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TAFT ON CONSERVATION

President Sends Special Message to Congress on Subject.

REFERS TO LAND OFFICE ROW

President Taft Would Issue Bonds to Deepen Mississippi Valley Waterways.

Washington, D. C.—President Taft sent to congress another special message, this time dealing with the conservation of the nation's resources. He urges the continuation of the Roosevelt policies, and pays tribute to the work of the Interior Department in the movement. He recommends a bond issue of \$10,000,000 for the reclamation of arid lands, the bonds to run 14 years or more and the proceeds to be applied to the completion of the projects already taken up and their extension. Rentals from water sites would, he believes, aid in clearing the debt.

To Safeguard Water Powers.

He also urges a careful survey of the river improvement work, particularly regarding the Mississippi, in that it may be pushed still further eventually. The deepening of the Ohio and the Missouri, now under way, should be pushed, he holds. The message also urges laws to safeguard the nation's water power. Although the message is of special significance in regard to the long dispute between Gifford Pinchot, late chief forester, and Secretary Ballinger, the president mentions that controversy but briefly, declaring that the results of the congressional inquiry into the case are not needed to determine the value of the new legislation he urges.

Improvement of the Mississippi.

One of the principal recommendations of the message is the careful consideration of the improvement of the Mississippi and the pushing of the work if it is found justifiable. Referring to the present situation of the public lands President Taft makes this startling statement:

"The truth is that title to millions of acres of public lands was fraudulently obtained and that the right to recover a large part of such lands for the government long since ceased by reason of statutes of limitations." Later on, returning to the illegal holdings of lands rightfully the nation and referring specifically, although without mention of names, to the lands involved in the Ballinger-Pinchot dispute—the Cunningham, Alaska coal lands and claims—he says:

"The Cunningham Coal Lands. Investigations into violations of the public land laws and the prosecution, as has been the withdrawal of coal lands for classification and valuation and the temporary withholding of power sites."

The present situation, except those that relate to purely agricultural lands or those containing precious metals, are, says the president, "not adapted to carry out the modern view of the best disposition of public lands to private ownership." Turning to the public land laws he believes necessary, he declares that it is the duty of congress to validate the withdrawals which have been made by the secretary of the interior and the president and to authorize the secretary temporarily to withdraw lands pending submission to congress recommendations as to legislation to meet conditions or emergencies as they arise.

Should Classify Lands.

"One of the most pressing needs of public land reform," he says, "is that lands should be classified according to their principal value or use." It was on this point that the Ballinger-Pinchot row hung, as the chief forester maintained that the government's conduct in the litigation over the Cunningham claims was intended to thwart the United States from securing the full value of the Alaska coal claims, which the claimants wished to secure at a nominal value not based on their coal value strictly. The means for accomplishing this end, holds the president, is through the Interior Department and its branch, the geological survey. "Much of the confusion, fraud and delay which has existed in the past has resulted from lack of an official and determined classification," asserts the message.

Conserve Phosphate Deposits.

The proposal of the president to try to Alaska, as well as to the United States, is to the United States.

LET'S BIRTHDAY RECOGNIZED.

Government Authorized Virginia Office to Close January 19. Washington, D. C.—Official recognition of the birthday of General H. Lee is to be given by the treasury department. The anniversary of the birth of the famous confederate leader falls on January 19, and the collector of customs at Newport News, Va., has been authorized to give his office on that day for as long a time as public business will permit. The honor paid General Lee, it is noted, is an unusual one, as, in every case, it happens that a public office is closed on the day of a celebration of birthdays of notable men.

Marked 50 WOMEN.

Emil Karl von Mueller Arrested on Bigamy Charge. New York City.—Baron Emil Karl von Mueller is declared, by the Los Angeles, Cal., on a charge of bigamy, to have practiced bigamy on a wholesale scale in his victims. Mueller has victimized no less than fifty women during the last ten years.

COTTON CORNER FAILS

Scales, the Texas Bull Leader, Forced to Sell.

