## DIPLOMATS TO BE CHOSEN ON MERIT

Taft Orders Examination of Prospective Secretaries as First Step.

KNOX'S PLAN IS ADOPTED

Offices to Be Graded and Promotion Is Designed to Follow Excellent Work-Physical Test Is Part of Plan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 .- To improve the personnel and efficiency of the Diplomatic Service and to encourage Secretaries of Legations to qualify for promotion to the rank of Minister, President Taft has approved a plan suggested by Secretary chex, and he' published it tonight as an executive order.

The new project provides for a board of examiners to pass upon all applicants for appointment of Secretaries and provides the standard to be maintained. Secretary Knox in a letter submitting his plan to the President points out the remarkable growth of the political and commercial relations of the United States with foreign nations and the increasing difficulty of the problems to be dealt

Promotions Are Promised.

Record of efficiency of all the Under Secretaries will be preserved in the State Department and appointment from out-side the service to Secretaryships will be made only to the class of Third Sec-retary of Embassy, or, in case of higher vacancies, of Second Secretary of Legation, or of Secretary of Legation at posts which have assigned to them only on Secretary. Vacancies in Secretary of the higher classes in the future will be filled by promotion from lower grades and efficency and ability demonstrated in the

service will be the test of advancement. All the Secretaryships in the future will e graded according to the importance or difficulty or other aspects of the work done at each mission, and these classifica-tions will be made known to the service so that every man may know just where he stands. The examining board, to con-sist of the Secretary of State, the So-licitor of the Department of State, the Chief of the Diplomatic Bureau and the Chief Examiner of the Civil Service Com mission, will determine the fitness andidates designated by the President

Examinations in Washington.

The examinations will be held at Wash-ington and will be both oral and written. Knowledge of the following subjects will determine the fitness of the candidates: International law; diplomatic usage; at least one modern language other than English, either French, German or Spanish; the natural commercial and infustrial resources of the United States: American history; government and insti-tutions and the modern history of Europe, Latin-America and the Far East.

In the oral examination candidates must emonstrate alertness, general contemporary information, natural fitness for the service, address, command of Engish and general education.

A physical examination will be supplemented. Candidates must be between 21 nd 50 years of age. The department

## RAID TO BE HEADED OFF

(Continued From First Page.)

about it. They are waiting upon the By common consent, apparently, all are holding back until the Presidential rec-ommendations can be received, as they will be on Tuesday, in his first annual That his suggestions will be acted upon is too much to say. But there is a disposition to accommodate him so far as can be done, and there is a determination to hear his suggestions before entering upon any effort at legislation along lines upon which he has intimated a desire to be heard.

Insurgents in No Haste.

Even the "insurgents" generally ex-press a willingness to wait upon the White House before attempting to formulate a plan of action. This is true manifest much interest in the forth-coming message but say that, until it is received, they will be unable to form any

They are avowedly irreconcilable in their attitude toward the Speaker and Senator Aldrich, whom they hold re-sponsible, one for the House rules and will be heard from soon in some way, and it is not hoped by friends of the new tariff that they will escape criticism. They are prepared for this, and will attempt to meet it when it comes.

Rules Not to Be Amended.

There is practically no prospect of amending the rules of the House in this session, and indications are strong that no general effort will be made in that direction. The principal interest in the outlook centers in the possibility of railroad legislation and all are waiting with keen expectation to see what recommendation, if any, Mr. Taft may make on that subject.

Representative Mann has bills prepared on all these points and will present them as soon as the message is received. He is chairman of the committee that will have the measures in hand and he will press them with vigor. Much interest is felt in the Nicaraguan situation, but the general disposition is to permit the executive branch to deal with it without interference.

Canada's Attitude Concerns.

