

FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 25, 1909.

FIVE CENTS A COPY.

STIRRED BY WASTE IN U. S.

Legislation Likely to Follow President's Message on Conservation.

MANY INFLUENTIAL MEN ON THE COMMISSION

Members of Inquiring Body Represent Power in the Senate and House—All Are Impressed with Importance of the Work—Several Bills Will be Introduced—National Conservation Commission to be Made Permanent With an Appropriation.

Washington, Jan. 25.—President Roosevelt's message to Congress, in which he transmits the report of the National Conservation Commission, containing an astounding showing of waste and prodigality in national resources, is likely to result in legislation at this session.

Already there are signs that the message has made a profound impression on Congress and on the country. While it is well understood that there is powerful opposition in both the House and the Senate to such a commission, it is believed that the President's message will conserve the riches of the nation's soil, mines, waters and forests that future generations may be benefited by them; it is also true the President's ideas have powerful and active support among Senators and Representatives.

Bills Being Framed. At an early date bills will be introduced in both Houses for the purpose of making an appropriation for the National Conservation Commission and authorizing a permanent commission, either directly or in effect. The proposed legislation will have the unswerving backing of the White House and a powerful contingent of the Senate and House.

Commission Influential. The National Conservation Commission consists of eight members. Of these eight are influential members of the Senate and House. Without exception these legislators are impressed with the view that it is of the highest importance to take steps in a legislative way in the direction of conservation, and that without delay.

Democrats Will Frame a Bill. Taking advantage of the recent exhaustive hearing minority will frame measure with which to go before the Nation.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Democratic members of the House announce that it has been definitely decided by them to prepare a Democratic tariff bill, and to make a fight for it. It will be known as the Clark bill, in recognition of Champ Clark, leader of the Democratic side of the Ways and Means committee.

Skating Championship. Cleveland, O., Jan. 25.—Scores of Clevelanders are here to attend the national indoor championships, which will be decided during the next three days. The tourney will be followed by a meet in Pittsburgh for the International indoor skating championships of the United States and Canada.

Killed Wife and Suicided. Cleveland, Jan. 25.—R. T. Millsburn, a farmer, shot and killed his wife in their home near Willoughby early to-day and then went to the city where he blew out his brains. He left a suicide letter saying that all his money was lost.

Girl Athlete to Yed. St. Louis, Jan. 25.—Miss Anna Seiver, daughter of a St. Louis police sergeant, and one of the best-known girl athletes in the country, will be married to-morrow to Joseph J. Tyra, of St. Paul.

WILL SEEK EXPLORER

Dr. F. Cook, the Pole-Seeker, Not Heard from Since March, 1908.

EXPLORER WILL SEARCH FOR FRIEND WHO STARTED IN 1907

Dillon Wallace and His Companions Will Go to the Northwest Coast of Greenland, Where Dr. Cook Made His Headquarters Preparatory to His Attempted Dash for North Pole.

New York, Jan. 25.—Dillon Wallace, the explorer, who was with Leonidas Hubbard when he was lost in Labrador, and who subsequently penetrated the heart of an untracked country there when he was searching for the body of his former companion, will head a relief expedition which is to sail from New York about July 1st to search for Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the Brooklyn explorer, who made an attempt to reach the pole in July 1907, and who has not been heard from since last March.

The expedition is to be financed by private parties, and will sail under the auspices of the Arctic Club of America, a New York organization, which is busy in securing the financial support necessary to outfit the expedition.

Friends Grow Anxious. Dr. Cook's long-continued absence in the frozen region beyond the last outpost of civilization on the northwest coast of Greenland did not at first alarm those here who have been interested in the effort he was making to reach the pole, but the fact that he was alone with a party of Eskimo and that he had not reappeared at his base of operations, where he had promised to be ere this, has caused increasing anxiety.

Will Move Northward. The steamer that will carry supplies to last eighteen months at the most. These will be landed at Etah where Dr. Cook had erected a shack before he started northward, and if the expedition does not find the explorer there, it will move northward establishing caches of food along the line.

Attempt on Life of Lord Kitchener. An attempt on the life of Lord Kitchener by an attendant in a private car at Lilloach, was frustrated to-day through the activity of the other attendant.