MANY TRADERS WIPED OUT

Desertion By Men Who Had Followed the Leadership of Scales Caused the Slump.

New York City.—The big bull campaign in cotton recently culminated with the most spectacular decline seen in a week of erratic recessions. Reports freely circulated in the trade after the close of the market, had it that the position of the leading southern bulls has been completely undermined by the continued liquidation which has been in progress since early in the year. At the low point New York contracts showed a decline of from \$5.20 to \$5.00 a bale from the closing prices of the night previous, which was a loss of about \$200 a bale from the high figures of the day, and of \$13.00 to \$12.50 a bale from the high point of the season. May contracts touched 13.70.

The bull market has lasted for over a year at the height of the campaign it was estimated that E. C. Scales, of Texas, the leader, had accumulated paper profits of \$2,000,000 for the season. As a Christmas present he is said to have given \$10,000 to one of his favorite brokers, and another \$10,000 to a friend, and that he had made over a million in cash to one of his brothers. His heaviest holdings were in May cotton, and his friends were generally believed at one time to control contracts calling for the delivery of fully one million bales during that month.

RHOIDE ISLAND BALKS BOND DEAL.

House Unanimously Repeals the Act Accepting North Carolina Bonds.

Providence, R. I.—In order that the state of Rhode Island may escape embarrassing consequences from the act rushed through in the final hours of the last legislature, compelling the state to accept more than a half million dollars' worth of bonds of the state of North Carolina and to sue the latter state for payment of the coupons on these bonds, the house of representatives unanimously voted to repeal the act. The house also unanimously adopted a resolution directing General Treasurer Walter A. Bond to return to the state of North Carolina bondholders of New York.

Seminole Officials Found Guilty.

Columbia, S. C.—John Y. Garlington and J. Stobo Young, formerly president and secretary, respectively, of the Seminole Securities Company, were found guilty of breach of trust with fraudulent intent, the fourth count in the indictment against them. The other four counts were dismissed. A motion for a new trial was made. The charge on which Garlington and Young were indicted was that they fraudulently appropriated from the Seminole Securities Company amounting to \$55,596.70.

380 Bottles of Whiskey Burned.

Fayetteville, Tenn.—Three hundred and eighty bottles of whiskey have been burned on the public square here by members of the Order of United Sons of America. The liquor was sold at auction by the sheriff after it was captured in a raid on a soft drink stand. It cost the league 15 cents per bottle.

Roosevelt Bags White Rhinoceros.

Butiaba, Uganda.—Colonel Roosevelt has shot the white rhinoceros, which was one of the objects of his African hunting trips, according to advices received here, by runner. The former president got the white rhinoceros at Camp Rhino, where the party now is.

Storm Caused Great Damage.

Washington, D. C.—Dispatches from points in the Mississippi and Ohio valleys tell of enormous damage done by the recent cold and heavy snow. Even with a thaw in sight, great apprehension is felt in many cities along river banks.

\$5,617,200 for Fortifications.

Washington, D. C.—The house passed the fortification appropriation bill, appropriating \$5,617,200. Almost half the amount is to be spent for fortifications in the Philippines and Hawaii.

Madriz's Troops Refuse to Fight.

Bluefields, Nicaragua.—That the troops of the late President Madriz have refused to give battle to the Estrada army under General Chamorro at Acopya and are retreating toward Managua, was indicated in a message from the front. Spies declare that Madriz has bottled up all sources of news on the Pacific coast.

King's Engagement Announced.

Paris, France.—A special dispatch received here from Lisbon quotes from an authorized source, affirming that the marriage of King Manuel of Portugal and Princess Victoria Patricia, a young daughter of the Duke of Connaught, will be solemnized in May.

To Test Tennessee Prohibition Law.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—A test of the law which prohibits the manufacture of whiskey in Tennessee, is to be made here. Sheriff Conner summoned the proprietors of the Deep Springs distillery to appear before the grand jury. J. W. Kelly & Co. own the plant, which has been in constant operation since the state wide law went into effect, January 1. On the outcome of the case practically depends the potency of the prohibition laws of Tennessee.

