



SOUTH BLESSES TAFT'S ELECTION

Striking Advance Toward Independence.

WANTS SHACKLES STRUCK OFF

Birmingham Editor Invites Taft to His City.

PUSHES NEW MOVEMENT

President-elect Denies He Seeks Revolution, but Only Favors Independent Action—Southerners Denounce the Machine.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Jan. 2.—President-elect Taft today agreed to visit Birmingham, Ala., and Athens, Ga., and to address the people of Augusta on the same street corner on which they once heard President McKinley. Mr. Taft said today that his Cabinet would not be completed until March 4. He said he should not consider foreign appointments until his Cabinet was complete.

General R. N. Rhodes, editor of the Birmingham News, spoke for the Birmingham delegation that called on Mr. Taft today.

Taft's Election a Blessing.

"Mr. Taft," he said, "I am going to take advantage of this opportunity to say to you, if you knew the heart and head of the men of the South and particularly of Birmingham, you would know that they regard the result of the last election as a benediction from God Almighty himself to the people of the South, over their own protest. I am a Democrat, most of the gentlemen here are Democrats, but we all welcome your advent into the South, because you have come here, Sir, indicating to us that you want the South once again to hold her place in the councils of the Nation."

Strike Off Shackles.

"We really feel that you could do a great work along the lines you have indicated, more at Birmingham, possibly than at any other point in the country. We all want you, that you may come there and—though a Democrat and a lifelong Democrat, I am willing to say I help you strike off our hands the shackles of an ignorant political system that does not do the most to develop our resources or to safeguard our happiness. We promise you a good time, but we promise you more than that—real, genuine, tangible results for the greatness and the glory of the country."

Sweet Music to Taft.

Mr. Taft replied: "Gentlemen—The first thought that comes to me after hearing what I quite freely admit is very sweet music to me is a sort of trembling fear that four years after such a meeting as this and such expressions of good will I shall be like the man who went into office with a majority and went out with unanimity. I shall visit your city, if it be possible for me, I shall go there on my return from Panama. This is very uncertain, however, but it is uncertain how long I shall have to stay there. But in any event, I am coming to the South early in my Administration and coming to the important cities of the South. I hope that you will not think that I have misunderstood your coming; that I am misled into supposing that this means an extreme movement on the one hand, or that it is merely an extension of hospitality on the other. I hope you will not think it indicates a great revolution or a landslide of party politics. What I welcome is an agitation which means independence of action, and that is all Senator Lodge arrived here today and conferred with Mr. Taft. Mr. Taft has invited William Nelson Cromwell of New York to visit him, and it is believed that he also comes for cabinet consultation."

Honeycomb Couple Is Safe.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—A cablegram has been received here announcing the safety of Naples of Rev. Sidney E. Williams, of Saratoga, Cal., and his bride, who was formerly Miss Helen Fellows, daughter of Bishop Samuel Fellows, of Chicago.

TRINITY DECLARES CHARGE IS FALSE

CORPORATION ISSUES STATEMENT ON TENEMENTS.

Pamphlet Says Church Is Good Landlord and Also Shows Wealth Not Great.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—For the first time in its long history the Corporation of Trinity Church made public today a statement of its finances, impelled thereto probably by public criticism of its determination to close the historic St. John's Chapel. This report shows its wealth is less than has been generally supposed. The figures, however, give only the assessed value, which is less than its market value. Much of its real estate is exempt by law from taxation, and the value of this is not listed in the statement.

Property thus omitted includes the Trinity Church site on Broadway, worth \$16,000,000, and all of the corporation's other churches, chapels, schools and burying grounds. The only real estate listed is that which produces revenue. Its taxed valuation for 1908 is set down at \$13,646,300. The corporation's other assets, as enumerated, total \$14,073,324. Its free and clear balance, after deducting liabilities, is placed at \$13,452,552. Expenses exceeded receipts last year \$10,000. The corporation maintains 16 churches and 16 schools.

It denies its tenements are in such bad condition as has been charged, and says it is perhaps the only landlord in New York that has not raised tenement rents in the last quarter of a century. The statement is in pamphlet form and gives defense of the corporation against many unfriendly criticisms.

HARRIMAN LINES EXTENDED

New Work in Central States Will Provide Two Routes to Gulf.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Extension work on the Harriman lines, officials say, is to be pushed during the coming year. The Southern Pacific is to build north on an air line from Denison, through Topeka to Lincoln, Neb. The Union Pacific is to build a double-track line from Omaha through Lincoln, connecting with the present Union Pacific main line at Central City, Neb. Arrangements are being completed by General Manager Mohler, of the Union Pacific, for the Central City cut-off through Lincoln. It will be an expensive piece of work, as much valuable property in the business portion of Lincoln will have to be condemned. The new line from Lincoln to Denison will cut out Kansas City as the clearing-house for Nebraska and Kansas grain, and will give the Harriman system two routes from the Pacific Coast to the Gulf of Mexico.

