

TAFT TAKES OATH AS PRESIDENT IN THE U. S. SENATE CHAMBER

Driven From the Capitol's Front by a Storm of Record Severity, His Inaugural Address is Delivered Following Induction of Vice-President Sherman

INAUGURAL BALL A GORGEOUS AFFAIR

New Chief Executive and Wife Review Three-Hour Parade—Thousands Brave Wind and Sleet to See Ceremonies—Departing Roosevelt Wildly Cheered.

Washington, D. C.—For the first time in seventy-six years the President of the United States was inaugurated in the Senate chamber, when William Howard Taft took the oath of office there, at 12:58 p. m., immediately after the induction into office of the new Vice-President, James Scherer Sherman. What had been counted on to prove the most noteworthy inauguration of recent times as a spectacle was made by a howling blizzard the most disappointing. President Taft did not deliver all of his inaugural address, but released all of it for publication.

The outdoor inauguration was abandoned out of solicitude for the health of the older officials. The Court of Honor and other decorative features along the line of the parade presented masses of water soaked flags which had lost all semblance of their original colors. Nevertheless, the original program was adhered to as far as possible, and one of the most imposing parades the capital has seen, the more imposing because the marchers lost none of their ardor, though they plowed through ankle deep snow and slush, swept by President Taft for three hours, cheering him and Mrs. Taft as they stood on the stand in front of the White House.

Thousands refused to be cheated out of what they had come to see, and braved the cutting wind and sloppy streets, standing outside the Capitol and White House and patiently awaiting the appearance of the chief figures in the ceremonies of the day. The Senate chamber and the corridors of the White House were packed to their capacity and Roosevelt and Taft were cheered vociferously in both places. Undampened ardor continued the cheering when Mr. Roosevelt drove to the Union Station, and waiting throngs loosed their enthusiasm as President and Mrs. Taft and Vice-President and Mrs. Sherman drove from the Capitol to the White House.

Mr. Taft's day was one of continuing cheers and plaudits from the moment he first appeared on the White House portico to go to his inauguration until he returned late at night, an unwilling leave-taker, from the Inaugural Ball. Prior to his visit to the ball, President Taft had entertained at tea in the White House the members of the Yale Club, had dined with Mrs. Taft at 7 o'clock, and had stopped in at the Metropolitan Club to say a few words at the dinner of the class of '78 at Yale.

The losses of the business men's organization, which spent \$500,000 in decorations, grandstands and other arrangements, will reach into the thousands. All day long hotels, restaurants and barrooms were packed with disappointed humanity seeking refuge from the storm and its effects.

RIDE FROM WHITE HOUSE TO CAPITOL

President-elect and Mrs. Taft spent the night before inauguration at the White House as the guests of President and Mrs. Roosevelt. When they met at breakfast in the morning with the world all white outside and the song of the blizzard ringing in their ears, Mr. Taft and President Roosevelt were as happy as two boys.

"I knew it would be a cold day when I was made President of the United States," exclaimed Mr. Taft. "And I knew there would be a blizzard clear up to the moment I went out of office," rejoined President Roosevelt.

Breakfast was over at 9 o'clock. Mr. Taft spent the earlier hours of the morning going over his inaugural address.

President Roosevelt and Mr. Taft left the White House at 10:10 a. m., on their journey to the Capitol. As he came out of the front door Mr. Roosevelt bade goodby to the various officers and attendants who were gathered on the portico. Mr. Taft followed. The President was first to enter the carriage, taking the right hand seat. Mr. Taft followed and sat beside him. Senator Knox and Senator Lodge, of the Committee of Arrangements, also entered the carriage, which was drawn by four horses.

On the way down Pennsylvania avenue to the Capitol resounding cheers greeted the President and the President-elect throughout the entire trip from the storm-defying crowds which thronged the sidewalks and a goodly part of the roadway.

Despite his unflinching good humor, Mr. Taft was deeply disappointed, when, upon arrival at the Capitol, shortly after 11 o'clock, he found that the Committee of Arrangements insisted upon abandoning the outdoor ceremony. Mr. Taft said he was anxious that the American people represented in the throngs which gathered every four years on the Capitol plaza should have their usual share in viewing the inauguration.

