



WASHINGTON VAGARIES

Fairbank's Friends Think Taft is Pettled.

ROOSEVELT THE CAUSE

President Must Use Best Men At Hand in All Such Grave Emergencies.

CLOSE OF A HOTABLE CAREER

How Uncle Joe Cannon's Memory Serves Him When It Comes to Important Appointments—Gossip at the Nation's Capital.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—The adherents of Vice President Fairbanks, Secretary Shaw and other aspirants for the Republican presidential nomination have a new grievance against President Roosevelt. They insist that in sending Secretary Taft to Cuba as an envoy of peace the President has again demonstrated his partiality and that his main purpose was to keep Mr. Taft in the limelight.

If it be true that Mr. Roosevelt figured that the Cuban mission might help Taft's presidential chances, it is only another evidence of his good political judgment. The selection has been a popular one and from all quarters come expressions of confidence in Mr. Taft's fair intentions and great ability. Certainly no other President ever gave an aspiring cabinet minister so many opportunities to demonstrate his capacity for large affairs, and the resentment on the part of Shaw and Fairbanks boomers is not without a color of justification. The only thing lacking to complete their case against the President is evidence that in doing the things he has done, Mr. Roosevelt has been influenced by any secret wish that Taft might be his successor. The official attitude, of course, is that the President must use the best instruments at hand, and that as Taft is best he has been used.

The growth of Mr. Taft in popular esteem and confidence is one of the remarkable things in this remarkable political era. No man of the generation has forged so rapidly to the front, not even Theodore Roosevelt, nor William Jennings Bryan. Ten years ago Mr. Bryan was a candidate for the presidency, and Mr. Roosevelt was widely known as a reformer of the aggressive type. Judge Taft had scarcely been heard of outside the judicial circuit over which he presided in southern Ohio. The country first became familiar with his name when President McKinley sent him to the Philippines, and since then his record has been one of successful achievement. He has been called upon to do things big and difficult and has done them well. If he has blundered anywhere, the blunder has yet to be brought home to him.

The foregoing may cause the writer to be set down as a partisan of Taft and no disclaimer is made. There are all shades and degrees of partisanship; and, besides, a denial would do no good. If the charge be made that the writer is a Taft admirer, a plea of guilty is entered.

A man who does his work unassumingly and does it well, always is fit for admiration.

The announcement by Lucius N. Littauer that he would not accept renomination as Representative in Congress from the 32nd New York district, is accepted as closing a public career once promising, but which went aground.

Mr. Littauer is a glove manufacturer, an able man and a personal and political friend of President Roosevelt's. In the House he was a member of the great committee on appropriations and there appeared to be before him years of distinction and usefulness.

Then came the spasm of reform, with its accompanying probing into the executive departments and especially into government contracts. One of the things disclosed was the fact that Mr. Littauer, while a member of Congress, was selling gloves to the army. There was a scandal, of course, followed by an investigation, and Mr. Littauer was given a vindication. This closed the matter officially, but the scandal would not down. When the chairmanship of the appropriations committee became vacant, through the elevation to the Senate of Mr. Hemenway, the selection of Mr. Littauer would have been the natural thing for Speaker Cannon to have done. But Mr. Cannon went outside the committee and conferred the chairmanship on Mr. Tawney of Minnesota. Everybody regarded it as a matter of course that recollection of the glove contracts had influenced the Speaker's decision.

Mr. Littauer announced his retirement following a conference with President Roosevelt at Oyster Bay and Washington accepts the theory that the President advised his retirement.

MANILA STORM BEATEN.

MANILA, Sept. 27.—Yesterday's typhoon continues today and communication north and south is cut off. Ample warning of the storm was given and there was no damage here.

WEBER WAS WAFTED

California Multi-Murderer Pays the Awful Penalty.

NERVE NEVER FORSOOK HIM

Left Two Wills and an Estate Valued at \$75,000—Murdered His Whole Family for the Sake of Wealth—Dreadful Case.

