

"BIG BUSINESS" AND THE PEOPLE

Col. Roosevelt Tells How He Would Have Government Deal With Present Day Problems.

AGAIN URGES NEED OF CURBING COURTS

Says He Wants to Make "the Popular Judgment Really Effective"—Praises LaFollette.

Columbus, O., Feb. 21.—"Big business," the illness of the American people for self-government, the recall of judges, and praise for the progressive legislation in Wisconsin instituted by and furthered by Senator Robert M. LaFollette when he was governor, were topics discussed by Theodore Roosevelt in an address today before the Ohio Constitutional convention here. Colonel Roosevelt chose as his subject, "A Charter of Democracy."

Of what he termed "big business," Colonel Roosevelt had this to say: "The anti-trust law does good insofar as it can be invoked against combinations which really are monopolies or which restrict production or which artificially raise prices. But insofar as its workings are uncertain or as it threatens corporations which have not been guilty of anti-social conduct it does harm. There should be a fixed governmental policy which shall clearly define and punish wrongdoing and give in advance full information to any man as to just what he can and just what he cannot legally and properly do."

As to the fitness of the American people for self-government, Colonel Roosevelt said: "Many eminent lawyers believe that the American people are not fitted for popular government and that it is necessary to keep the judiciary independent of the majority of the people. I take absolute issue with all those who hold such a position."

"The question is one of expediency merely. Each community has the right to try the experiment for itself in whatever shape it pleases. I do not believe in adopting the recall save as a last resort, when it has become clearly evident that no other course will achieve the desired result."

Senator LaFollette was mentioned but once, as follows: "Following Senator LaFollette a number of practical workers and thinkers in Wisconsin have turned that state into an experimental laboratory of wise governmental action in aid of social and industrial justice. They have initiated that kind of progressive government which means not only the preservation of true democracy but the extension of the principle of true democracy into industrialism as well as into politics."

Colonel Roosevelt said in part: "I hold it to be the duty of every public servant, and of every man who in public or private life holds a position of leadership in thought or action, to endeavor honestly and fearlessly to guide his fellow-countrymen to right decisions; but I emphatically dissent from the view that it is either wise or necessary to try to devise methods which under the constitution will automatically prevent the people from deciding for themselves what governmental action they deem just and proper."

Would Vest All Power in the People. "It is impossible to invent constitutional devices which will prevent the popular will from being effective for wrong without also preventing it from being effective for right. The only safe course to follow in this great American democracy is to provide for making the popular judgment really effective. But it is a false constitutionalism, a false statesmanship, to endeavor by the exercise of a perverted ingenuity to seem to give the people full power and at the same time to trick them out of it."

"Yet this is precisely what is done in every case where the state permits its representatives, whether on the bench or in the legislature or in executive office, to declare that it has not the power to right grave social wrongs, or that any of the officers created by the people, and rightfully the servants of the people, can set themselves up to be the masters of the people. Constitution-makers should make it clear beyond a shadow of doubt that the people in the legislative capacity have the power to enact into law any measure they deem necessary for the betterment of social and industrial conditions."

"I hold that he is the real progressive, that he is the genuine champion of the people, who endeavors to shane the policy alike of the nation and of the several states so as to encourage legitimate and honest business at the same time that he wars against all crookedness and injustice and unfairness and tyranny in the business world. This is the reason why I have for so many years insisted as regards our national government, that it is both futile and mischievous to endeavor to correct the evils of his business by an attempt to restore business conditions as they were in the middle of the last century, before railroads and telegraphs had rendered larger business organizations both inevitable and desirable."

"Hitcock Legislation." "The effort to restore such conditions (Continued on page 4.)"

PATRONAGE TRADE STIRS INSURGENTS

President's Move to Secure North Carolina Delegation Strongly Condemned.

Gazette-News Bureau, Wyatt Building, Washington, Feb. 21. Insurgent republicans are bitter in their denunciation of the methods being practiced in the interest of President Taft's nomination. Senator Jonathan Bourne, of Oregon, head of the National Progressive league, has waxed wrath because of the president's action in withdrawing all North Carolina nominations.

"This flagrant misuse of patronage," says Mr. Bourne, "must necessarily receive credence throughout the country, especially in the minds of those remembering the famous Norton letter."

Continuing Mr. Bourne says: "The presidential withdrawal of ten nominations for the state of North Carolina, resulting in rumors that the cause was not the unfitness of the individual nominees, but to leave those offices open for trading purposes in the securing of delegates favorable to the renomination of President Taft, demonstrates the necessity for the earliest possible adoption by states of my presidential preference bill which, when generally adopted, will destroy the federal machine, so far as enabling a president to renominate himself or designate his successor is concerned, making demonstrated efficiency in office the sole measure of the retention of the incumbent."

