

SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

President Would Protect Corporations from State Interference.

MODIFIES TRAFFIC IDEAS

Taft Would Prevent National Combines From Acquiring Stock of Competitors Except by Consent.

Washington, D. C.—President Taft's special message, dealing with amendments to the interstate commerce laws, looking to a more effective federal supervision of railroads, and conveying his recommendations for the passage of a federal incorporation act, was transmitted to congress and read in the house, the senate not being in session.

The message followed closely the forecasts that have been made from time to time and in the suggested legislation as to railroads, embodies all of the suggestions that the president has made from time to time in his speeches on the subject.

Mr. Taft suggests no changes in the Sherman anti-trust law at this time. The anti-trust feature of the message deals solely with the subject of federal charters. The president thinks that an opportunity should be given the big industrial combinations to bring their business more into the "zone of lawful law" by taking out a federal charter under certain prescribed conditions before it becomes necessary to proceed against every great corporation about which there is a breath of suspicion.

Duty and Purpose.

"It is the duty and the purpose of the executive," say the message, "to direct an investigation by the department of justice through the grand jury or otherwise into the history, organization and purpose of all the industrial combinations with respect to which there is any reasonable ground for suspicion that they have been organized for a purpose and are conducting business on a plan which is in violation of the anti-trust law."

Such a wholesale investigation and possible prosecution, the president points out, "would result in serious disturbances and produce a halt in our present prosperity that will cause suffering and strained circumstances among the innocent many for the fruits of the guilty few."

Conditions Made.

The conditions upon which federal charters are to be granted under the president's recommendations are: (1) The issuing of stock and bonds equal only to the cash paid in on the stock, or if stock be issued for property, then at a fair valuation, ascertained under approval and supervision of federal authority after full and complete disclosure of all facts pertaining to the value of property and the interest in it of the persons to which the stock is to be issued.

Corporations taking federal charters are to be prohibited from acquiring and holding stock in other corporations, except by special reports upon approval by the proper federal authorities. Full reports of operations are to be made to the department of commerce and labor at regular intervals. Federal incorporation is to be voluntary, but the president feels that most of the corporations will be glad of the opportunity to reform their business methods if given this opportunity. Otherwise the department of justice will investigate them. Nothing in the federal charters is to exempt any corporation from prosecution for violations of the anti-trust law.

Special Court.

The establishment of a United States court of commerce of five judges to hear and determine appeals from the interstate commerce commission, the only appeal from this court being in the United States supreme court.

Chicago Food High.

Cold Weather Makes Living Expensive in Chicago.

Chicago, Ill.—Present climatic conditions continue and prices of food products make many more gains, the question of living in Chicago will be a problem to many.

ARMY TO USE GUN SACKS.

War Department Grants Request of the Texas Farmers.

PINCHOT IS DISMISSED

President Removes Head of the Forestry Service.

Taft's Patience Exhausted

Pincho's Letter to Senator Dooliver Was More Than the President Could Stand.

Washington, D. C.—Gifford Pinchot, chief forester and intimate friend of Theodore Roosevelt, was dismissed from the service of the United States by President Taft for insubordination. Associate Forester Overton W. Price and Assistant Law Officer C. Shaw, Pinchot's immediate assistants in the forestry bureau, followed their chief out of the government employ.

Thoroughly indignant over the action of Mr. Pinchot in inducing Senator Dooliver to read a letter from him in the senate, President Taft would listen to no advice that the forester's violation of executive orders be overlooked pending the inquiry soon to be undertaken by congress. He declared the dignity of the office he had been chosen by the people to fill was being attacked and he would be unfaithful to his trust if he submitted longer.

HELPING THE FARMERS.

In Experimentation Government Expende Annually \$18,000,000.

New York City.—How gratifying it was to the farmers through the country to know that the United States government is spending in the neighborhood of \$18,000,000 every year on experimental work looking toward increasing the yield and efficiency of the farms of the United States.

SEEKING PARDON FOR MORSE.

President Taft Will Be Asked to Release Banker.

Portland, Maine.—A campaign to save Chas. W. Morse, the banker now serving 15 years in the Maine State Prison, was started here and petitions to President Taft asking for an unconditional pardon are being circulated. The petitions declare Morse has paid his debts, that popular demands influenced his conviction, and that he has no intention of repeating his imprisonment while contesting the case was penalty enough.

Taft Going to Alaska.

Washington, D. C.—President Taft is looking forward to a trip to Alaska late in the coming spring. He plans to go to the far northwestern territory immediately after the adjournment of congress and before going to Beverly for the late summer and fall.

Hogs Sell for \$9.