The attitude of Canada toward the provisions of the tariff law relative to print paper and wood pulp is giving some con-cern. Early efforts to remedy this situ-ation will be made but there is no certainty of the outcome

While the corporation tax was under consideration in the extra session, Senator Aldrich expressed the opinion that it might not be of long life, but he probably will take no steps to abrogate it until the full effect of the tariff as a revenue producer can be ascertained. Representative Campbell, of Kansas, on Monday will introduce a resolution asking for an investigation of the sugaring for an investigation of the sugar trust. The opinion is quite general that New Mexico and Arizona will attain to statehood before the close of the session. The President has promised that they shall come in separately. While many members regard the two territories as unprepared for statehood, the probabil-

kota, and the House because of the deaths of Representatives DeArmond of Missouri and Lassiter of Virginia, all of which have occurred in the recess.

Mr. Thompson, who succeeds Senator Johnson, will be sworn in, as will be Mr.

McCredie and Mr. Hawley, the one successor of the late Representative Cushman of Washington, and the other of William Lorimer of Illinois, advanced to

FOWLER TARIFF BILL READY

Commission to Fix Duties, Within Limits Set by Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Representative Charles W. Fowler, of New Jersey, to-night gave out a statement outlining the tariff commission bill which he will in-troduce in the House tomorrow. The bill, as described by Mr. Fowler, provides that Congress shall fix the maxprovides that Congress shall nx the maximum and minimum schedules or rates, and that the commission, consisting of 15 members, shall, with the approval of the President, fix the actual rates to be paid at some point between the maximum and minimum rates so established by Congress. But no rate so fixed and approved shall become effective or operative for 18 months after having been promulgated by the President, that every industry affected by tariff changes may have ample time to adjust itself to new

"If anyone should suggest," said Mr. Fowler tonight, "that such a commis-sion could not constitutionally fix the tariff rates at any point between the maximum and minimum rates established maximum and minimum rates established by Congress, because that would be an exercise of legislative power, let him ask himself whether the power to so fix rates is such a stretch of legislative authority as that given to the Interstate Commerce Commission and approved by the Supreme Court permitting it to fix a reasonable railroad rate."

Mr. Fowler declares it to be perfectly clear "that unless the Republican party

clear "that unless the Republican party gets rid of Aldrichism and Cannonism, the people will get rid of the Republican

Fowler asserts that the people's hopes have been turned to disgust and their falth to resentment, and he says he does not believe that they will permit Aldrich to "pick their pockets through the leger-demain of words." He prophesies a "thunderbolt of righteous indignation and punitive wrath," as about to "strike, punitive wrath," as about to "strike, shatter and paralyze the Republican party unless it utterly repudiates Aldrichism and its subservient implement,

Impending defeat and the loss of the next House of Representatives, Mr. Fowler says, can be avoided only "by emblazoning on our party banners the pledges: 'First, we are against Aldrichism and Cannonism. Second, we demand tariff revision hereafter by evolution, and not revolution. Third, we demand tariff revision based on ascertained facts, and not upon selfish trades and corrupt agree-ments. Fourth, we demand a perma-nent, broad and responsible tariff commission, which shall ascertain the feets, obviate trade ware and assist in securing and retaining the good will and friend-ship of all nations by wise, just and advantageous trade treaties."

PRESIDENT MAY OPEN WATER-WAYS CONGRESS THIS WEEK.

Delegates Meet for First Time Without "Pork Barrel" Sentiment. Governors Speak.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 .- The President, embers of his Cabinet. Governors of five states, members of Congress and other men prominent in National life will atend the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, which will begin a three days' session here Wednesday.

The congress is expected to make an epoch. It is said this will be the first time the delegates ever have met without the "pork barrel" sentiment.

President Taft is expected to make the irst address to the congress. Count von Bernstorff, German Ambassador to the United States, will tell of the develop-ment of inland waterways in Germany. On the following two days there will be addresses by Governors Hadley, of Missouri, Weeks of Connecticut, Harmon of Ohio, Eberhardt of Minnesota and Burke of North Dakota. Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel, and Her-bert Smith, Commissioner of Corporations,

bert Smith, Commissioner of Corporations, will speak.