FOLSOM, Cal., Sept. 27.—Adolph Weber, the murderer of his father, mother, brother and sister, who was hanged here today, went to the scaffold gamely and kept his nerve until the drop was sprung.

Shortly before the hour of execution, Attorney May's message from Sacramento was read to Weber. It said that all hope of interference by the governor was gone. "That settles it," replied Weber. Just before the straps were adjusted, Weber was asked if he wished to make any statement and the answer comprised the last words uttered by him: "No, I have no statement to make; no writing to leave behind, and no statement to make regarding the disposition of my body."

Shortly after his hands were strapped and the march to the scaffold began, Weber's step was light, his body erect and his head held high. He faced the crowd in the death chamber without flinching. Not a muscle quivered. His frail, lithe body was straight as a sapling and with cool, calculating eye he measured the center of the trap and stepped upon it. He was very pale and once or twice took a deep breath, as if nerving himself for the final ordeal. There was no flinching. Lieutenant Prigmore placed the noose over his head, Weber inclining his body as if to assist. As the knot was fixed Weber made no sign or movement. The black cap was adjusted and in the twinkling of an eye Warden Lamphrey pulled the lever and sprung the trap.

Weber shot down a distance of eight feet, his neck being broken by the fall. The body brought up with a sudden jerk and then hung lifeless for a few seconds, whereupon the attending physicians tolled off the pulsations of his heart.

At 12:40, fourteen minutes after the

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GALE ON GULF OF MEXICO

Tornado of Unprecedented Fury Raging in South.

PENSACOLA IN IT'S PATH

Lake Pontchartrain Way Above It's Normal Level Flooding New Orleans.

PROPERTY LOSSES FEARFUL

So Far as Can Be Ascertained the Loss of Life is Small on Account of the Storm Warnings Which Were Sent Out.

LOUISVILLE, Sept. 27.—The tropical hurricane, which has been churning the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and doing immense damage along shore and far inland, is, tonight, whipping its way through Alabama in a northeasterly direction. Reports received by the Associated Press do not indicate any loss of life, but the damage to property is enormous.

All wire communication is disarranged, Mobile, Biloxi and Moss Point not having been heard from for over 24 hours. The loss to railroads is large and at Pensacola the property and shipping damage is reported at \$3,000,000. New Orleans furnished the subject matter for numerous wild rumors during the day, but authentic reports from there tonight indicate that while there is large property loss, there is little or no loss of life. Nothing has been heard from the shipping which is attempting to ride out the storm on the Gulf of Mexico.

PENSACOLA, Fla., Sept. 27.—The worst sea-storm and hurricane on the Gulf since Pensacola was swept away one hundred and seventy years ago, began last night and is still raging. Many houses between the city and the navy yard are under water and many persons are being carried to points of safety in boats. The damage is estimated at three millions, and every building in Pensacola is damaged. The streets are strewn with wreckage, as is the water front, where for miles vessels are piled on the wharves, or where once the wharves stood are masses of debris.

Big iron steamers are lying high and dry up in the city, where the tide was never before known to reach. There is no street car traffic and communication with the outside world is cut off. This dispatch is being carried to Flomaton, Alabama, for filing. It is feared that great havoc and loss of life will be shown when the reports are all in.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 27.—All efforts to penetrate even the edge of the storm-swept district east and north of here are fruitless tonight. From Lake Catherine eastward, along the Mississippi Sound, the towns are much exposed, many of them being on the brink of the sound, across which the wind has a long sweep. Despite the anxiety tonight, there is a general belief that few, if any, lives are lost. This is based on the fact that the coast inhabitants had two days' warning of the approaching storm. The waters of Lake Pontchartrain, which for the past two days have been five feet above the normal level, causing a serious overflow in parts of New Orleans, are now receding.

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 27.—The report from Pensacola is to the effect that the wind is still blowing hard.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 27.—A tropi-

cal hurricane has been driving the water of the Gulf of Mexico in shore for the past 18 hours, with winds of 45 to 60 miles an hour. The storm has not abated early this afternoon.