Chicago, Ill.—The \$9 hog arrived at the Union Stock Yards here. Except for a short period in 1882 when a swine sold at \$35 per hundredweight since the civil war.

New Italian Ambassador.

Berne.—The Marquis Cusani Confalonieri, who, for three years, has held the post of Italian minister to Switzerland, has been notified of his appointment as ambassador to the United States in succession to Baron Mayor Des Blancs.

Census Ruling.

Washington, D. C.—Census Director Durand has decided to extend from January 25 to January 31 the time in which persons desiring places as census enumerators may file their applications on blanks furnished by the census supervisors. The test applicants will be made on February 5, as previously announced.

Pensions For Aged U. S. Clerks.

Washington, D. C.—Efforts are to be made by congress to pass a law providing compulsory retirement and permitting a pension for superannuated government employees. Secretary MacVeagh has instructed Herbert D. Brown of his department to draw up a plan. The secretary is understood to have the support of President Taft.

TO STOP TOBACCO WAR.

Night Riders to Feel The Hands of Government.

Attempt to Break the Market Proved Disastrous.

KILLING THE BOLL WEEVIL

Deers Claim That Unprecedented Frost and Cold in South Means Large Crop.

New York City.—The recovery in the cotton market became almost as excited and sensational as the break earlier in the week.

Reports of very strong southern spot markets seemed to convince the traders that the collapse in futures had been chiefly the result of speculative conditions, and claims that the spinners were in the market on the decline tended to restore bullish confidence.

SENSATIONAL ATTACK ON HUGHES.

New York Governor Skyled Friend of Wall Street.

Albany, N. Y.—Senator Grady made a sensational attack on Governor Hughes in the senate following the reading of the governor's message. It was the governor's proposal to penalize the practice of bookmaking that aroused the ire of the senate minority leader to the point of attack. He declared that while the governor attacked the horse owner, the bookmaker and the man placing his bet on a horse race, he had never dared to attack the most monstrous gambling institution there is in the world—the New York stock exchange, and to the end of his career he will never have the courage to attack it.

"WOMAN RAFFLES" RELEASED.

Wife of Millionaire, Convicted of Burglary, Out of Jail.

Chicago, Ill.—Mrs. Evelyn Komadka known in Milwaukee where she was prominent in society as the "Woman Raffles" and wife of the late George Komadka, manufacturer, was paroled from the penitentiary at Joliet. The release was a surprise, which was kept secret. She was convicted two years ago of stealing \$1,000 worth of jewelry from Mrs. Clarence E. Komadka. She expects to become a nurse.

GORDON TAKES OATH.

Mississippi Sworn in as United States Senator.

Washington, D. C.—Occasionally nodding his head in acknowledgement of the admonitions of loyalty to the United States, contained in the oath of office administered to all senators, Colonel James Gordon, ex-confederate leader, who was appointed by Governor McLaughlin of Mississippi, was made a member of the United States senate.

Shorter Hours in Cotton Mills.

Boston, Mass.—Several hundred thousand operatives in mills of Massachusetts and Rhode Island are now working on a shorter schedule of hours, in consequence of the new fifty-eight-hour laws passed by the two state legislatures becoming effective. While the new statute applies only to women and minors, the manufacturers find it impossible to separate the department so that the men can work longer than the women and children.

Newsy Paragraphs.

Edward Payson Weston, the veteran pedestrian, announced that he will make one more transcontinental walk, and that he will go from ocean to ocean, this time within 100 days. Watson will start from Los Angeles at 4 o'clock p. m. February 1, and will be due in New York May 22. His hike from New York to San Francisco early last summer took one hundred and five days, but on that journey he encountered unfavorable weather.

CONGRESSMAN GRIGGS DEAD.

Georgia Congressman Dies Suddenly of Apoplexy.

Meeting With Success.

Coal Rates Reduced.

Tar Drippings.

PANAMA CANAL WORK PRAISED.

Senators Say System of Administration Is Excellent.

Washington, D. C.—Construction work on the Panama canal is not only proceeding splendidly, but the system of administration is excellent, in spite of the criticism directed to it. This is the consensus of opinion of the senatorial committee which returned to Washington after a visit of inspection to the canal. In the party were Senators Oliver, Penrose, Carter, Dixon, Heyburn and Clark.

PROFESSOR HERZGELI.

Professor Herzgeli, aviator and friend of Zeppelin, who was sent by Emperor William to Jamaica to study trade winds and the temperature at altitudes in and near the tropics, reports that at an altitude of ten thousand meters he found the air of the tropics colder than that of the Arctic regions at the same height. Of nine balloons sent up with instruments for these tests, four were lost in the Caribbean sea. The professor intimated that he would make an air test for an expedition to the north pole two years hence.

