

POLITICAL REFORM AND THE GENERAL UPBUILDING OF MADISON COUNTY.

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THE PRESIDENT IN CHICAGO

One Round of Enrapturing Scenes—He Enters Heartily Into The Felicities All The Day And Retires Late To His Car.

Chicago, Special.—President Taft, during a stay of twelve eventful hours in Chicago, plunged with a will into the long program of entertaining that awaits him on his long Western and Southern itinerary.

Taft Denounces the Law's Delay. Chicago, Special.—Speaking with great earnestness to a mass meeting in Orchestra hall Thursday night, President Taft declared that no question before the American people today is more important than the improvement of the administration of justice.

THE SECOND STRIKE ENDED—SINGULAR TURN TAKEN

Pittsburg, Special.—The second strike of workmen employed at the plant of the Pressed Steel Car Company, which was declared Monday, was brought to an abrupt end Friday.

PLOT TO KILL SAN SALVADOR'S PRESIDENT DETECTED

Mexico City, Special.—Charged with being implicated in a plot to kill President Figueroa, of the republic of Salvador, Gen. Jose Dolores Preza and Gen. Damas Copinel are behind prison bars in the capital of that republic, according to letters received here Friday.

WESTERN UNION STOCK BOUGHT BY RIVAL COMPANY

Boston, Special.—It became known Thursday that the American Telephone and Telegraph company has acquired nearly \$16,000,000 worth of New York Telephone company stock, owned by the Western Union Telephone company.

than 1,800 workmen and made one of the crucial addresses of his candidacy, the president assured his hearers that he had not forgotten his campaign promises and the platform declarations of his party. Mr. Taft devoted the entire first part of his speech to the subject of labor.

The President on the Tariff Bill. At Winona, Minnesota, Friday the President in a speech made the most important utterance he has made since his occupancy of the White House.

Taft Favors Postal Banks. President Taft devoted his principal address in Milwaukee at the State fair Friday to the subject of postal savings banks, which he strongly endorsed before a large and enthusiastic gathering that overflowed the grand-stand.

Additional appointments of census supervisors by President Taft were announced Wednesday by Census Director E. Dana Durand. Among them is that of Ernest Madison Du Pre, a wholesale commission dealer at Columbia, S. C., to be supervisor of the seventh South Carolina district.

Tales of great suffering and the serious situation in the flooded district of Mexico, as told in telegrams received at the state department from American Consul General Hanna, brought forth another appeal from the American National Red Cross society for funds with which "to supply our unfortunate neighbors of Mexico with the necessities of life."

Baths In Acid River.

Pittsburg, Special.—Hundreds of Pittsburg youths and adults are suffering from a scourge of boils, the result of swimming in the Monongahela river. Acid from the mills have so contaminated the water that the police have decided to end the bathing season.

Formal announcement was made at the Department of Justice that Acting Attorney General Ellis has addressed letters to Governors Hughes, of New York, and Stuart, of Pennsylvania, calling their attention to the results of the investigation of the Pressed Steel Car Company strike at Pittsburg and submitting evidence for such action as the State authorities may wish to take.

WASHINGTON NOTES

With a .22-caliber bullet imbedded in the center of his brain, fired there with suicidal intent more than two weeks ago, Frank Blaine left the Casualty Hospital in this city Wednesday, discharged as cured.

"Free Sunday" for so many years the hope deferred of "Jack Tar" in the United States navy is about to become a reality. Acting Secretary Winthrop issued an order having the object in view Wednesday.

Conditions at the Western penitentiary of Pennsylvania at Allegheny have been found so distressing and so intolerable as to require the immediate removal of all federal prisoners whose transfer is practicable and to demand the most serious consideration of the proper public authorities.

Rear-Admiral Daniel D. Stuart, who was promoted through the retirement of Rear-Admiral Sperry September 3, will be transferred to the retired list September 15. He is a native of New York and was graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1869.

Considerable damage was caused by fire about 2 o'clock in the morning at the bakery of Ferdinand Priesner in the rear of 476 L street, southwest. The night's baking of several thousand loaves had been finished and the employes had gone to bed.

The light house tenders Hibiscus and Oleander will carry President Taft's party down the Mississippi river next month. The Hibiscus has been ordered to accompany the Oleander provided the Mississippi's channel will accommodate a vessel of her draught.

Beaufort, N. C., Special.—Wireless telegraph again played an important part in relieving distress at sea, for through this agency prompt assistance was Monday furnished to the Clyde line steamer, Carib, bound for New York to Wilmington, N. C., and Brunswick, Ga., with passengers and cargo, which lay at anchor all Sunday night in a disabled condition off Cape Hatteras.

