

THRUSTS IN QUIP ASSAIL NOTABLES

Gridiron Club Feeds and Gibes Nation's Great.

"POLAR EXPLORERS" THERE

Diners Told at First Hand "Truth" of Discovery.

TAFT IS HAILED IN SONG

Gets Favored Clause of Famous "Oh You Kid" Ditty, With Roosevelt on Short End—Cannon Shown in Plastiques on Pedestal.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—President Taft and members of his Cabinet, Senators, Judges, scientists and diplomats and men of high station in public and private life spent several hours tonight as the guests of the Gridiron Club in revelry, song and nonsense, blended with wisdom.

The notables present heard many homey truths told in strange form, and enjoyed many a joke at their own expense, because of the genial humor in which the shafts of wit were concealed.

Men of strongly opposed politics, and others who, although of the same political party, had found serious reasons for wide divergence, were present at the dinner and listened, not only with philosophy, but even with glee, to the comical exploitation of their quarrels.

Preceding the festivities, a business meeting was held, at which Scott C. Bone, of the Washington Herald, and Richard V. Quinlan, of the New York Sun, were elected president and vice-president, respectively, of the Gridiron Club.

The distinguished company learned in an authoritative way the truth about the discovery of the North Pole through a scientific commission, which reported personally to the Gridiron Club, and undertook to arbitrate the differences between Peary and Cook, who, in this instance, were represented by the two initiates into the club membership—Edward L. Keen, of the United Press, and Ira E. Bennett, of the Washington Post and San Francisco Call.

One of the explorers said he had identified the Pole by the resemblance of the climatic conditions to inauguration day in Washington. He had qualified for his task by climbing Capitol Hill to reach the appropriations committee, and was equipped with a fountain pen and a megaphone. The Pole was found to be as far distant from land as President Taft found it from the insurgent wigwag to Stand-pat Igloo.

Strange discoveries were made. Santa Claus was found laden with heavy packages marked, "My Policies—From T. R. to W. H. T."

The aurora borealis resembled the halo that Taft put on Aldrich, while Cannon's halo resembled the midnight sun (without the sun). Matt Henson appeared, claiming to have located the Pole in Savannah, and packed it in the shape of a barber's pole, tunefully telling of his exploits. The question of identity being raised, barbers ruthlessly removed the enormous hirsute appendages of the pseudo-explorers and disclosed the initiates.

Uncle Joe in Plastiques. Then the electric bulbs were dimmed, and in the brilliancy of a calcium light "Uncle Joe" Cannon was proclaimed in a series of plastic poses on a pedestal as "The Iron Duke," with the inevitable cigar, grown to mammoth proportions and tilted upward at the familiar sharp angle, while the quartet chanted a ditty

STORM ENVELOPS PEERS IN WALES

TORY AGENT CHASED FROM HALL, KICKED BY AUDIENCE.

Many Peers Speak and Are Met With Chaff and Interruptions at Meetings.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The feature of the Conservative meetings during the past week has been the number of peers who have come forward to support the candidates and the storm of interruptions and generally good-natured chaff to which they have been subjected.

A more serious incident, however, occurred at Rhos, Denbigh, this evening, when the audience broke up a Conservative meeting, chased the candidates out of the building and kicked the Conservative agent unconscious. Austin Chamberlain, ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, up to the present has been the only Conservative active in the field. Tonight he met with stormy interruptions again from his constituents in a suburb of Birmingham.

Joseph Chamberlain has issued a manifesto in Manchester and Salford, declaring tariff reform must be adopted in order to compete with foreign countries.

EDITOR'S HOME DYNAMITED

Another Attempt Made to Do Away With St. Louis Writer.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11.—The residence of Harry B. Wendell, city editor of the St. Louis Star, was dynamited early this morning. The front door and windows were blown out. A man was seen running away from the house. No person was injured.

Recently Wendell was accused as he was entering the Star Building. A note shoved under the door and found after the explosion, read:

"H. W. D. Be careful next time; under your nose is a dynamite fuse. The note was unsigned.

Twenty minutes after the explosion, which occurred at 1:10 o'clock, Wendell collapsed and was put under the care of a physician.

