

**THE WEATHER.**  
Fair and warmer Saturday;  
Sunday fair; moderate winds,  
mostly southwest.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 20, 1909.

WHOLE NUMBER 13,157.

## MANY DISMISSALS DUE TO FRAUDS

### Ousting of Employees Brings Sensation in The Service.

## ONE OFFICE IS ABOLISHED

### Deputy Surveyor James F. Veil Ousted—Action of MacVeagh and Loeb—Extends Over Several Months.

Washington, Nov. 19.—The elimination of the customs service of Acting Deputy Surveyor James F. Veil, the abolition of that office in the New York customs house, the dismissal of 104 men and demotion of 123 others at New York from March 4th up to last night together with about a score of other changes including in Collector Loeb's statement today from New York, were announced by Secretary MacVeagh tonight.

There will be no further grants of immunity in the customs investigations at New York. Secretary MacVeagh made this clear, explaining that he received this assurance in a recent conference in New York with Collector Loeb and others. Collector Loeb, the secretary said, assured him there would be no further occasion for it, that they had accomplished what was needed by the immunity previously promised.

The three weighers which confessed to the authorities and whose evidence has figured so largely in the investigation have not been disturbed in the service and they will remain, so far as the government is concerned. But Mr. MacVeagh pointed out that it was questionable whether they would be permitted to continue in the limelight very long.

Mr. Veil, who drew a salary of \$3,000 a year as acting deputy surveyor at New York, was until quite recently foreman of weighers at that port. He was ousted of the government service with the discontinuance of the office.

Secretary MacVeagh said there were no charges against Veil and indicated that the fact that he had been the head of the weighers while the sugar frauds were in progress was at least largely responsible for his demotion.

The object of tonight's announcement, according to Secretary MacVeagh, was to show the gradual rehabilitation of the service. Nor is the end yet in sight and the changes will keep right on until the rehabilitation is complete.

Many of those affected by the changes covered in today's statement applied to the President after getting notice of their dismissals or demotions, but the Secretary had already conferred with the President and the appeals were without effect.

Secretary MacVeagh's statement gives "changes in the personnel of the customs service at the port of New York from March 4, 1909, to and including November 18, 1909."

The changes by months have been grouped as follows: During March demotions, six dismissals; April, one demotion, 20 dismissals; May, 33 dismissals, no demotion; June 77 demotions, five dismissals; July 29 demotions, six dismissals; August, three demotions, nine dismissals; September five demotions, six dismissals; October, one demotion, one dismissal; November, up to 18th, one demotion, seven dismissals.

All of the vacancies, said Secretary MacVeagh, have been filled. No names except Veil were given in today's statement.

## Greatest Shake-up in History.

New York, Nov. 19.—"We are in the midst of the greatest shake-up in the history of the United States Customs Department," said William Loeb, Jr., collector of the port of New York tonight when shown Secretary MacVeagh's summary of the work thus far accomplished in cleaning up the New York customs house.

More employees have been dismissed from the New York office since I took charge than during the entire previous history of the service. He continued, "and we are not through yet. We are going to keep at it. We are going to keep at it until the New York customs house is made thoroughly respectable. Secretary MacVeagh's statement shows that we had accomplished up to today added to that the 19 employees dismissed today and you will see that we have gone pretty thoroughly into the matter. I am continuing my investigation and I can say that there are more heads to be lopped off soon."

Mr. Loeb's house cleaning took him into places today. Among those dismissed this afternoon were James N. Veil, deputy collector of this port, the biggest customs house in the country; G. E. Bedell, an inspector and formerly chief clerk of the weighing division; James P. Hyland and Joseph Carroll, ex-foreman of weighing districts.

Mr. Veil expressed great indignation at his removal. "I have been made the scape goat," he said. "Not only have I been absolutely faithful to the government for the 22 years I have been in the service, but it is a known fact that while I was at the head of the weighing department I ferretted out the original frauds."