Great loss of property, but no loss of life had been reported up to this time. Nevertheless, great apprehension was felt for the safety of towns on the Gulf coast, which were cut off last night from communication with New Orleans.

This apprehension was increased by several narrow escapes from drowning reported during the day.

The first meager details to reach this city from outlying districts told of havoc wrought by Lake Pontchartrain on the outlying portions of New Orleans, the lake having risen about five feet because of the incoming waters. All railroad, telegraph and telephone communication was cut off. The roadbed of the Louisville & Nashville was submerged at Lake Catherine, an inlet from the gulf five miles east of here. The New Orleans & Northeastern Railroad reported that their trestle over Lake Pontchartrain was under water for a distance of 15 miles. Queen & Crescent trains were prevented from entering the city by the rise in the lake.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 27.—Passengers arriving from Macon state that while the train stopped there a hotel collapsed, killing two people. This storm is general all over the gulf tier of states.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Repeated efforts to communicate with Pensacola by wireless today and tonight have proved fruitless.

CLEVERLY CAPTURED

Joe Day, the Portland Sleuth Does Fine Work.

NAILS THIEVES AND BOOTY

Follows Negro Morgan and His Mistress to Chicago and Closes in on Them and Anton Fritz's Money.

PORTLAND, Sept. 27.—After a chase half way across the American Continent Detective Joe Day has at last discovered the thieves who were responsible for the robbery of Anton Fritz on the steps of the White Temple a few weeks ago. The climax of the chase came this morning, when the Portland detective walked into the First National Bank of Chicago, and, after giving bonds, attached \$5,000 which the thieves had deposited there for safe keeping.

There is still \$4,400 unaccounted for, but part of this is probably in a safety deposit vault in Chicago, which Detective Day has not yet had time to investigate. Considerable of the stolen money, however, was used by the criminals in their flight.

Anton Fritz was the victim of a carefully planned game, concocted by two colored criminals, Harry Morgan, an ex-convict, and Clara Adams, a woman known by the saccarine title of "the Candy Kid." Both are under arrest at Salt Lake City, and will be brought to Portland.

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—Detective Joe Day, of Portland, today caused the arrest of Clara Adams, a colored actress, known as "the Candy Kid," and Harry Morgan, colored, at Salt Lake City. They are wanted in connection with the robbery of Anton Fritz in Portland. While Morgan was in Chicago before going to Salt Lake City, there was a plot to murder him in a hotel and secure the stolen money he carried. The plot was unsuccessful through the confession of a negro friend of Morgan's.

LEAGUE WORK YESTERDAY.

At Los Angeles—Los Angeles, 3; Oakland, 1.
At Fresno—Fresno, 3; Seattle, 5.
At Oakland—Portland, 2; San Francisco, 1.

TAFT'S TASK IS BEGUN

Intervention Plainly the Issue Now.

PALMA IS PROSTRATED

Unfairness and Treachery Only Too Apparent Among Revolutionists.

AN HOUR MAY DECIDE ALL

General Funston Has Arrived at Havana—Taft May Proclaim a Provisional Government This Morning—Nothing Else Probable.

HAVANA, Sept. 27.—The Moderates tonight decided to make a final effort to perpetuate the authority of the Palma administration, by determining to reject the President's resignation when Congress meets tomorrow.

The American Commissioners had already determined to intervene, but have agreed to await tomorrow's developments, as they are anxious to afford the Cubans every opportunity to work out their own salvation.

Palma steadfastly refuses to withdraw his resignation. In answering President Roosevelt's personal request that he remain at the helm, Palma replied that he felt that any further sacrifice on his part would be useless, and not at all consistent with his dignity to remain in office.

Brigadier-General Funston arrived here today on the steamer Olivette. He refused to discuss his mission to Cuba or the prospects of American intervention. The General, who was greeted by the Secretary of the American Legation, will remain on board the steamer until late in the day.