CONSERVATION IS JOLTED

Spokane Miners Declare Themselves Opposed to National Policy.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—The Spokane branch of the American Mining Congress has started a fight against the conservation policy and has instructed a committee to draw resolutions condemning it. The committee is headed by the headquarters of the secretary.

The conservation report of R. A. Ballinger was discussed at length by Russell A. Collins at a meeting last night. Mat Baumgartner, president of the local branch, presided. Mr. Collins, J. W. McBride, L. K. Armstrong and other speakers unanimously opposed the policy of National conservation and recommended that each state should individually conserve its resources.

FIRST SKATING; FIVE DEAD

Ohio Family Nearly Wiped Out by Accident on Lake.

KENT, O., Dec. 11.—The opening of the skating season claimed five victims near here today, and nearly obliterated a family. The dead: Frank Cormany, a farmer, Helen, Flora and Mabel, 9, 7 and 4 years old, his three daughters, and Russell Cormany, 18 years old, his brother.

The party left home about 9 o'clock this morning, promising to return for dinner. When they failed to appear, Mrs. Cormany became anxious, and, taking her three-year-old child, robed a searching party, which found the bodies.

TALKS TEMPERANCE, DIES

Stranger Falls as He Lifts Cup of Water to Lips at Fountain.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11.—Ernest Bossu, 65 years of age, patriarchal in appearance, stopped at the fountain in the plaza here today and, before lifting a cup of water to his lips, began to deliver a speech on temperance to the bystanders. As he ended his speech and lifted the cup he fell dead.

Nothing is known of him, the only means of identification being his name and age written in a little notebook in his pocket.

PRESIDENT TAFT IS STILL IN BALANCE

Nation Has Not Made Up Its Mind Yet.

HIS IS HARD PLACE TO FILL

Fear Rises He May Not Be True to Roosevelt Policies.

CONGRESS IS DISAPPOINTED

Some Blunders Made Which Politicians Would Steer Clear Of—Attitude Towards Aldrich Disturbs West—Method on Trial.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 11.—"What do your people think about Taft?" "What kind of an impression has Taft made in your state?" "Do your constituents regard Taft as a worthy successor to Roosevelt?" "Is it to be Taft or Teddy in 1917?" These are the questions that were asked on the floor of both Senate and House on the opening day of the session, when Senators and members were brought together for the first time since August. The thought apparently uppermost in every mind was of the President. Men had been forming their own opinions, but were anxious to find out the opinions of others, and particularly the opinion of the rank and file of the voters.

Not in a long time has there been such a general inquisitiveness as to the standing of any President before the people. In the last Administration Senators and members knew how their people felt; they were for Roosevelt or against him, and they made known their views. Sentiment was easily weighed. It was largely so with McKinley, though in a less marked degree.

Taft Hard to Please. But with Taft it is different. Sentiment seems to be more difficult to size up. Judging from many opinions asked and given by Senators and members from their constituents, there is no general opinion with regard to President Taft, either for him or against him.

It would perhaps be fair to say that sentiment is as yet being withheld. He has not had a chance to show what he will do, nor how he will do it. His administration is not much more than nine months old; its work is not yet well under way; the President himself has not had as much opportunity as might be desired to show his capacity and his caliber. He is still on trial. But he will be watched closely during the present session of Congress, and by adjournment his measure will be taken. His reputation, according to many, will be made before the close of the session, and it will be good or bad according to what he accomplishes.

Congress Trifle Disappointed.

There is no denying the fact that there is reflected in Congress a faint indication of disappointment with the new President—a disappointment with what he has said and done up to the present time. And yet the public, according to report, seems willing to suspend judgment until later, hoping that during the Winter the President will show up in better light than during the past nine months. It is difficult for any man, to succeed Theodore Roosevelt in the White House. By comparison any man would suffer somewhat, and the people seemingly are willing to make certain allowances on that score. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the President has allowed the impression to get abroad that he is not heartily in sympathy with some of the most popular of the Roosevelt policies. This would seem to be the chief reason for doubt. According to his friends, he has made serious blunders in the past—blunders that would have been avoided by an adroit politician, which it is conceded the President is not. He has done a number of things Roosevelt would not have done, and he has left undone other things that Roosevelt most certainly would have done. It is to be inferred from expressions of

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INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 54 degrees; minimum, 39 degrees. TODAY'S—Rain; wind, to east winds.