## NERVOUS WEEK FOR COTTON

### Conditions of the Crop and Situation on New York Market—Mills Resumed Work—Outlook Seems Brighter.

New York, Nov. 19.—It has been a nervous cotton market dominated for the most part by large interests which in the main are bullish. Also, however, the receipts have undoubtedly fallen off sharply, spot markets have been strong with report of increased activity here and there. New York sold 5,000 bales in one block on Thursday for export and Eugene Scates denies emphatically a rumor current on Thursday that he was selling out his holdings preparatory to leaving New York. From time to time similar rumors have been circulated supposedly by bear interests and they have caused much soreness among the bulls, who accuse their opponents of stabbing them in the back. At one time a rumor is circulated that Scates is selling out then again that Scates is, they again that the whole bull outfit is liquidating.

The answer to this has usually been a sharp rally in prices. Moreover the general killing frost of late in the South, according to bulls, disposes finally and effectually of the expectations of a top crop in that quarter. In fact killing frost has been so general not only in the southwest, but also in the central belt and east of the Mississippi that many regard the growing season as practically over and they await with impatience the government crop estimate on December 10th. That will be what Horace Greely used to call "mighty interesting reading" for the cotton world.

German and Russian reports are to the effect that spinners are having a good trade. Cotton goods in this country are firm in value if trade has been hindered somewhat by unseasonable weather. Chicago, however, has had a good trade. At one time a report was circulated that many of the Manchester mills were resuming full time, but this appears to have been a mistake. Many reports from the South have lately reported that most of the crop had been ginned. Sea Island cotton has been selling at 33 to 37 cents or about 10 cents higher than a year ago. Some Alabama mills which had shut down or had their operations curtailed, it is stated, are resuming work on full time.

On the other hand spot cotton has been generally quiet and speculation has dwindled. A few large operators have ruled the market. They insist that prices are ultimately going to 18 to 20 cents, but the general public after its recent rough experience on the cotton side has been weary about re-entering the speculation and it is not improbable that the bulls will have to make good in no uncertain fashion if they are to secure another outside following. In some parts of the South, too, it is reported that a practical deadlock exists in the market of spot cotton, holders firmly maintaining prices and spinners holding aloof. It is late there has been a little lifting on the fact that the National Ginners' Association put the total ginning up to November 14th at 8,096,000 bales. One rumor was that the total was 8,250,000 bales against previous intimations that it was only 7,911,000 bales.

This uncertainty about the National Ginners' figures and a good deal of selling by Memphis, Liverpool, Wall Street and the West contributed largely to the decline of Thursday and Friday. Bears look for a substantial decline before the first of the year but bulls insist that cotton is likely to rule high for at least three years to come in the general expansion of trade, echoing Andrew Carnegie's statement, "We are in the throes of prosperity and good times are to have a long, long session."

Conservative interests, however, deprecate any wild or reckless speculation on either side of the market.

## ACTIVITY IN TRADE.

### Noted Improvement Given in Bradstreet's Report For the Week.

New York, Nov. 19.—Bradstreet's report for this week retail trade is inclined to lag, has taken on the appearance of activity and distributive trade reports are more uniformly encouraging than for some time past. In wholesale lines generally the nearer approach of winter has had a stimulating effect upon general feeling.

In the cotton goods trade the feature has been a country-wide advance in prices of prints. A more or less general tendency to advance prices of other cotton goods and to find buyers at the higher levels is also noted. Holiday trade is good with jobbers and the reports as to Spring trade are in a high degree encouraging. From the industrial field generally the report is of large output. In the dismissed track materials are buying freely of track material. Lumber trade is reported good as a whole.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending with November 13th were 233 against 221 last week; and 273 in the like week of 1908.

Wheat including flour reports from the United States and Canada for the week ending November 18th, aggregate 6,185,593 bushels against 5,533,474 last week and 5,599,314 bushels this week last year. Corn reports for the week are 140,407 bushels against 288,818 last week and 239,717 in 1908.