It was deemed dangerous, however, to force upon the venerable members of the Supreme Court, the Senate and the Diplomatic Corps, the jeopardy of long exposure to the fury of the elements, and the President-elect finally acquiesced in the change of program. To effect the change in ceremonies from the great stand erected along the east front of the Capitol to the Senate chamber, it was necessary to rush a special resolution through the House and Senate.

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES

OF THE INAUGURATION
When President Roosevelt and Mr. Taft were announced at the main door of the Senate chamber, opposite the presiding officer's desk, the auditorium of the upper branch of Congress held what was probably its most brilliant assemblage of dignitaries of State and Nation, and richly uniformed Ambassadors, Ministers and special representatives from practically every country of the civilized world. The voice of the usher at the doorway was drowned in the volley of cheers from the corridor throngs in the history-making of the day into the Senate chamber. The President and Mr. Taft walked side by side down the aisleway to chairs placed

Immediately in front of the clerk's desk, and sat facing the distinguished audience. They had been greeted with applause which began among those on the floor and quickly swept up to the gallery throngs. Every one in the great assemblage rose and remained standing until Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt should be seated.

On the floor of the chamber, to the right and left of the centre aisle, were ranged the members of the Diplomatic Corps, the black-gowned Justices of the Supreme Court, the members of the House and Senate, the Admiral of the Navy, the Chief of Staff of the Army and scores of other officials and distinguished visitors. An entire section of the gallery to the left of the presiding officer's desk had been reserved for Mrs. Taft and the other members of the new President's family. Members of Mr. Sherman's family also had a space set apart for them.

The ceremonies of the inaugural formally were begun when Vice-President Fairbanks in a farewell address, which called out applause and cheering, declared the Sixtieth Congress at an end. Turning then to Mr. Sherman, who had been escorted to a place beside him, he administered to his successor the solemn oath of office and turned over to him the gavel of the Senate. Previously a resolution of thanks to Mr. Fairbanks had been unanimously carried. Mr. Sherman, in rapping the Senate to order in special session of the Sixty-first Congress, made a brief address, and then followed the swearing in of many new Senators. This ceremony completed and without further ceremony of any sort, Vice-President Sherman announced:

"The Chief Justice will now administer the oath of office to the President-elect."

The sudden announcement came as a surprise and a hush fell upon the assemblage. Mr. Taft arose, took the arm of Senator Knox, chairman of the Joint Committee of Arrangements and premier in his Cabinet, and walked around to a position in the rear of the presiding officer's desk. He was followed by Chief Justice Fuller, who was officiating for the fifth time at this historic quadrennial ceremony. Mr. Taft took up a position facing the members of his family, grouped in the gallery. The Chief Justice began the administration of the oath in a low tone. As he paused at the end of each phrase, Mr. Taft caught up his words and repeated them in a slow, distinct voice, which carried impressively to the furthest recesses of the chamber. When he at last had kissed the Bible there was an outburst of applause, a grasp of the hand by the Chief Justice and President Taft began the enunciation of the immediate policies of his administration in an inaugural address. He read from typewritten manuscript.

When the President had concluded Mr. Roosevelt immediately made his way to the rostrum. President Taft advanced to greet him. The two shook hands warmly and with hands on each other's shoulders they conversed earnestly and enthusiastically for a few minutes. During the leaving-taking every one in the Senate chamber stood still and looked on with keenest interest at the unusual picture. At last the men parted and Mr. Roosevelt darted out of one of the side doors leading into the Senate lobby. He was followed by re-

sounding cheers. President Taft was escorted out through the main door amid an ovation. The distinguished guests departed in the order in which they had entered the Senate chamber. The great crowds outside the Capitol caught up the cheering of those who had forced their way within. Mr. Taft entered the Presidential carriage with Mrs. Taft. The escort began to move, the ceremonies of the taking of office were at an end.

