

WILSON IS FREE FROM PROMISES

Should Be a Fearless and Independent President.

UNLIKE HIS PREDECESSORS.

Most Presidents Took Office With "Political Promissory Notes" Outstanding Against Them—Seniority Will Prevail in Selection of Senate Committee Chairmanships.

By ARTHUR W. DUNN.

Washington, Nov. 16.—[Special.]—No "promises to pay" need disturb Woodrow Wilson when he takes the office of president. In this he is different from many other presidents. Perhaps he is more like Grover Cleveland than all others, for Cleveland had few "political promissory notes" outstanding when he took office. Harrison had stacks of them, mostly made by his supporters when in tight places. McKinley had all that Hanna had made during the preliminary and presidential campaigns. Roosevelt assumed many of the McKinley obligations.

Taft was confronted by promises of Frank Hitchcock and Charles Taft, who had made quite a number of promises.

Wilson Stands Free.

Governor Wilson has been in politics such a short time that he has not been compelled to make political pledges. Those who sprang to his support for president after he had been elected governor did so because they wanted to get behind a winner. His supporters at Baltimore made few pledges, although it was said many federal offices were promised to western delegates if they would "get in line."

But Wilson has made it plain that he is authorized no promises, and if promises were made they were repudiated by the positive declarations he has made that none was given. And so he goes into the presidency unpledged. He is not tied very close to the Democratic platform, for he has sort of made a platform of his own. He ought to be a very fearless and independent president.

Seniority Will Count.

No one is willing to admit that the rule of seniority will be overturned in selecting chairmen of the different committees of the senate, and it is asserted, therefore, that Senator Simmons will succeed to the head of the finance committee even if he is not satisfactory to the majority of the Democrats.

Senator Simmons took charge of all the tariff measures sent to the senate in the last session and labored earnestly to secure their passage by the senate in the form which they passed the house. This will count in his favor as a tariff reformer and may prevent overturning a precedent which has been in force so long that it is considered law by the senate.

Set Aside Once Long Ago.

The seniority rule was set aside once long ago, back in the days of Grant's administration. Charles Sumner was relieved as chairman of the foreign relations committee mainly through the influence of President Grant and the stalwarts of the Republican party. Sumner was entirely out of harmony with Grant's foreign policy and made statements which angered Grant's friends. What the differences were about no one seems to recall, but perhaps it was because of the efforts of Grant to annex Santo Domingo. At all events, Sumner was displaced and a friend of Grant made chairman.

There have been times since when the senate was anxious to break the seniority rule, notably when Senator Mitchell of Oregon was in line for chairman of the committee on inter-oceanic canals. Panama was decided upon as the location for the canal and Mitchell was an intense advocate of Nicaragua. But in the end the committee was strengthened by Panama advocates and Mitchell retained the chairmanship.

An Opportunity Missed.

It is a pity Tom Carter could not have lived until after the recent election. He and Chairman Hilles could have conduced with each other. Carter was chairman twenty years ago when the Republicans met their last previous presidential defeat.

Cabinet Construction Difficulties.

The men who are making cabinets for President Wilson are having their troubles. One correspondent had figured out for a Baltimore paper what a fine thing it would be to make Senator Rayner of his state secretary of state. He showed how Rayner was just the right kind of a man, his experience in foreign affairs, etc.

Then it occurred to him that Mary-Ind had a Republican governor and the legislature would not meet for more than a year. "It spolis my nice story," he remarked. "I was up against it as soon as I began looking for a successor for Rayner in the senate. The Democrats cannot afford to lose a vote with their narrow margin."

Many Close Votes.

The election has made a record in the unusual number of close votes. Not only did it take many days to ascertain who had carried different states for president, but there are many doubtful congressional districts, and in many states the senatorial contests were decided by a very few votes.

THE GYRO COMPASS.

Ingenious Substitute For Magnetic Instrument on Naval Vessels.