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## ATTITUDE TOWARD NICARAGUAN WAR

### United States Will Not Interfere With Revolutionists.

## CONFERENCE ON SITUATION

### Communication Received at State Department Yesterday—Leader of Government Forces Violated the Treaty.

Washington, Nov. 19.—Brooding quiet settled down today on the strained situation this Government finds itself in with Nicaragua. But if everything was quiet on the surface there was plenty stirring beneath. A communication which reached at the State Department from the Nicaraguan legation, the purport of which was not divulged and the ministers from Guatemala and Costa Rica held a mysterious conference with Assistant Secretary Wilson in the afternoon. A significant development of the day inasmuch as it disclosed this Government's unyielding determination not to interfere with the Nicaraguan revolutionists was the reiterated announcement that the State Department would not act to insure the safety of any American vessels that might be held up or seized by the insurrectionary war vessels now blockading the Government forces at Greytown or elsewhere on the Guatemalan coast.

The deepest interest is apparent as to the conference between Assistant Secretary Wilson, Senor Calvo Minister from Costa Rica and Dr. Herrarte, minister from Guatemala. It is believed that the infraction of the existing pan-American treaty signed here a little over two years ago, was the chief matter discussed.

The violation of the agreement was committed by General Toledo, in command of President Zelaya's forces, when he invaded Costa Rican territory in his advance on Greytown, where practically he is now besieged. In the threatened trouble between Nicaragua and Venezuela only a short time ago, the United States stood ready to prevent, by force if necessary, the passage of the belligerents across the neutral territory of Honduras. This is pointed to by Diplomats tonight as indicative of the gravity of General Toledo's offense against the Pan-American compact.

That the revolutionists under General Chamorro are making progress toward the final decisive struggle within the next three or four days was announced tonight by Senor Salvador castrillo, president of the Nicaraguan provisional government. He pointed out that with the coast line in possession of his compatriots, the securing of ammunition and arms now is a simple matter of only a few days. In the meantime he says General Chamorro holds the Zelayan forces at his mercy.

At the time of the closing of the State Department this afternoon no word according to Secretary Knox had been received from the seat of trouble. The two warships, the Des Moines and the Vicksburg, which respectively were ordered to take up their stations on the Atlantic and Pacific sides of the Isthmus, are believed to have reached their destinations, although no word from their commanders was received.

The Department was informed today that Leonard Grace who is believed to have been executed with Leroy Cannon by order of President Zelaya, was a native of Hempstead, Texas, where his family is said now to reside.

Houston, Texas, Nov. 19.—Louis W. Groce who with Leroy Cannon was executed in Nicaragua by orders of President Zelaya, lived in Galveston where his cousin, T. J. Groce is president of the Galveston National Bank. At Hempstead, Texas, his former home, Groce's father was a physician the son's name being the same as the father's. Groce had been in Nicaragua 16 years as a mine owner and was planning a trip home in December, according to a letter received from him about a month ago.

New Orleans, Nov. 19.—With many rumors afloat as to its cargo and mission the steamship Imperator of the Bluefields Steamship Company sailed from New Orleans this afternoon for Atlantic ports of Nicaragua. It is persistently rumored that it is bound immediately for Greytown to carry arms, ammunition and food to the troops of President Zelaya. Officials of the steamship company, however, deny that the vessel carries any arms or ammunition whatever.

Thousands Men Imprisoned.  
Panama, Nov. 19.—Passengers arriving here from Nicaragua reports that President Zelaya has severed relations with Jos DeOlivares and that the latter's home at Managua is guarded day and night. They say that Zelaya, distrustful of his own men, has surrounded himself with foreigners and that 1,000 persons have been imprisoned at the Capital either because they were suspected of disloyalty or had refused to contribute to the war tax. It is reported the Zelaya's troops are deserting in large numbers. The fear of a rebel invasion of the interior has influenced President Zelaya to mobilize his forces there. A serious movement against the eastern coast at present is unlikely.