The congress meets this year with three convictions—that no waterways projects should be entered upon until its practicability is proved by engineers; that such projects now under way should be speed. ily, finished, and that bonds should be issued for the work just as was done for the Panama Canal.

### RAILWAY PROJECTS ACTIVE Flood of Bills Promised in British

Columbia Lower House. VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 5.—(Special.)-

That the session of the local House, opening January 20, will not be without its new rallway policy and its lobby, de-spite the fact that the Canadian Northern and the Kettle River Valley railway legislation have premier place promised on the order paper, is appar ent from the appearance in the Gazette already of no fewer than nine notices of special railway bills, seven of which are with respect to new projects.

A bill is also promised for the revival of the Vancouver & Nicola Valley Rail-

way Company charter of 1908, and an-other to extend the time for the com-mencement of operations on the enterprise of the Graham Island Railway Company. Barnard & Robinson have charge of a bill for a rival Graham Island rallway project, and others preliminary to the formation of companies and the construction of railroads from Vancouver to Upper Lillopet Lake, and from 1 them to the porthern boundary. from Lytton to the northern boundary of the province. Abbott & Hart-Mc-Harg will seek incorporation, with the usual powers, for a company to build a new short-line railroad from Vancouver to New Westminster; Frank Hig-gins has the interests of still another Graham Island road committed to his keeping: Taylor, Hulme & Innes are looking after the Robson Bight & West Coast Vancouver Island Rallway bill. and Wilson & Bloomfield the projected road from Menzies Bay to the junction of the Salmon and Mamekay Rivers.

## BOWLEGGED MAN MISSING

Is Also German, Wears Spectacles and Has Much Money.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 5.—(Special.)— Bowlegged, a German and burdened with money, Max Gunther, a property-owner money, Max Gunther, a property-owner of Wallace, Idaho, although not a resident, is missing and his relatives have appealed to the authorities for help in

ocating him. Gunther, aged 45, wore spectacles be ities are that these members will yield.

Efforts will be made to get through a postal savings bill and a merchant manner aged so, were spectacies besides being bowlegged. He is a butcher by trade and is said to have left Pull-man, Wash, about July 25 to go to Wallace. So far as his relatives known most immediately after aged so, were spectacies besides being bowlegged. He is a butcher man, Wash, about July 25 to go to Wallace. So far as his relatives known he did not arrive there. They expressed postal savings bill and a merchant marrine bill, but both will be opposed.

Both houses probably will adjourn almost immediately after convening on Monday—the Senate on account of the death of Senator Johnson, of North Da-

# Yards for 10c

Ribbons-No. 1 satin taffeta ribbon for making holiday gifts, fancy work, etc. 10c 10-yard piece, special at. Automobile Veils, 2½ yds. long; extra quality chiffon; all popular colors; sample line Values to \$4.00, each . \$1.98 Women's Novelty Neckwear in croat stocks, rabats, jabots, Venise collars or lace stocks, all new designs. Regular values to \$1.00, special. 480 Ostrich Boas-A sample line 11/2 and 2 yards long; colors, white, gray, brown and evening shades; regular values \$7.50 up to \$20. For Monday Regular values up to \$27.50, for, each. \$12.50 Women's Silk Elastic Belts, fit ted with handsome buckles in wide selection; all the best shades. Regular 75c and 480 \$1.00 values, special at ... \$1.50 and \$2.00 values . . . . 98¢

# Ribbons -- 10 Olds, Wortman & King \$1.75 Gloves

## Come in and View the Many Extra good quality women's kid gloves in two-clasp style; all sizes. The ideal holiday gift. Wonderful Values in Toyland

Today, Monday, is the opening of Our Fourth Floor Fairyland-the supply center of the toys that will delight all the good boys and girls on Christmas.

Old and young are cordially invited to wander through the department and absorb the Xmas spirit that pervades the very atmosphere of an up-to-date Toyshop.