By invitation of the superintendent of the Naval Observatory the scientific public in Washington has recently had an opportunity of inspecting a gyro-compass in operation. An American-made instrument has been adopted for use in the United States navy, and three ships have already been thus equipped. This ingenious substitute for the magnetic compass has often been described in the scientific journals, but probably few of our readers are aware of the position it is expected to occupy in the immediate future in the scheme of naval equipment. There is no present intention of adopting the gyro compass for the ordinary purposes of navigation, although this may come in time.

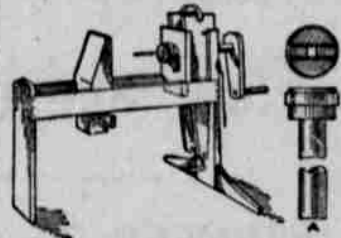
The great advantage that it offers, even in the present early stage of its development, is the fact that it can be installed inside the hull of a metal ship, where it will be protected from shot and shell during battle, while the magnetic compass would be useless in such a position. Although the gyro compass itself is to be placed below decks, with steering gear at hand for use when necessity compels, it will be connected electrically with a number of dials (known as "repeaters") in other parts of the ship, by which the helmsman may lay his course until the stress of battle forces him to the more sheltered gyro compass.—Scientific American.

WOODEN DRILL PRESS.

Useful and Easily Made Machine For the Farm Workshop.

The farm workshop seldom has many tools, and especially the more expensive ones are naturally missing, for the cost of a drill press or lathe is entirely out of proportion to the amount of work for which they would be needed on a farm. One farmer solved the problem of drilling holes by making a device, almost entirely of wood, which would serve to drill any hole that may be required on farm machinery.

The illustration clearly shows its construction. The pressure of the foot



DRILL PRESS OF WOOD.

on the stirrup will make the drill take hold sufficiently, but if not the wedges may be struck with a hammer. A small rope is provided to hold up the wedges when they are not in use.

The spindle and chuck is made of a piece of tough wood, the smaller diameter being one and three-quarters inches and the larger or chuck end two and three-quarters inches. This allows a half inch flange, which must be well lubricated when using the drill. A quarter inch hole is bored for the shank of the bit; then a slot about three-quarters of an inch in depth is cut on either side of the hole. Pieces of a broken file are inserted in the slots and a metal ferrule shrunk on the outside of the wood, as shown in A. The hole in the chuck is either squared or left round to fit the drills that may be on hand.

An Emergency Router.

Sometimes a carpenter on a repair job runs into work where he could use a router to advantage. Should he have none in his tool box a router is easily devised by taking the plane bit out of a small wood plane and using a narrow chisel instead. Set the chisel edge to the right depth and tighten the wedge just as when adjusting a bit, and the router is ready for the work. It takes only a few minutes to make the change, and this emergency tool will do better work than could be accomplished by cutting the wood out with a chisel and mallet.

Covering a Stovepipe Hole.

The stovepipe hole in a chimney can be easily covered when the stove is removed for the summer by using an asbestos stove mat in the following manner: The metal ring on the mat is removed and the asbestos cut to fit the hole. Paste the asbestos on a square of muslin and allow both to dry under a weight. Place the asbestos in the chimney hole and paste the muslin to the wall. Paste wall paper over this. When it is necessary to open the hole cut around the circle and remove the asbestos.

Annual Cost of Panama Canal.

According to the estimates of Professor Emory C. Johnson before the senate committee on inter-oceanic canals, the total annual cost of the Panama canal will be \$31,000,000. Of this total \$11,500,000 will represent interest on the money invested in construction, \$15,000,000 will be the cost for the defense of the canal, and \$4,500,000 will represent the cost of repairs and operation. As against this he does not expect the revenue from tolls to exceed \$1,000,000 for the first year.

Country Lacks Tin Deposits.

Tin is one of the minerals in workable deposits of which the United States is lacking. Our production in 1910 was valued at only \$23,447, according to the United States geological survey, while our importations were worth \$33,313,255. We need one or two large tin mines.