WOMAN BALKED LYNCHERS.

Mrs. Andell Drove Mob Away From Victim.

Kenosha, Wis.—Mrs. Andell, wife of a boarding house keeper at Twin Lakes, armed with a shotgun, is reported to have driven a mob of men away from the rope with which Sam Roberts, a cook at the ice-cutting camp, had been swung to a rafter in an ice house. She cut down the man just in time to save him from strangulation, according to the details of the attack.

TO SEEK SOUTH POLE.

England Promises \$100,000 of the Expedition.

London, England.—The Scott expedition in search of the South Pole, is now assured. The government has promised \$100,000 toward the \$200,000 which is the estimated expense. The expedition will set forth in July. The activity among the American Arctic explorers proved a convincing factor which determined the government to assist.

COTTON PRICE RISES

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NORTH CAROLINA FUNDS

Committee Appointed by Legislature Makes Its Report.

Raleigh, Special.—The committee appointed by the legislature to inspect the books of the State Auditor reports everything in fine shape and that for the year ended December 1, last, the receipts of the educational fund were \$78,602, and disbursements \$68,299. There was a year ago the 1st of last December a balance of the general fund of \$508,435, and the receipts up to the 1st of last December were \$3,139,907. Heavy appropriations by the last legislature cut down the balance so that after the disbursements amounting to \$3,594,548, the balance on hand December 1 was only \$52,195. Among the chief disbursements were the following: Repaying \$250,000 borrowed for use of the State hospital commission for the erection of buildings, etc.; \$85,000 to the deafmute school at Morganton; \$80,000 for the schools for blind and deafmutes at Raleigh; \$115,000 for the hospital at Raleigh; \$175,000 for that at Morganton; \$80,000 for that at Goldsboro; \$88,000 for the Agriculture and Mechanical College; \$101,000 for the university; \$101,000 for the Normal and Industrial College For Women; \$15,000 for the negro A. and M. College; \$14,000 for the Appalachian training school at Boone; \$14,000 for that at Collierville; \$63,000 to the Eastern training school at Greenville; \$20,000 for the Stonewall Jackson training school for boys; \$22,500 for the sanitarium for tuberculous patients; \$15,000 for the orphanages at Oxford; \$20,000 for the negro normal school.

Other features of the disbursements were \$300,000 for interest charges, including 6 per cent bonds, 4 per cent bonds and penitentiary farm and debt bonds of these bonds the State buying in during the year \$110,000 of debt bonds and \$61,000 of farm bonds; national guard \$27,000; for totally disabled soldiers, \$13,000; dangerous insane, \$5,000; insurance on State property, \$10,000; public printing, \$41,000; for the legislature, \$75,000; for salaries of judges and solicitors, \$90,000; high schools in country districts, \$50,000; public printing, \$41,000; public schools and rural libraries for the same, \$200,000.

Then as to the various departments of the government there was paid out these sums, in round numbers: Auditor's department, \$67,000; Insurance, \$9,500; Treasurer, \$9,300; Librarian, \$3,000; geologist, \$13,750; State Department, \$10,000; historical commission, \$5,000; Corporation Commission, \$20,000; Executive department, \$6,900; Department of Labor, \$4,150. Such an expenditure as \$18,000 for reprinting old Supreme Court reports need not be included, as this is a revenue producer, the volumes being sold at a profit.

Big Traction Company For Charlotte

Charlotte, Special.—A domestication certificate has been issued to the Charlotte Traction Co. W. S. Lee is president. It was chartered in 1908 in New Jersey, with \$300,000 capital authorized, to operate street cars and general electric purposes. Also a charter is granted a Gastonia company to operate street cars. The Gastonia company is now at work on the line between there and Mt. Holly.

Truckers Getting Ready.

Elizabeth City, Special.—The intensity of the trucking interest in this section was given great emphasis here when one farmer in Currituck county, bought two miles of cotton sheeting for plant bed cover. The truckers are now busy preparing for the coming season.

Will Meet June 15th.

Wilmington, Special.—The North Carolina Medical Society meets at Wrightsville Beach, June 15th.

Notorious Blockader Captured.

Raleigh, Special.—Eban Cagle, the most notorious blockader in this State, has been captured in Montgomery county. He has for many years defied the authorities.

Rural Letter Carriers.

Charlotte, Special.—The N. C. Rural Letter Carriers' Association holds its annual meeting this year, July 4-5, at Raleigh.

Meeting With Success.

Fayetteville, Special.—Capt. J. D. McNeill, president of the North Carolina Firemen's Association, is meeting with much success in organizing a fire insurance company, the controlling stock to be held by members of the North Carolina Firemen's Association.

