

wrapped in the serious purpose with which he undertook his real life's work, until the day when he laid down his pen in the fullness of his power, he challenged attention. He asked odds of no man and gave them to many. He was an indefatigable student and tireless in his labor for the people—fearless and fair, unprejudiced by personal animosities, and untempted by opportunities for political preferment. His ideal was single—to tell the truth as he found it and to give the opinion his clear reason formed. He had been the friend and adviser of three republican presidents. He enjoyed the confidence of statesmen, who sought his opinion and weighed it against their own. He was at once a spokesman and a critic of the Tribune's opinions and policies. So great was his authority and so high the Tribune's opinion of him that if his view differed from that of the paper he voiced it with a rare independence which commanded the respect of its editors or confirmed and encouraged them in their views on political and social and economic questions. Raymond Patterson was a journalist by election and was confirmed in his profession by his zeal. His work added credit to his calling and his faith in his work bound him to it with ties which nothing but death could loose. If he had phrased his rule of conduct, if he had defined his purpose in his treatment of men and measures, it would have been in an expression of hope that his life's work would be a fulfillment—as it was—of the words of Hamlet: 'Report me and my cause aright.'

**PANAMA DISPATCH** carried by the Associated Press says: "A Nicaraguan revolutionist who has just arrived here from Bluefields reports that Cannon and Groce, the Americans who were executed by the Zelayan government, were simply taking bearing sights from a height in Costa Rican and not Nicaraguan territory when they were captured. They were with only three soldiers of the revolution when Zelaya's troops crossed the frontier and put them under arrest. Cannon and Groce were then taken to an old fort named El Castillo, on the Colorado river, where, according to the story of the revolutionists, they were tortured, being shot within twenty-four hours after their capture. A prominent Nicaraguan resident here, in answer to a message which he sent to Dr. Julian Irias, minister general, has received a reply from that official that President Zelaya is thinking of resigning his office because of the threatened American intervention."

**CONCERNING THE** sugar scandals in New York, the New York Tribune prints a dispatch from its Washington correspondent stating that "it is taken for granted that democratic members will demand an investigation of practices at the port of New York, and that in this purely political effort they will have the support of certain impetuous republicans who are not familiar with the facts." The Tribune's comment moves the New York World to say: "But what are the facts and who is familiar with them? It is certain that the Tribune does not know the facts or it would print them. Mr. Taft does not know the facts. Mr. Wickersham does not know the facts. Mr. MacVeagh does not know the facts. Mr. Wise does not know the facts. Mr. Stimson does not know the facts. Mr. Loeb does not know the facts. Federal grand juries have been digging into the facts for months, and nobody of more importance than a sugar trust superintendent has yet been indicted. Even if a grand jury obtained all the facts it could deal only with offenses not covered by the statute of limitations and only with persons against whom legal proof of actual criminal guilt had been found. The sugar trust scandal demands two lines of inquiry. There must be a vigorous criminal prosecution, and there must be complete publicity of the trust's relations to politics and government during all the years in which it has been debauching the public service. The criminal investigation belongs to the department of justice. The general investigation is work for congress. The conservative element in congress will presumably oppose the appointment of a committee, just as the conservative element at Albany opposed the appointment of an insurance investigating committee. Conservative sentiment is always on the side of entrenched abuses, no matter what they are. But Mr. Taft has to be reckoned with, and the World has no notion that he will be contented with anything less than full publicity through all the competent agencies of government. He knows that his administration is on

trial before the country and that its sympathies will be judged largely by its attitude toward this sugar trust scandal. He knows that his administration has nothing to lose and very much to gain by a complete exposure of the corrupt partnership between the trust and organized politics. The more completely all the facts are dragged into light the stronger Mr. Taft will be before the country. It is not conceivable that he will surrender this issue to the democrats or allow his opponents to capitalize it against him. In the absence of proof to the contrary the World classes the president among those 'impetuous republicans who are not familiar with the facts' and will be satisfied with nothing less than the whole truth."

**ATTORNEY** General Wickersham addressed the Kansas City Commercial club recently, responding to a toast "The Interstate Commerce Commission." Mr. Wickersham advocated a national incorporation law and said that should such a law demonstrate its value, it might be wise ultimately to prohibit state corporations from engaging in interstate commerce. "For the purpose," said Mr. Wickersham, "of preventing a conflict of decisions and delays and uncertainties in the enforcement of the interstate commerce law which now exists, it is proposed to create a special tribunal to be known as the commerce court, in which shall be exclusively vested all jurisdiction now possessed by the circuit and district courts, and the circuit courts of appeals of the United States with respect to the enforcement or review of orders and decrees of the interstate commerce commission. To remove the commission from the position of prosecutor or litigant, it is proposed that all proceedings to enforce or defend the orders of the interstate commerce commission shall be conducted by the department of justice. Mr. Wickersham, speaking of the Sherman anti-trust law, said no statute was so generally misunderstood. He said the great purpose to be borne in mind in connection with this and similar legislation is always the preservation of the freedom of trade. "No doubt," said he, "the Sherman act is sufficiently comprehensive to destroy such monopolies as holding corporations, but at the same time, the national government forges the weapons to destroy abuses. It must provide a substitute for these legitimate enterprises that are equally dependent for their existence upon a system so abused. It must provide means of enabling co-operative enterprises to engage freely in interstate and foreign commerce without interference by state action, which fetters, confines and destroys the possibility of such free pursuit. This only can be done by the enactment of a federal law providing for the formation of corporations to engage in trade and commerce among the states."

