

GOVERNMENT IN NEW HANDS

President Taft Takes Oath of Office in Senate Chamber Because of Blinding Snow Storm Raging Without.

Washington, Special.—With all the homage that assembled thousands, representative of every State, almost every hamlet, of the nation could pay, the accompaniment of martial music, the rhythmic tramp of soldiers' feet, the echo of saluting guns, the unchecked enthusiasm privileged only to a free people of a great republic, William Howard Taft, of Ohio, Thursday became the twenty-seventh President of the United States.

And not without its influence upon the day and the epoch-making event was the exit of Theodore Roosevelt heralded by countless admirers for seven years past as the most picturesque, the most virile, and one of the greatest figures ever upon the stage of American public life.

Panoramic Decorations.

The inspiring medley of national airs, of folk songs, of blood-stirring

lifted, unflinchingly uttered the oath of office.

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States," kissed an open Bible in the hands of Chief Justice Melville W. Fuller, and stood erect—President of the greatest nation on earth.

After his inaugural address hundreds pressed about to grasp his hand, until at last he slipped away to the President's room in the Senate, where he rested a few minutes before beginning the return to the White House.

Roosevelt Withdraws.

The retiring President loath to divide the honor with his successor, quietly began the journey to the Union Station, where he took a special train for Oyster Bay.

The new President and Mrs. Taft were alone in the first carriage, and the drive from the Capitol to the



marches, floats over a kaleidoscopic panorama of red, white and blue; fluttering flags, wind-flapping bunting, every form and manner of decoration that could be devised in honor of the nation's chief pays its silent tribute to the day.

By dusk the pageant passing in constant review before the Court of Honor had its end; the light of day yielded the scepter to the most gorgeous and brilliant illumination of the Capitol ever attempted; the hiss of skyrocket, the jubilant crack and boom of every form of pyrotechnic device was heard; the rumble of carriages, the shouted command of officers, the beginning of the inaugural ball, came in for their own.

The escort from the White House to the Capitol consisted of members of the G. A. R., United Spanish War Veterans, and the Army and Navy Union.

The Vice President entered the Senate chamber just before noon, and in a speech filled with emotion expressed his regret at parting with that body. The scene was an affecting one.

Vice President Sherman.

Vice President Fairbanks, in his most impressive manner, then administered the oath to his successor. This impressive feature over, Mr. Fairbanks handed the gavel to Vice President Sherman, the retiring Vice President taking a seat near Speaker Cannon. Mr. Sherman then began his short inaugural address.

At its conclusion he administered the oath of the new Senators, some of them re-elected, and then formally adjourned the Senate. Gradually the procession began to move to the Senate Chamber where President-elect Taft was inducted into office.

Takes the Oath.

In all the day replete with history-making events the one great supreme moment was that when the shouting thousands ceased their acclaim, a solemn hush fell over the multitude, and the President-elect with hand up-

White House down, Pennsylvania avenue consumed only about fifteen minutes.

Immediately after a hasty luncheon the Presidential party proceeded down the curved walk at the western side of the White House grounds and took their position in the reviewing stand in the Court of Honor.

The parade was several miles in length, and was more than three hours in passing the reviewing point. It formed in streets surrounding the Capitol.

Who Made Up the Parade.

The greatest event in the life of William Howard Taft, now President of the United States, was now practically over. More than 22,000 soldiers and sailors, regular and volunteer, and more than 9,000 members of civic organizations were in the great parade, a total of nearly 32,000 persons.

Pyrotechnics.

The fireworks programme, which began at 8:30 o'clock contained fifty numbers, and embraced 1,000 rocket bombs, 500 batteries, 600 colored lights, 2 tons of colored fire, 50 balloons, 10,000 Roman candles, and 750 sky rockets. One of the unique features was a pillar of light 100 feet high, which was seen for miles around. The Star Spangled Banner was unfurled 1,000 feet in the air and the word, "Taft" appeared in letters of fire in the sky. This feature was accompanied by an aerial salute of twenty-one guns. The most spectacular piece was a "battle in the skies."

President Taft Leads the Dance.