Officers' Banquet. St. Joseph, Mo., Jan. 25.—Pie will appear prominently on the bill of fare of to-night's banquet to be held by the officers and employees of the city of St. Joseph. About 125 members of the city hall family will gather about the pie counter with the avowed intention of discussing ideas that may be of benefit in furthering the interests of the city.

Boycott on Austria Will Continue. Constantinople, Jan. 25.—The boycott committee declared to-day that the boycott against Austria would be continued until Austria had lost a sum equal to that paid Turkey as indemnity for the annexation of Bosnia.

In Honor of Burns. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 25.—Members of the Order of Scottish Clans in this city and Minneapolis will to-night celebrate the birthday of Robert Burns with a banquet and ball.

West Virginia Coal Strike Is Growing in Bitterness. Tunnelton, W. Va., Jan. 25.—The strike in the mines here has grown in bitterness during the last 24 hours—so rapidly that there is serious fear of rioting, and the authorities are considering the advisability of calling out troops. Four hundred men are out and all are in a wicked temper because of the importation of non-union miners.

There was a pistol fight yesterday between strikers and non-union miners.



A Touch Up on the Parks.

TEST CASE ON HEPBURN LAW

Inter-State Commerce Commission Investigating Boston and Maine Railway—Interest in Case All Over United States.

Boston, Jan. 25.—Charged with issuing free passes for inter-State passenger transportation, the Boston & Maine railroad is to-day being investigated by the Inter-State Commerce Commission. The hearing is looked upon as a test case, in which railroads in all parts of the country will be interested.

SENATE LEADERS WILL HEW TO LINE

There Will be No Important Legislation During Session—Transacting Only the Necessary Business.

Washington, Jan. 25.—As the days pass it becomes apparent that the leaders in the Senate intend hewing close to the policy quietly determined at the beginning of the session of no general legislation or important matters, and that the time of Congress should be employed in the enactment of annual supply bills and little else.

LONDON BANDITS REVOLUTIONARIES

Hefel and Jacobs Disseminators of Incendiary Literature in Russia. London, Jan. 25.—The police learned to-day that Hefel and Jacobs, the bandits, who shot up two London suburbs Saturday, were Russian revolutionary agents engaged in sending to Russia literature printed here and in America. The bandits received their last week that more funds were necessary for the revolutionary work and this it is believed led them to attempt to rob the Schurmann rubber factory.

CHILDHOOD'S HAPPY DAYS ON THE FARM ARE A MYTH

So Dr. Hutchinson Declares, Recalling Winter Weather Woes. Chicago, Jan. 25.—"Childhood's happy days—down on the farm—are largely a myth," declared Dr. Wood S. Hutchinson, of New York, at the child labor conference. He asserted that there were many overworked children on farms and that country boys and girls were not well nourished.

TO-DAY IN THE LEGISLATURE

Morton Wants to Exempt New Hanover from State Prohibition.

To Equip and Maintain Eastern Carolina Training School—To Strike Out Poll-Tax Payment as Prerequisite for Voting and Extend Educational Qualifications—Scarborough May Lose Seat. Raleigh, Jan. 25. During a 45-minute session of the Senate this morning bills were introduced as follows: Senator Flow: For the equipment and maintenance of the East Carolina Training School.

M'MANUS WON SUIT CITY IS INVOLVED

Jury Says Southern Maintained a Nuisance in the Old City Rock Quarry—No Objection on Part of Defense—Second Verdict in Court. Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 25.—Spectators at the Cooper-Sharp murder trial were disappointed to-day at the lack of oratory which marked the session when a demand was made for the disqualification of Juror Leigh. The defense announced this morning that it would not argue the point.

LYNCHING WAS FRUSTRATED

Sheriff McPhail Eluded Mob That Would Strip Up Will Ward, Now in Penitentiary. Raleigh, Jan. 25.—Sheriff McPhail and a deputy brought the negro Will Ward to the penitentiary from Sampson county this morning. Ward is accused of rape. Troops were called out to protect him Friday night. Quiet was restored and the troops dismissed.

CARRIE GIVES AND RECEIVES WARNING

Says She Will Get Busy With London Saloons—Police Say a Long Jail Sentence Will Follow First Act of Violence. London, Jan. 25.—Finding the saloon conditions in London worse than she expected Carrie Nation declared to-day that she would have to resort to "drastic measures" to cope with the situation. "I brought an axe," said Carrie, "but will it be easy to get other weapons as effective."