Even were it possible to induce Palma to continue in office, the situation would still remain complicated and American intervention will be the most probable outcome. The American Commissioners have little confidence in the seriousness of the politicians who, to a man, have been insincere throughout the negotiations. This being the case, nobody is inclined to doubt tonight that within twenty-four hours Secretary Taft, by the authority of the President of the United States, will proclaim himself provisional governor of Cuba.

While this will not occur except in the face of some violent change in the existing situation, Taft is not willing to allow present conditions to obtain for more than one day longer, and unless Palma himself concludes to remain in office, even should Congress refuse to accept his resignation, Taft will hold that the vacancy exists.

Everything is in readiness for the landing of marines at almost any moment Taft gives the order. Funston arrived today and went over and approved all the military preparations.

The atmosphere at the palace tonight is decidedly gloomy. Members of the cabinet reiterate that Palma refuses to resign in the face of entreaties of his most intimate friends. The President himself has succumbed somewhat to nervous fatigue and everybody regards the wind-up of the administration as imminent.

Immediate developments depend on the action of Congress tomorrow. The moderate leaders expect tonight nothing less than intervention tomorrow and believe the American forces will flock ashore even before the meeting of Congress.

The probabilities of United States intervention in Cuba loom up far stronger this afternoon than at any

previous time. Few people doubt that intervention is close at hand. The Moderate party leaders again demonstrated today that they are not willing to actually begin negotiations with their opponents and submit a proposition regarding the negotiations which merely proposes that they be broken off when differences arose.

President Palma is in a state of nervous prostration. He declined today to see even Acting Secretary of the Interior Montalvo. Several servants of the palace are engaged in packing the President's personal effects with the intention of removing them to the house of President Palma's son at Vedado, where it is anticipated Senor Palma will go when he quits office.

Secretary of War Taft and Assistant Secretary of State Bacon early today received confidential reports that the government representatives were acting unfairly and that they have no intention to permit a settlement of the controversy along the lines suggested in Secretary Taft's proposals to President Palma. The Commissioners feel that a crisis will be precipitated on the convening of the Cuban Congress tomorrow and they are preparing to take hold of the reins themselves if necessary.

WHAT OF THE WAGON?

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 27.—Eight people were hurt, and four seriously, by a street car accident on Oak street here tonight. The car became uncontrollable while descending the Oak street hill and shot down the incline with terrific speed. At Scott street the car struck a wagon crossing the track.

MURDER NOT ENOUGH

Shepard, Slayer of Zell, at Princeville Doubly Charged.

ASSAULTED THE VICTIM'S WIFE

Second Dreadful Crime Committed in the Home of Murdered Man—Awful Story Sent Down from the Eastern Plains.

PRINCEVILLE, Or., Sept. 27.—Further developments in the tragedy enacted 25 miles south of here at an early hour Monday morning, in which B. F. Zell, a highly respected rancher, was shot and killed by Fred Shepard, show that the murderer's fiendishness did not end with the slaying of the husband, but that Mrs. Zell was assaulted by Shepard.

The details of the crime, as brought out at the inquest follow: Shepard appeared in the sleeping apartments of Mr. and Mrs. Zell about 4:30 o'clock in the morning, armed with a Winchester rifle, and commanded the latter to throw up his hands. Zell requested that he and his wife be given time to dress, in the meantime arising from the bed and edging toward the door, which stood open. When they reached the door husband and wife ran out, and dashing toward the barn, ran inside. On the left hand side just inside the barn door was sleeping another hired man, an older man known by the nickname of "Dakota." "Dakota" was aroused by Zell who said to him: "He is after us," meaning Shepard. As Zell and his wife passed "Dakota," Shepard also passed on into the barn. "Dakota" ran out of the door the three had just entered and in his bare feet rushed to a camp five men to return with him to the Zell home. In the meantime Shepard had shot Zell and with the assistance of Mrs. Zell had carried the body back into the house.

After arriving at the house Mrs. Zell says Shepard assaulted her and then told her that if she informed on him he would also kill her. Mrs. Zell told the murderer that if he would not kill her and would let her out of the house she would say that "Dakota" committed the murder.

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