President Taft and Vice President Sherman arrived at the ball at 9:30 p. m., when the grand march began, which was led by Mr. Taft, who also danced in the first waltz. The brilliant uniforms of the army and navy, the gorgeous dress of the diplomatic corps, and the expensive costumes of the women, all went to make a scene that will long linger in the memories of the beholders.

THE NEW CABINET

Statesmen Who Will Be Taft's Counsellors.

Of great interest to the country at this time is the Cabinet which is to be President Taft's official family for the present administration. The following sketches of the men chosen by the incoming president, are taken from a recent article in the Philadelphia Record.

Secretary of State.

Philander Chase Knox was born at Brownsville Pa., in 1835. He graduated at Mt. Union College, Ohio, in 1872; was admitted to the bar in 1875. From 1876 to 1877 he was assistant United States district attorney. In 1901 he was appointed Attorney General of the United States by President McKinley and retained the post under Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt until 1904, when he was appointed by Governor Pennypacker to succeed the late M. S. Quay as United States senator from Pennsylvania. He has been in the Senate ever since.

Secretary of the Treasury.

Franklin MacVeagh, a brother of Wayne MacVeagh, who was a member of the Garfield cabinet, was born in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and graduated in 1862 from Yale and in 1864 from the Columbia Law School. On account of ill-health gave up the profession and went to Chicago, where he embarked in mercantile pursuits. He was Democratic candidate for the United States senate from Illinois in 1894 but was defeated. He is president of the Bureau of Charities and Municipal Art is a member of the executive committee of the National Civic Federation and is vice-president of the American Civic Association.

Secretary of War.

Jacob McGavock Dickinson was born at Columbus, Miss., in 1851, and graduated from the University of Nashville in 1871. He served several times by special commission of the Tennessee supreme court. From 1895 to 1897 he was assistant attorney general of the United States. In politics he has generally been a Democrat. He will be appointed as from Tennessee. He is president of the American Bar Association. He weighs 270 pounds and is 6 feet 3 inches in height. He is wealthy. He and Mr. Taft call each other "Bill" and "Jake."

Attorney General.

George W. Wickersham is a native of Pennsylvania, was born in Pittsburgh in 1858. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania, with the degree of L.L. B. in 1880. In Martindale's American Law Directory he is rated as "very good" in legal ability and "very rich" under the classification of recommendations—these are the highest and most laudable ratings contained in the directory. Mr. Wickersham has been particularly prominent in corporation law, and in this respect resembles his two predecessors—Senator Knox and Senator-elect Root.

Postmaster General.

Frank Harris Hitchcock has been a government official nearly ever since he graduated from Harvard in 1891. He was born in 1867. He held various clerkships, bureau chieftainships, etc., and finally became assistant postmaster general. He took charge of the campaign of George B. Cortelyou for the presidential nomination, but when this boom was squelched was invited to become manager for the Taft boom which he did.

Secretary of the Navy.

George Von Lengerke Meyer, now postmaster general, was born in 1858, graduated from Harvard in 1879. He is very wealthy. He was speaker of the house in Massachusetts in 1894, and was appointed ambassador to Italy in 1900. In 1905 he was transferred to Russia, and in 1907 was recalled to become a member of President Roosevelt's cabinet.

Secretary of the Interior.

Richard Achilles Ballinger was born in Ohio in 1858, and after graduating in 1886 from Williams College, Massachusetts, removed to Seattle, Wash. He has written a number of volumes upon the law, served one term as a superior court judge, one term as mayor of Seattle, and has since 1907 been commissioner of the general land office.

Secretary of Agriculture.

James Wilson is a Scotchman, and therefore the one man in the cabinet who could not succeed to the presidency. He was born in 1835, and came to the United States in 1852, settling in Connecticut, but went to Iowa, where he engaged in farming. He has been secretary of agriculture since 1897 and his appointment to the Taft cabinet will give him a record unparalleled in cabinet service.

Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Charles Nagle, of St. Louis, is a native of Texas and has earned a fortune in the practice of law. His legal practice has been largely for corporations. Mr. Nagle is extremely tall and slender, thin-faced, brown hair and mustache mixed with gray. He was born in 1849. He did not receive a college education, but spent one year in the University of Berlin, where he studied Roman law, political economy, etc. After studying abroad he returned to St. Louis in 1873 and served as a member of the Missouri legislature and as president of the St. Louis city council.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

Items of Interest Gathered By Wire and Cable

GLEANINGS FROM DAY TO DAY

Live Items Covering Events of More or Less Interest at Home and Abroad.

Dr. W. D. Cram, collector of the port at Charleston, S. C., who was appointed by President Roosevelt six years ago, has resigned the office.

Sallie Brown, of Camden county, S. C., died recently at the ripe age of 111 years.

An air gun in the hand of Lawrence Ingram was accidentally discharged Monday, killing his sister, Mrs. James Turner, in Richmond, Va.

A terrific storm crossed the mountain regions of Tennessee and North Carolina on Wednesday. It seemed lifted by the mountains and only dipped down on the eastern counties of North Carolina, where it killed several persons and did great damage to property.

A site just west of Fredericksburg, called Rowe's Heights, has been selected for a State female normal school. About forty acres brought \$65,000.

Alexandria is said to be the only county in Virginia in which cock fighting is against the law. This was brought out in connection with a supposed violation in Norfolk recently.

An explosion of dynamite effectually checked a distressing fire in Gold Hill, N. C., last Saturday, though it did damage to the extent of \$5,073.

It was authoritatively announced very recently that the cotton oil mill at Bamberg, S. C., will be promptly rebuilt.

Twenty feet of the Mill Springs railroad bridge, near Old Fort, N. C., was burned Sunday morning, and notwithstanding it spans a deep gorge, it was ready for use again within six hours.

Brigadier Morehead was killed and Cole Fisher and Charles Stamey were cut in a fight at Rutherfordton, N. C., on Monday.

Robert Amory, of Virginia, was fatally shot by his brother Leroy Amory, on Tuesday and died that night. It was the result of ill feeling.

It is estimated that 50,000 people went to Norfolk to see the big fleet. There were more than attended the Jamestown Exposition during the same length of time.

A furniture exposition began Mar. 1st to last till the 15th, at High Point, N. C., the great furniture center of the South.

A fire destroyed the Greensboro Hardwood Mfg. Company's plant last week, entailing a loss of \$40,000, with \$21,000 of insurance.

John Y. Garrington, M. G. Jeanes and J. Stubb Young have been arrested and bailed in connection with the Seminole troubles.

"Lucky" Baldwin, who died at the Santa Anita Ranch, California, is said to have left an estate worth \$28,000,000 net.

In Detroit, Michigan, on Tuesday a primary was held for school inspectors in which women are allowed to vote. A number of them got men to hold their babies while in the booth.

Forty-five men were threatened with destruction at Port Blanchford, Pa., on Wednesday, by a mine explosion, followed by fire. Luckily they found a round-about way of reaching an exit. Several were seriously injured.

Foreign Affairs.

The German government has in view airships on the Zeppelin type to be armed with rapid fire guns with which to fight infantry in war.

A disease resembling yellow-fever, but unlike it in that it affects only natives has broken out in Barbados Islands, and is baffling scientists to diagnose it.

The telewriter has been introduced in London by which messages can be recorded when your friend of the other end of the line is out.

Washington Notes.

Rear-Admiral Schroeder has been designated to commander-in-chief of the Navy to succeed Admiral Sperry, who has resigned it.

Mr. Taft and family went into the White House Tuesday as guests of President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

President Roosevelt held his last cabinet meeting on Tuesday. It was more of leave taking and good wishing than a business meeting.

A severe blizzard caused the inauguration to take place in the Senate Chamber and came near dispersing with the pageant.

Taft, in a current magazine article, says Roosevelt will have a place in history with Washington and Lincoln.

For a while during inauguration day the Associated Press wire to Atlanta was the only line out of the Capital City that was not put out of commission by the storm.

TAFT A RIDER TOO

His First Sunday in the White House Spent With Simplicity

FOLLOWS ROOSEVELT EXAMPLE

Refuses to See Any Callers Who Have Business in Hand—The First Lady of the Land Takes Up Her Duties Without Ostentation or Ceremony—Already Making the Changes She Desires in "Household Cabinet."