"This rumored flagrant misuse of patronage must necessarily receive great credence throughout the country, and especially in the minds of those remembering the famous Norton letter. The purchase of votes for money debauches but two individuals, the purchaser and the purchasee. The purchase of votes for federal patronage debauches not only the individual parties to the transaction, but the nation itself, which every thoughtful man not only deprecates, but abhors."

J. E. Little, of Charlotte, was here for several hours yesterday and visited Roosevelt headquarters in the Munsey building. Those in charge said that Mr. Little reported great unrest throughout the country and predicted that unless Roosevelt is given the nomination, the democrats are sure to elect the next president.

AN EFFORT TO COLOR T.R.'S SPEECH REPORTS?

Taft People Offer to Send Complete Accounts, Tolls Prepaid.

Gazette-News Bureau, Wyatt Building, Washington, Feb. 21. An effort in President Taft's interest was made yesterday to color the news accounts of Col. Theodore Roosevelt's speech at Columbus, O., today. It is considered sensational in its way as was the president's course in withdrawing the ten North Carolina nominations as a means of getting the state's support.

Correspondents were invited to pay friendly visits to Representative McKinley at the offices of the Taft campaign bureau in the Raleigh hotel. By way of illustrating the purpose of such calls, a telegram sent by one of these correspondents to his editor last night serves as an example.

McKinley suggests if we are not represented at Columbus tomorrow night a complete account will be supplied by Gus J. Karger. Tolls will be prepaid." Karger is the Washington correspondent for the Cincinnati Times-Star, Charles P. Taft's paper, and has been press agent of the White House since 1910.

WANT HI GILL AGAIN Mayor Recalled Because He Made Seattle "Wide-Open" Town Is Again Nominated. Seattle, Feb. 21.—Hiram C. Gill, elected mayor two years ago and re-elected by recall in less than a year, finished at the head of the poll in a nominating convention for city officers yesterday.

HOUSTON IS SWEEPED BY CONFLAGRATION

Thousands Homeless; Loss Estimated at Five Millions. FACTORY BUILDINGS REDUCED TO ASHES

Most of the Monetary Loss Involved in the Destruction of Industrial Plants—Twenty-Five Squares of Cottages Wiped Out—Burned Area One Mile Long and Seven Blocks Wide.

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 21.—A fire which broke out at 12:30 o'clock this morning in a wooden hotel building, swept by a wind blowing 35 miles an hour, ate its way one mile across Houston, covering an area seven blocks wide. The loss is estimated at five million dollars. At least twenty-five squares in a residence district were burned. There were no casualties reported, but thousands are homeless and the weather is wintry.

Underwriters refuse to make a positive statement regarding the property loss. Most of the homes were not of great value, as the flames swept through a district comprising workingmen's cottages. Most of the property loss was sustained in the destruction of factory buildings. The fire was got under control at 7 o'clock. Among the mills, factories and other industrial plants either totally destroyed or seriously damaged are the

Destructive Windstorms Rage in the Gulf States

Meridian, Miss., Feb. 21.—Wind storms swept this district last night destroying thousands of dollars worth of property, killing herds of cattle and demolishing homes. Attempts to communicate with Pensacola, where a severe storm raged last night were ineffectual. All wires were down at points along the Florida coast. The wind's velocity reached 60 miles an hour. Heavy rains are falling.

Snow in Central States. Chicago, Feb. 21.—The central states were visited by a snowstorm today. The mercury fell rapidly and there was a 40-mile gale. Railroad traffic was affected in some sections.

FOUR TRAINMEN KILLED, WOUNDED, ENGINEER FOILS TRAIN ROBBERS

Freight and Express Trains Collide on the Boston and Maine. Shower and Speeds Into Cedar Rapids. Cedar Rapids, Feb. 21.—Five men made an unsuccessful effort to hold up a westbound passenger train on the Chicago & Northwestern at 3 o'clock this morning nine miles east of here. While the train was passing slowly over new construction work the bandits signalled the engineer to stop. Instead he opened the throttle. They began in the arm, but he stuck to his post and brought the train into the city.

Committee to Report PARCELS POST BILL Majority Members of House Body Agree as to Provisions of the Proposed Measure. Washington, Feb. 21.—Democratic members of the house committee on postoffices and post roads have agreed to incorporate in the appropriation bill provisions for the establishment of a general parcels post system. They also have agreed upon a general domestic rate of 12 cents and a maximum package of 11 pounds. This is the present international parcels post rate. They would also provide for a rural parcels post, the rate to be five cents for one pound and two cents for each additional pound.

INQUEST POSTPONED The Coroner Awaits the Development of Expected Evidence in Asphyxiation Case. Gazette-News Bureau, The Hotel Raleigh, Raleigh, Feb. 21. Pending a further conference and the developing of other testimony, the coroner today postponed the proposed investigation of the deaths of the three Henson men by asphyxiation. The first of five blind tiger cases was won by the defendant, Tom Henson, today. The other cases will be before different magistrates.