Foreign. Welsh voters kick Taft out of meeting and "Joah" Lorde. Section 1, page 1.

National. Reinforcements ordered to Bluefields, as Zelaya menaces town. Section 1, page 8. Representative Max Baucus calls any amendment would help anti-trust law. Section 1, page 2.

Domestic. Carriage Mo., after company dismantles plant, city gets along with makeshift pipes and cisterns. Section 1, page 2. General Greely resigns from Explorers' Club over Peary-Cook controversy. Section 1, page 1.

Sports. Interscholastic basketball season opens. Section 2, page 2. Big six colleges of Northwestern Conference form baseball league. Section 2, page 2. Ben Johnson favors all-year-round control of ball players; opposes "winter" training. Section 2, page 3.

Commercial and Marine. Another advance in local flour prices. Section 4, page 11. High price for cash grain strengthens Eastern wheat markets. Section 4, page 11.

Real Estate and Building. Feature of week is number of big deals in real estate. Section 4, page 7. Large bakery to be built on East Side. Section 4, page 7. T. B. Wilson announces 12-story structure for Washington. Section 4, page 8.

Local. Building Company plans apartment-house. Section 4, page 8. Elfers Piano Company to build three-story warehouse. Section 4, page 8. Blake-McCall building rising rapidly. Section 4, page 9.

Portland and Vicinity. Milwaukee reports most activity. Section 4, page 9. Many sales of farm lands reported. Section 4, page 9. Paucity of Mayor Simon finds favor. Section 4, page 10.

Oldest Oddfellow Dead. Phineas Bachelder Was Member of Order Over 50 Years.

BANGOR, Me., Dec. 11.—Phineas Bachelder, said to be the oldest member of the Independent Order of Oddfellows in the world, died tonight, aged 95 years.

He had been an Oddfellow for more than half a century and had held the office of grand patriarch.

NERVY CRIMINAL REPEATS ROBBERY

Hammam Murderer Robs Store Again.

SAYS WANTS MAN NEXT TIME

Police Watch Baths, Fearful of Another Killing.

HOLDUP MAKES ESCAPE

After Grabbing Two Handfuls of Coin, Daring Thug Walks Out and Is Lost in Crowd—Police Lay Work to Drug Fiend.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—After being sought by the entire police department of the city for a week, the unidentified man who last Saturday night held up and robbed two druggists and then entered a Hammam bath establishment and without a word shot down and killed the bookkeeper, William H. Schneider, tonight walked into the first place held up by him a week ago, and at the point of a pistol again robbed it, obtaining \$100.

The druggist is located on Market street, near Larkin, and scores of Christmas shoppers were passing the place at the time. An hour later, a man believed to be the robber telephoned the druggist that unless more than \$100 was in the till next time he would shoot the proprietor's head off.

Seven Persons in Store. Seven persons were in the rear of the store when the robber entered and asked one of the clerks for some headache powders.

Dr. E. H. Gleason, proprietor of the place, happened to look up from the prescription counter and there within a few feet of him recognized the man who robbed him last Saturday night. With a whispered "there he is again," to a clerk, he ran upstairs in the rear to notify the police. In the meantime the clerk, who had waited on the robber, turned to hand him the powders, and found himself confronted with a businesslike revolver of blue steel and was forced to hand over all the money in the cash register.

Two Handfuls of Coin Grabbed. "I want your cash," declared the supposed customer.

As the clerk promptly poured out the contents of the cash register, J. H. Courneen, a co-partner with Gleason in the store, shouted to the clerk, "Don't give it to him." The robber's pistol wavered for a moment and then he grabbed two handfuls of the coin, leaving \$50 on the counter and hurriedly walked out. Courneen and Edward Briggs, a real estate dealer, followed him at a distance for three blocks but lost sight of him in an alley near the ruins of the City Hall.

About an hour after the daring robbery, which was a repetition of his performance last Saturday night, a man whose voice is declared to be similar to that of the robber called up on the telephone and said:

Wants More Money Next Time. "Tell that — proprietor if he don't have more than \$100 when I call next time I'll blow his — head off."