## CASHER'S HOME IS SEARCHED

### Bank Officials at Newbern Seek to Recover Funds Alleged to Have Been Embezzled by Carraway—Was Fruitless.

## DAY'S AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL

### Governor Continues Unwell at The Executive Mansion in Raleigh.

## CASES IN SUPREME COURT

### A. C. L. Relief and Seminole Securities—Getting Ready for Conference—Adulteration of Ice Cream—Notes.

(Special Star Telegram.)  
Newbern, N. C., Nov. 19.—Acting under authority of a search warrant sworn out before Justice of the Peace J. M. Hines, by Mr. James A. Bryan, president of the National Bank of Newbern, Pinkerton detectives aided by local officers, searched the residence of J. R. B. Carraway all day yesterday and today in hopes of finding a part of the \$116,000 which he is alleged to have embezzled from the National Bank of Newbern while teller of that institution.

All rooms in the residence, beds, trunks, wardrobes, etc., were searched and all parts of the yard were probed with rods used every four inches apart. Every effort was made to locate some of the missing funds, or to find a clue leading up to the whereabouts of the money. As the work was not finished yesterday Spence, J. W. Duke and J. B. Gaskill guarded the premises last night and the search was continued this afternoon. So far as can be learned, nothing was found and the search was called off this afternoon as a failure. It is rumored that Carraway has been followed by detectives at all times since the alleged defalcation was made public and from the best of evidence it appears that there were four detectives working here on the case today.

It has been contended by bank officials from the beginning that a part of this money which Carraway is alleged to have embezzled, is in hiding somewhere. They with experts have been working on the matter and have come over the situation, taking the view that this money is said to have been taken and recalled what Carraway was doing and where he was at that time, and they have come to the conclusion that he must have hid it away. They claim that he could not have used it because he was always at the bank, and at his post of duty. That his appearance never indicated that he was spending any money excessively. That investigation shows that he never dealt in stocks nor other change games where he could have used the money in any short period of time. In fact it is said that there is nothing to indicate what Carraway could have done with the money except to hide it away somewhere.

## DR. STILES AT GOLDSBORO.

### Noted Scientist Delivered Lecture on Hookworm Disease.

(Special Star Telegram.)  
Goldsboro, N. C., Nov. 19.—The noted scientist and philanthropist, Dr. C. W. Stiles, gave a lecture on the hookworm disease in the opera house tonight to a large and interested audience. Stilepanian views were shown, being plainly explained by Dr. Stiles and every phase of the subject was thoroughly discussed.

Ignorance of the ravages of the hookworm disease was inexcusable in this community and although there has been a number of cases treated in this county, the results of this lecture was a great benefit towards the destruction of the dreaded disease which means much to this city and Wayne county.

Dr. Stiles was introduced by Mr. J. Y. Joyner, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and a member of the Rockefeller Commission, who in a short, but interesting address, spoke of the plans and purposes of the commission and at the conclusion of his instructive discussion he was loudly applauded, for he is held in the highest esteem by all our people and personally is very dear to the hearts of Goldsboro people, having at one time been superintendent of our public schools in which capacity he has never been surpassed.

## OUTLINES.

President Taft was a guest of Norfolk yesterday and delivered an address to the delegates of the Atlantic Seaside Waterways Association. He urged a practical system of waterway improvement.—The dismissal from the New York customs house yesterday of 104 employees, on account of recent frauds, is said by Collector Loeb to be the greatest shake-up of this kind in the history of the United States.—In the weekly cotton review the market is shown to have been nervous during the past week.—No further developments were reported yesterday in the strained situation between this country and Nicaragua. Several important conferences were held in Washington during the day.—Some anxiety is felt for Col. John Jacob Astor and party, who are on their way to the North, which has been out of touch with the world for a fortnight.—Dr. C. W. Stiles delivered a lecture in Goldsboro last night on the eradication of the hookworm disease.—New York markets: Money on call firm 4 1/2 to 5 per cent, ruling rate 5 3/4, closing bid 4 3/4, offered at 4 3/4; flour slow at old quotations; wheat spot firm No. 2, red, 1.26 nominal domestic elevator, No. 2 red, 1.25 1/2 nominal f. o. b. afloat; corn barely steady, No. 2 7/8 1/2 elevator domestic, 73 delivered, and 72 f. o. b. afloat; oats steady, mixed nominal; rosin and turpentine steady.