RAILROAD WORK TO BEGIN SOON

Early Completion of Canton-Sunburst and Canton-Crestmont Lines Indicated by Developments. AN OPTION IS TAKEN ON LAND AT CANTON

Talk of Erection There of Big Band Saw Mill, and Linking Up the Greenville-Knoxville Railway Line.

Special to The Gazette-News. Canton, Feb. 21.—It is stated on good authority here that the Champion Lumber company has optioned the "Bert" Smathers property, just across the Pigeon river from the West end of Main street, and that this was done in order to secure rights of way into Canton for their railroad up the river to Sunburst, and that work will begin very likely next Monday on the construction of this road, the grading having been mostly done about two years ago.

It is believed that the final securing of entrance into Canton for this road means much more than is seen upon the surface. It is said to spell the early completion of the road down Pigeon river to Waterville, the present terminus of the Tennessee & North Carolina railroad; and the erection of a big band saw mill at Canton, with a capacity of 100,000 feet per day, together with, some say, a plant for the manufacture of bleaching material for use by the Champion Fibre company, the big paper pulp manufacturing plant located here.

Has Large Timber Holdings. It will be remembered that about one year ago, the Champion Lumber company was organized with a capital stock of \$5,000,000, and that they purchased something like 100,000 acres of land lying along the line of these two proposed railroads, about 40,000 acres surrounding Sunburst, from the Champion Fibre company and 60,000 to 70,000 of the old original Love grant extending almost, if not quite, the entire length of Haywood county from the Tennessee state line to Jackson county, and possibly a small strip of the latter county.

The Champion Lumber company is composed largely of Pennsylvania capitalists, William Whitmer & Sons being the largest stockholders, so it is understood. These latter are extensive exporters of hardwoods, as well as lumber dealers in America on a very large scale. The road from Canton to Sunburst, a distance of 16 miles, will be an almost exclusive lumber and pulp wood road, the soft or sulphwood to be used by the Champion Fibre company for the manufacture of paper pulp; while the hardwood lumber, it is understood, is to be handled by the Whitmers for both their American and export lumber trade.

Two-Fold Purpose. The railroad down the Pigeon river from Canton to Tennessee is understood to be for a two-fold purpose; first, for conveying pulpwood to the pulp mill at Canton and hardwoods to both Canton and Crestmont; and secondly for a connecting link in an interstate railway between Tennessee and North Carolina. The latter road is known as the Knoxville & Greenville railroad, and is projected to run from Knoxville via Sevierville to Winston Springs on the T. & N. C., along the T. & N. C. to Waterville (or Crestmont) at the North Carolina-Tennessee state line, thence up Pigeon river to Canton from Canton through Newfound Gap via Lenoir to West Asheville. Thence through Mills River section to Hendersonville, via River View to Greenville, S. C.

Work to Begin at Once. It is stated here that a large force of hands will be put to work at once, possibly next Monday, re-grading and shaping up the old grade up Pigeon River to Sunburst, and that track laying will follow at once, a large lot of ties having been contracted for for immediate delivery all along the line, so that the construction of the 16 miles will be pushed to a speedy completion.

It is further said that about April 1 possibly sooner, a very large number of men will be placed on the railroad grade down Pigeon, beginning at Canton, and that the work will be rushed from both ends of the road, to a probable completion late next fall or winter or early in the spring of 1913.

FATE OF TARIFF BILLS IN DOUBT

Progressives Hold Balance of Power—LaFollette's Illness Hampers Them. Washington, Feb. 21.—With the passage of the chemical revision bill by the house today another democratic tariff measure is added to the senate calendar. The steel bill is still pending in the senate, where only a coalition of progressive republicans and democrats can pass it. The steel bill hearing probably will be concluded by the end of this month.

LaFollette's illness has interfered seriously with the formulation of a policy by the progressive republican senators who hold the balance of power. So far there have been no real overtures between them and the democratic leaders. The house this afternoon passed the Underwood chemical tariff bill by a vote of 178 to 127. The insurgents voted with the regular republicans against the measure.

FORM AN ORGANIZATION TO DEVELOP THE SOUTH

Representatives of 16 States Decide to Raise Funds for the Work. Baltimore, Md., Feb. 21.—Representatives of 16 southern states, heads of railroads and steamship lines that serve that section, and men who have studied the agricultural and industrial conditions of the south for years, met here yesterday and formed the Southern Settlement and Development organization. Baltimore was made the headquarters, with S. Davies Warfield of this city as chairman and Eli Frank, also of Baltimore, as secretary.