Dolls that awaken the most eager anticipations in all the little girls who see them and which make the older women sorry they are not girls once more so that they, too, might mother one of these little beauties. Jolly little ladies with cloth faces, dolls that will stand much rough handling, or stately madames in handsome gowns that would make the most fastidious society belle envy them their admiration.

All the newest toys for boys that like things with "go" in them-Electric railways, friction toys, electric and steam engines, shoot the chutes. In doll house furnishings we are showing unbreakable dishes in several colors. Better buy early. the pair. Special, pair. 190

all sizes. The ideal holiday gift. Regular \$1.75 grade, \$1.29 special for today at...\$ If you do not know the size or color wanted in gloves, buy a glove certificate.

Women's Street Gloves in extra quality tan cape; 1-clasp Prix seam; spear back; Dent value at, the pair \$1.25 Extra quality soft cape gloves; one or two-clasp Dent style; \$1.75 and \$2.00 values \$1.59 for the low price of .... \$1,59 Women's Cashmere and Golf Gloves; good warm hand wear Regular 75c values on 480 sale Monday at, pair .... Children's and Infants' Cashmere Mittens in white, cardinal, navy, etc. Assorted sizes. Regular values to 35c

## Opera Wraps Over \$50 at Half

Pay just one-half of the marked price and become the owner of any opera or evening coat or cape in our stocks, that sells regularly at \$50.00 or more. Why be content with mediocre styles and qualities when the finest grades to be had, and the best fashions produced, are on sale at half price? Wonder'ul selection of colors and materials, rich and handsome plain effects or triumphs of tasteful trimming. All at \$50 and up.... 1/2 PRICE ALL EVENING DRESSES AND GOWNS WORTH \$75 AND UP AT HALF-Preferred materials, styles and shades; a comprehensive selection in every particular. No reserve. Every gown or dress we own, worth \$75.00 or more, today at HALF

### Gifts for Men From This Complete Stock

Economize on your men's gifts this year and simplify your shopping by coming to one great store where all his wants are catered to, and low department-store prices are charged. Come where only first qualities are to be found, no matter how low the price. Come and choose the things that you'll be sure he likes and let him know that they come from the Style Center

Men's Housecoats in endless | selection. At the present time our line presents a faultless assortment. Every size is here, and those who come now to look stand no chance of disappointment. If you wish, we will lay away any housecoat in our stock upon paying onefourth the price.

Men's Fancy Hosiery, Suspenders, dress protectors, fancy vests, sweater coats, dress or golf shirts, silk handkerchiefs, and all the accessories to dress that fastidious fellows like.

Regular \$2.50 values, spe- \$2.00 cial this week, only....

Men's Neckwear is one of the most popular articles for Christmas time. Just find out his taste and come here to please it. You'll please your purse as well, for good qualities do not cost much here. Latest shapes and colorings, up from...... 500 Men's Bath Robes and dressing gowns, of all sorts. Distinctive patterns, in new blanket effects. Browns, grays,

of designs and colors \$5.00 Prices up from ...... Huck Towels Very finest grade of Richardson's imported Irish huck-a-back towels; handhemstitched and embroidered; ideal Christmas gifts. Special this week. Regular \$2.00 values, spe- \$1 50 || RICHARDSON'S HANDKER-CHIEF LINEN

blues and a good assortment

Very finest quality sheer linen lawn; regularly worth \$3 \$1.98 the yard; special price.. Regular \$2.75 values, special this week, only..... \$2.10



## Suits \$60 and Above at Half

Our entire stock of fancy and plain suits that sell regularly for \$60.00 and up go at this sweeping reduction today. There's the grandest choice that ever faced Portland shoppers in any sale before attempted. This includes our handsome models in three-piece suits and there is so wide a range of choice in colors, style and grade that all women who are of an economical turn of mind must and will share in the bargain. The best tailors in the land fashioned these lovely garments, the best materials obtainable enter into their construction and they are the best and latest modes. All worth \$60.00 and up, and will be placed on sale today at just..... ONE-HALF PRICE

## Leather Goods and Jewelry

Among the leather goods and jewelry are choice gifts for men or women. Unique and different presents may be selected here, too, for this is the only store in Portland showing a full line of direct importations in genuine Parisian jewelry. The cleverly-wrought pieces of artistic handiwork in rare and beautiful designs are the envy of all who see them. Choose while it is early in the shopping season.