## DAY'S AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITAL

### Governor Continues Unwell at The Executive Mansion in Raleigh.

## CASES IN SUPREME COURT

### A. C. L. Relief and Seminole Securities—Getting Ready for Conference—Adulteration of Ice Cream—Notes.

(Special Star Correspondence.)  
Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 19.—Governor Kitchin continues quite unwell at the mansion, not having been able to be in the executive office for three days now. He suffers from intermittent neuralgic headaches that are thought to be due primarily to malaria.

Members of the Corcoran Commission returned today from Washington where they attended the annual session of the National Association of Railroad Commissioners. They pronounce the meeting the most successful from official and personal viewpoints, ever held.

The Supreme Court heard argument today in the famous case of State vs. Whedbee, from Union county, in which T. C. Whedbee, a well known editor and lawyer, is under sentence to two years in the penitentiary for false pretense in that he induced W. C. Heath to give his note for \$750 as an investment in the Seminole Securities Co., the frauds in connection which stirred such a decided sensation among business men in North and South Carolina, especially, about a year ago. The conviction and sentence were in Union Superior Court before Judge W. J. Adams last August. Attorney General T. W. Bickett made the argument for the State in support of the trial and sentence below, and the case for the defendant appealing for a new trial on exceptions, was presented by Mr. Cansler.

There was argument before the Supreme Court today in the case of Barden vs. Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, from the Seventh district, in which the case for the appellant railroad company was presented by Mr. Junius Davis and for the plaintiff appellee by Mr. Ireddell Meares. In the trial below the railroad company entered a demurrer on the ground that the complaint was insufficient in that there was no allegation that the railroad company did not exercise reasonable care and diligence in the selection of surgeons, nurses and attendants in the hospital in which the injuries of the plaintiff were treated; did not allege knowledge on the part of the railroad company of incompetence, if there was incompetence, and that the contents of the complaint in respect to care and attention complained of was provided through contract is a charter to which the rule of "respondent superior" could not, under the law apply in holding responsible for malpractice of its physicians or attendants after the exercise of ordinary care in their selection. Counsel for Barden contended that the complaint is sufficient in every respect, but that if it is not, leave to amend is prayed, and, furthermore, that the Relief Department is not a charitable but a regular department of the Coast Line's service and subject to the control absolutely of the officers of the railroad. In rounding up his argument for the plaintiff Mr. Meares declared that to dismiss the action would be "the refinement of cruelty to the plaintiff, who has suffered a peculiar and mortifying injury, which will continue through life to give him pain and humiliation, and it would be a denial of his right to be heard merely to satisfy the technical spirit of an antiquated judicial procedure."

Dr. William Black, evangelist for the North Carolina Synod, is aiding Dr. W. Mc White, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, in a series of special meetings at Mount Pleasant, in the county, in connection with systematic evangelistic work for the county that is being inaugurated by the "Men's Society" of the First church.

An amendment for the charter of the Seashore Hotel, Wrightsville Beach, near Wilmington, has been filed with the Secretary of State, increasing the capital from \$10,000 to \$75,000. The company has announced its purpose to improve the Seashore Hotel and to make improvements to include the construction of a splendid steel pier to extend 600 feet into the surf and add 80 rooms to the already great capacity of this splendid resort hotel, which has proven wonderfully successful under the management of Mr. E. L. Hinton the past several years.

The preliminary arrangements are rapidly being rounded up for the North Carolina Methodist Episcopal Conference to be in session here with Edenton street church, beginning next Wednesday. The biggest attendance in the history of the Conference seems assured, and it is believed that the showing of church progress for the past year will be very considerably in advance of the showing made for any previous year. Then there are decided steps in progressive enlargement of the scope of church endeavor (Continued on Page Eight.)