Coal Rates Reduced.

Raleigh, Special.—An order of the Corporation Commission, effective at once, reduces freight rates on carload shipments of coal with the State 33 1-4 per cent.

Tar Drippings.

The sales of leaf tobacco on the floors of the Wilson warehouses for the month of December were 998,282 pounds, which brought \$181,923.62, or an average of \$9.19 per hundred pounds. The total sales for the season, to date amount to 15,332,718 pounds, which brought the enormous sum of \$1,303,145.50. The North Carolina State Board of Examiners in Optometry will meet in Raleigh, Wednesday, January 19th.

POSTAL REVENUES GROW

First Assistant Postmaster General Deals in Facts and Figures

Washington, Special.—As a business institution the Postoffice Department, next to the United States Treasury, is the greatest in the government. According to figures submitted by Charles P. Gradfield, First Assistant Postmaster General, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1909, made public in his annual report, the gross revenue of the postal service reached the enormous total of \$203,562,383, an increase of \$12,083,720, or 6.31 per cent, over the preceding year. There were 7,202 presidential postoffices on July 1, 1909. Of this number 398 were first class, an increase of 14; 1,707 were second class, an increase of 112; and 5,697 were third class, an increase of 230. The total increase in the number of presidential offices was 356. There were 1,444 postoffices established during the year and 2,004 were discontinued, leaving a total of 60,114 postoffices in operation on June 30, 1909. During the year 1,626 postmasters were appointed at presidential offices. At fourth-class offices 9,151 postmasters were appointed.

The report recommends an amendment to the law whereby fourth-class offices may be advanced when the receipts of the office qualify it; wages of the clerical and carrier force should be increased in first and second class offices. Nearly half the offices of presidential class are housed in leased quarters.

Petitions For Morse Pardon.

Portland, Me., Special.—Petitions addressed to President Taft asking for the absolute pardon of Charles W. Morse are in circulation here. The petitions set forth that he did no intentional wrong; that he has repented his debts; that his jury was largely influenced by popular clamor and that, even though guilty, Morse has paid the penalty by his imprisonment while awaiting the outcome of the case.

DENIES CHARGE OF MADRIZ.

Zelaya Defends Self in Case of Groce and Cannon.

Mexico City, Special.—As justification of his refusal to pardon Cannon and Groce and in support of a denial which he made last Saturday of irregularity, Jose Santos Zelaya exhibited for the first time telegrams which he claimed to have received from the American victims of Nicaragua's martial law.

Zelaya uttered his denial in reply to charges made by President Madriz of Nicaragua, that the executions of Groce and Cannon were illegal and that the United States government was justified in its resentment over this action.

Agree on Arbitration.

Chicago, Special.—Members of the switchmen's union representing the western railroads have agreed with the general managers' association to submit their requests for advanced wages and change in hours to arbitration under the Erdman law. The switchmen asked for arbitration.

Five Burn to Death in House.

Burnside, Ky., Special.—Mrs. Martha Corlier, her daughter, Mrs. James Kidd, and three small children were burned to death in a fire which destroyed Kidd's house at Plavens, Wayne county.

Two Yegmen Are Killed.

Tallahassee, Fla., Special.—In a struggle with two safe blowers, Paul Sauls, 17 years old, son of J. M. Sauls, the night watchman at the postoffice building, shot and killed them both in the basement of the building. The boy was only slightly wounded. The two cracksmen were white.

Plot on Zelaya's Life.

Mexico City, Special.—Jose Santos Zelaya has been warned by officials here that the police authorities are in receipt of secret information that two Salvadoreans and an American are in Mexico City and are only awaiting a favorable opportunity to take his life.

Heavy Cost of Canal.

New York, Special.—"I believe it will cost \$500,000,000 to complete the Panama Canal and that will amount to \$5.00 a head for every man, woman and child in the United States," said Mr. Langley, of Kentucky, returning from the Isthmus.

Lad Coughs and Cures Himself of Appendicitis in Nick of Time.

Pittsburg, Special.—Surgeons at Kittinging, Pa., had placed Norman Barnett, the little son of George Barnett, on the operating table to cut out his appendix, but just as the knife was ready the lad was seized with a fit of coughing which cured him. He emitted a needle, which is believed to have caused his illness.

Students Have Hookworm.

New Orleans, Special.—Consternation prevails among the 100 or more students of Tulane College following the examination of every student for hookworm. It is announced that more than a third of the junior class were found to be infected with the parasite. Practically all the students said to be thus afflicted are apparently robust specimens of manhood.