Washington, Special.—Democratic simplicity characterized the first Sunday in the White House of the Taft family. President Taft, accompanied by his brother, Charles P. Taft, walked to the Unitarian church for morning services. The capacity of the edifice was taxed to its utmost with worshippers and strangers whose curiosity impelled their presence.

He returned to the White House on foot and after luncheon he strode "Strettt," his newly-acquired horse, purchased at Hot Springs, Va., and with Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, his military aide, Capt. Archibald Butt, and President Roosevelt's orderly, McDermott, went for a 12-mile ride over the newly constructed Potomac speedway.

Sees No Callers.

President Taft saw no callers who had business to transact during the day, this beginning his administration with his heretofore enforced maxim that Sunday should be a day of rest.

Mrs. Taft Fits In.

Mrs. William Howard Taft, "first lady of the land," has assumed her duties without public ceremony or oath of office, which, in weight of responsibility, magnitude of importance, delicacy of execution and absolute lack of compensation, except in love for her husband, the president, and loyalty to the nation, as its first woman, have no comparison.

Mrs. Taft is charged with administering the social and domestic affairs of the White House in a manner consistent with allowing that revered and historic pile to be the public property of the nation, and at the same time the official place of entertainment of the representatives of foreign nations and domestic dignitaries. As the wife of Mr. Taft, she was "first lady of the land" in the Philippine Islands; she was his wife as a Federal judge and as a cabinet minister. In the latter position Mrs. Taft learned the requirements of Washington society.

Removed From Officialdom.

That the main entrance of the White House may present as nearly as possible the appearance of a private residence, the uniformed police officers and frock-coated doorkeepers have been eliminated and in their place are negro footmen in liveries.

Mrs. Taft has abolished the position of steward and will conduct her domestic arrangements through a woman housekeeper.

Plans Social Functions.

While the season of prescribed official dinners is over it may be predicted that the new tenant of the White House will conduct a series of informal social functions during the special session of Congress, which will bring renewed animation and social life to the sedate and sombre structure during the first few months of the Taft regime.

Mrs. Taft is 46 years of age, although her appearance and natural animation would not indicate that fact. To relieve the President from domestic cares and social adjustments seems to be the platform of her administration, and her first few days of duty indicate that she is as competent for the rank as is her husband for the duties to which he has been called by the nation.

Negro Burned at Stake.

Rockwell, Tex., Special.—After having been identified by Mrs. Arthur McKinney as the negro who attempted a criminal assault upon her Friday morning, Anderson Ellis was taken from the Rockwell county jail Sunday night and secured to an iron stake driven into the earth and was burned to death in the presence of about a thousand persons.

Baltimore Emerges.

Baltimore, Special.—The isolation from the outside world of which this city has been a complete victim practically since early Thursday morning was broken Sunday and the city began to see the end of the difficulty. The Associated Press office here managed to secure direct wire communication with the New York headquarters by the cordial co-operation of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company at this end and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company at the other.

Seven-Year-Old Boy Bound and Gagged by Burglar.

Savannah, Ga., Special.—Seven-year-old Evelyn Rabey was surprised alone in his father's home here Tuesday by a masked negro burglar who, threatening the boy with death from two pistols and a knife he carried, bound the lad with a rope to a chair and gagged him with a bundle of cloth until the child was near suffocated.

TORNADO KILLS 30

Brinkley, Ark., a Scene of Terrible Desolation

THE INJURED NUMBER OVER 50

Reports From the Storm-Swept Arkansas Town Reveal an Appalling Condition.

Brinkley, Ark., Special.—Further details of the great disaster here state that thirty or more lives were snuffed out, 60 people were injured and property estimated to be worth \$1,000,000 was destroyed as a result of the tornado which wrecked this little city Monday night. Of the known dead 14 are white people, the others colored.

Wreckage Piled High.