## BALLINGER MAKES A REPLY

### Secretary of Interior Denies Charges Against Him in Connection With Government—Not Interested in Coal Lands.

Washington, Nov. 19.—Replying to charges made in magazine publication, Secretary Ballinger, of the Interior Department, today took occasion to deny many of the reports which recently have been circulated concerning the conduct of his Department and to explain others.

"To say that I ever have advised, aided or lent support to any effort to perpetrate a fraud upon the Government," he said, "is not only false but is intentionally so if made by any one who has taken the trouble to inquire into the facts."

In explanation of the charges in connection with the Alaska coal lands he went into the history of President Roosevelt's withdrawal from entry of all the coal lands of Alaska in 1906, showing that the order was so modified by Secretary Garfield as to validate all applications made prior to May 16, 1907.

He then stated that no Alaska coal claims whatever have been patented and says that the investigation of all such claims with a view of determining their validity or invalidity has been vigorously prosecuted.

Mr. Ballinger denounced as "a plain ordinary fabrication" a report that he is interested in 155,000 shares of the Alaska Petroleum & Coal Company.

Asked about the statement that he had said that the proper course to take with the public domain was to "divide it up among the big corporations and let the people who know how to make money out of it," Mr. Ballinger replied: "So assinine a statement hardly merits a denial. Of course, I made no such statement. Such a thought could not be entertained by any normal intelligence. I have not only been consistently in the vanguard of the conservation movement, but have sought to give permanence along lines reasonably within the spirit of present law and to secure adequate additional laws."

He made equally emphatic denial of a statement that his firm is known as the Standard Oil legal adviser in Seattle.

## CONFERENCE AT GOLDSBORO.

### Colored Methodist in Annual Session—Standard of Ministry.

(Special Star Correspondence.)  
Goldsboro, N. C., Nov. 20.—Conference assembled this morning, Bishop Coppin presiding. Minutes of previous day were read and approved. During the reading of the minutes the Bishop took occasion to say to the young men who remained on the second year's class that if they did not improve in studies and pass up, they could not remain longer in the class. The standard of the ministry must be advanced morally and intellectually, he said. Rev. G. A. Gore was passed to the deaconate and will be ordained Sunday morning.

Dollar money collections amounted to \$2,784.93 this year. St. Stephen's church, Wilmington, raised the largest amount reported. The Conference donated \$103.00 to the mission work as a conference benevolence. This amount was raised by individual ministerial contributions.

Each minister's character was put on its passage this afternoon and the Conference called each man to a rigid accountability for his moral, religious, and official past doings this year.

Every eye was bathed in tears when Dr. James W. Telfair, presiding elder of the Wilmington district, requested to be placed on the superannuated roll. Dr. Telfair has been an honored minister of this conference since its organization some forty years ago. Dr. W. H. Copeheart with trembling voice and with sobbing made the motion that the retired colleague to await the roll call. Dr. Telfair left at 615 Walnut street, Wilmington.

Last night was the Conference educational anniversary. The report on education was read by Rev. E. R. Williams. He dealt very thoroughly with every phase of the educational work of the church. Prof. D. J. Jordan, president of Kittrell College, and Prof. R. Hawkins, commissioner of education of the A. M. E. church, were speakers of the hour. This was Prof. Jordan's first appearance before this Conference and his impression was excellent. Prof. Hawkins easily sustained his reputation as a speaker.

The Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society held its meeting in the afternoon. Prominently connected with this work is Mrs. A. Stroud, Mrs. L. L. Copeheart, Mrs. Mary Willie, Mrs. J. W. Brown, L. J. King, Mrs. Annie Morehead, former president.

G. D. C.

## WAS BURNED TO DEATH.

### Aged Salisbury Woman Victim—Dress Ignited From Fire.

Salisbury, N. C., Nov. 19.—Mrs. Sadler Brown, aged 50 years, was burned to death at her home here today. She was seated by an open fire when her dress ignited, and in an instant she was enveloped in flames.