It was resolved to start at once to raise funds to carry on the work of the organization to establish branch offices where necessary and to carry on such educational or other work in the 16 southern states as may be deemed desirable with the view to procuring the settlement of the south, colonization and settlement as the needs of the several states may require. It was further decided to recommend to the several states of the south "the urgent necessity of establishing in each state a state immigration bureau for the purpose of disseminating reliable information regarding the resources, the possibilities and opportunities of the south, to be supported by the states' machinery and money, under the indirect supervision of the governor of each state, with a good practical business man in charge, whose duties shall be to cooperate with the United States government, the transportation companies, the commercial bodies, the real estate men, the press and the southern settlement and development organization in placing the country properly before the people of the world."

COAL PRICES UP Industrial Conditions Grow Worse in United Kingdom as Miners Strike Threatens. London, Feb. 21.—Conditions in Great Britain, particularly in the northern manufacturing districts, are becoming rapidly worse because of the threatened coal strike, which is brought about at the end of the present month, will throw 800,000 miners, besides workers in other trades, out of employment. In London and other cities the price of coal has jumped to \$8 per ton. Coal mine owners conferred today regarding Premier Asquith's invitation to meet and arrange a basis of settlement. Twelfth Week of Packers' Trial. Chicago, Feb. 21.—The packers' trial entered upon the twelfth week today and District Attorney Wilkerson stated it would take the government three weeks more to conclude its case. The government concluded its examination of William E. Ehler, Morris & Co.'s margin clerk, this morning.

MY CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT If I could select the Man I would Name Name Address

LEGISLATIVE HOLD-UP CHARGED BY LOBBYIST

Gas Company Man Says Jersey Solon Wanted Money to Kill Bill.

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 21.—A sensation was created in the legislature here yesterday when the senate, in executive session, ordered the judiciary committee to investigate an allegation that efforts had been made to have money improperly used in connection with two bills now before the legislature. One of these bills prohibits the use of a certain kind of gas on passenger cars and the other prohibits the manufacture of the gas within a given distance of other buildings.

The bills were introduced by Senator Fitzherbert of Morris county. The bills were given a hearing before the senate committee on judiciary. Oscar F. Ostby, a representative of the gas company and whose home is in New York, appeared in opposition to the legislation. He charged that an effort had been made to obtain from him a consideration for the withdrawal of the bills. Mr. Ostby's allegations involved conversations between Senator Fitzherbert and a third party.

Senator Fitzherbert attended the hearing and when it was told that conversations had been held in respect to the withdrawal of the bills in consideration of money, Senator Edge, chairman of the committee, asked Senator Fitzherbert "was it not pretty nearly time for you to knock some one down?"

Senator Fitzherbert denied that he had asked for any money, but said that the conversations related to the withdrawal of the bills and that he represented others who were behind the measure. Senator Reed of Camden asked Senator Fitzherbert if he considered this the proper conduct for a senator. Senator Fitzherbert replied that he meant no wrong, and that it was always the innocent who suffered. He would not disclose the names of those for whom he had introduced the bill.

WOMAN IS ARRESTED IN BLACKMAILING PLOT Dorothy Arnold's Father Has Received Numerous Threatening Letters Recently.

New York, Feb. 21.—Bessie Green, a mulatto, 23 years old, was arrested late yesterday, charged with attempting to blackmail Francis R. Arnold, father of Dorothy Arnold, who mysteriously disappeared from her home last June. According to the police, she had been sending letters to Mr. Arnold demanding a large sum of money under threats that he would be shot. Fifteen threatening letters were received. John S. Keith, Mr. Arnold's attorney said, all of which were turned over to the police.

Following the receipt of a letter a week ago demanding that Mr. Arnold send \$1500 by way of a letter box in a newspaper office, detectives obtained a clue which led to the Green woman's arrest. A decoy letter sent through the newspaper office was traced to an apartment house. According to the detectives the Green woman called for the letter and her arrest followed. She was held in \$5000 bail for examination. Other arrests are expected.

The police said last night that one of the letters received by Mr. Arnold contained a demand for \$10,000 and another stated that if the money was not paid in a reasonable time Mr. Arnold's other children would disappear as did Miss Dorothy Arnold.

BIGGEST EATER DIES

Food Desire Fatal to Edmund Bacon, Aged 8—Had Man's Appetite in Infancy. Louisville, Feb. 21.—Edmund Bacon, aged eight, died today, the victim of his abnormal appetite. Since infancy the boy had possessed a man's appetite and his hunger never was unmet. Brain congestion superinduced by acute indigestion caused his death.

MOB CORNERS NEGROES

Double Lynching Seems Inevitable at Brentwood, Tenn.—Blacks Slew White Farmer. Nashville, Feb. 21.—Reports from Brentwood, ten miles from here say a mob has surrounded in a wood two negroes who killed a white farmer this morning. A double lynching seems inevitable.