COULDN'T HAVE BEATEN WILSON

Idle "His" of the Recent Election Set at Rest.

IT WAS A DEMOCRATIC YEAR.

Champ Clark Will Be Re-elected as Speaker of the House Without Opposition—Congressman Palmer Seems Certain to Be a Member of the Next Cabinet.

By ARTHUR W. DUNN.

Washington, Nov. 18.—[Special.]—Those persons with pencil and paper who are showing how Taft would have won if he had secured the Roosevelt votes and who are blaming Roosevelt for Republican defeat, also those who are pointing out that Wilson is a "minority president" because he had only a plurality of the popular vote, should take a few minutes to consider another phase of the recent election.

Suppose Roosevelt had not been running and the race had been between Taft and Wilson, isn't it more than likely, in view of the prevailing conditions during the campaign, that Wilson would have received a large portion of the votes that went to Roosevelt and that a large proportion of the remainder would have stayed away from the polls?

We must remember that those who voted for Roosevelt were more intensely opposed to Taft than they were to Wilson. The insurgent or progressive wing of the Republican party was bitterly hostile to Taft from the beginning of the campaign.

It Was a Democratic Year.

Considering the conditions from every point of view it might as well be acknowledged that it was a Democratic year. There are many Progressives who believe that had Roosevelt been nominated at Chicago by the Republicans he would have been elected. He might have saved a great many congressional seats and several senators, but it is doubtful if he could have defeated Wilson.

It should be remembered that the factions of the Republican party represented at Chicago had two diverse and distinct purposes. The men behind Taft intended to defeat Roosevelt at all hazards even if a Democrat should be elected. The men behind Roosevelt were no less determined to defeat Taft. The split in the Republican ranks was complete.

The Democrats felt assured of victory long before the conventions. The intense rivalry for the Democratic nomination was sufficient to show how confident were the members of that party that they would succeed in this presidential year.

Will Be Clark Again.

It seems hardly worth saying, but in view of the discussion it may be worth while to say that Champ Clark will continue to serve as speaker of the house. Even if the speakership had not been shorn of its power and that power transferred to the chairman of the ways and means committee Clark would probably be re-elected. As it now stands there is not much more than the honor and the increased salary to attract men to the speaker's chair. It is no longer the second position of power in the government.

Palmer and the Cabinet.

While cabinet makers are busy they had better not overlook A. Mitchell Palmer of Pennsylvania. Had Pennsylvania gone Democratic his selection would have been assured, but even if Roosevelt did carry the state the work which Palmer has done in the campaign, his clean record, his rapid rise to prominence in politics and, more than all else, the important part he played in bringing about the nomination of Wilson at Baltimore, ought to make him a member of the new cabinet.

"Shot to Pieces."

Only three members of the Republican minority on both appropriations and ways and means were left out of the wreck of the late election, Gillett of Massachusetts, Good of Iowa and Mondell of Wyoming on appropriations and Payne of New York, Fordney of Michigan and Needham of California on ways and means. These committees seem to have been "shot to pieces."

Wilson's Evidence.

This is a Wilson year. Governor Wilson is elected president. "Tama" Jim Wilson is rounding out a service as cabinet officer of sixteen years, a record which has never been equaled and is not likely to be in the future. Ambassador Wilson is an important figure in the Mexican affair. Then there was the defeat of Congressman Wilson of Pennsylvania, who became prominent as a labor leader in the house. And a sad thing was the death of former Senator Wilson of Washington.

A Total Loss.

Every Republican member of the house judiciary committee was defeated, either in the primaries or at the election. Whoever is the minority leader will have lots of room for lawyers in the Republican party who desire to serve on that committee. It is quite probable that the Democrats will increase their membership on all the committees owing to the large majority they will have in the house after the 4th of March.

IRON OF THE ANCIENTS.

Pillar in India Has Stood Rustless For Centuries.