Gifts for Men Are:

Stick pins, cuffs links, rings, Hat Pins, Brooches, stick pins, watch fobs, key rings, manicure sets, desk needfuls, billbooks, purses, card cases, cigar cases, collar bags, etc. We sell merchandise certificates for Men's Gloves if you don't know the size.

waist sets, handbags, music rolls, opera glasses, etc.

Slippers for the Whole Family Lot 2—Misses' and Children's Felt Slippers in red, navy or blue; have tips of leather; hand-turned soles. Reg. \$1 values. All sizes at 50¢ 

Gifts for Women Are:

hair ornaments, bracelets,

watches, watch fobs, beauty

pins, rings, earrings, lockets,

neck chains, veil pins, shirt-

Calhoun Is Expected to Accept Post at Pekin.

Chicago Lawyer Afterward Told Secretary He Would Take Position, but Has Received No Reply or Notification He Has Job.

CHICAGO, Dec. 5. — William J. Cal-houn tonight denied a report from Washington that he had declined to acopt the appointment as Minister to China. He did decline about ten days ago, but since then had been induced to reconsider the matter.

Mr. Calhoun explained that he had been induced by Secretary of State Knox to reconsider his determination

not to accept the appointment.
"Two weeks ago in Washington I dis-

cussed with Secretary of State Knox the matter of accepting the ministry to China, said Mr. Calhoun.

"The offer was made to me and I asked for time in which to consider it. Returning to Chicago early last week, I belowraphed Knox that I could not accept the said of the control of the could not accept the said of the could not accept the said of the could not accept the could not accept the said of the could not accept the co elegraphed Knox that I could not ac cept. I received a reply urging me to reconsider. Finally, on Friday I wired Secretary Knox that if my acceptance were urgently desired by the President I would consider the offer further.

"Since my last communication to Mr. Knox I have heard nothing further in the matter and I do not wish to state at this time what I shall do, because the post has not been formally tendered me by President Taft.

"resident Taft was not in Wash-ington upon the occasion of my visit there, and I have had no direct com-

nunication with him concerning this Mr. Calhoun spent much of the day in consultation with his law partners at his office. Among his friends the opinion prevailed that he would go to

MRS. GATES ASKS DIVORCE

Wife of Portland Lumberman Seeks \$1000 Monthly Alimony.

Portland lumber dealer and clubman, came as a surprise to Mr. Gates is eviienced by statements made by his at torney, S. B. Linthicum, last night. For some time society has been whispering of an estrangement, and when the ac tion was commenced Saturday in the Circuit Court there was no surprise on

the part of their mutual friends. Mrs. Gates, it is said, intends taking up her permanent residence in St. Louis. where her parents live. Friends of Mrs Gates say she is much incensed against her husband and did not seek to have LONG TALK HAD WITH KNOX her nusband and did not settled by the pecuniary consideration settled by a compromise outside the courts, which probably accounts for her husband's reprobably accounts for her husband's reported ignorance of the pending suit. In her petition Mrs. Gates charges her husband with having treated her



Mrs. G. Walter Gates, Portland Society Woman Who Is Suing

cruelly and of excessive indulgence in liquor.
She asks possession of their 9-year old son, G. walter Gates, Jr., and \$1000 a month alimony for herself and \$100 a month for the boy. She recites that her

Four Below at Attalia.

husband's income from his real estate, the St. John Lumber Company and G. W. Gates & Company, lumber, is \$3000

ATTALIA. Wash., Dec. 5.—(Special.)