THE INAUGURAL PARADE

The sun had broken out during the ceremonies in the Senate chamber, the snow had stopped and the wind had moderated. A thousand men from early in the morning had been clearing the middle of Pennsylvania avenue, and therefore it was determined to have the parade and review at any cost. Many of the men who had not come clad for a terrific winter day, and many of the G. A. R. veterans, on the advice of their friends, dropped out of the columns waiting on the side streets along the avenue, but despite these conditions President Taft and Vice-President Sherman reviewed for nearly two hours the passing column.

It was a parade that these many thousands of men had every reason to be proud of. They were windswept all the way, and many of the marching representatives from the several States were compelled for more than a mile to walk through snow drifts. They lost also the applause that would have helped them, because the usual cheering thousands were absent. In front of the hotels along Pennsylvania avenue, where the sidewalks had been cleared, and from the windows of many houses there was cheering and waving of flags for the Republicans in line.

The big stands erected along the avenue, however, were almost deserted, although persons had paid as high as \$10 apiece for seats. Of the more than 100,000 persons who had come to add their enthusiasm to the population of Washington probably fewer than 5000 were along the line of march. The crowd about the White House grounds was less than 10,000. The paraders marched gravely, however, with swinging stride and blaring music.

Major-General J. Franklin Bell, the grand marshal of the inaugural parade, mounted on a big horse, rode in the van with a staff of officers to whom the mud and slush, and the winds seemed to make little difference. The same can be said of the military and naval organizations.

Taft beamed forth upon the marchers as they passed in review, lifting his hat to "Old Glory," whenever it was displayed, bowing to persons here and there and exuding rare good nature from every pore. For three hours he stood thus, Mr. Sherman by his side, receiving the homage that was his due, unmindful of the sharp northwest wind which blew through the chill stand.

Both Mrs. Taft and Mrs. Sherman joined them and remained until the parade was almost past. Even Miss Torrey, the President's au pair, for two years old, braved the blasts for a time and had the honor of occupying the President's big arm chair. The President and the Vice-President remained with heads uncovered to the last moment. Governor Hughes, on horseback, was one of the men who received big greetings. Nearly all the Governors who had come to Washington were recognized by their friends, their names called out, and so they too were recognized by strangers and received a generous welcome. The real enthusiasm, however, was for the men of the Navy, who recently came from the all-round the world tour. The West Point cadets came in for the next greatest welcome.

There was generous applause, too, for all organizations, civil and military, in the line. Among them several regiments of khaki-clad soldiers of the United States Army, only recently returned from Cuba, and other regiments that have won honor in wars and in plains fighting with Indians, attracted notable attention. Among the State troops were detachments of the National Guards of Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Missouri, Minnesota, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Some of the more distant States sent several companies of their Guard, while most of them were represented by regiments, and Maryland and Pennsylvania by brigades.

The famous Troop A of Cleveland, Ohio, a National Guard organization, constituted the special guard of honor to President Taft, as it had to the late President McKinley. Following the military divisions marched the civic division. This part of the pageant was heralded as the "Prosperity Brigade" and included in it were many organizations which for years have been regular attendants upon national conventions and inaugural ceremonies. Some organizations were in line, however, that never before had visited Washington, and their clever marching and attractive uniforms sought and held the fancy of the throngs.

Among these were the "Pickaninny Band," composed of colored orphan boys of South Carolina; the "Sherman Scouts," of Utica, N. Y., carrying at the head of their line a huge oil painting of their neighbor, Vice-President Sherman, and leading at the rear a gaily caparisoned "billy goat;" an "Alligator Band" from Louisiana; a "Pomposum Club" from Georgia; and a Taft Club, 500 strong, from the same State; the New York Republican County Committee, 1000 strong; an "Uncle Sam Club," of Buffalo, each of its 106 members attired in the conventional Uncle Sam costume; the Bug House Kose Company of Long Island, President Roosevelt's neighbors, and many others. The Minneapolis Flambeau Club,

one of the most spectacular organizations in the country, also appeared in this division of the parade; and not the least important feature of the civic division were the representatives of several camps of Confederate veterans, now grim and gray, some of whom wore their old-time uniforms and carried their shot-riddled flags. The inaugural parade occupied about two hours and was over at 5 o'clock p. m.