The tornado hovered about the city only a few minutes but its work of destruction was complete. The Roman Catholic church, standing directly in the path of the storm, alone escaped damage or destruction and stands a grim sentinel on a scene of desolation. Main street and Cypress avenue, the two principal thoroughfares of the town, are impassable and are piled high with wreckage from end to end. Every business house is in ruins and there is hardly a home that has not at least suffered the loss of a roof or wing. The Arlington Hotel was totally demolished. Eighty guests were registered but all escaped uninjured. The Brinkley Hotel, Southern Hotel and Kelly Hotel were all destroyed without loss of life.

Relief squads were at work all day Tuesday caring for the dead and injured. The Rock Island and Cotton Belt Railways have placed cars at the disposal of the relief committee and seeking a temporary refuge at other points nearby. The dead were sent to Helena, from which point interment will take place.

Governor Dougherty arrived from Little Rock in the afternoon in response to a call from the citizens' committee. He has the situation well in hand and said food, clothing and shelter are the things most needed. Hundreds of people are homeless and are wandering about seeking a temporary abode. Three special trains arrived from neighboring towns bringing relief workers, physicians and nurses. The Catholic church has been converted into a hospital and here the doctors and nurses are caring for the injured. The citizens of Helena have generously offered the use of their homes for the destitute. Mass meetings were called for in Memphis, Little Rock and other cities to raise funds and supplies for the storm victims.

Missouri Loses Noted Case.

Kansas City, Mo., Special.—Missouri's 2-cent passenger and maximum freight laws were nullified by a decision handed down Monday in the United States District Court by Judge Smith McPherson, of Red Oak, Iowa. As a result, it is believed there will be a quick return in Missouri to 3-cent fares. Frank Hagerman, for the 18 companies involved, asserted that the decision sounded like the death knell of the 2-cent rate in every State in the Union.

Judge McPherson held that both the commodity and passenger laws were confiscatory and unconstitutional, and Mr. Hagerman declared that it is not conceivable that if the 2-cent rate is confiscatory in Missouri, it can be compensatory in other States.

The State on the other hand, declares emphatically that Missouri's fight over lower rates will continue. Elliot W. Major, Attorney General, who was in court when the decision was reached, said an appeal would be taken and that the present Legislature would be asked to pass new rate laws that would stand the tests of the courts. Governor Hadley made a similar statement.

Government by Commission.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—Dr. Charles W. Elliot, retiring president of Harvard University, spent the day here. He discussed "Government by Commission." He maintained that the highest efficiency in municipal government is accomplished by small governing bodies placed in office by universal suffrage. He gave the results of his investigation in Galveston under the commission form.

Hinton Edger a Suicide.

Washington, Special.—Hinton Rowan Helper, a native of Davie county, North Carolina, former United States consul general at Barnes Ayres, committed suicide here Tuesday. He was 80 years old, a veteran of the civil war. The tragic act was committed in a room at 628 Pennsylvania avenue, northwest, by tying a towel about his neck and turning on the gas.

Papers and letters found in the room where Helper took his life revealed the fact that he was evidently deeply interested in only one matter, the project to build a great intercontinental railway, to extend through North, Central and South America.

Virginians Fined For Peonage.

Lynchburg, Va., Special.—In the Federal district court here Tuesday upon pleas of guilty, Judge McDowell entered the following judgments:—A. A. Luck, \$1,000; Robert Brantzen, \$500; E. T. Edmunds, \$150, and Samuel Butler and Walter Wildman \$100 each. The accused were indicted on charges of holding a large number of laborers in involuntary servitude.

SEVERE STORM ON HISTORIC 4TH OF MARCH

A fearful storm struck the nation again on the historic 4th of March. A Washington special says: Much suffering was caused among the vast inauguration crowd here by the wintry winds, the slush under foot and freezing temperature. Two persons were reported dead as a result of exposure and many other persons are seriously ill.

All the hospitals report that they have treated numerous cases of ex-

haustion among persons who stood for many hours in the slush and snow viewing the inaugural parade.

News from New York says: As a result of a blizzard which swept down unannounced Wednesday night, the middle Atlantic seaboard from New York to Norfolk found itself buried in an avalanche of snow and swept by destructive winds. For a time conditions seemed to threaten a repetition of the blizzard of 1888.