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GULF PORT STORM

Wreck and Ruin in The Wake of Equinoctial Tempest

WATER HIGHER THAN FOR YEARS

Storm That Has Lashed the Waters of the Gulf of Mexico Into Fury Swoops Down Upon Cities and Towns in Its Northward Path and the Howling Gale That Accompanies It Steadily Increases in Force.

Memphis, Special.—Fragmentary reports from points in southern Louisiana and Mississippi evidence that a severe tropical hurricane was sweeping along the Mississippi-Louisiana gulf coast Monday night damaging shipping, wrecking the more frail structures and seriously impeding railroad traffic.

At the office of the Illinois Central railroad here announcement was made that Train No. 6, of that road, due to leave New Orleans at 4:30 in the afternoon had been detained over the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley route via Baton Rouge.

From Biloxi and Seranton, on the gulf coast of Mississippi, meagre reports tell of the damage to shipping and buildings along the beach and, so far as could be ascertained late Monday night, there has been one life lost.

Natchez, Miss., was cut off from communication by wire. Before communication was lost the wind had attained a velocity of 50 miles an hour. The power plant was out of commission, putting the city in darkness.

In western Louisiana, at Crowley and Jennings, considerable property damage has resulted. The greatest damage is to the rice crop.

Although it had been raining heavily at New Orleans through Sunday night, there were no indications of a gale, further than might be deduced from a falling barometer, till about 9:30 o'clock Monday morning, when the gulf wind, great in its intensity, swept over the city.

So strong was the force of the wind that the waters of the Mississippi, backed up from the gulf a hundred miles below, rose three feet at New Orleans levee. The neighboring lakes were agitated till they all overflowed, covering the adjacent lowlands. The waters from Lake Borgone were added to the volume of the flood, but when the latest dispatches came out of New Orleans there were outlying parts of that city covered with water, while the winds had damaged several buildings.

The direction of the wind was northwest and its area was great, for it reached far up to the northernmost line of Louisiana, west of the Mississippi river. An early blow destroyed the tracks of the Louisville & Nashville road along the coast west of New Orleans and this latter gust wiped out the tracks of the Illinois Central north of the isolated city.

The last train to reach Memphis from New Orleans was the through Illinois Central that arrived here at 8:15 Monday night. It had left New Orleans soon after 9:15 in the morning. Coming north through Louisiana and Mississippi the train passed through continuous rains almost as far as Jackson, Miss., but there were then no reports of unusual winds. The storm came up soon afterward.

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PRESIDENT WESTWARD

At Minneapolis and St. Paul—Greetings From the Sick Governor.

President Taft arrived at Minneapolis at 8 a. m. Saturday, and with the shadow of death hanging over the Governor of the State, received a cordial, but not demonstrative welcome. The critical illness of Governor Johnson, probably the most popular executive Minnesota has ever known, entered deeply into the spirit of the day and dreaded eventualities threatened for a time during the morning seriously to curtail the program of entertainment both here and in St. Paul.

At Fort Snelling, 21 guns were fired in honor of the President. An automobile ride over the business portion of the town was taken. The party then crossed the river to St. Paul.

After a brief speech the President was driven to the State Capitol where it had been intended that a public reception should be held. This feature was called off on account of Governor Johnson's illness and the President appeared for only a few minutes on the south balcony to express to the great crowd on the terrace lawn his gratitude for the cordial greeting.

Gov. Johnson grew very much better apparently and sent the President the following telegram:

"Hearty and sincere welcome to the State of Minnesota. Greatly regret my illness prevents my presence at your reception.

JOHN A. JOHNSON. President Taft replied to Governor Johnson's telegram, the answer having been transmitted by telephone. President Taft's message said:

"My Dear Governor Johnson: I am greatly distressed to hear of your serious illness. I miss your smiling and courteous personal greeting, which I have had every time I have come to the State heretofore, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your message of welcome, sent when you are on a bed of pain.

"I fervently hope and pray that your wonderful strength and fortitude will make your recovery speedy. My compliments and respects to Mrs. Johnson, whose visit in Washington I remember with much pleasure.

WILLIAM H. TAFT." Later the President met a number of prominent Japanese and exchanged compliments.

President Taft leaving the "insurgent" States of Minnesota and Iowa behind him, crossed the Missouri river Monday and stopped in Omaha for the afternoon and evening on his way to the Pacific coast.