CONCORD HAS GREAT PROSPECTS

The Year 1909 Promises Much—Besides the New Odell Mill—Locke Mills to Rebuild—No Preparations for Sunday School Convention—Court Convened.

Concord, Jan. 25.—Cabarrus Superior Court convened this morning with Judge W. B. Council presiding. There is very little to do on the criminal docket. The civil cases will be called Thursday of this week. At a meeting of the various Sunday school superintendents of the city yesterday afternoon it was decided unanimously that the sessions of the State Sunday School Association, which meets in this city April 6th-8th, will be held in the auditorium of the First Presbyterian church. Rev. Dr. John W. Grier, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, has also been chosen to deliver the address of welcome.

JUROR LEIGH IS DISQUALIFIED

Spectators of Cooper-Sharp Trial Disappointed—No Objection on Part of Defense—Second Verdict in Court. Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 25.—Spectators at the Cooper-Sharp murder trial were disappointed to-day at the lack of oratory which marked the session when a demand was made for the disqualification of Juror Leigh. The defense announced this morning that it would not argue the point.

IS GOOD OLD UNCLE SAM TOO BIG TO BE LOVED?

Speaker Before Sons of American Revolution Thinks This is So. Chicago, Jan. 25.—Patriotism of the "good old kind" is antiquated and practically worthless in these modern times, according to Francis W. Parker, in an address last night at the Sons of American Revolution. At least this is the case in the United States, he said, because the United States is too big to be loved.

REPUBLIC WENT DOWN AFTER RESCUE; SIX KILLED IN SMASH

New York, Jan. 25.—The White Star ship Baltic, bringing 165 survivors of the collision between the Republic and the liner Florida passed in Sandy Hook at 9:55 this morning. The Florida is still outside traveling under her own steam. The Republic sank at 8 o'clock last night while a fleet of tugs was trying to get her to the nearest port. It developed yesterday that two persons on the Republic and four on the Florida lost their lives.

SOUNDING ON PROHIBITION

Virginia Republicans Feeling Pulse for Gubernatorial Issue.

RESULT OF INVESTIGATION IS NOT GIVEN OUT YET.

It is Said That Democrats Smother State-Wide Prohibition Issue—Republicans Will Treat With Anti-Saloon League as to Candidates and Issues—How Democrats Stand. Richmond, Va., Jan. 25.—If a State-wide Prohibition Democrat is not nominated by the Democrats in the gubernatorial primary next summer, or if that party does not pledge itself to the prohibition cause, the opinion is absolutely accepted in political circles here that the Republicans will enter the gubernatorial contest with a State-wide prohibition plank in their platform.

It became known to-day that the State Republican committee is sounding every leading Republican in the State regarding the prohibition issue as a party measure. Letters have been sent the Republican leaders, asking for information regarding the sentiment in their locality on this question. So far, replies to these letters are incomplete, but there is a report of a strong sentiment for a prohibition plank in the Republican platform.

May Consult Anti-Saloon League. It is said that if the Democrats smother the prohibition issue the Republicans are willing to treat with the Anti-Saloon League, not only as to issues, but as to a candidate. The Republican stronghold of Virginia, the ninth district, is strong for temperance, and leaders from that way are inclined, it is said, toward prohibition. But whether they can overcome the strong anti-prohibition following from Norfolk and Norfolk county, at the head of which is National Committeeman Alvah H. Martin, is another question.

This much can be said for certain, that the Republicans will take an opposite stand from the Democrats on the question of prohibition. If the Democrats are swallowed by the prohibitionists, as was the case in North Carolina, the Republicans will come out with the prohibition plank. It is also said by some that the Republicans, if it develops that the prohibition question is very strong, will head off the Democrats, and announce for it before their opponents do.

How Democratic Candidates Stand. There are at present four candidates in the field for the Democratic nomination. They are Judge William Hodges Mann, Harry St. George Tucker, Henry C. Stuart and Colonel Purcell, of Loudon county. Representative Glass, of Lynchburg, is a prospective candidate.

Of these five men, Judge Mann is committed to local option. Mr. Tucker favors local option, and has expressed himself as being in favor of the prohibition platform. Henry C. Stuart, though he has not defined his position, is said to favor local option. Colonel Purcell is a strong anti-prohibitionist.