GORGEOUS SCENE

AT INAUGURAL BALL

Washington, D. C.—No other incoming President looked upon so brilliant a scene as that which unfolded to the gaze of President Taft at the inaugural ball in the Pension Office. The gray walls and the dull blue ceiling of the court of the vast building were shut from view by a wonderful combination of bunting, American flags and flowers and plants gathered from all States, from the Philippines, Hawaii, Porto Rico and Panama. Not an electric light was visible, the soft illumination being thrown over the fairland by reflection from every side. The scheme of the decoration was cream and gold, with the President's box adding a splash of color in its prevailing note of scarlet.

A chorus of 500 voices, concealed behind plants in a gallery, burst into the Jubilee Chorus of Von Weber when President and Mrs. Taft first appeared, leading the pageant around the flower-decked avenue of the ballroom. The singers were accompanied by an orchestra of 195 pieces. Behind the President came Vice-President Sherman and Mrs. Sherman, and then came the official representatives of thirty-six nations, with Baron Mayor des Planches, the Italian Ambassador, who is dean of the Diplomatic Corps, at their head. The Ambassadors or Ministers walked beside their wives, who were gowned as if for court, with coronets or tiaras, or gay ribbons or other bright insignias of title or rank. The flash of color, with the uniforms of the foreign officers, the full dress of Navy and Army officers, the Annapolis and West Point cadets and the frocks of the women, was dazzling and entrancing.

The path of the procession led to the fountain in the middle of the rotunda, around the fountain and back the same way, passing around the President's box and up to the second floor.

Following their appearance in the box the President and his party retired to rooms especially reserved for them, where supper was served. At the ball Mrs. Taft made her initial appearance as the First Lady of the Land. She wore a rarely beautiful robe of filmy white chiffon embellished in a trailing design of gold and red—the national flower—worked in a great plum-like spray of the length of the puffed skirt. Over her shoulders, from hem to shoulders, the full-blossomed sprays, pointing upward, were skillfully embroidered.

Months must have been consumed in encrusting the fairy-like fabric with its heavy burden of blossoms. Over a robe of heavy satin, such as our grandmothers fancied, the chiffon was draped. Empire bands of the silvered gauze framed the bodice and the shoulder straps. As a finishing touch about the décolletage and below the tight hand-like sleeves fell a spray of exquisite point lace.

A spray of diamonds trimmed the collar and a necklace of pearls and diamonds, supplemented by the jewels presented by the members of the Philippine party, were Mrs. Taft's chosen jewels.

Fully 12,000 persons attended the ball, and it was the most brilliant in the history of such affairs.

The President's party left the Pension Building shortly before midnight. The President and his family returned to the White House as they had come, in his new automobile.

ROOSEVELT IS HOME AGAIN.

Washington, D. C.—Following the ceremonies in the Senate, Theodore Roosevelt again a private citizen, bade an affectionate adieu to his successor, while all in the historic chamber looked on in silence, and then hurried away through a side door to take a train for New York. As he passed out of the chamber, Mr. Roosevelt received an ovation quite the equal of that tendered to the new President.

Outside the Capitol the retiring Chief Executive was met by 800 members of the New York County Committee and under their escort was driven to the Union Station, a short three blocks away. A band at the head of the column playing "Auld Lang Syne" told the story of the march, and Mr. Roosevelt was compelled time and time again to acknowledge the cheers from the throng which lined his way.

There was a wait of nearly two hours at the station, during which Mr. Roosevelt held an impromptu reception in the Presidential suite, but by the time the great parade was well started he was speeding away from Washington with Mrs. Roosevelt for their Oyster Bay home, there to make final preparations for his long absence in Africa, hunting big game.