GOTHAM'S TANGLED FUNDS

Legislative Investigation May Be Stopped for Want of Cash.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Unless funds are forthcoming it is said that the legislative committee appointed last year to investigate the financial condition of the city of New York, will be forced to cease its labors, the committee having already exhausted its appropriation. It is probable the matter will be laid before the Legislature as soon as it convenes. Several important features of the city government yet remained to be looked into, but the inquiry so far has been startlingly inconclusive. As an example, it cost more than \$7000 before the committee could obtain, through accountants, an intelligent idea concerning the purchase of a supply of fodder in all departments.

LONG RACE TO BEAT DEATH

Mrs. Marshall Field Barely Reaches Sister's Side in Time.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Mrs. Augustus N. Eddy died here tonight after a long illness. Mrs. Eddy was the mother of Spencer Eddy, United States Minister to Argentina and of Mrs. Albert J. Beveridge, wife of the Senator from Oregon. She was the sister of Mrs. Marshall Field of Chicago. Mrs. Field returned from Europe today on the Lusitania, and was met off Sandy Hook by a revenue cutter, which took her aboard and rushed her to Jersey City so she could catch an early train to Washington.

HALF MILLION TO BE NATION'S SHARE

Congressional Aid to Italy Lavish.

WILL ALSO OFFER BIG FLEET

Solons Ready to Follow All Suggestions of President.

OTHER RELIEF FUNDS GROW

Red Cross Has Already Forwarded \$207,000 to Stricken People of Italy and More Will Follow Daily—Money Pouring In.

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND.

Table listing contributions to the Earthquake Relief Fund from various organizations and individuals.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—President Roosevelt tonight announced that he has sent two supply ships with \$300,000 worth of supplies to Italy, that he will ask Congress for additional aid and that he has offered the use of the battleship fleet to Italy.

The announcement is made in a telegram made public at the White House, which the President sent to Patrick P. McGowan, chairman of the Italian general relief committee, New York. The telegram follows: "I earnestly wish success to the American Italian general relief committee in its great undertaking at Madison Square Garden. It is, of course, not possible for me to attend in person. I am doing everything that can be done to get aid to the sufferers, and on account of the extreme urgency of the case have sent two supply ships with \$300,000 worth of food and provisions without waiting for the authority of Congress, being confident that Congress will approve my action. I shall also ask Congress for additional aid and throughout the coming week will keep in closest touch with Congress and through the State Department with Italy, so that everything possible to be done by the United States may be done."

"Furthermore, I have cabled the Italian government proffering the services of any or all of the battleship fleet if such can be of use in this crisis. "THEODORE ROOSEVELT." Special Message Ready. President Roosevelt was engaged tonight in preparing the message which will be presented to Congress Monday. A large amount of data on precedents and on the aid that is being rushed from various quarters to Southern Italy, and the means of getting succor to the victims was prepared for the President and was considered carefully by him. Suffering Italy continues to occupy the thoughts of most of the citizens and officials here. Aroused to a full consciousness of the appalling disaster, the one aim is to get relief to the stricken people as speedily as possible. Money is pouring into the offices of the National Red Cross, and is being telegraphed abroad as fast as received. The New York Red Cross has telegraphed \$50,000 to the National Red Cross; \$10,000 has been telegraphed from San Francisco; Chicago (Concluded on Page 2)

RUBBER HEEL KING FOUND POESY HIGH

PAID \$25,000 FOR RETURN OF LOVE VERSES.

Same Sum Buys His Release From Breach of Promise Suit Filed by "Belie."

BOSTON, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The \$25,000 breach of promise suit in which Humphrey "Belie" King, the millionaire politician and rubber heel king of Boston and Lowell, was defendant, has been settled out of court. Although none of the lawyers interested in the case will relate the exact terms of settlement, it is understood that at least \$25,000 was paid over to Mrs. Isabelle Mottard Lee, of Boston, who brought the suit.

In exchange for the large sum paid to Mrs. Lee, all the exhibits in the case were turned over to Mr. O'Sullivan's attorneys. These exhibits consisted of about 500 letters, postal cards and telegrams which it was alleged were written to Mrs. Lee by the rubber heel king. It is said that many of these letters contained the original love poems composed by Mr. O'Sullivan with his "Belie" as he called her, the central figure in each. According to Mrs. Lee's friends these letters would create a sensation if they became public.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

Index of today's news items, including Weather, Earthquake in Italy, Foreign, Politics, and Sports.