**THAT** STAUNCH Roosevelt supporter, William Dudley Foulke of Richmond, Ind., wrote a letter to Mr. Taft telling him that his course was displeasing to middle west republicans. Mr. Taft, it seems, administered a severe rebuke to the Indiana statesman. The Washington correspondent to the New York Sun says: "President Taft has practically announced that he can get along without another of the Roosevelt institutions, the ready letter writer. He has written a letter to William Dudley Foulke of Richmond, Ind., erstwhile a civil service commissioner and member of the Roosevelt kitchen cabinet, telling Mr. Foulke in the political vernacular of Indiana 'where to get off.' It appears that Mr. Foulke contracted the habit of writing occasionally to President Roosevelt on questions of national importance and of getting long replies, which were promptly given to the press. There were many observers of Roosevelt 'policies' who believed that Mr. Foulke was a convenience for President Roosevelt, and to such persons Mr. Foulke became known to fame as the 'ready letter writer.' The habit seems to have clung to the Indiana reformer. In any event when President Taft returned from his western trip he found in his bulky correspondence a letter from William Dudley Foulke administering to the president a lot of chastisement on account of Mr. Taft's Winona speech. Mr. Foulke voiced his disappointment at the tone of the speech and mildly rebuked the president and conveyed with expressions of profound regret the feelings of disappointment which filled his breast and surged in the bosoms of other reformers because the president had seen fit to part company with the so-called insurgents. Mr. Foulke took occasion to remind the president that he had been one of Mr. Taft's ante-conven-

tion supporters, and that, he declared, made his grief all the more poignant. President Taft replied to Mr. Foulke's letter. The correspondence is not available at this time, but a few visiting statesmen at the White House have been permitted to read Mr. Foulke's letter and the president's reply. They are chortling over it, and it is believed the president did not overlook the humor in the situation when he dispensed with the services of the 'ready letter writer' with a few strokes of his pen. It is understood that Mr. Taft read Mr. Foulke a mild lecture on party ethics. It is certain that Mr. Taft did not apologize for anything he had said or done, and those who have a fair idea of what the letter contained say that the Richmond sage will find very little comfort for himself and his fellow insurgents."

**"FROM** QUEEN Elizabeth to Uncle Joe" is the title of an interesting editorial printed in the Saturday Evening Post. The editorial follows: "By a statute of Elizabeth, whoever exported sheep from England was, for the first offense, to forfeit all his goods, suffer a year's imprisonment, and have his left hand cut off upon market day and nailed up for the public edification; for the second offense he was to be adjudged a felon and put to death. In Charles II's time the exportation of wool was made a felony. And as late as the American revolution, whoever exported wool forfeited the goods, was fined three times their value and disabled from collecting a debt by legal process. To transport wool within five miles of the seacoast after sunset was forbidden, and any seacoast town through which it was transported was liable to a fine of three times its value, judgment to run against any two inhabitants. The object of these gentle measures was to 'protect home industry' by giving English manufacturers a monopoly of the domestic supply of wool—practically at their own prices. Naturally, their prices were below those on the continent, giving rise to considerable smuggling and imprisoning. We are more humane now. Moreover, wool growers have political power. So we achieve the same delightful monopoly object by a gentler measure which includes the wool growers, to a limited extent, within its benefits. We levy an import duty of about a hundred per cent on woollens. This duty, for the great body of consumers, takes fully a third from the weight of the cloth, besides adding a third or more to its price. Hand chopping we would not tolerate. Sending wives and children of farmers and workmen by the million into winter with spring weight, or half cotton, clothing, for which they have paid more than the price of thick, warm wool, we not only tolerate but applaud. Uncle Joe solemnly informed his fellow Illinoisians, the other day, that the new tariff was the best ever enacted—because business has expanded since it was passed. Some pneumonia here and there, perchance; but even that makes good business—for the undertakers."

**THE** TAFT administration is preparing to punish the republican insurgents. A Washington City dispatch to the Sioux City Tribune says: "Following the meeting of the cabinet yesterday, it develops that Maurice D. O'Connell of Fort Dodge, Iowa, who for twelve years has been solicitor in the treasury, is to be retired without unnecessary delay. Sometime ago it was given out that Mr. O'Connell would be retained, but it is now certain that he is to go. The fact that both O'Connell and Clarkson are regarded as personal friends of Senator Dolliver has given rise to the impression that Dolliver is being punished for his insurgency on the tariff measure. LaFollette is being likewise punished by losing his grip on Wisconsin patronage. In general, it is understood to be part of the administration policy henceforth to give few favors to insurgents. Nobody has been picked for the O'Connell post as yet. Incoming members of congress are indulging the speculation that the administration will later discover that punishing the insurgents in this fashion will do more execution at the breach than at the muzzle."

The special election held in Alabama November 29 for the purpose of passing on a proposed constitutional amendment relating to the liquor traffic, resulted in the defeat of the amendment. This does not mean that the state will return to the old time liquor traffic but probably means a modification of what the Associated Press calls "the present drastic laws."