TO STOP GAMBLING IN FUTURES.

Conference on Subject is Held at the White House.

FARMERS ARE CONCERNED

Charge That the Rural Mail Service Causes the Postal Deficit Are Greatly Exaggerated.

Washington, D. C.—A conference looking to the renewal of the light on gambling in futures was held at the white house, when President Taft took the subject up with Representative Scott of Kansas, Lowering of Massachusetts, and Burleson of Texas. The discussion was based on the bill introduced by Mr. Scott last year forbidding interstate telegraph, telephone and the mails to transmit messages with reference to future contracts for the sale of farm products where there is no intention to deliver the products. Attorney General Wickersham and Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, were present at the conference. In the end the whole matter was referred to the attorney general for consideration as to the form of the Scott bill and to Commissioner Smith for recommendation in the light of his previous investigation of the methods of the cotton exchange.

SOLDIERS IN THE SENATE.

Nine Ex-Confederate Fighters in the United States Senate.

Memphis, Tenn.—Colonel James Gordon, the new member of the United States senate from Mississippi, takes rank among the oldest members in point of years. He has just turned seventy-six years. The death of Senator McLaughlin of Mississippi reduced the number of confederate veterans in the senate to eight, but the appointment of Colonel James Gordon as his successor restored the number to the original figure of nine. The other eight ex-confederates in the senate are Bankhead of Alabama, Tallaferro of Florida, Bacon of Georgia, McNary of Louisiana, Money of Mississippi and Daniel and Martin of Virginia.

HARMON NOT READY FOR RACE.

Cannot Consider the Matter Until After Election in Ohio.

Mobile, Ala.—Governor Judson Harmon of Ohio, in answer to a letter to a personal friend in Mobile, said he could not give the slightest consideration until after the fall election in Ohio, as he would be a candidate for reelection for governor, and meant to make the fight on state issues, and would be unable to hold the republicans to that line. He could not put himself in the light of a national candidate. Governor Harmon's letter in effect was that the question of his candidacy in 1912 must develop of itself.

MEN'S FEET LARGER.

An Increased Demand for Huge Sizes in Shoes.

Brooklyn, Mass.—A local expert asserts that men's feet are larger than they used to be, and that there is evidence of a general increase in demand for the large sizes in shoes. More than eight and nine being made up than ever before. The demand is being felt for twelve, and from that anywhere up to fifteen. They say Chicago and other cities have numbers of citizens who wear fifteenes.

HIGH PRICES LAID TO LABOR.

Advance in Prices of Commodities Due to Labor, Says Pres. Kirby.

Springfield, Mass.—Large responsibility for the higher cost of living was laid by John Kirby, Jr., president of the National Manufacturers' Association, upon what he called the "labor trust." In an address before the Employers' Association of Springfield, Mr. Kirby further declared that trade unionism aspired to "absolute control over all labor that is hired and paid for by employers."

NEWSY PARAGRAPHS.

Prison Commissioner Henry Solomon of New York advocates surgery on criminals to overcome obstacles which bar his way to successful life. "The most casual inquiry discloses among the convicts," he says, "the presence of a large variety of diseases amenable to modern surgery. They have apparently been almost totally disregarded, and the convict has been released with his physical impairment, and his mind handicapped in his struggle for a livelihood."

STATISTICS OF GIFTS FOR HUMANITY.

During the year 1909 roots up a total of \$10,641,253, about half being in the form of gifts and half bequests. This was distributed as follows: Charity, \$7,446,441; education, \$4,122,241; religion, \$2,244,885; art, \$3,616,410; libraries, \$3,012,293. At the head of the list of individual givers stands John D. Rockefeller, credited with \$12,130,500, most of which went to educational agencies. Next in rank stands Andrew Carnegie, with a total of \$4,622,500. Mrs. Russell Sage comes in with \$1,551,761, and other names prominent on this roll of honor are D. K. Pierson, Charles E. Ellis, Elizabeth Bingham, H. C. Frick, J. D. Archibald, Caroline Phelps Stokes, John S. Kennedy, George Crocker, A. H. Wilder, John M. Baker, etc.