He found at Omaha a street car strike. To avoid possibility of trouble Mayor James C. Dahlgren ordered that no attempts be made to run cars during the President's stay. The strike did not prevent the gathering of a great crowd in the downtown districts and there were times when the President's automobile had difficulty in making its way through the cheering throng.

He was taken on an hour's ride over the city especially to the schools where he was greeted by the thousands of children.

At Des Moines he made an open-air address, touching chiefly the subject of trusts.

He declared that he knew of no way in which a distinction could be made between "good" and "bad" trusts for he regarded all combinations to suppress competition and to maintain a monopoly to be in the same category.

He forecasted some legislation for Congress that he would recommend in his message. He said: "When I look forward to the next session and realize how much there is to be considered I tremble lest the session will not be long enough and that it will not be possible to do all that has been promised."

Regarding the anti-trust law, he said:

"I am strongly inclined to the view that the way to make the anti-trust law more effective is to narrow its scope somewhat, so that it shall not include in its prohibition and denunciation as a crime anything but a conspiracy or combination or contract entered into with actual intent to monopolize or suppress competition in interstate trade."

He reviewed a parade of the thousands of troops, afterwards made a speech. A great military carnival marked by extensive manoeuvres and balloon and aeroplane flights, was commenced and will continue through the week.

NORTH STATE NEWS

Items of State Interest Gathered and Told in Brief.

Lover's Cruel Treatment.

Rockingham, Special.—J. M. Norton, a young white man who gave Lumberton as his home prior to his coming here a few months ago, is badly wanted by the local authorities. Norton came here some time ago and got work at the Hannah Pickett cotton mills. A few weeks later he wrote to his sweetheart, Maggie Godwin, of Benson, to join him here, promising her to marry her immediately upon her arrival.

To Build Interurban Line.

Salisbury, Special.—Leslie M. Shaw, former secretary of the treasury and Patrick Hirsch, a financier of New York, were here Friday consulting with local business men in regard to building an interurban trolley line in Piedmont North Carolina. It is said that the proposed line will connect the cities of Greensboro, Winston-Salem, High Point, Salisbury, Concord, Charlotte and a number of smaller towns and will handle both passengers and freight. A franchise has already been secured for the line through the counties of Rowan and Cabarrus.

Killed by Runaway Horse.

Selma, Special.—Mr. Burt Lowrey met a horrible death Tuesday-morning about one mile from Selma on the Smithfield road. While driving across the railroad his horse became frightened at an approaching train. Mr. Lowrey, who was 85 years old, unable to control the horse, alighted from his buggy and went to the horse's head. The horse became unmanageable, jumped over Mr. Lowrey, his hind feet striking him in the breast causing instant death.

Killed at Cotton Gin.

Charlotte, Special.—Herman Beaty, 12 years old, while playing too near a shaft at E. R. Spurrer's cotton gin Wednesday, was caught and wound around the shaft. One arm was torn off, his side was severely bruised. He lingered five hours in agony till relieved by death.

Greensboro Woman Dies of Pellagra.

Greensboro, Special.—Mrs. J. R. Richardson, of this city, died last week of pellagra. Mrs. Richardson had been sick with the disease for a long time. She was 35 years old. There have been four cases of pellagra reported here and this is the second death. The other two cases are chronic and do not show much change.

Big Illicit Still Destroyed in Montgomery County.

Troy, Special.—Sheriff McKenzie captured a blockade still last week in Rocky Springs township of 125-gallon capacity and poured out 900 gallons of beer and a quantity of whiskey. Sheriff McKenzie has captured several recently, but this is the largest ever seen in this section.

Serious Affray at Wilson.

Wilson, Special.—Wednesday morning on Goldsboro street a cutting affray took place that may end with a fatality. Burt Moore, a young man who works on the Williams farm after an exchange of words with Berkley Webb and others, seriously cut Webb in the throat and made his escape while Webb is at the Wilson sanitarium in a critical condition.

Fifty Bushels of Peanuts to the Acre.

Lexington, Special.—Mr. Sid Weaver, a farmer living near Lexington, makes a specialty of peanuts. Last year he raised 110 bushels on two and one-half acres and this year will gather 150 bushels from three acres. He displayed excellent specimens of his crop on the streets here last week.

Injured by Blast.

Concord, Special.—Owing to a premature blast, Mr. John Shoe, who was digging a well near Brown's Mill, was badly injured Tuesday. Mr. Shoe was in the well and had prepared the fuse. He threw down a hammer which struck a flint rock, sending forth a spark which ignited the powder, the explosion following. He was severely injured and it is thought that his eyes were put out. Mr. Shoe is about 50 years old and has a wife and family.