This leaves Representative Glass, and it can be safely said that if he gets in the fray it will be on a State-wide prohibition platform. The matter of entering the race, he is daily consulting with his friends. Of all the candidates, he is said to be the most logical Democrat. He has not voiced his views on this question from the house, but it is common report that he is always voted with the prohibition Democrats on many questions.

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"We are satisfied if the State is," said the counsel for the defense. "The State's attorney read affidavits concerning Leigh's condition the day he was accepted as a juror. The new venire of 500 is in court to-day."

NEAR-BEER MEN FIGHT

Dublin, Ga., Jan. 25.—The inalienable right to life, liberty and the drinking of near-beer will be defended in court to-day by the near-beer dealers of Dublin. The dealers secured an injunction preventing the city from enforcing an ordinance declaring the sale of near-beer a nuisance. This injunction, together with other matters, will be heard to-day.

MR. TAFT OFF FOR PANAMA

President-Elect and Corps of Engineers Leave for the Canal Zone.

TREMENDOUS RESPONSIBILITY RESTS UPON NEXT PRESIDENT

Entire Plans for the Waterway May be Changed as a Result of the Visit—Will Inspect the Work Each Year of Term—Gatum Dam the Biggest Problem for the Engineers at Present. Washington, Jan. 25.—When William H. Taft and his party of engineers sailed for Panama from Charleston to-day, the President-elect took the first step toward the assumption of a tremendous responsibility that will bear heavily on his shoulders throughout his administration as chief executive of the nation. The coming four years will be the critical ones in the great project for dividing the continent and changing the course of the world's commerce.

The Panama Canal is likely to be the glory or the shame of the Taft regime. That Mr. Taft realizes this great responsibility is evidenced by the present trip and his further determination to make a tour of inspection of the 54thms each year of his term and to take with him eminent civil engineers who are not connected with the work. There is some danger, he believes, that unless this close supervision is maintained regarding the physical features of the project that grave mistakes might be made. The problem that will receive the greatest consideration during the present trip relates to the engineering features of the Gatum dam. There has been some expert criticism as to the quality of the foundation which can be found for this structure and it is Mr. Taft's intention to secure from the most reliable sources available as much as may be known.

It is generally admitted among those having authority to speak on such topics that Mr. Taft is especially fortunate in the selection of the engineers who are accompanying him on the trip commenced to-day. These men are Arthur P. Davis, chief engineer, reclamation service, Washington; John R. Freeman, Providence, R. I.; Allen Hazen, New York; Isham Randolph, Chicago; James Dix Schuyler, Los Angeles; Cal and Frederic P. Stearnes, Boston, Mass.

Upon the shoulders of Mr. Taft and these six men rest the responsibility for deciding one of the most momentous questions ever presented to an engineering problem. As a result of the inspection, the plans for the gigantic waterway may be completely changed. In case the engineers should fail to agree upon the feasibility of proposed changes—as is entirely likely—the decision will be up to Mr. Taft. If times proves the wisdom of his decision, his name will forever be linked with the canal project and he will thus gain immortality. If he should fail—admitting the existence of such a word in the Taft lexicon—then oblivion is the kindest fate he may hope for.

Of all the problems presented, the Gatum dam offers the most difficulties. This dam, according to plans, is to create a giant reservoir covering 110 square miles, the water coming from the Chagres river. The water in the reservoir will be 125 feet above the level of the sea and far above the highest level of the canal. If this dam should give way, it would precipitate a flood that would wreck millions of dollars worth of property and cost hundreds of lives.

Whether this dam can be built in such a manner as to be entirely safe, and its breaking rendered impossible, is the problem of opinion as to the feasibility of the entire abandonment of the present project and the loss of thousands of dollars already expended.

Among the engineers who have already made thorough investigations of the canal work, there is a wide difference of opinion as to the feasibility of the Gatum dam. Linden Bates, the most famous of the engineers who has thoroughly inspected this part of the project, dismisses it as unsafe and impracticable, for the following reasons: "The dam is on alluvial foundations, proved treacherous, yielding, artesian and permeable; because there is a great underground flow through conduits of porous sands and silt impossible to curtain off; because of the stupendous labor force and equipment needed to finish it; because of the dangers of subsidence, tilting, settlement and fissures; of overtopping, percolation and erosion of sand veins underneath; because the old Chagres bed just below was once 53 1-2 feet deep, exposing permeable strata under the site and the high lake will increase the overflow."

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