WOMAN UPHOLDS THE WORLD.

Sculptor Puts Woman in the Role of Atlas.

New York City.—Woman upholds the world in a statue of Atlas just completed by Gutzon Borglum, the New York sculptor. Mr. Borglum disagrees with the ancients, who modeled Atlas as a broad-shouldered, heavy-chested man with a sweeping beard, and this figure is intended to record his conviction that the real burden of the world is supported by women.

CONFERENCE ON SUBJECT IS HELD AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

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THE FUTURE OF THE RURAL MAIL SERVICE.

Washington, D. C.—The future of the rural delivery service is a topic which interests 20,000,000 people, or one-half of those living in continental United States. The references made from time to time as to the cost of the service that furnishes the farmers of the country their mail, has caused some concern lest there should be a discontinuance of the service, and further extension of the service. These references to expense and the charge that the rural service causes the postal deficit, are greatly exaggerated and calculated to mislead popular sentiment, and do injury to the greatest wealth producers in the aggregate in the nation.

THE PER CAPITA COST OF RURAL DELIVERY.

Rural delivery is now an established fact in practically every community in the country where local conditions warrant it. The cost of the rural mail service is not only the least expensive of the national utilities in proportion to members employed, but is one of the smallest in money yield in large part an equivalent in money for outlay besides service which benefits the whole people and the whole country, appurtenant as it does to the producing factor and not destroying element in the equation. The per capita cost of rural delivery in 1908 on the basis of a constituency of 20,000,000 inhabitants served, about one-half of whom are of gainful age and occupation, was \$1.75.

An approximation based upon a special count for March, April and May, 1909, showing that mail is usually lighter than during other months yielded for the fiscal year 1908-9, 2,723,262,900 pieces handled by rural mail carriers on full, with the exceptions noted, full postage was paid. Thus in the brief space of four years we have an increase in the volume of rural delivery business amounting to 1,336,204,289.

SAYS PULPIT IS OBSOLETE.

Failing Church Attendance Proves the Failure of the Pulpit.

New York City.—"Is the pulpit obsolete?" asked Dr. Felix Adler, the lecturer and author, and answered "yes" to his own question. "Failing church attendance," continued the speaker, "testifies to the failure of the pulpit. Formerly, views on important subjects were heard by the clergy. Now we hear the views of bankers." "The best men are no longer going into the pulpit. The age is practical and men want visible results. In turn, the influx of inferior men diminishes regard for the pulpit. "Many as an art is dying out. In the pilgrim days men listened to preaching for nine hours at a stretch. Now they will not stand more than 25 minutes."

PRICE OF MEAT RISING.

Packer Swift Says Scarcity of Live Stock is Responsible.

Denver, Colo.—Harold Swift states: "Prices of meats are very high now, but there is every indication that they will go still higher. This is attributable to the high prices of corn and the consequent scarcity of livestock. As long as the scarcity continues, it is well to educate people to use the cheaper cuts of meat. These cuts are just as good and more wholesome if properly cooked."

HIGHEST AEROPLANE FLIGHT.

Louis Paulhan Rose Over 4,000 Feet at Los Angeles.

Aviation Camp, Los Angeles, Cal.—Louis Paulhan, the French aviator, broke all official and unofficial records for altitude in a Farman biplane. It is estimated that he rose to a height of more than 4,000 feet. The methods of measurements are not exact, this may be questioned, but it is certain that he exceeded Hubert Latam's record, made at Moulmoulet, France, December 1, 1909, which was given at between 1,600 and 1,800 feet. The instrument on Paulhan's machine registered his greatest height at 4,600 feet.

STEAMER'S MEMORABLE TRIP.