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CHINESE REGENT DISMISSES YUAN

Greatest Man in Empire Disgraced.

MAY PROVOKE REVOLUTION

Manchus Strike Blow at Reform Leader.

HIS LIFE MAY BE IN PERIL

Diplomats at Peking Confer on Programme of Powers—Yuan Shi Kai Has Many Supporters Among Vicereroys.

PEKING, Jan. 2.—It is the consensus of opinion that the Manchus do not understand the full significance of their precipitate act, which resulted today in the dismissal of Yuan Shi Kai, Grand Counselor and Commander-in-Chief of the forces. The act, however, is attributed mainly to the Regent and is characterized as dangerous inasmuch as it gives to the revolutionaries and reformers an issue on the cry "China for the Chinese."

That the situation is grave is becoming more and more apparent. That a governmental upheaval would follow the succession has been generally accepted, but even the Chinese did not expect this to occur before the expiration of the hundred days of mourning.

Conference of Diplomats.

At the conclusion of a conference between the British, American and German ministers today, a second meeting of diplomats was called to include the representatives of other powers, in the hope of formulating a concerted programme of action. It was realized at the first meeting that Japan was the doubtful element and there was a general conviction that the powers would not be able to take any definite steps before further developments.

The elimination of China's great statesman is a matter of great concern to the foreign representatives here. They considered him one of the props of China's credit and the creator of the only policy toward the powers that China ever possessed. He rescued the foreign board from ridicule and made it a workable body. The diplomatic corps attributes to him, to a large extent, the successful management of the succession to the throne.

Yuan Has Strong Partisans.

The partisans of Yuan Shi Kai include the Vicereroys of Manchuria, Chi Li and Canton, and the Governors of Manchuria and Shan Tung, while the leading of the Viceroy of Wu Chang is in doubt, but the reformers strongly support him together with a majority of the powers.

His Assassination Feared.

Apprehension is felt of Yuan Shi Kai's ability to escape from Peking alive. The newspapers discredit the rumors that he will take refuge in one of the legations, while certain of the Chinese believe that it would be possible for him to make his way out of the city in safety. An immediate reinforcement of the legation guards has been advised.

It is not thought that Chang Chi Tung or Na Tung supported the dismissal of Yuan Shi Kai, which is regarded as revealing the reactionary character of the Regent. Furthermore, it indicates a concerted movement on the part of the Manchu reactionaries in the absence of Yuan Ching, president of the board of foreign affairs, to re-establish an exclusive and absolute Manchu aristocracy. It is now known that the Regent a fortnight ago humiliated Yuan Shi Kai, who thereupon formulated his resignation.

Prince Ching's Career Ended.

The appearance of Prince Ching's name by proxy on the edict disclosing the fact that he has been ill for two days. It is reported that he injured himself by a fall, but the general belief is that he (Concluded on Page 4)

IMBECILE BOARD DISGUSTS NEWMAN

MILLIONAIRE DIRECTORS ARE CALLED ABSURDITY.

Such Men as Depew, Vanderbilt and Twombly "Humorous Paragraph" and Weary Man of Energy.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Do Senator Chauncey M. Depew, W. K. Vanderbilt, H. McK. Twombly and a few other Eastern millionaires of their class constitute a "humorous paragraph" and a "concentrated absurdity" when serving on the board of directors of a great railway system? The Railway Age-Gazette declares that they do. This declaration is made in the current issue of the magazine and it is given, by inference, as the reason for the resignation of William H. Newman from the presidency of the New York Central lines.

The publication implies in a two-column editorial that Mr. Newman, who showed "dogged persistency and diplomatic skill in carrying out his plans, after repeated refusals to approve them when in service under such autocrats as James J. Hill and Marvin Hughitt, 'quit in disgust on account of an imbecile board of directors.' From this category those members of the board who represent the "financial advice" end of the management are excepted.

JOHN CARROLL FOR RECTOR

Montana Bishop May Be Head of University.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Formal announcement of the appointment of John Carroll, of Helena, Mont., rector of the Catholic University of America, is expected to be made some time during the present month. He will succeed Bishop Dennis O'Connell, who is to become coadjutor bishop of San Francisco.

The new rector is popular with the priests and hierarchy of the country. He is particularly well known in this diocese and is said to have great executive ability. He has privately announced his acceptance of the new office.

BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 2.—A special to the Miner from Helena, says:

Bishop Carroll made the statement tonight that he had not accepted the rectorship of the Catholic University of America.

"I have not been offered the rectorship of the university," said he, "and I have not accepted it."

GET SCOTTISH MURDERER

Police at New York Arrest Fugitive at Steamer Pier.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—When the steamer Lusitania reached her pier from Liverpool today, detectives arrested a man traveling as O. Sands, who is suspected of being Otto Slater, charged with murder in Glasgow, Scotland. The victim was Miss Marian Giechris, who was wealthy. The police say they found in his possession a part of the brooch that answers to the description of a diamond ornament that Miss Giechris was known to be wearing at the time of her murder. A woman accompanying the prisoner and registering as "Mrs. Sands," was also taken into custody.

TRY TO KILL CALDWELL

Night Riders Attempt Life of Attorney-General of Tennessee.

UNION CITY, Tenn., Jan. 2.—An attempt to assassinate Attorney-General Caldwell was made at 9:30 o'clock tonight near his home here. He was followed from the depot by a man who shot at him twice as he neared his home. The assailant escaped. The attempt is credited to Night Riders.

KILLED WIFE; BURNS BODY

Elijah Rafferty, Arrested in Chicago, Confesses Other Crimes.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—Elijah Rafferty was arrested tonight charged with murdering his wife and burning her body in the furnace of an apartment building. Rafferty said his real name is George Johnson and that he had been arrested for other offenses in St. Louis and Kansas City. (Concluded on Page 4)

COUNT PENNILESS IN BAY CITY JAIL

W. von Gassendorf Has Meteoric Fall.

IS WANTED HERE BY POLICE

Alleged Scion of Nobility Passed Worthless Check.

SQUANDERED MUCH MONEY

For a While Was Social Butterfly in Victoria and Seattle, but Wine, Women and Automobile Proved His Ruin.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—After wandering about the streets of San Francisco for 48 hours without a penny in his pockets, and suffering from hunger and exposure, Count W. von Gassendorf, claiming to be the scion of a noble German house, whose estates are valued at about \$2,000,000, was lodged in the City Jail last night by Detectives Stephen Bunner and John Freel. The Count was arrested on Van Ness avenue, near Ellis street, about 7 o'clock last evening, and will be held at the City Jail pending advices from Portland, where he is said to be wanted on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses.

Gassendorf, according to a story related by him after his arrest, has been in America a little more than a year, and has had a meteoric career. His claims to have lost \$40,000 in mining ventures, not to mention several thousand dollars that he has squandered on wine, women and automobiles. He is now absolutely without funds, and declares his family will not come to his rescue if it becomes known that he is in jail.

First Went to Canada.

Upon coming to America, Count Gassendorf went to Victoria, B. C., where he lived for about a year in luxury, willing away the time in merry-making and social duties. He is said to have been addicted by the reserved aristocratic set of the Canadian city, and soon became quite a favorite. The continual round of pleasure in Victoria drew to a close only when the Count found his bank account sadly diminished. He then went to Seattle, where he was a familiar figure in the night life of the Washington city for a short time. Next he visited Portland. In the Oregon metropolis Count Gassendorf purchased an automobile from the Studebaker company, tendering in payment a check on the First National Bank of Seattle for \$3500. When the check was presented it was learned that the Count had no funds there. In meantime the Count had come to San Francisco. The automobile had not been delivered, so the matter was not pressed vigorously.

Stayed at Fine Hotel.

Upon arriving in San Francisco the Count went direct to the Fairmont Hotel. This was on Tuesday of last week. Shortly afterward he negotiated with the Studebaker agent in this city for the purchase of a machine and this led to the apprehension. For several days the Count entertained newly made women friends at various downtown and beach resorts. He spent his money freely and with much sought after. Wednesday night, while returning from a beach resort with two women companions, the Count lost his pocketbook containing \$200. He blames one of the girls. The following day the Count, according to his story, gave a \$250 diamond to a chauffeur to sell for him. The chauffeur failed to sell or to return the diamond. Learning that he was sought by the police authorities, Gassendorf left the Fairmont and lived in cheap hotels until Friday, when his money ran out. Friday night he wandered about the streets, having no place to sleep. This afternoon the Count met a chauffeur upon whom he had showered gold during his palmy days. The driver offered to take him to a hotel and get him enough money to leave the city. The Count accepted the offer and (Concluded on Page 4)

HARRY MURPHY THROWS PICTORIAL SIDELIGHTS ON SOME OF THE WEEK'S NEWS EVENTS