Oyster Bay, Long Island.—Delayed by the blizzard, Citizen Theodore Roosevelt, former President of the United States, was ten hours making the journey from Washington to Jersey City and he did not reach Oyster Bay until early the day after the inauguration. Three hundred of his faithful townfolk remained at the station until the Roosevelt special arrived and gave the ex-President a warm welcome home.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Declares For a Continuation of the Policies of His Predecessor, Urges Immediate Revision of the Tariff, Suggests Postal Savings Banks, and an Inheritance Tax—Panama Canal Must Be Built According to Present Plans.

Washington, D. C.—After having been sworn in as President, Mr. Taft delivered his Inaugural Address which is, in part, as follows:

My Fellow Citizens: Any one who takes the oath I have just taken must feel a heavy weight of responsibility. If not, he has no conception of the powers and duties of the office upon which he is about to enter, or he is lacking in a proper sense of the obligation which the oath imposes.

The office of an Inaugural Address is to give a summary outline of the main policies of the new administration, so far as they can be anticipated. I have had the honor to be one of the advisers of my distinguished predecessor, and as such, to hold up his hands in the reforms he has initiated. I should be untrue to myself, to my promises and to the declarations of the party platform upon which I was elected to office, if I did not make the maintenance and enforcement of those reforms a most important feature of my administration. They were directed to the suppression of the lawlessness and abuses of power of the great combinations of capital invested in railroads and in industrial enterprises carrying on interstate commerce. The steps which my predecessor took and the legislation passed on his recommendation have accomplished much, have caused general halt in the vicious policies which created popular alarm, and have brought about in the business affected a much higher regard for existing law.

Mr. Taft expresses the belief that a reorganization of the Department of Justice, of the Bureau of Corporations in the Department of Commerce and Labor, and of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is needed to secure a more rapid enforcement of the laws affecting interstate railroads and industrial combinations.

He says he hopes to submit, at the first regular session of the incoming Congress, in December next, definite suggestions in respect to the needed amendments to the anti-trust and the interstate commerce law.

It is believed, the Address continues, that with the changes to be recommended, American business can be assured of that measure of stability and certainty in respect to those things that may be done and those that are prohibited, which is essential to the life and growth of all business. Such a plan must include the right of the people to avail themselves of those methods of combining capital, at the same time definite arrangements between combinations based upon legitimate economic reasons and those formed with the intent of creating monopolies and artificially controlling prices. I believe that the amendments to be proposed are just as necessary in the protection of legitimate business as in the clinching of the reforms which properly bear the name of my predecessor.

On the subject of tariff revision Mr. Taft says: A matter of most pressing importance is the revision of the tariff in accordance with the promises of the platform upon which I was elected. I shall call Congress into extra session, to meet on the 15th day of March, in order that consideration may be at once given to a bill revising the Dingley Act. This should secure an adequate revenue and adjust the duties in such a manner as to afford to labor and to all industries in this country, whether of the farm, mine or factory, protection by tariff equal to the difference between the cost of production abroad and the cost of production here, and have a provision which shall put into force, upon executive determination of certain facts, a higher or maximum tariff against those countries whose trade policy toward us equitably requires such discrimination.

The President believes there can safely be a reduction in certain schedules while advancement will be required in few, if any. The proposed revision disturbs the whole business of the country; therefore, it is necessary that the bill be drawn in good faith and as promptly as possible. Mr. Taft because of this urges that no other legislation be considered at an extra session.

The President states that the revision of this tariff is for the purpose of raising sufficient revenue to wipe out the year's \$100,000,000 deficit. Should it be impossible to do so by import duties, new kinds of taxation must be adopted, and among these Mr. Taft recommends a graduated inheritance tax, as correct in principle and as certain and easy of collection.

Mr. Taft says he stands for economy in expenditures but not to an extent that will stop effective government. There must be liberal expenditures for the Department of Agriculture, the supervision of railroads and industrial corporations, and the putting of laws in force that will conserve our resources.