Seventeen of Crew of British Ship Died During Voyage.

Savannah, Ga.—The British steamship Goodwin has arrived in port from Caleta Buena, Chile, after a memorable voyage. Since sailing on November 1st last for this port, 17 members of the crew of 63 men either died or have been left behind for medical treatment. Fifteen of the crew of Lascars and seven of them died. Three were buried at sea. The carpenter was washed overboard in a storm. Eight of the sailors were left at Montevideo. Captain Foster brought the ship into port with some of the crew still suffering from diseases, but improved.

3 PERSONS KILLED.

Fire Destroyed Several of the James-Town Expedition Buildings.

Norfolk, Va.—Three persons, two of them children of Walter H. Hix, were burned to death in a fire which destroyed several of the small or buildings on the Jamestown Exposition grounds. The fire started in the Baltimore City building, which was occupied by H. T. Halstead of Baltimore, as a residence. The occupants were all asleep when the fire began.

R. F. D. MISREPRESENTED

Comparative Cost of Rural Mail Service Is Not Great.

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LATE NEWS NOTES.

General.

It was reported in New York City that Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. P. Morgan, is contemplating the formation of a \$1,000,000 corporation to manufacture shirtwaists. The report could not be verified. Miss Morgan has been an active sympathizer with the shirtwaist makers now on strike. "I will devote my entire time to my husband," Mrs. Charles W. Morse declared. Mrs. Morse is back at her home in New York City from a visit to her husband, who is in the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga. She intends, she said, to invoke every possible legal means to secure the former banker's release.

The \$180,621 was spent in the United States last year for the treatment and cure of persons afflicted with lung diseases is announced by the Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. In this work New York ranks first, Pennsylvania second and Massachusetts third. The next seven states in order named are Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, California, Colorado, Connecticut and Ohio.

The family of G. Rowland Leavitt, banker and railroad financier, of New York City, confirms the announcement that his daughter, Miss Margaret Howland Leavitt, 25 years old, and heir to a million dollars, was married "without the knowledge or consent of her parents" to Joseph R. Smollen, her chauffeur.

If Referee in Bankruptcy Blair will allow, Alice Copely Thaw, sister of Harry K. Thaw, now in Mattawoman asylum, New York state, will pay \$10,000 for some cuff links, scarf pins, a cigar cutter and books said to have been Harry Thaw's when he was a boy in Pittsburg. A petition was filed by the trustee of the estate of Thaw, requesting that the personal effects of the former Pittsburger be sold for the benefit of his creditors.

The annual message of Governor Hughes announced the gift of 10,000 acres of land along the upper reaches of the Hudson river from the widow of E. H. Harriman, carrying out his intention to form the nucleus of a great state park. Mrs. Harriman also gives \$1,000,000 to further the park plan and contributions are also made by Rockefeller and Morgan.

WASHINGTON.

Carrying an appropriation of \$95,200,000 for the maintenance of the army for the fiscal year of 1911, the appropriation bill passed the house by a vote of 183 to 106; present and not voting, 1. The opposition was due to the fact that the department estimates were exceedingly high.

The treasury deficit for the first six months of the fiscal year just ended is \$25,500,000 and the working cash balance is only \$23,267,000. The treasury officials find it impractical to issue Panama bonds to relieve the situation because the outstanding 2 per cent bonds have gone below par and it is feared that an issue of 3 per cent would still further depress the 2s.

Representative Sulzer of New York wants the United States to have the finest roads in the world, and accordingly, he has introduced a bill providing for the construction of a road to the different states sums for the purpose not exceeding a million dollars annually, the states to pay it back yearly. "The postoffice department would supervise the work of building the roads."

Seven hundred rural schools will at once be opened by the government in the eastern part of Oklahoma, according to a statement made by Jno. D. Benedict, superintendent of Indian schools in Oklahoma. The government will spend \$150,000 to maintain schools in districts where there is no school. Full-blood Indian and minor lands under the enabling act can not be taxed.