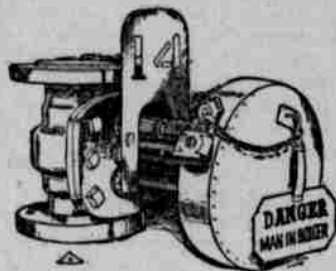
On the plains of Delhi, in India, there stands a massive iron pillar, nearly sixty feet in length and weighing about nineteen tons. This ancient column is literally a monument to the "antiquated" processes and metallurgists that produced it, for it has resisted the attack of the elements during a period of about 2,500 years, in which fully a million times its bulk of iron or steel has crumbled into useless dust. No one would suggest that civilized man returns to the primitive and laborious methods by which the iron of this column was made so long ago, and besides, there are not men enough living today to supply our present demands even if all of them should engage in this type of manufacture; but, granting that the world would pay for a limited amount of iron as "passive" as this old Kutub pillar, it is very doubtful whether modern ironworkers know how to make it.

Probably this specimen of unusual iron is the result of accident rather than design, as far as its resisting qualities are concerned, and it stands today the survival of the fittest, not so much because it was intended to be, as because it proved to be the most lasting, for it is not likely that a process known to give iron of this kind would ever have been used so seldom, since the importance of a rust resisting iron and steel was as much appreciated in those days as now. No doubt all the older processes made iron and steel which rusted less—yes, and some of it very much less—than what is usually produced today, but there is a great difference between this mere excellence and a resistance to corrosion during thirty centuries such as this column shows.—Bradley Stoughton in Engineering Magazine.

SAFETY FOR WORKERS.

Locking Device to Protect Men Working in Boilers.

The Industrial Safety association suggests the device here illustrated as a safeguard for men working in boilers, says Popular Mechanics. Live steam has more than once been turned by mistake into a dead boiler where men were working, and with fatal results. When a number of boilers deliver steam to a common main there is always a shutoff or throttle valve to cut each boiler out of service and



SAFETY LOCKING DEVICE IN PLACE.

isolate it from the steam line, and it is for such a valve as this that the safeguarding device is designed.

It consists of a split and hinged steel cylinder, which may be slipped over the hand wheel of the stop valve and locked in place by means of a padlock. The key is given to the man who enters the boiler, and as long as the cylinder is on the stop valve it is impossible for any one to turn on the steam.

Seasoning Wood by Electricity.

The following item from a British technical paper concerns a new process of seasoning wood by electricity in France:

A large tank is filled with a solution containing 10 per cent of borax and 5 per cent of resin, with just a trace of carbonate of soda. In the bottom of the tank is a lead plate which is electrically connected to the positive pole of the dynamo. The timber to be treated is stacked on this plate, and when the tank has been filled another plate is superimposed and connected to the negative pole of the dynamo. When the current is switched on it passes through the stack of wood between the two plates, and in its passage it is said to drive out the sap in the timber and deposit borax and resin in its place, completely filling up all pores and interstices. When the process is completed the timber is removed and dried, after which it is ready for use. It is claimed that the timber submitted to this treatment, no matter how green it may be, becomes completely seasoned.

Gasoline Tool Car For Railways.

The Chicago and Rock Island railroad is using a gasoline car to convey men and tools to any point where repairs or construction work are needed. The car not only transports tools and men, but supplies the necessary power for operating electric tools. A thirty horsepower four cylinder four cycle gasoline engine drives a generator which supplies power for operating electric tools. These tools are two electric spike screwing machines, six electric drills, one electric saw for rails and portable emery wheels. The car can carry eight to ten men and any reasonable equipment of tools.

Liquid Slag From Producers.

At the experiment station of the United States bureau of mines, Pittsburgh, Pa., trial runs have been made with a gas producer using coke as fuel, with which limestone has been mixed in varying proportions, the purpose being to flux the ash and form a liquid slag, thus avoiding clinker and ash troubles and consequent shutdowns.

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Cash & Due from banks	210,924.04	Circulation	8,600.00
		Deposits	285,009.62
	\$531,424.18		\$531,424.18

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