Police have been working on the theory that the robbery last Saturday night was the work of a "drug fiend" and fear he may commit another murder before morning.

All the druggists east of Fillmore street and the Hammam bath establishment in which Schneider was killed last week, are being guarded by police and detectives for fear the robber may appear at one of them. All the efforts of the department are concentrated upon the capture of the robber and murderer.

Drug Fiend Confesses Murder. Although they have an excellent description of the man, the most diligent efforts of the police during the past week failed to apprehend him.

Charles O. Anderson, an ex-convict, made a sensational confession early in the week that he was the

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RIPLINGER IS NOT GUILTY, JURY SAYS

EX-CONTROLLER IS ACQUITTED AFTER WEEK'S TRIAL.

Seattle Man Still Faces Seven Other Embezzlement Charges, Which Total \$50,000.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—After listening to the case of the City of Seattle against John Riplinger, ex-City Controller, for a whole week, the jury decided tonight that the man accused of embezzling \$4500 from the city, and who afterward fled to Honduras, where he successfully evaded all attempts at extradition, was not guilty as charged.

With the closing of the first Riplinger case tonight the ex-controller has got to face seven other counts on different charges of embezzlement, amounting in all to a total of nearly \$50,000.

Following the verdict, Riplinger left the court room and immediately telephoned a number of his friends. He plainly showed the relief from the ordeal through which he has passed within the last few days. The remainder of his trial will take place next month by a new jury.

At the close of his term as City Controller Riplinger ran for Mayor and was defeated by only 15 votes. A few days after the election he fled to Honduras, the only Central American republic from which he could not be extradited, and remained there until last Summer, when he voluntarily returned to face his accusers.

DR. CARSON IS INSTALLED

New Head of Mills College Takes Up Her Duties.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—(Special.)—Prominent educators from leading institutions of the Western Coast assembled at Mills College this afternoon and took part in the ceremonies attending the installation of Dr. Luella Clay Carson as president of that pioneer seminary for young women.

Rev. Charles R. Brown, pastor of the First Congregational Church, of Oakland, and a director in the faculty of the college, was master of ceremonies. Addresses were made by President David Starr Jordan, of Stanford University; President Prince L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon; Professor George C. Edwards, representing the University of California, and Mrs. C. T. Mills, who, with the late Dr. Cyrus T. Mills, founded the institution more than a quarter of a century ago.

The newly installed president also delivered an address. The new president was formerly dean of women and director of English at the University of Oregon.

SUTTON CASE IS UP AGAIN

Mother of Dead Lieutenant Asks for New Indictments.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 11.—The Sutton case is to be revived. Mrs. Rosa B. Sutton, mother of Lieutenant James N. Sutton, who died at Annapolis under peculiar circumstances, is preparing, with her attorney, to go before the Maryland grand jury when its sessions are resumed in Baltimore next month and attempt to secure indictment of one or more of Lieutenant Sutton's fellow officers who figured in the Annapolis inquiry last Summer.

If an indictment can be obtained it is Mrs. Sutton's purpose to press the prosecution in the Maryland courts, but if the grand jury fails to return any indictments, an attempt will be made to have the matter investigated by a Congressional committee.

MRS. READ IS SENTENCED

Attempted Blackmail Punished With Term in Penitentiary.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 11.—Mrs. Allen F. Read, recently convicted of assault with intent to blackmail Mrs. Genevieve Chandler Phipps, of Denver, out of \$100,000, was this afternoon sentenced to not less than one year nor more than 18 years in the penitentiary.

Mrs. Read, who attempted to frighten Mrs. Phipps by displaying two sticks of dynamite during an automobile ride, took her sentence stoically. Under the sentence she will be subject to a parole at the end of a year.

GREELY OUT OVER NORTH POLE FUSS

General Resigns From Explorers' Club.

SUPPORTER OF COOK QUILTS

Calling Off of Dinner to Doctor Begins Trouble.