Secretary of State Knox is quoted as defining his foreign policy as being the protection of every American citizen in whatever portion of the globe he may be. Said Knox: "The same protection to American citizens as Great Britain extends to her subjects. I do not propose to have it said during my administration of the state department that an American traveler abroad has had to seek protection under the British or German flag."

To prevent a serious set-back to the development of the Pearl harbor, Hawaii, naval station through exhaustion of the regular appropriation of \$1,000,000, on February 1, the secretary of the navy sent to congress a deficiency estimate of \$300,000 toward completing the dredging of the 35-foot channel for the station. Secretary Meyer hopes to have the station ready to take care of the fleet by July 1, 1912.

President Taft is heartily in favor of the plan to raise the battleship Maine from the bottom of Havana harbor. The president has informed Representative Lord of Michigan that he desired to see the latter's bill, appropriating money for the purpose, enacted into law, and that he stood ready to offer support.

Quite a radical change in the manner of conducting the great state receptions at the white house are noted for the first time in many administration refreshments are now served. The blue room circle, which flourished during the Roosevelt administration when a select circle of social friends were invited behind the line, was entirely done away with.

Secretary of State Knox gave out a statement explanatory of a circular note which he had sent to other nations on October 18th last. The proposal was in substance that nations having constitutional objections to any direct appeal from their own higher court should let the Hague court arbitrate the question of a veto capture as a retrial en novo, with power only to award damages. That it is proposed to invest the international peace court with the functions of a court of arbitral justice in time of peace.

ROUGH ROAD IN CONGRESS

Insurgents Expected to Keep up Hostilities.

UNREST EXTENDS TO SENATE.

Fate of Several Administration Bills One of the Liveliest Topics With National Law-Makers.

Washington, Special.—No matter how satisfactory an arrangement is made for the selection of the joint committee to investigate the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, the insurgent fight promises to occupy a prominent place in the congressional situation during the week. Dissensions between the insurgents and regulars in the House have occupied the center of the stage for a fortnight. The bickering has even spread to the Senate wing of the Capitol and legislation there has been at standstill.

That there will be a lull in hostilities in the House as soon as the Ballinger-Pinchot committee is appointed is concealed, but those who are anxious that legislation may proceed without delay or not over sanguine of their efforts to keep the insurgent row in check. They look for renewed outbreaks whenever any question affecting the Cannon rules is interjected into the proceedings. Second interest to the discussion of the battle between the Republican organization and the insurgents in the House is the gossip in both branches of Congress as to what will be the fate of the several administration bills to put into force what are known as Taft policies as differentiated from Roosevelt policies. These embrace the program for the amendment of the interstate commerce laws, the Sherman anti-trust law, and carrying into effect measures for the conservation of natural resources.

Little opposition has been heard to the administration measures for the strengthening of the interstate commerce act. On all sides it seems to be conceded that some such measure as is proposed by Mr. Taft will be enacted. Several hearings of more than ordinary interest are scheduled to take place, or at least begin, during the week. There will be the consideration of the interstate commerce bills at both ends of the Capitol, the Mann call bill before the Senate committee on intercommerce canals, and the meat inspection question before the House committee on agriculture. Another interesting situation will be raised in the House committee on expenditures in the Interior Department by Representative Hitchcock of Nebraska, who will endeavor to substantiate the charges made by him in the House of extravagance in the conduct of land offices.

GARLINGTON GUILTY.

Former Officer of Seminole Securities Company Sentenced to Hard Labor

Columbia, S. C., Special.—Judge Prince Saturday sentenced John Y. Garlington and James Stobo Young, secretary and treasurer of the defunct Seminole Securities Company, who were tried in five counts for conspiracy and fraud in connection with their manipulation of \$55,000 of the assets of the company with fraudulent intent; the former to three years and the latter to one year on the chain-gang or State penitentiary. Bail has been granted pending appeal, at \$5,000 each.

Shoe and Leather Men Meet.