A permanent improvement, like the Panama Canal, should be treated as a distinct enterprise, and should be paid for by the proceeds of bonds, the issue of which will distribute its cost between the present and future generations in accordance with the benefits derived. It may well be submitted to the serious consideration

of Congress whether the deepening and control of the channel of a great river system, like that of the Ohio or of the Mississippi, will definitely and practical plans for the enterprise have been approved and determined upon, should not be provided for in the same way.

On the subject of Asiatic immigrants the Address expresses the hope that "we may continue to minimize the evils likely to arise from such immigration without unnecessary friction and by mutual concessions between self-respecting governments." By proper legislation may, and ought to, place in the hands of the Federal Government the means of enforcing the treaty rights of each ally in the courts of the Federal Government.

One of the reforms to be carried out during the incoming Administration, declares Mr. Taft, is a change of our monetary and banking laws, so as to secure greater elasticity in the forms of currency available for trade and the incoming Congress should promptly fulfill the promise of the Republican platform and pass a proper Postal Savings Bank bill.

The President then discusses the Panama Canal as follows: The Panama Canal will have a most important bearing upon the trade between the eastern and the western sections of our country, and will greatly increase the facilities for transportation between the eastern and the western seaboard, and may possibly revolutionize the transcontinental rates with respect to bulky merchandise. It will also have a most beneficial effect to increase the trade between the eastern seaboard of the United States and the western coast of South America, and, indeed, with some of the important ports on the east coast of South America reached by rail from the west coast. The work on the canal is making most satisfactory progress. The type of the canal as a lock canal was fixed by Congress after a full consideration of the conflicting reports of the majority and minority of the consulting board, and after the recommendation of the War Department and the Executive upon those reports. Recent suggestion that something had occurred on the Isthmus to make the lock type of the canal less feasible than it was supposed to be when the reports were made and the policy determined on, led to a visit to the Isthmus of a board of competent engineers to examine the Gatun dam and locks which are the key of the lock type. The report of that board shows that nothing has occurred in the nature of newly revealed evidence which should change the views once formed in the original discussion.

The governments of our dependencies in Porto Rico and the Philippines are progressing as favorably as could be desired. The prosperity of Porto Rico continues unabated. The President's address then devotes considerable space to the South and the negro race question. Mr. Taft says:

I look forward with hope to increasing the already good feeling between the South and the other sections of the country. My chief purpose is not to effect a change in the electoral vote of the Southern States. That is a secondary consideration. What I look forward to is an increase in the tolerance of political views of all kinds and their advocacy throughout the South, and the existence of a respectable political opposition in every State; even more than this, to an increased feeling on the part of all the people in the South that this Government is their Government, and that its officers in their States are their officers.

On the topic of labor Mr. Taft noted: That Congress had passed the bill fixing the liability of interstate carriers to their employes for injury sustained in the course of employment, abolishing the rule of fellow-servant and the common law rule as to contributory negligence, and substituting therefor the so-called rule of comparative negligence, and a model child labor law.

As I wish to say, he continued, that in so far as I can, I hope to promote the enactment of further legislation of this character. I am strongly convinced that the Government should make itself as responsible to employes injured in its employ as an interstate railway corporation is made responsible by Federal law to its employes; and I shall be glad, wherever any additional reasonable safety device can be invented to reduce the loss of life and limb among railway employes, to urge Congress to require its adoption by interstate railways.

In conclusion the Inaugural Address says:

The issuing of a temporary restraining order without notice as in several instances has been abused by inconsiderate exercise, and to remedy this, the platform upon which I was elected recommends the formulation in a statute of the conditions under which such a temporary restraining order ought to issue. A statute can and ought to be framed to embody the best modern practice, and causing the subject so closely to the attention of the court as to make abuses of the process unlikely in the future. American people, if I understand them, insist that the authority of the courts shall be sustained and are opposed to any change in the procedure by which the powers of a court may be weakened and the fearless and effective administration of justice be interfered with.

Having thus reviewed the questions likely to recur during my Administration, and having expressed in a summary way the position which I expect to take in recommendations to Congress and in my conduct as an Executive, I invoke the cordial sympathy and support of my fellow citizens, and the aid of Almighty God in the discharge of my responsible duties.