The only member of the family present was her father, aged 80 years, blind and helpless.

## PRESIDENT URGES PRACTICAL SYSTEM

### Taft's Address on Waterway Improvements Ends Convention.

## CANNON'S IDEA BIG JOKE

### Most Notable Celebration in History of Norfolk—The Attitude of Congress—Waterways on Business Basis.

Norfolk, Va., Nov. 19.—As one of the concluding features of the convention of the Atlantic Seaside Waterways Association and to accept again the hospitality of the people of the Old Dominion, President Taft came to Norfolk today, reviewed a military and naval parade, made two speeches in which he bespoke his interest in a practical system of waterway improvement to be carried forward on a business like basis and not merely as a means of distributing patronage; partook of a Lynn Haven oyster roast under the shadows of the towering Cape Henry light houses, and attended a smoker in honor of a large corps of visiting newspaper men.

The President retired tonight on board the naval yacht Mayflower, on which he made the journey from Washington to Norfolk. The Mayflower will remain at anchor in Norfolk harbor until tomorrow morning when she will get underway for Hampton, where the President will attend in the forenoon a meeting of the board of trustees of the Hampton Normal Institute of which he is a member. In the afternoon he will deliver an address to the colored students of the institute and then sail for Washington.

Mrs. Taft accompanied the President to Norfolk today and while he was reviewing the big parade in his honor and later was making an open air address from the reviewing stand, Mrs. Taft and her sister, Mrs. Thomas K. Laughlin, Jr. of Pittsburg, came ashore from the Mayflower and went on a long sightseeing excursion. They visited among other places famous old St. Paul's Episcopal church, which still shows the wounds of the Revolutionary War. The mistress of the White House and her sister were quite unrecognized in all the excitement of the crush to see and hear the President. Mr. Taft was the dinner guest of Fergus Reid, of this city, and a company of Norfolk people, Mrs. Taft dined aboard the Mayflower.

The President's visit was made the occasion of probably the most notable celebration the city has ever had. At no time during the Jamestown Exposition did Norfolk seem to be aroused in the same pitch of enthusiasm as today and never before have the decorations approached the display which greeted Mr. Taft when he stepped ashore shortly after 9 o'clock this morning.

A reception to the Norfolk committee and the delegates to the waterways convention began the day's program and then followed the parade and speech by the President from a reviewing stand erected at the base of the Confederate monument. In his speech there, the President, after detailing his views as to waterways improvement, spoke a word for the United States Navy, declaring that the prestige of the Nation demands that the Navy be kept to a high standard of force and efficiency. The President also declared that he was in favor of fortifying Hampton Roads, the greatest strategic naval base in the world, by erecting an impregnable fort on an island placed half way between the Virginia capes. He said he had recommended such a fortification as Secretary of War and hoped to see the plan adopted during his term as President.

The President was taken by special train to Cape Henry for the old fashioned oyster roast. The oysters were served so temptingly and with such a lavish hand that when the President arose to speak he declared he felt like an oyster. delegates having practically completed the business of their convention on yesterday, gave the day over to participating in the welcome to the President.

In his speech at Cape Henry, the President dwelt again upon the necessity of taking up waterway improvements on a basis of sound business sense rather than on idealistic oratory. Mr. Taft also told a story on Speaker Cannon, of how he said he did not see the use of inland waterways "when it was only a biscuit thrown over into the ocean."

"But," said the President, "that is because he comes from Illinois. If he had to go around Cape Hatteras a few times he would understand the difference in a biscuit throw."

In order to make himself heard at the oyster roast, which was held in a low-ceiling pavilion, the President stood on a chair. Next to him sat Andrew Carnegie, who joined the Presidential party this morning.

"I feel like an oyster," began Mr. Taft, "and I ought to be as dumb as one; but when you get on the soil of Old Virginia there is something