PEARY RE-ELECTED HEAD

Oldtime Arctic Traveler Dislikes Navy Officer Faction Bossing Organization—Curt Note Is His Only Expression.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—(Special.)—The Cook-Peary controversy, has led to the resignation of General A. W. Greely from the Explorers' Club, of which he was president, before Commander Peary was elected to that position. Peary is now president, General Greely thinks the Explorers' Club is dominated by Peary partisans. Peary was re-elected president at a meeting last night.

When Dr. Cook first asserted his discovery of the North Pole, the Explorers' Club invited him to a dinner to be given while the Hudson-Fulton celebration was on. Then Commander Peary came out with his claim of the discovery and his assertion that Dr. Cook was a gold brick. The Peary faction in the club then succeeded in having the proposed dinner called off.

General Greely expressed his opinion of the proceeding at the time in unmistakable terms. All throughout the Peary-Cook dispute General Greely, himself an Arctic explorer of experience and reputation, has stood staunchly by Dr. Cook.

General Greely resigned as a member of the Explorers' Club almost at the time of the Peary-Cook controversy. This became known today through the club's secretary, Harris C. Walsh.

"I am not in a position to say whether General Greely's resignation was due to the Cook-Peary controversy," said Mr. Walsh. "In view of his friendship for Dr. Cook, however, and the confidence he expressed in him, his resignation may be so construed by many persons. I can say he did not mention Dr. Cook in his letter to the club. It was just a curt note of resignation and did not give any reason for the step."

It was learned today that the members of the Explorers' Club had made a strong effort to persuade General Greely to reconsider his intention to resign, but without avail.

General Greely was president of the club prior to the election of Commander Peary to that office.

FRIND DEFENDS DR. COOK

Explorer in Europe Preparing His Statement, Is Believed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—"While I am not authorized to give a statement regarding the whereabouts of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the Arctic explorer, I can say, without violating any confidence, that I am satisfied he is in Europe, and that he will appear next week before the committee of the University of Copenhagen, which is examining his Polar data."

This statement was made last night by an intimate friend of Dr. Cook, who insisted that he had every reason to believe that within the next 48 hours the explorer will come out of seclusion and issue a statement covering every phase of the Polar controversy.

AFFIDAVIT COSTS DUNKLE JOB

Travellers' Insurance Company Discharges Capt. Loose's Go-between.

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—"No man of such character as George H. Dunkle is acknowledged

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HARRY MURPHY OFFERS A PICTORIAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL DISCOURSE ON THE MAN WHO—SAD TO RELATE—PUT OFF HIS CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Calendar for December 12-25 with humorous text for each day. SUN. 12: HAVE YOU DONE YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING? MON. 13: BUY THOSE GIFTS, ELSE YOU WILL SAY THIS IS YOUR UNLUCKY DAY. TUE. 14: FRIENDS BELIEVE ME YOU'LL REJOICE IF YOU MAKE AN EARLY CHOICE. WED. 15: SHOP NOW AND YOU'LL MAKE LESS WORK FOR THE OVERBURDENED CLERK. THU. 16: THERE REMAIN FOR SHOPPING EIGHT DAYS MORE—WASTE! IT'S TOO LATE. FRI. 17: WHAT THE PROMPT FOLKS DIDN'T YOU MUST TAKE LESS YOU AVAUNT. SAT. 18: SOON THE RUSH AND CRUSH WILL BE, THEN YOU'LL WISH YOU'D HEEDED ME. SUN. 19: THIS IS SUNDAY; TO YOUR SORROW STORES ARE CLOSED—BUT THERE'S TOMORROW! MON. 20: GOT NO BOYS AND GIRLS? MAKE GOOD BOYS AND GIRLS WHO HAVE NO DAD. TUE. 21: ON MY KNEES, GOOD FOLKS, I BEG YOU TO—PARDON—SHAKE A LEG. WED. 22: NOW YOU'RE IN THE CHRISTMAS JAM—GENTLER FAR A BATT'RING RAM! THU. 23: MORAL OF THIS DAY'S THAT YOU FORTHWITH TO THE SHOP SKIDOO. FRI. 24: THOUGH YOUR GIFTS YOU'VE FAILED TO GET, THERE IS TIME—YES, EVEN YET! SAT. 25: MERRY CHRISTMAS!