have been made at random by this one and that but, as the time approaches for the announcement of candidates and the shaping of party politics, affairs are taking on concrete form and a more substantial analysis can be made.

The contest in the general election in November next will be, perhaps, the hardest fought in the political annals of the state and particularly in western North Carolina.

This is a presidential year. The stronghold of republicanism is in this section. Here is the battleground. Not a stone will be left unturned. Nothing will be left undone. It will be a conflict to the death. When the line-up comes we can expect to see, not only the old war horses again in the thick of the fight, but the democratic ranks are recruited by business and professional men—men of affairs—who never before have been active politically. These recruits have actively voted the best part of the democratic ticket and have, in a way, affiliated with the party. But in this contest they will be found in the trenches, touching elbows with the republicans, rendering a service which conditions suggest to every patriotic citizen.

The New York Sun, in a recent editorial, advocated the opinion that conditions were not unlike those of 1876, when Samuel J. Tilden was elected president of the United States, and reflected the probability of such a superb organization now being formed, as was inaugurated then. Organization, it must be remembered, is worthless unless there is an issue produced for consideration. The democrats have, of course, the live, all-infestious issue—the tariff. It was the sole issue that elected Grover Cleveland president, and the attitude of the national democracy on this issue is responsible, in large measure, for the inroads made by the democrats in 1910-11 in New England and other rock-ribbed republican strongholds.

A democrat, a careful student of political affairs at home and abroad, gives the following appraisal of conditions as to the congressional race: "The state of North Carolina is safely democratic—this year at least—it will give its 12 electoral votes to democracy's choice. Ten congressional districts will in all probability return 10 democrats to Washington. But there is to be a battle royal at least two seats. It will be a battle royal, especially in this, the tenth district. The democrats are determined to carry the tenth this year. It has always been much more difficult in presidential years for democracy to prevail in the mountains than in the 'off' years. Grant was elected along with Taft. Grant carried Buncombe. Taft did also. Grant was elected to congress. Taft led Bryan in the tenth. Will Grant be called again into harness? His friends are urging his claims. Grant will not return to Washington as representative; he may be nominated, but he will be defeated. The people have heard Grant. They listened to him in 1898. He won under peculiar conditions. Democracy was divided and Grant benefited. Democracy was responsible for state-wide prohibition and the commercial liquor democrats rebelled. This district is normally close and only a hundred or two democrats could elect a republican.

Other Republican Possibilities. "Grant had ploughed the bull and learned his lesson by the light of the torch." This aptly pleased and was effectual. He told this joke again two years later but the people would not laugh. There are many strong republicans to choose from this time. There is that redoubtable warrior, Richmond Pearson. It is true he is out of harmony with the republican administration but republicans have a wonderful way of getting together. Mr. Pearson is a trained diplomat. There are a great many things to explain from the republican standpoint and the former minister is specious—if he is anything. Mr. Pearson was in congress for two terms from the old ninth district and the democrats, too, well remember his power as an organizer and debater. The late Judge Joseph S. Adams and former Congressman Crawford went down before the 'Duke of Richmond Hill.' There is also a popular and growing young republican to be reckoned with should he aspire to congress. Mark W. Brown would at once appeal to the rank and file of the republican party and would likely be nominated. In this event Mr. Brown would not be objectionable to some democrats—this depending largely on whom the democrats would pick as their candidate." (Continued on page 2)