The extreme cold and high winds still continue here. The thermometer reg-That the divorce proceedings insti-tuted by Mrs. Adeline Meek Gates snow last night.

Corporation Bureau Chief Reports Against Exchange.

DEALS IN COTTON FLAYED

Commissioner Smith Approves Central Market, but Condemns Fictitious Quotations -- New York Body Reproved.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 .- Both the producers of cotton and the dealers in that ommodity are the victims of the system of trading in vogue on the cotton exchanges of the country.

This is the burden of parts 4 and of the report of Commissioner of Cor-porations Herbert Knox Smith on the conduct of such exchanges. The practice of dealing in futures, as it is carried on at present, is condemned, although the report does not condemn the existence

of the exchange.
"The brief discussion of general specu-lation in this report," says Mr. Smith, "recognizes the possibilities for good inherent in a great central market like a cotton exchange, and the need that this good be developed and evils eliminated by regulations in line with economic

Futures Are Condemned.

The report is especially condemnatory of the dealings in futures, branding this form of speculation as pure gambling and highly injurious to legitimate trade. In protation for "future" deliveries of cotton he market is so uncertain and so many elements of chance enter into the transac-ion that all bids are made at a much lower figure than those offered for cotton

actually in existence.
The effect of these fictitious quotations the report points out, tends to mislead the cotton planter as to the true value of his crop honestly grown. In addition it leads brokers to "play" both sides of the market to protect themselves against loss in such trades, with the result that the producer is forced to pay in the

end, while the farmer loses likewise. Gotham Exchange Flayed. The report, while recognizing that the exchanges in New Orleans and New York are necessary, does not mince words in criticising the New York Exchange. After declaring that the New Orleans methods of conducting the transactions in cotton

followed natural lines, the report draws attention to the fact that it has been proved that the abnormal depressions in the future price in New York "were almost wholly due to improper artificial conditions now maintained by the New York Cotton Exchange. By maintaining them the New York Exchange is re-FIVE CALIFORNIA BUSINESS

sponsible for a very real injury to the producer and merchant." In closing the letter to President Taft which accompanied his report, Commis-sioner Smith again takes occasion to re-prove the New York Exchange. He says: "After the publication of the earlier parts of this report the New Orleans and New York Cotton Exchanges established special committees, instructed to consider the systems of their exchanges and to co-operate therein with the Com-missioner of Corporations. Conferences have been held by the Commissioner with both committees. On the part of New Orleans this co-operation was very complete, resulting in certain important im-provements in the rules of that exchange.

After more than a year's investigation the committee of the New York Exchange has not yet made any final report or taken any substantial action." The Commissioner touches on the ac tivities of the various organizations of cotton-growers, all formed with a view of controlling both price and production. He believes, however, that so numerous are the factors of supply and demand in determining the price of cotton that it is impossible to arrive at any satisfactory conclusion as to the extent of influence exerted by such organizations.

India and Ceylon supply seven-eighths of he world's tea.

Miss Florence M. Drake, of Pasadena, Succeeds in Hoodwinks

MEN CLEVERLY "TAKEN IN."

ing Five Out of \$100. LOS ANGELES, Cal. Dec. 5.—(Special.)—Captivated by the bewitching looks of a girl who gave her name as Miss Florence M. Drake, of Pasadena five Avalon business men listened to her sad tale of temperary embarrass-ment and loaned her money to get back

to the main land. That was one week Today the men learned to their chagrin and to the amusement of the rest of Catalina that they are the victims of the "damsei in distress" act.

The girl secured about \$100 alto-gether and gave an address in Fasa-dens from which she would send the money back. The letters were returned today marked "name not known." She told the business men she had lost her purse and only wanted enough money to pay her hotel bill and her fare home. "You are so good and kind to be-friend a strange girl like me," she said to each in turn, as she made her

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